Sinking fund proposal fails by wide margin

■ Fenton schools voters By Vera Hogan reject increasing mills from 1 to 2.25 mills

Citizens in the Fenton Area Public Schools district had their say on the proposed new 10-year sinking fund at the polls on Tuesday, Aug. 6.

ing "no."

The proposal failed by a total of 1,543 "no" votes to 828 "yes" votes. Fenton Area Public Schools voters

Veekend*Imfs

What they said was an overwhelm- represent households in three counties. In Genesee County, 1,357 votes were cast in this election. In Livingston County (Tyrone Township), See FAILS on 16A

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VOL. 26 NO. XXXII

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019

\$1.00

Shooter gets life in prison

Grand Blanc woman sentenced more than three years after crime

By Hannah Ball

The 57-year-old woman who shot and killed two women in a Grand Blanc leasing office was sentenced to life in prison on Tuesday, Aug. 8.

See LIFE IN PRISON on 17A



Jacquelyne Faye Tyson



BATTLING A BRIOCHE — Jamil Brown, 7, of Pemberton, New Jersey attacks his brioche doughnut during the doughnut-eating contest at Taste in Fenton on Wednesday, Aug. 7. Jamil was visiting from out of state and wanted to compete in the contest again.

See story on Page 19A. Photo by Tim Jagielo

T.J.Maxx in Fenton to open Aug. 15

Will present \$10,000 donation to Fenton Center of Hope that morning

Compiled by Sharon Stone

T.J.Maxx, one of the nation's leading off-price retailers with more than 1,200 stores currently operating in 49 states and Puerto Rico, will relocate to Silver Lake Village on Aug.15. The store offers everything from fashion and accessories to jewelry, home, beauty, pet products, toys and more. The new Fenton store will replace the store near Center and Lapeer roads in Flint, which will be closing.

The Fenton store is 22,000 square feet in Silver Lake Village on Silver Parkway.

See T.J. MAXX on 20A

The smoking ban — 10 years later

By Tim Jagielo

It's been nearly 10 years since the Dr. Ron Davis Smoke Free Air Law went into effect in December 2009. It made it illegal to smoke in bars, restaurants and

work places in Michigan. Casinos were an exception.

At the time of the state ban, local bars and restaurants had mixed reactions. See SMOKING BAN on 9A





GSitting at Crust's outdoor patio on Caroline



with pedestrians. What's the rush? Are you OK with hitting a family? Slow down please.'

GOprah is correct. She said that people are missing a core moral

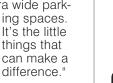


center, a core center of values about a way of living and being in the world. Churches used to do that and until we

return to that we will continue to be lost."

Chank you to VG's for the extra wide park-







CA big thank you to the Thin Blue Line; our police officers who put it on the line every day."

WEEKEND TIMES





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Food waste is a \$162 billion yearly issue

From our farms to dinner tables, more than a third of food grown worldwide is never eaten

By Sally Rummel

Remember when your mom used to tell you to clean your plate "because there were starving children in Africa?"

Turns out that your mom was right — food waste has become a very serious problem not only globally, but also here in the U.S.

According to National Geographic, an American family of four trashes an average of \$1,484 worth of edible food a year.

Most families don't do it intentionally; they often don't realize the amount of food they buy

See FOOD WASTE on 12A

It's car time in the tri-county area

■ Tune-Up parties come to Fenton, Linden; Holly continues its popular Wednesday series

By Tim Jagielo

Linden — It's cars as far as the eye can see along Broad Street.

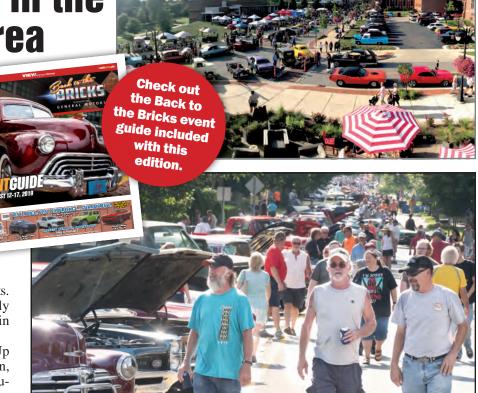
On Wednesday, Aug. 7, Linden held its Tune-Up cruise drawing hundreds of classic and eye-catching vehicles to the long and tree-shaded streets.

On the same evening, the weekly

Battle Alley Car Cruise was held in Holly.

On Thursday, the Fenton Tune-Up Cruise took over all of downtown, drawing hundreds of cars and thousands of visitors.

These Tune-Up parties ran from Aug. 5 to Aug. 10 in preparation for Back to the Bricks in Flint, running Aug. 12 to Aug. 17.



(Just above) The Linden Tune-Up Cruise transformed a typically busy street into a strolling car show, taking visitors from Bridge Street to the curve at Fairview Cemetery. Photo: Tim Jagielo (Top) Thousands attend Fenton's Tune-Up party, farmer's market and concert Thursday evening. Photo: Sharon Stone



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Is lowering flags becoming a misplaced display?

Just sayin'...

he first time I ever saw the United States flag lowered to half-staff was when John F. Kennedy died Nov. 22,

1963. I was only 10 years old. My sisters and I were taught that the U.S. flag is a magnificent symbol of who and what this nation represents. We proudly stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance at school every morning.

This week, I found myself looking up flag etiquette and the rules

for half-staff displays. And at the risk of sounding insensitive, I agree with the original intent that the lowering of the flag should be by presidential order and for limited reasons. Those reasons include the death of a president, to respect their memory. They also include the death of principal figures of the United States government and the governor of any state or territory, for example.

Although I never said much about it, I questioned when our governor would order the flags lowered each time one of our troops



VERA HOGAN

was killed on foreign soil. After She is a disagree w

these troops deserved to be honored in such a manner. They did after all sacrifice their lives to

serve and protect us all.

What I am having a bit of a hard time with now is lowering the flags to half-staff because innocent people were massacred in the El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio mass shootings. The flags remained at half-staff until sunset on Thursday, Aug. 8.

While my heart goes out to the family and friends of those who tragically and senselessly lost their lives, I am starting to believe this flag lowering practice for victims of mass shootings is becoming a misplaced visual display for gun control.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said in her press release last week, "Gun violence is a public health crisis in our country, and we need to come together and take action to make sure firearms don't end up in the hands of someone who wants to hurt themselves or hurt others ..." She is absolutely right, I do not disagree with her whatsoever.

However, there are many people just as deserving of special honors. People living with cancer are courageously fighting the battle of their lives and dying every day. People are battling opioid addiction and dying from it every day. It's an epidemic and public health crisis in our country, too. Violence comes in many shapes and forms that too often end in death — domestic violence, sexual violence, child abuse, elder abuse and bullying to name a few. Violence is not limited to guns.

There are many horrific reasons we "could" lower the U.S. flag to half-staff. Let's not let partisan political beliefs be one of them.

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.



Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at myfenton.co or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

HEALTH CARE OR health insurance is not a right. A doctor, hospital, etc., provide a service and they are paid to perform that service. You are stealing their labor and my earnings if you think it is a right.

PRESIDENT REAGAN

INHERITED Carter's recession and he fixed it so that Slick Willie didn't have to deal with one. Dems gave us Dodd-Frank and it screwed up housing industry.

TIRED OF PICKING up empty beer cans and liquor bottles. Throwing the evidence out the window won't keep you from arrest or killing someone some day. You are reckless and thoughtless in your action. Get help.

HOW ABOUT FENTON put a smaller millage for fewer years on the ballot for the roads. No one wants a 10-year millage. And set aside a small portion of the budget strictly for the roads.

MASS SHOOTINGS ARE the result of our broken culture. Fixing our broken culture begins with calm, thoughtful, non-political discussions of what's wrong with it.

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter and Tim Jagielo, media editor How safe do you feel in public and at events?



"It's scary. I get anxiety when there's large groups of people. I always wonder how I'm getting out if something happens."

Stephanie Shaw Linden



"I feel safe. I'm the type of person who looks around. I make sure to be aware. I'm a firm believer that you treat people with respect."

Sheri Reece Linden



"I feel fairly safe. It just depends on the area. Fenton still seems to be a safe town. People are just getting carried away."

Mike Zack

Fenton



"I feel a little bit guarded, and I pick and choose where I go. I come back here to Fenton because I feel safe here."

Dawn Sturk Deerfield Township

streettalk



"I feel safe. Haven't had any issues. I'm concerned but not really in Fenton. I don't go to the mall by myself after dark."

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Holly offers free public Wi-Fi again

WIt costs the

Holly taxpayers

zero dollars

to have Wi-Fi

24/7.77

Katy Golden

Holly Downtown Development

Authority director, assistant

Holly Village manager

Unsecured network available for visitors to browse internet

By Hannah Ball

Free Wi-Fi is now available in downtown Holly.

Simply select "HollyPublicWiFi" under your network options on your device and browse away. No password is required.

Katy Golden, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director for Mainstreet Holly and assistant Holly Village manager, said the connection is strong and fast.

Downtown Holly had free Wi-Fi starting in 2005 when Air

Advantage, a wireless technology company headquartered in Frankenmuth, installed a system through Oakland County's Wireless Oakland rural initiative. The system worked in the beginning, but it hadn't been functional for a while when the old technology got slower.

"Some birds had been using it as their clubhouse," Golden said.

They reached out to Oakland County to inquire about upgrading the system, but the initiative was defunct. Golden called Air Advantage who said they would upgrade the system at no cost to the village.

On Monday, Aug. 5, the company removed the old wireless access point, which is what Golden refers to as the "keg," and replaced it with a smaller upgraded panel.

The new mesh network will cover the entire historic downtown shopping area. Many people can connect to it at one time, which wasn't possible with the old system.

However, it shouldn't be used for streaming music or video be-

> cause it takes up a lot of bandwidth. It's an unsecure network, so businesses shouldn't use it for point-of-sale transactions.

> "But for people who want to sit at a coffee shop and use the wireless internet, then we have that available. It's a really good service for visitors. It's a good

thing that's come back," she said. The village needed to upgrade the

connection for the new sound system they're working on.

Air Advantage will pay for the monthly connection fee, and the Wi-Fi installation cost less than \$1,000, which was paid for with a grant from Main Street Oakland County.

"It costs the Holly taxpayers zero dollars to have Wi-Fi 24/7," Golden said.

Fenton City

Tri-County Wireless provides free Wi-Fi for downtown Fenton. The network is called "tcw.co" and no password is required.



HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHAT IS THE difference between Elizabeth Warren and Hillary Clinton?

HAS ANYONE ELSE heard that our new governor is in favor of issuing drivers' licenses to illegal immigrants? Does this mean illegals will decide Michigan elections?

FROM THIS WEEK'S Wall Street Journal: the lowest unemployment in 50 years at 3.7 percent, taxes decreased for 60 percent of working Americans, increased wages, consumer confidence, spending, home mortgages, GDP and of course, jobs. This is all due to Trump's business acumen, leadership and willingness to fight. Thank you, President Trump.

I LOVE AMERICA, but I want to see some changes. Wanting to change a problem is not the same as hating America.

BICYCLES — SAME ROAD, same rules.





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REE MOTION BASE UPGRADE



Mortgage scheme criminal sentenced to one year in jail

■ Pays \$116,615 in restitution by Aug. 2 deadline

By Vera Hogan

On Aug. 2, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel announced a Livingston County man who

stole tens of thousands of dollars from more than 30 Michigan residents using a fake mortgage assistance scheme has paid \$116,615 in restitution and was sentenced to one year in county jail by Livingston County Circuit Court Judge Miriam Cavanaugh.

Lawrence Sefa, 65, of Ty-

rone Township, pleaded guilty to one count of conducting a criminal enterprise and received a delayed sentence under a plea agreement. As a term of the plea agreement, he was required to pay restitution of \$116,615 before the Aug. 2 sentencing.

According to a press release from Nessel's office, between 2011 and 2015, Sefa — through his company LAS Loan Assistance Centers promised victims he would negotiate mortgage modifications and save their homes from foreclosure.

Instead of delivering the services he promised, Sefa did little to nothing for the victims and many lost their homes

HOT LINE CONTINUED

GUN OWNERSHIP IS a constitutional right, not a human right. Not the same as healthcare. And yes, the infant mortality rates, immunization rates, overall citizen health, life expectancy, etc. in the U.S. are poor compared to other nations because our lifestyle is different than the others.

WE HAVE GROUPS in the U.S. not immunizing children because it is trendy. We have leftists promoting prochoice including late-term abortions increasing our infant mortality. We have a general population addicted to high fructose corn syrup, energy drinks, electronics and their couches. These are personal choices.

I BELIEVE THAT the Democrat/left has divided our nation with identity politics,

in the process. An investigation by the Department of Attorney General found a large portion of Sefa's clients were affected.

"When Michigan families are on the verge of losing their homes, the

> last thing they should have to worry about is being taken advantage of by an unethical business," Nessel said. "These are hardworking men and women who needed help, but instead got cheated out of money they could not afford to lose. Today's sentencing was about making certain that these victims were properly indemnified

and that Mr. Sefa was held accountable for his actions."

Sefa appeared in Livingston County Circuit Court on Friday, April 12 and pleaded guilty to one count of conducting criminal enterprises.

In exchange for his plea, the Michigan Attorney General's Office agreed to dismiss the 29 remaining charges against him and recommend no more and no less than one year in the Michigan Department of Corrections if Sefa makes full restitution at \$116,615 within 90 days,

If he paid no restitution, 36 to 60 months would have been requested at Sefa's sentencing.

unwilling to defend our borders, giving benefits to illegal immigrants, increasing taxes on hard working citizens, not supporting our police, border patrol, ICE or DHS. They have viciously attacked President Trump with slander, lies, and phony investigations.

I'M SO SICK of politics and politicians. A POTUS has to spend half of his/ her four-year term campaigning for the next four years. What a terrible waste of time. Let's elect a president for one sixyear term — then some real work could be accomplished.

SO, LET'S SAY good health is not a human right, as some believe. Then, you condemn those who don't have insurance to poor health? 'All people are created equal,' but some (rich people or those with good insurance) are more equal. How about caring about your fellow man? Where are your principles?



SMOKING BAN

Continued from Front Page

Mardell Landis, the former owner of The Fireplace, reported a shifting clientele — more families, more food, less alcohol and less Club Keno. Current co-owner and manager Joe Gilbert said he wouldn't go back to the old days. He said he does have guests who go outside to smoke.

Times readers reacted positively when asked about the ban on Facebook. "Best law ever," Judith Montgomery Brooks said. "And I was a smoker. Public spaces are so much better to visit now."

"Iremember smoky bars, restaurants and bowling alleys," Patti Zerull Hunt said. "We stopped going because the smoke was so bad you couldn't breathe and your clothes smelled, too."

Michigan is among 26 U.S. states that have enacted smoking bans on bars, restaurants and workplaces.

Lynn Sutfin with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) said there was

LEmployees and

the public are now

protected from

the health harms

of (second hand

smoke) exposure

in workplaces.

which is exactly

why the law was

enacted. 77

Lvnn Sutfin

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson

a reduction in asthma hospitalizations following the passing of the law. "There was an 8-percent reduction in the population-wide rate of asthma hospitalizations in the 12 months after the implementation of the Smoke Free Air Law."

Sutfin said the reduction of 3,230 adult hospitalizations saved \$48.6 million in health care costs in the first 12 months.

Air quality inside buildings, such as res-

taurants, went from "poor" and "hazardous" to "good" following the ban.

There are still 13 states that have no restrictions on smoking, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Examples include Wyoming, Texas and Georgia. Some states like Pennsylvania and Idaho have bans on private workplaces, but no bans on bars or eateries.

Caitlin Smith of Holly works as a bartender at Andiamo in Fenton. She's been in the bar and restaurant business for seven years. She never worked when smoking was allowed. She's a smoker, but she likes the smoking ban.



Guests at The Fireplace in Fenton Township smoke outdoors since the 2009 ban. The business sells more food now than it used to. **Times file photo**

"I feel the ban is a good thing because even most smokers don't enjoy being trapped indoors with smoke, especially when multiple smokers light up," she said.

Smith said she'd still work in a smoking environment without a ban, but she prefers the ban, even as a smoker.

Sutfin said that MDHHS studies showed significant drops in secondhand smoke to bar workers after the law passed. "Bar employees also

> reported improvement in general health status and respiratory health, including wheezing, allergy symptoms, and coughing, after the law took effect," she said.

> Jason Warda owns The Barn, Fenton Pub and Ponemah Lakeside Lodge. He said he might never have gotten into the business without the smoking ban. "I think it's been beneficial," he said. "People seem to still appreciate not having to worry about smoke."

He said this includes smokers.

Even though he owns a bar now, he said he never liked going to the bar before the smoking ban and he never liked working in the smoking section of restaurants when he was a server.

The Laundry opened smoke free in 1997, which owner Mark Hamel said was a positive thing. "I do remember people specifically commenting on the fact that we had no smoking," he said.

"It's hard to imagine a world where smoking was allowed everywhere... from restaurants, movie theaters, banks, the dentist office, government buildings, etc. However, it wasn't all that long ago."



Saturday, September 14 Tickets: theallychallenge.com

it all happens here!

myfenton.com



These products could save lives

4 Run. If you can't run,

then hide and barricade

if possible, and lastly if

cornered, then fight. 77

Jason Slater

Fenton police chief

Two mass shootings in less than 15 hours prompts discussions about survival

By Hannah Ball

On Saturday, Aug. 3, 22 people were killed and dozens were injured in a mass shooting in El Paso, Texas.

Thirteen hours later, nine people were killed and more than two dozen were injured in another mass shooting in Davton. Ohio.

If you're ever in a location where a mass shooting is taking place, these survival items might come in handy. This list focuses on first aid and prevention, not self-defense. Firearms are not included.

Bulletproof backpacks

Premier Body Armor makes bulletproof panels/inserts for backpacks from \$124 to \$200. Find the panel that will fit in your backpack. Smaller panels will fit in tote bags and computer bags. They can be used by students in the classroom or by adults in everyday situations.

Amazon sells a Shindn Safety Protective armored backpack (shown at right) for \$110. The protective plate is detachable.

Door jams

The Sleeve is a device that people can use to secure a door from the inside. The carbon steel case encapsulates the door's closer arm, which prevents it from being open until it's removed. It's \$83 on fighting chancesolutions.com.

Made by the same company, The Rampart is another device that jams a door. It's a pole with grips on both ends. One end goes under the door handle and the other rests against the floor. The device should prevent anyone from opening the door. It costs \$47.99.

"The Rampart provides a resistance equal to or greater than the pressure

applied to the opposite side of the door, thereby deterring the intruder and providing room occupants valuable time during an attempted break-in," according to fightingchancesolutions.com.

Bleeding control kits

After the Las

Vegas shooting in 2017. which left 58 dead and injured hundreds, lifesecure.com published information about bleeding control kits.

"Bleeding con-

trol kits need to become as ubiquitous as first aid kits in every venue: stadiums, parks, restaurants, theaters, schools, churches, airports, and businesses of all sizes," according to the

website lifesecure.com.

The kits include tourniquets, blood clotting gauze, chest seals, bandages, scissors and more. A person can bleed to death in less than five minutes. Keeping these in cars, the workplace and schools would first responders arrive.

range from \$50 to \$130 on Amazon. Simpler tourniquet kits are less than \$25.

Other tips

Jason Slater, Fenton police chief, said, "Run. If you can't run, then hide and barricade if possible, and lastly if cornered, then fight."

Plan ahead

If you're going to a concert or an unfamiliar store or building, look online to find the location's layout and note the entrances and exists. In a blog post written by Ed Hinman, a director at an international security consulting firm, on thelitty.com, he recommends choosing aisle seats and seats close to an exit.

"Before you relax, identify your escape routes and exit points, including turnstiles, doors, scalable fences and accessible windows. If escaping a building isn't a viable option during an attack, consider moving into rooms where you're able to barricade yourself and others from the attacker," according to Hinman's post.

> If the attacker does get into that room, be ready with improvised weapons such as a fire extinguisher, scissors, pens, umbrellas and more. Also, recognize the "not normal."

Yelling at a concert is normal. Yelling in a coffee shop or Target is not. Look for people dressed in large coats during summer.

View stories at myfenton.com

The MSP Metro Detroit Twitter posted these tips on Twitter:

1. "First, be alert! It's hard, but put down the cell phone and look around. Where are the exits? Where would you run or hide if something happened? Do you have a meeting place picked out to meet family? Does everything look right? You will know if it doesn't. Trust it!"

2. "Is there security or law

enforcement in the area? Where are they located if there is an emergency? Do you have a plan in your mind of what you would do if shooting or an incident does occur? These thoughts should become second nature."

3. "Finally, these suggestions

are not to make people afraid, just vigilant. These tips are also helpful for other crimes. The more alert you are with your surroundings the less of a target you are to criminals. And as always: If you see something, say something.'



allow citizens to aid wounded people until

Bleeding control kits

The biggest

challenge is

simply the

logistics of it. 77

Mark Hamel

Owner/co-owner of four

Fenton restaurants

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ON THE TERRIBLE handwriting article. I see many people holding a writing instrument in the strangest ways, like they were never trained in school and at home. I think the reliance on keyboards is also a factor.

ALL CITIZENS: PLEASE read

the 24-page Green New Deal proposal on Congress.gov. You'll be surprised to see the social justice equality mandates for housing, jobs, unions, equal pay etc., for everyone, in addition to our congressional flunkies making decisions about our nation's economy and your life.

I SAW BULLET-resistant

backpacks the other day running errands.

MASS SHOOTINGS ARE a

behavior problem. A behavior problem due to mental illness. The family and friends of disturbed people need to get them into treatment. Mental illness is treatable. Take responsibility for your family: take action.

FOOD WASTE Continued from Page 3A

which never gets eaten through bulk purchases, poor storage, throwing away food after its "best by" date when it's still safe to eat. Sometimes "doggy bags" from last night's restaurant meal lose their appeal and get tossed in the trash several days later.

The Food and Agriculture Organiza-

tion (FAO) of the United Nations estimates that one-third of food produced for human consumption worldwide is annually lost or wasted along the chain that stretches from farms to processing plants, marketplaces, retailers,

food-service operations and family kitchens.

This food waste amounts to about \$162 billion and is never eaten.

Restaurants, in particular, feel the food waste deeply on their bottom line, but don't always have an easy way to solve it.

"The biggest challenge is simply the logistics of it," said Mark Hamel, Topo and The Relief & Resource Co., all in downtown Fenton. "We used to have volunteers who'd pick up leftover food throughout the year. The problem is, we can't store it, so we need someone who can pick it up early in the morning or the last thing at night. It's difficult to coordinate it to get it to the people who need it."

co-owner of The Laundry, CRUST, El

Food rescue logistics are even an issue for food professionals at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan in Flint. Spokesperson Patrick Hayes said they don't have an active program because it requires an agency structure or a

partner who can transport food while meeting the health guidelines of the Genesee County Health Department. "We can do it on a case-by-case basis," Hayes said. "If there's the right circumstance of having a partner who can provide transportation with heating and cooling, we could do it."

Hamel tries to prevent waste at his restaurants before it happens. It's a challenge at CRUST, where the majority of products have only a one-day shelf life.

"We use leftover bread for bread pudding, French toast, etc.," he said.

SUMMARY

One of

the biggest

and social

environmental

issues today

is food waste

and getting all

the food that

is produced

in the world to

need it. Local

restaurants try

to do their part,

but the logistics

"leftovers" to

people who

of getting

the people who

"We try to use everything until it's no good. But we still have a significant amount left."

He and his staff throw vegetable scraps into their onsite garden that supplies much of The Laundry's fresh produce. They also provide bread and pastries to the local farm that supplies the restaurants with pork and beef products.

A couple of challenge. churches and local food banks also pick up some of the leftovers, but not on a regular basis.

"We don't give any organizations food that has passed its expiration date, even if it's totally safe to eat," Hamel added. "It's got to go into the dumpster."

Jason Warda, who owns the Fenton Pub, The Barn and Lake Ponemah Lodge restaurants in Fenton, said that his restaurants don't produce much waste compared to buffet-style restaurants, but they do have a significant amount of bread left over at the end of a day.

"When I owned Jimmy Johns in Grand Blanc, there was a guy who grabbed our bread and gave it to a soup kitchen," Warda said. "If we could just figure out how to do it, we'd do that here."

Panera Bread in Fenton does have scheduled pickups at the end of the day for leftover bread products to go to different food banks and pantries.

Hamel said that large plate portions, especially in buffet events, result in a lot of food waste. "The amount of uneaten food off peoples' plates could feed a small country," he said. "There's a mentality today that doesn't seem to mind wasting food. It's so different than in the Depression days of our grandparents. They didn't waste a single thing."

How to reduce food waste at home

Planning, prepping, and storing food can help your household waste less food.

BEST TIP: By simply making a list with weekly meals in mind, you can save money and time and eat healthier food. If you buy no more than what you expect to use, you will be more likely to keep it fresh and use it all.

For more tips, visit epa.gov.

WHAT DOES THE LABELING MEAN?

According to the USDA:

A **"Best if Used By/Before"** date indicates when a product will be of best flavor or quality. It is not a purchase or safety date.

A **"Sell-By"** date tells the store how long to display the product for sale for inventory management. It is not a safety date.

A **"Use-By"** date is the last date recommended for the use of the product while at peak quality. It is not a safety date except for when used on infant formula.

A **"Freeze-By"** date indicates when a product should be frozen to maintain peak quality. It is not a purchase or safety date.

fi a b b A

Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs. Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.

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Australia, Japan, Brazil, Italy or other countries. Single parents, as well as couples with or without children, may host. Contact us ASAP for more information or to select your student.

Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.





Founded in 1976 ASSE International Student Exchange Program is a Public Benefit, Non-Profit Organization. For privacy reasons, photos above are not photos of actual students



New trustee appointed

Kurt Schulze will replace Allen Pool, who vacated Tyrone Township seat earlier this summer

By Vera Hogan

Tyrone Township Supervisor Michael Cunningham has announced that Kurt Schultz was appointed Tuesday night to serve on the Township Board, filling the seat vacated by Allen "Al" Pool earlier this summer.

Schulze has been a resi-

dent of Tyrone Township for 27 years and has spent the past three years on the Planning Commission. He will

mission, Cu Accordin Schulze sa interview th support the perpetuate t

Kurt Schultz

continue to serve as the ex officio board member to the Planning Commission, Cunningham said.

According to whmi.com, Schulze said during his interview that he wanted to support the master plan and perpetuate the rural character of the township. He said the most pressing matter in the township is the development and management of commercial development in the area.

He said he also wants to work on regulations for the growing number of home occupations.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WE HAVE NOW seen all of the Democrats running in 2020 for president and the Republicans are comfortable. I would like to think the Democrats have someone better some place. BECAUSE CONGRESS DID nothing, Obama implements an Immigration Action Plan. Congress still did nothing. Trump issues an executive order reversing some/all of Obama's plan. In last week's debate, four do-nothing senators and one do-nothing congresswoman had the gall to speak out about Trump's immigration policy. Change the laws.

NWPRC Hyperbarics Megan Strauchman, DO - Medical Director

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MEDICINE INTERNATIONA

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What if Facebook disappeared overnight?

■World's most popular social site serves many purposes

By Hannah Ball

Media uses it to spread news and stories. Businesses use it to

advertise.

Facebook itself uses it to collect data on its users to sell to other companies and track trends.

People use it to communicate with friends and family who live far away or simply down the road.

Approximately 1.6 billion people around the world use the most popular social media every day, according to Zephoria Digital Marketing, with more than 2.4 billion active monthly users. What would happen if Facebook disappeared overnight?

Spreading information

Shelters use Facebook to find animals a home. Police departments use it to spread photos of suspected criminals. Users share memes, life updates, baby photos and more. This would be harder without Facebook.

Communication

Facebook Messenger is a primary source of messaging between many friends, family members and acquaintances. You might not have that person's number saved on your phone, but Messenger allows you to connect.

If Facebook suddenly shut down, Messenger



would follow and users would lose those contacts.

Stock

The Facebook stock will crash and holders would lose a substantial amount of money.

Losing reminders and photos

Facebook Memories shows users what they posted on a certain date from one year ago, two years ago and so on. The website archives vacation memories, when you started a new job, when a family pet died and more.

The social media platform is notorious for reminding you of the birthdays of your friends and family members. Without Facebook, there would be no more birthday messages written on your wall. Many people use Facebook as a photo-saving tool. If the site was gone without any warning, millions of photos could be lost.

Less information about events

The site is frequently used to invite people to gatherings such as concerts, readings, community events, bridal and baby showers and more. Without Facebook and its helpful reminders, inviting people to social gettogethers would return to emails, texting and physical invites in some cases.

Investigations

Police detectives, employers and parents use Facebook to research suspects, prospective employees and friends of their children, respectively.

Connecting apps

If you've logged in to any other website through Facebook, whether it's for online shopping or to take a fun quiz, those connections would be lost.

Another platform would rise

All other sites would grow in numbers and active daily users, but one would come out on top. Some digital sources say Twitter is the top contender to become the most popular social media platform after Facebook. Others say it's Instagram.

However, those sites don't offer the same type of platform as Facebook. Smaller websites more similar to Facebook would rise and fight to be the next best thing.

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Fenton Branch 15405 Silver Parkway 810-714-9431



Byron voters approve 2.9694 sinking fund renewal

This is the district's fourth renewal

By Vera Hogan

Only 180 Byron citizens showed up to vote on Tuesday, Aug. 6 — but it was enough to pass the school district's fourth sinking fund renewal.

Voters approved the renewal with 110 "yes" votes. Seventy voters cast "no" votes.

Voters approved the first Byron Area Schools 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 said, "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." The district asked for 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.

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

HOT LINE CONTINUED

REALLY HOLLY VILLAGE leadership (Council, Administration, DDA). On Wednesday, Broad Street is shut down due to utility work and Saginaw is shutdown with the misplaced car show yet there was no detour markings or signage to keep commuters from driving into that mess.

I LOVE THIS summer! I love my lake.



COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

THIEF STEALS PLAYSTATION 3 CONSOLE AND GAMES

On July 29, Fenton police responded to a video game store on Silver Parkway to investigate a retail fraud complaint. An employee told police that a black male, with a thin build, entered the store, selected several PlayStation 3 games and a PlayStation 3 game console, all valued at \$330. The customer walked past the cashier's desk and exited the store. He was seen fleeing in a gray Saturn vehicle, driven by someone else. If anyone has information, call Fenton police at (810) 629-5311.

WHITMORE LAKE MAN FLEES FENTON POLICE, CRASHES CAR At 2:10 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 2,

a Fenton police officer on patrol observed a suspicious vehicle behind stores under construction on Silver Parkway. The car was traveling slowly with no lights on. Officer Julie Bemus initiated a traffic stop to see what the driver was doing. As Bemus approached, the vehicle sped away, traveling southbound on Silver Parkway, east on Owen Road and north on U.S. 23. Bemus followed. The car used an emergency turn-around on U.S. 23 and started traveling southbound on the highway, exiting at North Road. The driver failed to navigate the tight curve of the exit and crashed his car. The driver exited the car and fled on foot. Bemus followed on foot and apprehended the man, later identified as a 27-year-old Whitmore Lake resident. The man was not injured in this crash. Lt. Jeff Cross said police will be seeking warrants for fleeing and eluding police, possession of methamphetamine and operating a vehicle under the influence of drugs. Genesee County sheriff's deputies and Linden police assisted.

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Hundreds attend Holly schools' health and enrollment fair

Event part of district's commitment to student health as critical first step to learning

By Sharon Stone

Holly Area Schools welcomed more than 300 current and prospective Bronchos at its Back to School Health and Enrollment Fair on Saturday, Aug. 3. The event was part of the district's commitment to student health as a critical first step to learning as the 2019-2020 school year nears.

"Our Health and Enrollment Fair provides the opportunity for prospective Broncho families to learn about the Broncho difference and how our district is preparing all students for bright futures, whether that means college, apprenticeships, technical school or jobs right after they receive their diplomas," said Scott Roper, Holly Area Schools superintendent. "Our event also is an opportunity to ensure all Bronchos start the year off healthy and ready to learn."

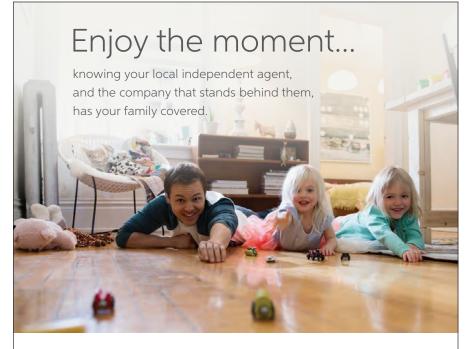
Throughout the day, prospective



Students learn about the joys of reading at the Back to School Health and Enrollment Fair. Submitted photo

families had the opportunity to enroll their children in the district, and both prospective and current students received free health screenings, lunch, school supplies and enjoyed family friendly activities at the Karl Richter Campus. About 80 students, parents, staff and community organizations volunteered their time for this event.

It's not too late to register for the 2019-2020 school year. Schools of See HOLLY SCHOOLS on 20A





BRAD HOFFMAN INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. "Serving the area for 47 years" 102 S. Leroy Street

FAILS

ing charged \$75

per year for the

sinking fund.

With a new sink-

ing fund, that

amount would

have climbed to

\$168.75 per year.

have stated the

district is ask-

ing for too much

previously that

the reason for the

increase from 1 to

2.25 mills stems

from new legisla-

tion that allows

school districts to

leverage sinking

fund dollars for

not only repairs

and construction,

but also for securi-

ty and technology.

maintaining qual-

ity facilities, en-

hancing school

security and pro-

two-year period.

gressing in instructional technology, a new sinking fund would have

allowed the district to equip each

school building with new HVAC

climate control classrooms within a

In May, Hartley was asked about

the need for a special election in

August, when there will be a city-

wide election in November. He said,

"Because of the current sinking

fund expiring in December, we are

placing the new sinking fund on the

Along with

Hartley said

money.

Many readers

Continued from Front Page

830 votes were cast and in Oakland County (Rose Township), 184 votes were cast.

School officials asked to increase the expiring sinking fund millage amount from the current 1 mill to 2.25 mills. The current fund expires Dec. 31.

A property owner whose home has a taxable value of \$75,000 is currently be-

VOTING STATISTICS

 Number of city of Fenton (Genesee County, 1,357 **Fenton City/Fenton** Township votes cast) voters registered in the Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) district: 9,168. The vote was 694 "no" to 378 "yes" votes.

Number of Fenton **Township** (Genesee County, 1,357 Fenton City/ Fenton Township votes cast) voters registered in the FAPS district: 1,907. The vote was 199 "no" to 86 "yes"

• Number of Tyrone Township (Livingston Count, 830 votes cast) voters registered in the FAPS district: 4,524. The vote was 513 "no" to 317 "yes" votes.

votes.

Number of Rose Township (Oakland County, 184 votes cast) voters registered in the FAPS district: 1.326. The vote was 137 "no" to 47

"yes" votes.

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 a letter sent to parents Wednesday, Aug. 7, Hartley said, "The result of the Sinking Fund vote was not what we were hoping for, however, the result does not change the fact that we are fortunate to be in a great school community and we have many things to be grateful for here

in FAPS.

"Iknow many of you supported this critical funding source and we appreciate your time and energy. I also know that some of you were strongly opposed to the Sinking Fund and I encourage you to contact me so we may have the feedback needed as we move forward."

Hartley said the result of the vote has prompted school officials to begin looking at what options they have when it comes to funding building repairs and construction along with school security.

"While the plan to have new HVAC in our buildings went down with the vote, we are

fortunate to have Phase 3 of the 2014 bond starting in 2021-22, to replace old technology with up-to-date technology," he said.

The Board of Education and administration have some decisions to make, and will be looking to learn from the most recent election, Hartley said.

"Because a Sinking Fund is so critical to our financial stability, we will be assessing our options for the future," he said.

Fenton, MI, 810-629-4991

LIFE IN PRISON Continued from Front Page

Jacquelyne Faye Tyson was found mentally ill and guilty of seconddegree murder and other charges July 9 in the Genesee County 7th Circuit Court, nearly three years after she fatally shot Lyric Work, 20, formerly of Linden, and Tamara Johnson, 45, from Mt. Morris.

Tyson also was found guilty and mentally ill beyond a reasonable doubt on three other counts, including two counts of felony firearm and one count of premeditated murder in the first degree.

On July 26, 2016, Tyson entered the Grand Oaks Apartments offices and shot Work, who was pregnant at the time, and Johnson. Doctors were able to save Work's baby girl, who is now 3 years old. Since the killings, Tyson has been declared incompetent twice, but was found to be competent this past January.

She rejected a plea deal late last year. Tyson underwent months of psychiatric treatment in Ypsilanti.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I FILE PHOTOS Lyric Work (left) and Tamara Johnson were shot in the head as they worked as leasing agents at Grand Oaks Apartments in Grand Blanc on July 26, 2016. Jacquelyne Tyson, a resident of the apartment complex, has been sentenced to life in prison.

She pleaded guilty but mentally ill or insane in February. The court rejected her insanity plea.

View all stories online at myfenton.com

McLaren Flint named a top 10 hospital in southeast Michigan

■U.S. News & World Report also ranks hospital 13th in state

Compiled by Sharon Stone

U.S. News & World Report has recognized McLaren Flint as a top 10 southeast Michigan hospital in its 2019-20 Best Hospitals ranking. The 378-bed tertiary hospital serves all of Genesee County.

Now in its 30th year, inclusion in the distinguished ranking demonstrates a healthcare provider's proficiency in the delivery of its care and the resulting patient experience and outcome.

McLaren Flint also was ranked No. 13 hospital in Michigan.

Hospital rankings are based on objective, care-related data and statistics, while also factoring in the facility's patient experience score and populationspecific health challenges.

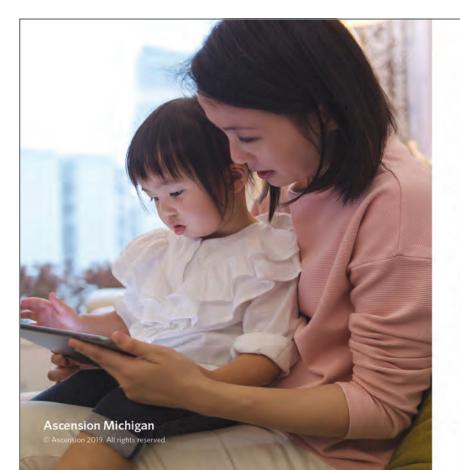
"Each and every day, we're fortunate to have a team of physicians, nurses, and healthcare professionals who commit themselves to high quality care for patients who put their trust in our care," said Chad Grant, president and CEO of McLaren Flint. "Our ranking and inclusion on this list is a proud honor and result of that dedication."

More than 4,500 healthcare providers nationwide were evaluated in 25 specialties, procedures and conditions.

In addition to McLaren Flint's ranking as a Top Hospital in Southeast Michigan, the organization also ranked "High Performing" in its treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and heart failure and performance in knee replacements.

Five other McLaren Health Care facilities earned accolades by U.S. News & World Report including McLaren Northern Michigan, McLaren Greater Lansing, McLaren Macomb, McLaren Bay Region and McLaren Port Huron.

Learn more about the services and care offered at McLaren Flint at mclaren.org/flint.



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TelNet Group President Jeff Roggin and his wife, Project Manager Sue Roggin, say that TelNet team members pride themselves on their customers' satisfaction. Founded in 2001, TelNet offers a full suite of communication solutions to meet customers' needs. **Photo: Alex Petrie**

TelNet Group helps customers maintain tech edge

By Alex Petrie

Linden — Years of immersive experience in technology and business communications enable TelNet Group to understand where their customers are, where they've been and, perhaps most importantly, where they're going.

TelNet takes their customers into the future, while continuing to contribute to the expansion of the ongoing evolution of technology.

Founded in 2001, TelNet has developed a full suite of communication solutions to meet their customers' needs. Focusing on unified communications as a service (UCAAS), or business communications, the company offers a broad spectrum of products and services designed to keep businesses and individuals on the cutting edge of technological communications and security.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE MAN and women standing outside Walmart collecting signatures for pro-life, may I suggest you not aggressively attack mothers with young children in their carts. I now have my 8-, 6-, and 3-year-old asking what an abortion is. Very unacceptable.

OUR CITIZENS DEPEND on government protection bureaus, like the environmental and consumer agencies, to protect us from fraud and deceptive practices. Trump is having them dismantled. We have \$1 trillion plus deficit. With one of the highest customer service satisfaction rates in the country, TelNet consistently ranks within the top 10 percent of more than 900 dealers in the United States. The company's attention to detail and commitment to their customers are what sets them apart from their competition.

Businesses that benefit from TelNet products and services vary as widely as those products and services themselves. With an international reach — customers range from hospitals to manufacturing companies and everything in between —TelNet elevates all forms of enterprise.

For more information about TelNet, visit its recently revamped website at telnetgroup.com. TelNet is at 1035 N. Bridge St., Linden. Phone: (810) 735-8585.

NO, I DON'T think 'owing a gun' is a human right. However, it is a constitutional right. 'Human right' is just slang for progressive socialists to denote their personal views.

I AM SHOCKED and repulsed at the vicious and vulgar verbiage from Democrat/Socialist candidates about the mass murders this past weekend. Their politicization and insensitivity of this situation were very apparent. These opportunists have no solutions and never intervened when mass shootings occurred during Clinton or Obama administrations.

Taste in Fenton is the 'happening' place

The Fenton area

has seen tremendous

growth over the last

decade and that was

certainly showcased

yesterday. 77

Matt Sherrow

Fenton Regional Chamber of

Commerce chairberson

Event continues to grow in 19th year with more restaurants than ever

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — Like father like son, Jamil Brown, 12, and father Jamil Brown Sr. of Flint Township, were both participants in eating contests at Taste in Fenton on Wednesday, Aug. 7.

Jamil was in the doughnut-eating con-

test, and his father was in the pie-eating contest. When asked about the event, Brown Sr. said, "I think it's good, it gets everyone out of the house."

Jamil didn't repeat his success in winning like last year, but he still gets a year's worth of

doughnuts from CRUST A Baking Company along with the other participants.

It seemed like everyone attended the 19th annual summer food sampler event, hosted by the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce. There were 21 businesses and restaurants providing food and hundreds visiting downtown. There was music, feats of strength, contests, food, beverages and networking with several businesses and organizations that set up tents in the park.

"This is happening, this is pretty big," said Stephanie Perrie of Tyrone Township as she chatted with friends on the lawn of Rackham Park, which was full of visitors with tickets waiting in line behind her.

Families and friends gathered filling every corner of the normally quiet park, with the Shiawassee River winding behind them. Many hid from the bright summer sun by the abundance of shade

trees.

The tickets were sold in strips of 10 for \$10. Restaurants decided how many tickets a single item cost.

Matt Sherrow, Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce chairman, estimates up to 3,000 people came

to the event. "The Fenton area has seen tremendous growth over the last decade and that was certainly showcased yesterday," he said.

Changes from last year include more space for guests and cocktails from the Relief & Resource Co.

"I love these events because it creates an enormous sense of community," Sherrow said. Aside from being a family friendly event, Sherrow said, "It gives our



Kelly Holmes of Tyrone Township works to keep her beer stein aloft at the Taste in Fenton contest. She won with a time of approximately eight minutes. Photo: Tim Jagielo



Several volunteers ran the event. The Fenton Winery and Brewery had volunteers at its station in the beer tent. **Photo: Tim Jagielo**

community an opportunity to try many restaurants that they hadn't been able to visit or didn't know existed."

Winners at taste in Fenton 2019

Taste in Fenton is about sampling the fare of local businesses, but also fun

contests. There were several Wednesday.

The pie-eating contest winner was **Chris Hicks** of Fenton, who took home the \$500 prize.

The doughnut-eating contest winner was **Cody Dawes**, 12, of Fenton.

See TASTE on 21A

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WEEKEND TIMES



From left are Robin Riddell, Wesley A. Whittaker, Sharon Howell, Corissa Banghart, Lucy Brooks, Scott Farnell, Paula, Simpson and Jim Orolim. **Submitted photo**

Fenton area Toastmasters elect new officers

The Fenton Area Toastmasters Club has moved into a new location and elected a new slate of club officers for the upcoming year. Sharon Howell is the new president. Robin Riddell will serve as vice president of education and will assist club members in reaching their educational goals. The vice president of membership is Lucy Brooks. Local author Wesley A. Whittaker is the new vice president of public relations.

The club's new secretary is Corissa Banghart. Jim Orolim will serve as treasurer and Paula Simpson is the sergeant-at-arms. Scott Farnell is the immediate past president.

Fenton Area Toastmasters meet every Friday morning, except holidays and Fenton High School snow days, in the training room of the Fenton Fire Department. Parking and entrance is on the east side of the building. Meetings start at 7:45 a.m. and run for about an hour. Visitors are always welcome. Visit the Fenton Area Toastmasters Club online or call (810) 620-7590.

Toastmasters International is a non-profit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs.

T.J. MAXX Continued from Front Page

"Our newest store in Fenton will offer an ever-changing selection of high-quality, on-trend and brand name merchandise at the

brand-name merchandise at the amazing prices T.J.Maxx is known for," said Tim Miner, president of T.J.Maxx. "Our buyers create a unique mix that offers value for styles in every department, and we're excited to bring this experience to a new neighborhood.

"With a constant flow of new arrivals, we offer an exciting onestop-shop that makes it easy for consumers to find what they want, take it home that day and save money at the same time."

Grand opening

Local shoppers can celebrate the newest location on Thursday, Aug. 15 starting at 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. and experience the off-price shopping. Reusable bags will be given to the first 500 customers.

Community support

In celebration of its new Fenton location, T.J.Maxx will contribute to the surrounding community by presenting a \$10,000 donation to Fenton Center of Hope at the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 15 at 7:30 a.m. The new store also will join all other stores nationwide in sponsoring Save the Children's U.S. Programs. T.J.Maxx also supports Save the Children, Autism Speaks, and Joslin Diabetes Center with annual in-store fundraising campaigns.

HOLLY SCHOOLS Continued from Page 16A

Choice applications will be accepted through Aug. 23.

Learn more at hask12.org/prospective-families/enrollment or by calling (248) 328-3106.

"From our cutting-edge instructional technology, to our top-notch science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and career and technical education instruction, to a variety of dual enrollment programs, to our award-winning fine arts ensembles, there's truly never been a better time to be a Broncho," Roper said. "I encourage all families to learn what #BronchoPride is all about today."



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WHAT YOU MISSED IN THE MIDWEEK TIMES

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday**, **Aug. 7, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

North Road reconstruction project has begun Roundabout



work will begin after Labor Day and conclude by the end of November.

Motorcycle crash claims life of Howell resident

Todd Aurand, 52, of Howell was killed in a motorcycle crash Saturday, Aug. 3 in Livingston County. Driver of car fails to yield right-of-way.

Drawbridge to be out by Aug. 13

The unauthorized drawbridge on Lobdell Lake will reportedly be taken out on Tuesday, Aug. 13. State's evaluation reports available online.

Sharin' the spotlight

Editor Sharon Stone expresses gratitude to local law enforcement for doing their part to keep residents and visitors safe in public.

Series on city of Fenton parks

Freedom Park, bordered by Shiawassee, West Elizabeth and Park Street, will become a tribute to area veterans in 2020.

Murder spree that shocked the nation

Charles Manson influences followers to commit brutal murders 50 years ago.



There were 21 businesses with food offerings at the 19th annual Taste in Fenton. **Photo: Tim Jagielo**

TASTE Continued from Page 19A

The 50/50 raffle winner was **Brad Emerton**. He took home \$460 of the \$920 raised in the raffle. His wife Jen picked it up, very surprised at the sudden financial bonus. The other \$460 will go to the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce scholarship fund.

The Fenton Winery and Brewery (FWB) ran their beer stein-holding contest. Participants held up an 18-ounce water-filled stein, arm straight, for as long as possible. Winners got to keep their FWB stein and won a free wine club membership.

The women's winner was **Kelly Holmes** of Tyrone Township, holding up her stein for eight minutes.

The men's winner was **Mike Adams**, 64, of Linden, holding his up for nearly 15 minutes.

CALENDAR OF **EVENTS**

FIFTH ANNUAL COMMUNITY SHRED EVENT

Did you know you are putting yourself at risk for identity theft by simply tossing your personal information in the trash? Clear your clutter wisely and join us for our fifth annual Community Shred Day for paper documents only from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Aug. 16 at Kaydan Wealth Management, 329 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Paperclips and staples allowed. The event is free and there is a 10-box limit per person. First come first served. Sign up to receive an email copy of the Certification of Destruction. There is a 20-yard dumpster on-site for boxes and other large items that cannot be shredded. Enjoy refreshments with the Kaydan Wealth team.

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Eagles finish busy summer, now preparing to camp

By David Troppens

Denny Hopkins became Linden's varsity head football coach in 1998.

A year later another Linden football trademark began — the canoe trip.

"My second year after taking over as varsity football coach I wanted to do something they have never done before just to get the kids excited," Hopkins said.

The team went to one of the assistant coach's uncle's home in Mio.

"We went down the river and it was huge," Hopkins said. "The kids had a blast and there was a lot of

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019 | PAGE 22A | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

team bonding stuff. It turned out really well. We've done it every year ever since."

The event has changed venues. This year the team is going to assistant coach and Linden athletic director Greg Durkac's cabin near Grayling.

See EAGLES on 23A

Linden varsity football coach Denny Hopkins began coaching in 1973. The Eagles will host their annual canoe trip this weekend before starting practices Monday. **Photo: Monica Bradburn**

Sports Times

Linden's Hobson earns Tri-County's Softball Player of the Year honors

By David Troppens

Jordyn Hobson was on a 12U team playing in a tournament when someone quickly noticed her talent.

"I was playing in a tournament in Canton and one of the college coaches watching me from Trine talked to my Dad," Hobson said.

From that young age, Hobson started understanding that maybe she was pretty good at this softball thing.

Whether it's at the plate or on the mound, the sophomore played a huge role in the Linden Eagles' league championship and district title season. She started every Metro League game on the mound and started every game as the team's lead-off hitter. Certainly no player in the tri-county area had as

Closed Monday & Wednesday

much of an impact on her team's final record than Hobson, helping her earn the 2019 Tri-County Softball Player of the Year honors. She edged out Fenton's Division I First-Team All-State shortstop and University of Iowabound Erin Carter for the honor, mainly because of her tremendous impact on Linden's squad at both the mound and in the batter's box.

On the mound, she made her biggest impact by starting all 16 Metro League contests. The Eagles finished 14-2, earning a co-title with Owosso, Linden's first league championship since 1998. In those league games, she posted a 3.02 earned run average while allowing just 19 walks versus her 65 strike outs. She finished the season with a 21-5 record overall, recording a 3.29 earned run average. She walked just 32 batters while striking out 136 in 163 2/3 innings. At the start of the season, it wasn't for sure Hobson would start every game, but it ended up working out that way.

"Last year she split time because she was a freshman," Linden varsity softball coach Gordon Jamison said. "Early in the year the plan was to split time and build her to the point where she could possibly pitch both games. And having her pitch both games would allow us to keep other

> See HOBSON on 23A

Linden's Jordyn Hobson is our Tri-County Softball Player of the Year. She started all 16 of Linden's Metro League games on the mound and batted over .500.

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HOBSON **Continued from** Page 22A

players in other positions and make us stronger defensively. "After every first game I'd ask her if she

was fine and she said she was ready to go. Ellie (Klocek) caught all of the games, and that helped too."

Hobson was one of the Metro League's elite hurlers. She earned unanimous selection to the Metro League's first team.

"I like pitching a lot," Hobson said. "That's my favorite position. I just like pitching to batters because I can call the plays and do different things. "I didn't expect (to start every Metro game), but I enjoyed it. I still had a lot of energy to pitch the second games, so I did."

Offensively, Hobson was just as impressive, batting .522 for the season. She

at bats, collecting 12 doubles and five triples in the process. That earned her a .717 slugging percentage. She also walked 22 times, aiding her .606 on-base percentage. She finished the season with an impressive 1.323 OPS.

"She was a good hitter last year, but she was an even better hitter this year," Jamison said. "Last year she batted lower in the order to take some of the pressure off. She approaches hitting the same

way she does pitching. She grinds it out, so we moved her to the leadoff spot. She makes a pitcher work, and even if they get her out, the pitcher had to work for it. She sets a nice tone for our offense."

"I was happy with everything, my pitching and my hitting this year," Hobson said. "I was the leadoff hitter the first game and hit there ever since. On my travel softball team I'm

WEEKEND TIMES

either the first or second hitter, so I was hoping I'd be the first hitter."

Jamison appreciates Hobson's work ethic as much as anything. However, he's not even sure Hobson knows that she has a high work ethic because it seems she enjoys working, possibly making it look like fun.

"She loves to train. I don't even know if she realizes she likes doing it," Jamison said. "If I say we are going to run two laps and then

Here is a list of the players

that made our All Tri-County

Softball Team as selected by

the sports staff.

hit 50 balls off a tee, she just goes and does it. She enjoys it. She's a gym rat, or maybe a field rat since this is softball."

Hobson still has two more years left in her high school career.

"I just want to keep practicing more and see how far we can go into the tournament," Hobson said.

With Hobson leading the way, don't be surprised if they go plenty deeper in the state tourney during the next two seasons.

All Tri-County Softball Team

PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

Jordyn Hobson, Linden pitcher Hobson batted .522 and pitched every inning of Linden's league contests, helping lead the Eagles to a co-Metro title and to a district crown.

REST OF FIRST TEAM						
Pitchers	<u>School</u>	<u>Infielders</u>	<u>School</u>			
Taylor Godlewski		Erin Carter (State First Team)	Fenton			
<u>Outfielders</u>		Gillian Cohoon	Hollv			
Madison Morse Addy Taylor		Mikayla Dettman				
Cheryl Hatch		Olivia Tanner (State HMention)				
Catchers		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Ellie Klocek		Allie Lavallier				
Haley Whittecar	Lake Fenton	Jillian Widner	Linden			

collected 59 hits in 113 summer of work. Just like every oth-**Continued from Page 22A** "We are going to do some canoetheir annual Linden Spread Camp.

ing, have corn hole tournaments and we play a bunch of games. I don't go down any water slides any more. I'm still hurting from that one, but we get the kids together and just have a lot of fun."

EAGLES

The water slide incident Hopkins is talking about happened during 2012's trip. While going on the canoe trip, a group of people had a slip and slide going down a dune into the river. At the bottom of the river there was a bump which probably was the culprit of the injury.

The players camp in tents and hotdogs and hamburgers are made for many of the meals. There's usually a trip to Dairy Queen as well. One of the big events involves the players learning the Linden fight song.

"The kids look forward to it and it's pretty neat," Hopkins said. "As long as they want to continue to go, we'll do it."

It's also a nice reward for a hard

er team, the squad has done plenty of 7-on-7 events during the summer. They've lifted weights and also ran

"It's been a good summer," Hopkins said. "The thing is we've been getting better every week. That's the goal and we've done it."

The Eagles had a tough season a year ago, suffering maybe more injuries than any other year of Hopkins's coaching career. The squad went 4-5 and missed the playoffs for the first time since 2001.

"The returning guys are upset they missed the playoffs last year," Hopkins said. "Their main concern is to make the playoffs. The juniors and first-year varsity players, that's grinding on them a little bit. It's made them work a little harder so they can get back and experience what everyone else before them experienced."

The first official day of Michigan football practice is Monday. The team's first game is at Pontiac Notre Dame Prep on Aug. 30.



