Local leaders share 2019 mid-year updates

By Times editorial staff

FENTON CITY
Compiled by Lynn Markland, city manager

“City of Fenton projects and accomplishments during the first six months of 2019 include:

“The addition of a new public parking lot located just east of the See MID-YEAR UPDATES on 9

Silver Ridge district created

Repaving of subdivision roads could cost $14,000 per parcel

By Hannah Ball

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees voted 6-0 on Monday, July 15 to approve the Silver Ridge street improvement special assessment district, which involves repaving all eight streets, among other improvements. See REPAVING on 20

Deadly crash claims life of Barons Motorcycle Club president

Family and friends plan ‘one heck of a send-off’

By Sharon Stone

Family and friends of the president of Barons Motorcycle Club in Gaines are mourning his death. Jack Williams, 61, of Byron, was killed Sunday, July 14, in a motorcycle

See CLUB PRESIDENT on 20

Fenton seeks to more than double sinking fund mills

If vote fails in August, district will try again in November

By Vera Hogan

Citizens in the Fenton Area Public Schools district will have their say on the proposed new 10-year sinking fund when they go to the polls for a special election on Tuesday, Aug. 6. See SINKING FUND on 11

Thank you Rose Township for making the resident on Rattles Lake Road remove the two abandoned cars from their property. Continue to rid our town of blight so we can be proud of the beautiful area in which we live.”

“As a baby boomer, I was offended by the Hot line suggesting that this generation caused the condition of Michigan roads. Could this have been written by a millennial?”

“We love the mural on the bridal shop. Very tasteful.”

I do believe for the millionth time, the butterfly garden was paid for by the DDA. The DDA doesn’t pay to fix your road.”
How important are teen summer jobs?

Jobs have waned slightly in importance as more youth seek internships over cash

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — Amy Brendel, 16, faced a neverending line of customers at the Owen Road McDonald’s on Wednesday afternoon, July 17.

Still, the Howell High School student never stopped smiling as she handed off drinks and bags of food, the kitchen bustling behind her.

Brendel lives in Deerfield Township, and is working to afford a car, clothes, and the more than $7,000 tuition she’ll pay to go to cosmetology school. She eventually wants to be a nurse.

She is part of a segment of summer employment that has shrunk — teens seeking summer jobs. McDonald’s owner Mark Pfau has 13 restaurants, including those in Fenton and Linden. He employs 700 people and said until the recession of 2009 half were teenagers. Now the number is more like 15 percent.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), youth labor force participation rates peaked historically at 77.5 percent in 1989. It was 60 percent in July 2018.

After the recession, the BLS reported that 34.1 percent of youth between 16 and 24 were employed. The BLS said that teen employment has long been on the decline, even before the recession. Before recession, the employment rate for teens was slightly less than today.

“The days of teens taking jobs in the summer to earn extra money are largely gone,” said Chris Douglas, University of Michigan-Flint, associate professor of economics.

The recession caused more adults and seniors to seek entry-level jobs, so there weren’t as many for teens. Douglas said that technology and improving automation has also eliminated some entry level jobs. While the economy is improving, the teens aren’t necessarily returning for work.

See SUMMER JOBS on 15
In October, my husband and I will celebrate 31 years of marriage. We have argued about everything since that time, and we liked it.

We rarely argued about important stuff though, like household finances. We didn’t argue about what tasks which of us would take care of on a regular basis. We automatically knew that he would take care of home and vehicle maintenance, and the lawn. I always handled the bills, laundry and cleaning, for the most part. I say for the most part because I have mopped a floor only a handful of times in the last 30 years. The boys did it because — just because. We didn’t argue about how to raise our children either.

No, we argued about stupid things, like who sang a particular song, or who played a part in a certain movie.

During the early years of our marriage, there were countless times when we actually called radio stations and asked the DJ who performed a particular song. There were two biggies in that category. My husband insisted that the song “Red Rubber Ball” was performed by a band called “The Cyrkle.”

“There you go, no one has ever heard of that band and you can’t even spell the name right,” I told him.

Oops, after arguing this one for days, it turns out he was right and I was wrong. Ouch, I hate saying those words. But I was eventually vindicated. My husband insisted that the song “Spirit of Radio” was by “Styx.” I knew it was performed by “Rush,” and I was right.

Confirming the names of actors or actresses playing certain roles in movies was much more difficult, but we somehow managed to get the information, mostly by physically looking for the movie at the video rental place. “Ah ha, here it is, see I told ya!”

In short, we worked very hard proving each other wrong on like I said, stupid stuff. “I’m right, you’re wrong.” “No, I’m right and you’re wrong.” It went on and on.” Our kids even got into the act when they got older and it became kind of a fun family game. “Mom’s got ya on that one, Dad.” “Or sorry Mom, Dad is right about this one.”

Then came Google and like angels singing and a breath of fresh air we had all the information we ever wanted to know at our fingertips. Now, instead of arguing, one of us will ask a question and the other will say, “I don’t know, why don’t you Google it,” and we instantly have our answer.

We kind of miss arguing about the stupid stuff though.

Opinions offered in Just Sayin’ are the author’s alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email Vera at vhogan@tctimes.com.

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Lockwood of Fenton
16300 Silver Parkway, Fenton

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What was your favorite summertime activity when you were a kid?

“Going to Florida and going to the beach down there. Now we just go camping. We have a cabin in Tawas.”

Jessica Pierce
Flushing

“Probably bicycle riding. It was freedom. I could go anywhere I wanted to.”

Larry Arrol
Fenton

“Swimming. I grew up in Texas. We did have some pools we could go to. It was so hot.”

LaNay Cooke
Fenton

“Riding my motorcycle. I started riding when I was 13 or 14, because of the freedom of it. I built my own motorcycle 40 years ago.”

Joe Perrotta
Grand Blanc

“Swimming. I could go hang out with my friends. Afterword, we would go back and have peanut butter toast.”

Kim Cotcher
Holly
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We also offer Fresh Wild Game Meals!
David N. Osborn of Fenton lost his courageous battle with pancreatic cancer Wednesday, July 17. He was 69 years old. The husband of Mayor Sue Osborn, he was Fenton’s “first gentleman.”

Jack Feuerstein and Osborn were close dear friends. “We spent many hours fishing on Lake Fenton and having wonderful conversations. He had a great sense of humor and was sensitive to the needs of others. He was a grateful person and fought until the very end. I will miss him always,” he said.

Osborn is originally from Livonia. He attended Bentley High School and at the age of 16 was moved up a grade and attended Michigan State University. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Suffolk University in Boston. He received a fellowship to attend the LBJ School of Public Policy at the University of Texas in Austin, where he earned his master’s degree.

For 14 years, Osborn worked for the Michigan Municipal League (MML) as a lobbyist. He later worked as the director of the MML. He was also the head of the Michigan Association of Mayors, which is where he met his future wife, Sue, in 1989. They were together for five years before marrying in 1994.

Osborn was the city of Lansing police commissioner for nine years. He also was actively involved with Big Brother and Big Sisters of Lansing. In fact, one of his little brothers, Kenny McElroy, now 49, will serve as one of Osborn’s pall bearers.

Osborn also was the one-time director of Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation (SLPR). In recent years, he worked for Sharp Funeral Homes and later The Home Depot in Fenton.

Former Fenton resident Michael Shuck, Sr., who now resides in Florida, said he worked with Osborn at The Home Depot for many years. “He was always a pleasant and helpful man who is going to be dearly missed by his friends, including both his Home Depot family as well as his family of loved ones,” Shuck said.

Osborn was an active member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, where he served as a Eucharistic Minister and Reader; he taught REP classes and assisted with baptisms. He was also a member of Knights of Columbus.

Osborn did not have children of his own, but loved his stepsons Chris Suszek and Curt Suszek as his own. He was devoted to his granddaughter, Payton Suszek and grandson, Ryan Hugan. For more information and funeral details, please see the obituary in this edition.

By Vera Hogan

Adam Hartley will continue to be ‘lead learner’ at Fenton through 2022

On Monday, July 15, the Fenton Board of Education voted unanimously to renew the contract of Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) Superintendent Adam Hartley for an additional three years.

Hartley began as superintendent of the 3,400-student district in Fenton in July of 2016 with an initial contract, which ran through July 1, 2019. The renewed contract spans the 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years with a salary of $146,880.

During Hartley’s tenure, the district has added programming for alternative education students, strengthened the district’s financial See SUPERINTENDENT on 16
Byron schools seek 2.9694-mill sinking fund

If approved, will be the district’s fourth renewal

By Vera Hogan

Byron Area Schools officials are hoping to get a fourth sinking fund renewal on Tuesday, Aug. 6.

Voters approved the first sinking fund in February 2014, the second in March 2016, and third in August 2017. The current sinking fund expires Dec. 31. The proposed renewal includes 2.9694 mills for five years.

In a June letter to the community, Superintendent Tricia Murphy-Alderman highlighted the improvements accomplished with previous sinking fund dollars.

Murphy-Alderman said, “During the six years of approved Sinking Fund revenue, we have been able to accomplish the following for our students and entire community:"

• Wireless infrastructure in all three school buildings
• New boilers for elementary school, including new piping to vacate the inefficient pipes located outside, under the sidewalks
• New boilers in high school
• New roof for elementary school
• New ventilation systems with controls
• New classroom ventilation units
• Track resurfacing and upgrades

“The goal of this approved Sinking Fund will continue to focus on upgrading and improving our school facilities, including our parking lots, interior and exterior lighting and stadium bleachers,” Murphy-Alderman said.

The district is asking the currently authorized millage rate of 2.9694 (or $2.964 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) to be approved for a period of five years (2020 to 2024), inclusive.

If approved, the owner of a home with a taxable value of $75,000 will continue to pay $222.30 per year through 2024.

Actual ballot language:

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the building and site sinking fund millage that expires with the 2019 tax levy. Shall the currently authorized millage rate of 2.9694 mills ($2.9694 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation), which may be assessed against all property in Byron Area Schools, Shiawassee, Livingston and Genesee Counties, Michigan, be renewed for a period of 5 years, 2020 to 2024, inclusive, to continue to provide for a sinking fund for the construction or repair of school buildings and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2020 is approximately $595,000 (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2019 tax levy)?

HOT LINE CONTINUED

FOOD TRUCKS SHOULD be allowed as long as they operate under health guidelines. It’s ridiculous to say that it’s okay ‘during non-holiday or non-event days’ and ‘that it takes away from restaurant sales.’ They can keep bringing in new eateries yet a lady in her food truck is supposed to be told when she can operate?

WE SAW A butterfly.

THERE HAVE BEEN 47 recessions in U.S. history and they are a result of decreased employment, income, sales, and manufacturing. None of these phenomena have occurred under Trump, where our economy has surged. Recessions can help stop inflation, which can accompany high taxes, high debt, and high spending that occur with Democrats.

THERE WOULDN’T BE so many migrants trying to flee their home countries if the U.S. hadn’t spent so much time and energy destroying those countries. Reagan was one of the worst people ever to live.

THE BOTTLE RETURN machine is at the front of a store so dirty and smelly bottles don’t have to be carted down the aisles all the way to the back sinking up the whole place.

ISN’T IT CONFLICT of interest/against charter for a person to be on village council, chamber of commerce and now community center director?

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Bill would cover tuition costs for up to three years

By Hannah Ball

A recently introduced Michigan House bill would provide tuition assistance to eligible students for up to three years at a community college or public university.

Rep. Sheryl Kennedy (D-Davison) introduced the MI Opportunity Initiative, House Bill 4464, in April alongside Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

The plan, which includes two paths for tuition assistance, would cover a certain amount of tuition and mandatory expenses. Each requires the participants to be full-time students with continuous enrollment, which means taking classes for at least two semesters, and meeting certain academic standards. They must be a Michigan resident and have a high school diploma or have earned a high school equivalent certificate.

“Every student in Michigan has the right to a world-class education, no matter the path their journey takes them on,” Kennedy said in a press release. “This legislation will encourage more young people to take the next step to stackable credentials and a livable wage and renew our commitment to unlocking the potential of every Michigan student.”

Path One would help high school students wishing to attend community college obtain a technical certification, an associate degree, or transfer to a four-year institution.

They must be enrolled in a program at an eligible community college no later than the academic year following his or her completion of high school or receipt of high school equivalent certificate.

Students must complete a Michigan Opportunity Initiative application for the initial year of enrollment, and they must complete the free application for federal student aid each academic year in which they wish to receive assistance in the program.

If they are approved, they will receive gift aid.

To stay in the MI Opportunity Initiative program, they must maintain continuous enrollment as a full-time student and maintain satisfactory academic standing. They also would be required to participate in the success-coaches program, which includes on-campus advisors helping these students.

Students in phase one have three years to complete 30 credits.

Path Two is aimed at helping low- to middle-income students enrolling in a four-year university. These participants must attend school full time, have earned a 3.0 grade point average in high school or higher, and be a member of a household with an annual income of not more than $80,000.

These students must fill out the same applications as phase one students, and must maintain full-time enrollment and satisfactory academic standing. They must also continue to be a member of a household with an income that doesn’t exceed $80,000.

“Every student in Michigan has the right to a world-class education, no matter the path their journey takes them on.”

Sheryl Kennedy
Michigan House representative (D-Davison)
**MID-YEAR UPDATES**

Continued from Front Page

Library. The Department of Public Works has been working on a new road-patching program. They started on major streets first and now they have started working on residential streets.

“The fire department has ordered a new pumper truck, which will be delivered late winter early spring 2020. The interior of the city fire department has been repainted and we have seal-coated the parking lot at the fire hall.

“We have repaired the exterior of one of the water system storage tanks and repainted the exterior.

**Development projects completed**

“As far as development projects, the Five Below store is now open on Silver Parkway. Jersey Mike’s on Owen Road is now open.

“The building next to the Methodist Church on S. Leroy Street has been demolished in preparation for the 111 Leroy Street project.

“ReJuv Ave, at the corner of Mill Street and Adelaide, is now open on the first floor.

“The North Road resurfacing project will begin in the next two weeks. The project will include a roundabout at Torrey and North roads.

“We will have an upgrade to the Building Department that will include digitizing plans and reviews. This project will be a technology upgrade to the department.

“We are looking at projects that will save on energy costs. Depending on cost, these projects may be completed in phases.

“We will begin the design work on the Shiawassee Street repaving project that will be done next year.

**Development projects next six months**

“TJ Maxx is expected to open sometime this fall and Michaels is expected to move to its new location. Construction of the 111 Leroy Street project is expected to begin, and Ciao Italian Bistro is adding on to its restaurant.”

**LINDEN CITY**

Compiled by Mayor Danielle Cusson

“We have made significant progress already in 2019 in the city of Linden. The members of the Linden Mill Building Advisory Committee have combined their talents to gather information, locate the drawings from 1961 and make recommendations to the council for continued restoration work and grant opportunities to help fund the work.

“The bathrooms at Eagle’s Wooden Park are open and the play structure has a fresh coat of stain. The DDA created the DDA small business liaison position filled by Bryan Mulanix to help new and existing businesses in Linden. Construction on Dr. Wax’s property is underway.

“Here is what the city has planned for the remainder of 2019:

“The cemetery memorial project will be presented at a council meeting in August. We encourage anyone interested to attend, especially our veterans and military families. Linden continues to work through the Redevelopment Ready Community process with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation including developing and approving a Capital Improvement Plan.

“The city looks forward to the start of our new city manager. The city of Linden will continue to work with our fabulous volunteers to bring family friendly events: National Night Out; Back to the Bricks; Zombie Walk; and the Holiday Happening.”

**HOLLY VILLAGE**

Information provided by Tom McKenney, village president

McKenney listed several accomplishments so far for 2019.

They include selling the old car wash, which returns it to the tax rolls, relocating the Holly Fire Department to a new facility improving North Saginaw Streetscape.

The Planning Commission also approved a new Tim Hortons restaurant for development on Grange Hall Road.

With the Holly Downtown Development Authority (DDA), the village purchased and installed new boundary signage for the village of Holly.

“Homeowners and businesses continue to invest passion, time, money and energy in Holly,” McKenney said.

For the rest of the year the village has scheduled improvements to Waterworks Park, the new boundary sign installation will be phased in, and public safety and public works will remain a priority.

“All public works and public safety initiatives have been done, and are scheduled to be done within our ‘hold the line’ budget,” he said.

See the Wednesday, July 24 edition of the Times for mid-year updates by area townships.
Linden Library Board president with doctorate in toxicology shares expertise

By Hannah Ball

The Linden Library will host a presentation on the history and evolution of lead poisoning on Saturday, Aug. 3.

Joel Pounds, who has a Ph.D. in toxicology and is the president of the Linden Library Board, will present information from 1 to 3 p.m. He said he’s giving this presentation because the topic is “interesting.”

“Society, the medical/scientific community, and the responsible governments have viewed lead poisoning quite differently through thousands of years of lead exposure. We have forgotten, rediscovered, and forgotten again important aspects of the hazards of lead,” he said.

See LEAD POISONING on 12

Fenton Medical Center creates a sensory-friendly exam room

Caters to families with children with special needs

Fenton — For more than 77 years, Fenton Medical Center (FMC) has been the heartbeat of the surrounding community, offering exceptional care to patients through their knowledge and experience in medicine.

The facility, which provides healthcare for the whole family, is excited to announce the recent development of a pediatric and sensory-friendly exam room specifically designed for children with special needs. The room has been under development for months and is now open to families of children with special needs, offering a safe, quiet and comfortable space for visits.

“At FMC, we understand the differing needs that our patients with special needs have,” said Heather Mannor, a physician assistant who has been with the organization for more than 24 years, and who has a child with special needs. “We recognize that patients may have various sensory and communication needs, and we aim to make the experience at our office one that will accommodate these needs in their own private room.”

After performing extensive research and conferencing with a number of medical experts, the new exam room was created with specific design elements in mind, including LED lighting with a dimming switch, rather than bright fluorescent bulbs, which can be harsh and upsetting for some children. The room also has kid-friendly decorations and amenities, as well as a sensory box, which is filled with stimulating toys, puzzles, games and objects to keep children occupied and content.

Also, FMC offers a private entrance to accommodate any specific requirements children with special needs may have.

The room can be requested for your child’s exam upon the scheduling of your appointment.

FMC provides families of children with special needs long-appointment times, the option of receiving a call or text when your appointment is getting near, and a pre-visit questionnaire that gathers information needed to make your visit go smoothly.

“I’m super excited about the new room,” Mannor said. “It’s really good to see it come together and to be able to share my experiences with other people and make their journey a little better or a little easier. It can be pretty difficult in doctor offices or emergency rooms, just waiting with a child with special needs and we wanted to offer these kinds of things to help families in any way we can.”

“My youngest was diagnosed with autism and that has opened my eyes to the needs of parents with children with special needs,” said Dr. Edward Holden, a physician at FMC. “Going through it myself, I definitely have a little more insight to what things children with special needs may require or what needs their parents may have. We tried to keep a lot of that in mind while designing our new exam room.”

Fenton Medical Center is home to four family physicians, one internal medicine and pediatrics physician, three physician assistants, one nurse practitioner, all of whom are board certified and are trained to see and treat children. The facility also serves as an urgent care, open late and on weekends.

For more information about FMC, visit their website at www.fentonmedical.com.

Summary

Fenton Medical Center created a new sensory-friendly exam room with specific design elements in mind, including LED lighting with a dimming switch, rather than bright fluorescent bulbs, which can be harsh and upsetting for some children. The room also has kid-friendly decorations and amenities, as well as a sensory box, which is filled with stimulating toys, puzzles, games and objects to keep children occupied and content.

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“My youngest was diagnosed with autism and that has opened my eyes to the needs of parents with children with special needs.”

Dr. Edward Holden
Fenton Medical Center physician

...I assume everyone, especially those living in homes with lead paint, or exposed to lead in drinking water will be interested in this story.”

Joel Pounds
Linden resident with doctorate in toxicology
Continued from Front Page

The current fund expires Dec. 31.

Absentee voting has already begun.

School officials also are asking to increase the expiring sinking fund millage amount from the current 1 mill to 2.25 mills. A property owner whose home has a taxable value of $75,000 is currently being charged $68.21 per year for the sinking fund expiring at the end of this year. With a new sinking fund, that same homeowner will pay $168.75 per year.

If voters in the city of Fenton, Fenton Township, Rose Township and Tyrone Township, who are in the Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) district, approve the new sinking fund, the next 10-year collection period will start Jan. 1, 2020.

Earlier this year, in a letter to the school district community, Superintendent Adam Hartley said, “FAPS has always used the sinking fund to make sure our students are learning in spaces that are safe and up to date,” he said.

Hartley said the reason for the increase from 1 to 2.25 mills stems from new legislation that allows school districts to leverage sinking fund dollars for not only repairs and construction, but also for security and technology.

Hartley said this new legislation is great news because if the new sinking fund is approved by the community, the district can set goals and create rigorous plans not based on “what if a bond passes” but rather based on consistent revenue each year.

“By having a sinking fund under the new legislative guidelines, Fenton Area Public Schools will continue to enhance in all three areas and not have to seek another bond,” Hartley said.

Along with maintaining quality facilities, enhancing school security and progressing in instructional technology, a new sinking fund will allow the district to equip each school building with new HVAC climate control classrooms within a two-year period.

“The updated HVAC systems will provide comfortable learning spaces for our students, including central air in our classrooms,” Hartley said.

For more information, go to fentonschools.org/2019-sinking-fund.

In May, Hartley was asked about the need for a special election in August, when there will be a citywide election in November. He said, “Because of the current sinking fund expiring in December, we are placing the new sinking fund on the August ballot so we have an opportunity to go back out to the community in November if the August vote is not favorable to the school district.”

In order to provide voters with details they’ll need to make an informed decision. Hartley began a series of Community Informational Open Houses on May 6. The open houses as well as coffee and conversation sessions with the superintendent were held throughout late spring and summer.

The final coffee and conversation session, open to the public, will be held in the Administration Building, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 25.

City of Fenton

The city of Fenton has 9,129 registered voters on record. All city of Fenton voters are in the Fenton Area Public Schools district and all cast their ballots in the Activity Center at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

Fenton Township

Fenton Township has 1,912 registered voters who reside in the Fenton school district. Fenton school district voters who reside in Fenton Township cast their ballots in precincts four and five, which will be run as a single, consolidated precinct on Aug. 6. Voting will take place at Lake Fenton High School in the Green Room adjacent to the Band Room in the south wing of the building.

Tyrone Township

There are currently 4,489 registered voters in Tyrone Township, who reside in the Fenton school district. Tyrone Township voters in the FAPS district are in precincts 2 and 3 and vote at Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church, 10235 White Lake Rd., Fenton.

ACTUAL BALLOT LANGUAGE:

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Fenton Area Public Schools, Genesee, Livingston and Oakland Counties, Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 2.25 mills ($2.25 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2020 to 2029, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for the construction or repair of school buildings, for school security improvements, for the acquisition or upgrading of technology and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2020 is approximately $2,110,292?

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This chart, published on fentonschools.org, shows how the district plans to allocate the funds, if voters approve the millage Aug. 6.
LEAD POISONING
Continued from Page 10
The definition of lead poisoning has changed. He said the history on the topic is “replete with fascinating characters engaged in acrimonious personal, economic, regulatory, and professional battles.”
His first scientific paper on lead was published in 1977. It focused on the molecular and cellular effects of lead in bone cells and also the development and refinement of mathematical models of lead metabolism.
Pounds has an extensive background in researching lead, and has written dozens of papers on the topic.
He moved to Linden four years ago after he retired from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Washington four years ago, and he was appointed to the Linden Library Board of Directors in 2017.
“Understanding the mechanism of action of lead poisoning presents an interesting scientific challenge. Finally, because I find this topic is so fascinating, I assume everyone, especially those living in homes with lead paint, or exposed to lead in drinking water will be interested in this story,” he said.

Hear What Former Guests Say About Their WellBridge EPIC Experience

“I’ve been here multiple times and I will return again if needed. It’s wonderful!”
– WB Fenton

“Everyone cared for me so much!”
– WB Grand Blanc

“I have been here two times now, it’s fantastic!”
– WB Fenton

“Everybody was so kind and thoughtful.”
– WB Grand Blanc

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TRI-COUNTY FUNDRAISERS

Comedy night
The community is invited to attend Comedy Night at the Fenton VFW on Friday, July 26. This event is a fundraiser for the Holly High School marching band, which is preparing for a trip to Ireland in 2020. The VFW is at 1148 N. LeRoy St. in Fenton. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. Admission is $10 at the door and there will be raffles, 50/50 and more. Read more about the band’s trip in the July 24 Midweek Times.

ARE YOU BUILDING SOMETHING UNIQUE?
If it’s something that might be photo-worthy, let the photo department at the Times know. Email news@cttimes.com to let us know what’s going on, and photographer Tim Jagielo may contact you.
TUITION
Continued from Page 8

According to HB 4464, gift aid would cover the student’s tuition and mandatory fees, or $2,500, whichever costs less.

A student who must take a leave from the school due to medical issues or family hardship may continue to receive assistance. Participants are eligible for gift aid until they’ve been a Michigan Opportunity Initiative student for three years or have earned 60 semester credits.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

The money for the fund would come from the talent investment fund created in the Higher Education Loan Authority Act of 1975.

According to the bill, “gift aid” means scholarships or grants provided under the Michigan Promise Zone Authority Act of 2008 from sources that do not require repayment. It does not include student loans, work-study awards, or qualified withdrawals made from education savings accounts to pay for higher education expenses pursuant to the Michigan Education Savings Program Act of 2000.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TRUMP’S PICK FOR defense secretary is as swampy as you’d expect.

THE U.S. DEFICIT is projected to surpass $1 trillion in 2019, the largest it’s been outside of the four-year period following the Great Recession.

I SUPPOSE THE Holly DPW should turn off their heat in the winter to save money. Don’t worry about the computers, printers, copiers and other electronic equipment that will be destroyed.

FOR THOSE WITH a short memory, Obama took office with Wall Street, the banks, auto companies going bankrupt. No jobs, from a war we could not afford, Trump inherited a good economy. God help us all with all this hate.

WHAT KIND OF a role model do we parents like to see in the White House? Reagan? Lincoln? Trump? A person who divides us? A bragget? A person who has compassion? A person who is uplifting? What’s your choice?

DE会让CRAT CITIZENS, PLEASE tell us why you back candidates who want no borders and want you and me to pay for health insurance for everyone in the world.

PLEASE — NO MORE art in downtown Fenton. I think we have plenty.

GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE’S GENDER, race, or speaking abilities do not matter. What are the policies they push? Nothing else matters.

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The natural healing of Hawthorn & Violet

■ Herbal apothecary and naturopathic services available in Fenton

By Alex Petrie

Fenton — Since first opening in April 2017, Hawthorn & Violet Naturopathy is committed to increasing accessibility to naturopathy, or the practice of natural healing.

Hawthorn & Violet helps the client recover health based on the philosophy that health is the result of the body being in balance — when the body is out of balance, disease manifests.

Hawthorn & Violet owner and naturopathic doctor Rebecca Culley-Healey, who completed studies at the Naturopathic Institute of Therapies and Education, was board certified by the American Naturopathic Medical Certification Board. She also holds a bachelor of science in biology, with an emphasis in genetics, psychology and women’s studies.

“I’ve always been very interested in the natural world, plants and gardening, it was a big passion of mine,” Culley-Healey said. “Then I met an herbalist, and I was just fascinated by what she had to say. I took a summer course she was offering and learned she was studying to be a naturopath... soon after I started pursuing naturopathy.”

Culley-Healey found naturopathy to be an ideal enterprise, as she was able to incorporate genetics and biology into her newfound pursuit. She says that the ultimate goal is to successfully identify the cause of disease and help the client to rebalance their health rather than suppressing symptoms, which are signs of a disharmony and not the disease itself. She works with clients to determine a course of action, including naturopathic medicine and services to complement and supplement your existing healthcare.

Services at Hawthorn & Violet typically begin with an initial evaluation and naturopathic consultation sessions, in order to get a complete picture of patients’ individual state of health and determine a course to wellness. After the evaluation, clients receive a personalized written plan of herbs, supplements and adjustments.

“We offer over 180 medicinal, culinary organic and ethically wildcrafted herbs — both individually or blended per order. We also offer herbal tinctures, homeopathic remedies, essential oils, CBD oil, herbal skin and hair products. Soon we will offer our own line of elderberry syrup, just in time for flu season. We also offer herb classes and other natural health classes two to three times per month,” Culley-Healey said.

Although Hawthorn & Violet was initially started as a naturopathic consultation business, Culley-Healey said that it soon became clear that she wanted to offer the best products to clients right on location, which led to the apothecary, where only high-quality supplements are offered.

Along with her products, services and monthly classes, Culley-Healey also works closely with her husband, Peter Healey, who owns and operates Serenity Recovery Services, located in the same building as Hawthorn & Violet.

“Peter’s specialty is substance abuse, so there’s definitely crossovers between the two businesses, because there are a lot of people who can really benefit from certain herbs or essential oils that will help their nervous system, along with some other things we can offer,” she said.

For more information and current offerings, visit hawthornandviolet.com, visit our Facebook Page or call Culley-Healey at (810) 569-6820.

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WEEKEND TIMES Sunday, July 21, 2019 13
**Apollo 11 lands on moon 50 years ago**

**Compiled By Vera Hogan**

“That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”

These are the words of astronaut Neil Armstrong, who at 10:56 p.m. on July 20, 1969, became the first human to walk on the surface of the moon. His audience was more than a billion people listening at home on Earth, 240,000 miles away.

According to history.com, the American effort to send astronauts to the moon has its origins in a famous appeal President John F. Kennedy made to a special joint session of Congress on May 25, 1961.

He said, “I believe this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth.” At the time, the United States was still trailing the Soviet Union in space developments, and Cold War-era America welcomed Kennedy’s bold proposal.

In 1966, after five years of work by an international team of scientists and engineers, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) conducted the first unmanned Apollo mission, testing the structural integrity of the proposed launch vehicle and spacecraft combination. Then, on Jan. 27, 1967, tragedy struck at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, when a fire broke out during a manned launch-pad test of the Apollo spacecraft and Saturn rocket. Three astronauts were killed in the fire.

Despite the setback, NASA and its thousands of employees forged ahead, and in October 1968, Apollo 7, the first manned Apollo mission, orbited Earth and successfully tested many of the sophisticated systems needed to conduct a moon journey and landing. In December of the same year, Apollo 8 took three astronauts to the dark side of the moon and back, and in March 1969, Apollo 9 tested the lunar module for the first time while in Earth orbit. Then in May, the three astronauts of Apollo 10 took the first complete Apollo spacecraft around the moon in a dry run for the scheduled July landing mission.

At 9:32 a.m. on July 16, with the world watching, Apollo 11 took off from Kennedy Space Center with astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin Jr., and Michael Collins aboard. After traveling 240,000 miles in 76 hours, Apollo 11 entered into a lunar orbit on July 19. The next day, at 1:46 p.m., the lunar module Eagle, manned by Armstrong and Aldrin, separated from the command module, where Collins remained. Two hours later, the Eagle began its descent to the lunar surface, and at 4:18 p.m., the craft touched down on the southwestern edge of the Sea of Tranquility. Armstrong immediately radioed to Mission Control in Houston, Texas, a famous message: “The Eagle has landed.”

At 10:39 p.m., five hours ahead of the original schedule, Armstrong opened the hatch of the lunar module. As he made his way down the lunar module’s ladder, a television camera attached to the craft recorded his progress and beamed the signal back to Earth.

“Buzz” Aldrin joined Armstrong on the moon’s surface at 11:11 p.m., and together they took photographs of the terrain, planted a U.S. flag, ran a few simple scientific tests, and spoke with President Richard M. Nixon via Houston. By 1:11 a.m. on July 21, both astronauts were back in the lunar module and the hatch was closed. The two men slept that night on the surface of the moon, and at 1:54 p.m., the Eagle began its ascent back to the command module.

Among the items left on the surface of the moon was a plaque that read: “Here men from the planet Earth first set foot on the moon — July 1969 A.D — We came in peace for all mankind.”

Source: history.com
**Sinking fund on August ballot**

On Aug. 6, there will be a critical decision made by our community, transforming Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) over the next decade. This decision will directly impact the teaching and learning that occurs each day within our school community.

For the last 10 years, FAPS has been able to maintain our facilities and pay for major repairs due in part to the sinking fund. The current tax levy of 1 mill generates the needed revenue to maintain our current sinking fund short- and long-term projects, while protecting our general fund.

The new proposal of 2.25 mills will allow us to maintain these facility projects, while also placing updated heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) in all six buildings and create an annual revenue source to help us meet our ever increasing needs in the areas of school security and instructional technology.

Great communities build great schools and great schools strengthen great communities.

The sinking fund proposal on Aug. 6 is an opportunity for our community to continue the much needed support to ensure our schools remain in top notch shape, build upon the bond of 2014 to strengthen our progressive teaching, and keep our students safe.

I would like to invite you to our informational meeting at the administration building Thursday, July 25 from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. I will be happy to provide information needed to fully understand what this sinking fund proposal means to our community.


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**Mittan Beauty Company**

Young entrepreneur excited to open new salon in Fenton

By Alex Petrie

**Fenton** — Youth and beauty have always gone hand in hand, which is something that Maquinzy Mittan, a young entrepreneur based in Fenton, is acutely aware of.

Still in her early 20s, Mittan has already had her cosmetology license for more than five years, and now she’s running her own salon, Mittan Beauty Company, which opened in January.

Now, she says, she’s focusing on providing a salon experience her customers can’t find anywhere else.

Mittan’s business savvy and her career in the beauty industry both began earlier than most. Having been dual-enrolled in high school and cosmetology school, with her high school paying her tuition, she graduated with both a high school diploma and her cosmetology license at the same time, virtually ensuring a career path in an area she loved — all by the age of 18, and without a cent of student loan debt.

“I’ve always wanted to own my own salon,” Mittan said. “My mom was a hairdresser before I was born, but she always did my hair growing up, and I think that’s kind of what first attracted me to the industry. I actually worked in the salon that was located where we are now, and the previous owner put it up for sale, so I bought it as soon as I could. I worked there about a year before I bought it.”

Though Mittan Beauty Company is still in its infancy, Mittan is already focused on her salon’s legacy, ensuring the quality of her services and products.

While many salons and hairdressers are offering cuts that are cheap, fast or both, Mittan strives to offer the best of both worlds, providing clients affordable options utilizing expert skill and technique.

She prides herself on her team’s continued education and training, insisting the team of four keep their fingers on the pulse of current fashions and styles.

“The whole team here is younger, so we definitely have a younger vibe, which really connects us to our clients,” Mittan said. “I think our clients want a hairstylist that stays on top of trends. And we’re definitely that — all of us. I think, with a lot of older hairdressers, they’ll have a lot of knowledge because they’ve been in the game a long time, but they can also get stuck in their ways and kind of stick with ‘This is how it should be done,’ but we keep up on our education and are constantly learning.”

This year, Mittan and each of her employees traveled to Illinois for the America’s Beauty Show, a massive convention in Chicago that attracts licensed cosmetologists, estheticians, nail technicians, salon owners and cosmetology students. The event offers members great benefits to help build and sustain their careers, while also showcasing current trends in the industry.

Offering an array of hair services, from cuts and coloring to conditioning and blowouts; nail services; waxing and more, Mittan strives to uphold a culture where her employees love coming to work and her clients love coming back.

For more information, visit mittanbeautycos.com, like Mittan Beauty Company on Facebook or call (810) 208-0897.
Fenton Area Public Schools Superintendent Adam Hartley spoke in April at the Fenton Community Orchestra Spring concert about the upcoming schools sinking fund ballot proposal.

Times file photo

SUPERINTENDENT Continued from Page 6
position and purchased new curriculum materials. Additionally, the district has added early colleges with both Mott Community College and the University of Michigan-Flint, while offering both DEEP (Dual Enrollment Education Program) courses and maintaining the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program.

“Dr. Hartley has again demonstrated exceptional leadership for Fenton Area Public Schools,” said Keith Reynolds, school board president. “The board unanimously rated him highly effective as he continues to improve communication and transparency within the district and throughout the community. He and his team have also brought forth multiple opportunities to allow for financial stability. It is for these reasons the board made it a priority to extend his contract for another three years.”

Hartley said, “Being a part of the Fenton Area Public Schools community has been an amazing experience for me and my family. I am looking forward to continuing the work our team has done over the past three years in providing a safe and quality learning experience for our students. I want to thank the Board of Education for their leadership and recognize our staff and our families as the progress we have made has, and will continue to be, a team effort.”

Meijer announces teacher discount for back-to-school season

As teachers gear up for back-to-school season, Meijer is making it a little easier by offering a 15-percent discount on classroom essentials to teachers. The teacher discount applies to all Meijer stores and extends all summer long and into the school year, from now through Sept. 28. According to National Center of Education Statistics, 94 percent of public school teachers say they spend their own money on notebooks, pens and other supplies without reimbursement. Other experts estimate the average teacher spends more than $500 out of pocket each year. Items available for the discount range from spiral notebooks and schoolroom essentials like Crayolas, Elmer’s Glue, Sharpies and Post-It Notes to planners and journals, memo boards and even popular branded and stylized backpacks like Jansport, Nike, Under Armour and Adidas.

Teachers also are able to stack their mPerks Rewards with the 15-percent discount and take advantage of additional price drops on more than 300 items as part of Meijer’s everyday back-to-school savings at Meijer.

Teachers can get the discount by presenting a current school ID at their local Meijer Customer Service desk and will receive a coupon. The coupon can only be used for purchases made in-store and some restrictions apply. Teachers can take advantage of coupon repeatedly by obtaining a new coupon any time they return to Meijer throughout the back-to-school shopping season. For more information, visit Meijer.com/seasonal/back-to-school.

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Saving money in a heat wave

by sealing air leaks, according to the Department of Energy. Inspect and seal these areas: doors, windows, recessed lights and attic hatches.

5. Invest in energy-saving products

Consumers recommends getting an Energy Star certified air conditioner, which could reduce cooling costs by 30 percent. An Energy Star certified pool pump could save a house up to $350 a year.

HERE’S HOW TO SAVE MONEY:

1. Set your thermostat to a higher temperature when you’re away.

   According to Consumers, you’ll typically save 1 to 3 percent on cooling costs for every degree higher you set the thermostat. Smart thermostats can be programmed to automatically do this.

2. Run your ceiling fan counterclockwise.

   This will push air downward, circulating cooler air in your home.

3. Clean your AC filter regularly.

   If there’s more dust in your cooling appliances, they have to work harder. Keeping them clean will ensure you’re not wasting energy and money.

4. Seal air leaks

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EXPRES 8/2/19

Tough jobs: tree trimmer

Heights, falling lumber, insects, poison ivy and wildlife are threats to worker safety

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — John Hoffman’s chainsaw buzzes, spitting sawdust onto Oak Street 40 feet below.

Finally, it cuts through the 10-inch-thick maple tree trunk, leaving the 3,200-pound, 30-foot-tall section floating above him, secured by a heavy crane.

On Thursday, July 18, crews with Mosher Outdoor Services set up around 8 a.m. on E. Rockwell and Oak streets to take down several maple trees. Most are crisscrossed with utility lines, and the city of Fenton is paying to have them removed.

Tree trimming is one tough job requiring specific knowledge and certifications to be safe on the job.

Lining the streets are the crane, wood chipper, bucket truck and trailers with other equipment, like a Ditch Witch for dragging fallen branches across the street to be shredded.

Workers use hand signals to communicate and safely operate, and work around heavy equipment.

“We conduct a safety/tailgate meeting prior to the start of every job to discuss specific hazards and how the job will be completed,” Nathan Mosher said. “Communication is key during the removal process for the crew.”

Mosher said crew members are certified on aerial lifts and train on aerial rescue, crane operations, and many other items. “Our drivers need to have commercial drivers licenses and specialized training to operate our larger trucks,” he said.

Trees are normally removed with ropes to lower sections of the trees safely to the ground below. Piece by piece, Hoffman takes apart the maple trees above, and workers reduce it further with chainsaws on the street.

Mosher said that dead or decaying trees pose a higher risk of danger than healthy ones. When a tree has significant rot or decay, the whole tree could crash down, posing an even more dangerous risk.

There’s also power lines, their own equipment, which is either heavy or sharp, and wildlife such as raccoons, or insects. During the summer, they see poison ivy almost daily.

To stay safe, they provide all the necessary protective equipment and follow training and guidelines provided by the Tree Care Industry Association. They have to be meticulous with equipment maintenance.

This weekend as the heat rises, so does stress on workers and their equipment. “Extra safety measures such as hydrating more frequently and more breaks need to be taken to keep the crews safe and healthy,” Mosher said.

This is first of a series on tough tri-county area jobs.
LOOKING BACK

at this week in HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

JULY 21

2007: The seventh and final Harry Potter novel, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, is released, with an initial print run of 12 million copies in the United States alone. Like each of the previous Harry Potter novels, Deathly Hallows was slated to be made into a major Hollywood film.

JULY 22

1934: Outside Chicago’s Biograph Theatre, notorious criminal John Dillinger, America’s “Public Enemy No. 1,” is killed in a hail of bullets fired by federal agents. In a fiery bank-robbing career that lasted just over a year, Dillinger and his associates robbed 11 banks for more than $300,000, broke jail and narrowly escaped capture multiple times, and killed seven police officers and three federal agents.

JULY 23

1918: Della Sorenson kills the first of her seven victims in rural Nebraska by poisoning her sister-in-law’s infant daughter, Viola Cooper. Over the next seven years, friends, relatives, and acquaintances of Sorenson repeatedly died under mysterious circumstances before anyone finally realized that it had to be more than a coincidence. In 1925, Sorenson was arrested when she made an unsuccessful attempt at killing two children in the neighborhood with poisoned cookies. She confessed to the crimes, saying, “I like to attend funerals. I’m happy when someone is dying.” Sentiments like this convinced doctors that Sorenson was schizophrenic, and she was committed to the state mental asylum.

JULY 24

1911: American archeologist Hiram Bingham gets his first look at Machu Picchu, an ancient Inca settlement in Peru that is now one of the world’s top tourist destinations.

JULY 25

1945: President Harry S. Truman nonchalantly hints to Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin that the United States has successfully developed a new weapon. In his diary, Truman privately referred to the new weapon, the atomic bomb, as the most terrible bomb in the history of the world.

JULY 26

1908: The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is born when U.S. Attorney General Charles Bonaparte orders a group of newly hired federal investigators to report to Chief Examiner Stanley W. Finch of the Department of Justice. One year later, the Office of the Chief Examiner was renamed the Bureau of Investigation, and in 1935 it became the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

JULY 27

1943: Joseph Stalin, premier and dictator of the Soviet Union, issues Order No. 227, what came to be known as the “Not one step backward” order, in light of German advances into Russian territory. The order declared, “Panic makers and cowards must be liquidated on the spot. Not one step backward without orders from higher headquarters! Commanders who abandon a position without an order from higher headquarters are traitors to the Fatherland.”

Source: history.com

HOT LINE

CONTINUED

TO THE PERSON talking about a recession because there is a Republican in office. One thing you are not taking into account is that our president is a businessman not a politician. Big and very positive difference there. Don’t think we will be heading for a recession unless of course 2020 does not go positively.

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REPAVING
Continued from Front Page
Supervisor Bonnie Mathis was absent.

The estimated cost of the project is approximately $1.3 million after the Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) pays $187,500 for engineering and inspection costs. The work includes grading, ditching, shaping, resurfacing, reconstructing drainage structures and more.

The assessment would cost approximately $14,600 per parcel, based on the preliminary estimate from the GCRC. If the project is approved, the actual assessment will be based on the low bid for the project.

Broecker anticipates this will be a 15-year assessment. The life expectancy of the road is 20-plus years.

According to July 15 meeting minutes, a petition was submitted with 62.14 percent of the total frontage, meeting the requirement to create a special assessment district.

A few residents spoke in favor of the assessment district. Margaret O’Riley said the roads are terrible and need to be replaced, and that improving the streets will improve property values.

Bob Bennett, who circulated the petitions, said he sees huge holes up and down the street, some up to 6 inches deep.

COST BREAKDOWNS:
- Amberwood Lane: $78,000
- Autumn View Court: $106,000
- Pebble Ridge Court: $104,000
- Pine Ridge Court: $114,000
- Shadow Oak Court: $100,000
- Silverwood Court: $65,000
- Silverwood Drive: $453,000
- Split Rail Lane: $230,000

Thomas Broecker, operations manager/deputy clerk, said the next step is to approve a project agreement between the GCRC and the township. When this is complete, the GCRC will begin design work.

“I would expect the design to be completed over the winter and the project bid out early in 2020. Once the bids have been reviewed and the lowest qualified bid identified, the township can then prepare the special assessment roll based on the low bid, and schedule a public hearing,” he said.

After the public hearing, the board can vote to confirm the roll and approve the issuance of bonds. Broecker said, ideally, it will be completed by spring 2020 and construction can start that spring or early summer.

CLUB PRESIDENT
Continued from Front Page

crash on Torrey Road, just south of Grand Blanc Road in Mundy Township. He was a 1976 graduate of Lake Fenton High School.

Lt. Joel Grahn of the Metro Police Authority said Williams was traveling southbound on his 1973 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide when his bike veered from the road and struck a tree at 10:40 p.m. The fatal crash remains under investigation.

Williams was president of the Barons Motorcycle Club in Gaines. The motorcycle club, comprised of approximately 40 members, has been in downtown Gaines since 1998. They have a reputation for philanthropic activities that impact the village of Gaines and surrounding areas.

The village even named a street after them — “Barons Boulevard,” on the Barons clubhouse side of the street.

Scott Griffin, one of the last remaining founders of the club, which formed in 1974, is mourning his good friend’s death. “It’s such a shocker. Jack was a motorcycle guy through and through, a real safety nut,” he said.

Griffin met Williams when Williams joined the club in 1995. He said those who knew Williams well are baffled about the crash. He said Williams was up visiting the old owner of Scooters who was moving from the area. The Barons Motorcycle Club and Scooters had done several events together and Williams wanted to say goodbye to his friend. Griffin is hoping an autopsy will provide some answers.

“Jack’s a great guy, a great listener. His knowledge on things was amazing. He was self-employed and had two kids,” he said. “His influence? He’s a quiet guy, unassuming. He rose through the ranks to become president. The club did a lot of community events and Jack was instrumental in that. He’s very shy and stayed in the background.”

A Celebration of Life in memory of Williams is scheduled for Saturday, July 20 at 2 p.m. at the Barons Motorcycle Club, 101 Genesee St., Gaines.

With Williams being as quiet and shy as he was, Griffin assumes his friend would not be too thrilled with a big gathering in his memory, but they’re going to do it anyway. “Saturday is going to be big. It’s going to be one heck of a send-off,” he said.
Something old, something new at The Fireplace

By Sally Rummel

Wayne Simons was just a young boy when his family visited Club Carrol back in the late 1940s and ’50s after cooling off in Lake Fenton from their home in Flint.

Torrey and North Long Lake roads were just rural, gravel roads back then, but there was a “watering hole” across from the lake that brought people in for drinks, burgers and dancing.

Club Carrol was the “place to go” for many people from throughout Genesee County, especially in the summertime.

“I wasn’t old enough to drink, but I remember the gray floor with red tiles, beach sand all over the floor and swimming suits dripping water off patrons at the bar,” said Simons, now 81. “It was strictly hamburgers back then, and the bar, with a lot of potato chips.”

Club Carrol almost burned to the ground in the late 1950s and was bought by Ron and Betty Groesser in 1970, renaming it The Fireplace, in reference to the fire. Patrons often wondered over the years why The Fireplace didn’t actually have a fireplace.

“As a few drinks, we had some creative ideas,” said Jennifer Lessard on Facebook. “It was always a great place to meet friends for drinks and bar food, especially their chicken quesadillas.”

This quaint family friendly bar and restaurant, at 2238 N. Long Lake Rd., Fenton Township, still draws a crowd for live music, dancing, burgers, pizza and quesadillas and better yet — making memories.

“This was the place where folks came to celebrate birthdays, wedding showers, get-togethers and just having fun with great friends,” said Yvonne Groesser, daughter-in-law of Ron and Betty Groesser.

The Groesser family owned The Fireplace for 49 years, including almost a decade of ownership by two of their daughters, Mardell Landis and Rhonda Nunn. They sold it in the fall of 2018.

“It was a family affair, where all of Ron’s family ran it during this time, with the belief that if you came in, you were ‘family’ and everyone was treated that way,” Yvonne said.

Another long-time customer, Mary Bills of Fenton Township, has been going to The Fireplace with her husband, Bob, since the 1970s. “It’s a great neighborhood bar that’s been there for years. All of us who live in the area consider it our ‘home.’”

The Fireplace also became well known for its Monday Night Car Cruisers, which started about 13 years ago. “We started the car club, the Lakeshore Cruisers,” Simons said. “The Fireplace was our place to go; we made it our headquarters.”

Yvonne added that today’s customers are now bringing their families in after a game at Lake Fenton schools and are now having wedding rehearsal lunches and dinners there. “It was nice to have a place where the community is so close,” she said.

The Fireplace was also the go-to restaurant for the few years when the Lake Fenton Winter Classic hockey tournament, run by Sean Lapham, was held. The weekend tourney ended when Lapham moved out of state in 2014.

Today, there’s a new face behind The Fireplace, managing partner Joe Gilbert, who took over on July 1.

A Fenton resident since 2000, he made a name for himself at the Fenton Moose Lodge. He’s looking forward to adding comfort foods to the menu and bringing in more events for the fall football season, a Ladies Night teamed with other businesses, etc. He plans to keep the Monday Night Car Cruisers, the Thursday Trivia events and comedy nights in the fall and winter.

“We have a DJ who plays Wednesday through Saturday nights,” Gilbert said. “It’s a great local atmosphere.”

“This was the place where folks came to celebrate birthdays, wedding showers, get-togethers and just having fun with great friends.”

Yvonne Groesser

Daughter-in-law of long-time owners
Dierks Bentley in concert at Ally Challenge

Country recording artist also part of Celebrity Foursome to benefit charity

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Country recording artist Dierks Bentley will headline the second annual Ally Challenge Community Concert. The event will take place on the driving range at Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club, Saturday, Sept. 14, following the second round of competition at The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren.

Access to The Ally Challenge Community Concert is only offered via the purchase of a valid tournament ticket. For tickets, go to theallychallenge.com.

The tournament’s newest event, the Celebrity Foursome, was also introduced. This marquee competition will take place Saturday of tournament week and feature golf’s greatest champion Jack Nicklaus, super-star recording artist and Michigan native Kid Rock, and Bentley. In the coming weeks, an additional celebrity will be added to create a powerhouse foursome that will play a 9-hole team scramble exhibition match to benefit charity.

The special group’s starting time will follow the last tournament pairing of round two, beginning on Hole No. 10 at Warwick Hills.

“We at Ally are thrilled to take The Ally Challenge to the next level by bringing one of country’s biggest stars, Dierks Bentley, as our Saturday evening concert,” said Andrea Brimmer, Ally Challenge director. “Dierks Bentley is sure to thrill fans at the Community Concert and the addition of the Celebrity Foursome to Saturday’s schedule will be an instant fan favorite.”

Nicklaus’ competitive career spanned five decades, and his legend has been built with 120 professional tournament victories worldwide, including a record 18 major-championship titles. Known as the Golden Bear, Nicklaus’ legacy transcends his championship resume, due to his global design work and licensing, and the commitment from Jack and wife Barbara to philanthropy, specifically efforts focused on pediatric care through the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation.

Using his success as a platform to benefit others has earned Nicklaus the designation as the only sportsperson — and fourth individual in history — to be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Congressional Gold Medal, and the Lincoln Medal.

Kid Rock burst onto the music scene in 1998, with his “Devil Without a Cause” album and hasn’t looked back. From hit singles like “Bawitdaba” and “Cowboy” to “Picture” and “All Summer Long,” the recording artist has blazed his own trail in the music world, having sold over 26 million albums to date and performing to standing-room-only crowds.

Looking forward to returning to Warwick Hills to tee it up with Jack “The GOAT” Nicklaus and my country music brother Dierks Bentley,” Kid Rock said. “You just can’t beat summertime Michigan golf.”

The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren, Sept. 9-15, will be one of the premier regular season events on PGA TOUR Champions in 2019, which will give way to the third-annual Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs — a season-ending, three tournament series used to determine the Tour’s season-long champion.

All three rounds of The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren will be broadcast on Golf Channel.

For more information about The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren, visit theallychallenge.com.
Here are 20 ways you can still enjoy our summer vacation months of July and August

By Sally Rummel

Warm, sunny weather and available vacation time make July and August the most popular months to enjoy the summer promises of “Pure Michigan.” Yes, the school year is looming before us, but there’s still plenty of time to take advantage of our state’s natural beauty and resources.

Close to home, take advantage of summer’s farmers markets, concerts in the park, Arts are the Heart family art events in Fenton on the third Friday of each month, Taste in Fenton on Aug. 7, and more.

HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:

1. Explore the Mushroom Houses in Charlevoix — visit the Earl Young Mushroom Houses in a 50-minute tour through the Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce, or tour on your own.

Photo: michigan.org/summer

Spring Break!!!

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4. Try Wheelhouse Detroit. At every turn. For an urban experience, with more than 1,300 miles of biking vintage and classic automobiles. Gilmore Car Museum, housing one of Michigan's largest collections of Michigan's classic Hitsville USA in Detroit, learn and Find Your Motown Groove.

5. Play at a water park — Michigan’s Adventure in Muskegon, the state’s largest amusement/ water park, offers 15 water attractions and a massive twin amusement park.

6. Paddle a Michigan waterway — Paddle on a local lake, the Shiawassee River, or visit other paddle-friendly lakes, including the Hamlin Lake Canoe Trail in Ludington State Park, Aloha State Park on Mullet Lake or Tawas Point State Park on Tawas Bay.

7. Stay at a winery inn — Consider a visit to the stunning hilltop Chateau Chantal in Traverse City, Black Star Farms in Suttons Bay and Chateau Grand Traverse on Old Mission Peninsula in Traverse City.

8. Ride a dune buggy on Michigan’s sand dunes in Saugatuck or Silver Lake, between Muskegon and Ludington.

9. Explore shipwrecks of the Great Lakes — Snorkel and dive among hundreds of preserved wrecks in the Great Lakes, or take a glass-bottom shipwreck cruise at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center in Alpena, or on Glass Bottom Shipwreck Tours in Munising in the U.P.

10. Fire a cannon at Fort Mackinac — Visit the Straits area for some of the state's best historic sites in St. Ignace and Mackinaw City.

11. Wish on falling stars — Stargaze at The Headlands, an International Dark Sky Park in Mackinac City.

12. Tour the West Michigan beach towns of Grand Haven, Holland, St. Joseph, Saugatuck and more along a 200-mile stretch of wide sandy beaches with amusement parks, dune buggy rides, galleries, shops, festivals and food.

13. Go to an art festival — This weekend is the Ann Arbor Art Fair through July 21, but visit artfaircalendar.com for a complete list around our state.

14. Visit a lighthouse — Michigan has more lighthouses than any other state as well as opportunities to be a volunteer keeper or spend the night at a lighthouse bed and breakfast.

15. Hunt for Petoskey stones or agates — Start at Petoskey State Park or visit Grand Marais in the U.P., where the Gitche Gummee Agate and History Museum offers an impressive mineral collection.

16. Set sail on a Tall Ship — The Bay City Tall Ships Celebration sails this weekend through July 21, or hop on a schooner at the Tall Ship Manitou in Traverse City. Friends Good Will in South Haven has options, too, including day cruises, sunset cruises and a pirate chaser boat.

17. Snag a Salmon or reel in a walleye on a Great Lakes fishing charter in Manistee or venture to Saginaw Bay for walleye.

18. Try standup paddle boarding — Take lessons at Silver Spray Sports in Fenton or spend an unexpected paddle boarding day on the Detroit waterfront. Detroit River Sports even offers “paddle to table” tours that highlight the city’s burgeoning culinary scene.

19. Visit local farmers markets and u-pick areas for the best in Michigan’s seasonal bounty.

20. Go camping — The state of Michigan has 100 parks and recreation areas with a total of 13,500 campsites. Go “glamping” at Uncle Ducky’s Paddlers Village in Munising, sleeping in a Lake Superior shoreline yurt (round tent-like looking structures that merge the worlds of tents, huts and houses) that lulls you to sleep.
Compiled By Vera Hogan

Weekend getaways are nice, but sometimes staying in hotels can be boring. How about adding a little excitement to your life by trying one of these unique places to stay in Michigan?

Tired of hotels and motels?

Michigan has several unique places to spend the night.

**Lighthouse**

Three privately owned lighthouses in the Upper Peninsula offer bed and breakfast accommodations: Jacobsonville Lighthouse Inn, Big Bay Point Lighthouse Bed and Breakfast and Sand Hills Lighthouse Inn. All the lighthouses offer tours and access to the tower to view the water. It’s a unique way to enjoy the Michigan lakeshore.

Phone: (906) 345-9957; bigbaylighthouse.com

**Submarine**

Spend the night in the USS Silversides, a WWII era submarine in Muskegon. Sleep in the same place as her brave crew members who helped defend the United States and completed 14 successful missions during the war. Walk the deck and imagine what it was like to be a member of the Navy over 70 years ago.

Contact: johnson@silversidesmuseum.org or call (231) 755-1230, ext 226

**Boat**

SeaSuites Bed and Breakfast in Saugatuck calls itself the first boat and breakfast in Michigan. Docked and floating quietly on the Kalamazoo River, Lake Michigan beaches as well as galleries and restaurants are all conveniently located nearby. Four well-appointed staterooms provide privacy and relaxation. You can also enjoy the view from the common area on the 105-foot deck.

Phone: (269) 426-0381; seasuites.com

**Train**

Railroad buffs will love the opportunity to stay in a historic 1920s caboose in South Haven. The Caboose Inn is located at the site of the town’s original train depot. Guests are close to the Lake Michigan beach and the downtown shopping district.

Phone: (269) 637-8480; oldharborinn.com

**Castle**

The Henderson Castle is called the Jewel of Kalamazoo, and ranked the top historic inn in Michigan by AAA. The grandeur of this 11,000-square-foot Queen-Ann style mansion, sitting on 3 acres, offers an intriguing blend of architectural, artistic, antique as well as modern amenities, including wireless access for business travelers. Heated marble floors, crystal chandeliers, gorgeous leaded and stained glass windows, fiber optic accents, a sauna, steam room and rooftop hot tub make the castle a haven in the city and a romantic dream come true.

Phone: (269) 344-1827; hendersoncastle.com

**Tepees & Yurts**

Several Michigan State Parks offer yurts and teepees for nightly rental. They’re a nice upgrade from a nylon tent, but more primitive than a cabin. Some are in modern campgrounds with bathhouses, while others are more rustic with few amenities. Many yurts have propane heaters, making them habitable even in the winter. Check availability and make reservations online at the Michigan DNR website: michigan.gov/dnr.

**Photo:** laketolake.com

**Photo:** paddlingmichigan.com

**Photo:** seasuites.com

**Photo:** hendersoncastle.com

**Photo:** oldharborinn.com

**Photo:** koa.com

**Photo:** silversidesmuseum.org
Holly’s Hepner headed to Albion College to play volleyball

By David Troppens

Jesse Hepner took her time figuring out where she was going to play college volleyball.

She didn’t even think about playing college volleyball until her junior season.

“I was wondering if I was good enough. I thought I could do it and then my coach encouraged me to reach out to colleges and see who was interested,” the 2019 Holly graduate said. “I ended up getting the offer my junior year and I didn’t accept until this spring. It was a long decision process, but in the end I know I made the right choice.”

Her right choice was to go to Albion College. Albion College is a Division III school in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA).

Hepner said she was looking at Hope College and Kalamazoo College at the time, two other MIAA institutions.

“I love the smallness of the See VOLLEYBALL on 27

Lions camp enjoys its fourth year in Fenton

By David Troppens

Fenton — Pat Sharrow had a simple question he asked during the first day of the Detroit Lions Summer Football Camp held at Fenton High School Monday through Thursday. Sharrow is the football education coordinator for the Lions.

“We asked who has gone to all four camps,” the Lions football education coordinator said. “We had a number of kids stand up, so that was fantastic. We had them stand up, we clapped for them and recognized it. That was really cool.”

Sharrow has spent four days for about four hours each of those days the last four summers at Fenton High School, running the camp, and during that time he’s learning a lot about the campers that come each year.

“We only see them a short amount of time during the summer, but we try to leave that connection See LIONS on 28

Holly tennis camp remains a hit with program’s future, past

By David Troppens

Holly — The morning begins with joke time.

Holly varsity boys and girls tennis coach Will Sophiea will ask the children ranging from elementary school age to junior high if they have a joke they want to share with the campers. On Wednesday the event began with one of the campers asking “What type of phone has a degree?” The answer, of course, is a smart phone.

After that, the different aged kids go into various groups performing different tasks.

The more experienced will play a game that looks a lot like normal tennis, but is more designed to teach being nimble on your feet — a vital skill See HOLLY on 27

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I’m approximately 2½ years old and 20 lbs. I’m a sweet boy with lots of energy. I have lived with children, but I don’t appreciate them pestering me.
HOLLY
Continued from Page 26

The younger participants will be doing something a bit different. On this day one of the events was trying to hit buckets on the other side of the net with their serve. When someone did it, which happened every couple of minutes, the person accomplishing the task was allowed to order the rest of the players to do a task. Usually it seemed it was a certain number of push-ups.

But the summer scene at Holly High School has been the same for decades. No matter what the age, it seems everyone who attends the Holly Summer Camp at William McDaniel Tennis Complex always has fun.

This year there are about 200 participants in the camp that happens on weekday mornings.

Looking at the success of the summer program, it’s easy to see why the Holly varsity programs have been so successful. Both varsity squads have had more than their share of success. Holly’s girls have won or shared all but two Metro League titles since winning the team’s first during the 1982-83 season, while the boys have won or shared all but four since the 1988-89 school year.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

The Holly Summer Tennis Program is going as strong as ever, and has become a fixture at Holly High School during the summer break on weekday mornings. (Above photo) Holly tennis instructors do a group cheer at the end of Wednesday’s activities. (Left) A camper returns a ball during one of the games played at the event. (Below) Campers collect the tennis balls after an activity. Photos: David Troppens

HOLLY
Continued from Page 26

Continued from Page 26

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CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM
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LIONS
Continued from Page 26
with them. We like to see the growth they’ve made from four years ago to this point. We definitely love to see that.”

The camp has remained reasonably consistent since the first year. The camp is for children from 6 to 14. Sharrow and his coaches use two days to teach offensive positions and two days on defense. Many fundamental drills are taught but they are done so in a high-energy, non-contact format to encourage safe activity. The camp encourages the shoulder tackling system, and when they compete in a true football setting, they do so by using the flag football system, assuring a certain level of safety among the campers.

While at the camp the coaches try to teach life lessons through their five points of pride — the words determined, noble, courageous, united and ferocious. Thursday’s word was “united.” During the day the word is used during the camp trying to emphasize the meaning of the word. “We talk about ‘united’ not only being on the practice and football field, but about how good football teams are close football teams because they hang out outside of practice,” Sharrow said. “They are at pool parties and pizza parties together. They are riding bikes together. That’s a good football team. And as you grow in life, you have to be able to work with people, communicate with people. We try to get those life lessons across.”

Sharrow is amazed how much even the younger camp members are able to grasp. “Their knowledge and some of the questions they ask about players, positions or strategies are more in tune to football than most think,” Sharrow said. “Some of the skills and drills we may have to adjust for the younger kids, but they really understand the majority of the concepts.”

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Wednesday Night Races at the Park

Here are the results for the third week of the Wednesday Night Races held at Linden County Park. About 50 athletes ranging from the ages of 3 to 61 competed in the quarter-mile, half-mile, one-mile, two-mile or three-mile event. The final Wednesday Night race was July 17. Quarter-mile times aren’t kept. The staff will post those results in a future publication.

JULY 16 RESULTS

HALF-MILE RACE

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Hadley Wheeker (5)</td>
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ONE MILE RACE

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<td>Connor Brunskoic (12)</td>
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GIRLS (AGE)

Lily Ciesielski (9) | 7:38 |
Melody Meckstroth (10) | 8:43 |
Riley McKissic (8) | 8:50 |
Anna Miller (9) | 9:55 |

TWO MILE RACE

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<td>Aidan Sage (13)</td>
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<td>Jase Post (12)</td>
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<td>David Troppens (50)</td>
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THREE MILE RACE

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<tr>
<td>Jim Fitt (61)</td>
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NOTICE OF HEARING
REQUEST FOR REZONING
AND SPECIAL LAND USE
CITY OF LINDEN – PLANNING COMMISSION

The City of Linden Planning Commission will be conducting a public hearing as part of their regular meeting agenda on August 5, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the lower level of the Mill Building at 201 N. Main Street, Linden, Michigan. The purpose of the hearing is to hear public comment from interested persons regarding a request for rezoning and special land use for the following:

Petitioner: Rare Holdings, LLC (Beacon & Bridge)

Request: Petitioner is requesting a conditional rezoning from the CBD, Central Business District to the GC, General Commercial District. As part of the rezoning, the petitioner is offering certain conditions to the use of the property, including limiting the future use of the property to only a gas station and convenience store, or other uses allowed within the CBD. Petitioner is also requesting special land use approval to establish a new gas station and convenience store.

Property Address: 110 East Broad Street and 111 South Bridge Street

Property Tax Description: Tax ID# 61-20-552-001 and Tax ID# 62-20-552-002

Legal Description: PART OF LOTS 1 AND 2 BLK 1 BEG AT NW COR OF LOT 1 TH S 100 FT TH E 103 FT TH E 14 FT TH N 63 FT TH E 14 FT TH N 37 FT TH W 119 FT TO PL OF BEG ORIGINAL PLAT OF VILLAGE OF LINDEN – Commonly known as 110 East Broad Street

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Applications and supporting documentation are available for public review at the City Offices, 132 E. Broad Street, Linden, MI, during regular business hours Monday through Friday. Persons wishing to comment may do so at the hearing or written comments should be provided to Tessa Wightman, City Clerk, at P.O. Box 507, 132 E. Broad Street, Linden, MI 48451, prior to 4 p.m. on the day of the hearing. Anyone needing a special accommodation should contact the City Clerk at least two business days in advance of the hearing. Tel. 810-735-7980.

Senate Bill 351 and House Bill 4688: Expand civil rights law “protected class” status to sexual orientation and “gender expression” Introduced by Sen. Jeremy Moss (D) and Rep. Jon Hoadley (D), respectively, to add “gender identity or expression” and sexual orientation to the characteristics that define membership in a protected class, against whom it is a crime to discriminate under the state’s Elliott-Larsen civil rights law. This would make it a crime to deny employment, housing, use of public accommodations, public services, and educational facilities to another person on the basis of an individual’s assertion of a particular sexual orientation or gender identity. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 4599: Create crime of summoning police for false “law enforcement emergency” Introduced by Rep. John Reilly (R), to create a new crime of summoning armed law enforcement officers to a residence with an intentional false report of a serious law enforcement emergency. Violations would be a felony subject to up to life in prison, and life with no chance of parole if an officer is killed. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 4602: Cut tax on electric and hybrid cars Introduced by Rep. David LaGrand (D), to cut by 50 percent a vehicle registration tax surcharge that is levied on electric and hybrid vehicles. This tax was authorized as part of a 2015 increase in the gas tax and vehicle registration tax, with the purpose of apportioning road repair costs onto cars whose owners use roads but pay no motor fuel tax. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

NOTICE OF ELECTION
ROSE TOWNSHIP PRECINCT #1 ONLY
August 6, 2019

To the Qualified Electors of the Township of Rose, County of Oakland:

Notice is hereby given that a Special Election will be held in the Township of Rose, County of Oakland on Tuesday, August 6, 2019. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

At the following location:

Precinct #1 Township Office, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, MI 48442

Please take notice that the Fenton School district will be voting on the following millage proposal as presented and listed below:

Fenton Area Public Schools
Sinking Fund Millage Proposal

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in Fenton Area Public Schools, Genesee, Livingston and Oakland Counties, Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 2.25 mills ($2.25 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2020 to 2029, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for the construction or repair of school buildings, for school security improvements, for the acquisition or upgrading of technology and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2020 is approximately $2,110,292?

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained Rose Township Clerk’s office, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, MI 48442. Sample ballots can also be found at www.mi.gov/vote.

Absentee ballots are available for all elections; registered voters may contact the local clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Debbie Miller, MMC, CMMC
Rose Township Clerk
(248) 634-8701