

## Superintendents talk security

■ A.L.I.C.E. training, video cameras, grants and more help districts prepare for the worst

By Hannah Ball

In the age of social media threats and frequent drills to prepare for an active shooter, school districts have been improving security.

### Lake Fenton Community Schools

Superintendent Julie Williams said the district hired a school resource officer (SRO) in April 2018, added security cameras to all the buildings and outdoor facilities, and remodeled entrances at Torrey Hill Intermediate School and Lake Fenton High School.

Teachers in K-5 classrooms have emergency supplies. The district also had a comprehensive threat assessment completed, and all staff and students are A.L.I.C.E. trained. A.L.I.C.E. stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter and evacuate.

"We do currently have secured entrances at each building, but these will be updated with our new access control system," she said. They will install a new access control system and better cameras in various locations in the district this fall.

Funding for security comes from a variety of sources. This includes the Michigan State Police School Safety Grant (\$177,073); bonds and sinking

See **A.L.I.C.E.** on 5



**Lighting up the night** — Onlookers enjoy the annual fireworks display on the east side of Lobdell Lake on Saturday, Aug. 31 in celebration of Labor Day, which was Monday, Sept. 2. Photo: Hannah Ball

## Fenton man arrested for arson, assault

■ Fenton police officer quickly extinguishes small kitchen fire

By Sharon Stone

A 24-year-old Fenton man was lodged in the Genesee County Jail pending authorization of arrest warrants and arraignment following an incident early Monday morning in Fenton.

Lt. Jeff Cross said the police department responded to a home on N. West Street at 1:43 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 2 on a report of an altercation inside the

See **ARSON & ASSAULT** on 9

## Fenton fire considers tougher cost recovery action

■ City council discusses recommendation to hire collection agency

By Vera Hogan

Anyone who owes the Fenton Fire Department any money may want to pay up before more aggressive collection action takes place.

At its Tuesday, Sept. 3 work See **FIRE DEPARTMENT** on 8

## Mueller testifies before House Judiciary Committee

■ Former Livingston County deputy calls for stiffer penalties for disarming a police officer

By Vera Hogan

On Aug. 27, State Rep. Mike Mueller (R-51st district) testified before the House Judiciary Committee in support of a bipartisan plan he spearheaded to increase the penalty for criminals who disarm or attempt to disarm a police officer.

See **MUELLER** on 10



“The Barn is now accessible from the highway during construction, great for them. What about the other family owned businesses on North Road suffering? Maybe they should reconsider ‘no thru traffic.’ Whatever happened to common courtesy?”



“The party at the gazebo with The Magic Bus was so fun, everyone happy, singing and dancing. Wish it were that way every week. Fenton peeps rock. Only thing wrong was the ole town clock (on Fire Hall) is still broken.”



“Thank you to the parents of the 15-year-old who jumped out of her car to help me on Silver Parkway when my boards fell out of my truck. You taught her well. Thank you, young lady.”





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# Dangerous jobs: waste collector

■ Distracted drivers make this the fifth most dangerous industry

By Tim Jagielo

**Fenton** — On Thursday, Aug. 29, much of the south part of the city's trash, recycling and lawn waste was collected.

Blue bins with flipped lids denoted a completed route. Behind the waste collectors, the red lawn refuse truck is driven with a crew of two. One drives and the other rides in the back.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2017 National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, the recycling and solid waste disposal industry ranks as the fifth most dangerous job in the U.S.

In January, a sanitation worker with Dougie's Disposal was critically injured in Deerfield Township when an 86-year-old Fenton man rear-ended their garbage truck.

Mike Sherfield with Republic Services is aware of how dangerous the job can be. "We get mixed up with other distracted drivers on the roadway," he said. Sherfield is area safety manager for the Great Lakes Area of Republic Services, which includes Michigan, Indiana and Ohio.

"When you're operating on the roadways, it's an uncontrolled work environ-



Republic Services lawn waste collectors pick up lawn bins Thursday, Aug. 29.

Photo: Tim Jagielo

ment," he said. When you take a large, slow-moving vehicle that shares the road with other faster vehicles and not paying attention, "it can cause a lot of havoc," Sherfield said.

His drivers have seen other motorists putting on makeup, shaving, eating and texting on their phones. The same drivers also can be distracted by road

See **DANGEROUS JOBS** on 9

## Michigan Vietnam Traveling Wall coming to Holly

■ Motorcycle escort this Friday, Sept. 6

By Sally Rummel

The Michigan Vietnam Traveling Wall will be making its way into Holly on Friday, Sept. 6 at 6 p.m. This traveling wall is a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., honoring the 2,600 service members of the U.S. Armed Forces from Michigan, who fought in the Vietnam War and died in service or were unaccounted for during the war.

The LZ (Landing Zone) Arielle Traveling Museum is a one-of-a-kind museum that includes weaponry from the war, medals, protest displays, exhibits from the South Vietnamese and more.

Both will be on display Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 7 and 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Karl Richter Community Center, 300 East St., Holly.

See **WALL** on 7

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# Sharin' the spotlight Happy to live in the Fenton area

By Editor Sharon Stone

I swore when I got home, I'd never complain about a price in the tri-county area again. My husband and I took a short trip to Miami last week to visit our son who is working down there. We knew South Beach in Miami would be expensive and we tried to plan accordingly for our three nights at a resort overlooking the ocean.

It was the week before Hurricane Dorian threatened the entire east coast and it was hot and humid. Parking was horrendous and if you used your hotel's valet, it was \$44 each night to have your car there. If you didn't use this service, you had to find a parking spot and then find the right kiosk to pay.

After we settled in, we thought we'd stroll around the hotel and check out the pool and coffee shops. I am so glad I am not a coffee snob. I'm fine with a cup of Folgers or with a \$1 cup from McDonald's. Everywhere we went coffee was at least \$6 per cup, plus tip. Luckily, our hotel offered guests a complementary breakfast, which included coffee. We quickly learned that tips are automatically added to your bill, but it's rolled into their service fee, which also had other hidden taxes.

A simple cocktail started at around \$14, much higher than the happy hour prices in the Fenton area.

It was beautiful out on the beach, but

very hot. We were thrilled that each hotel room received two complementary lounge chairs on the beach. What they didn't tell you was that you had to pay another \$22 for a much-needed sun umbrella and another \$17 for each additional chair. We watched families quickly learn about the extra fees and many of them ended up sharing chairs.



Sharon Stone

Dinners were fun and we try to sit at the bar rather than a table to talk with the bartenders to hear their local stories and find out what meals they suggest. One of our bartenders at Taco Taco was Yuri, who is from Russia. He was entertaining to talk to and I was quite impressed with how well he picked up the English language on his own after only

being here a few years. Prices of dinners

were crazy expensive, but luckily, my husband and I have similar tastes and we're not big eaters. We usually split our meals.

We eat out often and have learned where our favorite dinner specials are in Fenton, Linden and Holly. We have found it relatively easy to dine on a budget in this area.

Walking in our downtowns is fun. We always run into people we know and there is much to look at, minus the expansive view of the Atlantic Ocean.

I seriously don't know how the regular person can afford South Beach. Even our Uber driver to the airport told us that she was a hair stylist full time and a driver for Uber and Lyft on the side just to make ends meet.

I'll take the Fenton area any time and its friendly atmosphere. While we put up with some typical Michigan weather, I'll also be praying for the safety of everyone who is dealing with Hurricane Dorian.

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Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

## What trend would you like to see come back in style?



"Stick shift cars, because it will bring more focus on the road and less texting. My first two cars were stick shift."

— Kim Clemons  
Linden



"Drive-in movie theaters. I used to go when I was younger. The first movie I saw was 'Free Willy.'"

— Teri Alexander  
Fenton Township



"I'd like to see people move back to more face-to-face, in-person communication; to see people not quite so attached to electronic devices."

— Eric Larsen  
Fenton



"I'd go with bowling. It's really fun and people don't do it anymore."

— Julie Gibson  
Deerfield Township



"White wall tires. I just think they always look cool and added some 'zazz' to it. I'd also like to see stick shift cars."

— Craig Adams  
Tyronne Township

## Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at [myfenton.com](http://myfenton.com) 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.

**WHEN IS THE** bridge on Ray Road going to be fixed? Very inconvenient for the road to be closed so long, especially when there are no detour signs for those not familiar with the area.

**THE WORLD IS** changing every day. Humans can only lower the amount of pollution we put in the air.

**IF YOU READ** anything about the constitutional convention, you would know there were several versions of the Second Amendment written. Jefferson opposed standing armies. The southern states wanted militias (slave patrols) to secure their property. It was a compromise to get the south to join the union.

**IF YOU HAVE** people riding your butt enough that you need to write about it in the Hot lines — you're the problem. They probably aren't speeding according to the speed limit, only compared to how obnoxiously slow you're driving.

**'RED FLAG LAWS:'** If you get caught drinking and driving you blow into a breathalyzer installed in your car before driving. If you commit many driving crimes, you get your license taken. If you commit sexual crimes, you're restricted on where you live and where you 'roam.' So, what is your point again?

## street talk





Lake Fenton Community Schools is A.L.I.C.E. trained. This acronym stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter and evacuate. *Times file photo*

## A.L.I.C.E.

**Continued from Front Page**

fund dollars voted on by residents in the last few years; the Shamrocks and Safety Gala held last spring; and general fund dollars to cover the expenses of the SRO.

### Fenton Area Public Schools

Superintendent Adam Hartley said they have “buzz in” technology at all the buildings, including the administration and transportation buildings.

“We continue to train staff with the help of our School Resource Officer, Officer (Tom) Cole, and the Fenton Police Department on proper safety protocols when it comes to allowing people to enter our buildings during school hours,” he said.

FAPS is an A.L.I.C.E.-certified school district, and they train staff and students accordingly. The district received \$96,736 from the Michigan State Police School Safety Grant, which was used to place more cameras in K-5 buildings and on the Ellen Street campus this year.

“Officer Cole meets with the appropriate personnel on a weekly basis and is part of our district safety team,” he said. “The key word we use in FAPS is ‘proactive.’ We continue to run through threat assessments at each building and identify areas we can improve proactive security measures, such as adding security cameras and training our staff on ‘look for’s.”

Hartley added the goal is to “empower” the school community, understand red flags, and react if needed.

“Between the training in A.L.I.C.E. and our partnership with the Fenton Police Department, we have a progressive approach to school safety and make sure we are never complacent,” he said.

### Linden Community Schools

All schools at Linden have a dedicated entrance with a buzzer and video system, said Superintendent Russ Ciesielski.

“Once a visitor is verified the entrance door is unlocked and the visitor can enter and proceed to the front office,” he said.

LCS and the Argentine Township Police Department have a partnership to provide the district with an SRO.

“We are also very fortunate to have a working relationship with the Linden Police Department. At any given time we have two police departments covering down on

district school buildings, patrolling our campuses, and working with our students and parents,” he said.

In 2018, LCS received approximately \$138,000 from the Michigan State Police School Safety Grant, which went toward installing amplifiers in all the buildings. These allow first responders to communicate within the buildings without frequency interference. The grant also funded upgraded building public address systems, which allow all the classrooms to access and communicate through the PA systems.

“Every year, emergency protocols are reviewed and implemented. Each building is required to conduct emergency drills, and each classroom is equipped with emergency procedures. Last school year, Linden Community Schools adopted A.L.I.C.E. protection protocols,” he said.

### Holly Area Schools

Superintendent Scott Roper said, “At Holly Area Schools, safety is our number one priority. With that in mind, we began or completed a series of safety improvements over the summer, including those made possible by the 2018 bond and routine projects in preparation for the 2019-2020 school year.”

Over the summer, the district began planning to make entrances more secure. Site work is expected to take place the summer of 2020 at Davisburg and Rose Pioneer elementary schools.

“Design work will begin in early winter for summer 2021 safety projects at Holly and Patterson elementary schools,” he said.

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## Back-to-School Pancake Breakfast coming Saturday

■ First-ever FEF event will feature Chris Cakes flipping his famous flapjacks

The community is invited to celebrate the beginning of the school year by attending the first ever Back-to-School Pancake Breakfast at AGS Middle School on Saturday, Sept. 7.

This is a new fundraising event for the Fenton Education Foundation (FEF).

"The beginning of the school year can be hectic," said Kristy Schaffer, chairperson for the event. "We hope our

Fenton families will take the opportunity to come and relax, have fun and catch a pancake or two while raising money for grants that assist our teachers."

The event will feature Chris Cakes of Michigan, who is known for his famous flapjacks and has been in the Guinness Book of World Records twice and featured on the Food Network.

In addition to the all-you-can-eat

breakfast, this family FEF event will offer photos with the Fenton Tiger, face painting, a bounce house, a photo booth, kids' games and much more.

"We are very appreciative of the local businesses that supported this event through their generous in-kind donations and monetary contributions," Schaffer said.

Proceeds will help the FEF continue its mission to support academics, athletics and the arts in the district. Since its inception in 2004, the Foundation has raised more than \$500,000 and awarded \$140,000 in grants.

Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Tickets are \$5 (ages 4 to 10) and \$7 (11 and up) and may be purchased at [fenteducationfoundation.org](http://fenteducationfoundation.org). Children under 3 may eat for free. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

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## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**MAYBE YOU FORGOT**, but not everyone has the right to vote. Just as not everyone should have the right to a gun. And certainly regular citizens shouldn't have a right to an AR-15. Absolutely no reason for that. Common sense people.

■■■  
**MENTAL HEALTH IS** the issue with mass shootings? Not easy access to guns? Why not eliminate both? You think the number of people with mental health problems have gone up? You think other countries don't have people with mental health issues? No. But, access to guns went up 100 percent. What are you afraid of?

■■■  
**AT THE DEMOCRAT** convention in 2012 they booed when God was mentioned. At the 2016 Democrat convention, God was not allowed to be mentioned. Now, the Democrat/Socialist party is reaching out to non-religious, non-believers, and non-churchgoers as they promote a God-less society.

■■■  
**SIXTY-ONE PERCENT** of contributions to Trump are small donations (under \$200), which indicates his populist appeal to middle-class and blue-collar workers. Trump supports better trade deals, a secure border, thriving economy, police and military support, and an America first agenda. The Democrats support is largely money from Hollywood and liberal corporations.





Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the

## judge

### Competency to stand trial and criminal responsibility – Part II

The second possibility is when it is found that there's a substantial probability that the defendant cannot attain competence within the allowed treatment time period. When this happens the case is dismissed and the defendant is also referred to the probate court for a civil commitment proceeding.

The dismissals are without prejudice, which means that the charges can be reinstated if competency is attained.

### Criminal responsibility

Under Michigan law a person cannot be held responsible for their criminal acts if they don't understand what they did was wrong or are unable to control their behavior.

This is the rationale for a defendant in a criminal case being allowed to assert the defense of a lack of criminal responsibility, which is also known as insanity.

The following is a summary of Michigan's law in this area. Other states have their own laws.

Michigan's statute specifically defines insanity as when a person, as a result of mental illness or intellectual disability, lacks a substantial capacity to either appreciate the wrongfulness of their conduct or to conform their conduct to the requirements of the law.

There are certain procedural requirements in order to use this as a defense including notice to the court and the prosecutor. Additionally, the defendant must have a criminal responsibility examination at the forensic center.

If the examining doctor finds that a defendant was not responsible for or was insane at the time of the criminal acts, the doctor's expert testimony is presented at trial.

The prosecutor has the right to present expert witness testimony rebutting or contradicting the first doctor's opinion. It is the defendant's burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence to prove insanity.

A defendant who is found not guilty by reason of insanity is referred to the forensic center for an evaluation as to the need for treatment. If further treatment is needed, there is either a commitment to a psychiatric hospital or treatment in a less restrictive facility. When treatment is no longer needed, the defendant is released.

This defense is not often used and is normally not successful. One eight-state study found that it is raised in less than 1 percent of criminal cases and fewer than 25 percent of those cases resulted in not guilty verdicts.

## Walgreens implements new 'Tobacco 21' policy

■ Age to purchase tobacco upped from 18 to 21; became effective Sept. 1

By Vera Hogan

The Genesee County Board of Commissioners couldn't make it happen two years ago, but it looks like the big national retailers are making their own policies on what age individuals should be to purchase tobacco products.

On April 23, Walgreens announced it would be implementing a new chain-wide policy that will require customers to be at least 21 years old in order to buy tobacco products in its stores.

Walgreens joins Rite-Aid and Walmart, which earlier this year raised the age to 21 to buy tobacco products. CVS stores ceased selling tobacco products altogether in 2014.

Walgreens' new policy became effective Sunday, Sept. 1, and claim it is their most recent step in an ongoing effort to further prevent youth access to tobacco products, according to the retailer's press release.

"We've seen positive results from other recent efforts to strengthen our policies related to tobacco sales, and believe this next step can be even more impactful to reduce its use among teens and young adults," said Richard Ashworth, Walgreens president of operations. "Through ongoing training and certification for pharmacists and technicians, we also continue to help and support people looking to quit the use of tobacco in their lives."

The company's action also aligns with the efforts of states and

**See TOBACCO 21 on 10**

## WALL

Continued from Page 3

This event will be held at the same time as HollyDays, a community-wide celebration in the village of Holly.

The Patriot Guard, a group of organized patriotic citizens riding motorcycles, will provide an escort for the wall.

"Anyone who wants to be a part of the escort is asked to be at the Holiday Inn Express in Grand Blanc, exit 108, prior to 5:30 p.m. (Friday, Sept. 6)," said Joe Mishler, who has organized this visit through the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center. The

HAVRC is sponsoring the event.

The traveling wall will be escorted from Holiday Inn Express in Grand Blanc, down North Holly Road to Maple Road with its final destination at the Karl Richter Community Center.

The wall will be under tents at the north end of the community center next to the tennis courts. There is no admission charge.

A special ceremony is being planned for Sunday, Sept. 8 at 1 p.m., honoring those from Michigan who fought in the Vietnam War.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

### ELDER LAW ATTORNEY THOMAS TO HOST FREE WORKSHOPS SEPT. 10 AND 12

Michael E. Thomas, a Flint attorney specializing in elder law says nothing is more tragic than seeing a family lose their life savings because of a stroke, onset of dementia, Parkinson's disease or another significant medical event. Statistics reveal that there is a 50-percent chance that any person over the age of 65 will spend six months in a long-term care facility, which can drain a family's savings. The good news, says Thomas, is that there are legal methods of sheltering funds, so no family has to go broke due to those circumstances. Thomas will explain those methods at four free workshops Sept. 10 and 12 from 10-11:30 a.m. and from 6-7:30 p.m. on both days. The workshops will be held at the Holiday Inn, Gateway Centre, 5353 Gateway Centre Blvd., in Flint. To register, call 800-823-8597. Refreshments will be provided. Seating is limited.



### FIRE DEPARTMENT Continued from Front Page

session, the Fenton City Council discussed a request by Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff to pursue hiring a collection agency used successfully by neighboring Tyrone Township to recover fire service costs.

The fire department has been billing for services under the Cost Recovery ordinance since 2004, which was updated with a new fee schedule in 2010.

In a memo to City Manager Lynn Markland, Cairnduff said, "Since January of 2016, we average about four cost recovery ordinances per month. In that time, we invoiced approximately \$124,000 and have recovered only \$47,000. That is a 38 percent collection average. We feel we can improve on this."

Currently, when the fire department responds to an incident involving a non-resident, the fire department issues a memo to the city treasurer that indicates the responsible person and the amount to be billed. An invoice is then generated and sent to the responsible party.

"The issues we face are that many people simply do not respond to our invoices, we have bad address information or they simply refuse to pay," Cairnduff said.

The fire department, he added, does not have the resources to handle these issues. They previously took these outstanding invoices to small claims court and have been successful in obtaining judgments. They have not, however, been successful in collecting monies owed.

Cairnduff said he received a good recommendation from Tyrone Township on a collection agency they use successfully, Universal Credit Services (UCS). "We have since met with UCS multiple times and we feel that they will improve our overall efficiency rate and collection rate," he said.

Cairnduff said cost recovery only applies to incidents that happen inside the city limits (including U.S. 23). "For instance, if it's a vehicle fire on the expressway, we bill the registered owner and they may then turn it over to their insurance company," he said. "If the

insurance doesn't cover it then the responsible person still owes. We would not bill them if they are a city resident."

City residents provide pro rata support for fire and other emergency services through taxes paid to the city. According to the ordinance, this does not apply if the city responds to a fire or provides other emergency services resulting from recurrent false alarms or excessive requests for other emergency services.

"If we run an incident in Tyrone Township we (city of Fenton) invoice Tyrone Township," he said. "If the person is a resident of Tyrone then Tyrone does not bill them. This is what their assessment covers. If they are a non-resident of Tyrone Township then Tyrone would bill that person."

If the Fenton City Council decides to approve Cairnduff's recommendation, the collection agency would be paid on a graduated scale. The collection agency would get \$20 per invoice. If the bill is not paid in 90 days, it goes up from there (percentage points).

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## DANGEROUS JOBS

Continued from Page 3

construction, billboards and road signs. All of this can be compounded with poor visibility in certain weather conditions.

Fortunately, no recent crashes come to mind with Republic, he said.

Sanitation workers have a unique job in that they're both commercial drivers and hydraulic equipment operators. The compaction and automatic arm mechanisms are run by hydraulics.

Sherfield said defensive driving permeates every bit of training new drivers take. Training alone lasts three to six weeks.

Today, automated routes make up 70 percent of the Republic Services routes. The driver remains in the truck cab while an automated arm empties the waste container, making it a safer route system.

The rest are two-person, rear-loading trucks with a driver and a helper. "On average, the helper can lift 34 pounds per house," spokesperson Deirdre Edgar said.



Fenton customers have various pick-up times for waste. On Thursday, the south part of the city along with the numbered streets were picked up with trash, recycling and lawn waste.

### What can you do to help?

"Our customers can help our drivers by having all the trash on the curb the morning of their scheduled pickup and already separated by trash, recycling and yard waste," she said.

## ARSON & ASSAULT

Continued from Front Page

home and possible structure fire.

Responding police officers could hear the smoke alarm blaring and made contact with the 24-year-old resident who also saw and smelled smoke. The man, as well as a female and child, were evacuated from that portion of the residence. Tenants in the other portion of the residence were also evacuated as a precaution.

Cross said the officer learned there was a small fire in the kitchen and quickly grabbed the fire extinguisher from the patrol vehicle to put out the fire prior to the arrival of the Fenton Fire Department.

Cross said it appeared that the fire was intentionally set. The 24-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of domestic assault and battery and arson. After being processed at the Fenton Police Department, he was transported to the Genesee County Jail awaiting authorization of arrest warrants.

There were no injuries reported.

Sherfield just asks motorists to follow the law — to slow down or go around garbage trucks. He also asks that drivers assume that when a truck is stopped, there could be a worker outside the truck.

Eliminating distractions keep sanitation workers and everyone safer. Sherfield is especially nervous at the first snow of the year or in times of fog.

*This is another story in a series about dangerous jobs. More jobs will be featured in future Times editions.*



Fenton police and fire departments respond to a residence on N. West Street early Monday morning, Sept. 2, on a report of a possible structure fire and altercation involving residents. **Photo: Fred Moses**

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# The SPRING/SUMMER Issue Of The Pet Press

YOUR TAILS TO SCALES CONNECTION

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**EDITOR'S MEMO**

### Pitching in for Pets

I received my first annual fundraising event, and I'm excited to announce that it's a success! The event was held on Saturday, June 16th, and it was a great day for all of us. I didn't give a much thought to the event, but I was so happy to see everyone's support and the amount of money we raised. It was a great day for all of us, and I'm excited to see the results of our efforts. I'm excited to see the results of our efforts. I'm excited to see the results of our efforts.

**Meet and Greet with a Pet**

As I look back on the event, I'm excited to see the results of our efforts. I'm excited to see the results of our efforts. I'm excited to see the results of our efforts.

**Meet and Greet with a Pet**

As I look back on the event, I'm excited to see the results of our efforts. I'm excited to see the results of our efforts. I'm excited to see the results of our efforts.

### Cats Abroad

BY ADAM FERGUSON

MORE PEOPLE ARE TRAVELING with their cats than ever before. It's a trend that's growing rapidly, and it's not just for the wealthy. It's for people of all ages and backgrounds. It's a trend that's growing rapidly, and it's not just for the wealthy. It's for people of all ages and backgrounds. It's a trend that's growing rapidly, and it's not just for the wealthy. It's for people of all ages and backgrounds.

**Living in the petlands**

was wonderful because our cats were able to meet an entire farm full of animals, including chickens, horses, dogs, sheep, goats, and cows. (the shaggy-haired, long-horned cows of Scotland.)

So, the little family spent one day in two rural spots. They were in the heart of the Scottish Highlands, and they were in the heart of the Scottish Highlands. They were in the heart of the Scottish Highlands, and they were in the heart of the Scottish Highlands.

## The Pet Press

YOUR TAILS TO SCALES CONNECTION

FREE

**DIY projects for pet lovers**

Easy, fun ideas you can make for a dog or cat in 15 minutes.

**Fundraising for our furry friends**

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**Meet Aggie the tortoise!**

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## TOBACCO 21

Continued from Page 7

municipalities that have recently enacted, or are considering, laws to restrict tobacco sales to people 21 and older. Walgreens has supported such legislative proposals. Studies have shown cities that have enacted Tobacco 21 laws have seen a sharp decline in tobacco use among young adults 18-20 years old, according to the Walgreens officials.

Additionally, the company continues to focus efforts on promoting cessation products and services, and offers a comprehensive suite of digital information and support tools to patients who want to quit smoking.

### Genesee County effort

On Monday, June 19, 2017, Genesee County Circuit Court Judge Judith Fullerton ruled against "Tobacco 21."

According to former County Commissioner Drew Shapiro (6th District), who was in the courtroom with RPF Oil, which filed a lawsuit on May 12, 2017, challenging the new county ordinance, the

judge ruled against it because "it is unenforceable."

Monday, May 15, 2017 was supposed to be the day that retailers in Genesee County would be forced to abide by the new Tobacco 21 ordinance, prohibiting anyone under the age of 21 from purchasing tobacco products in the county.

But the lawsuit filed by RPF Oil Company in Grand Blanc challenged that ordinance. The lawsuit alleged that the regulation, adopted by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners on Feb. 14, 2017 is in direct conflict with the Age of Majority Act (MCL 722.51), and directly conflicts with the sign requirements of the Youth Tobacco Act (MCL 722.641(2)).

"Judge Fullerton ruled in favor of the oil company and the attorney general," Shapiro said.

Shapiro said he has never argued against the fact that the use of tobacco products can result in some serious health issues. "This is about avoiding a lawsuit and saving taxpayer dollars on unwinnable lawsuits," he said.

## MUELLER

Continued from Front Page

Mueller, a recently retired Livingston County sheriff's deputy, introduced the legislation March 12.

"A criminal who commits unarmed robbery is punished more severely than one who disarms a police officer under current law," said Mueller in a press release issued after the hearing. "That's troubling and it needs to change."

The legislation was inspired by the death of Oak Park Police Officer Mason Samborski, a Howell native who was killed Dec. 28, 2008, by a suspect who took his firearm and executed him after he became incapacitated during a struggle with the suspect.

Mueller also shared that suspects had attempted to disarm him on two separate occasions throughout his career.

According to usatoday.com, the 52 firearms related deaths of law enforcement officers in 2018 represents a 13-percent increase over 2017. Fourteen of those occurred while the officer was trying to place an individual under arrest, according to a preliminary report by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

Nearly two-thirds were shot and killed by a handgun — four officers were fatally shot by their own weapons after being disarmed.

House Bills 4315-16 would increase the

maximum sentence for attempting to disarm a police officer from a five-year felony to a 10-year felony, and increases the penalty for disarming a police officer from a 10-year felony to a 20-year felony.

Joining Mueller for testimony was Democratic Rep. David LaGrand, a former prosecutor from Grand Rapids, who partnered with him in sponsoring the legislation.

"It's a straightforward plan that people across the aisle support," Mueller of Fenton Township said. "We want to send a clear message that violence against police officers will not be tolerated and the Legislature has their backs."

The plan remains under consideration by the House Judiciary Committee.



Rep. Mike Mueller testifies before the House Judiciary Committee that suspects have attempted to disarm him on two separate occasions throughout his previous law enforcement career.

Photo: gophouse.org



# Eagles lose tight contest vs. Notre Dame Prep, 27-19

By David Troppens

**Pontiac** — Linden had its chances. The Eagles led at one time against Pontiac Notre Dame Prep 13-0 in the first half.

The Irish bounced back with 19 straight points and led 19-13 when the varsity football contest was suspended due to weather Thursday night.

The teams returned to Notre Dame Prep on Friday and when they did, the Eagles fumbled the ball away deep on the Irish's side

of the field, and eventually fell behind 27-13.

However, Linden responded with a TD of its own, stopped the Irish on their next possession and Linden got the ball back with one last chance to tie the game. Linden fell short, however, losing the 27-19 contest.

"We did. We had a chance," Linden varsity football coach Denny Hopkins said. "If we score on that drive, I think we get it. But we fumbled, missed a tackle and a guy runs 70 yards. That's the game."

Linden had the early 13-0 lead with an offensive and a defensive TD. QB Colby Kohmescher scored the offensive one with a run. Seeger DeGayner collected the defensive one when he rushed the quarterback, stripped him of the ball, recovered the fumble and ran for the score. Linden led 13-0.

**CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM**



Linden's Seeger DeGayner runs upfield during the Eagles' loss to Notre Dame Prep.

Photo: David Troppens

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019 | PAGE 11 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

## Sports Times



Fenton's Austin Henard (far left) and Charlie Hundzinski (front) attempt to make a tackle during the Tigers' loss to Davison.

Photo: David Troppens

### Tigers struggle vs. Davison, 54-27

By David Troppens

**Davison** — The second half of Fenton varsity football team's first game of the season against Davison didn't go much better than Thursday's first half.

During Thursday's first half, Fenton trailed 35-10 at halftime against the Cardinals when lightning and poor weather resulted in the sus-

**See TIGERS on 12**

### Bronchos' 'D' sparks victory vs. Fraser, 12-3



Holly's Koltan Steele runs behind his offensive line during the Bronchos' 12-3 victory against Fraser on Friday. Photo: David Troppens

By David Troppens

**Holly** — Defense was king in the Holly varsity football team's opener against the Fraser Ramblers Thursday and Friday at Holly High School.

When the game began on Thursday, Jacob Hild dominated with an interception, a fumble recovery and a couple of tackles for loss, helping lead the Bronchos to a 12-3 lead. That's when the rains came and forced the contest to be suspended with the rest of the game being played on Friday.

When the teams returned, Logan Dzendzel made three straight defensive plays to end a Fraser drive and Hol-

ly's ground game was able to pound out some first downs to ice the game. Holly finished the first game of the Dallas Lesperance varsity coaching era with an 12-3 victory.

"Our D-Line is getting in the backfield and blowing everything up," Hild said. "There were so many plays that we just stopped them to a loss and it killed their momentum."

"I knew our defense was going to be up there and be one of the top in the league. These guys work their butts off all the time. The defense is always going hard every single play in practice."

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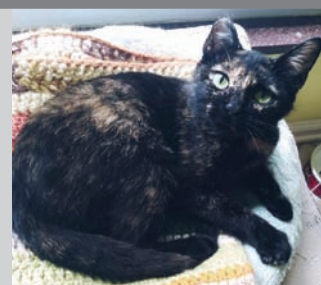
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# Fenton duo capture high school fishing state title

By David Troppens

Mitchell Straffon loves fishing.

And about four years ago he had an idea. Maybe his friend Henri Sturm would enjoy the sport just as much as he did.

"When I met him I was really into fishing," Straffon said. "He was kind of an outdoor kid — hunting and fishing, bass fishing. I realized he could do tournaments with me. I kind of taught him what he needed to know and he figured it out."

In their first bass fishing tournament the duo finished second. Since then the Fenton High School sophomores have only become a stronger team. The teammates recently to the Michigan BASS High School State Championship held on Lake St. Clair.

"We did well. We stayed on the American side of Lake St. Clair and we were leading the first day of the tournament and went wire-to-wire," Sturm said.

The victory also earned them teammates a spot in next summer's national

tournament.

"We wanted to qualify for nationals. We didn't care if we took first or second," Straffon said. "If we took first that was great, but second goes to national in that tournament too."

"(When we found out we won) I couldn't stop smiling. I was smiling ear to ear. The best part for me was some of our buddies came in second so they qualified for nationals, too. Now we can come together."

The two-day tournament began on Aug. 15 with a two-day practice session. On Aug. 17 and 18 each boat had 10 hours to leave the dock, find their fishing spot or spots and return before the day's deadline ended the competition. The top five bass for each boat were weighed and totalled. The team with the most pounds of fish won. Sturm and Straffon collected 21.47 pounds the first day and 20.56 pounds the second day, leading the entire tournament. Sixty-three teams qualified for the tournament.

The duo have had their share of



Henri Sturm (left) and Mitchell Straffon teamed up to win the BASS High School State Championship. The duo will compete in a national competition next summer.

Submitted photo

tournament success. They won a tournament earlier this year to help them qualify for the state meet. In 2018, the athletes won the TBF of Michigan

Youth Junior State Championship at Pontiac Lake.

CONTINUED AT  
MYFENTON.COM

## Holly, Fenton XC teams compete at Early Bird Invitational, preparing for first Metro meet today

By David Troppens

With today's first Metro League jamboree less than a week away, the Fenton and Holly varsity boys cross country teams found themselves competing at the same meet Aug. 29.

However, the two area rivals competed in different divisions of the Hornet Early Bird Invitational at Huron Meadow Metro Park.

Holly took third out of 10 teams in the Varsity Blue Division, while Fenton placed sixth in the 15-team Gold Varsity

Division. The Fenton girls also competed in the women's Varsity Gold Division, placing fifth out of 12 teams.

Holly had four of its runners finish in the top 20 and six in the top 35. Senior Gabe Sanchez led the Bronchos by taking eighth (17:52.71) while Nolan Weisdorfer (18:09.40) and Bradley Baxter (18:13.18) took 15th and 16th, respectively. Griffen Rose placed 19th (18:29.46) while Mason Rosa was the team's final scorer taking 32nd in 19:13.16.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

## TIGERS

Continued from Page 11

pension of the contest until Friday. In the second half, the Tigers were outscored 19-17, resulting in a final 54-27 loss to the Cardinals.

The Tigers started out fine on Thursday. Davison scored the game's first touchdown on a six-yard quarterback keeper by Brendan Sullivan, but

Fenton took just three plays to respond and tie the contest at 7-all. After a pass interference call gave Fenton a first down, two plays later Brandon Miller ran the ball up the middle and then ran to the left to score on a 63-yard TD run. Braden Moore converted the extra-point and the game was tied 7-7 with 8:46 left in the opening quarter.

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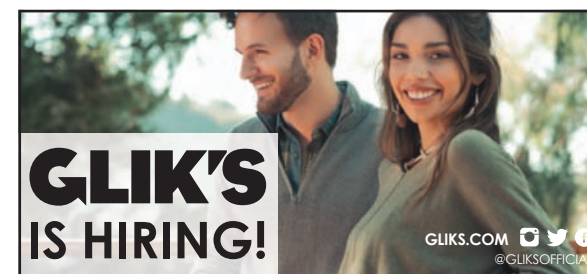
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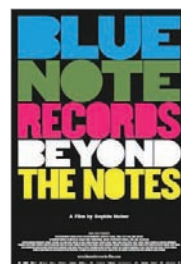
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3			1		5		7	

Level: Beginner

Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

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### UNTOUCHABLE

The inside story of the rise and fall of Harvey Weinstein reveals how, over decades, he acquires and protects his power even as scandal threatens to engulf him. Former colleagues and accusers detail the method and consequences of his alleged abuse, hoping for justice and to inspire change. **NR, 1 hr. 38 min.**  
*Documentary*

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## Midweek Jumble

### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

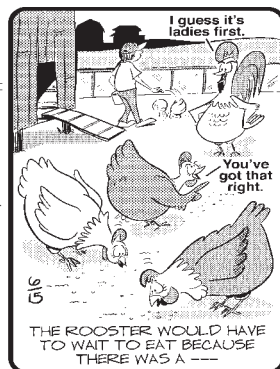
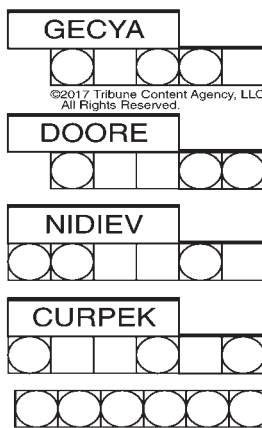
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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

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### JUMBLE KIDS

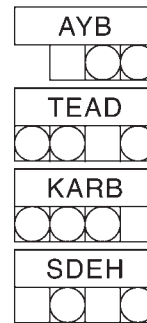
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME!®  
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

The letters of these crazy words are all mixed up. To play the game, put them back into the right order so that they all make real words you can find in the dictionary. Write the letters of each real word under each crazy word, but only one letter to a square.

Now you're ready to solve today's Jumble for Kids. Study the picture for a hint. Play around with the letters in the circles. You'll find you can put them in order so that they make your funny answer.



Print Answer Here



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Jumbles: BAY  
Answer: The Easter Bunny's cousin was having a ---  
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DATE  
BARK  
SHED

## Horoscopes

For the week of  
**September 2, 2019**

### ARIES

**Mar 21/Apr 20**

Aries, be careful with your words so they are not taken the wrong way in the coming days. If you practice what you plan to say, others will see your words for the kind gesture they are.

### TAURUS

**Apr 21/May 21**

Taurus, there's no need to apologize if you want to stay close to home this week. Invite some friends over to join in the fun.

### GEMINI

**May 22/June 21**

Expect to work in a group setting this week, Gemini. Doing so will require you to carefully manage your time so everything can be done efficiently. Embrace others' input and the collaborative effort.

### CANCER

**June 22/July 22**

Start this week with high energy, Cancer. You can ride that momentum through the weekend when you may need an extra boost. Find friends who can help you along.

### LEO

**July 23/Aug 23**

Leo, don't be so modest that you won't share your recent accomplishments with those you love the most. It is okay to brag about yourself once in a while.

### VIRGO

**Aug 24/Sept 22**

Virgo, many people are willing to lend you a helping hand, so take them up on their offers. You will be able to repay them in time if you feel the need to reciprocate.

### LIBRA

**Sept 23/Oct 23**

Join a group of people who share the same goals as you, Libra. It can be a work group or a social movement if you so desire. Either way, socialize along the way.

### SCORPIO

**Oct 24/Nov 22**

Being outdoors has much appeal for you this week, Scorpio. Be sure to get outside and enjoy it as much as possible over the next several days.

### SAGITTARIUS

**Nov 23/Dec 21**

There is a fine line between being flexible and standing firm when you believe in your point of view, Sagittarius. Speak up if you feel strongly about your position.

### CAPRICORN

**Dec 22/Jan 20**

Make a concerted effort to ensure a certain situation is not blown out of proportion, Capricorn. Carefully examine things before offering your input.

### AQUARIUS

**Jan 21/Feb 18**

Try to add more exercise to your routine, Aquarius. Not only will it make you feel better physically, it can clear your head and allow for alone time to do some thinking.

### PISCES

**Feb 19/Mar 20**

Pisces, your life may be a little hectic over the next few days as a deadline draws near. Eventually things will return to normal.



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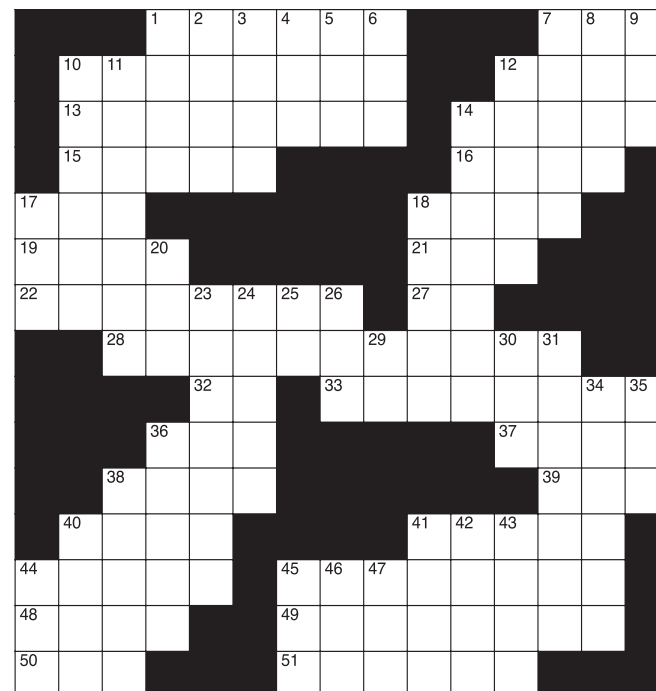
## Midweek Crossword

### CLUES ACROSS

- Dignified
- Where to get a pint
- Broken down
- Peruvian city
- Expressed grief
- Isaac's mother (Bib.)
- Sizing up
- Form of Hindustani
- \_\_\_de-sac
- Greek sophist
- Greek portico
- Christian Television Network
- Attractiveness
- The man
- Home of the Cowboys
- Home to Hollywood
- Be later in time
- Woman
- A type of protection
- Conservative people
- Bela \_\_\_, Hungarian Leader
- Rodent
- Gloss or sheen
- Looks good in clothes
- Stephen Malkmus' band
- Org. of C. American States
- Doorways are some
- Cattle genus
- Rock bands play them

### CLUES DOWN

- Indigenous people of Norway



- Not odd
- Ring
- Adam is one
- Champion Volunteer QB
- The smartest Ed
- Fast cats
- Two-toed sloth
- \_\_\_ humbug!
- Investigator
- Explosive warhead
- Wrap
- Hidden meaning
- Reciprocal of a sine
- Go with pains
- Small constellation
- Prohibited
- Blocks
- Home to Boston (abbr.)
- Small viper

- Toward
- Promotional materials
- Plundering and destroying
- Provokes
- One point north of due east
- Freshwater fishes
- Male parents
- Little (Spanish)
- Sean \_\_\_, actor
- Bowfin fish
- Large integers
- An association of criminals
- Genus of grasses
- Annual percentage rate
- Mechanical belt

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