Michigan 18th in nation for identity theft complaints

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Protecting yourself against identity theft is just like riding around on the bumper car ride at the amusement park — after you make evasive moves to avoid being hit by one car, you’re hit by another.

As technology advances, so does the chances of becoming a victim of identity theft. If one has become a victim, they are not alone. According to The National Crime Victimization Survey, 7.2 million Americans are victims of identity theft each year. Identity theft is on the rise. Police and experts offer ways to prevent becoming a victim.

“I would cancel all of my credit cards or at least put a hold on the account so nothing can be charged against those accounts.”

Rick Aro
Fenton police chief

Paper or plastic?
Kindles closing gap on traditional books

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com: 810-629-8282

Cheryl Herzog, of Linden, loves nothing more than reading a good book, with the relaxing turn of each page and the comfort of having the book at her side or nearby on a night table.

For Denise Roberts, a Barnes & Noble e-reader “Nook” fills her need for a good story that can be downloaded, then deleted, as she finishes the book. — eliminating the worry about what to do with the book once she is done reading it. “I love books, but I only read them once,” said Roberts, a nurse at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Deb Sarosy, of Fenton, appreciates the pros and cons of both traditional reading and e-reading with her Amazon “Kindle,” which she loves to take with her when traveling, so she doesn’t have to carry a load of books with her. (See KINDLES on 11)

Heavy snowfall to blame for nine car crashes in city

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Fenton — Fenton police were busy handling snow-related automobile crashes from this latest snowstorm. Local areas received nearly 10 inches of snow that began falling Sunday afternoon and continued through Monday morning. In February, Fenton has received more than 24 inches of snow.

Area school superintendents announced Monday night that Tuesday was an official snow day. The schools would likely have made Monday a snow day too, however, they were already closed for scheduled in-service days. (See CRASHES on page 7)

Fenton business reopens, creating 50 new jobs

By Anna Troppens
atroppens@tctimes.com

Fenton — Acument Global Technologies is a Fenton-based consulting and software company.

Fenton, Mich. — Acument Global Technologies is a Fenton-based consulting and software company.

“Each time we hand over these key pieces of our personal information, we increase our vulnerability to identity theft.”

Todd Davis, chairperson and CEO of LifeLock, Inc.

“Why is it we hand over these key pieces of our personal information, we increase our vulnerability to identity theft?”

Todd Davis, chairperson and CEO of LifeLock, Inc.

Fluctuating temperatures are causing potholes to form, seemingly overnight.

A new online system will be used to predict and avoid potholes during the dreaded pothole season, which began with warmer temperatures this weekend.

Potholes are expected to get worse as temperatures fluctuate over the next few weeks.

See POHOLES on page 7

Vol. 18 No. VIII WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2011 $1.00

Puzzles

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Identity theft involving credit cards and personal identification numbers tops the list of complaints.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SALLY RUMMEL

Deb Sarosy and Cheryl Herzog are both avid readers, each in their own way, Sarosy with her Barnes & Noble e-reader “Nook,” at left, and Herzog with her traditional book.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

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Community weighs in on budget shortfall

Holly schools could see $2 million less in federal funds
By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Holly — After several focus groups and more than 500 online responses, the Holly Area Schools (HAS) Board of Education is starting to get an idea of how the community feels about various cost savings measures. HAS is projecting at least a $2 million budget shortfall in federal funding in the 2012-13 school year. The study was conducted to explore several cost-saving options, including closing an elementary school. “Calling it a housing study probably doesn’t do it justice,” said Trustee David Rath. The Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) conducted the cost-saving study most closely aligned with the question of elementary student housing in January, and presented the summary and results at its most recent meeting last Monday. Rath said some of the community suggestions weren’t new to the HAS board, and some were genuinely creative. “They care about the community and their schools,” said Superintendent Kent Barnes via email. “They offered a wide range of thoughts in a very well-meaning effort.” Barnes said the community understands the impact the new statewide budget has on the school district. “Individuals want to minimize any negative effect on students, but they also wish to sustain programs,” he said. The board of education also voted on guiding principles that the community offered via the study. These principles will inform the MASB on cost-saving suggestions that could be presented at the next meeting.

Holly Area Schools Guiding Principles
1. Should maintain or improve the quality of education
2. Should have a positive impact on students, parents, and the community
3. Should fully consider best use of existing facilities
4. Should seek to maintain or increase student enrollment.

GET ONLINE
To see the full presentation, go to www.has-k12.org and look under “quick links.”

Academic achievements
Kirk Waligora, of Fenton, has been named to the Dean’s List for the 2010 fall semester at the University of Montevallo. ***

Lauren Campbell and Jordan Harris, of Fenton, have been named to the Dean’s List for the 2010 fall semester at Olivet College. ***

Emily Cowdrey has been named to the Dean’s List for the Creative Studies for the fall semester. She is a 2005 graduate of Fenton High School and is the daughter of Jim and Karen Cowdrey of Fenton. ***

Lawrence Technological University has announced the following students have been named to the Dean’s List for the fall 2010 term. Alicia Mickler (Fenton), Eric Stallcup, Kendall Stevens (Holly), and David Menzies (Linden). ***

Sarah Rinks (Fenton) has been named to the Dean’s List at Gannon University for the spring 2010 semester.
Lake Fenton graduate brings home the bronze from Italy

U.S. skating teams take first, second and third place

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

U.S. teams swept away the competition at the Spring Cup synchronized skating competition last week and Lake Fenton graduate Morgan Rickert, is the proud recipient of a bronze medal.

Rickert, 18, was still feeling the jet lag as she talked about her trip to Italy and Paris while she attended the high school varsity hockey game between Fenton High School and Lake Fenton/Linden/Durand Friday evening.

A figure skater since the age of 3, Rickert has been working with her synchronized skating team for the past couple of years. She also attends Mott Community College with plans of going into a career of radiology.

As Rickert was growing up, she used to perform individually. However, she found that being part of a team was much more fun. When they travel, they are independent, autonomous schools funded by taxes, public schools tend to be the most affordable option for education.
**WASHINGTON Times Midweek**

**President not ‘walking the talk’**

President Obama said last week he wants Washington to come up with a kitchen-table style budgeting. In his weekly address last week, he discussed a letter from an American family and commented, ‘Families across this country understand what it takes to manage a budget. Well, it’s time Washington acted as responsibly as our families do.’

The Obama Administration seems to have a serious problem with ‘walking the talk.’ Last November, the voters said loud and clear that government is too big and spends too much, but a mere three and a half months later, the White House has forgotten that crucial mid-term election message. Under President Obama’s recent budget, government spending will rise to nearly $4 trillion a year, and the budget deficit will jump to a record $1.6 trillion this year and nearly that much next year.

That, my friends, is fiscal insanity. What stands out in the Obama budget proposals is its estimate of $1.6 trillion in new tax revenues, largely through higher taxes on the wealthy and businesses. Any business in the world will tell you that is counterproductive to what we need most — jobs, jobs and more jobs.

The Democrats took control of Congress in 2007 and used the recession as cover to permanently increase spending on federal entitlements, regulatory bureaucracy and sily industry policies that hinder, not help, business.

No family would ever sit around the kitchen table and budget this way. It’s fiscal suicide. The fact is that the budget could be balanced in one day if the government actually did do some ‘common sense, kitchen table budgeting’ and got rid of the thousands of expensive, outdated and worthless special-interest programs.

It’s time for President Obama to ‘walk the talk,’ not just talk the talk.

---

**WHAT HAPPENED TO the Dragon Pearl restaurant? When I came home from Florida, it was gone.***

**IF YOU READ the Hot lines and watch the news, all you see are people divided, everyone crying about some people making too much money and having benefits. This old economy and free trade have killed the middle class, but it has made corporations and our politicians very wealthy. We should be fighting together to bring up our neighbors’ standard of living, not taking it away. We need to think America, first.***

**IN RESPONSE to big talk from tailgaters, you’re wrong. If you get rear ended in Michigan, or any other state, you can be at fault. Trust me, I know this for a fact.***

**SHAME on EVERYONE involved in taking away open gym in Lake Fenton to the high school students. This is good, clean wholesome fun for these kids. For the board to cover to the wishes of one loudmouthed individual shows once again no one on that administration has a backbone. Count on me to vote no on any future millages, and I will spread the word. You should all be ashamed.***

**Shame on you, Fenton police. For the fourth time this year, you have pulled over my working college student, this time for going through a yellow light a day after a major snow storm. You frisked him, and put him in the back of the squad car, searched his car, and gave him a ticket. You would probably give your own mother a ticket. What a rewarding job.***

**I HOPE ALL the parents in Linden get behind the custodians who just had the administrators and board cancel their contract so their jobs could be outsourced. I also noticed that Linden schools has a director of operations making six figures, who, if this keeps up, will be doing nothing more than ordering toilet paper. Talk about a place to start cutting the fat.***

**RICHARD ROCKMAN, YOU said it all in ‘Straight from the Shoulder’ on Feb. 16. Newt Gingrich is right on the money. The problem with this country is that freedom has gotten too free.***

**AS A UW member, I received a bonus this year of $750, of which $395 went to taxes. I also took a 15-percent wage cut and doubled all my co-pays last year. Did car prices fall 15 percent? If you don’t make good money, I guess no one should. That’s the American way? How sad for you.***

**See HOT LINE throughout Times***

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**HEROIN in the suburbs Years ago, when I was working in the north area of Flint at a Social Security office, it wasn’t unusual to walk out of the back door of the building, and see someone shooting up drugs or drinking alcohol from a bottle in a brown paper bag. It was a very poor area of town. Drug use and crime were prevalent. It was disturbing to me, of course. But, the news of two suspected heroin overdoses killing two local teens in the small town of Fenton in less than one week is more disturbing.***

**My heart goes out to the families of these young women, whose vibrant and promising lives ended way too soon.***

**Heroin use in the suburbs is on the rise according to recent national news reports. Is it a problem here? Look for a story about heroin use in this Sunday’s edition of the Times, by Reporter Sharon Stone.***

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**SPRING is right around the corner On a lighter note, can you believe it? It’s almost March. Yes, spring is right around the corner, or is it? Residents in the tri-county area enjoyed a brief period of spring-like weather last week. But, it was just a tease. Mother Nature dumped almost a foot of the white stuff Sunday afternoon through Monday morning, closing schools and making travel a nightmare. Out came the plows and the snow shovels, once again.***

**I’m an optimist and I’m hoping that’s the last real snowfall we’ll see this year. But, this is Michigan, you never know.***

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**What are your thoughts about medical marijuana dispensaries in your community?**

“Thats a hard one. I wouldn’t use it because it triggers my asthma.”

— Jane Dorow Holly

“I don’t like it. I think it changes kids’ mindsets. I know kids who are getting it for depression.”

— Gabriella Falvo Fenton

“Under certain restraints, I think it’s fine. The people who are getting it (should) actually need it.”

— Bonnie Little Fenton

“I’m totally against it, because I don’t believe it’s for medicinal reasons. It’s just a front for smoking pot.”

— Denae Harding Fenton

“I’m hesitant on who would be regulating them. My sister living in Los Angeles said there’s one on every block. I don’t want to see it here.”

— Michele Stocel, Fenton

“I know some people that are using (marijuana) are almost abusing it, but it does have a very good medicinal purpose to it.”

— Pat Thomas Byron
Township faces penalties if financial records not corrected

Treasurer on leave since April 2010

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6766

Rose Township must submit a corrective action plan to the state’s treasury department for multiple violations, found during an independent audit of the township’s financial records.

Summary

Rose Township must submit a corrective action plan to the state’s treasury department for multiple violations, found during an independent audit of the township’s financial records.

Material weaknesses that need to be rectified this year include:

- Internal financial reports to township board (not accurate).
- Bank reconciliations untimely.
- Proper receivables procedures (cash register never put into use).
- Current tax fund not posted by detail into general ledger.
- Trust and agency fund not showing reconciliation.
- Interim updating of investment and cash balances not being posted.

Issues of concern noted in audit report

- Actual expenditures exceeded the amounts authorized in the budget.
- There were repeated reported deficiencies from previous years.
- Bank reconciliations were not performed timely.
- There were reported deficiencies included with the audit report.

Holly Township mulls ordinance for medical marijuana dispensaries

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Holly Township has joined other local municipalities, including the village of Holly, in discussing medical marijuana dispensaries.

Summary

The Holly Township Board has begun discussion on a medical marijuana dispensary ordinance.

The Board of Trustees discussed a possible medical marijuana dispensary ordinance at its February meeting. After 45 minutes of discussion, the board chose to table the issue, and come back next month with more information.

“It’s a preliminary discussion,” said Supervisor Jesse Lambert. “This is just the beginning of the process.”

During public comment, Lambert said there were opinions expressed for and against medical marijuana dispensaries in Holly Township.

“This is a social ordeal as well,” said Lambert. “We want to make sure we get it right.”

Part of the research includes looking at ordinances from other municipalities, including the village of Holly, and the cities of Burton, and Walled Lake.

A new ordinance has not been drafted, and won’t be approved at the March meeting either, according to Lambert.

No one was appointed to draft an ordinance, but the township’s attorney, Gregory Need, will be present at the next meeting and the board will discuss a possible ordinance with more research.

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See PENALTIES on 12
Schools receive money for saving energy

Linden receives $42,150 incentive check, Holly $3,290

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Two area school districts received a combined $45,440 from Consumers Energy in response to completing projects to become more energy efficient.

Linden Community Schools received an incentive check for $42,150 for boiler replacements because it saved 2,714 thousand cubic feet (Mcf) of natural gas annually. Holly Area Schools received an incentive check for $3,290 to install efficient lighting in the Sherman Middle School gymnasium because it saved 39,104 kilowatt hours (kWh) annually.

In the first full year of the program, Consumers Energy’s Business Solutions program exceeded savings goals set by the Clean, Renewable and Efficient Energy Act of 2008 by 17 percent. Statewide, these projects are saving the participating customers an estimated $15.4 million per year in energy costs after savings are factored in. In addition, they are saving 124.7 million kWh of electricity and more than 322,000 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of natural gas, annually. That is enough energy to serve about 14,650 residential electrical customers and about 3,350 residential natural gas customers.

Ed Koledo, superintendent of Linden schools, said, “By replacing the boilers to high efficiency models early, we were able to receive that rebate/incentive money. Said Koledo.

The $42,000 will go into the general fund to help with the overall budget, said Koledo.

Steve Lenar, assistant superintendent, said, “The energy savings is calculated to be $4,270.”

Holly reduced its overall consumption throughout the district, and five of its six instructional buildings qualified for Energy Star certification.

“We are very proud of this accomplishment,” said Lenar.

Incentives...

Consumers Energy awarded $11.3 million in incentives in 2010 to help 2,450 Michigan commercial and industrial customers complete projects to become more energy efficient.

LFHS principal to retire at end of year

After nearly three decades, Jerry Kramer saying good-bye

By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Lake Fenton — As the Lake Fenton Community Schools district was in the midst of celebrating Principals’ Week, the school board released its timetable to find a replacement for its retiring high school principal. Jerry Kramer announced that he would be retiring at the end of this school year. He has been with the school district for more than 26 years and has served it in several capacities, including teacher, principal, assistant principal, athletic director and assistant superintendent.

Most recently, he was appointed as interim principal in October 2008 when former principal John Spicko resigned to go elsewhere. In May 2009, the Lake Fenton Board of Education voted unanimously in favor of keeping Kramer on as principal for the next two school years. The school board expects to post the principal position from Feb. 18 to March 18 and review applications from March 28 to April 1. Interviews are to take place in April and the board hopes to vote on a new principal at its meeting in May.

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New Patients Always Welcome!
Police report

SMASH AND GRAB

Linden police received a larceny from an auto complaint on Feb. 12. Chief Scott Sutter said a woman reported that the rear passenger window was broken out of her car and several personal belongings were stolen while she was at a local business late at night on Feb. 11.

WARRANT ARREST

On Feb. 19, Linden police picked up a 22-year-old Linden man on outstanding arrest warrants out of Linden and Clawson. He was temporarily lodged at the Fenton police station until he could be transported to court the following day.

POT FOUND IN CAR

Fenton police stopped a Chevy Cavalier on Feb. 17 for an equipment violation. A search of his car revealed 2 grams of suspected marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The Fenton Township man was arrested.

FIFTH OWI

At 12:20 a.m. on Feb. 17, Fenton police were alerted to a possible drunk driver on Donaldson Drive. The driver blew a .178 on the breath test. He refused the chemical test at the police station and later had blood drawn at the hospital. Police learned that the 64-year-old Grand Blanc man had four prior alcohol related offenses. Police are seeking the warrant for felony drunk driving and driving with a revoked license.

OFF-DUTY COP SPOTS DRUNK DRIVER

On Feb. 16, an off-duty Holly police officer followed a possibly intoxicated driver on westbound Grange Hall Road and notified Fenton police. Fenton police initiated a traffic stop on Silver Lake Road. The 34-year-old Linden man blew a .198 on the preliminary breath test and a .20 on a chemical test.

SHOPLIFTER HAS CASES PENDING

At 2:20 p.m. on Feb. 21, Fenton police responded to a retail fraud complaint from a department store on Silver Parkway. A 28-year-old Linden man was arrested for exiting the store with $300 worth of video games and a Wii controller concealed underneath his clothes and in a diaper bag belonging to his small child, accompanying him. Police learned he has several similar cases pending in circuit court. First-degree retail fraud charges are being sought.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SHARON STONE

The Argentine Township Police Department expects to move out of their cramped office, located in the basement of the township hall.

Police get nod to move back to former location

By Sharon Stone

Argentine Twp. — The Argentine Township Police Department will be moving out of the township hall basement and into its former building, about a half-mile east on Silver Lake Road.

During a special meeting Saturday morning, the Argentine Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously in favor of the amended three-year, lease-to-own contract that Police Chief Dan Allen and Ferrellgas worked out.

Clerk Denise Graves said the township attorney was satisfied with the lease.

The police department moved into the basement of the township hall in September 2007, to save the township from paying the $1,000 monthly lease.

Although the move saved the township $12,000 annually, the police department had to adjust to half the space. Interviewing victims and suspects was difficult at times, with the township office located just feet away. Storage was also an issue.

Since the 2007 move, the building owned by Ferrellgas has been vacant. The police chief worked out a lease, at $500 per month. The police department will also have the use of a portion of the property, which it will use as an impound lot, a source of revenue for the department.

Police are looking forward to the move, which is expected to occur in March, after some minor renovations are completed, such as painting. A fence is also needed to secure the impound lot.

Allen said, the morale of the department has definitely been lifted, knowing they will have more breathing room. He’s been working out the last few details, such as getting a new sign out front, interior painting and the fence. As soon as the interior has a fresh coat of paint, he expects to start moving in.

POTHOLES

Continued from Front Page

Michigan drivers can visit www.drivemi.org and submit pothole locations, photos and comments to the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association (MITA), the road industry group sponsoring the new reporting system.

MITA will gather the information to create a new statewide Google Map containing user-submitted pothole locations, photos, and comments. User-submitted pothole locations will appear on a map at MITA’s website. The map will appear this week when MITA receives pothole submissions from residents around the state.

In addition to collecting the pothole data, MITA will report the pothole locations to state and local road agencies as a public service.

“Driving on pothole-riddled roads costs each Michigan motorist an average of $570 a year, and the average pothole repair can run even higher.”

Mike Nystrom

executive vice president of MITA

CRASHES

Continued from Front Page

Lt. Jason Slater said that between 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 20 and 8 a.m. on Feb. 22, police responded to five crashes on U.S. 23, or its ramps, and four crashes on city streets.

Because of the quickly accumulating snow, drivers found themselves losing control of their vehicles. Slater said no injuries were reported with the slide-offs and vehicles were towed from the ditches.

The last snow-related crash was Tuesday morning on Shiawassee Avenue. The driver lost control on the slick road surface and ran into a street sign. The vehicle was gone by the time police arrived.

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Continued from Front Page

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By Sally Rummett
srummet@tctimes.com 810-629-8282

Lauren Reynolds, a senior at Fenton High School, already knows what she wants to do with her life. Now, she’s just figuring out how she is going to make it work financially.

Reynolds plans to attend Grand Valley State University this fall, to pursue a bachelor’s degree in rehabilitation, followed by a master’s program in physical therapy (PT) at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

“I can relate to physical therapy because of my interest in sports, and also because my dad recently had open-heart surgery and had to use PT services,” said Reynolds.

She is right on track in turning in the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA), which is due March 1, which will determine her eligibility for federal student financial aid. She is also anticipating a local scholarship package from Fenton schools in April, which will contain a number of local “random” scholarships that she will apply for.

As a student athlete with a 3.85 grade point average, Reynolds is also hoping to earn the Scholar-Athlete Award at Fenton High School. She is also applying for scholarships through her mom’s employment at Spartan Stores through the local VG’s store, as well as her dad’s work through a local union.

“The plan is for my parents to pay a third, loans and scholarships to fund a third and for me to contribute a third through work at school and savings from my job at Mancino’s,” said Reynolds.

With public, four-year colleges charging an average, $7,605 per year in tuition and fees for in-state students, plus the costs of room and board, books and other fees, making a financial plan for college is a necessity. Private colleges are even more expensive, charging, on average, $27,293 per year in tuition and fees.

Most college students do receive financial aid, according to www.collegeboard.com. In 2009-10, more than $154 billion in financial aid was awarded to undergraduate students. The average amount of aid for a full-time undergraduate student was about $11,500, including more than $6,000 in grants that don’t have to be repaid.

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☆ Spanish in Every Grade
☆ Character Development

In 2009-10, more than $154 billion in financial aid was awarded to undergraduate students. The average amount of aid for a full-time undergraduate student was about $11,500, including more than $6,000 in grants that don’t have to be repaid. To find and compare lenders, visit PrivateStudentLoans.com. To better inform yourself about the amount you will have to repay after school check out the student loan calculator. This will calculate monthly loan payments for a given loan amount and rate. If you have questions, visit the financial aid forum at financialaidforum.com to discuss options with students and financial aid experts.

Source: www.howtogettin.com
**IDENTITY**

Continued from Front Page

LifeLock, Inc., more than 11 million Americans were victimized by identity theft. People hand over personal information every day, and thieves know who gives it out and to whom. This is why 590 data breaches in 2010, affecting a reported 11 million Americans, were made public by the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse.

“From account passwords to phone numbers and Social Security numbers, we are asked to share our personal information nearly every day,” said Todd Davis, chairperson and CEO of LifeLock, Inc., the nation’s provider of proactive identity theft protection. “Each time we hand over these key pieces of our personal information, we increase our vulnerability to identity theft.”

The increase in breaches from 2009 to 2010 can be seen in government and/or military agencies doubling the number of reported data breaches and financial and insurance institutions tripling the number of reported breaches.

“Just like thieves rob banks because that’s where the money is, identity thieves target government, military, financial and insurance agencies because of the large amounts of personal information they hold,” said Davis.

“In order to bring to light these issues where consumers are vulnerable, LifeLock has made a significant investment in educating consumers, law enforcement and our elected officials to the risks and solutions surrounding this crime.”

According to the report “2009 Annual Study: Cost of a Data Breach” published by the Ponemon Institute in January 2010, the average organizational cost of a data breach was $6.75 million, or an average of $204 per record lost.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro sees many of these cases and offers advice for anyone who is trying to repair the damage.

“The first step is to run a credit report and find out what is out there. Next, contact each creditor that has an unknown account in the victim’s name. The victim will have to work through the process of documenting that it is an identity fraud. “I would cancel all of my credit cards or at least put a hold on the account so nothing can be charged against those accounts,” said Aro.

“It’s too late to get back the money and advise them of the problem also.”

Det. Scott Townsend said the only way a victim will learn they have become a victim of identity theft is by running a credit report or when they have a loan or credit card application denied.

“That’s true identity theft,” said Townsend.

Credit card fraud involves someone using another’s credit card number to make purchases without the cardholder’s authorization. “By the time you know about it, they’re long gone and your credit is damaged,” he said.

Prosecuting identity theft suspects is difficult, especially when it occurs across state lines.

Reporting the crime to the local police department is important as quickly as possible to slow down any future action and further damages. Victims can also go to www.consumer.gov/fraud for additional assistance. Townsend generally calls credit card companies directly when he helps victims.

One of Townsend’s most serious cases is pending. This case involves a suspect living in North Carolina and a victim from this area who has lost between $20,000 and $30,000.

**How to protect yourself:**

- **Watch your credit score**
- **Shop smart.** With online shopping, be sure to look for a security seal and https in the URL.
- **Don’t share personal information.** Before providing personal information, especially at doctors’ offices and other places of business, ask why the information is needed.
- **Strengthen your passwords.** Changing passwords often and using numbers, symbols, and uppercase letters can help protect accounts from being hacked.
- **Stay alert.** High-tech thieves are busy coming up with inventive ways to get at your personal information, including skimming your credit card during checkout, shoulder surfing to snap a picture of your account, and phishing for your identity via e-mail, websites, texting, or phone calls.
- **Shred and destroy your documents.** Dumpster diving is a proven method for thieves to gain access to your personal information.
- **Protect your mail.** Protect your mailbox from thieves by replacing unlocked versions with a secure model.
- **Protect your children’s information.** These days, you are not the only person in your family at risk.

Source: LifeLock.com

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**SAFE TOWNSEND**

**Launched in 2005**

**Townsend’s most serious cases are**

**easy to identify.**

**Townsend’s most serious cases are difficult, especially when it occurs across state lines.**

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Source: LifeLock.com

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**HIGH-TECH THIEVES ARE BUSY COMING UP WITH INVENTIVE WAYS TO GET AT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION.**

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**COMMUNITY EXPO**

**SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5**

10:00AM TO 5:00PM

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6**

11:00AM TO 4:00PM

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With inflatables, soccer shootout, carnival games, prizes, drawings and more!

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**ONLY 6 BOOTH LEFT!**

**Source:** LifeLock.com

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

- **Michigan was ranked 18th nationwide for the number identity theft complaints.**
- **In 2009, there were 7,525 identity theft complaints in Michigan.**
- **The three most common types are credit card fraud, government documents or benefits fraud and phone or utilities fraud.**
- **Fenton ranked first in identity theft complaints in 2009 — highest in the nation, per capita.**
- **In 2009, 1.3 million consumer complaints involving some form of identity theft related, were received by the Federal Trade Commission.**

**Source:** LifeLock.com

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**IN 2009, 1.3 MILLION CONSUMER COMPLAINTS INVOLVING SOME FORM OF IDENTITY THEFT RELATED, WERE RECEIVED BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.**

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**Source:** LifeLock.com
KINDLES
Continued from Front Page

All three women have in common the love of reading, and even belong to the same book club, which allows them to share their passion with other women in the group. However, like the rest of the world, times are changing in the world of books and this trend shows every month when the women get together for books and conversation.

“We’ve got about 15 active members in our book club, and I’d guess that about four women out of this group have e-readers, either Kindles or Nooks,” said Herzog, who admits to being non-technological, not even using a cell phone. “But, technology hasn’t changed the books, or our love of reading. I just can’t borrow their books,” she adds, with a smile.

This local group of readers recently celebrated their 10th year of sharing books together as a club, including the special milestone of completing their 100th book, “The Kitchen House.” They cheered each other on and had flags.

As a synchronized team, every member must work in unison to form one entity. “I’ll remember how hard we worked to get there,” she said. “We worked really hard.”

Rickert is preparing for nationals, which are taking place in Ontario, California and another show in Ann Arbor. Because of her age, she’s now too old to keep competing with the team. “If I’m probably done, she said. “It will be sad.”

“People spend so much of their work day on the computer, that we are finding many customers still appreciating the joy of reading traditional books,” said storeowner Liz Henderson, “I hear comments from people all the time about how expensive e-readers are, plus the expense of downloading e-books. They can’t buy them used, nor can they pass the book on.”

What makes e-books so popular?

• The ability to carry a near unlimited amount of books.
• The sharp E-Ink screen, which reads like a real book (so you don’t get eye fatigue and you can read under any environment).
• The long battery life (most eBook readers can get more than two weeks of use).
• The ability to purchase books from the device (available on the Kindle, Nook, Bebook Neo, for example).
• The ability to load up any pdf, pre purchased eBook, or document into the device for reading later.
• The compact form factor.
• Varying price points (you can pick up an ebook reader for as little as $100, and as much as $500).

Source: E-book Review Club

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Their experience in the last 10 years as books have expanded from traditional books to electronic readers mirrors what is happening in the world of books, with e-readers gaining market share and popularity — even in traditional settings like local libraries.

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NEW JOBS
Continued from Front Page

The $51 million investment includes $3.4 million — and 150 new jobs — in the Genesee County area, said Timothy Weir, director of corporate communications and public affairs. It will be divided among Acument’s facilities in Fenton, Holly and Grand Blanc Township, over a three-year period. A $875,000 Michigan Economic Growth Authority (MEGA) tax credit, from the Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC) in December 2010, is making it possible. The tax credit the MEDC recommended enabled Acument to return investments in Michigan, rather than at competing sites in Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee and Mexico.

Acument had local support as well, in the form of tax abatements from the city of Fenton, Sterling Heights, and Grand Blanc Township. Local support is a requirement for receiving a MEGA tax credit.

Fenton City Mayor Sue Osborn and City Manager Lynn Markland played an instrumental role in educating members of Congress about the importance of the auto industry to Michigan’s economy, Markland said, at the country, Weir said in a Feb. 4 letter to Osborn. “I am convinced that your personal work in Washington with the Mayors Automatical provid- ed real-life examples to legislators of the failing auto industry’s impact on local communities. ”

Markland said Acument and Cre- ative Manufacturing Technologies, another MEGA recipi- ent from Fenton, did excellent jobs of being able to sustain the economic downturn and coming back as automotive suppliers. The auto industry is very important to the state, he said.

Acument’s location in Fenton will no longer be a manufacturing one. Instead, its functions will be processing and serv- ing as the company’s technical center. The technical center is being moved from Sterling Heights to Fenton. There will be a dozen engineers at the technical center in Fenton, said Director of Engineering Bob Waligora. Rhodes & Johnson remodeled the office and technical areas.

Plant Operator George Salas said there would be around 50 employees at the center by the end of this year, grow- ing to approximately 100 in 2012. The processing capability will have doubled from this year’s capacity.

Acument expects to create more jobs than the targets it submitted to the MEDC in its MEGA tax credit applica- tion, Weir said.

What will be happening at Acument’s North American Technical and Processing Center in Fenton?

It will handle processing for the company’s North American plants in Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois and Mexico. Processes will include heat treatment, zinc electroplating, stak- ing (an assembly process), part sorting and other processes previously performed out of state.

The zinc electroplating equipment was moved to Fenton from a supplier in Rockford, Ill., that was downsizing, said Director of Engineering Bob Waligora. In addition, because of the closing of the Sterling Heights location, wastewater treatment equip- ment is being added at the center, to clean water before it enters Fenton’s wastewater system.

By the end of March, a technical resource center will be in place, with faster testing equipment, a scanning electron microscope and spectrometer for metallurgy, Waligora said. Engi- neers will be moving from other Acu- ment locations to the one in Fenton.

The North American Technical and Processing Center will cut transportation time and help get fin- ished parts to customers faster, said Timothy Weir, director of Corporate Communications & Public Affairs. In addition, customers like Acument having direct control over all of the processes involved in treating the parts. It’s the best way to maintain quality, he said.

This is for the in-house testing and other engineering work as well, Waligora said.

IRS Property Tax Deduction:

Currently a Federal deduction for Property Taxes paid can only be taken by filing Schedule A (itemizing). For the last 2 years a deduction had been allowed when taking the standard deduction. IRS allows a deduction for actual property taxes PAID. The de- ductible taxes may be for prior years.

The Michigan Property Tax Credit is based upon the taxes BILLED on your residence for the year, even if they have not been paid! In most cases the taxes MUST NOT include special assessments.

The team at the Tax Center is here for you year-round! Call with any questions or tax related concerns.

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MEET OUR STAFF! Jolyn VITA EA
Jolyn is an Ohio State graduate and has been with TAX CENTER 11 years, since her retirement from Carman-Ainsworth School District. In 2004 she passed the IRS exams to become an Enrolled Agent. She is licensed to represent taxpayers before the IRS.

WHAT, GM EMPLOYEES aren’t entitled to a bonus for doing a good job, but restaur- ant servers are? How does the GM bonus come from “Joe the Plumber’s” brother, “Joe the Taxpayer”? I pay taxes and have never seen that deduction in my tax return. And, no, I have never worked for GM or any other auto company, so I owe them nothing. The only solution, stop all bonuses and tips.

SHARED SACRIFICE, HUH? Where was the shared ‘gain’ when the Republicans outsourced our jobs to get another few million in bonuses? Where was the shared ‘gain’ when Bush’s tax cuts gave millions to the rich and pennies to the working poor? What’s being shared about teachers losing their jobs and administration retaining six-figure salaries? The common worker pays for the rich’s greed. No shared sacrifi- ce, no shared gain.

DEMOCRATS BELIEVE UNION mem- bers want to belong to their union, so both groups should support a right-to-work law in Michigan. Employees can make their own decision to join, or not to join the union, and the question would be answered right here and right now. The Michigan people should push that issue to a vote.

TO ALL PARENTS: myself included, we brought these beautiful gifts from God into this very scary, stressed-out world. We have to reach ourselves to try hard not to live through them. Let’s face it, times are much different. I remember when I was accepted for my own talent, not by who my parents were or what school I went to, or even if I was college material. What matters are tolerance, respect, and good examples.

PENALTIES
Continued from Page 5

In response to the state’s request for action, township officials voted, Feb. 9, in favor of hiring a book- keeper, instructing officers to draft a response to the treasury department and to have the state treasury depart- ment audit the township’s books. “The motion passed, we should move forward,” said Kalcec.

Kalcec has released a statement about the situation (see Guest View- point at right). Slaughter did not return comments by presstime.

As all who keep up with Rose Town- ship government know by now, the financial reporting for your government has been found deficient. And, because responsibility for the financial health of the township falls on all of the board members, the majority of the board be- lieves it is important to identify the source of the issues and address them.

The board and members of the pub- lic have repeatedly asked the clerk and treasurer, the officials responsible for fi- nancial record keeping, management and reporting, for issues that were identified in the fiscal year 2009 audit were being ad- dressed. The trustees, supervisor and the public in attendance were assured that all of the questions were resolved.

This, apparently, is not the case. The following points are, I believe, important to every taxpayer.

The fact that the serious issues noted in the fiscal year 2009 audit were not resolved is unacceptable to the rest of the township trustees and supervisor.

Ken Palka, of Pfeffer, Hanniford and Palka, informed the board Feb. 12 that the township will be con- tacted by the Michigan Department of Treasury, which will require the township to provide a plan for correcting the mate- rial weaknesses noted in the fiscal year 2010 audit documents.

Accurate budget amendments and fi- nancial planning cannot be accomplished by the end of the fiscal year unless the information contained in the township’s general ledger is accurate and is com- pleted in a timely manner.

Tax collection and disbursement infor- mation has not been recorded in the town- ship’s general ledger so periodic financial reports cannot be provided to the board or the public for this fund. The treasurer has continually resisted accounting for your tax dollars in a transparent manner through the township’s general ledger.

Bank statements have balances that have not, or cannot, be reconciled to the amounts recorded in the township’s general ledger.

Over the last two years, the township has expended more than $18,000 on CPA services to train and assist the new clerk and the new treasurer with performing the statutory duties of their respective offices. Even with that assistance, those duties have not been performed adequately.

It appears that the services that were provided were for CPA’s were bookkeep- ing services, which could and should have been performed by the clerk and treasurer or a bookkeeping assistant at a much lower cost.

The township adopted the “Uniform Accounting Procedures Manual” pro- vided by the Michigan Department of Treasury as a model for the elected officials to do whatever is necessary to adhere to that policy. As such, I am recommending that township elected officials come to the table immediately to formulate a plan for obtaining the services of a qualified book- keeper within the confines of the budget. In addition, the township board must take all necessary steps to conduct the business of the township in accordance with policies and procedures that protect the citizens that we serve.
Looking at America

Andy Rooney is taking the day off. In his absence, we are reprinting a classic column originally published April 26, 1993.

Fourth on my list of things I’d like to do, but doubt I ever will, is to drive across the United States and back. While I’m dreaming, I’d like to do it in a car that’s bigger and more luxurious than ours. I’ve never been in a Rolls-Royce. That would be nice. We’ll have a bigger cooler with ice in back. I read once where a Rolls gets only 8 miles a gallon, but on long drives, it’s nice to have to stop for gas. It will take at least a month because we’re not going to stay on the main roads and we’re not going straight across. If I see a town or a place on the map that we want to go to, I’m going to go there. I only want to see small towns. Most of us think of ourselves as small-town people, even though we live in a big city. We like the idea of living in a small town, but from a distance. We’d drive 600 or even 700 miles some days, but then there’d be days I couldn’t make 100 miles. If we got to a little town we liked, we’d stay for a few days. We’d have breakfast at the diner and spend some time in the hardware store so we got to meet people. I’d like to drop in and talk to the people at the local newspaper. I like newspaper people. We’d talk about how bad the news is on television. Starting south from New York, I’d stay a little west of Philadelphia and Washington because I’ve seen them and I wanted to see more of the backcountry of Virginia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. I’d turn right, just before I got to Florida, above the armpit on the map. I think I can drive from there to maybe Duluth, looks like five days drive, have lunch. From Missoula way over somewhere in Montana while we’re in the throes of one of his botched evil plans. Suddenly, Megamind has no purpose. A super villain without a super hero, he realizes that achieving his life’s ambition is the worst thing that ever happened to him. So, he creates a new villain opponent called Titan. Now, Megamind must decide, can he defeat his own diabolical creation?

Dear Dr. Donohue: Can you give an explanation of and recommend a cure for a health problem I have? I am 65 and in reasonably good health. I suffer every winter from painful cracks in my fingertips and the soles of my feet. — R.V.

Answer: The cracking indicates that your skin is drying out. You can restore moisture to your fingertips with a light coat — just a dab will do you — of petroleum jelly (Vaseline or another moisturizer) before going to bed. Put Band-Aids over your fingertips, and leave them on all night. You can do the same during the day, but it’s a bit inconvenient. In about three days, the cracks should be filling in. Continue this treatment every third or fourth night. The same thing works for the feet. You don’t use Band-Aids, but you do cover your feet with socks before going to sleep. Don’t apply petroleum jelly during the daytime. It might make you somewhat unsteady. It takes longer for feet to heal.

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 359475, Orlando, FL, 32835-0475.

Painful cracks in my fingertips

Dear Dr. Donohue: Can you give an explanation of and recommend a cure for a health problem I have? I am 65 and in reasonably good health. I suffer every winter...
**Third-ranked Lake Fenton prepared for trip to Kellogg Arena**

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — Bring up the Division 3 Team Wrestling State Meet to Bryce Hopkins, and instantly he’ll put a happy grin on his face, almost looking giddy.

Who can blame the senior for it? After all, he’s part of the first Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team headed to the Battle Creek’s Kellogg Arena for the Division 3 Team State Meet.

“It’s great. I’ll probably be one of the greatest experiences in my life,” Hopkins said. “It’s going to be one of the best memories of my high school career. I’m excited, really excited.”

Hopkins isn’t the only one. While snow kept most kids away from area schools on Monday, the Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team had to be at the school at 3 p.m. sharp, preparing for what could be the team’s biggest match in school history on Friday. The third-ranked Blue Devils open the state quarterfinals with a match-up against sixth-ranked Otsego. The winner of that match, will advance to the final four on Saturday, wrestling against the winner of another Friday quarterfinal match — No. 2 Dundee vs. No. 7 Midland Bullock Creek.

“It means a lot,” senior Zach Corcoran said. “I’ve been wanting to do it forever. You get to go to states, and you always watch all the good teams go wrestle. And you watch your friends that are on those teams and wish that you were there. This year, we get to go, so I’m really excited about it.”

“It’s super loud. You just see TRIP on 15**

**Twenty-three area wrestlers headed to state meet**

By David Troppens

droppens@ctimes.com

Holly — Holly varsity wrestling coach Don Pluta doesn’t want to use the word “overwhelming” to describe his team’s performance at the Division 2 individual regional held at Holly High School, but he really has no choice.

After all, his team shattered all school records, qualifying 11 of 12 wrestlers for the Division 2 Individual State Wrestling Championships to be held at the Palace of Auburn Hills, starting March 3. The old record, well, that was six wrestlers.

“It’s been amazing. I’m so sky high,” Pluta said. “I don’t want to say I’m overwhelmed, but it’s awesome, and I’m sure the success we’ve had.”

The Bronchos had three of six regional champs out of their 11 wrestlers to qualify for the state meet, as Sanders (13-9 in the championship match. Meanwhile, Holly’s other 90-0 grappler, Shawn Scott (171) won his title by defeating Ferndale’s Chavez Ferris 6-2. The third championship was defending state champ Anthony Gonzales (119), who defeated Riverview’s Chris Carroll by decision in 1:11. “We were all pumped up,” Gonzales said of the meet. Everyone was getting ready. Everyone was focused and in their zone. Being at home was a major advantage. We had a lot more people come out and support us. That was great.”

Two others lost title matches, coming home with runner-up performances. Mason Cleaver (112) lost to Crestwood’s Joey Golani 3-1. Meanwhile, Zack Jones (130) was edged by Allen Park’s Caleb Riley 10-5 in their title match. Dominic Russ (112), Tyler Gibson (119), Cas Guzdziol (160) and Joe Prowarski (215) earned Runner-up finishes.

**Regional Champs**

Here is a list of tri-county wrestlers who won regional titles on Saturday.

**Lake Fenton (B) — Todd Melick (41-4): 125**


**Holly (C) — 3:119 — Anthony Gonzales, 30-2:125 — Steve Gonzales, 50-0; 171 — Shawn Scott 50-0**

**Linden (1): 189**

- Kyle Fisher, 56-0 - Morris (53-3)

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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES submitted by Fenton’s McKenna Valley placed eighth in slalom at regionals.**

**Fenton girls ski team headed to state meet**

By David Troppens

droppens@ctimes.com

The Fenton varsity girls ski team wanted to qualify for the team state meet at regionals, and did just that on Thursday at Mt. Holly.

The Tigers qualified for state by taking third place at the Division 1 regional held at Mt. Holly, scoring 133 points. Walled Lake Northern and Water Ledge Central took first and second, respectively.

The Tigers edged out White Lake Lakeland (144) for third, earning the state spot in the state meet to be hosted at Marquette Mountain on Monday. The Fenton boys placed eighth.

“Our team feels incredibly proud,” said Fenton ski coach Woody Brackney. “We have worked so hard to get to one of our goals, the state finals, from all of our athletes and our coaching staff. Our team theme this year is ‘One team, one dream.’”

The girls earned their state position on the strength of their outstanding team effort in the slalom. The Tigers led the field in that event, scoring just 48 points, doing 20 points better than the team they beat out for third, Lakeland.

McKenna Valley had the strongest showing by Fenton, taking eighth overall with a combined score of 225.

See SKI on 16
TRIP

Continued from Page 14

get one takedown and the place goes nuts.

It’s going to be fun.”

The Blue Devils will be the favorites in their
quarterfinal match, but probably won’t be in any match they may compete in the rest of the way. But it’s not like Ot-
sego is a sure thing. The Bulldogs have seven
state-qualifiers, including Tenern Gott (145), who is 57-1. Still, the Blue Devils should be favored against the squad that hasn’t been to the state meet since 2002.

So what can we expect? That may be a first-time experience for most of Lake Fenton, Ot-
sego finds itself in much the same situation.

And, in fact, the Blue Devils do have team state tournament vets — transfers Justin Melick and Todd Melick and James De-
member each have competed in Battle Creek meet before.

“I doubt it will bother us. We have nev-
er been there, but we have kids that have,” Lake Fenton coach Vance Corcoran said.

“One thing that has helped us a ton is that we have parents that have been there and they are telling us what we have to do this and get this done. Their experience is helping out more than anything.”

“But like I’ve said, our schedule is one of the toughest around, so it’s not like we are going in there worried like, ‘Oh, God, these teams are awesome.’ We’ve already wrestled teams that are just as good, if not better, than the teams that are here. We’ll go there, wrestle and see what happens.

These kids aren’t scared. They just want to wrestle.”

If Lake Fenton wins on Friday, Sat-
day’s semifinal match begins at Kellogg Arena at 11:45 a.m. The finals for all di-
visions start at 4 p.m. No tri-county team has ever won a team state title with the current format.

Lake Fenton at Battle Creek’s Kellogg Arena

Friday’s opener: The third-seeded Blue Devils take on No. 6 Otsego at 5:30 p.m. for a quarterfinal match.

Last time: Lake Fenton has never been to the team state meet until last year, and following with defending state champ in 2002.

The favorite: Richmond is the No. 1 seed for a reason. They are the defending champs and are loaded this year as well. But Dundee is pretty loaded as well.

Rest of the field: The Blue Devils may be the best of the rest of the field, and probably on any given day can beat any team in the field. Still they aren’t the favorites. Four of the teams return from last year — Richmond, Roscommon, Allendale and Dundee.

Quarterfinal outlook: Otsego has its fair share of very strong wres-
tlers, mainly in the lighter weights, but will be the underdogs against the Blue Devils and their 10 state quali-
fiers. There could end up being some pretty good matchups in those lighter weights, though, and the Blue Devils need to win their share of them. Ne-
ither team has any real state tourney experience, so that becomes a wash. However, the Blue Devils do have wrestlers like Justin and Todd Melick who have experienced this scenario at Detroit Catholic Central in the past.

Lake Fenton outlook: Getting out of Friday’s quarterfinal is a very realistic possibility. A Dundee vs. Lake Fenton semifinal match would be a huge challenge. Dundee returns three defending state champs and a runner-up.

Holly celebrates its team regional title last week. The Bronchos go to the team state meet for the second time in school history on Friday.

Holly at Battle Creek’s Kellogg Arena

Friday’s opener: The seventh-seeded Bronchos face No. 2 seed Greenville at 7:45 p.m. for a quarterfi-
nal match.

Last time: Holly lost in the semifinals of last year’s D2 state tourney. Holly hasn’t been to the state meet since 2005.

The favorite: St. Johns returns to the defending state champ and the No. 1 seed in the tourney.

The rest of the field: It’s a field loaded with state experience. Allegan lost by a point to St. Johns in the title match a year ago, while Stevensville Lakeshore and Greenville were at Battle Creek last season as well. Besides Holly, only Dearborn Heights Crestwood hasn’t been to the state meet in either of the last two seasons.

Quarterfinal outlook: This will be a tough matchup for Holly. Greenville has seven state qualifiers, and three others that weren’t state qualifiers that have won at least 30 matches. They are really strong at 160 and up, starting with Adam Bonner (160), who was a runner-up at state last year, and following with defending state champ Jordan Thomas (171).

Holly outlook: The Bronchos are the underdogs against Greenville, but if they can get their first-ever state quarterfinal victory, they’ll probably have a bit easier time of it with Te-
cumseh or Allegan in the semifinals. St. Johns will be tough for anyone to beat.

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DEVILS
Continued from Page 14

took fourth.

Corcoran had a 7-2 decision over Onsted’s Wes Peper for his title. He’s only two wins short of 200 for his career. Poyner beat Saginaw Swan Valley’s Chris Thiele 4-2 for the second straight week to capture a championship. Poyner has 193 career wins.

“No matter where we end up with wins, Zach and I just need to come out and wrestle hard,” Poyner said. “If he’s getting to 200 career wins would be great. It is nice to give (Thiele) his only losses, and we will most likely meet again at state.”

Todd Melick and Hopkins took two of the top three places at 119. Todd Melick (41-4) had a 6-0 decision over Swan Valley’s Josh Flores, and Hopkins (38-16) blanked Hemlock’s Chance Livak 5-0 for third place, qualifying for state for Lake Fenton for a third straight year.

Justin Melick beat O’Guinn in an all-Lake Fenton final at 145. Justin Melick (49-5) is on a hot winning streak after his rare losses came early and is looking for his second straight state crown.

“After a slow start, I have been wrestling well lately and at the right time,” said Melick.

Branchseau (52-3) knocked off Swan Valley’s Joey Flores and has won two-of-three head-to-head battles in the last few weeks. They could run into each other at the state meet once again.

Morris (50-3) won by disqualification in the final over Montrose’s Jake Freeman. Demember, who had a major decision win over Birch Run’s Adam Bishop at Team Regionals, had a 9-6 setback against him in the semifinal. Demember bounced back with a fall over Onsted’s Mike Lobbestad in 3:55 to earn third place.

DIVISION 2
REGIONAL AT DE WITT

The Linden Eagles had two wrestlers advance out of regionals, including one wrestler that remains perfect.

Kyle Fisher (189) improved to 56-0 by cruising through his weight class.

He won his first two matches by pinfall and then won the final by injury default against Sparta’s Paul Dunneback due to an early injury. It was short-lived, but that’s what happens.

“Dunneback was ranked third (in the state) and Kyle second, so we really wanted to see that match,” Linden coach Todd Skinner said.

The Eagles had one other wrestler advance out. Dallas Blank (140) placed fourth.

Linden’s Dallas Blank (top) qualified for the Division 2 Individual Wrestling State Championships, to be held at the Palace of Auburn Hills by taking fourth place at regional action on Saturday.
HARTLAND CLASS of 1976 is planning their 35th class reunion for 7-23-2011. We are currently looking for classmates. Please send email addresses to hartlandclassof76@sbcglobal.net. Encourage fellow classmates to send theirs too.

More info to follow.

Hartland Class of 1976

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF GROVELAND TOWNSHIP 2011 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING

The Board of Review of the Township of Groveland will meet at the
GROVELAND TOWNSHIP HALL, 4699 Grange Hall Road, Holly, Michigan, Lower Level, for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto, at the following dates and times:

Tuesday, March 8, 2011
1:00 PM to 4:30 PM
Tuesday, March 15, 2011
1:00 PM to 4:30 PM
Tuesday, March 22, 2011
1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Additional days will be scheduled, if necessary, to give everyone an opportunity to appeal their assessment.

Property owners may file their protests by letter provided they are received at the Township Hall by Monday March 7, 2011.

For those wishing to protest in person, please schedule an appointment by calling:

OAKLAND COUNTY EQUALIZATION DIVISION
248-975-9611

If you have any questions regarding the above notice, please feel free to call GROVELAND TOWNSHIP OFFICE during regular business hours at (248)634-4152.

ROBERT DEPALMA, SUPERVISOR
Groveland Township
September 16, 2011

3850 North Forty Lane
Fenton, Michigan 48430

(810) 516-7096

www.homes4saleby主人.com

Five Bedroom, Four Bathrooms

45 Acres of Pure Michigan

$450,000

Call for a Personalized Tour

We are a pet friendly home

Foreclosure Notice: The property is subject to a judgment lien. You should be aware that a judgment lien can attach to your property and limit your ability to sell your home. A judgment lien can be recorded at the Genesee County Clerk's Office, 500 South Saginaw St., Flint, MI 48502. The Genesee County Clerk's Office can provide you with information on how to determine whether there are any judgment liens against your property. You should also check with your mortgage lender to determine if there are any judgment liens against your property. You may also contact your local bar association or legal aid organization for assistance in determining if you have any judgment liens against your property. You should also be aware that if a judgment lien is recorded against your property, you may have the right to demand a hearing on the matter. You should contact the Genesee County Clerk's Office at (810) 237-6900 to find out more information on how to demand a hearing on the matter.

Pre-Payment is required for all private party ads.

We Accept Visa and MasterCard.

Please call 810-629-8194 to place your classified ad.

This Notice is a debtor collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for the purposes set forth in this Section. If you do not wish to receive calls from us, you may contact your local bar association or legal aid organization for assistance in determining if you have any judgment liens against your property. You should also be aware that if a judgment lien is recorded against your property, you may have the right to demand a hearing on the matter. You should contact the Genesee County Clerk's Office at (810) 237-6900 to find out more information on how to demand a hearing on the matter.

For more information, contact the Michigan State Bar, 709 E. Townsend, Lansing, MI 48909. You may also contact your local bar association or legal aid organization for assistance in determining if you have any judgment liens against your property. You should also be aware that if a judgment lien is recorded against your property, you may have the right to demand a hearing on the matter. You should contact the Genesee County Clerk's Office at (810) 237-6900 to find out more information on how to demand a hearing on the matter.

Notice is hereby given that Simply Self Storage will, by judicial lien act, sell at public auction on

Thursday, March 10th

Approximately 12 Noon-5pm for the following units.

Simply Self Storage located at
1512 S. Linden Rd. Linden, MI 48451

We reserve the right to refuse any bid.

Terms are cash only at close of auction.

Angela Williams
A-8 15 boxes, Lots of children toys
Charles Stone B-18 China Cabinet, Washer, 2 Dressers, 2 Trunks
Cash Only

Ad #10186: 2011-02-03 - 2011-02-03

Pre-Payment is required for all private party ads.

We Accept Visa and MasterCard Accepted

For Classifieds Call 810-629-8194

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
TRUST ADMINISTRATION

Estates of L. E. Koft

To all creditors of the estate of L. E. Koft, deceased, you are hereby notified that an estate has been opened for L. E. Koft deceased, on January 13, 2011. Creditors of the deceased are notified that they may file their claims in writing, before the Probate Judge on or before March 1, 2011. Creditors of the estate must file their claims with the Court of Probate, 1620 Boardwalk Dr., Suite 201, Fenton, MI 48430. If you file a copy of your claim with the Court, you will receive a description of the estate and a Notice of Filing of Claim.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS

If you owe money to L. E. Koft, deceased, you are hereby notified that an estate has been opened for L. E. Koft deceased, on January 13, 2011. You may file a written complaint of any claim you owe to L. E. Koft deceased, before the Probate Judge on or before March 1, 2011. You must file your complaint with the Court of Probate, 1620 Boardwalk Dr., Suite 201, Fenton, MI 48430. If you file a copy of your complaint with the Court, you will receive a description of the estate and a Notice of Filing of Claim.

NOTICE TO HEIRS

If you are an heir of L. E. Koft, deceased, you are hereby notified that an estate has been opened for L. E. Koft deceased, on January 13, 2011. You may file a written complaint of any claim you owe to L. E. Koft deceased, before the Probate Judge on or before March 1, 2011. You must file your complaint with the Court of Probate, 1620 Boardwalk Dr., Suite 201, Fenton, MI 48430. If you file a copy of your complaint with the Court, you will receive a description of the estate and a Notice of Filing of Claim.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

If you are interested in any claim against the estate of L. E. Koft deceased, on January 13, 2011, you may file a written complaint of any claim you owe to L. E. Koft deceased, before the Probate Judge on or before March 1, 2011. You must file your complaint with the Court of Probate, 1620 Boardwalk Dr., Suite 201, Fenton, MI 48430. If you file a copy of your complaint with the Court, you will receive a description of the estate and a Notice of Filing of Claim.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITHIN THE ESTATE

If you are a beneficiary of L. E. Koft deceased, on January 13, 2011, you may file a written complaint of any claim you owe to L. E. Koft deceased, before the Probate Judge on or before March 1, 2011. You must file your complaint with the Court of Probate, 1620 Boardwalk Dr., Suite 201, Fenton, MI 48430. If you file a copy of your complaint with the Court, you will receive a description of the estate and a Notice of Filing of Claim.

NOTICE TO THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

If you are the Court Administrator of L. E. Koft deceased, on January 13, 2011, you may file a written complaint of any claim you owe to L. E. Koft deceased, before the Probate Judge on or before March 1, 2011. You must file your complaint with the Court of Probate, 1620 Boardwalk Dr., Suite 201, Fenton, MI 48430. If you file a copy of your complaint with the Court, you will receive a description of the estate and a Notice of Filing of Claim.

NOTICE TO THE PROBATE JUDGE

If you are the Probate Judge of L. E. Koft deceased, on January 13, 2011, you may file a written complaint of any claim you owe to L. E. Koft deceased, before the Probate Judge on or before March 1, 2011. You must file your complaint with the Court of Probate, 1620 Boardwalk Dr., Suite 201, Fenton, MI 48430. If you file a copy of your complaint with the Court, you will receive a description of the estate and a Notice of Filing of Claim.
James Leroy Swerdan - 1943-2011

James Leroy Swerdan - aged 67, of Holly, made his transition February 19, 2011. Survived by his wife, Paula; children, Kristine (Jim) Seyfarth, Stephanie (Ed) Garmane, Randy Ketzer; 6 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and sister, Janet (Jim) Neddermeyer. Jim was a retired supervisor with 37 years of service at GM V8 Engine-Flint and a member of Holly Moose Club. He enjoyed golf, music, MSU sports, car collecting and spending time with family and friends. He was preceded in death by parents, Marge (Nimphie) and Andrew Swerdan. A memorial service will be held Saturday, February 26, 2011 at 2 PM at the Memorial Family Home. 500 Main St., Fenton. Family and friends may gather from 12-2 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the family for Jim’s favorite non-profit organizations.

Deborah Elizabeth Smith-Westrum - 1963-2011

Deborah Elizabeth Smith-Westrum - age 47, of Ann Arbor, formerly of Fenton, passed away February 20, 2011. Deborah was preceded in death by her parents, Gary and Beverly (Whitworth) Smith. She graduated from Fenton High School in 1981 and later earned Bachelor Degrees from Alena College and Eastern Michigan University. Deborah was employed as a caregiver at Columbiere Elder Care Center where she always provided devoted, tender care for retired clergy. She was also an artist, who created many fine works of art. More than anything, Deborah was a homemaker and loving mother who cherished her children. Surviving are two children, Maxwell Cord Westrum, Piper Lauren Elizabeth Westrum and their father, Ron Westrum; parents, Gary and Bever Smith of Fenton; sister, Chris Ann Smith of Fenton; brother, Gary Paul Smith and wife, Deana of St. Clair Shores; two nieces, Amanda Togaus, Danica Smith; two nephews, Gavin Smith, Dalton Smith; grandmother, Mary Nedzwetzki of East Tawas. She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Nora Ebel; great-grandparents, Victor and Justina Smith. The family extends heartfelt thanks to Ron Westrum for his unconditional love and kindness.

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Super Sale!

- Fresh Grade A, All-Natural Split Chicken Breast
- Grade AA Large Eggs
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- Progresso Vegetable Classics Soup
- 18 - 19 oz.
- Bar S Meat Hot Dogs or Sliced Bologna Selected Varieties (excludes beef) 16 oz.
- Fresh Grade A, All-Natural Split Chicken Breast
- Grade AA Large Eggs
doz
- Progresso Vegetable Classics Soup
- 18 - 19 oz.
- Bar S Meat Hot Dogs or Sliced Bologna Selected Varieties (excludes beef) 16 oz.

MEAL DEAL!

- Buy Boneless Beef Chuck Roast and Get

- 5 Items

- Save Over $11 On Free Items!

- Prices effective through Saturday, Feb. 26, 2011