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COMMERCIAL-NEWS | ROBERT TOMLINSON

Fabius Park Fire Department Chief Mike Frye (right), who announced he would retire back in November, will officially retire on Dec. 24. Current Assistant Chief Josh Judsen (left), who has been with FPFD for the past 12 years, and the last five as assistant, will take over as chief when Frye retires.

FPFD Chief Frye retires after 25 years, five as chief

Assistant Chief Judsen named chief, to start Dec. 24

By Robert Tomlinson
Staff Writer

THREE RIVERS — Mike Frye, who has been with the Fabius Park Fire Department for 25 years, and the last five as fire chief, will officially retire on Dec. 24.

Replacing him as chief will be Josh Judsen, who has been with the Fabius-Park Fire Department for 12 years and the past five as assistant fire chief. The 31-year-old was approved as the new fire chief at the FPFD fire board's last meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 4, and will start on Dec. 24.

Frye, 57, who announced he would retire back in November, told the Commercial-News in an interview Thursday he will miss the "fire family" and the comradery at the department. "That's probably the biggest

thing that's kept me there," Frye said. "It's just like a big family."

Judsen said in an interview with the Commercial-News Thursday he's looking forward to his new role, and is excited to "move forward and progress" the fire department as chief.

"The big thing I want to start pushing, and Mike's tried over the last few years, is training," Judsen said. "I want to train a lot harder, put more funds toward it and progress ourselves further."

See FPF, page 3

Brandenburg Concert to present winter concert

The Brandenburg Concert, a group of community-based a cappella singers from southwestern Michigan and northern Indiana, will present their winter concert, Rejoice and Sing, on Sunday, Dec. 15. This concert will be held at 3 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Three Rivers at 215 N. Main St. in Three Rivers.

Rejoice and Sing is a true community Christmas celebration with narration, special holiday music sung by the Brandenburg Concert, and traditional carols sung by the Brandenburg group along with the congregation. Featured narrators for the program are Naomi Wenger, David Wenger, and Barry Heywood.

Founded in 1991 by Kurt Brandenburg, the Brandenburg Concert performs at least two public concerts each year, their first held in December 1992. Their repertoire has included modern part songs, hymns, madrigals,

and other sacred pieces as well as several larger works.

Co-Directors of Rejoice and Sing are Verna Troyer, Barry Heywood, and Alex Williams. Members of the Concert are tenors: Willard Fenton-Miller, Tim Lind, Alex Williams, and Kurt Brandenburg; basses: Barry Heywood and David Wenger; altos: Pat Butchbaker, Wendy Eash, Diane Foghino, Kate Lind, Christine Nofsinger, and Joan Robertson; and sopranos: Nancy Brandenburg, JoAnn Heywood, Verna Troyer, Sue Ann Von Blom, Kirstin Vander Giessen-Reitsma, and Naomi Wenger.

The Brandenburg Concert depends primarily on contributions for their support. This holiday concert is open to the public free of charge, with free-will offerings gratefully accepted. Brandenburg Concert is a 501(c)(3) organization and any donations made to the group are tax deductible.



Photo Provided

Pictured with organist Carl Witt, members of the Brandenburg Concert are (L-R beginning with the front row): Barry Heywood, Sue Ann von Blon, Kate Lind, Chris Nofsinger, Diane Foghino, Michael Northrop, Kirstin Vander Giessen-Reitsma, Verna Troyer, Willard Fenton-Miller, Kurt Brandenburg, Roxie Ewert, Wendy Eash, Joann Heywood, Deborah Haak, Tim Lind, David Wenger, Joan Robertson, Pat Butchbaker, Nan Brandenburg, Naomi Wenger, and (not pictured) Alex Williams.

Women on the Go Profile: Tammy Shuler

Age: 58
Status: Married
Children: two adult daughters
Occupation: Oncology nurse
Avg. hours exercise per week: 20
Motto: The more you do, the more you can do.

Editor's Note: This is Part I of a two-part profile on Tammy Shuler. Part II will appear in the Monday, Dec. 16 edition of the Three Rivers Commercial-News.

"The Ironman World Championship centers on the dedication and courage exhibited by participants who demonstrate the Ironman mantra that anything is possible."

This statement appears on the web site describing the renowned competition on the



PHOTO PROVIDED

Tammy crosses the finish line with a fine performance at Ironman 70.3 Traverse City last August, one of numerous long-distance triathlons she has finished at or near the top of her age group. "I have a lot of energy and I need to burn it off."

See WOMEN ON THE GO, page 3

Panel vote sends Trump impeachment charges to full House

By Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats propelled President Donald Trump's impeachment toward a historic vote by the full U.S. House as the Judiciary Committee on Friday approved charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. It's the latest major step in the constitutional and political storm that has divided Congress and the nation.

The House is expected to approve the two articles of impeachment next week, before lawmakers depart for the holidays.

The partisan split in the committee vote — 23 Democrats to 17 Republicans — reflects the atmosphere in Congress. The Democratic-majority House is expected to approve the charges against Trump next week, but the Republican-controlled Senate is likely to acquit him after a January trial.

Trump is accused, in the first article, of abusing his presidential power by asking Ukraine to investigate his 2020 rival Joe Biden while holding military aid as leverage, and, in the second, of obstructing Congress by blocking the House's efforts to probe his actions.

"Today is a solemn and sad day," Chairman Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., told reporters after the session, marking the third time in U.S. history the panel had voted to recommend impeaching a president. He said the full House would act "expeditiously."

See PANEL VOTE, page 3

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HAVE A GREAT DAY, EVERYONE!



TODAY'S WEATHER
HIGH: 41° LOW: 31°

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