

ONLINE
COMMENTSSTORY: CONGRESS
FAILS TO EXTEND
UNEMPLOYMENT
COMPENSATION

“I live in a small Oklahoma town where jobs are scarce. I’m an unemployed machinist and there are no job openings here, or nearby. Without federal help, we could lose our home and most everything else.”

— Weldon S.

ASK THE JUDGE:
BODY SCANNERS

“Benjamin Franklin famously stated, ‘Those willing to trade liberty/freedom for security deserve neither.’



That is one man far more wise and intelligent than any of the

hack politicians running our country now. It is high time we targeted the actual groups responsible for attacking our country with zero regard toward political correctness, instead of checking those least likely to commit acts of terror.”

— T. McNeil

HOT LINE: DEAD DEER

“For your information, bow season starts on Oct. 1, so the deer that was found in November was probably shot with a bow and wandered into the city and died. You cannot always tell a bullet hole from an arrow hole.”

— Karen

See **COMMENTS**
on 13

Spend it local.
Keep it local.

Keep your dollars
in your community.

Gift Card
Giveaway

Last week's winners
announced

12



3

There's nothing like
a warm, snuggly
puppy for
Christmas

DVDs &
Movies

Short write-ups
on DVDs and movies
released this week.

16



themidweekTimes

WEDNESDAY EDITION

VOL. 17 NO. XLIX

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2010

\$1.00

Good Samaritan helps injured man lying alongside highway

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Tamara Dickinson, of Tyrone Township, is being called a Good Samaritan after assisting a crash victim Sunday evening.

Dickerson was traveling southbound on Old U.S. 23 and spotted a man lying alongside the

road near White Lake Road about 7 p.m. She stopped to check on the man and realized he was badly injured.

State police later confirmed that the man had driven his 1996 Pontiac Grand Prix into a ditch.

“I was surprised, no one
was stopping.”
Tamara Dickinson

The man, later identified as Robert McFadden, 61, of Linden, was in

the beginning stages of hypothermia. Dickinson started first aid by covering him with her

See **SAMARITAN** on 14

Jinglefest lights up the night



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Hundreds of visitors flocked to downtown Fenton for the Holiday Lighted Parade Saturday evening, during the annual Jinglefest held throughout the weekend. Here, attendees watch the Fenton Fire Department trucks at the end of the parade.

Treasurer: ‘Miracle to have balanced budget’

Summary

►The Fenton Township Board of Trustees approved a proposed balanced budget for fiscal year 2011. The township's general fund has revenue and expenditures of \$2,195,600.

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Fenton Twp. — The Fenton Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved a proposed budget Monday for fiscal year 2011. Thomas Broecker,

operations manager/deputy clerk for the township presented the balanced budget to the board for its approval.

One of the most significant changes was a \$60,000 expected decrease to

See **BUDGET** on 12



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Jane Brooks of Fenton raised three children in this modest 1,000 square foot home.

Living small

►Housing market trend is smaller homes

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Jeff and Jane Brooks of Fenton have already raised their three children to adulthood, but they don't have any reason to downsize their “empty nest.”

For 25 years, the Brooks family has not only survived, but also

See **HOUSING** on 15

A smaller house can
save homeowners
lots of money...

- **Lower purchase price** in the real estate transaction.
- **Lower energy bills**, depending upon the age and condition of the house.
- **Fewer dollars** spent on material things, less waste.
- **Fewer maintenance costs** — smaller roof to replace, less lawn to mow, no need for housecleaning services, etc.
- **Fewer dollars** spent in property taxes.

Fenton 911
dispatch is
on the line

►Council split on
\$180k upgrade or
using Genesee County

By Anna Troppens

atroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton — City administrators will see what they can do

about Fenton's 911 dispatch for police, fire and ambulance. The city's dispatch equipment is aging, and replacing it is a budget problem. If Fenton doesn't replace it, city officials have discussed switching to Genesee Central for dispatching.

Chief Rick Aro of the Fenton Police Department said the \$300,000

cost for equipment can be reduced to \$180,000, for the actual equipment. It is used to talk by radio, record phone calls, record radio traffic and switch between radio frequencies.

See **911** on 13

Local officials to
decide on Sunday
morning liquor sales

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Linden — Unless the State of Michigan Liquor Control Commission hears otherwise from local governments regarding the sale of liquor on Sundays, it will begin issuing the early morning Sunday Sales Permits to licensees on Thursday, Dec. 16.

See **LIQUOR** on 9

Summary

►The Michigan Liquor Control Commission sent a letter to all cities, villages, townships and counties stating that Sunday morning liquor permits will start to be issued on Dec. 16. Elected officials must decide by 5 p.m. on Dec. 15 if their community will allow these sales.

Make your
holiday

Rock

this Christmas
season

Ho

HoHo

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2 Storing Ornaments

Don't remove the hooks from the ornaments. Secure them to the wire with needle-nose pliers. This will save you time and trouble.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Editorial.....810-629-8282
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES
TIM JAGIELO

Lab/shepherd mix puppies
romp and lounge at
Adopt-A-Pet in Fenton
on Monday.



A

puppy

for Christmas

By Anna Troppens

atroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Many children dream of a roly-poly, warm, snuggly puppy waiting just for them under the Christmas tree. Since adult dogs vary greatly in size, temperament, grooming and veterinary needs — and even how much they shed — families who want a puppy for Christmas should start thinking and researching now.

It's important not to make a quick decision the day before, said Program Director Jody Maddock, of Adopt-A-Pet in Fenton. "Adding a puppy is adding a family member who is a 12-17 year commitment."

**See
PUPPY
on 10**

R.S.V.P.

Four important letters for the holidays

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

If you are "all dressed up with many places to go" this Christmas/New Year's season, chances are you have several holiday invitations posted on your refrigerator or in your Blackberry.

Have you read the invitation carefully and followed the host's instructions for

an RSVP? If not, you need to do so right away, so that they can make their plans for a memorable event, including enough food and drink for all the guests they are expecting to come.

If you have ever hosted a wedding or other special event, you have likely changed the way you handle

your own RSVP etiquette with family and friends. You have experienced, firsthand, the importance of knowing how many guests to plan for, as well as the excitement of getting responses back as you "countdown the days" to your own special occasion with the thrill of knowing who's coming.

See R.S.V.P. on 8

Thoughtful gift ideas for the host

- **Bestselling book** of interest to the host
- **Fresh flowers**
- **Hand towels** for the powder room or beach towels for sunning
- **Packages of cocktail napkins**, perhaps with the host's monogram
- **Calendar** for the coming year
- **Bottle of host's favorite wine or liqueur**
- **Holiday candies**
- **Unusual kitchen tools** for an avid cook
- **A dozen golf balls** for a golfer
- **Set of nicely packaged herbs and spices** or a selection of peppercorns (black, white, red, green)
- **Picture frame**, with a picture taken during your visit sent later
- **Candles and informal candlesticks**
- **Houseplant** in a simple yet decorative pot

Source: Emily Post Institute



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Fenton City Office
301 S. LeRoy St. • Fenton

Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce
114 N. LeRoy St. • Fenton

Linden City Office
132 E. Broad St. • Linden





Time to change citizenship law

According to an email I received, this is a list of all the developed nations in the world that offer citizenship for every baby born on their soil, including illegal aliens.

United States of America

That's right, every other developed nation in the world, with the exception of the United States, has gotten rid of birthright citizenship policies.

There used to be all kinds of developed countries that gave away their citizenship as freely as we do in the United States. But, one by one, they all have recognized the absolute stupidity of that policy.

Here are some of the countries that have dumped its birthright citizenship policy:

- Canada was the last non-U.S. holdout. Illegal aliens stopped getting citizenship for birth babies in 2009.
- Australia's birthright citizenship requirements were changed in 2007.
- New Zealand repealed in 2006.
- Ireland repealed in 2005.
- France repealed in 1993.
- India repealed in 1987.
- United Kingdom repealed in 1983.
- Portugal repealed in 1981.

Only the United States places such a low premium on citizenship as to casually provide it to foreign citizens visiting Disney World on tourist visas, while nine months pregnant and to foreign citizens who have violated their promises on their visitor, work and student visas to stay illegally in the country, as well as to those who sneak across our borders.

It's not just Mexico and South America who are sending illegals across our borders. Currently, the CBP reports that of those apprehended illegally crossing the border, China is No. 1.

Wake up, America. Illegal aliens from China, India, Russia, the Middle East and a host of other nations are flooding the country. Most have a pregnant woman among them. Even if they are caught and give birth while in jail, their newborn automatically becomes a U.S. citizen and thus an anchor baby for another foreign family. Stop the politically correct crap and change this law now!

Some content may be compiled from opinions expressed in other media. Some content may be adapted/obtained/reprinted from other news sources.

DOES IT CONCERN anyone that each day we hear on the news that the federal government is going to control this, that and the other? Kids' diets in public schools, the FCC is trying to take control of the Internet, Harry Reid is pushing amnesty for illegals. Do not take your eye of these guys. They want us on our knees. And, they say they are for the working people. Liars.

■■■■ **IT SEEMS LIKE** the state of Michigan and the city of Fenton are trying to make alcohol illegal, once again. There is a fee for this and a tax on that. It seems they are trying to put the small businessperson out of business. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

■■■■ **I'M 77 YEARS old**, and haven't had a landline in three or four years. I wouldn't take one if they gave me one free.

■■■■ **I JUST WANT** to thank Fenton Township for only raising my taxes \$52 this winter, when I lost \$80,000 to \$100,000 on my house. I want to wish the board a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

■■■■ **IT'S TIME THAT** we demand that the politicians who commit criminal activity be tried by a civil court and not by the members of their own party. They are all getting away with billions of our tax money and only getting a smack on the hand. Am I the only one who thinks like this?

■■■■ **WHY SHOULD ALL** of us lose our homes, jobs, pensions and take pay freezes. We should demand that it start with our politicians. Cut their pay and benefits. They are the ones who got us in this mess to begin with. There is no more respect for this country or our office anymore.

Hot lines

Submit at: www.tctimes.com
or call 810-629-9221

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 75 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.

THERE IS THIS thing called common sense. Has anyone seen it in awhile?

■■■■ **WE'VE MADE DO**, with the old post office as our library for 23 long years. The loss of parking spaces and reduced hours makes using the library difficult for many who rely on it. An addition to the current building would be an architect and builder's

nightmare. Owning the old house next door will do nothing but add to the financial burden. We need our city to commit to a new facility.

■■■■ **A TAX ABATEMENT** order to keep and gain new jobs in Fenton that won't affect schools or the city's general fund? Isn't that a no-brainer? Yes.

■■■■ **MR. SAULE**, I submit to you that the negative comments you heard and read regarding the proposed roundabouts were due not to 'misinformation' or unwillingness to accept change. Rather, the community was not convinced of the necessity or the priority of this work in view of other, more urgent, needs. This is especially true given the recent resurfacing and new curbs on Adelaide Street.

■■■■ **THE DICKENS FESTIVAL** last Saturday in Holly was amazing. Those attending were very energetic and upbeat. Next Saturday's races should be very interesting.

■■■■ **THANK YOU, REPORTER** Sharon Stone, for the positive, informative article about the U.S. Postal Service. I was a letter carrier for 37 years. Thanks again.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times



Get ready for Christmas

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, at the Tri-County Times' office. The tree is up and decorated, and plans are in the works for the annual Christmas luncheon and cookie exchange.

A Times' reader came into the office this week, with a creative gift-wrapping idea. Elizabeth Smith, of Linden, purchased several of the Times' Shop Local reusable shopping bags. She said she is going to use them as Christmas gift bags this year. Not only will she be going 'green' by not using wrapping paper or gift bags, she is giving the recipients of her gifts a bag that can be used all year round for his or her shopping needs. The reusable cloth bags, a brilliant dark blue in color, are a joint effort of the Times, the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Fenton and Linden downtown development authorities, to help promote downtown businesses and the 'Shop Local' campaign.

A puppy for Christmas

Speaking of Christmas gifts, check out this Sunday's edition of the Times if you are looking for a pet to give. Fenton Adopt-A-Pet will have a page featuring 20 cats and dogs that are just waiting to be adopted by a family to love them this holiday season.

In this edition, you will find an interesting feature, 'A puppy for Christmas,' written by Associate Editor Anna Tropens that provides some tips and what to consider, before making that decision to commit to taking care of a pet.

Crazy Christmas lights

You know what I'm talking about, the house that you drive by, that makes your eyes pop out — when you see the over-the-top, extravagant, enormous display of outdoor Christmas lighting and decorations. Staff Reporter Tim Jagielo is in search of the craziest Christmas outdoor light display in the tri-county area, for a story in this Sunday's edition. E-mail Tim at tjageilo@tctimes.com if you (or a neighbor) have a crazy light display and would like to be featured in this story.

With all of this hustle and bustle of the holiday, don't forget to take a few minutes to sit by the tree, sip a cup of tea or hot chocolate — and relax.

Enjoy your week.

Comments on this column can be made on-line at www.tctimes.com, or to cdennison@tctimes.com. Hot line comments can be made by calling (810) 629-9221.

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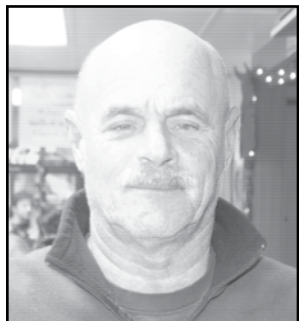
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Compiled by Marissa Parks, Intern

What are your thoughts about full-body scanners at airports?

streettalk



"I believe in it, anything to keep the air safer. You never know who's a terrorist."

— Pete VanDriessche, Linden



"I'm all for it, I think everyone should have to go through it."

— Elberta Parks
Fenton Township



"I think, as Americans, it's the price we have to pay for security."

— Patrick Cowger
Linden



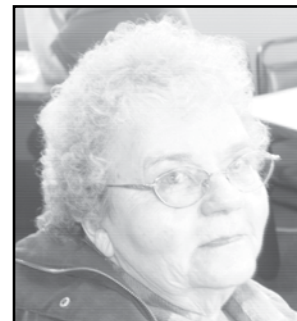
"If I am going to fly, I want to be safe."

— Dwight Haas
Argentine Township



"If they want to scan my body it's OK with me. It's for everyone's safety."

— Roger Terril, Fenton



"I don't have any problem with it."

— Margaret Terril
Linden

Linden schools consider switch to November elections

►Holding them with state and local elections would save money

By Anna Troppens

atroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Linden—Linden Community Schools officials are discussing the pros and cons of moving school elections to November of even-numbered years, instead of May. The deadline the board decides on, if it makes the change, would likely be Dec. 31, 2011, Superintendent Ed Koledo said.

Linden schools' elections would take place as part of a regularly scheduled local government or state election, reducing costs for the school district. "(The board) is definitely interested in looking at how much we can save," Koledo said.

The change also would result in

Summary

►The Linden Community Schools Board of Education is considering a change from May to November elections, in even-numbered years, which could save money for the school district.

person-hour savings for municipal staff holding elections on behalf of the school district, he said.

Discussion at the state level in the spring was to move school elections to November or August, of even-numbered years. Schools could also hold elections in November

of odd-numbered years, if at least one city in a district holds an election at that time, and it contained more than half of the school district's voters. It could save Michigan school districts \$7 million, officials said in March.

Elections Supervisor Doreen Fulcher, of Genesee County, said school elections for May 2010, in the county, cost \$134,667. In odd-numbered years, Mott Community College holds its elections in May, sharing half of the costs with area schools. For the last three years, elections have cost Linden Community Schools \$25,474.

At its Dec. 1 worksession, the board of education agreed to look into the issue. Terms for board members would have to be changed as well, Koledo said.

Clerk Marti Donnelly, of Linden, said there are five municipalities in Linden Community Schools, and two counties. Because the majority of the school district is in Genesee County, that is the county that oversees Linden school elections.

In Genesee County, Atherton and

HOW THE SCHOOL BOARD COULD CONSOLIDATE ELECTIONS

To change school board elections, a school board must conduct one public hearing and approve the change by a vote of the school board. The district must send a resolution to Genesee County by Dec. 31, to change school board elections for 2011, or by Dec. 31, 2011 to change elections for 2012. The Linden school board is considering the Dec. 31, 2011 deadline, Linden Superintendent Ed Koledo said.

Lakeville school districts have November elections. Linden and Swartz Creek
See ELECTIONS on 14

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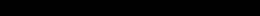
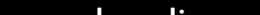
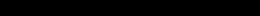
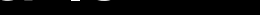
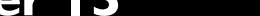
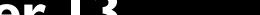
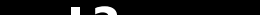
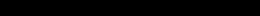
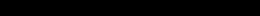
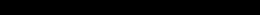
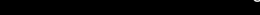
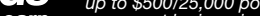
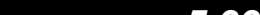
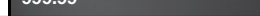
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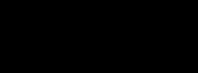
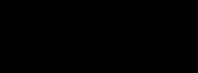
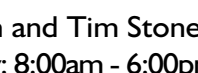
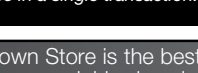
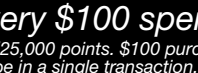
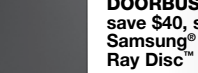
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Board postpones decision on new fire truck

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Fenton Twp. — The Fenton Township Board of Trustees is considering a request from the fire department to purchase a new tanker truck.

The truck under consideration is manufactured by Pierce. It could cost the township between \$548,000 and \$571,000, depending on which purchasing option the township chooses. If the township were to order it and pay upfront, it would cost the lower amount. If it ordered and paid on receipt, it would cost more. Financing is also an option, however, Thomas Broecker, operations manager/deputy clerk, said that was not a good option.

The fire fund has a fund balance of \$450,000 and another expected \$75,000

in winter taxes that could be used toward the cost. Broecker said this purchase falls under the purpose of the fire fund. The remainder could be covered by general fund dollars.

Summary

► The Fenton Township Board of Trustees is considering the purchase of a new tanker truck for its fire department. If approved, the new truck, costing approximately \$550,000, would replace a 21-year-old out tanker truck.

Trustee Tony Brown, who serves on the fire committee, said for the most part, the committee was in favor of the purchase.

Trustee Mark Goupil, who also serves on the fire committee, asked if the board wanted

to pursue this proposal. He said the new truck would replace a 21-year-old truck, which they believe has exceeded its life expectancy. "I'd hate to have defective equipment," Goupil said. Annual maintenance cost on the existing truck runs from \$12,000 to \$30,000, said Goupil.

Treasurer John Tucker said if Fire Chief John Moulton says the department needs a new truck, he defers to the chief's opinion.

Due to the cost, however, board members felt they needed more time to research this purchase. The topic will be discussed again at the Dec. 20 board meeting.

Holiday safety tips from Holly police

Holly — During the holidays, the potential for thefts increases. More people are out and about and carrying more gifts and money than during other times of the year. People should keep in mind the following holiday safety reminders:

- **Carry your valuables wisely.** Do not keep cash in your wallet. Instead, keep it in an inside pocket and only carry the credit cards you'll need.
- **Do not leave valuables in your vehicle.** If you must leave packages in your car, put them in the trunk. Keep receipts with you.
- **Carry a cell phone with you.** If someone makes you suspicious or uncomfortable, notify security or call the police.
- **Whenever possible, park and walk in well-lit areas.** Be aware of your surroundings, especially the people around you.
- **Carry your purse close to you,** with the opening or flap toward your body. Never leave a purse unattended in a shopping cart.
- **Do not keep a wallet, credit cards or cash in a backpack.** If you are in a crowd, consider carrying the backpack in front of you. Pickpockets can quickly and easily remove items from a backpack without being noticed by the owner.
- **Protect your credit card numbers and other personal information.** Carefully dispose of receipts that have a credit card number on them. Never provide credit card information in response to unsolicited telephone calls or e-mails.
- **Don't announce your new high-dollar purchases after the holidays.** Break down the boxes of TVs, stereos, computers, etc. and turn them inside out before putting them in the trash.
- **If you are traveling for the holidays, make your home look "lived in."** Have a friend or neighbor collect your mail and newspapers or have your service suspended while you are away. Use timers to turn lights off and on.
- **Call the Holly Police Department and get on the Vacation House Check list.** To report suspicious activity, please call (248) 634-8221. For emergencies, call 911.



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the

judge

The law on benefiting from one's own misdeeds

Years ago, when I was in law school, we were given an example of a very bad argument that was made before a judge who was about to sentence a defendant. The story concerned a man who had killed his parents, and before the judge sentenced him, he asked the defendant why he shouldn't be sent to the gallows. The defendant replied, 'Your Honor, please have mercy on me, I'm an orphan.' Of course, this argument did not succeed.

However, what it does show is that for literally hundreds of years, the law has not allowed a person to benefit from his or her own wrongs. In the law, there are what are referred to as equitable maxims, and one of them is, 'nullus commodum capere potest ex sua injuria propria,' which translated from Latin means, 'no one can take an advantage from his own wrong.'

An example of this common law concept being statutorily enacted is the group of so-called Son of Sam Laws (both on the federal and state levels) that prohibit a convicted defendant from profiting from the sale of his or her story, or in other ways regarding the crime. These laws are named after the convicted New York serial killer David Berkowitz, who called himself the 'Son of Sam.' After his convictions, in order to prevent his profiting from selling his story to the press, the New York legislature enacted a law preventing this possibility.

These laws are to be carefully drafted to avoid first amendment issues. Michigan has its own version of a Son of Sam Law.

Another example of the equitable maxim being codified into law is what is known as 'slayer statutes.' These laws prevent a person who has killed another from sharing in the decedent's estate.

Most states, including Michigan, have variations of the slayer statutes. Michigan's specifically prohibits an individual who feloniously and intentionally kills the decedent from sharing any benefits from the estate.

Recently, a panel of the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled that under the statute a person who is convicted of voluntary manslaughter (a lesser form of homicide) couldn't share in an estate.

There are numerous other examples of the equitable maxim found in the law. Suffice it to say, that the law has long prohibited one's bad behavior from being advantageous or profitable.

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Please RSVP to PO Box 214, Holly MI. 48442 by December 10th
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Police&Fire report

NO OVERNIGHT PARKING IN HOLLY

The village of Holly has enacted a parking ordinance. The purpose of the ordinance is to help with the timely and efficient removal of snow from village streets. The ordinance makes parking on the street unlawful between 3 and 7 a.m., from Nov. 15 through April 15 of each year. Vehicles may be parked in the area between the sidewalk and the street, but such parking is prohibited at all other times. In addition, the municipal parking lots in downtown Holly are posted "no parking" during these hours, and overnight parking in these lots is only permitted in the parking spaces marked for overnight parking. Chief Rollie Gackstetter said, "Abiding by the parking rules during the winter, makes snow removal much easier, and clearing the roads faster is a benefit to everyone." Police will issue warning tickets until after the first snowfall. Any parking ticket issued for Snow Violations is submitted to the Oakland County's 52-2 District Court, like all other traffic violations.

DRIVER OF CRASHED PICKUP SOUGHT

The Argentine Township Police Department is investigating an automobile crash involving a white 1997 Ford pickup truck. Police Chief Dan Allen said at 12:30 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 6, an officer on patrol in the area of McCaslin Lake Road and Ripple Drive saw the truck in the ditch. The truck had struck a phone box and a tree. Upon checking the vehicle, it was found to be unoccupied. There was damage to the passenger side door and quarter panel. Preliminary investigation reveals that the truck had been traveling southbound on McCaslin at a high rate of speed when the driver apparently lost control near Ripple Drive. Using vehicle registration information, the officer attempted to make contact with the truck owner at their residence, however, there was no answer at the door. The truck was impounded.

GARAGE BROKEN INTO

Argentine Township police are investigating a breaking and entering complaint. Police Chief Dan Allen said that at 3:52 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 2, an officer was dispatched to a home in the 12000 block of Hoisington to investigate the complaint. The homeowner said that sometime between 3 a.m. and 3:53 p.m., unknown suspects, pried open the side door of the garage to gain entry. The homeowner could not tell if anything was missing at that time, but would inventory his garage. The case remains open pending further investigation.

VEHICLE STRUCK BY TIRE

At 6:37 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5, an Argentine Township police officer responded to a home in the 16000 block of Hilltop Drive to investigate a malicious destruction of property complaint. Police Chief Dan Allen said a female complainant reported that at approximately 6 p.m. she was traveling eastbound on Lobdell Road, near Glen Hatt Drive. As she was driving, a tire rolled out into the road, coming from the side of the road. The tire struck and damaged the bumper on her vehicle. It appeared that someone rolled the tire into the road, intentionally, striking the woman's car. Officers found a small spare tire in the ditch near where the incident occurred, however, no suspects were located. The case is open pending further investigation.

WEAVING MOTORIST ARRESTED

At 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5, a Fenton police officer was dispatched to the area of Main and Eddy Lake roads for a possible intoxicated motorist driving a green Chevy Trailblazer. The officer spotted the vehicle and observed it crossing over the centerline. The officer noticed fresh damage to the side and front end. A traffic stop was initiated and the officer spoke with the driver, a 39-year-old Fenton woman. She had slurred speech and had difficulty with her balance. A preliminary breath test revealed a .000 percent blood alcohol content. The officer learned she had three bottles of prescription painkillers, belonging to three different individuals, in her purse. She admitted to taking Vicodin,

Fire destroys barn at Spicer's Orchard

The small petting zoo at Spicer's Orchard on Clyde Road is temporarily shut down, due to a fire Friday night. The blaze was reported at about 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, and the Hartland Area Fire Department was on scene in less than seven minutes. The majority of the animals housed in the 20- by 40-foot barn escaped, however, a couple of chickens and a rabbit died in the fire. In addition to serving as the home for farm animals, including goats, chickens and rabbits, the barn, which was more than 20 years old, also served as storage space for an old tractor, hay and straw. Matt Spicer, co-owner and outdoor manager of the orchard, said he expects to have the barn rebuilt by next spring so that they can reopen the petting zoo. He's already begun the task of cleaning up the area. The fire marshal has inspected the destroyed structure. However, Spicer has not heard yet of what the cause could have been. "It could be anything, wet hay," he said. "It's hard to tell." The fire department is attempting to determine how the fire began.

—Sharon Stone

about one hour prior to driving. She was placed under arrest for OWI for drugs. The woman was transported to the hospital for a blood draw and police are awaiting the results of the test in order to present their case to the prosecutor. According to the registered owner, there was no damage to the vehicle prior to the woman driving it. The investigation also revealed that the Blazer was seen striking a gas pump at a gas station on Grange Hall Road.

VODKA STOLEN

Shortly after 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 6, a Fenton police officer was sent to a business in the 500 block of Silver Lake Road to investigate a retail fraud complaint. The clerk said a 29-year-old Fenton resident who regularly shops at the store entered and asked for a bottle of Mohawk vodka. The clerk placed the bottle on the counter. The customer asked for another bottle and as the clerk turned to reach the other bottle, the customer grabbed the first bottle and exited the store without paying. The clerk provided the license plate number of the customer's van and police later made contact with the customer at his home. The man was highly intoxicated. As a precaution, the man was transported to the hospital for medical treatment. The case remains under investigation.

DEBIT CARD FRAUD

On Monday, Dec. 6, a Fenton police officer spoke with a 78-year-old Fenton resident who reported that someone used her debit card without her authorization. Lt. Jason Slater said, between Nov. 12 and 29, several transactions occurred on her card, totaling \$533. After talking with her bank, she learned all transactions took place online. The woman was reimbursed for her loss and the case remains under investigation. Slater said the detective investigating the case hopes to identify the suspect based on services received through the woman's debit card.

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News briefs

Senior Safety Program ends, for now

The Senior Safety Program launched by Fenton Township last month has ended. During a two-week period, 516 smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers, (172 of each) were distributed to Fenton Township seniors. Fenton Township officials are pleased with the response to this program, however, funding was very limited and the supplies have been exhausted. The township hopes to implement a similar program when additional funds become available in 2012. This program was financed through a federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) awarded to Genesee County and the Charter Township of Fenton under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

Gift cards sought for families in need

Fenton Township Supervisor Bonnie Mathis is reaching out to local businesses and community members to help a few families facing hardships. There are some families in the township who need help, especially during this time of year. She's hoping to gather gift cards from local merchants to give to these families. If anyone can help, they are to contact the township office at (810) 629-1537.

R.S.V.P.

Continued from Page 3

According to etiquette experts at the Emily Post Institute, people who receive an invitation for a party or special event should reply in the manner indicated on the invitation.

RSVP and no response card

Write a handwritten response to the host at the return address on the envelope.

Response card

Fill in and reply by the date indicated and return in the enclosed envelope.

RSVP with phone number

Telephone and make sure to speak in person — answering machines can be unreliable.

RSVP with e-mail

You may accept or decline electronically.

Regrets only

Reply only if you cannot attend. If your host doesn't hear from you, he is expecting you!

No reply requested? Unusual, but it is always polite to let someone know your intentions. A phone call would be sufficient.

RSVP stands for the French phrase "Répondez, s'il vous plaît," or, "Please reply." It's on an invitation for a reason and should be responded to promptly because your hosts are telling you that they want and need to know if you will be attending. The most polite thing to do is to reply promptly, within a day or two

of receiving an invitation or certainly in advance of the RSVP date listed.

The lack of etiquette many people show in not telling the host their plans to attend or not to attend make hosting a party a challenge — when it needn't be that difficult.

Why do some people not respond? Some people are unsure of their plans for that date, and then forget to respond altogether. Days and weeks go by and the event is "out of sight, out of mind." Some people may think that their attendance at a party will not be noticed one way or the other, when in fact, it can be very expensive to have paid a caterer for a certain number of guests and then have them be a "no show." It can also be awkward for unexpected guests to arrive, and not have enough food or drink on hand.

Even if the event is a Holiday Open House, a quick call to the host to let them know that you are pleased to have received the invitation and are planning to stop in during the open house hours will always be appreciated.

Once you have responded, can you change your mind or make a change in plans?

According to etiquette expert Emily Post, changing a "yes" to a "no" is only acceptable in the event of an illness or injury, a death in the family or an unavoidable professional or business conflict. Call your hosts immediately, she advises.

Canceling your plans to attend because you receive a "better" offer is never acceptable, nor is being a "no show."

If your plans do honestly change and you're able to say "yes" to an invitation to which you previously declined, you can make the change with a phone call, if it will not upset the hosts' arrangements.

Also, a person receiving an invitation should never ask to bring an uninvited guest with them. If a guest or date is invited (including children), that information will be extended on the invitation.

Once at the party, make sure to thank the hosts before you leave, and then again by phone or note the next day, according to Emily Post.

Calendar of events

Wednesday, Dec. 8

The **Fenton Film Series** will show the movie "The World's Fastest Indian" starring Anthony Hopkins this evening at the **Fenton Community & Cultural Center**, 125 S. LeRoy St., Fenton. The film is free of charge and starts at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Live music will be provided by the jazz duo "Touch." Free food and drinks will be provided by some of the sponsors, including subs from Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches, homemade root beer by The Fenton Winery & Brewery, and pastries and coffee from The French Laundry.

Saturday, Dec. 11

Come to the **Cookie Walk** on Saturday Dec. 11, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at **Transfiguration Lutheran Church** (TLC), 14176 Fenton Rd., Fenton and select from 40 varieties of cookies. Bring the name of a person in the military along with the address and free cookies will be sent, compliments of the church. TLC will send a free dozen cookies to a person serving in the military overseas for every dozen purchased. Buy three dozen and three dozen will be sent.

Sunday, Dec. 12

Adopt-A-Pet is offering pictures with Santa from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at 13575 Fenton Rd., Fenton. Pictures are for a donation.

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*Look for Jesus Walk Sign
and Parking Attendants*

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I KNOW WHAT our nation should do to prevent the leaking of government secrets by rogue websites like WikiLeaks, store them where President Obama keeps his college transcripts and birth certificate. No one is allowed to look there and the media will help protect the president's secrets. Problem solved.

■■■■
TO THE PERSON seeing the TEA Party as 'clueless,' even partial objectivity would 'clue' you in on the fact for decades and decades members of both parties in Washington have screwed over the public [those who pay their humongous salaries and benefits] while building out-of-sight wealth for themselves and filthy rich individuals and corporations who are constantly buying their votes. The galactic mess in Washington could not have developed in two years as you indicate!

■■■■
TO THE PERSON who 'has had it' with the anti-bullying movement, you have no living clue what it's like to be tormented by all your peers on a daily basis. Have you ever been driven to the point of suicide by those merciless people? Didn't think so. Maybe you should try looking at the victim's perspective.

■■■■
I DO BELIEVE that it's a joke that Obama has frozen federal pay raises. It doesn't mean anything, folks. They still get their step pay raises, etc. How about freezing them for the next five years.

■■■■
IT WOULD MAKE more sense that Democrats be more worried that Obama will be thrown out of office for incompetence than that Sarah Palin will leave an office she doesn't have.

■■■■
YES, THE DEMOCRATS have done great things the past four years they have had control of the spending in our country. They have increased deficit spending 400 percent, put our country on the brink of bankruptcy and gone wild on new entitlement giveaways. Obama has had a hand in all of this as a senator and president. We have the Democrats to blame for our current mess.

■■■■

LIQUOR

Continued from Front Page

Linden officials received word Friday from the Michigan Municipal League (MML) on the matter. City Manager Christopher Wren said council members will hold a discussion on Monday, Dec. 13. The city council will then decide if it will hold a public hearing in January on this issue.

In the letter from the MML, Linden City learned that the LCC has issued notice to communities about the morning liquor sales, recently passed by legislators. The amended law allows sales of alcohol (on-premise and off-premise) between the hours of 7 a.m. and 12 p.m. (noon) on Sundays.

Any licensee that would like to sell on Sunday morning needs a Sunday Morning Sales permit.

The intent of the law was to allow LCC to issue Sunday morning permits for businesses that have licenses, unless the local unit prohibits issuance of these new permits (local control).

According to Andy Schor, assistant director, State Affairs, Michigan Municipal League, the language in the final act was in error, though, because it inadvertently requires communities to prohibit all Sunday sales instead of just Sunday morning.

LCC, however, is going to allow locals to prohibit Sunday morning sales, according to Schor. He added that they have the ability to do this because of legal precedent dealing with constitutional powers granted to them.

"We also expect the legislature to pass a technical fix to this law in January," said Schor.

LCC sent a letter to all cities, villages, townships and counties telling them that Sunday morning liquor permits will start to be issued on Dec. 16. Any community that wishes to prohibit these permits from being issued should contact LCC before Dec. 16.

Communities that contact LCC before

FENTON CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULED TO ACT MONDAY

The Michigan Liquor Control Commission (LCC) sent the city of Fenton a letter saying the city must notify the LCC by Wednesday, Dec. 15 if it wants to prohibit Sunday morning alcohol sales, said City Manager Lynn Markland. The state would get more permit fees by allowing these sales, he said, in response to a question from Councilwoman Cheryl King.

"I am totally against it," King said. "I don't believe it is necessary after all these years."

Fenton received the LCC's notification on Dec. 2 or 3, Markland said. He hasn't had time to ask business owners what they think of the issue.

Councilman Bradley Jacob mentioned how the Michigan Brewing Company is planning a new restaurant in the old fire hall off South LeRoy Street, near the Fenton United Methodist Church. He doesn't believe the city needs to "rock the boat," and officials need to be respectful of the church across the road from the restaurant site.

Mayor Sue Osborn said city council would consider the issue during Monday's meeting, at 7:30 p.m. at Fenton City Hall. Fenton can then mail its decision to the LCC by overnight, certified mail. Osborn wants a receipt that the LCC received it, she said.

—Anna Troppens

Letter to Linden City from LCC Licensing Division

"If your governmental unit or county chooses to prohibit the sale of spirits, mixed spirit drink and/or beer and wine between the hours of 7 a.m. and 2 a.m. on Monday, please submit your resolution or ordinance prohibiting such sales to this office by 5 p.m. on Dec. 15.

"If we do not receive a response from you by this deadline, we will assume that you currently have no resolution or ordinance that would prohibit the sale of alcoholic liquor between the hours of 7 a.m. on Sunday and 2 a.m. on Monday.

"You do retain the right in the future to prohibit Sunday Sales.

"Unless we hear from you concerning this matter, it is our intent to begin issuing the early morning Sunday Sales Permits to our licensee's on Dec. 16 in those governmental units that currently authorize Sunday Sales."

Dec. 16 can tell LCC that they are going to prohibit these permits, or can ask LCC for more time to make the decision. Communities can still prohibit issuance of these new permits after Dec. 16 under the law, but it is unclear what will happen to the permits for the businesses that already have them, according to Schor.

Wren said City Council will have to take action on Dec. 13 to let the LCC know the city is reviewing the sales.

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PUPPY

Continued from Page 3

Todd Braun, an Adopt-A-Pet board member and volunteer, agrees. "As long as both parents are on board and they know," he said. Mom and dad end up doing a lot of the day-to-day work of caring for the puppy, and, eventually, the adult dog.

He and his wife, Maggie Braun, surprised their daughter Briana with a Cairn terrier for Christmas, when she was a small child. "We kept it hidden, and we brought it out on Christmas Day," Todd said. "She really liked it. At that point, she was familiar with dogs. She was ready."

"Keep in mind. It was 'our' dog. We knew who was going to actually be doing the work."

Snickers enjoyed playing with Briana and younger sister, Kaila. "They had a ball, and the puppy had a ball playing with the little baby," Braun said.

Having a puppy is a commitment — Snickers was part of the Braun family for 14 years.

Veterinary care is a consideration when bringing home a new puppy. Spaying or neutering the puppy, when it is old enough, helps prevent roaming, unwanted litters, males marking territory and fighting and some health problems.

Adopt-A-Pet generally has a \$200 fee for puppies, which includes spaying or neutering, micro chipping, worm and flea treatments, and the first set of vaccinations, depending on age. Puppies usually need three sets of vaccinations. "It is a financial commitment," Braun said.

"It's a major commitment. They do become part of the family."

Todd Braun
Adopt-A-Pet
board member

The puppy will need food, dishes for its food and water, toys and a crate or separate area for it to have time by itself. The crate or area should not be used as punishment, he said.

For those who want to adopt a puppy from a shelter, adoptapetfenton.com or petfinder.com are places to look. Shelters sometimes have purebred puppies available, but most are mixed-breed. Watching four German shepherd/Labrador retriever mixes, he said, "You're going to get the best of both worlds."

Mixed-breed dogs can have better temperaments and less health problems, although it can be difficult to predict exactly what a puppy will look like when it's grown. If someone knows what the puppy's parents look like, this is easier, Braun said.

It's important not to overfeed a puppy or give it 'people food,' he said, since this could make it very sick. And, puppies need puppy, not adult food, until they're 10 to 11 months old.

Another tip is keeping Christmas decorations — tinsel, for example — and holiday plants like poinsettias and amaryllis out of the puppy's reach. Boxes of chocolate, and chewing gum with xylitol, can be deadly to a curious pup.

Training the new family member is important. Local pet stores or private trainers offer classes, and a shelter or veterinarian can help a new puppy owner find one. Braun personally recommends using a dog trainer, because it's much easier on the owner and results in a lot gentler dog, he said. Or, puppy owners can find "how-to" resources online or at their local library.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE PERSON who thinks a split Congress is bad, ever heard of checks and balances in government/civics class? Both the Democrats and the Republicans got us in this mess. Too much control is worse than balance of power. We now have (for now) a \$2-3 trillion dollar entitlement program to fund (Obamacare), all rammed down our throats by the Democrats' closed-door sessions, etc. Yeah, the Democrats know best.

ACCORDING TO COMMUNIST Party USA News, Peoples World, the TEA Party is a bunch of leaderless, angry people who are out to dismantle the government. Well, if the Communist Party is against them, then I'm all for them.

I WOULD LIKE to see the library somewhere in the downtown Fenton area, along the riverfront, a building at the old Topps location, with some nice outdoor seating included. Many enjoy a walk to the library. I would donate \$100 if something like this were done. Anyone else?

'TIS THE SEASON of goodwill. My thanks and appreciation goes to the Good Samaritan, unknown to me, who paid for my breakfast at Bob Evans on Friday, Dec. 3. It pays to look old and alone while eating a bowl of gruel. I'll pay it forward, too. From the 'Oatmeal Guy.'

IT'S ABOUT TIME that a new bridge was put on Lovejoy Road.

UNEMPLOYMENT HAS BEEN more than 9 percent for 18 straight months, the longest in U.S. history. And, Obama has been in office for more than that. This is your administration, your Congress, your budget, and your stimulus bill. Stop blaming others and the previous administration. These stats are all yours.

IT'S HARD TO believe columnists Cheryl Dennison and The King work together, let alone live on the same planet together.

IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME. Do you remember those blue, round tins with Danish butter cookies they used to sell in the stores? Well watch out, most of them are made in China, now. Danish butter cookies made in China. Turn it over and look before you buy it.

I'M WONDERING IF someone would be considerate enough to let Argentine police know that the light on their blazer is not working. You could get a ticket for that. I just hope he's not drinking when they pull him over.

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BUDGET**Continued from Front Page**

the general fund revenue, based on decreased property values. For 2009, the tax levy generated \$559,654. This amount dropped to \$550,000 in 2010 and Broecker projects that figure to drop to \$490,000 in 2011.

Broecker said the township expects to see a \$20,000 drop in tax collections, based on property tax administration fees.

While there were other minor decreases in revenue for the general fund, the township expects a \$23,000 increase from state sales tax. In 2009, the township received \$795,166. In 2010, that figure was \$830,000 and Broecker projects that

figure to be \$853,000 in 2011.

Total revenue, including an operating millage of .7122 mills and various miscellaneous revenues for the general fund is projected to be nearly \$2.2 million in 2011. Expenses are projected to be approximately \$2.2 million.

The township expects to spend approximately \$13,500 less in 2011 for elections. Broecker said there were four elections in 2010, costing the township \$18,200. In 2011, there is just one election, which will cost \$4,700, a reduction of \$13,500.

The 2011 Solid Waste Management

Fund is projected to generate \$685,000 in revenue, while expenses are projected to be \$687,500.

The Mosquito Control Fund is projected to generate \$153,500 in revenue, while expenditures are projected to be \$168,900.

The Fire Fund is projected to generate \$662,500 in revenue for 2011. Expenditures are projected to be \$1,086,600, since the township is considering the purchase of a new \$550,000 fire truck for the fire department. The township board will be discussing the proposal for a new truck at its meeting on Dec. 20.

"It took everyone's effort to do that."

John Tucker
Treasurer

Estimated Sewer Fund revenues for 2011 are \$6,098,500. Estimated expenditures, excluding capital improvements are \$4,352,500. This amount includes \$3,164,000 for county services/debt, \$1,092,000 for sewer operations and \$96,500 for insurance.

State revenue sharing could increase, said Broecker, based on figures from the census. He said the township's population in 2000 was approximately 12,968 and projections for 2010 are as high as 14,500. He said the township would receive word on this number by the end of the year.

Treasurer John Tucker said it was a minor miracle to have a balanced budget. "It took everyone's effort to do that."

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911

Continued from Front Page

To reduce the \$300,000 proposal to \$180,000, cuts would include furniture made especially for the new equipment, at \$30,538, Aro said. In addition, another cut could be \$8,000, for grounding the radio tower attached to the police department building. Lastly, video surveillance equipment, at \$70,300, could be removed from the proposal.

This would leave \$180,000 for the city to fund. The city's radio equipment is very old and needs replacing, and, according to a federal mandate, people must be able to text, e-mail and send photos to the 911 system. He also said the staff must be able to locate cell phones in the city. New equipment has to be up to these federal standards.

Because of budget problems, Fenton police and fire know it isn't good timing, but they need some direction on how city officials will proceed, Aro said.

The police department has been reducing its costs and came in under budget last year, he said. "We saved more than \$180,000 from our budget last year, \$181,000."

City Manager Lynn Markland said Fenton stands to lose \$300,000-\$400,000 in property taxes next year. The city has at least seven less employees than it did 2½ years ago.

There are ways Fenton might get grant money, Fire Chief Robert Cairnduff said. But, organizations won't issue grants to the city if its 911 dispatch won't be in business in a year or two.

In addition, discussion took place on possibly obtaining some funding from local big box retail stores, which benefit from shoplifters being placed in the city's lock-up overnight.

Osborn said Fenton needs to find costs of police staffing if the city doesn't have dispatchers handling their current tasks. In addition, it needs to find out what fire department costs would be.

COMMENTS

Continued from Front Page

STORY: CONGRESS FAILS TO EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

"I was laid off on Jan. 19, after 30 years of employment. I am now attending college to earn a degree, which will hopefully make me a more valuable employee. However, I have been collecting unemployment in order to pay rent, make car payment, and meet basic needs for my family. If unemployment is not extended, I am not certain what we will do. Possibly, we will be evicted and need to go to a homeless shelter. What upset me are the people that collect unemployment, yet do nothing to better his or her situation."

— Sandy

"They have enough money to give away to foreign countries. Where does that come from? We need to help our own here in the United States and stop trying to finance the corrupt world."

— Steve B.

"No way should they be extended again. I have been one of the unemployed, and there's lots of jobs out there. Most lazy people don't like the pay, so they stay on the free handouts from Washington. BS is what it is."

— Jama

Police and fire chiefs discuss 911 issues

Eliminating 911 dispatchers would create problems for maintaining the city's lock-up cells, which dispatchers monitor, and keeping the police department open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Police Chief Rick Aro said.

If the city stops having its own dispatch center, it would switch to Genesee Central Dispatch and become one of 22 other agencies using the system, said Fire Chief Robert Cairnduff. Each month, Genesee Central receives around 258,000 911 calls, or 710 calls per day, and 29 calls per hour. If the city of Flint goes back to Genesee Central Dispatch, the number of calls would double.

Genesee Central Dispatch does not honor contracts for emergency medical services (EMS) providers, and sends whom-ever it believes is appropriate.

In addition, control of Fenton's storm warning sirens would go to the county,

Cairnduff said. When there is a warning in any part of the county, Fenton's sirens would go off. In 2007, when a tornado hit the city, city personnel monitored Livingston County where the storm came from, and activated Fenton's sirens ahead of Genesee County. Cairnduff said he believes this saved lives.

And, the entire Fenton Fire Department would be sent out on all calls, or none, if the city switches to Genesee Central. Currently, the department tailors its responses, the fire chief said. Officers go out to check on some incidents before sending out the department. Fenton's dispatchers are familiar with the city and if something is probably not an emergency, he said. This includes if a cable wire is down instead of a power line, and burning complaints.

This saves the city on fire department costs.

What council members said

"If there is any way we can figure out how to keep (dispatch) open, we should. We are far enough away from Flint and Genesee Dispatch, we are our own keepers out here. And I think it is the way it should be kept."

— Councilman Benjamin Smith

"It's nice to have it, but if you can't afford it, you can't afford it. Dispatch has done a fine job. Our police department has done a fine job. The bottom line has come down to money."

— Councilwoman Cheryl King

"Without it, I'm not sure we could function the way we do today."

— Councilman John Rauch



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SAMARITAN

Continued from Front Page

sleeping granddaughter's blanket and calling 911.

According to Sgt. Mark Thompson, of the Michigan State Police Brighton Post, Trooper Jennifer Hodgson was dispatched to search for an automobile crash after receiving a call from Robert McFadden's wife, Delores.

Delores McFadden called 911 and told Livingston County Central Dispatch that her husband had just called her saying he had been in a crash and was injured. The call ended without him telling her of his location or the extent of his injuries.

Trooper Hodgson went out in search of the crash site, as Dickinson was giving aid to McFadden. Dickinson said she and her granddaughter had just done some Christmas shopping and were heading home. Traffic was steady in the area when she spotted McFadden, who was wearing a bright red coat. "I was surprised, no one was stopping," said Dickinson.

Dickinson's son, who happened to be driving by, spotted his mother's car with the hazard lights on and stopped to see what was happening. It had just begun snowing. Dickinson's son found McFadden's cell phone and used it to call McFadden's wife. He explained to her where they were located.

State police connected the information provided by Dickinson and Delores McFadden. McFadden had walked approximately 100 yards from the site of the crash, before collapsing along the shoulder.

Dickinson and her son stayed with McFadden until his wife arrived. "His wife gave us all hugs and said she'd pay it forward," said Dickinson.

"We just did what we hope anyone would do."

Assisting at the scene was the Fenton Township Fire Department and Livingston County EMS. McFadden was transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township for treatment of internal injuries.

ELECTIONS

Continued from Page 5

school districts both contain parts of Mundy Township, Koledo said. If Linden had a school board election in November, Swartz Creek might still have one in May. Thus, Mundy Township would still have an election in May. So, in terms of saving labor on elections, it might be better to move to November elections as a county, instead of as individual school districts, he said.

Some Linden school board members were worried about the number of seats on the board that would be up for election

Election costs for Linden schools

- **2010**, \$10,849 district cost; \$10,849 total cost
- **2009**, \$5,218 district cost; \$10,437 total cost
- **2008**, \$9,407 district cost; \$9,407 total cost

Mott Community College, which also held an election, pays half in odd-numbered years.

Source: Genesee County

at one time, he said. Three board members would be up for election and possibly switched out, then four of them.

Linden has a school board election coming up in May 2011. Trustee Rick Kursik is up for election, and that is the only item for voters to decide.

With a November election, voter turnout would be better, but Linden schools' ballot questions could appear on the backside of the ballot, Koledo said. Thus, voters might miss Linden school ballot questions.

With a November election, people might not know about the school candidates or issues on the ballot, he said. Many people vote based upon whether they recognize someone's name. When voters turn out for a May school board election, they know the issues and candidates, Koledo said.



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HOUSING

Continued from Front Page

thrived in a main living space of about 1,000 square feet — giving credence to the adage that “bigger is not always better.” A loft created in the attic area upstairs in this 1½-story ‘30s house adds about 200 square feet of sleeping space, including the master bedroom.

“I’ve loved living in our small house, it has kept us all close,” said Brooks, who has painstakingly decorated each nook and cranny so that the entire house enjoys a shabby chic/cottage feel. “I clean a lot of houses of all different sizes, and I’m always happy to come back to my own little house. I thank God for it every day, especially its warmth and protection.”

The Brooks family got into the small housing market before it became “trendy.” Marrying young and raising three children meant an expensive mortgage just wasn’t an option. “We have really appreciated our home’s affordability over the years,” said Brooks. “We knew we wanted to raise our kids in town, and we really like the size of our large backyard.” When son Aaron moved out, the Brooks transformed his small room into a sun-room, extending the life of their home with a patio wall and a two-tiered deck that overlooks the backyard and garden.

When Caleb and Jessica Miles moved from their 850-square-foot apartment into their own 1,050-square-foot home in Fenton five weeks ago, they may have had

more space than they did before — but they had also collected a lot more “stuff” after five years of marriage.

Their biggest challenge has been to maximize every single bit of space, using as much shelving as possible for storage. “Our pantry has shelves that go all the way up to the ceiling,” said Jessica, 26. “I utilize just about every square inch of closet space, using a step stool to reach the top, where I store things I don’t use very often. We also use little stand-up shelves for our kitchen cupboards, plus small organizers and hooks that allow us to utilize space that is normally unused.”

Brooks agrees that keeping clutter out of her own little house is one of the biggest challenges of “living small.” “There’s no place to hide all of your ‘stuff,’” said Brooks. For her, entertaining guests is one of the more difficult aspects of small-home living. “We’ll be entertaining between 20 and 25 guests here on Christmas Eve,” said Brooks. “It’s really fun, but everyone’s just ‘all over the place.’”

Seeking a simplified life without all the expense of traditional home ownership is what prompted Californian Jay Shafer to build his own extreme tiny house, starting the small-house movement a decade ago. Measuring only 89 square feet — and no, that’s not a typo — his own “tiny home” prompted Shafer to co-found the Small Houses Society and the Tumbleweed Tiny House Company, selling blueprints for tiny houses up to 500 square feet — primarily used for

DID YOU KNOW?

“The more square feet in your building plans, the more it costs to build, to maintain and to heat and cool.”

Source: www.builditsmartvc.org



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Larger homes are the trend near Silver Lake in Fenton Township.

extra office space, studio space, a guest house, mobile vacation home, etc.

While this example of “living small” is rather extreme, the rest of the United States is finally catching on to this trend toward downsizing. With the average U.S. home measuring approximately 2,422 square feet, this average has lost about 50 square feet between the years of 2008 and 2009, from its height in 2004.

In the tri-county area where few, if any, new builds are taking place, the trend toward buying smaller homes seems to be a function of cost, more than size. “People are still looking for a three bedroom, two-bath house,” said Brian Will, Realtor with RE/MAX Platinum in Fenton. “It’s not so much the size, as the dollars, especially for first-time home buyers. Typically, it’s a downsized house of about 1,500 to 1,600 square feet.”

The “hot spot” in the Fenton area for new builds right now appears to be in Elder Oaks Subdivision in Fenton Township, where Jim Ridenour Builders has sold and completed six homes this year — all sized between 1,200 and 1,600 square feet and

priced between \$145,000 and \$165,000.

“There is definitely more interest today in smaller homes,” said Ridenour. “People are getting ‘back to basics’ when it comes to home construction. They still want ‘extras’ like a fireplace, wooden floors and ceramic tile, but they’re not looking for extravagance.”

Competing with foreclosures and short sales has stalled the new build market in the tri-county area. Just five years ago, Fenton Township had 129 new builds on the books, dwindling down to 13 today, including the six at Elder Oaks. “We do have two really large new construction projects right now,” said Julie Lewis, building department coordinator for Fenton Township. “One is 5,600 square feet, and the other is 4,600 square feet. These are definitely the exception, not the rule.”

While there are maximum houses sizes that can be built on residential lots, there are also minimum sizes that may affect a builder’s plans to downsize. The city of Fenton allows a 950-square-foot house, which doesn’t count bathrooms, closets, hallways, etc.,” explains Brad Hisson, building and zoning administrator for the city of Fenton. “It actually turns out to be about 1,200 square feet with all of that other space added on.”

Other municipalities have similar restrictions. The minimum residential square footage allowed in Fenton Township is 1,100 square feet, according to Lewis. The city of Linden enforces a minimum of 960 square feet for a residential build, said Jason Payne, building inspector.

Whether you’re building a 5,600 square foot “McMansion” or a 1,000 square foot small home, it pays to check with your local municipality for zoning guidelines and restrictions.



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Asthma usually controllable

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I am a 50-year-old female, and I have asthma that seems to be getting worse. In October, I got the H1N1 flu and had to go to the hospital twice because of breathing problems. I get scared every time I have a simple cold. I was told that my asthma is allergy-induced, and I have been on a daily inhaler ever since. I saw an allergist, who tested me and wanted to put me on allergy shots. He said they may or may not work, but they don't cure asthma. Then what's the point? Does oxygen help? Are there natural ways to prevent asthma? – M.M.

ANSWER: Asthma is a chronic condition. Looking for a cure is not realistic in many cases. Looking for control is

realistic. It's an inflammation of the airways – the bronchi, the tubes that bring fresh air into the lungs and remove carbon dioxide from the lungs. The inflammation makes the airways very sensitive. They constrict on slight provocation and obstruct the flow of air. Furthermore, they pour out thick mucus, which adds to airflow obstruction.

Respiratory viruses do trigger attacks, and that's why the flu virus was such a problem for you. You should be sure to get the yearly flu vaccine.

Allergies can be another trigger for attacks. Allergy shots are not guaranteed to stop them, but they can lessen their intensity and frequency. You might want to reconsider your position.

Remove airborne irritants from your home and bedroom by getting rid of feather pillows, shag rugs and dust mites. If you have a pet, and you notice that exposure to it brings on an attack, then you have to limit where the pet is allowed in the home. An air-conditioned home keeps outdoor allergens out of your environment.

For an acute attack, you need a medicine that acts quickly to dilate airways. Albuterol (Proventil) is such a medicine.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.



If your long-term control medicine isn't preventing attacks, get another. The list of asthma medicines is very long. Oxygen is helpful in severe attacks. I know of no natural substance that alleviates

asthma. The asthma booklet describes the many treatments for asthma. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue – No. 602W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I must have bumped my ring finger. It is painful, and the top part is swollen on the side of the nail. I think some pus is forming. What can I soak it in? I cannot go to a doctor. – B.P.

ANSWER: You describe a paronychia (PAIR-uh-NICK-ee-uh), an infection of the skin and tissues bordering a fingernail. If the skin and tissues show only mild swelling, then frequent daily soaks in hot water can bring it to a head and cause it to drain. If it is quite swollen and painful, you'll have to see a doctor. Try an emergency-department doctor. It has to be incised to permit drainage, and antibiotics will be needed.

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ACROSS

1 Mine output

4 Mel of baseball lore

7 Bull's off spring

11 Sandwich shop

13 Lawyer's payment

14 Sandwich cookie

15 Platter

16 E-mail alternative

17 Eastern potentate

18 Villain's look

20 Madeline of "Blazing Saddles"

22 Taxi

24 Nuanced

28 Continue

32 React to a pun

33 Lotion additive

34 Symbol of intrigue

36 Greek liqueur

37 Violin virtuoso

39 Profligate

41 Standard

43 Homer's interjection

44 Grouch

46 Chutzpah

50 Martial art

DOWN

1 Probability

2 Harness part

3 Otherwise

4 Vacationing

5 Ship-building wood

6 Largest of the 48

7 Film directors

8 Branch

9 Hawaiian memento

10 In support of

12 Scoop holder

19 Beam of light

21 Embrace

23 Acknowledge

25 Go

26 Lounge around

27 Carbon compound

28 First murderer

29 Additionally

30 Bellow

31 Fresh

35 Lousy

38 Automobile

40 Trinity member

42 Punch-bowl accessory

45 "Cheers" request

47 Mystical character

48 Bridal cover

49 Catch sight of

50 Binge

51 Guitar's cousin

52 Cacophony

54 Neither partner

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59					60				61			

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

RELEASED THIS WEEK

DVDs & Movies

INCEPTION

Director Christopher Nolan (The Dark Knight) took a common sci-fi story premise — people invading the dreams of others — and wove it into a fantastic, mesmerizing sci-fi mystery thriller that takes viewers through layers and layers of real, surreal, and unreal worlds. Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio) is a skilled thief, the absolute best in the dangerous art of Extraction, stealing valuable secrets from deep within the subconscious during the dream state, when the mind is at its most vulnerable. Cobb's rare ability has made him a coveted player in this treacherous new world of corporate espionage, but it has also made him an international fugitive and cost him everything he has ever loved. Now Cobb is being offered a chance at redemption. One last job could give him his life back -- but only if he can accomplish the impossible: Inception.

SHREK FOREVER AFTER

After challenging an evil dragon, rescuing a beautiful princess and saving your in-laws' kingdom, what's an ogre to do? Well, if you're Shrek, you suddenly wind up a domesticated family man. Instead of scaring villagers away like he used to, a reluctant Shrek now agrees to autograph pitchforks. What's happened to this ogre's roar? Longing for the days when he felt like a "real ogre," Shrek is duped into signing a pact with the smooth-talking dealmaker, Rumpelstiltskin. Shrek suddenly finds himself in a twisted, alternate version of Far Far Away, where ogres are hunted, Rumpelstiltskin is king and Shrek and Fiona have never met.

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BY LINDA THISTLE

Weekly Sudoku

		9			2		7	
8	3		5			6		
	7			6				2
	1				5		8	
		3	4		8		9	
9				1		4		5
5					6		3	7
	2		8	3				4
		1	7			2		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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

A Link from the Chain

Lake Fenton High School - 4070 Lahring Road - Linden, MI 48451

Teacher SpotLIGHT



BRAD LaROWE
Academic Coach

Lauren Edge

Brad LaRowe isn't your average everyday teacher. He works one-on-one with students who need assistance in the Learning Resource Center. LaRowe enjoys teaching because "everyday is different." LaRowe attended college at Adrian University as well as U of M Flint.

For him, the best part of teaching is "seeing improvements from students." He helps students with all different subjects ranging from math to English. In his spare time he enjoys being around family and friends, as well as coaching.

He splits his time coaching for two different teams: junior varsity football for Lake Fenton in the fall, and Clio varsity baseball in the spring.

LaRowe shows good character as a teacher, coach, and staff member. He says that "the upbringing by my parents and the guidance and discipline from past coaches and teachers" have made him who he is today.

Economic Decline Affects Students

Sarah Rogers

As the economic decline continues, high school students are being forced to make changes in their daily lives.

"My family is in the process of giving our house back to the bank so I can have money for college," said sophomore, Viktor Storm.

He's not the only one going through that burden.

"We can't afford to live in our house anymore, so we are looking at cheap apartments. We also had to get a bridge card," said another student.

For some students these home issues aren't affecting them at school, but for most they are. More students say that they feel more stressed, and that school is the last priority on their minds.

"I've had to skip school a lot more because of a recent death in my family, and my grades are

declining because of my stress," said a junior.

A lot of students have said that their families have had to cut back on spending, and that adjusting to a new lifestyle has been somewhat difficult.

Also the rate of students receiving free or reduced lunches has almost tripled in the past several years.

When it comes to support from friends or teachers, one student said, "No one's done anything."

Students have said that they just want someone to listen to them and support them through their home problems.



morguefile.com

Technology brings bullying to a new level

Karlle Dieck

More than 42 percent of teenagers and children have reported being bullied online, and one in every four have reported it happening more than once, shown in a survey by ChildrenForeignPolicyBlog.com. Cyber bullying rates have been rising among teenagers and preteens, raising the overall bullying numbers.

With the technology that this generation has, there are many ways for teenagers to communicate. With more ways to communicate, there are also more ways to bully and harass other students. Texting and social networks, such as Facebook, allow students to harass other students, allowing more students to gang up and single out other teenagers as well.

Cyber bullying is a form of bullying that happens while online; it can consist of harassment and teasing to actual threats. More than 58 percent teenagers have had hurtful things said to them while online, and 53 percent report that they have said something mean to or about someone else online. Over

58 percent of students will not tell their parents about the harassment online, stated the survey.

Cyber bullying has become a major problem because students who are bullied now have nowhere to hide from their peers, having to deal with them at school and at home. Because cyber bullying occurs online it makes it harder for schools to intervene and protect students from being bullied. Some schools are notified of the cyber bullying and try to help with the situation, but because it occurs online and after school hours, it makes doing that extremely difficult.

While online, many students feel more powerful and feel like they can say many more things than they would say in person to someone else, which makes cyber bullying more common. Cyber bullying has been taken to the courts and there are now state and federal laws against it. It is a major issue that affects many students' lives, and has brought bullying to a whole new level.

Student StreetTALK

How has the economic downturn affected you?

Alex Holtslander and Mike Joss

"I don't get as much money from my parents."

Carli Messler,
Junior



"My family doesn't dine out as much anymore."

Rylee Schaefer,
Sophomore



"I work at Telly's and I don't get as many hours there anymore."

Brooke Lucia,
Senior



"I can't go and hangout with friends on the weekends, because no one has money to."

Paula Valacak,
Freshmen



Upcoming Events Looking Ahead

December 6

Student Council Can Drive Begins

December 7

Girls Varsity Basketball 7 p.m.

Toys for Tots Begin

December 10

Boys Varsity Basketball 7 p.m.

Varsity Hockey 7 p.m.

December 11

ACT Testing

December 13

Holiday Raffle Starts

December 22

Holiday Break Begins

January 3

School Resumes

Student StaffBOX

Editors:

Mitch Kirk
Alexandra Wilkinson
Lindsay Sensoli
Alyssa McCoy

All editorial content in *The Chain* is written by Lake Fenton High School journalism students, and is not necessarily the opinion of *The Chain* staff as a whole, Lake Fenton High School, or the Lake Fenton Community School district.

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Fenton boys basketball starts off with 74-51 victory

By Al Zipsie

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Clio — With high expectations, Fenton opened the boys basketball season with a 74-51 drubbing of Clio Monday.

The Tigers are looking for their third straight Metro League title, and took the first step in that process with the Metro victory.

Fenton led 33-22 at halftime, but really did not get rolling until the second half. The Tigers stepped up their defense and it triggered more offense. Dylan Hickoff buried four three-pointers and took game scoring honors with 24 points.

"I always play a lot of basketball in the summer, but this fall is the first time I didn't play football," Hickoff said. "I focused on basketball and have shot a lot of three-pointers."

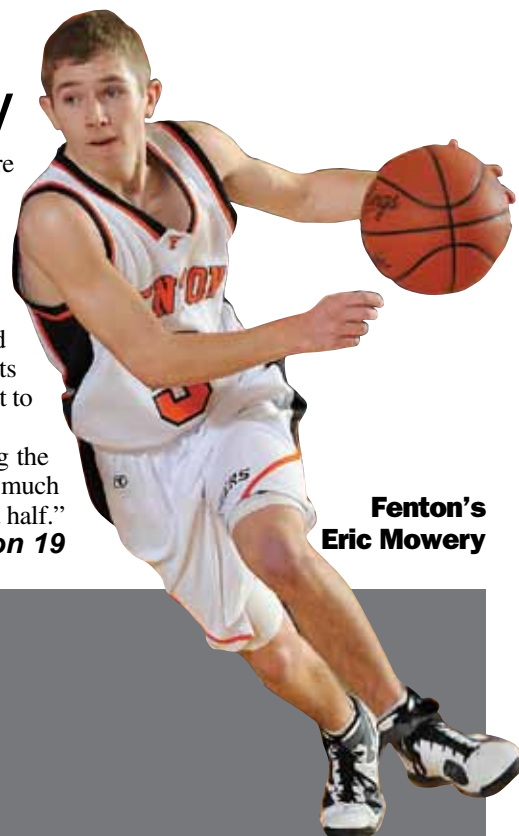
Ryan Hickoff added a three-pointer and 17 points, while Mowery, who came off the bench, added 11 points. Mowery is coming off a fractured ankle and just started practices a few days ago. His speed and ball control gave a big lift as he entered the game with 3:04 left in the opening quarter.

Fenton's defense was sound. They out-rebounded Clio 36-15 and didn't allow any Mustangs to score double-digits.

"In the first half we were not sure sometimes where to be. It was a little rocky and we were not as aggressive as we would like," Fenton coach Tim Olaszewski said. "I think we had to shake off some rust and first game jitters. When our defense picked up, it allowed us to extend our lead from 13 to 30 points quickly. It is a staple of the way we want to play all the time."

"When we get in our rhythm running the offense, and get good looks, we flow much better and we showed that in the second half."

See BASKETBALL on 19



Fenton's Eric Mowery

SPORTS TRIVIA

Q Lee Westwood became the No. 1 men's golfer recently. How long was Tiger Woods No. 1 before that?

A Woods was ranked as the world's No. 1 golfer for 281 weeks.

Times sports

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2010

PAGE 18

Holly girls basketball begins with 3-0 start

Bronchos open Metro season with 25-23 thriller

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Holly — It's been a pretty good start for the Holly varsity girls basketball team.

Make that a perfect start through three games.

And it seems like the Bronchos like to win them in dramatic flair.

For the third time already this season, the Bronchos responded late, earning a victory in the final moments of regulation or overtime, earning a 25-23 home victory against Lapeer East Monday night.

The win puts the Bronchos at 3-0 overall and 1-0 in the Metro League.

"It doesn't mean as much to me as it does them," Holly coach David Hall said. "It's good for the kids. We still have a lot of work to do. It's nice to be 3-0, but I'm more worried about how we can get better, our effort and our demeanor. If we do those things, then what the moms and dads see in the newspaper will take care of itself."

Apparently if one wants to watch a tight ball game, the Bronchos are a great group to be with as well.

In what was a tight defensive game, the Bronchos were down

by four when Ashley Xiong hit a three-pointer, cutting the gap to one late. The Bronchos took the lead with 50 seconds left in regulation on a Jenna Mitchell shot, putting the Bronchos up 23-22.

East's Keeley Turczyn tied the game up at 23-all by making a free throw with 19 seconds left. Holly's Lauren Maher missed a three-pointer with five seconds left, but teammate Mitchell rebounded the miss and made the

See BRONCHOS on 20



TRI-COUNTY TIMES

DAVID TROPPENS

(Above) Holly's Ashley Xiong (left) tries to dribble past Lake Fenton's Jordan Norman during the Bronchos' 43-36 victory against the Blue Devils on Friday night. (Left) Lake Fenton's Faith Weier (front) and Holly's Audrey Koons fight for a loose ball during the contest. Holly is 3-0 on the young season, while Lake Fenton stands at 1-1.

Holly holds off Blue Devils in fourth quarter

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Lake Fenton — The Holly varsity girls basketball team was pretty good in close games last season.

So good, that the Bronchos won all four overtime games they competed in last season.

The Bronchos (2-0) appear to be a pretty good close-game team so far in 2010-11 as well.

Three days after winning their season-opening contest in overtime against Milford, Holly won another relatively close contest, this one in regulation, defeating the Lake Fenton Blue Devils 43-36 on Friday.

"Last year we were in four overtime games, and we won every time," said senior Audrey Koons. "So close games like this do help us. We know we can do this."

Early on, it wasn't so close. In fact, the Bronchos were on the verge of blowing out Lake Fenton. Holly scored the game's first 11 points, leading 11-0 after a fast-break layup by Allysa Copley with 3:42 left in the opening period.

Lake Fenton's Karlie Dieck broke the run with a three-pointer, but Holly still entered the second quarter leading 15-3.

And, for most of the game, the Blue Devils were usually trailing by double-digits. It wasn't until the fourth quarter that Lake Fenton really started cutting down the lead.

Trailing 34-22 entering the fourth, Lake Fenton went on a 10-2 run to start the quarter. Sidney Scott provided most of the damage, scoring six of those points, the final four on offensive rebound putbacks.

Makenzie Gotttron made a free throw with 5:13 remaining, cutting Holly's edge to 36-32.

Holly tried to stretch it back out, scoring on a three-pointer by

See HOLLY on 20

Chiefs split two weekend games against Brandon

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

The Durand/Lake Fenton/Linden co-op Chiefs hockey team had a good and bad weekend against the Brandon Blackhawks.

The good news came on Friday.

The Chiefs collected their first victory of the season by defeating Brandon 4-3 in overtime. However, Saturday wasn't as for-

fortunate, as the Chiefs lost to the Blackhawks 1-0 in overtime.

The Chiefs (1-3) led 2-0 after the first two periods, but were outscored 3-1 in the third period, setting up the overtime. It ended being no problem, as Garret Gormley got the game-winning goal in overtime.

Other scorers for the Chiefs were Jake Stone, Luke Tunningley and Evan Haller.

Stone, Haller, Joe Kazmier and Gormley each had assists.

On Saturday, the Chiefs lost a heartbreaker. Tri-city outshot Brandon, but it wasn't until Brandon's John Riley scored off an assist from Nic Tyburski that either team scored, giving the Blackhawks the win.

It appeared that the Chiefs had scored ear-

See CHIEFS on 20

did you know?

There are 35 Division 1A college football bowl games scheduled this season.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Fenton's Gabrielle Rivette (right) drives to the bucket during the Tigers' 49-48 loss to the Utica Chieftains on Friday. Fenton also lost to Clio on Monday, 50-44.

Fenton girls lose to Hartland, Clio

By Al Zipsie
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Fenton — Fenton girls varsity basketball coach Brad DeWitt likes to play good non-league teams, which has helped his team win the Metro League six of the last seven years.

The Tigers have had two of them during the first week of the season.

The Lady Tigers pulled away for a win in the season-opener with Utica, but on Friday it was Hartland that came up with a 49-48 win in overtime against the Tigers.

"Of course we didn't want one of those losses, but we took a lot of good things away from it, and you learn from your losses," said DeWitt. "A lot of things didn't click. We didn't get the bounces, with a lot of shots rolling off, which happens sometimes. We had too many turnovers, which you can't do against good teams like Hartland. The team is fine. It is a non-league loss. We play those teams, which can only make you a better team."

Hartland's Jaymie Dyer hit five three-pointers, all in the second half, and finished with 17 points. She also hit key buckets. With Hartland down by three, Dyer hit a trey with 20.9 seconds left in

regulation, tying the 40-all. Fenton missed a shot with 5.7 seconds left, forcing overtime.

The Eagles, paced by Kelly Holda, led throughout the overtime. The Tigers had a costly turnover and Holda, who had 10 points, was fouled on a breakaway. Holda made a breaking hoop and then netted a free throw, putting Hartland up 43-40.

With 2:44 left in OT, Gabrielle Rivette was fouled and hit both charity tosses, cutting the lead to 43-42. Then Dyer buried her final three, putting Hartland ahead 46-42. Fenton cut it back to three on an Alyssa Ostrowski free throw, but got no closer. Hartland's Hailley Pleshakov made a pair of free throws, building a 48-43 cushion. Rivette cut it back to 48-45 with a driving layup, but Pleshakov hit a free throw with 7.6 seconds left, pretty much icing the game. Rivette hit a three, cutting the lead to 49-48 at the buzzer. Rivette, who had only one field goal in the first half, ended with a game high 19 points. Samantha Granger had a solid game with 17 points as she converted on some rebounds for hoops.

"Samantha did a nice job inside," DeWitt said. "We just need some others to step up with scoring."

Fenton held its biggest lead of

the game at 22-14, and led 22-18 at halftime. Dyer hit the first three-pointer, giving Hartland a 24-22 midway through the third quarter. The Eagles took a 26-24 lead into the final quarter.

In the mid-fourth quarter, Dyer drilled a three that gave the Eagles their biggest lead of the game at 33-26. Granger converted an offensive board into a basket and Jailen Judson scored on a drive. Fenton was within 33-30. Rivette and Granger both made a pair of charity tosses as they surged back in the lead at 40-37. That is when Dyer hit the three to send it to overtime where Hartland put it away.

**CLIO 50,
FENTON 44**

The Tigers (0-1, 1-2) trailed most of the game, but got it to within 46-44 with 58.2 seconds left. At that time, Clio hit four straight free throws, icing the game.

"We ran into a very good team that was also very hot at shooting the ball," DeWitt said. "They shot the ball very well. They are a solid team and got us."

Gabrielle Rivette scored a game-high 16 points, while Hannah Evo had 14 points. Samantha Granger collected eight points and 12 rebounds.

BASKETBALL

Continued from 18

Ryan Hickoff opened the scoring with a steal and an assist to Dylan Hickoff for the first hoop of the season.

Fenton never trailed. Dylan Hickoff scored the Tigers' first eight points and Fenton led 8-1. Joseph Eddy converted an offensive board into a hoop at the buzzer ending the first quarter with a 16-6 lead. Hickoff ended the first half with 16 points. Fenton led 33-22.

Ryan Hickoff took an outlet pass from Mowery and had a two-hand slam dunk with 2:04 left in the third quarter. Dylan Hickoff had a tip in as the horn ended the third quarter and Fenton took a 51-34 lead into the final quarter.

The Tigers scored the first nine points of the fourth quarter and ended up with 23 points in the quarter.

"It always feels good to get a dunk in a game," said Ryan Hickoff.

"It was a rough start, but we fought and came out with the win," added Dylan Hickoff.

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Holiday Worship Directory



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December 24, 2010

Family Worship

4:00pm, 6:00pm

Traditional Candlelight

8:00pm, 10:00pm



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Holly Presbyterian CHURCH

Pastors Ann & Bill Robertson

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- Christmas Eve Service:
December 24, 8:00pm

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LF wrestlers take third at tourney

By Al Zipsie

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Lansing — Lake Fenton's varsity wrestling team had a solid third-place finish in a strong field of 16 teams Saturday at the 56th-annual Don Johnson Lansing Eastern Invitational.

The state's top-ranked team in Division 2, St. Johns won the tournament, while Lake Fenton was third (174 points).

The Blue Devils had three champions — Buddy Poyner (130), Zach

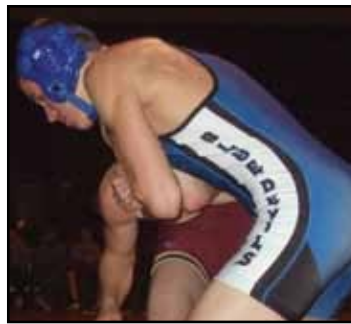
Corcoran (135) and Drew Morris (171). Lake Fenton's runner up finishers were Todd Melick (119), Justin Melick (151) and Connor Brancheau (160).

Poyner won his title by defeating Owosso's Taylor Trombley by pinfall, while Corcoran defeated Lansing Eastern's Carryn Jackson by a 6-3 decision in the title matches. Finally, Morris had a third-period takedown for a thrilling 6-3 decision over Dewitt's Nate Knauf for his title.

"This tournament was the strongest in the state for this weekend," Lake Fenton coach Vance Corcoran said. "Many powerhouse teams were here. We will be even better in January when we get three very good wrestlers added to the lineup."

Christian O'Guinn (145) lost in the semifinals to St. Johns' Travis Curley.

The Blue Devils are at Carrollton tonight for a pair of duals. On Saturday, they are at the Hartland Invitational.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | AL ZIPSIE

Lake Fenton's Bryce Hopkins (right) battles a recent opponent. Lake Fenton took third at the Lansing Eastern Invitational.

HOLLY

Continued from 18

Koons off a nice dish by Lauren Maher, raising the lead to 39-32, but Lake Fenton continued to battle back.

Lake Fenton's Paige Stafford scored on a fastbreak layup and she also converted two free throws after an offensive board. The Holly lead was just 39-36 with 1:15 left in regulation.

But the Blue Devils were unable to cut any closer. Holly's Copley converted two free throws on the Bronchos' next possession, and Lake Fenton turned the ball over on each of its next three possessions, including once on a Copley steal. Finally, Ashley Xiong iced the game with two free throws with 24.1 seconds left.

Fouls hurt the Bronchos. Seemingly, the entire team was in foul trouble by halftime, forcing the Bronchos to go deep into their bench all game long. That probably attributed to the game's eventual tightness, but it also proved that Holly can trust their bench players as well. Holly played without one of its main starters, Jenna Mitchell, who was out with an injury.

"It felt so good because we had a lot of people that never had to step up, come out and play a lot," Koons said. "They proved that they can produce and that we need them on this team for sure."

Lake Fenton (1-1) could feel good about their efforts against a Class A school. The Blue Devils won the battle on the boards, resulting in 15 second-chance points, including nine in the fourth quarter alone.

"It took us awhile to get going, but they came out with some fire in the second half," Lake Fenton coach Dennis Lucius said. "We made some adjustments, and they did well with them. We got to within three points, but we had to start fouling them, and they made their free throws. We didn't make our free throws."

Holly was paced by Audrey Koons' 11 points, while Lauren Maher had nine points. Jessica Beeler chipped in eight points, while Copley had seven.

Scott led Lake Fenton with 10 points, while Stafford had eight points.

Holly wrestling places fourth at Dragon Invitational

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

The Holly varsity wrestling team has some work to do if they want to maintain their high pre-season ranking.

The Bronchos finished fourth at the Dragon Invitational on Saturday.

"We wrestled OK, but not great as a team," Holly coach Don Pluta said.

The Bronchos had three champions. Esteban Gonzales was the top star, earning the Most Outstanding Wrestler award. Others that were champions were Mason Cleaver (112) and Shawn Scott (171).

Zack Jones (130) and Tyler Gibson (125) finished in second, while Andrew Scott (135) placed third.

Hartland, ranked No. 4 in Divi-

sion 1, won the meet, while Monroe took second and Holly placed third.

"We took fourth, but as you see (defending state champion) Anthony Gonzales did not wrestle, and I had two others out," Pluta said. "We need others to step up if we want to reach our goals."

LINDEN AT ADRIAN INVITATIONAL

The Eagles finished with a 2-3

record at the team-based event.

Linden defeated Flatrock 45-31 and Adrian 45-31. The Eagles lost to Jackson Northwest 36-33, Novi 36-35 by tiebreaker and Monroe Jefferson 39-33.

The Eagles had three 5-0 wrestlers. They were Cliff Coleman (215), Kyle Fisher (189) and Austin Golden (125).

Jeffrey Fisher (171) posted a 4-1 mark.

Holly boys basketball pounds Lapeer East, 67-37

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Holly varsity boys basketball coach Lance Baylis didn't say much to his team as it entered halftime, leading Lapeer East 28-23.

However, the team got the message anyway.

Holly outscored Lapeer East 22-3 in the third quarter, sparking a 67-37 victory for the Bronchos in their season-opening contest.

"I told the guys at halftime there was no sense in me raising my voice. If we play like I know we can play, our halftime speech will be moot in about 16 min-

utes," Baylis said. "I told them to play like I know we can, and they did."

Brent Stafne showed up big. He hit on 8-of-10 three-pointers, scoring a game-high 28 points.

"He's one of the best kept secrets around," Baylis said. "He's one of the most coordinated play-

ers around. The things he can do with a basketball is tremendous."

Josh Fugate had 16 points, hitting on 9-of-12 free throws. Nick Stoll scored 11 points and blocked two shots, while Jared Plawski had six rebounds and Austin Hopkin four assists.

Holly hosts Brandon Friday.

BRONCHOS

Continued from 18

putback, giving the Bronchos a 25-23 lead with two seconds left. The Bronchos stole the inbound pass, ending any miracle shot for the Eagles.

The two late buckets were Mitchell's only two hoops. She had missed Friday's game against

Lake Fenton due to a sprained ankle.

"It was her first game back from the sprained ankle and she scored to put us up one and then hit the bucket that won it," Hall said. "That was good for Jenna. She's not played in awhile, and she showed some spunk."

Allyssa Copley scored a

game-high eight points and had nine rebounds to pace the Bronchos. Turczyn and Cassie Diaz had eight each for East.

"Jenna hit the winning shot. Ashley Xiong hit a bit three. Allyssa had a nice game, and Jessica Beeler is playing well," Hall said. "We have had a lot of players do a lot of good things. We

are getting it from eight or nine players and that's good to see."

The Bronchos have a knack for winning close games. They have won their three games by a total of 12 points. They also won four games in overtime last year.

Holly hosts Brandon on Friday for another Metro contest.

CHIEFS

Continued from 18

lier, but it was waved off.

"The kids fought hard in the third period to come from behind on Friday and then tie it up," Chiefs' assistant coach Jeff Mynatt said. "We controlled the game in both overtimes, but

Brandon's goalie stood on his head on Saturday. We outshot them by at least 15 shots."

CLIO/LAKEVILLE 5, FENTON 4

The Tigers got two goals from Kyle Lixie, but it wasn't enough for them to get past the co-op squad in a non-league contest.

Steven Callicot scored two goals and had two assists, pacing the Mustangs. One of the goals came just 14 seconds into the game.

The Tigers were tied entering the third, but Clio outscored Fenton 2-1 in that period.

The Tigers also had goals from

Jake Foguth and T.J. Polakowski.

The shots on goal were 27-25 in Clio's favor.

"At times, we showed how good we can be, and others, we showed how bad we can be," Fenton coach Matt Krusniak said. "We had some breakdowns in the defensive zone."



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Garage Sales 13

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Legal Notices

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. **MORTGAGE SALE** - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Scott M. Griffin, an Unmarried Man to **Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Michigan Mutual, Inc., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee**, dated September 7, 2007 and recorded September 13, 2007 in Instrument # 200709130070513 Genesee County Records, Michigan Said mortgage was subsequently assigned through mesne assignments to: **Nationstar Mortgage LLC**, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$134,284.00) including interest 8.25% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Genesee County at 10:00AM on December 22, 2010 Said premises are situated in **City of Swartz Creek, Genesee County, Michigan**, and are described as: Lot 622 of Winchester Village Sub. No. 8, according to the recorded plat thereof as recorded in Plat book 32, Pages 21 through 23, Genesee County Records. **Commonly known as 5042 Winston Drive, Swartz Creek MI 48473** The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. Dated: 11/24/2010 Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 10-33068

Ad #7421: 2010-11-24 2010-12-01, 2010-12-08 2010-12-15

Legal Notices

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE In the event this property is claimed as a principal residence exempt from tax under section 7cc of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 7cc please contact our office at (248) 844-5123. This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. **MORTGAGE SALE** - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Nathaniel Williams and Samecika Williams, His Wife to **Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Guaranty Residential Lending, Inc., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee**, dated January 22, 2002 and recorded February 4, 2002 in Instrument # 200202040011847 Genesee County Records, Michigan and assigned to: **BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP fka Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP** by assignment of mortgage dated November 22, 2010 and subsequently recorded in Genesee County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars and Eighty-Five Cents (\$9,795.85) including interest 6.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Genesee County at 10:00AM on December 22, 2010 Said premises are situated in **City of Flint, Genesee County, Michigan**, and are described as: The South 45 feet of the North 138.50 feet of Lot 63, Flint Park Lake Addition, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 12, Page 21 of plats, Genesee County Records. **Commonly known as 5105 Kermit Street, Flint MI 48505** The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. Dated: 11/24/2010 BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP fka Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 10-33205

Ad #7489: 2010-11-24 2010-12-01, 2010-12-08 2010-12-15

Legal Notices

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. **MORTGAGE SALE** - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: David E. Simpson and Trina Simpson, Husband and Wife to **America's MoneyLine, Inc., Mortgagee**, dated November 9, 2001 and recorded February 15, 2002 in Instrument # 200202150016976 Genesee County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage was assigned through mesne assignments to: **Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas FKA Banker's Trust Company, as Trustee for Saxon Asset Securities Trust 2002-1**, by assignment dated May 14, 2009 and recorded August 20, 2009 in Instrument # 200908200058298 on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Sixteen Thousand One Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$16,117.50) including interest 6.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Genesee County at 10:00AM on December 15, 2010 Said premises are situated in **Township of Richfield, Genesee County, Michigan**, and are described as: Known as being the North 660 feet of the West 183 feet of the East 952 feet of the Southeast one quarter of the Southwest one quarter of Section 8, Township 8 North, Range 8 East. Be the same more or less, but subject to all legal highways. **Commonly known as 8176 Teachout Rd, Otisville MI 48463** The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. Dated: 11/17/2010 Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas FKA Banker's Trust Company, as Trustee for Saxon Asset Securities Trust 2002-1, Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 10-28556

Ad #7264: 2010-11-17 2010-11-24, 2010-12-01 2010-12-08

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The Oakwood Cemetery Board is sponsoring a

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FORECLOSURE NOTICE In the event this property is claimed as a principal residence exempt from tax under section 7cc of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 7cc please contact our office at (248) 844-5123. This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below. **MORTGAGE SALE - Default** has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Heidi Mathis, a Single Woman to **Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated June 8, 2007 and recorded June 25, 2007 in Instrument # 200706250052721 Genesee County Records, Michigan and assigned to: BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP fka Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP by assignment of mortgage dated December 6, 2010 and subsequently recorded in Genesee County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-One Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars and Three Cents (\$51,662.03) including interest 6.75% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, Circuit Court of Genesee County at 10:00AM on January 5, 2011 Said premises are situated in **City of Flint, Genesee County, Michigan**, and are described as: Lot 10, Block 53 of Modern Housing Corporation Addition No. 1, and that part of Lot 46, Block 53 of Modern Housing Corporation Addition No. 1 abutting on said Lot 10, Block 53 of Modern Housing Corporation Addition No. 1, bounded by the centerline of said Lot 46 and the side lines of said Lot 10, produced according to the recorded plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 8, Page 17, Genesee County Records. **Commonly known as 1009 Gladwin, Flint MI 48504** The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. Dated: 12/08/2010 BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP fka Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 10-33665**

Ad #7863: 2010-12-08 2010-12-15, 2010-12-22 2010-12-29

Obituaries,
Funeral
Services and
Memoriums**William L. Wilson**

1956-2010

William L. Wilson - age 54, of Linden, died Saturday, December 4, 2010. Services will be held 1 PM Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church, 10235 White Lake Rd., Fenton with Pastor James Mascow officiating. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery, Fenton. Visitation will be held 11 AM until the time of service Wednesday at the church. Mr. Wilson was born June 16, 1956 in Flint. Mr. Wilson was a Drum Major at Fenton High School and the Michigan State University Marching Band. He retired from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources where he was a State Park Officer. Mr. Wilson loved music and was a self-taught organ player. He was an avid hunter and loved wildlife. Mr. Wilson was active in the Fenton High School Swimming Program and was a deacon at Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church. Surviving are: brother, Dan Hart; niece, Keri Hart of Flint; close friends, Laurie, Nicholas and Summer Baldwin. His grandmother, Bertha Runyan, preceded him in death. Arrangements by Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Friends may share an on-line tribute on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

**Virginia Patricia LeGault**

1924-2010

Virginia Patricia LeGault - age 86, of Linden, died Tuesday, December 7, 2010 at her residence. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 AM Friday, December 10, 2010 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton with Rev. Fr. David Harvey celebrant. Interment will follow at St. John Cemetery. Visitation will be held 2-5 and 6-8 PM Thursday at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton where a rosary will be prayed 7 PM Thursday evening. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to the St. John G.I.F.T. Campaign. Mrs. LeGault was born February 23, 1924 in Flint, the daughter of Albert and Sophie (Gerber) Delecki. She married Thomas Roy LeGault on September 7, 1946 and he preceded her in death on February 24, 2009. Mrs. LeGault was a member of St. John the



Evangelist Catholic Church and the VFW #3243 Ladies Auxiliary. Surviving are: three children, Sandra and husband, Dan Albert of Charlotte, NC; Michael LeGault of Fenton, Dawn and husband, Dwayne Davidson of Fenton; son, Michael Lowe; and son-in-law, Denny Lutz; 11 grandchildren, David, Kari, Danielle, Kristine, Michael Ryan, Michael Dennis, Kristen, Katherine, Molly, Connor and Dylan; 11 great grandchildren; sister, Wanda Novar of Flushing; two brothers, Stanley (Ann) Delecki of Fenton and Eugene Delecki of Montrose; several nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by: her daughter, Linda Lutz; three sisters, Caroline Bebnarski, Helen Walker and Emily Lesley; three brothers, Walter, Johnny and Albin Delecki. The family extends a special thank you to Hospice and hospice caregivers, Shaun and Cecilia the special caretakers in her life, Candy, Rita, Beth, Jeanette, Amanda and Holly. Friends may share an online tribute on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.




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