**Man charged with abusing 4-year-old girl**

- Child with bruises, burns and split lip removed from home

By Sharon Stone

A 35-year-old Fenton Township man, John Raphael Shorez, has been arraigned on a 15-year felony count of first-degree child abuse after an anonymous tip alerted authorities to a possible child abuse situation on Saturday, Nov. 26. Undersheriff Chris Swanson said the county’s child protective services received word through an anonymous tip that someone should check on the child. See CHILD ABUSE on 22A

**Many question weakening cell phone reception**

- Weather, location, ever-increasing number of users all contribute to poor signal

By William Axford

Due to the ever-increasing instances of dropped calls and poor cell signal reception in areas that formerly had strong reception, many Tri-County area residents question whether cell signal strength in our area is being deliberately dialed back by cellular companies in order to force users to purchase upgraded equipment and more expensive packages. See CELL PHONE on 8A

**Downtown Linden now has free Internet access**

- Local wireless provider donates equipment and labor

By William Axford

Residents of the city of Linden can now enjoy free outdoor wireless Internet access, thanks to a partnership between Tri-County Wireless and the Linden City Council. Tri-County See INTERNET on 22A

**Teacher/MEA union rep to run for Scott’s seat**

- Steve Losey gets Democratic nomination

By Sharon Stone

Steve Losey, a member of the Linden Board of Education, was nominated as the Democratic candidate to run for the state representative for the 51st District. Losey accepted the bid Thursday night during a Democratic convention at UAW Local 1292 in Grand Blanc. He will face off against Joseph Graves, who was recently nominated by the Republican party of Genesee County. See LOSEY on 7A

**Holly Township woman and granddaughter face murder charges**

- Woman in their care weighed just 63 pounds

By Sharon Stone

A 71-year-old Holly Township woman and her 34-year-old granddaughter from Mt. Morris Township are facing murder charges after a 71-year-old woman in their care died on March 2, 2010. Joann Christopher, with just an orange peel found in her stomach when she died, weighed only 63 pounds when authorities were alerted about her See MURDER on 5A

**Poinsettias blooming at Gerych’s**

An employee at Gerych’s Distinctive Flowers & Gifts tends to one of the 2,000 Poinsettias Gerych’s plants each year on July 4. Around mid-September, the flowers are placed in total darkness for eight to 10 weeks as part of the growing process. Poinsettias are considered the Christmas flower, since it naturally blooms during the holiday season.

**Shop Smart**

Check out these money deals from area merchants

SEE INSERT

**Stress-free Christmas shopping**

PAGE 3A

**How to pick the best Christmas tree ever**

PAGE 1B

**HOT LINE: LOOSE SENIOR CENTER**

“Those selfish boomers at Loose center. What did they ever do for us, besides fight in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, improve civil rights, and give us more personal freedom. How dare they want to enjoy their senior years.”

**STORY: RETIREE PENSION TAX**

“I’m reading Sunday’s paper about the retiree pension tax. Our Constitution says that we’ve all supposed to be treated equally. I don’t know how you can tax one group of retirees and not the other. This is just one more incentive for retirees to move out of Michigan, to somewhere with a tax-friendly climate.”
Our Quality Is Timeless. This Price Isn’t!

**Miracle-Ear Quality**
**For $895. Why Wait?**
Hearing is believing! Right now, for a very limited time, you can get a fully digital, genuine Miracle-Ear® hearing aid for less than $900. This is one of our smallest, most discreet hearing solutions. Complete with Miracle-Ear sound quality, custom fitting and a comprehensive service and warranty program. Don’t wait, this special offer ends Dec. 23rd, 2011!

**Experience America Trusts.**
At Miracle-Ear, we’ve been helping people hear better for over 60 years. So when you visit any one of our 1200 locations across America, you’re sure to receive the friendly, professional service and the personalized hearing solutions we’re famous for.

**Getting Started. It’s Free and Easy.**
At Miracle-Ear, we make our process comfortable and convenient. We also offer you a variety of valuable services—at no charge.

- Services include:
  - **FREE Ear Canal Inspections**
    A miniature camera “tours” your ear canal. You may not have a hearing loss, it may be nothing more than ear wax.
  - **FREE Hearing Test**
    A complete hearing test that reveals where you need hearing help. Recommended annually.

- Schedule Your Appointment for a free In-Store Demonstration of our NEWEST Miracle-Ear® Hearing Aids - Hear the difference for yourself!

**BUY 1 GET 1 50% Off**
See actual full line of digital hearing solutions. Don’t miss out on this amazing offer!

**Hurry! Offer ends 12/23/2011**
Valid at participating Miracle-Ear locations only. Limit one coupon per purchase. May not be combined with other offers and does not apply to prior sales. Cash value 1/20 cent.

~ OR ~

**Another Great Way to Save**

**Now Only $895!**
HURRY! Offer ends 12/23/2011
Valid at participating Miracle-Ear locations only. Limit one coupon per purchase. May not be combined with other offers and does not apply to prior sales. Cash value 1/20 cent.

Save on one of our smallest custom digital hearing aids!

**Miracle-Ear of Fenton**
18010 Silver Pkwy.
(810) 750-2626

*ME200 not included **Hearing aids do not restore natural hearing. Individual experiences vary depending on severity of hearing loss, accuracy of evaluation, proper fit and ability to adapt to amplification. Our hearing test and video otoscopic inspection are always free. Hearing test is an audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only. These are not medical exams or diagnoses nor are they intended to replace a physician’s care. If you suspect a medical problem, please seek treatment from your doctor.

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SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE • SEE STORE FOR DETAILS
Are you directionally challenged?

▸ Some people can find any destination — others are perpetually lost

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-629-6792

Fenton City resident Bob Jarrett remembers developing his sense of direction from the backseat of his grandfather’s car at around the age of 8 years old. Armed with no more than a hand-drawn map by his grandfather, Jarrett often navigated the two to their final destination. Little did either one of them know those hand-drawn maps and moments of early navigation would exercise Jarrett’s ability to find any destination, anywhere. “Always remember road names and exits for some reason. People are always asking me for directions.” Jarrett said. People are always asking me for directions.

Jarrett may consider the open road a second home as he travels often, installing fast-food equipment all over the country. Traveling from Michigan to Miami and roaming through the hills of the country.

See CHALLENGED on 13A

Improving your sense of direction

While some people are born with an innate sense of direction, there are activities that can improve everyone’s memory. Here are some suggestions:

Exercise — Being active increases blood flow to the brain, which allows the hippocampus to work more efficiently.

Brain games — Spatial memory improves after doing activities that involve objects and coordination.

Source: WebMD

Summary

▸ The hippocampus, an area of the brain that records memories, is responsible for developing a sense of direction. Some people can direct themselves and others need to be directed.

Stress-free Christmas shopping

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

There are 21 shopping days until Christmas and you still have a list full of gifts to buy. Local shopping malls and stores will be filled with people still looking for the perfect gift from now through Christmas Eve.

How can you make the most of these shopping days that are left, without getting all stressed out while shopping?

First, know the best time to shop. When stores are their busiest in December, plan to shop right when they open or near their closing time for the fewest lines.

Avoid weekends, evenings and the lunch hour if you need to get through lines quickly.

See STRESS-FREE on 14A

Summary

▸ There are still 21 shopping days left before Christmas and still plenty of time for stress-free gift shopping for family and friends.

Rather than doing a “marathon” shopping trip, break your shopping tasks into steps...

Congratulations!

General Motors, Ford, & Chrysler Hourly Retirees

Your dental benefits are coming back effective January 1st!

Don’t wait, make your appointment today!

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HOURS: Mon. & Thurs. 8-5, Tues. & Wed. 10-8, Fri. 8-2

www.creativesmilesdental.net

Free Rechargeable toothbrush for new patients with exam & cleaning
Time to take off the gloves

I truly love this community. That’s why I am no longer going to give the people running it a free pass. It’s time to take off the gloves and call our leaders out on an ever-increasing history of poor decision-making and poor stewardship of our tax dollars.

To wit:

■ Why is the DDA lead by assistant city manager Mike Burns when he doesn’t even live in Fenton, has never lived in Fenton, and never will live in Fenton? He has absolutely no stake in this community, yet makes decisions daily (many of them contrary to the will of the taxpayers), that will affect the rest of us for decades — long after he’s moved on.

■ On that same note, why does city manager Lynn Markland not live in the city that pays him $88,500 per year? Shouldn’t residency be a requirement for being the highest paid employee? Wouldn’t it be ridiculous to elect a mayor (who receives no pay) that didn’t live here? Why is this any different?

■ A hearty round of applause for new council member Pat Lockwood for coming out swinging. Lockwood had the guts to say what everyone else is thinking: When is Fenton going to man-up and admit that the entire ‘Be Closer’ campaign is a mistake of epic proportions, and a colossal waste of precious tax dollars. Cut your losses (ours actually) and pull the mane ‘Be Closer’ plug now.

■ Here is a sensible solution (ergo, it’s not likely to happen). Why not ask for local volunteers to form diverse committees for things like developing signage, downtown reconstruction, park landscaping, civic beautification, purchasing downtown banners, etc. They could work in conjunction with outside consultants and vendors. Then, recommendations could be made at no cost, by the people who actually live here, and would fill the ‘good taste’ void that appears to be lacking at the present time.

■ Am I the only one who sees the hypocrisy of a marketing campaign to drive a ‘Shop Local’ campaign that hires consultants from Milford, buys billboards from New York, cable TV ads from Houston, signage from Grand Rapids and landscaping services from Kalamazoo?

■ I know of a fact that twice in the last three years local businesses have petitioned the Fenton council to consider the logic of having a policy regarding municipal bids that provides a small advantage to all bidders who actually rent or own facilities located within the city limits of Fenton and pay taxes here. The results? Still waiting.

At the end of the day I believe that the majority of the Fenton council — dedicated people who generously donate their time — are well intentioned and love our city. What the current leadership lacks is representatives from the business community — people who deal daily with the issues of high stakes decision-making and risk vs. reward evaluation. If we are to move forward, we need to attract this element to join the council — or, at the very least, provide a volunteer-based venue for professional expertise and opinions on matters that various residents are experienced in.

Of course, in the words of Dennis Miller, this is just my opinion — I could be wrong.

But I don’t think so.

Compiled by Angel Rynearson, Intern

Does your family purchase a real or artificial Christmas tree?

“It varies every year, depending on the space we have. We also try to be as environmentally friendly as possible.”

— Whitney Hayes, Linden

“We prefer artificial trees, because it’s easier to put up and there is no mess.”

— Rae Oldbaugh, Fenton

“We prefer artificial trees, because it’s easier to put up and there is no mess.”

— Rae Oldbaugh, Fenton

“Artificial trees are less messy and we have a newborn baby right now. I’d prefer a real one, though.”

— January Wawra, Fenton

“Artificial. We put it up on Thanksgiving and take it down two weeks after Christmas on the Epiphany. They last longer.”

— Lolly Ulrich, Fenton

“Artificial trees, because I don’t have a husband to put a real one up anymore.”

— Ann Allen Fenton

“Artificial trees are easier and you only pay for it once. Also, I don’t have kids living at home anymore, so I don’t need a real one.”

— Marie Murray, Grand Blanc
Police&Fire report

BOYS BREAK INTO ELEMENTARY
Two Linden boys, one 11, the other 14, were arrested for breaking into Linden Elementary School on South Bridge Street on Sunday, Nov. 27. Linden Police Chief Scott Sutter said officer Dwayne Jewell responded to an alarm at the building around 2:30 a.m. Looking through a window, the officer observed the two boys inside the school causing damage. The officer confronted the boys, however, they fled on foot. After a short foot chase, the boys were apprehended and arrested. The boys’ parents were notified and they were transported to the Regional Detention Center in Flint. They went before the judge on Monday, Nov. 28. The police chief said the school estimated the boys caused between $500 and $1,000 worth of damage.

FENTON POLICE RESPOND TO THREE SNOW-RELATED CRASHES
Fenton police responded to three snow-related traffic crashes early Wednesday morning. The first crash was reported in the 400 block of North Main Street at 9:35 a.m. at the intersection of Adela and Elizabeth streets. The second call came in at 1:55 a.m. from a motorist on southbound U.S. 23. The third crash was reported at 9:35 a.m. at the intersection of Adela and Elizabeth streets.

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MURDER
Continued from Front Page condition at Vamerolyn Chapman’s home. An autopsy report indicated Christopher died of severe bedsores, malnutrition and dehydration while living at the unlicensed adult foster care home.

Charged are Mary Chapman, of Holly Township, and Vamerolyn Chapman, of Mt. Morris Township.

Due to the length of the pretrial hearing, the women’s jury trials were scheduled for March 13, 2012 in Genesee County Circuit Court.

Mary Chapman’s legal troubles go beyond Genesee County. In Oakland County, she pleaded no contest to an adult foster care license violation on Nov. 28 in Oakland County Circuit Court. She was arraigned on Oct. 4, 2010 and she is due back in court for sentencing on Jan. 3, 2012.

As previously reported in the Tri-City Times, Mary Chapman faced one felony count of first-degree vulnerable abuse, stemming from a 2005 complaint. She was accused of assaulting a 53-year-old woman, who was a resident of her room-and-board facility on Lahring Road in Holly Township on Oct. 1, 2005 according to the Michigan State Police.

The 2005 case was bound over to Oakland County Circuit Court for a jury trial, however, it was dismissed in March 2006.

TRUCK REAR-ENDS SLOW MOVING CAR
Fenton police and fire departments responded to a rear-end crash on southbound U.S. 23, just south of Owen Road on Friday, Dec. 2. A 69-year-old Flint man and his 64-year-old wife were driving slowly, due to the slick road conditions. The car was rear-ended by a faster traveling semi truck, driven by a 54-year-old man from Ohio. The Flint couple and the truck driver complained of neck and back pain and were transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township. Although no tickets were issued, the truck driver was listed at-fault on the accident report.

POT FOUND DURING TRAFFIC STOP
On Nov. 29, a Fenton police officer initiated a traffic stop to a 2007 Mercury for an expired plate. The driver, a 28-year-old Flint man, admitted to having marijuana in his car and the officer recovered 10.4 grams. The driver was arrested and booked at the police station. His car was impounded and he is to appear in court on Jan. 9.
More than 60 children being treated to Christmas shopping

The Fenton Township Firefighters Association is hosting its annual “Shop With A Hero” charity event at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9. Brett DeWeese, president of the FTF Association said firefighters will be taking more than 60 local underprivileged children shopping for Christmas gifts at Target. The event is sponsored by Uncle Ray’s Dairyland, Lake Ponemah Marina, DeWeese & Associates, Montgomery & Sons and Companion Animal Hospital.

ZONTA CLUB STARTS NEW SAFEHOUSE CAMPAIGN

The Fenton Zonta Club, in its support of theYWCA SafeHouse, has initiated a new campaign “Filling the SafeHouse needs.” The SafeHouse provides emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and is in need of undergarments for women, boys, girls and infants, and new bras in all sizes. Donation drop boxes are located at Brad Hoffman Insurance, Goin Postal, Knart and Linden Dance Academy, Vic Canever Chevrolet, Randy Wise Buick GMC Truck, Coffee News, Hidden Peace, Brad Hoffman Insurance and Coffee News sponsor the boxes. Residents can visit www.zonta4good.com for additional locations and for more information on items, sizes and sponsoring opportunities.

Tri-county fundraisers

Saturday, Dec. 10

The sixth annual Christmas Cookie Walk will be held at Transfiguration Lutheran Church, 14176 Fenton Rd., Fenton, on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Select from a variety of 40 different holiday cookies. With a purchase of three dozen cookies or more, the church will ship the same amount to your loved one serving overseas in the military, free of charge.

Tuesday, Dec. 13

NAMI Genesee County, a support group for persons with mental disorders, their relatives and friends, meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m. Location is the McLaren Community Medical Center, 1314 S. Linden Rd, Flint. For more information, call (810) 232-6498.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

Holly Aglow — A Community Lighthouse will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 9:30 a.m. at the Holly Village Chambers, 315 S. Broad St., Holly. The group will be collecting toys for the needy.

Friday, Dec. 15

Calvary United Methodist Church, 15010 N. Holly Rd. in Holly is featuring a Christmas event, “One Starry Night,” on Friday, Dec. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (248) 634-9711.

Saturday, Dec. 10

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LOSEY
Continued from Front Page

LOSEY said, “I did get nominated and I accepted.

“We’re off and running now.”

LOSEY, of Linden, and Graves, of Argentine Township, are hoping to be
elected to replace Paul Scott who was
called in November. The special elec-
tion is set for Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2012. The
winner of the election will serve out the
remainder of Scott’s term, which expires
in November of 2012.

LOSEY has said that he wants to bring his middle-class work ethic to Lansing
to represent the hard-working men and
women of the 51st District and Genesee
County. He wants to focus on taking care of
the people and those who have experienced citizens and
to build and maintain safe, positive learn-
ing environments for the children and
respectful, life-honoring environments for
the senior citizens. In addition to serving
to Linden’s school board, Losey teaches
special education at Redford Union High
School in Redford Township. For the past
10 years, he has been president of the
Redford Union Education Association and
from 1990 to 1995, he was an active
member of the Teamsters, while working
for UPS in Michigan and Georgia.

On Friday, Losey acknowledged that he is a
busy man and if he were elected, this
position would take some prece-
dence. He said a leave from teaching
might be called for and he would have
to look into whether serving on a school
board is a conflict of interest.

“It’s a big if,” he said. “I’ve got a long
road ahead and big hill to climb.”

To his understanding, Losey said
there were only two or three individuals
interested in running and he was the only
prospective candidate at the meeting
to accept the nomination. He suspected
many Democrats felt it was a no-win sit-
uation since the election will be held during
the Republican Presidential Primary.

“I’m confident though,” he said. “Some
Republicans are disillusioned. We’ll see
what happens. I’m all for doing what’s
best for everybody.”

HOT LINE CONTINUED
BUYING AMERICAN-MADE products is
good idea, but an even better idea is
to buy American-made products that are
made by American non-union workers.
This will save jobs and result in less
expensive products. Help the American
worker, buy non-union.

IT’S FUNNY, I’VE never known a person
of any other religion to be offended by
‘Merry Christmas,’ but you are offended
by ‘Happy Holidays.’ Too bad for you to
not know the real meaning of the season,
your kids Christmas gifts. I hope they
know the real meaning of the season,

I FEEL BAD that you need money to buy
your kids Christmas gifts. I hope they
understand the real meaning of the season,
never too young to learn. Also, I hope to
God that you don’t have the Internet or
cable. You can’t afford it.

THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, certain
people have oppressed citizens and
citizens for their financial gains. The
unions started to change this. We’ll
ever see this again. It’s never too young
to learn.

IF YOU WANT to ‘Be Closer’ to Fenton,
go to Crossroads Village.

I DON’T UNDERSTAND why people
complain about the phrase ‘Happy
Holidays’ being used instead of ‘Merry
Christmas.’ Don’t you know that ‘holidays’
means ‘holy days?’

IT HAS BEEN said that one million
chimpanzees, typing on one million
typewriters, would eventually reproduce
the works of Shakespeare. Thanks to the
Internet, we now know that it is not true.

I THINK THE Fenton DDA has done a
great job, and that residents should in-
vestigate how the DDA is funded before
demanding their tax dollars back.

YOU GO, PAT Lockwood. Nobody seems
to understand what ‘Be Closer’ means,
and it’s a shame to throw away taxpayer
money on it.

THE LOCATION of the library is perfect
with the upcoming bakery and renovations
to downtown Fenton. I’m in the library
several times a week and have never seen
it overflowing. In fact, all the libraries in
the county are much smaller. Let’s use what
we have and make it beautiful.

I BELONG TO the Loosey center, and
our group always do watch out for others.
We have given away more than 3,000
handmade hats and gloves, and 2,000
afghans to the veterans, homeless,
schools, and hospitals. The yarn was
donated, and so was our time.

TO THOSE WHO criticize the Loosey
center, here are a couple of facts. The
Community Angels volunteer time and
money to help others. They assemble
Christmas and Thanksgiving baskets for
those who are less fortunate. Women at
the center knit lap robes for local vets,
nursing homes, and work at the Fenton
Adopt-a-Pet to help them raise money.
The building had insurance, but it is not
enough to build a new center.

We are independent agents proudly representing Auto-Owners Insurance.

BRAD HOFFMAN INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
“Serving the area over 40 years”

102 S. Leroy Street • Fenton, MI • 810-629-4991

We were there when you looked forward
to snow days. Today, we’re here to make sure
no matter how much snow falls, you’ll still
be safe, sound and secure. We believe there’s
something to be said for common sense,
honesty and being straightforward.

Call us or stop in to learn how you can save
by insuring your life, home, and auto with
Auto-Owners Insurance Company. As an
independent agency, we can design an
insurance program that is just right for you
and your family.

Ask us about our award recognized service!

Auto-Owners Insurance
The Fenton Community Orchestra to perform holiday concert

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

The Fenton Community Orchestra will hold its annual holiday concert on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fenton High School auditorium.

The concert will be held in conjunction with the Fenton High School Jazz Ensemble. The orchestra will perform a variety of classical and holiday pieces, led by music director Andrew Perkins. Admission to the concert is free.

Since Fenton Community Orchestra began in September 2010, it has experienced amazing growth and community support, according to Orchestra board president Jennifer Fleck. “Achieving non-profit status in May 2011, pursuing beginning string classes with Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation and working closely with area schools has allowed the orchestra to build a solid foundation,” said Fleck.

The Fenton Community Orchestra’s second season is partially funded by a generous grant from the Fenton Community Fund. The orchestra includes 60 musicians from Fenton and surrounding communities, ranging in age from 10 years old to adults in their 70s. The orchestra is open to musicians who want a fun community experience and are willing to practice, according to Fleck. Rehearsals take place on Thursdays, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Fenton High School.

This holiday concert will conclude the fall season. Rehearsals will resume on Jan. 19, 2012. To learn more about the Fenton Community Orchestra, visit www.fentoncommunityorchestra.org.

No more cell phone providers?

Cell-phone providers may not exist in the near future. Instead, the cell phone manufacture itself — such as Apple and Google — may provide full service providers, themselves, cutting out providers such as AT&T and Verizon. The iPhone already boasts a multitude of different services that rely more on the Internet than a cell-phone tower. The FaceTime feature allows smart phone users to speak to each other face to face, without using messages. The Message feature allows iPhone users to send each other text messages to other iPhones and Apple computers, replacing traditional text messaging. These various features are free for the iPhone and don’t require action from the cell-phone provider. So, it may only be a matter of time until the iPhone and other smartphones utilize the Internet to make free, seamless calls instead of using cell phone towers.

different cell-phone amplifiers ranging from $150 to $400. There are no additional fees beyond purchasing the enhancers. The enhancers work via Ethernet cables plugged into a home network and operate completely separate from existing cell phone towers.

Bommarito uses a cell-phone signal enhancer inside his home, and the cell-phone signal has improved within 2,500 feet from his home.

While the enhancements help with home reception, Bommarito reminds cell-phone users that dropped calls may be less frequent, but are impossible to avoid every time. “It doesn’t matter who the provider is, there is no miraculous thing you can do to fix your signal every time.”
If you are having any Electrical Problems, \textit{DON’T PANIC!}  
\textit{Call MISTER SPARKY ELECTRICAL - AMERICA’S ON-TIME ELECTRICIAN™}  

This Week’s Super Special...  

\textbf{ELECTRICAL SERVICE CALL} \textbf{ONLY} \$23.95  

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\textbf{YOU CAN EXPECT:}  
\- 100\% Satisfaction Guaranteed  
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\textbf{24 HOURS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK}  
1-888-8-SPARKY  
\textbf{(1-888-877-2759)}  

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‘Goodnight, Benghazi’

My last week in Libya

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

BENGHAZI, Libya — “Goodnight, Benghazi,” is what I said when I closed the dense curtains in my hotel room overlooking a beautiful lake, that separated me from the rest of the city. The beautiful lake also smelled like sewage, because there isn’t proper sewage containment or treatment. “I can clean the lake in six weeks,” said Mustafa Gheriani, in both a frustrated and optimistic tone. These two things practically define his feelings for his home country — frustrated and optimistic. He has the “ways” to clean up his country, but not the means, until Libya’s funds are released back to the government after the slain former leader, Col. Moammar Ghaddafii, held onto much of the country’s riches.

Gheriani sees the damage the old regime has caused, and also sees Libya’s massive potential. That’s what this trip has all been about for me — one man’s love for his country. Realize, too, that the United States is also his country. He can’t pick between the two, but Libya is where he belongs — for now. “The United States doesn’t need me right now,” he said. “Libya needs me.”

I’ve learned a lot on my trip. I’ve also never seen anything to discredit what Mustafa said with all confidence: “Libyans are the nicest people in the world.” He can’t be as objective as I can, but not one Libyan I met was rude (except while driving, but that’s another story) and almost all greeted me with a warm “Marhaba!” This means both “hello” and “welcome” in Arabic in Libya. I enjoyed Tunisia also, but it seemed like the people in Libya, at least around Benghazi, took any visitor on as their guest, asking me if I liked their country. My fixer, the person who drove me around and translated for me is 28 years old, close to my age, and became my friend. He is engaged, to be married in February and his name is Anas. He wouldn’t let me spend a dime while I was in Libya, and neither would Gheriani.

Anas took me to a sandwich shop and gave me a plate with three sandwiches on it, expecting I could eat all three. At mealtime, I was defending my stomach from more and more food.

But, the drivers in Libya are both reckless and careless. Mustafa told me car fatalities are the number one cause of death.

There are also still many weapons loose in the city, which are fired needlessly and often, by the former rebels.

Despite this, in Libya, I’ve seen such beauty that it can’t be transmitted through the lens of a camera. I wish everyone in Fenton, Linden, and Holly could see it. My mission was too broad, and as a photographer, I lacked to spend more time on all the beautiful things in the Libyan countryside. I couldn’t visit Tripoli or the country’s desert to the south. Mustafa said the desert’s beauty could be a life-altering experience. I hope I can go back and only photograph the pretty things over there.

I also hope I did their revolution a little justice. They are so proud of their independence. There are the original red, green, white and black flags up everywhere, plastered on everything. It made me take a second look at my own flag. This is the first time that they have been able to work toward a democracy. I hope they take it.

I was fortunate to have spoken with people of great importance to the revolution — the person who coordinated the journalists during the initial uprising and the civilian engineer who helped get military planes working again to hold off the invasion of Benghazi from Gaddafi’s forces.

Another civilian began coordinating supplies between army bases that decided to side with the rebels. Anas drove rebels and supplies up to the front line, in the same truck in which he carted me around.

The most difficult task begins at home — sifting through the 50 gigs of raw material I am bringing back with me. I became a funnel for this important information, and now I have to take the raw ingredients and make it into something you actually want to watch.

Everyone said to me, “This is a trip of a lifetime.”

In some ways, they are correct. You can only report in a foreign country for the first time — once. However, when I was looking out over these North African cities, I also knew I could not go back to my life, as it was, not entirely. Libya is a part of me now — too.
A gift to the community

25th Anniversary

Jesus Walk 2011

December 10, 11, 17, 18
5pm - 8pm

A 20 minute outdoor walk through the events that foretold and preceded Christ’s birth.

Warm up with music and refreshments inside after your walk.

Event Held At:

Tyrone Covenant Presbyterian Church
10235 White Lake Road • Fenton, MI 48430
(810) 629-1261

Exit 77 - off U.S. 23, just South of Fenton
1/4 mile west on the right.
(Look for Jesus Walk Sign and Parking Attendants.)
On a trip like this, the last thing you want to pack are questions.

Now HAP Medicare Solutions provide extra protection wherever you travel, worldwide.

What happens if you take a fall in France? HAP Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement Solutions offer urgent and emergency coverage worldwide. Even if you need an x-ray at Mount Rushmore.

Plus, we are the only Michigan-based health plan to offer Assist America’s global emergency services. A single phone call is all it takes to put Assist America in motion on your behalf, with services such as emergency medical evacuation, lost luggage and lost document assistance, referrals to qualified doctors and hospitals, and much more.

HAP — with Assist America — is a great traveling companion exclusively available for Michigan residents through HAP. So on your next trip, you can leave the questions behind and pack your bags with peace of mind.

To learn more about HAP’s plans, call a HAP Medicare representative toll-free at (800) 219-4129 or TTY/TDD (800) 649-3777

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Or go online today at www.hap.org/medicare

Health Alliance Plan is a health plan with a Medicare contract. Alliance Medicare Supplement is not connected with or endorsed by the United States Government or the Federal Medicare program. The Assist America services described above are neither offered nor guaranteed under our contracts with the Medicare program. In addition, they are not subject to the Medicare appeals process. Any disputes regarding these services may be subject to HAP grievance process.
When healthalways comestheir brainand cellsbegin to changeand theychange the waythey think. Jarrett’s husband’s impec- ciable foot-in-gingsaid thisis justamatter of time and they should not be surprised.In-Store Specials on all your favorite lines!
Exclusive Clamidia offersAn evening for you and your friends to stroll through the store and fill out your wish list. Tell us what you’re dreaming of and we’ll be sure your Specia! Santas knows exactly what you want this holiday. RBVP recommended.

Wednesday, December 7
from 4-8pm
Referrals by
FWR & Hors d’Oeuvres
In-Store Specials on all your favorite lines!
Exclusive Clamidia offersAn evening for you and your friends to stroll through the store and fill out your wish list. Tell us what you’re dreaming of and we’ll be sure your Specia! Santas knows exactly what you want this holiday. RBVP recommended.

continued from Page 3A

Sawyer Jewelers presents our 2nd Annual
Ladies Night Out

Wednesday, December 7
from 4-8pm
Referrals by
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In-Store Specials on all your favorite lines!
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STRESS-FREE
Continued from Page 3A

Don’t wait until the last minute. There are still three weeks until Christmas and you don’t have to procrastinate until Christmas Eve. Shopping early can help you avoid crowds and long lines, allow you to look for the best deals, and gives you time to actually sit back and enjoy the rest of the holiday season.

Make a Christmas list. Know exactly what you need to buy and what deals are out there. Some local stores have “wish lists” set up for spouses, to make shopping easier for the giver and pleasing for the gift recipient. Make sure your list is accompanied by a detailed budget, and stick to it. Nothing takes the Christmas spirit out of a holiday than the bills that will follow in January. Better yet, shop with cash in an envelope clearly marked with how much will be spent on each gift.

Wear your most comfortable clothing, dressing in layers so you can easily warm up or cool down. Wear comfortable shoes, preferably your workout shoes that will keep you moving.

Shop with a backpack so you can keep your hands free for your shopping bags, and make frequent trips to your car so you don’t have to carry your purchases around all day. Keep your packages in your car trunk or under a seat, so they won’t be visible to would-be thieves. Be sure to lock the doors.

Carry hand sanitizer with you to keep germs at bay and be careful what you touch when you use mall restrooms. Rather than doing a “marathon” shopping trip, break your shopping tasks into steps, which you can accomplish a little at a time. Shopping at independent retailers that offer gift-wrapping can help you save time. If you shop in your hometown in the tri-county area, you can shop when it’s convenient for you. It’s also more fun to enjoy the atmosphere of small-town shopping than a less personal mall experience.

Decide on a theme for gifts this year. Maybe it can be books and pajamas for all of your grandkids. Then you can shop at one or two stores, and have them gift-wrapped for you, too, depending on where you make your purchases.

Be wise about Christmas shopping online. You’ll want to support local retailers, your home communities and even the state of Michigan by shopping as close to home as possible. The experience of shopping in stores where you have built relationships over the years will provide a much more satisfying Christmas than buying everything on-line.

For less stress after Christmas, keep all of your receipts in an envelope specifically marked “2011 Christmas receipts,” so they will be easily accessible for any returns or exchanges that need to be made.

When shopping for the day is done, come home; relax by putting your feet up, and sip on hot cocoa, tea or a glass of wine. Take a deep breath, and save the task of gift-wrapping for another day.

Continued from Page 3A

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Sales Associate Wanted

At Sawyers being a Sales Associate is about our customers and creating a relationship, not just presenting jewelry or rattling off the 4 C’s or a diamond to them. For us, sales never end at the retail cash register. At Sawyers we’ve taken the retail sales and customer service experience to the next level.

When you join the Sawyers team, you will:

• Consult with and assist customers with jewelry selections.
• Build lasting relationships with your customers through follow up such as: future gift occasions, personal preferences, new merchandise suggestions and invitations to special events...
• Consistently seek new product knowledge so that you are an expert resource for your customer.
• Perform some non-selling functions including stock work, merchandising and displays.

Requirements:

• An enduring drive to achieve, to accomplish goals
• G.G. preferred but not required.
• Fine jewelry knowledge and sales are REQUIRED.
• Experience with and assisting customers with jewelry selections.
• Enthusiasm for jewelry and retail, this is a career not just a job.
• Ability to work a flexible schedule based on the needs of the business which can include early evenings, Saturdays and Sundays.
• Exceptional communication skills; both verbal and written.
• Have excellent communication skills; both verbal and written.
• Have excellent communication skills; both verbal and written.

Specific Requirements:

• Some jewelry knowledge and sales are REQUIRED.

Send your resume including references, requirements listed, and salary requirements if you are ready to bring your competitive attitude for success to Sawyers and join the fun!

chdel@rogers.com or 101 N. Adelaide St. Fenton MI 48430

Easy Opportunity Employer

[Ad for Lake Fenton Waterfont Condo! $179,900]

[Ad for Exquisite Custom Built Waterfront Home on Lake Fenton: $4,999,000]

[Ad for Part-Time Truck Driver: Looking for retired individual with CDL. Call 248-634-9444.]

[Ad for Need Help with your elderly loved ones or help with cleaning your home ANYTIME! Call Patricia, 810-569-5977.]

[Ad for Lake Fenton Schools: Spacious 2 1/2 acres with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, fireplace, CA, 1st floor laundry, 2 car garage. Call Shane Adams at 810-825-7700.]

[Ad for Lake Fenton TWP: 12 apartments on 2 1/2 acres. $250,000, NOW $325,000. Quick sale, terms. 810-629-8669, 810-938-0946, 810-735-6887.]

[Ad for Preferred location. CALL Rick or Craig at 810 750-6011 or 810 240-8315.]

[Ad for Lake Fenton Real Estate: 15 acres of land in a private country setting. $99,900. Contact Call Shane Adams at 810-577-1700.]
NOTICE FOR SEALED BIDS
ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP

Due to clarification error Argentine Township is again accepting sealed bids for 1981 Chevrolet 4 wheel drive pickup. Excellent condition, low mileage of 12,686. Can be viewed at Argentine Township Hall during regular business hours. Please send bids to Argentine Township Clerk, 9048 Silver Lake Rd., Linden, MI 48451. Bids will be accepted until December 14, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

The Board has the right to accept and/or reject any and all bids. Bids are required to be sealed and will be reviewed prior to the Township Board meeting.

Denise Graves
Clerk, Argentine Township

PUBLIC NOTICE

At the request of the Fenton Charter Township Board, Genesee County, State of Michigan and by the authority conferred on the Michigan Department of Natural Resources by Public Act 451 of 1994, Part 419, as amended, a hearing will be held in the Fenton Charter Township Hall, lower level meeting room, 12060 Man- tawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan at 7:00 pm., Thursday, December 15, 2011.

At this hearing the Department of Natural Resources will gather information from the public concerning possible problems related to hunting and the discharge of firearms on Tupper Lake, Fenton Charter Township, Genesee County.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Township Clerk at (810) 629-1537, a week in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

All interested persons are invited to attend and offer comments at the public hearing. Interested persons unable to attend this hearing may, within 30 days after the hearing, submit written comments to:

Department of Natural Resources
Law Enforcement Division
Attn: Spec. Peggy Ruby
P. O. Box 30031
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Advertised for Bids for Lake Fenton Community Schools

Project Information
Sealed bids will be accepted from qualified contractors by Lake Fenton Community Schools for an asbestos abatement project at the Lake Fenton Middle School located in Lake Fenton, Michigan.

Pre-Bid Meeting
A pre-bid meeting will be conducted by the Consultant, Northern Analytical Services, LLC. on December 2, 2011 at 3:15 PM (local time) at the Middle School located at 11425 Torrey Road, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Bids may not be withdrawn for a period of 60 days after the bid date.

Bid Information
Bids will be received until 2:00 PM local time on December 7, 2011 at the Lake Fenton Community Schools Administrative offices located in the Middle School located at 11425 Torrey Road, Fenton, Michigan 48430. At this meeting bidders will be given a tour of the site where they can become familiar with the site conditions and secure necessary measurements.

Specifications
Specifications will be available electronically free of charge at www.northernas.com. A hard copy may be purchased for a non-refundable fee of $50.00. Plans may be obtained by registering as a plan holder at www.northernas.com/Projects. All project specific questions should be submitted to info@northernas.com or by fax to 866-214-4739.

Bid Security
A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base bid amount is required and shall accompany the bid. Bid security may be in the form of a bond issued by a qualified surety authorized to do business in the State of Michigan, a cashier’s check, or money order payable to Lake Fenton Community Schools. Bids may not be withdrawn for a period of 60 days after the bid date. The successful bidder shall be required to submit a performance bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders found in the Project Specifications.

Familial Disclosure
All bids shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the board, intermediate school board, or board of directors or the superintendent of the school district, or chief executive officer or the public school academy. The District shall not accept a bid that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.
Sunday, December 4, 2011

BY TRIBUNE MEDIA

Sunday Sudoku

Sudoku calls for logic, not guessing. Use the clues to place the numbers 1 to 9 in each row, column and 3x3 box without repeating any number.

8 1 6
4 3 7
5 2 9

6 9
3 5
7 4

6 9
3 5
7 4

8 1 6
4 3 7
5 2 9

SUNDAY DUDOKU

http://www.tctimes.com

26 31 40

Lost & Found

SUNDAY DUDOKU

Answer key located in this edition

Announcing Something Special

Use the Times Classifieds to spread the good news!

You can make someone’s day by honoring them with a Special Occasion ad in the Tri-County Times!

10” CRAFTSMEN RADIAL ARMSAW Like new $125 or best; antique pot belly stove. $100 or best. 810-287-2572.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES PHOTOS of staff published in the Tri-County Times can be purchased by calling 810-433-6797.

Misc. Wanted

I NEED your scrap metal, washers, dryers, water heaters, furnaces, refrigerators, aluminum, copper piping, etc. Please call 810-735-5910.

CHECK YOUR AD! Report errors immediately. The Tri-County Times will only be responsible for the first day of incorrect publication.

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 Robert G Spohr aka Robert Spohr and Joanna L Spohr aka Joanna L Hustead to ABN AMRO Mortgage Financial, Inc., Mortgage, dated July 10,2002 and recorded July 17,2002 in Liber 3455 Page 476, and re-recorded on December 5,2011. A sale of the premises 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 14, 2011 in said mortgage there is claimed to be due the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen Dollars and Forty-One Cents ($45,914.41) and interest, 7.25% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen Dollars and Forty-One Cents ($5,914.41) and interest, 7.25% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen Dollars and Forty-One Cents ($5,914.41) and interest, 7.25% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen Dollars and Forty-One Cents ($5,914.41) and interest, 7.25% per annum.
NOTICE - THE TOWNSHIP OF ROSE OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

REQUEST FOR BIDS
FENCING CONTRACTOR SERVICES
NEW FENCING AT DEARBORN PARK

The Township of Rose is seeking bid proposals from Fencing Contractors to perform the above listed services. Bid Plans and Specifications can be picked up at the Rose Township office, Monday through Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm beginning Wednesday December 7, 2011

Sealed bid proposals will be received until 3:00pm December 14, 2011 at which time proposals will be opened and read. Late proposals will not be considered. Amendment to proposal instructions will be considered if they are received by the above deadline. The responsibility rests entirely with the bidder, notwithstanding delays resulting from postal handling or for any other reasons No late or mislabeled bids will be accepted. Proposals addressed as follows:

Rose Township Clerks Office
Dianne Scheib-Snider, Trustee
Community Block Development Grant Program
9080 Mason Street
Holly, MI 48442

Contact information 248 931-9064, email dscheib@rose@yahoo.com

A legally authorized agent of the bidding firm must sign all proposals. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED WITH THE NAME OF THE PROPOSER AND INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

"REQUEST FOR BIDS - DEARBORN PARK FENCING COMMUNITY BLOCK DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Rose Township reserves the right to waive any irregularities or informalities or both; to reject any or all proposals; and in general to make the award of the contract to the lowest responsive bidder.

The COMMUNITY BLOCK DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM is a federally funded project. The Contractor and Subcontractors on this project must comply with all HUD contract provisions 24 CFR part 85.36(i), the Davis-Bacon Act, Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Section 3 requirements, Anti Kickback Act, Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and Department of Labor Standards and Regulation as set forth in the contract bid Documents. This municipality is an equal opportunity employer, businesses owned by women or minorities are strongly encouraged to bid.
FORECLOSURE NOTICE: This 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 recorded in the following conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Edible K. Bivins Sr. and Edible K. Bivins Jr. to Mortgage Holder: Wadrow E. A. Bivins for the principal sum of $325,000.00, with interest at the rate of 5.75% per annum, including interest 5% per annum, on said mortgage and the statute in such cases 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, situated at 2018 Prospect Flint, MI 48504. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a(a), whichever is greater. Said property is identified by plat recorded in Plat Book 28, pages 409-410 of the Genesee County Records, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 27 and 28 of Section 4, Township 8 North, Range 7 East, Genesee County, Michigan, and are situated in City of Flushing, Genesee County, Michigan

NOTICE: This is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been recorded in the following conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Susan C. Stockton to Mortgage Holder: CitiMortgage, Inc. for the principal sum of $620,000.00, with interest at the rate of 5.75% per annum, including interest 5% per annum, on said mortgage and the statute in such cases 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, situated at 8166 N Bray Rd, Mount Morris MI 48458. The redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a(a), whichever is greater. Said property is identified by plat recorded in Plat Book 28, pages 409-410 of the Genesee County Records, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 27 and 28 of Section 4, Township 8 North, Range 7 East, Genesee County, Michigan, and situated in City of Flushing, Genesee County, Michigan

NOTICE: This is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been recorded in the following conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Anthony C. Kury and Ashley M. Kury to Mortgage Holder: CITI HOME LOAN SERVICES, INC. for the principal sum of $520,000.00, with interest at the rate of 5.75% per annum, including interest 5% per annum, on said mortgage and the statute in such cases 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, situated at 7345 E Bristol Rd, Fenton MI 48433. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a(a), whichever is greater. Said property is identified by plat recorded in Plat Book 28, pages 409-410 of the Genesee County Records, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 27 and 28 of Section 4, Township 8 North, Range 7 East, Genesee County, Michigan, and situated in City of Flushing, Genesee County, Michigan

NOTICE: This is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been recorded in the following conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Peter A. Paratore and Amanda M. Paratore to Mortgage Holder: Wadrow E. A. Bivins for the principal sum of $440,000.00, with interest at the rate of 5.75% per annum, including interest 5% per annum, on said mortgage and the statute in such cases 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, situated at 5430 Floline Ave, Flint MI 48506. The redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of sale, or upon the date of sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a(a), whichever is greater. Said property is identified by plat recorded in Plat Book 28, pages 409-410 of the Genesee County Records, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 27 and 28 of Section 4, Township 8 North, Range 7 East, Genesee County, Michigan, and situated in City of Flushing, Genesee County, Michigan

NOTICE: This is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been recorded in the following conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Brian W. Stokey and Michelle Stokey to Mortgage Holder: Wadrow E. A. Bivins for the principal sum of $320,000.00, with interest at the rate of 5.75% per annum, including interest 5% per annum, on said mortgage and the statute in such cases 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, situated on December 28, 2011 Said premises are described as: Lot 1 through 17, One Hundred Forty-Four Dollars and Thirty Cents ($144.25) including all situated 810-735-9559

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COMMERICIA
Sharp Funeral Homes offers grief support meetings

Holiday season is especially tough on grieving families

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

When you’re newly bereaved, suddenly you find yourself on an emotional roller coaster where you have no idea what to expect next. You’re most likely in shock from what has happened and a numbness surrounds you to help shield you from the pain of losing a loved one.

As signs of Christmas and the holidays increasingly fill our daily lives, coping with the recent death of someone whom you were very close to adds to the stress of the hectic holiday season. Deaths that occurred many years ago can come back with a haunting presence if the loss has not been addressed.

Sharp Funeral Homes wants to help those in the community who are trying to cope during these trying times. In cooperation with Genesys Hospice, the funeral home is hosting Grief Support meetings, on the first Wednesday of each month at its Fenton Chapel community room. The first meeting is set for Dec. 7, from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

For those who have lost a child, denial and anger can consume your entire being. You see your child’s face in every other child and their scent and mannerisms can be noticed at any moment. This is normal.

Talking about the pain with others who have experienced this same type of grief allows you to know that what you’re feeling is normal and part of the grieving process.

Losing a sibling, parent or spouse has their own sets of challenges.

Since no one can live forever, at one point or another, everyone will journey through this rough passage. Widows and widowers can become overwhelmed with the maze of decisions that need to be made, along with all sorts of forms to fill out. They will suddenly find themselves in shock from the loneliness, anger, confusion, fear and depression.

Accepting a new normal can be the beginning of moving forward without forgetting the past.

Jennifer Sharp Scully, of Sharp Funeral Homes, said these meetings are open to anyone who thinks they might be of help, regardless of when the death of a loved one occurred. The funeral home has hosted these meetings in the past, but has sensed that there is a need, based on feedback they have received.

“This time of year is very difficult,” said Sharp Scully. “Even if the death was years ago, the holidays are tough.”

The meetings, in a group setting, offer those coming alone or with a friend or family member to share their grief in a comfortable setting. They might also choose to listen to others. Sharp Scully said it’s most important that those grieving know that they are not alone despite feeling isolated.

Children are welcome if their parents believe this type of group setting would benefit them. Everyone is welcome and staff from Genesys Hospice will lead the 1½-hour setting.

Sharp Scully said they expect a good turnout and hope that the monthly meetings will be a positive and good program. If anyone knows of someone who could benefit from these meetings, she suggests they be told about the program. “If we can help anyone in a small way, we want to do that,” she said.

For more information, call Sharp Funeral Homes at (810) 629-9321.

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INTERNET

Continued from Front Page

Wireless representatives proposed the project at the Linden City Council meeting held on Monday, Oct. 10.

The state-of-the-art equipment and accompanying wi-fi signals mark the downtown area, and will also serve some of the immediate surrounding areas, such as municipal and private parking lots, and properties. Many businesses believe that free downtown Internet will help promote the Linden merchants’ Shop Local theme and keep retail dollars in the community, as it has in other similar sized communities.

Tri-County Wireless, a Fenton-based company in operation since August 2004, donated all the materials, equipment and labor at no cost to the city or residents. Tri-County Wireless is a certified broadband provider and recently established free wireless Internet access to the downtown Fenton corridor also.

The wi-fi Internet access in Linden will range from Bridge Street to Broad Street, reaching out in a half-mile radius in each direction.

According to Fred Moses, Tri-County Wireless chief technical officer, connecting to the TC Wireless wi-fi system is as easy as scanning your wireless network’s menu and selecting ‘TCWCO’.

“Our free Internet access is at least five times faster than dial-up,” said Moses. “In addition, we can now offer a complete suite of commercial packages to Linden businesses. We already provide high-speed service to several downtown businesses and retailers. We are known for our service.

“I think it’s a great opportunity for downtown Linden and even some of the surrounding areas to have free access to wireless Internet,” said Christopher Wren, Linden city manager. “And this is a great opportunity for a partnership with Tri-County Wireless.”

heater near her feet. Detectives observed burns on the girl’s feet. The sheriff said the girl was too afraid of Shorez to move away from the heater.

He was abusive to her,” said Pickell. When the 911 signal blanks were sent, police officers arrived, the girl was too afraid to talk to them. Pickell said the girl tried to tell the officers that her injuries were from falling on her own, but they were not convinced.

As the deputy and police officer asked the girl if she was afraid, she shook her head yes. When they asked if she was afraid of someone in the room, she again, shook her head up and down.

Shorez was arrested and transported to the county jail. He remains lodged, unable to post the $10,000 cash bond.

The girl was transported to an area hospital for medical treatment and two other children inside the home were removed.

Pickell said Shorez was dating the sister of the little girl’s mother, all of whom were at the mobile home last weekend. No other arrests were made.

Shorez is expected back in district court on Dec. 13 for a preliminary hearing.

This case comes at the heels of another pending child abuse case where 4-year-old Dominick Calhoun of Argentine Township was allegedly beaten and tortured to death in 2010 by his mother’s boyfriend, Brandon Hayes. Hayes’ trial is expected to be moved to another county, however, no location has yet been determined.
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**Fenton High School Alumni elects officers**

The Fenton High School Alumni Association operating board elected officers at its annual meeting in November. The elected officers are Chuck Montgomery (president), Nancy Parkin (vice president), Hannah Delisle (secretary) and Orpha Verhelle (treasurer). Malvin Walden, Jody Ranney and Cecelia Terry will serve as trustees. The board continues to work on details for the Alumni Banquet, which will be held on Aug. 18, 2013 at St John Activity Center. Fenton High School classes are being asked to consider holding their individual reunions at the All Alumni Banquet. Classes who wish to participate are asked to contact Chuck Montgomery at (810) 869-7358 for details.

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**Christmas Cookie Walk**

Saturday, Dec. 10
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Transfiguration Lutheran Church**

14176 Fenton Rd. (N. Leroy), Fenton

Have cookies shipped to your loved one serving overseas FREE of charge.

Purchase 3 dozen (or more) cookies, we will ship the same amount as your purchase to your loved one serving overseas!!

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**TERRY Walden, Orpha Verhelle, Nancy Parkin, Chuck Montgomery, Hannah Delisle**

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- Holly Foods
- Home Depot
- Knmart
- Shop Smart
- Taylor Hardware
- TSC
- VG’s
- Walgreens
- Walmart
How to pick the best Christmas TREE—ever

Expert offers timely tips

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

Summary

Christmas tree shoppers should take note of the amount of space they have for their tree, and have a tree stand and saw ready.

You cut or pre cut

David Petts, co-owner of Haddon Nursery on Eddy Lake Road, has advice for people heading out in search of the perfect real Christmas tree. One of the first things a customer needs to determine is whether they want to cut down their own or buy a tree that has already been cut.

Size

Do you remember the scene from Christmas Vacation, where Clark Griswold takes his family out to cut down their Christmas tree? The family should have taken note of how tall their living room ceiling was, as well as to have grabbed a saw. Those heading out to buy a Christmas tree should assess how big of an area they have so they don’t buy a tree too tall, wide or small.

Feel the needles

When browsing amongst the available trees, feel their needles. Petts said you should not be able to pull off the needles. The needles should also be soft to the touch. Spruce trees drop their needles the fastest, about three weeks after being cut.

White pines

Petts said white pines keep their very long needles the longest. However, decorating these trees can be challenging. Lightweight ornaments work better than heavy branch-bending ones.

Scotch pines

Scotch pine trees are right in the middle, said Petts. These are popular because they are easy to decorate and the needles should stay put throughout the holidays, as long it’s watered.

Fraser fir

The Fraser fir tree is the most popular choice for many. Petts attributes this to the fact that it holds its needles quite well and its branches are strong. “It’s good for decorating,” he said.

The Christmas tree debate

Real vs. artificial

Christmas trees are appearing in homes throughout the country as families prepare for the holiday season. When considering the impact on the environment, is the right choice to purchase an artificial tree and use it year after year, or go in search of the perfect living tree to be the centerpiece of our holiday decorating?

Artificial trees

Artificial trees do offer a long-term solution for Christmas tree decorating needs. In addition, the latest generation of artificial trees doesn’t look fake. Economically, artificial trees can be easier on your wallet.

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Pastor James Debrow 248-634-2195
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Wednesday Evening............... 7:00 pm
Wednesday Youth Service........ 6:30 pm

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810-309-1215
www.cotsfhome.com
Meets on Sunday morning........ 10:30 am

**THE FREEDOM CENTER**
2473 W. Shiasawee • Fenton
Pastor Jim Wiegard
Sunday Worship.................... 11:30 am
Wednesday Youth Group........... 7:00 pm
Small groups meet throughout the week.
For more information call 629-5461

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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HOLLY**
10030 N. Holly Rd. • Holly
248-634-8772
Pastor Ed Pedley
Traditional Worship Service......9:00 am
Sunday School...................... 10:15 am
Contemporary Worship Service..11:00 am
Wednesday Adult Bible Study.... 6:30 pm
Wednesday Youth Bible Study... 6:30 pm
Fuel For Teens – Friday’s........ 7:00 pm

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

309 E. Maple St. • Holly
248-634-8772
Pastor Ed Pedley
Traditional Worship Service......9:00 am
Sunday School...................... 10:15 am
Contemporary Worship Service..11:00 am
Wednesday Adult Bible Study.... 6:30 pm
Wednesday Youth Bible Study... 6:30 pm
Fuel For Teens – Friday’s........ 7:00 pm

**CATHOLIC**

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH**
600 N. Adelaide • Fenton
810-629-2251
Father David W. Harvey, Pastor
Father Kevin D’Cock, Associate Pastor
Saturday Mass...................... 5:00 pm
Sunday Mass...................... 8:00 am, 10:15 am & 5:00 pm
Confirmation Service........... 3:00 pm
Call for daily Mass times

**ST. RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH**
309 E. Maple St. • Holly
248-634-4841
Fr. David Blazek, Pastor
Sat. Mass.................. 12:00 pm
Sun. Mass.................. 8:00 am, 10:15 am & 5:00 pm
Weekday Mass Mon.-Thur........ 8:00 am
Reconciliation after Sat. 4 pm Mass or by appt.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

**FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST**
204 E. Rockwell • Fenton
810-629-3211
Church Service.................... 11:00 am
Sunday School..................... 9:30 am & 11:00 am
Wednesday Evening............... 7:30 pm

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**ST. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH**
2439 South Long Lake Rd. • Fenton
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Services: Saturday Evening,
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Sunday Morning,
Divine Liturgy..................... 10:00 am
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Reverend Dr. Sharyn DeHaven Gates
Sunday Worship Schedule
Middle School/Teen/Adult Sunday School... 9:15 am
Children’s Sunday School.......... 9:30 am
Coffee Hour....................... 10:15 am
Worship............................ 10:30 am

**LINDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
119 W. Broad St. • Linden
810-735-5755
Pastor Seth Nordin
Sunday Worship................... 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Children’s Church................. 10:15 am
Youth Groups for Children, Middle School, and Senior High School, Call for times

**TYRONE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
9141 Harbor Ln. • Fenton
810-750-2935
Pastor Lisa Living-Hawley
Sunday Worship Schedule
Celebratory Worship................ 10:00 am
Children’s Sunday School.......... 9:30 am
Fellowship........................ 11:15 am

**TYRONE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
10235 White Lake Rd. • Fenton
810-629-1261
Tyronepc.org
Pastor James Moscov
Sunday Worship (Include Children’s Church)... 10:15 am
Sunday School & Youth............ 9:00 am
Sunday Evening Worship......... 6:00 pm
Youth Group & Family Night........ Wed. Evenings

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**

**FENTON SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**
406 Fifth St. • Fenton
810-629-9493
Pastor Chris Ames
Church Worship................... 10:00 am
Sabbath School.................... 9:00 am
Prayer Meeting.................... 4:30 pm Wednesday
(Linden Seventh Day Adventist 7007 W. Silver Lake Rd)
Tips for taking great photos of your dog

- **Let them play first.** Plan out a time to shoot, and plan to let your dog run, play, and get out some energy before you take your pictures.
- **Turn off the flash.** Wonder why Fido looks away as soon as you pull out the camera? Odds are that he has been conditioned by the flash to turn away in order to avoid that annoying, and frightening, very bright light. Turn it off or cover it.
- **Work every angle.** Getting down on your stomach or standing on a ladder gives you a new perspective on your pet.
- **Fill the frame.** If you think you’re too close, get closer (hey, isn’t that Fenton’s slogan?). Seriously, the most gorgeous pet portraits are always completely filled with your pet.
- **Blow a whistle.** The noise will make your pet perk up his ears and widen his eyes, giving him something to focus on.
- **Lower the camera.** Dogs naturally want to see their owner’s eyes and our faces. Focus and aim the camera, then slowly lower it from your face before shooting.
- **Take lots of shots.** Generally, you will have to take 10 photos of a pet, any pet, in order to get one good one. God bless digital cameras.
- **Create a sleeker look by removing the collar from your dog or cat.**
- **Choose black-and-white film for a more dramatic, artistic feel.**

Virtually any discussion among pet owners is bound to reveal clearly that there are dog people and there are cat people. In some cases, the depth of feeling for their chosen species can be quite intense. However, according to an Associated Press poll, there are a lot more dog people out there; seventy-four percent of the test sample like dogs a lot, while only forty-one percent like cats a lot.

It also seems that some people seem to be quite exclusive in their preferences, liking either dogs or cats and loathing the other species. Cats appear to be much easier to hate. Fifteen percent of the adults questioned said they disliked cats a lot while the number who said they disliked dogs a lot was only two percent. There are sound reasons to suspect that the preference for dogs or cats reflects some underlying human personality differences. Certainly the relationship between cats and humans has always been quite different than the relationship between dogs and people. This reflects the behaviors that both species have kept from their heritage prior to domestication. In the wild, cats are usually solitary hunters and often are active mostly at night. Julie Clutton-Brock of the Natural History Museum in London calls the cat an “exploited captive” rather than a domesticated animal. Cats are the least tame of our household pets but are surprisingly successful for a species that retains so much of its wildness.

In contrast, wild canines are usually sociable pack animals that work in groups and are active between dawn and dusk. Our domestic dogs retain this need for social interaction to the degree that without a master and a family, a dog seems unhappy — almost lost.

**Male dog names**

1. Max
2. Buddy
3. Rocky
4. Bailey
5. Jake
6. Charlie
7. Jack
8. Toby
9. Cody
10. Buster

**Female dog names**

1. Bella
2. Molly
3. Lucy
4. Maggie
5. Daisy
6. Sophie
7. Sadie
8. Chloe
9. Bailey
10. Lola

**The World Of Dogs vs. Cats!**

- **Fifteen dogs** prefer for the to calls “exploited domestic us ually have the always personaliti need retain in contrast,

**Book is best gift for any dog owner!**

**Speaking for Spot: be the advocate your dog needs to live a happy, healthy, longer life**

It is clearly the best dog book ever written. Learn how to become a savvy medical advocate for your dog. With a sense of humor and explanations that are easy to understand, Dr. Nancy Kay provides a wealth of dog health care tips and teaches you how to navigate the expensive, complex, and often overwhelming world of veterinary medicine. Speaking for Spot dives into detail about how to learn to be a partner in your pet’s healthcare, and most importantly how to be your pet’s health advocate.

**Most famous dogs of the last 50 years!**

- **Lassie**
  - Lassie
- **Petey**
  - The Little Rascals
- **Rin Tin Tin**
  - Rin Tin Tin
- **Snoopy**
  - Charlie Brown
- **Gidget**
  - Taco Bell
- **Gidget**
  - Scooby-Doo

**Santa Claus is coming to Caretel Inns!**

**Friday Dec. 9th 4 pm - 7 pm**

- **Pictures with Santa!**
- **Refreshments in Penny Lane** includes hot chocolate, candy canes, cookies, popcorn and ice cream from Choo Chews Ice Cream Parlor!
- **Holiday Movies**
- **Coloring for Kids**

**Help us fill our trolley by bringing in a new, unwrapped toy in support of...**

**Caretel Inns of Linden**

202 S. Bridge Street • Linden

One block south of downtown Linden

(810) 735-9400

www.caretelins.com
Still time to bag that big buck

By Colin Van Leuven
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The Michigan muzzleloader season has just opened in zones 1 and 3, and bow hunting continues until year’s end. There’s still plenty of time to tag a nice buck, but you’re going to need to change your tactics.

The early rut is over, and old bucks are at their peak when it comes to hunter evasion. Changing your hunting routine to take advantage of a buck’s post-rut behavior will increase the likelihood of you surprising a mature buck.

The early rut in Michigan generally peaks around Nov. 12 to Nov. 16, with the secondary rut peaking about Dec. 10. This means post-rut bucks are on the move again, and will often travel several miles from their summer haunts in search of late season doe to breed with. This is the one time of the year, when a mock scrape can really work to your advantage.

Many of the largest bucks harvested during the hunting seasons are taken during the post-rut period. This may be due to their tendency to move more during 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Studies have shown that a large portion of bucks taken at this time of the year, are seen during the middle of the day. Staying put while other hunters are going in or coming back from lunch is really important during the post-rut.

Seems easy enough, but don’t think for a minute that the buck of your dreams is just going to be sauntering out into the middle of some barren field and wait for you or some hot doe.

After surviving hunting pressure since September, when they decide to travel, it’s often going to be in or very near, heavy cover.

The does will be close to there, too. River bottoms and thickly wooded funnels near food sources are great choices for intercepting a wary buck. An area with Oak trees and a healthy acorn crop, bordering a swamp with a river coursing through it, will be a deer magnet at this time of the year. Set up as always, with wind direction and concealment being your prime concerns.

These types of locations are big buck homes. They know them almost as well as you know your own living room, but their sense of smell is better. If you stand out, or make the smallest mistake with the wind or by moving too much, you’ll rarely get a shot. If you are patient and lucky, these spots can produce, year after year.

Farming areas, edges, or thickets near standing crop fields are best. Deer need more food at this time of year to help them through the coming cold months. The early breeding season takes a toll on bucks, so they’re eating a lot to recover. The same can be said for a doe that has already been bred, as she is already starting to eat for two or three.

The tactics of rattling or calling can still be quite effective. If you’re going to rattle, do it softly, and not as long as during the peak rut. The same goes for calling, the softer bleating of a doe call, or a light grunt can draw a big boy in during post rut.

Scout heavily for deer signs. If there are a lot of tracks near your hunting spot, there will be bucks. Snow will help here, but tracks are easily spotted in leaves, too, especially if they are wet. Don’t look for the normal hoof print you’d see in mud or snow, just for V-shaped impressions.

A lot of tracks will indicate an area of many does. That increases the probability of does that didn’t successfully breed during the early rut, and that means there may be some older and larger bucks hanging around.

If it is a big buck you’re after to fill your tag, don’t lose hope. It’s not impossible to find a post-rut buck, even that trophy buck at this time of year. It just takes focus and work.

Find an area actively being used by does. Select a spot near heavy cover with good food sources. Set up discreetly, with a mind of the wind. Skip lunch. Add in a little luck, and you still might be able to best a large-racked buck during the waning deer season.

Send me a note and let me know how your season has been going. I can be reached at colinio@charter.net.

Changing your hunting routine to take advantage of a buck’s post-rut behavior will increase the likelihood of you surprising a mature buck.

Keeping Smiles Merry & Bright!

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Dr. Jeremy M. Grove DDS
501 S. Bridge St., Linden • 810-735-7511

Merry & Bright!
Animal Health Clinic moves to new location

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

Animal Health Clinic in Fenton has moved into a spacious new office, where two veterinarians treat small animals in a growing practice with state-of-the-art equipment and services.

New exam rooms, a surgical suite, dental suite and pharmacy/lab are just a few of the updates that have been added. In addition, a “comfort room” awaits patients and their families who may need some quiet time following negative health news or can be used as a relaxing place to say good-bye to a beloved pet.

Smith has been with Animal Health Clinic since 1989. Swanebeck joined the practice after her graduation from Michigan State University’s School of Veterinary Medicine in 2008. Swanebeck is originally from the Fenton area and is a graduate of Lake Fenton High School. Serving as practice manager is Serena Mercer.

This veterinary practice specializes in laser de-clawing and offers several unique services — from acupuncture and chiropractic care to canine massage services.

Located conveniently next door on each side of the practice are Rumpshakers Dog Grooming and The Tuckered Pup, dog obedience and doggy day care.

“We’re pleased to have all of these related services located in our same complex,” said Smith. “When your pet has surgery and needs to have a place to stay the next day, we offer that as a service through The Tuckered Pup. It’s very convenient for families with both parents working.”

Clinic hours are Monday, Thursday and Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., with house calls available. For more information, call (810) 629-9882 or visit www.animalhealthclinic.org.

Affordable workouts at Planet Fitness

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

Planet Fitness in Fenton wants to take all the excuses away from working out. This nationwide gym franchise opened in Fenton on Oct. 14, with a Pre-Grand Opening Sale that brought in hundreds of members. “Our prices are always low,” said manager Mike Skyring.

“We’re a value-based gym that offers the basics so that people can afford to work out.”

Also setting Planet Fitness apart from other gyms is its “Judgement Free Zone,” which provides a safe place for working out where everyone feels accepted and respected. “We’re geared toward general fitness, not body builders,” said Jim Matthew, owner of the Fenton location. “We don’t have dumbbells that are heavier than 75 pounds and we enforce our rules about proper dress code and no large water/beverage jugs. We’re here to provide a relaxed, non-intimidating atmosphere.”

This 15,800-square-foot facility features 74 cardio machines, including treadmills, elliptical machines, Arc trainers and stationary bikes. The cardio areas are equipped with 20 large, flat-screen TVs. The gym also has two full circuits of strength machines, a 30-minute Express Circuit, a 12-minute Abs Circuit, three tanning booths, a Red-Light therapy booth, two massage chairs and locker rooms.

Planet Fitness offers two levels of membership, one at $10 per month and a PF Black Card membership at $19.99 per month. The $10 membership includes full use of the gym, lockers and showers, free personal training in small group sessions and no contracts for joining. The $19.99 membership comes with unlimited tanning, guest privileges, use of massage chairs, half-off all cooler drinks and use of all clubs in the Planet Fitness chain, which includes 500 locations in 44 states.

The gym is always staffed and operates 24 hours beginning Monday at 5 a.m. through Friday at 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Planet Fitness is located at 3150 Owen Rd., Fenton. For more information, call (810) 714-8000.

$18,000,000

That’s how much money would be pumped into the local economy if every area family spent just $50 more per year shopping locally!
Shaun LePain

If you could do anything over in high school what would it be?: Have better grades so I can get a scholarship to Michigan State University (MSU).

What do you do outside of school?: I snowboard and I am on the wrestling team.

My greatest high school regret is?: I am only a freshman so I don’t have any regrets — yet.

My most embarrassing moment in high school was?: One time I got my pants pulled down in gym class.

If you could have one super power what would it be?: To read people’s minds.

If you were principal for a day what changes would you make to the school?: I would change the lunch menu and allow the students to have off-campus lunches.

What is an upcoming event you are looking forward to?: The winter formal dance.

If you had to walk through downtown all day wearing a sign, what would it say?: ‘Make a change.’

Front row seats and back stage passes, who are you seeing?: LMFAO and Yellow Wolf.

What has been the best day in your life so far?: Freshman homecoming, it was amazing.

What are your plans after graduation?: I want to be an anesthesiologist and go to MSU for college.

Where will you be and what will you be doing 10 years from now?: Hopefully, living a successful life and own my own snowboarding mountain.
Lake Fenton Theatre presents Wizard of Oz

Lake Fenton Theatre (LFT) announces their stage presentation of the Musical, “The Wizard of Oz.” Performances run from Thursday, Dec. 8 to Sunday, Dec. 11 at Lake Fenton High School. Curtain times on Thursday, Friday and Saturday are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. The stage performance is based on the 1939 movie starring Judy Garland as Dorothy Gale, a Kansas farm girl who is whisked up in a tornado and dropped into the Land of Oz.

Cameo appearances will be made by elected officials, coaches, administrators and teachers from throughout the Lake Fenton district.

The large student cast includes Sydney Wolgast as Dorothy Gale. Stage veteran Coriana Brown will play Glinda the Good Witch, as well as Aunt Emily Gale. Sierra Harbin, Cullen O’Donnell and Donovan Leary will portray scarecrow, Tin Man and Lion. The Great Wizard of Oz is played by Raed Jawhari. The Wicked Witch of the West is played by Patricia Whittaker. Supporting cast includes Aimee Craig, Analisa Reed, Aubrey MacDonald.

WIZARD OF OZ
Lake Fenton High School
Thursday, Dec. 9 - Sunday, Dec. 11
Adult tickets: $8
Student/senior citizens: $5

Raising my gaze from this computer screen to the wall above, I see another quote card sent to me long ago by an old friend and respected evangelist. I’ve placed this quote in a conspicuous location that allows its challenge to motivate me every morning.

Do you need a powerful day-starter? Try this morning motivator and see what it does for you.

‘I am only one, but I am one, I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And what I can do, I ought to do. And by the grace of God, I will do it.’

This enlarger of vision and responsibility has changed my thinking about things I used to consider time wasters or interrupters of my plans. Now, I see these as opportunities to lift the discouraged and help people trade their fears for faith.

Long- or slow-moving lines in stores have become fertile fields in which to sow seeds of encouragement in the minds of people who are hurting, pointing them to the One who loves and comforts those in distress. Even telemarketers have become prospects for peace with God rather than irritants, who interrupt my day.

A once popular old hymn says, ‘Brighten the corner where you are.’ There are many dark corners in life and they’re often occupied by people longing for light. Each of us has the responsibility to bring them the good news of God’s love.

After all, like Paul, we’re in debt to everybody.

Roger Campbell is an author, a columnist and broadcaster who was a pastor for 22 years. He can be reached at rcministry@ameritech.net.

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Aloysius Sny, age 78, died November 28, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

Vivian Rundell, age 91, died November 30, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

Linda Powers, age 91, died November 25, 2011. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes.

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Paw's Corner: My friend has a Border Collie mix, "Jeffy," who is about 2 or 3 years old. He snorts or coughs at least 10 or 15 times a day, and when he does, a copious amount of mucus comes out of his nose. Can you tell me what causes this and how to remedy it?

— B.P., Prince George, Va.

Dear B.P.: Coughing in dogs can have a number of causes, ranging from allergy to serious infection. The first thing your friend needs to do is take Jeffy to the veterinarian to rule out a dangerous illness like kennel cough or other infection, or an injury. Your friend should let the vet know how long Jeffy has had this cough, if he was recently boarded or regularly goes to doggy day care, and if his shots are up to date. Jeffy also should be regularly treated with a heartworm preventative; if he isn't, your friend must let the doctor know. If Jeffy dealt with a recent flea infestation, let the vet know. If Jeffy is diagnosed with an illness — respiratory infections can happen to any dog — the vet will determine the type of infection and prescribe medicine to treat it. He also may prescribe a cough suppressant to give the dog a little relief from the coughing. If Jeffy gets a clean bill of health, your friend will want to look into other causes of his cough and mucus, such as seasonal allergies, a food allergy or an environmental allergy such as dampness and/or mold in the house. Treatment, along with reduced exposure to the allergen that’s causing the problem, can make a big difference.
TRI-COUNTY LIVING

DEBATE
Continued from Page 1B
the cost of a single large live tree, you can purchase an artificial tree that looks the same but will last for several holiday seasons.

The cost of a single large live tree can be considerable, but it offers a unique and lasting natural beauty that is difficult to replicate with an artificial tree. Artificial trees are typically made of materials such as PVC and may not withstand the elements as well as real trees. Real trees also provide additional benefits, such as improved air quality and reduced allergens. While the cost of a single large live tree may be significant, the environmental and aesthetic benefits make it a worthwhile investment for many people.
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TRI-COUNTY LIVING
Sunday, December 4, 2011
11B
2010-11 TRI-COUNTY PREP BASKETBALL QUICK QUESTIONS

**FENTON TIGERS**

**Coach:** Tim Olszewski  
**2010-11 Record:** 14-2 in Metro, 17-4 overall.  
**Team summary:** The Tigers have won three straight Metro titles, and return the two pieces that have helped make that run possible — the Hickoff twins, Dylan and Ryan. Both have won Tri-County Player of the Year honors once. Could one of them break the tie this year? We’ll see.

Other quality players also return. On that list is Conor Munlin, Damon Thomas and Jack Lukas. Some of the new faces that should make an impact this year are Eric Readman, Corey Cox and Mitch Shegos. Two freshmen also dot the roster — James Claborne and Andrew Olszewski.

**Coach Olszewski says:** "One of the things we try to do is take one day and one game at a time. But we have some goals. We want to win the Metro League for the fourth straight time, then win a district as a Class A school. Those are the big goals, but we also have daily goals of just wanting to get better every day.

**Prediction:** The Tigers are a favorite to win their fourth straight Metro League championship.

**HOLLY BRONCHOS**

**Coach:** Lance Baylis  
**2010-11 Record:** 12-4 in Metro, 15-6 overall.  
**Team summary:** The Bronchos have an interesting mix of experience and youthful talent. Nic Stoll returns as the focal point of the experienced talent. He provides size and team leadership. Also returning are Jared Flawis and Austin Hopkin, who should make a decent backcourt. Donovan Williams also returns.

The young players include Michael Alexander, and freshmen Isaac Casitas, Parker Rowe and Morgan Baylis. Logan Spiker (6-foot-7) will bring size. Other newbies on the team include Cannon Konzer and Justice Kerner. Other players include Blake Grisdow and Patrick Reddy.

**Coach Baylis says:** "We have a nice cross section of age groups. It is interesting the combination of experienced, talented players we have and the number of inexperienced but talented guys we have. I have never had a team like this. We are going to heavily rely on our seniors not only in terms of their play on the court, but also their leadership on the court."

**Prediction:** Holly is always a contender and will be once again this year. How quickly the young players mature into at least quality complimentary roles will probably determine the fate of this squad.

Expect Holly to win at least 14 games.

**LINDEN EAGLES**

**Coach:** Denny Hopkins  
**2010 Record:** 5-10 in Metro, 8-12 overall.  
**Team Summary:** The Lindon Eagles have some solid athletes back from a year ago. That list starts with Kevin Baker, Dillon Nash and Max Belbot. Josh Hoberling and Shaye Brown also return after playing on the varsity squad a year ago. The team will have to play without injured Tyler Kraus probably until the new year comes around, but he also returns. The new faces include Kyle Babcock, Jake Dunlevy, Travis Hull, Cody Grandy, Taylor Anderson and Eddie Walterhouse.

It’s a reasonably athletic lineup, but one thing Linden doesn’t have is a ton of size.

**Coach Hopkins says:** "Some of the players are a little ahead of the others, but no one is too far behind anyone. We can probably play anyone right now other than Tyler because he’s hurt. Other than that, we don’t lose much. This is one of our better groups in terms of working together. We don’t have size, and that’s troubling, but it is what it is."

**Prediction:** Hopkins is one that believes in the theory of “getting better every day.” The Eagles have some pieces that have quality varsity experience, but they probably lack the pieces needed to contend for a Metro title or anything like that. Finishing at .500 in the Metro would be considered a huge success for the Eagles.

**Fenton leads list of Metro League contenders**

**FENTON**

Coach: Matt Furey  
**2010-11 Record:** 5-7 in GAC Red, 12-10 overall.  
**Team summary:** Coach Furey finds himself with few veterans on his squad this year. To be more precise, he finds himself with just one player returning from last year. That player is Tyler Davidek. However, he does have a good group of players that he likes entering the season. That list includes Darian Welch, Kaleb Nealy, Jeff Burke, Jed Horski, Tyler Begley, Sawyer Scott, Zac Zielinski and Tim Hooks.

How long it takes the team to adjust to playing varsity competition will be key. Several players competed in AAU organizations during the summer, experiencing some success while doing so.

**Coach Furey says:** "We have eight juniors and two seniors on the team, so some guys are still adjusting to the speed of the game at the varsity level. But in time, they’ll be fine. They compete every day, play the right way and have a good basketball IQ."

**Prediction:** With so many new faces on the team, it’s hard to see the Blue Devils improving upon last year’s record. When teams return so little experience, they usually see a lot of improvement from the first game to the last.

Matching last year’s season we’d guess would have to be considered a reasonably successful season.

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**did you know?** Wendell Scott was the first African American to win a race at NASCAR’s top level, doing it in 1963.
Holly wins opener; Linden falls

First games can always be tough for basketball squads. But those first games are always made better with a victory. The Holly varsity girls basketball team had its pluses and minuses, as does any other squad, during its first game, but also came out of that game with a 38-33 victory at Milford High School Tuesday night.

“We played hard,” Holly coach David Hall said. “It was our typical first game with turnovers and fouls.”

Holly led at every quarter break, leading 8-4 after one quarter. The Broncos’ lead grew to 27-12 at the halftime.

In the third quarter, Lauren Maher scored all nine of Holly’s points, leading the squad to a 27-21 lead after three quarters.

Alyssa Copley led the Bronchos with 12 points, while Maher had 11 points. Delaney Serra had four points, nine rebounds, seven assists and five steals. Jessica Beeler had five points and nine rebounds.

Lake Orion 42, Linden 29

The Eagles struggled in the opening half, resulting in the loss.

“We played good at times and not good at other times,” Linden coach Ben Varner said. “There’s room for improvement.”

Linden trailed 29-17 at the half but played better in the second. Lake Orion to just 16 second-half points. However, the offense provided only 12 second-half points.

Jordan Sargent led Linden with seven points, while Sabrina Kinney and Kelsey Brecht had five points each. Kaitylin Dunleavy had five rebounds.

By David Troppens dtroppens@tctimes.com 810-633-6789

Lake Fenton — When it comes to star players, not many are quieter than Sidney Scott.

The Lake Fenton girls basketball player doesn’t yell or doesn’t make body language moves suggesting she’s the queen of the court.

Instead, Scott lets her offense, defense and rebounding do the talking for her. Scott did just that in Lake Fenton’s first varsity girls basketball game of the season at Lake Fenton High School Tuesday night. She scored 19 points, grabbed 17 rebounds, dished off five assists and collected five steals in the Blue Devils’ 56-46 victory against Bridgeport.

“It’s quiet. Sidney is quiet about it,” first-year Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Matt Gildner said. “She does her job. She scraps, that’s the thing. A lot of the girls are starting to develop the same thing.”

Scott is an unselfish player, and that has seemed to rub off on what was an unselfish Blue Devils’ squad Tuesday night.

Eighteen of Lake Fenton’s 21 field goals had assists, reflecting the team’s unselfish play. Several other times, the passing resulted in quality shots, but, perhaps due to it being the first game of the season, the Blue Devils didn’t always take advantage, netting just 21 of 43 shots from the field. However, it’s hard to think such unselfishness won’t be rewarded as the season continues. The 73 shots also came due to a nice rebounding edge as Lake Fenton had 15 second-chance points due to its defensive prowess.

“We’ve been working on pushing the ball up the floor,” Gildner said. “From the scrimmage and this game, the girls are getting more unselfish with the ball. They are looking to share. They are not getting where they obsess about points. They are looking to be a team and to create for their teammates.”

Lake Fenton scored the game’s first four points, and never trailed in the contest. The Blue Devils’ lead grew to as many as 21-6 after a Jordan Newman assist on a Scott bucket with about 5:30 left in the first half.

However, Bridgeport fought back. The lead was cut to 29-23 by the half, and the Bearcats cut it to one in the fourth quarter. It got to one at 45-44 after a 12-foot jumper by post player Danielle Warner who came off just under six minutes remaining in the contest. However, Newman assisted a Faith Weier layup, Weier assisted a Paige Stafford bucket and Newman had a steal and a coast-to-coast breaking layup, raising the gap back to 51-44 over the next 90 seconds. The 11-0 Lake Fenton run was completed with two free throws by Scott, a free throw by Hannah Rummel and a hoop by Scott off an assist by Weier. Lake Fenton led 56-44.

After Scott, Mackenzie Gottron had 11 points, nine rebounds and four steals. Weier had nine points, five assists and four steals. Newman had eight points, four assists and two steals.

Bridgeport was led by Labrina Burton, who had a game-high 21 points.

Lake Fenton’s Mackenzie Gottron attempts a shot during the Blue Devils’ 56-46 victory against Bridgeport on Tuesday night.
Fenton hockey learning how to play with smaller bench

Despite late rally, Tigers fall to Davison 6-4

By David Troppens dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Flint — The economy has hit life in a lot of areas.

And in the prep sports world, it seems it’s hit hockey more than most sports.

It has hit the Flint Metro League as well. Every school that has hockey in the conference is sponsoring the sport through a co-op. Well, all but one that is. The exception is Fenton. But even a school as deep-rooted in its hockey tradition as Fenton is seeing some economic pains. The team is down to 15 players — two being goalies — meaning the team can only run two complete lines. That’s something that the program hasn’t used to. And it’s taking some getting used to, particularly against some of the better programs in the Flint area.

The Tigers struggled early against area power Davison, falling behind by as many as four goals twice, before making a mad run in the third period. However, the Tigers still fell 6-4 at Perani Arena on Wednesday night.

“It’s tough,” said Fenton senior Jake Blackburn, who remembers the days of deeper teams well. “But it always comes down to what we do in practice. If we work hard in practice, we’ll get used to it. We are just having a hard time getting used to it right now, but we will. The last couple of years we’ve had the opportunity to have four lines, or at least three lines, so everyone was well rested. We just have to get used to it.”

“They are showing a lot of heart,” said Fenton coach Jeff Mynatt. “We are running off a short bench. We have 15 skaters right now, actually 13 skaters and two goalies. They are giving everything they got every shift and you can’t ask for anything more. That’s as tough as it gets in hockey.”

Slow starts have hurt Fenton in its first two games as well. On Tuesday, Davison scored three first-period goals, and led at one time 4-0 after a goal by Brandon Pirtle just 44 seconds into the second period.

Fenton cut the gap to 4-1 on an even-strength goal by Hugh Comben with 5:22 left in the second period, but Davison responded just nine seconds later. That’s when Alex Dunckel scored his second goal of the game. Fenton trailed 5-1 entering the final period.

The Tigers cut the gap to 5-2 with a goal by Kyle Lixie, assisted by Ben Cislo, with 13:31 remaining, but it seemed that might be as close as Fenton would get because the scoring stopped at that point.

At least it stopped until the final 122 seconds. The Tigers scored with 2:02 left on a Connor Phillips goal, assisted by Logan Edwards and Tyler DeLong. That cut the gap to 5-3. Then, just 19 seconds later, DeLong scored on assists by Phillips and Kevin Berry. The lead was suddenly just 5-4 with 1:41 remaining. However, Davison scored an empty-net goal late, icing the victory.

Logan Edwards and Lixie assisted the Tigers’ first goal by Comben. The 0-2 start, which also included a loss to Grand Blanc, hasn’t ruined the enthusiasm for the season.

“We’re capable of a lot,” Blackburn said. “We have shooters. We just have to be able to execute on the shots. We have been getting off to slow starts right now. That’s been our problem. Once we get that out of the way, we can win some games.”

It’s also a source of pride for the Tigers, knowing they are the only Metro team that remains a one-school squad.

“I enjoy it. I wouldn’t want to join another team,” Blackburn said. “I’m glad I had an opportunity as a senior not to join another team. It’s your high school. It’s your school.”

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Holiday Favorites

**Calvarymen Christmas Concert**

Saturday, Dec. 10th at 2:00 pm
Fenton Winery Garden Children’s Library
Music from their CD release, A Christmas Gift, and other holiday favorites.

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**What’s On Television?**

**SATURDAY**

**BASKETBALL**

(CBS) North Carolina at Kentucky (ESPN) Iowa State at Michigan (ABC) Arkansas at UConn (ESPNU) Connecticut at UConn (ABC) Michigan at Purdue (ESPNU) Pittsburgh at Tennessee (ESPNU) South Florida at Kansas

**FOOTBALL**

(ABC) Florida State at Texas (ESPN) Oregon at UCLA (ESPN) Texas at Kansas State

**SUNDAY**

**FOOTBALL**

(FOX) Georgia at Florida (CBS) Georgia at Kentucky

**HOCKEY**

(FSD) Detroit at Colorado

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Holiday Movies / Coloring Contest!

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**Tri-County Times**

Scott Scholpebach
Fenton’s Tyler DeLong scored a goal in the Tigers’ 6-4 loss to Davison Wednesday night.
GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEWS

LAKE FENTON BLUE DEVILS

Coach: Matt Gildner  
2010-11 Record: 6-6 in the GAC Red, 12-9 overall.  
Team summary: First-year coach Matt Gildner had lined up a squad with some pretty decent talent on it. Junior Sidney Scott returns and has the potential to be the area’s top player. She can play pretty much any position on the court. But she has some other strong players around her with most being seniors. That list of players includes Faith Weier, Hannah Rummel, Paige Stafford, Madison Skinner and Karlie Dreck. Rummel and Stafford provide a post presence while Maxheimer plays at the wing and Julie Gilbert will move in between the two forward spots. In the post, Sarah Collier and Rachel Ambler return. Another guard back is Hannah Eo.  
Coach Gildner says: “It’s a team comprised of a lot of ‘like’ talent. We have a lot of good athletes and I think that’s where the strength of the team is. I don’t have five standard players. We have a lot of players that can be interchanged without us missing too much.”  
Prediction: The Blue Devils could be the team to kind of watch out for this year. Lake Fenton should be a bit better than last year’s 6-6 and 12-9 squad.

FENTON TIGERS

Coach: Brad Devitt  
2010-11 Record: 13-3 in Metro, 17-5 overall.  
Team summary: For the first time in awhile, there won’t be a Rivette on the squad. But that’s not the only major change with this team. Six seniors graduated, and all played a significant role towards last year’s 17 wins. Some solid players return. That list includes Jailen Judson, who plays at the point. Payton Downes will spend a lot of time in the post. Sabrina Kinney is a solid guard, while Brodie Thomas should see time at the wing. Madisen Noske returns back after a year at Lake Fenton. Others moving to the varsity that should see ample playing time are Sam Thornton and Maija Salkowia.  
Coach Varner says: “We have a lot of wings and not a lot of posts. We are kind of small, but we’ll see what happens. A lot of them got to play last year. They got the experience and they should be ready to go.”  
Prediction: The Tigers will look a lot different than in seasons past, but they should still be among the Metro League elite. Winning a league title could be tough. Clio remains tough as do a few other teams, but the Tigers should finish in one of the top three spots.

LINDEN EAGLES

Coach: Ben Varner  
2010-11 Record: 3-13 in Metro, 4-17 overall.  
Team summary: It took awhile for the Eagles to figure it out last year, but the squad ended up playing much better in the second half than the first. And now, the squad returns seven seniors from that varsity team. Jordyn Harp plays the point, while Kaitlyn Dunleavy and Lexi Downess will play a lot of time in the post. Sabrina Kinney is a solid guard, while Brodie Thomas should see time at the wing. Madisen Noske returns back after a year at Lake Fenton. Others moving to the varsity that should see ample playing time are Sam Thornton and Maija Salkowiak.  
Coach Varner says: “We have 13-3 in Metro, the team could win as many as seven or eight games.”

HOLLY BRONCHOS

Coach: David Hall  
2010-11 Record: 12-4 in Metro, 15-6 overall.  
Team summary: The Bronchos’ biggest loss was Ashley Xiong. And in the time she was with the program, the Bronchos progressively got better. Now, they must find a way to compete without their four-year point guard. And there does seem to be some quality talent on the squad to keep the good days rolling. Alyssa Copley is a forward who got better and better as her freshman season continued. Around her, there are senior guards Lauren Maher and Miyan Kerner and junior guard Delaney Serra. Three-year varsity player Jessica Beeler returns at forward, while Kyalia Skopek (guard) and Brooke Harth (forward) also return. Six others will complete the roster — Abby Lewandowski, Christina King, Jessica Caspar, Ali Baker, Kelsey Foucart and Chelsea England.  
Coach Hall says: “We have 13 kids on our team and they are really working hard. They are really dedicated kids. The biggest thing for us this year is how we handle things when they don’t go our way. We have to keep fighting and playing hard, and find ways to cover.”  
Prediction: The Bronchos could slip a bit from their season last year, but expect them to be above .500. It should be fun to see how much Copley has progressed since last year.

QUESTIONS

Continued from Page 12B this year. If the Tigers slip up though, don’t be shocked if the Holly Bronchos are right there to pick up some hardware. The Bronchos have to get their young players some experience fast, but if they can do that, they could contend.  
On the girls’ side, the Fenton Tigers stay a constant threat. However, the Clio Mustangs remain the favorites. Lake Fenton’s girls should be a solid team, but it’s hard seeing Blue Devils actually winning the GAC Red Division.

Games to watch

We will keep this to conference games. On the girls’ side, Monday’s road contest at Clio will be a big one. If Fenton wins that game, the Tigers will prove they are a contender for the Metro League title. When we look at the boys, there is a group of six contests that create intrigue. The two most important to the tri-county area are the Holly at Fenton (Jan. 9) and the Fenton at Holly (Feb. 14) matchups. And then there are Fenton’s and Holly’s games with Swartz Creek. Those games probably will determine the Metro League championship.

Postseason chances

The Metro League’s inability to win a boys district title is well documented. This year’s two top teams in the tri-county area — Fenton and Holly — will find that challenge a tough one again this year, with Clarkston in the district. But in Class B action, two-tri-county teams have a reasonable chance at a boys’ title. The Fowlerville district, containing Linden and Lake Fenton, appears relatively weak. For the Fenton and Holly girls, Clarkston and Grand Blanc will be challenges. Linden hosts a Class B district which appears to be open for the taking as well.

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