

adopting r ussian orphan is life-changing event

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO



Harrouns and Galina destined to be together

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 ARose Township couple's life has been turned upside down and they wouldn't have it any other way. Debbie Tegard-Harroun and her husband, Hugh Harroun are ecstatic about sharing this Christmas — and every other

Summary After reading a 2008 story in the

Times about a Russian orphan needing parents, a Rose Township couple knew they were meant to be family. Debbie Tegard-Harroun, and her husband Hugh Harroun, are relishing in their new role as

parents.

day — with their adopted daughter, Galina.

This is their second Christmas together. However, their first one together was a blurry whirlwind as they had just brought her home See orphan on 8

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | f il e PHOTO This photo (at right) of Galina ran in the 2008 article in the Times, which prompted Debbie Tegard-Harroun, of Rose Township, to inquire

about adopting the Russian orphan.

'Secret santas' anonymously paying for layaways at local stores

Debbie Tegard-Harroun and her husband Hugh, of Rose Township, fought hard for their

Random acts of **Christmas kindness** more numerous this year

By Sally Rummel

wisely.

Here's a

positive

for the community.

dollars. Enough is

in this community.

Can we have some

negative tools that

don't cost taxpayer

Whether you think

there is or isn't a God,

no one can argue the love seen at Kmart on

what I would imagine

like. Thank you to all

Freedom Center."

I don't always

blaming Jennifer for Michigan's troubles. I

really admire him for

Follow us on Twitter

Facebook

Like us on

agree with Gov. Snyder but at least he didn't start out by

HOT LINE

that.

the love of God to look

those who gave at The

- Luscius868

Saturday

after-

noon.

Lives

were

touched and that's

money?"

HOT LINE

enough. We've had

enough positive tools

Stop wasting our tax

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 There's something magical about the Christmas season that brings out the very best in people.

You see it in of kindness random acts of make the kindness, when Christmas "secret santas," season even who wish to remore magical. main anonymous,

stop in at local businesses, and pay for layaways at stores like Kmart and Wal-Mart. Then, unsuspecting shoppers have the joy and excitement of owing just a penny on a remaining layaway balance before Christmas.

See Secret Sant a on 10

"One lady broke down in tears when someone anonymously paid for the only two toys her kids had asked for." **Mary McKenzie** employee, Kmart



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO Christy Frazier, an employee at Kmart, witnessed 13 acts of kindness last Friday, where guests paid off customers' layaway items for children.

Christmas comes eight days early for 245 local kids

► Fifteen businesses, church, 45 volunteers make it happen

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 The joy of Christmas is not only in the receiving, but it's also in the giving. And that joy was in festive abundance on Saturday at Kmart in Fenton, when The Freedom Center, See kid S on 6

Facebook becomes living timeline

► Users can post events throughout an entire lifetime

Summary

Timeline is the newest addition to Facebook, the world's most popular social media website

By William Axford axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Facebook is creating time-

lines that will last an entire lifetime.

Timeline is the newest addition to the world's most popular social media website, organizing every post and picture on a user's profile into a vertical history book. There's no new information on a profile other than what a user has already posted. However, statuses and pictures are bigger and much more See facebook on 12



Summary

adopted daughter, Galina, who they brought home permanently in 2010.

Random acts



Prices effective through Saturday, December 24, 2011.

Wednesday , december 21, 2011 page 3 www.tctimes.com

FEATURESand **NEWS**

SMART SOLUTIONS



Remove sticky labels in a snap with this homemade solution. Combine equal parts white vinegar and lukewarm water in a basin, then soak the glassware for 10 minutes. The acetic acid in the solution dissolves adhesive and mineral deposits so the stickers practically peel themselves off!



Make smudges on your aluminum blinds disappear with this simple trick: Rub them with a pencil eraser. The rubber lifts the unsightly marks quickly and easily.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

The Tri-County Times (USPS 018-092) is published weekly (with exceptions) by Rockman Communi-cations, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Periodical postage paid at Fenton, Michigan 48430.2699 and other post offices. Serving the communities of: Fenton, Linden, Lake Fenton, Holly, Hartland, Byron, Gaines, Davisburg, Swartz Creek and Grand Blanc townships of: Fenton, Holly, Rose, Tyrone and Argentine. Subscription **Rate:** 38.00 per year. No non-member subscribers. Postmaster: Send address changes to Tri-County Times, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699.

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Fax	

E-mail: news@tctimes.com Website: www.tctimes.com Hours: Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturday & Sunday



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Pam Pineda sits with husband Joe Pineda and her father Duane Theisen to enjoy breakfast on Monday, beneath the new hanging Christmas tree at The French Laundry.

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

It's the week before Christmas - and Christmas trees are everywhere. Most of them are firmly placed on the ground, but the owners of the The French Laundry have tried something a little different. Guests to the popular downtown

Fenton restaurant Summary are treated to two Another option with Christmas trees, Christmas trees is one that sits on simply hanging them the ground by from the ceiling, or the bar, and one using the right kind that is suspended of stand. The French Laundry has a tree from the colorhanging from the ful cupola, the colorful cupola inside. indented section

of the ceiling that lets light in from four sides.

"We thought it would be a nice conversation piece," said co-owner Chad Brennan. "We just wanted to do something different."

The restaurant always has a standard tree sitting by the bar. He said the suspended tree has drawn attention to the space.

See up Side down on 12

Christmas tree trivia

The most lights on a Christmas tree were achieved by Kiwanis Malmedy/ Haute Fagnes in Malmedy, Belgium, on Dec. 10 2010, with 194,672 lights.

The most expensive tree

decorated was in the United Arab Emirates at the Emirates Palace, and was valued at \$11,026,900. It was displayed from Dec. 16 to Dec. 29, 2010.

The largest human Christmas

tree was achieved by 439 participants at an event organized by Wiesmoorer Generationen Verein in Wiesmoor, Germany, on Dec. 19, 2010.

The largest artificial Christmas

tree stood 176 feet tall, and was built out of PVC pipe and covered with artificial greenery. It was built in 2001 by Grupo Sonae Distribuição, and displayed in Porto Alegre, Brazil from Dec. 1, 2001, to Jan. 6, 2002. Source:guinnessworldrecords.com

not done shopping yet?

Local retailers ready with last-minute gifts **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Who wouldn't love two fresh

live Maine lobsters, complete with bibs and moist towelettes, delivered fresh to your door in time for Christmas?

Food gifts like this unique one fromLobsterGram. com can still be ordered for that hardto-buy-for person, although time is

running out. Most catalog orders or gifts from on-line retailers must be ordered by today, Dec. 21, in order to be shipped out in time for Christmas.

But you can also "People are stay-

about anyone on your shopping list. At Four Seasons Fresh Market in Fenton, procrastinators can order baskets for beer lovers, complete See giftS on 11



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SALLY RUMMEL

Brighton jewelry, handbags and accessories is the most popular line at Eclections in Fenton, according to co-owner Nicole Bergeron. Packaged gift sets ready to go from Brighton are one of this year's most popular sellers.



ing local with their shopping this year." **Mark Morse** Four Seasons Fresh Market

Summary

There are still four shopping days until Christmas and plenty of ideas for personal and thoughtful lastminute gifts.

stay closer to home and find specialty food items that will please just



Obama's latest '60 Minutes' interview

President Obama doesn't suffer from amnesia, but apparently, he hopes the public does. In his latest series of interviews on "60 Minutes," the president took positions that are the polar opposite of what he was saying as recently as last spring.

In his interview with Steve Kroft, the president said he always believed that reversing the culture in Washington 'was gonna take more than one term.' It's a 'long-term project, 'not a short-term project,' And then he claimed that during the 2008 campaign, he 'didn't over promise.' Really?

Speaking in Richmond, Va., on Oct. 22, 2008, Obama promised to put millions of Americans back to work. He pledged 'real change.' Instead, the unemployment rate is 8.6 percent. Since President Obama took office, the nation has lost 1.9 million jobs.

In 2009, the president said on the Today show, 'If I don't have this done in three years, then there's going to be a one-term proposition.' A few days later in Florida, there was this, 'I'm not going to make any excuses,' said Obama. 'If stuff hasn't worked and people don't feel like I've led the country in the right direction, then you'll have a new president.'

On CBS, the president said the 2012 election is about his vision, but as CBS News' Stephanie Condon reported last week, 'Sixty-six percent of Americans say they do not have a clear idea of what he wants to accomplish in a second term.'

Apparently, the president has decided that playing the blame game is good campaign strategy.

The president blames Republicans for not allowing him to accomplish anything, but says nothing about his own failure to get things done. And what about Senate Democrats who have rejected every House bill seeking cuts in wasteful spending to bring the budget closer into balance? Not a word.

The president's housing programs received \$50 billion from Congress to help stem foreclosures on 9 million homeowners. As reported in October, only \$2.4 billion of that money has been allocated, helping just 1.7 million people avoid foreclosure.

Democrats didn't improve anything and nothing has been made better. According to President Obama's own standard, and contrary to what he said on '60 Minutes,' he does not deserve a second term.

TIMES MIDWEEK

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or

less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity,

length and liability.

REGARDING SUN-DAY'S STORY 'Where do DDA dollars come from,' many don't understand that without the DDA, these tax dollars could not be captured. And they don't understand that DDA dollars can only be used on approved projects, not random things that need to be done around town.

FENTON CRUSH **BASEBALL** would like

to thank all the wonderful people from Fenton, Linden and Holly for coming out and helping stuff a truck on Saturday. We filled two trucks to help the very needy of Carriage Town Ministries of Flint. Thanks again. From Crush Coaching staff and families.

THANK YOU, PRESBYTERIAN

'Santa!' Your generosity brought me to tears.

HELLO FROM PALMER, Alaska. We will have a white Christmas. We have 3 inches of snow with daily flurries. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all in the Fenton/Linden area.

TYPICAL BABY BOOMER response in Wednesday's issue. I own none of those things aside from a cheap, old cell phone. I'll admit I have electric lighting, but Boomers didn't invent that anyway. You missed my point, too. Unlike that generation, I understand that happiness cannot be sold to me.

SANTA'S TIP OF the day, the post office is not the only place to ship packages. Check out and support our local companies.

GOD BLESS THE Fenton Rotary.

Thank you for your kindness, generos-

ity, and thoughtfulness extended to my children through your Angel Tree program. We have had a most difficult year, and your benevolence is most appreciated. Merry Christmas.

DDA FUNDING

SOUNDS like the guy with three peas under the cups. It is taxpayers' dollars, no matter how you cut it, without any

oversight. Another case of our irresponsible government officials giving away taxpayers' dollars so they can't be blamed for anything.

DOES ANYONE KNOW who, or

where, to call about the Flint Journal weekly paper being thrown in my yard every week? Love my Times and read it front to back twice a week, but don't like the other one.

WHAT DO YOU call a group of people forming a group and standing together and supporting a small percent of the population? No, it's not the unions. No not even the unions would destroy our country to benefit the rich. Go, 99 percent.

YOU MUST BE a disgruntled Spartan fan. You're 6-6 at best, indefinitely. Back to normal starts next year.

FOR THE PERSON who commented Sunday, Dec. 18 that another term under President Obama would mean the end of our Constitutional rights, what rights are you talking about? I have not lost one single right since Obama was elected president. Just because you don't like something, doesn't mean you're losing your right. Grow up, you dipstick.

See hot line throughout Times



No Wednesday paper

In order for the staff at the Times to spend some time with their families and enjoy the holidays, the Midweek edition will not be published on Wednesday, Dec. 28. I know I am looking forward to spending some time with my family over the holidays. The staff and I wish all of our readers a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

2012 almost here

If I had to describe the year 2011 in one word, it would be — upheaval. There was the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, catastrophic weather events such as the devastating tornado that tore through Joplin, Mo. The manhunt for the world's mostwanted terrorist ended after Osama bin Ladin was killed. The reign of a cruel dictator also ended with the death of Libyan leader Moammar Gadafi. Occupy Wall Street protests raged across the nation in 2011.

Good things have happened, too, such as the soldiers coming home from Iraq.

All of these events and so many more that are too numerous to mention, have created upheaval in our country, as well as throughout the world.

But upheaval leads to change. The people of Libya are working to rebuild their country and a new government. Homes are being rebuilt in Joplin, Mo. Families have been reunited. Lives have taken on new meaning all over the globe.

What has happened locally in 2011? The editorial staff is working on looking back at what has happened in your town this past year and will present Year in Review in this Sunday's edition of the Times, **Looking ahead**

While looking back allows for a

period of reflection, looking forward can be exciting. And there are many things to look forward to in the tricounty area in the upcoming year, new businesses and restaurants opening, road project that will makes your commute just a little easier. And the Times will be here, as always, ready to entertain, educate and inform!

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

streettalk

Compiled by William Axford, Staff Reporter

Kindergarten and first-grade students How does Santa deliver presents to your house? at Linden Elementary School



"I have no chimney, but there's a secret door we don't know about that he brings the presents in." — Shawna Schmandt



"He comes down our chimney."

— Dylan Katzenberger



"The chimney has a fire in it, so he can go in the back door or window."



"We don't have a chimney so I think he comes in through the door or window."

"He goes down our

chimney, opens the glass

and brings the presents."

— Hannah Wasilewksi



"He goes down the chimney."



Resident asks township to assist in lawsuit

►'I don't think there's anything we can do'

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton Twp. — Resident Dave Polidan has fought a long and costly battle for nearly a year with two neighbors over a public access easement. And, after Monday night's board of trustees meeting, it appears he will have to fight this battle alone.

Polidan filed a lawsuit involving a park on Ruth and Margaret Drive. He requested a letter of recommendation from the board. Polidan said written support from township officials could influence negotiations between his neighbors' lawyers. The board denied Polidan's request however, viewing

"Why should we spend money for something we've always had access to? Why doesn't the township get involved?" **Dave polidan** Fenton Township resident

the litigation as a dispute between neighbors. "Anything we

do here isn't going to be held up in court," said Treasurer John Tucker. "I don't think there's anything we can do that will help." Polidan said the Crane family in 1942 willed the

public easement to each of the homeowners who live in Shore Acres. Access to the easement is written in each homeowner's deed.

Disputes over access arose when two neighbors moved in next to the easement and began to claim it as their own property. Polidan told the board how the neighbors would regularly ban children from playing on the beach of the easement.

The dispute has escalated into a lawsuit between the neighbors and the residents of Shore Acres over whether or not the easement should be private or public property.

So far, Polidan has spent nearly \$3,000 on the case. His attorney expects the case to cost up to \$10,000 by the time it reaches court. Polidan has gained little support from his neighbors because the easement is located in a corner of the neighborhood.

T've lived in the same spot for 36 years," Polidan said. "Why should we spend money for something we've always had access to? Why doesn't the township step in? If we had a letter, we could show the lawyers."



Richard Cool-Summary ey, attorney for Fenton Township resident Dave Polidan the township, said requested assistance he expects the from Fenton courts to rule in Township on a lawsuit Polidan's favor. involving a public "It is my considaccess easement ered opinion that location. The township declined to this case is going get involved. to be dismissed," Cooley said. "The

winds should blow in your favor."

Tucker said while it is unfair that Polidan has to pay thousands to fight the lawsuit, he does sympathize with him and expects him to win his case. "These aren't fun, and it costs a lot of money," he said. "These things are so volatile. I feel your pain, I really do."



FRI. 12/23 & SAT., 12/24, 2011* Hometown Store *CHRISTMAS EVE 8AM-4PM, CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY $\left(0 \right)$ OR NO INTEREST IF PAID IN FULL IN 18 MONTHS** on any appliance over \$499 when you use a qualifying Sears card Interest will be charged to your account from the purchase date if the purchase balance is not paid in full within 18 months or if you make a late payment. Offer good thru 12/31/11. See below for offer details and Important Deferred Interest Details. **APPLIANCES OR FREE** PLUS [**STANDARD DELIVERY** 077 on all appliances over \$499' In Participating Stores. extra **ALL APPLIANCES OVER \$499** Instant Savings. No Rebate. WITH YOUR SEARS CARD* CRAFTSMAN all mechanic's tool sets 0 0 shop**your**way **Bonus Members** in points every day n set to rewards earn up to with Sears card. re 1/28/12 Your neighborhood store - and so much more. Sears Hometown Store is the best of both worlds -the value, selection and services you want, right in your neighborhood. FOR AN EVEN GREATER SELECTION SHOP SEARS.COM BUY ONLINE, PICK-UP AT YOUR LOCAL SEARS STORE Excludes Alaska. find us. friend us. follow us. VISIT US ONLINE AT: SearsHometownStores.com **Fen Ton** Howe LL Lapeer Find 14283 Fenton Rd. 4193 E. Grand River Ave. 1356 Imlay City Rd. We'll match it, plus give you We'll match it, plus give you 10% of the difference... 10% of the difference... see one of our sales staff for details! Lapeer, MI 48446 Fenton, MI 48430 Howell, MI 48843 810-629-1900 517-545-4004 810-664-1861 Hours for ALL stores: Mon-Fri: 9:30am-7pm • Sat: 9am - 6pm • Sun: 11am-4pm open 7 Days a wee K • Owned and Operated by Jeff, Sharon and Tim Stone PORTANT DEFERRED INTEREST DETAILS (when offered); Inte motional period or if you make a late payment. With credit ap provement Account[®] valid on installed sales only. Offer is only va er promotional offer. SEARS CARDS: As of 11/7/2011, APR for p will be charged to your account from the purchase date if the purchase balance is not paid in full within the , for qualifying purchases made on a Sears card (Sears Commercial One[®] accounts excluded) Sears Home r consumer accounts in good standing and is subject to change without notice. May not be combined with any ases: <u>VARIABLE 7.24%-27.24%</u> or <u>NON-VARIABLE 14.00%-29.99%</u>. MINIMUM INTEREST CHARGE: <u>UP TO</u> proval, for qu alid for consu hip Fee of up to \$59 may apply. See card agree \$2. An Annual M red by Citibank (South Dakota) N.A. Sears Solutions cards are is HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A. APPLIANCE OFFER: *Keni water ceffer nmore® savings range 5%-25%. Offers exclude Electrolux, Jenn-Air®, Dacor, Fisher & Paykel, floor care, sewing machines, countertop micro APPLIANCE UPTER', 'Nemforde' savings range 5%-29%. Unter sexclude Electrolux, Jeinn-AIP', Dator, Franke & Paykel, hoor care, sewing machines, counterop microwaves, water internot, air conditiones, air celenses, air celenares, humidifiers, dolumidifiers, accessories, clearance, closeouts, reconditioned, one of a kind merchandise and Everyday Great Price items. Extra 15% cannot be combined with any other Sears card discounts. Excludes Sears Commercial One® accounts and Outlet stores. Sears Home Improvement Accounts applies to installed merchandise only. Offers good thru 12/31/11. "No interest offer applies to appliance over \$499 after discounts and coupons when you use a qualifying Sears card and account is kept in good standing. Excludes Outlet Stores. Offer good thru 12/31/11. "The standard local delivery on any applicace over \$499 in participating stores after discounts and accounts harding. Excludes Outlet Stores. Offer good thru 12/31/11. "The standard local delivery on any applicace over \$499 in participating stores after discounts and accounts and colupons. Standard delivery includes delivery within the local delivery area Monday through Friday and delivery not requiring additional services or time. Retail value \$25-\$79.99. Additional fees may apply. Customer pays an additional charge for non-standard delivery. Local areas and non-standard delivery charges vary. Excludes all built-in refrigeration. Free delivery on Home Appliance products is not available on tiems purchased using the Sears Monthly Payment Plan. See store for delive. Not available on tiems purchased. Subject to full program terms available at shopyourwayrewards.com

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kid S

Continued from Front Page

Kmart and about 15 other local businesses brought Christmas eight days early to 245 local kids.

About 45 volunteers from The Freedom Center were on hand to help the parents with their Christmas shopping for their children, while the kids had their own holiday fun, making crafts, cookies, and ornaments for gifts to give to others. They also made Christmas cards for residents in area nursing homes. Santa and Mrs. Claus were on hand for the festivities, too, providing photo opportunities

"It is so encouraging to see what can happen when we all work together for the good of the community. It gains momentum and keeps going." r ick Falck Manager, Kmart

for keepsake pictures with Santa.

"It is so encouraging to see what can happen when we all work together for the good of the community," said Fenton Kmart Manager Rick Falck. "It gains momen-

tum and keeps going." He credits Mary McKenzie, footwear manager, with planning so many of the events that reach out to the community. "She has such a heart for this kind of community effort."

This is the second year that Kmart and The Freedom Center have cooperated in this project, and their efforts have been so successful that they have worked together during the back-to-school season as well.

They've also cooperated together with a Soup Kitchen event last February, and





TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

More than 245 kids enjoyed a variety of festivities while their parents shopped for them at Kmart on Saturday. The Freedom Center and many local businesses partnered together for the event.

plan to again this coming Feb. 20, 2012. "We open up the restaurant inside Kmart for use in serving a variety of soups and breads to raise money for The Store House, a food kitchen in Flint," said Falck. Last year, the event generated \$3,500 to \$4,000 for this charitable group.

Falck estimates that these events together have generated about \$30,000 for the community.

"We want to thank Kmart for the numerous times they have reached out to partner with The Freedom Center to

make things happen in the community," said a member of the pastoral team from The Freedom Center.

Falck returns kudos to The Free-Summary Kmart and The Freedom Center sponsored a Christmas event on Saturday that brought the holiday a little early to 245 kids and their families

their partnership in these events. and credits local businesses for their generosity, including Subway, Mancino's, Jimmy Johns, Pizza Hut, Panera Bread, Tim Hor-

dom Center for

ton's, Arby's, Burger King, Bob Evans, McDonald's, Johnny's Pizzeria, Luigi's, NCG Trillium, Big Boy and The French Laundry. "We couldn't have done this without them," said Falck.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO Children could get their picture taken with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus at Kmart during the special event.

Rose receives healthy financial audit

is in good condition."

Ken palka

Rose Township Auditor

By Tim Jagielo

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Rose Twp.—There were no surprises at the fiscal year 2011 audit presentation by Ken Palka of Pfeiffer, Hanniford and Palka auditing firm, at the Wednesday Rose Township board meeting. "The township itself

"The township itself is in good condition," said Palka. Palka said the most impor-

tant figure, the general fund, has revenues of \$793,000, with expenditures of \$769,000. The remaining fund balance is \$24,220. After a transfer

to another account as needed, the fund balance is down to just under \$10,000. Palka said this brought the total fund

balance to just under \$1 million. "That tells us, as auditors, that the township is

Mark McCabe 67th District Court Ask the

The benevolent judge

By all accounts, he is considered a benevolent judge. He is perhaps a little older than most judges are and when asked his age he replies, 'As old as the tip of my nose.' He is one of the most popular figures in the world, especially around the holiday season and tries to always be firm but fair in his decisions.

Unlike most judges, he wears a red robe and seems to repeat himself just a bit especially when he says 'ho, ho, ho' in a deep voice. He is always cheery and upbeat no matter what the situation. He also has an unusually long white beard and a red stocking cap — a bit out of the ordinary for courtroom or indeed most lines of work.

His method of transportation is also a bit unorthodox, as he has declined the use of an automobile or mass transportation in favor of a more environmentally friendly sleigh, powered by a team of reindeer led by a very bright-nosed one who is especially skillful navigating in foggy weather conditions.

This judge has a very difficult job every year as he has to monitor all of the children of the world from his home court in a far northern clime to make sure they have been good. Even more difficult is his round-the-world journey every Christmas Eve (via the aforementioned sleigh and reindeer) to deliver presents that his helpers (called 'elves,' which presumably is another name for 'law clerk') have made during the course of the year to all of the boys and girls of the world in recognition of their good behavior. Adults are sometimes included in this, as well.

He always does his best but when someone is somehow missed, he has a legion of other helpers to pick up the slack. There is a very liberal appeal policy.

The holiday season is when we all think of such things and the joy and spirit that comes at this time of the year no matter what one's particular manner of celebration or recognition. Our benevolent judge symbolizes many things to many people and I join with him in wishing everyone the happiest of holidays. Peace on earth, good will toward men.

doing a very good job in its budgeting," he said. "Good stewardship."

Palka suggested that because of the rough economic times, the township keep its fund balance where it is. This will allow the township to avoid debt, pay outright for purchases, and

cover "rainy days." The building fund is healthy, though it did need \$8,000 from the general fund to keep a positive balance. "Rose Township is still surviving,"

said Palka. Treasurer Susan Slaughter said the positive audit is a group effort, which required staff training and new software. "I was very pleased with it," she said. "We worked hard at it."



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Treasurer Susan Slaughter said the

appointment should wait until

then. "I think the new super-

visor should have a choice,"

son Kalcec voiced her sup-

port for Scheib-Snider, say-

ing that her experience could

bring a lot to the board. "I

think it's the best solution,"

Slaughter asked that

Kalcec excuse herself

from the vote, because

Outgoing Supervisor Ali-

position is usually held by the supervisor, who doesn't start until January, and the

she said.

Drunk driver hits utility pole



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SHARON STONE

At 1:15 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18, Fenton police responded to North LeRoy and Sixth streets in response to a property damage crash. A 36-year-old Linden man, driving a white 2007 Ford Mustang lost control of his car and struck a utility pole. Neither he nor his passenger were injured. The responding officer suspected the driver of being intoxicated. The driver's preliminary breath test revealed a blood alcohol content of .114 percent. He was arrested and lodged at the police station.

Police&Fire report

man Steal S Shirt

At 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17, Fenton police responded to a clothing store in the 16000 block of Silver Parkway to investigate a shoplifting complaint. The store manager said the suspect, a white male, about 25 years old, 6-feet, 4-inches tall and wearing a camouflage sweatshirt and black hat, concealed a \$60 Affliction shirt under his sweatshirt and fled the store when approached by an employee. The theft alarm sounded as he exited the store. A witness told police that the man entered a black Chrysler 300 and drove away from the area.

pit bull abandoned

On Tuesday, Dec. 20, Fenton police were called out to Chinkapin Rill because someone had dropped off a large pit bull and drove away. A witness reported seeing a man driving a red PT Cruiser drop off the dog, which was then observed running at large. Police called Genesee County Animal Control for assistance, however, workers are available only between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The witness provided a possible name for the driver of the car and Fenton police went to their home on Eastview Drive in Fenton Township. The resident said the dog belonged to someone living at their place. They agreed to get the dog and take it to animal control the next day. The case remains under investigation.



licen Se pla te Stolen

Sometime between 4 and 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 16, someone stole a license plate from a vehicle, parked in the 3500 block of Grange Hall Road in Holly Village. The 35-year-old Fenton woman told police that she noticed the plate missing when she was picking up her van at the repair shop. The case remains under investigation.

drunk driver

At 2 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 16, a Holly police officer spotted a burgundy pickup truck westbound on Grange Hall Road stopped at a green light. The driver started to drive as the light turned red. The officer followed the truck and watched as the truck drove onto the front yard of a home near Holly Ridge apartments on Grange Hall Road. The officer initiated a traffic stop to the 2002 GMC Sierra, driven by a 43-year-old Holly man, who had red, glassy eyes and slurred speech. The driver registered .244 on the preliminary breath test. He was arrested and booked at the police station. His 21-year-old passenger was driven home. The driver's license had already been suspended and he had prior OWIs from Genesee County and Flushing. Police are seeking an arrest warrant for OWI third offense.

Board postpones NOCFA appointment volunteered for the position.

►New supervisor should have a say

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795 Rose Twp. — Rose Township trustee Diane Scheib-Snider was passed over, again, to serve on the North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOC-FA) board of directors, after a vote at the board of trustee meeting on Wednesday.

The matter had been tabled at a previous meeting. Scheib-Snider made a

motion to put the appointment of a new NOCFA board member back on the table, and made a motion that she be appointed. "With my experience, I think I'm the best person for the job," she said. She argued that with her experience as an EMT and as a certified firefighter, she could be a benefit to the NOCFA board. The appointment was tabled earlier this fall when she first

Wednesday evening at the board meeting. said Kalcec. Trustee David Gordon also supported Scheib-Snider.

Summary

► Township Trustee

Diane Scheib Snider

board member after

a contentious vote

was passed over

again as NOCFA

"With my experience, I think I'm the best person for the job."

Rose Township trustee

Diane scheib-snider

she is the outgoing supervisor. Without Kalcec, Slaughter and Clerk Debbie Miller voted against

appointing her. Miller

said she believed the new supervisor should have a say in the appointment, as well.

Goodwill J Industries of Mid-Michigan, Inc.

The issue will be brought up again in January.

^{\$}18,000,000

If each resident in the Fenton, Linden and Holly area spent just \$50 more per month locally, it would pump \$18 million into our local economy.

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There are nine paint stores in Fenton, Linden and Holly.

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ORPHAN

Continued from Front Page from Russia. Galina remembers little of last year's Christmas in Holly.

Their story revolves around an article that ran in the newspaper more than three years ago. The Times published a story about a Linden woman, Carrie Lockhart, who was seeking to find adoptive parents for a 12-year-old Russian girl, she was hosting at her home for a 10-day visit in 2008.

Debbie read the article and felt an immediate connection to the beautiful, blondehaired girl. She called Lockhart for more information and posted the article on the kitchen cabinet for her husband to see. Debbie met with Lockhart and Galina at their home and she knew Galina was "the one."

Lockhart was not in the position to adopt Galina but Debbie soon found out that there was a chance that she and Hugh could adopt Galina through the Russian Orphan Lighthouse Project, the agency that Lockhart worked with.

Despite knowing the international adoption process could cost up to \$50,000



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Debbie and her husband Hugh Harroun, of Rose Township, went through a lengthy and expensive adoption process for their daughter Galina. "We didn't know we had a void in the family," said Hugh.

and an enormous amount of paperwork, they were determined to be Galina's parents. Part of the grueling 21/2-year process included mountains of bureaucratic red tape, background checks, physicals and the Harrouns traveling to Russia, twice, once for a 10-day home stay and court proceedings, and once to bring her home.

The Harrouns have been married for six years and prior to Galina's arrival they had focused on their careers. Debbie now stays home and Hugh is a Fenton business owner. They have no other children.

When the Harrouns brought Galina to the United States on Sept. 29, 2010, she automatically became a U.S. citizen. In November 2010, she and the Harrouns went to Detroit for her citizenship swearing in. Of the more than 150 people, being sworn in, Galina was the only child.

As Galina adjusted to her new home, she could not speak any English. The Harrouns kept her home from school until the following January so that she had time to work with the language-learning program, Rosetta Stone, to learn English at her own pace.

Hugh said she learned the language quickly and saw her growing more confident in her new surroundings. Now in high school, Galina is doing quite well in her classes and has overcome the language barrier.

Galina said she loves to draw and watch TV. She and the family dog, Sydney, have become best buddies. She's discovered Beverly Hills 90121 and she likes to keep up with the Hollywood gossip. The Harrouns have already taken her to Florida and visited

Disneyworld. "The three During the of us were adoption prodestined to be cess, Galina together." **Debbie Tegard** Harroun Rose Townshib mother

stay, they realized that not all of their letters were delivered.

Hugh said with the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO Galina Harroun has settled in with her family in Rose Township. She sits with the family pet, Syndey, an Australian shepherd.

Russian judge who handled their case. When the judge asked him what Galina would soon be calling them, Hugh knew that she would be calling them mama and papa. He realized this was very important turning point for all of them. "He was a sharp, intelligent judge," Hugh said. "He did his job very well.'

In that court proceeding, Galina told the judge that she couldn't wait to go and she wanted to be with the Harrouns because she wanted to have a family. "The judge told us that he had never seen a more determined young lady," said Debbie.

When asked what having Galina as their daughter means to them, Debbie said, "She's a dream come true. The three of us were destined to be together. We needed her as much as she needed us."

> Hugh echoed Debbie's sentiments and added, "I didn't know we had a void. She filled that void."

> > **TRI-COUNTY** TIMES I FILE PHOTO

Galina Harroun (center) posed with Carrie Lockhart's children during her 2008 visit to the United States.

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and the Harrouns wrote letters and sent photos to each other. When they met in person during the 10-day home

he was very impressed Give the gift of

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hot line CONTINUED

OUR LIFE IS short and full of trouble, so you had better enjoy what you have. There are always people worse off. Be happy, now.

I LOVE THE Fenton signs. I used to be critical but not anymore. Isn't it better to be nice?

TODAY, I WAS at the Fenton post office mailing hats for children who are having a hard time right now, and when the gentleman at the first window found out what I was doing, he paid for my package. Again, thank you so much and a very Merry Christmas.

I QUESTION THE writer's comment that Lincoln never raised the debt. The U.S. government incurred considerable debt during the Civil War. In fact, it was 33 percent of the GNP. Not liking Obama is one thing, but making up things is wrong.

TIMES MIDWEEK

Continued from Front Page "We've had at least 15 of these 'layaway Santas' here at Kmart this year," said Rick Falck, manager of the Fenton Kmart. "It's from all different people who have seen others do this and want to join in on this selfless act of giving. Usually, these anonymous santas come in and ask to pay for layaways that include children's toys and clothing."

Mary McKenzie, footwear manager/ event planner for the Fenton Kmart, has been overwhelmed by these acts of kindness this year. "One lady broke down in tears when someone anonymously paid for the only two toys her kids had asked for," said McKenzie. "Another gentleman had been standing in line in our layaway department to return the layaway because he couldn't afford to pay for it, when he found that his layaway had been paid — all except for one penny."

These random acts of kindness have even occurred at local restaurants, when a kindly benefactor stops in and pays for food that has been ordered and is ready for pick-up. "We've had it happen several times here during this Christmas season at Mancino's," said owner Mark Rummel. "Someone will come in anonymously and pay for the whole row of food ready to be picked up. When the customer comes in, he or she is usually overwhelmed and wants to know who paid for it. But no one ever leaves a name or wants anyone to know."



VG's Bakery Laurie's Almond Crunch

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 c. unsalted butter 1 c. sugar
- 1/3 c. honey
- 1/3 c. heavy cream 1/4 t. almond extract
- 1 lb. sliced almonds 8 squares (1 oz. each) semi-sweet chocolate, melted (optional)

PREPARATION:

Butter five, 8-inch aluminum pie pans or 29, 2-inch muffin cups or tartlet pans. Set aside. In a medium saucepan with a heavy bottom, combine butter, sugar, honey, cream and almond extract. Bring to a boil over moderate heat, stirring frequently. When mixture comes to a boil, cook, stirring constantly, for 11/2 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in almonds. Divide mixture among prepared pans, using a rounded soupspoon to fill muffin cups. Pat mixture evenly in bottom of pans using spoon or fingers dipped in cold water. Pans should be filled about 1/2-deep. Bake in a preheated 375-degree oven 8 to 12 minutes, or until golden brown. Timing will depend on type of pan used. Remove pans from oven and let cool slightly. Refrigerate 5 to 10 minutes, or until just firm enough to go around edges with tip of a sharp knife. Remove from pans to waxed paper. Let cool completely. If desired, spread or drizzle melted chocolate on flat side. Refrigerate until chocolate is hardened.

Note: These cookies can be stored in a cool place in an airtight container up to one month, or indefinitely when refrigerated.

Dee Burch

Sweet D Confections

INGREDIENTS:

- 40-42 soda crackers 1 c. butter
- 1 c. brown sugar 12 oz. chocolate chips, semi-sweet
- or milk
- 1 c. chopped almonds

PREPARATION:

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Spray a $10x15x1\ pan$ with Pam cooking spray. Layer bottom of pan with soda crackers. Melt butter with brown sugar. Pour over crackers. Bake for four minutes. Sprinkle with chocolate chips, bake for 2 minutes more. Spread melted chips, and then sprinkle with chopped almonds. Cool and refrigerate. Cut into squares.





gif tS Continued from Page 3

with craft beers, pretzels, dips and more, hot chocolate baskets or gourmet fruit baskets with artisan breads, crackers and cheeses. "If a customer requests it, we can usually make it," said Olivia Mills, deli clerk.

Owner Mark Morse has seen a huge increase in specialty food gifts this Christmas season. "People are staying local with their shopping this year," he said. Four Seasons is taking orders for custom baskets through Dec. 21 (today), but customers are welcome to stop in and pick up their own items to fill a basket, now through Christmas Eve. "We'll be open until 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve," said Morse.

There may only be four shopping days left until Christmas, but that's still plenty of time to put some thought into your last-minute Christmas gifts, while getting them under the tree by Christmas morning.

In fact, local retailers expect to be their busiest this week, when shoppers are more likely to stay "closer to home" when finishing their gift buying.

"We're planning to be really busy up through Christmas Eve," said Shelby Schupbach, of Glik's in Fenton. "With Christmas Eve falling on Saturday this year, Saturday should be a very strong sales day."

Glik's will be open until 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Customers can come in at the last minute for some UGG boots, or Nixon watches, priced from \$100 to \$140. "We're expecting our watches to be a big stocking stuffer item," she added. "Our Neff watches, advertised as 'wrist

Top last minute gift ideas

- 1. Wine 2. Car wash gift certificates
 - 3. Family board games
 - 4. Retro toys and candy
- 5. Specialty food baskets
- 6. Movie tickets
- 7. Specialty coffees/teas/hot cocoa
- 8. Lottery tickets
- 9. Bath and body soaps, lotions 10. Jewelry

candy,' because of their bright colors, are designed to withstand high impact for a young athletic crowd. They're priced at \$20 to \$30, perfect for an 'extra' gift or for a stocking."

At Eclections in Fenton, cash registers will be ringing during normal business hours this holiday week, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., except on Christmas Eve, when they'll open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. One of the most popular has been Brighton jewelry gift sets, with beads, charms, earrings and necklaces all neatly packaged and ready to go. In fact, jewelry is a "man's best friend" when it comes to last minute gift buying. Most women say they love gifts in small packages, so a stop at your local jewelers will just about ensure a Merry Christmas at your house.

If you're on your way to a Christmas event and need a last-minute gift, a bottle of wine, especially wine made in Michigan, is an appreciated gift. Other last-minute gifts that are easy to find include gift certificates, movie tickets with popcorn and candy, restaurant gift cards, family games and puzzles, retro candy from childhood memories, leather journals, lottery tickets, etc.

One thing is for sure, with Christmas



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SALLY RUMMEL Packaged gift sets, ready to go from Brighton, are one of this year's most popular sellers at Eclections in Fenton.

Eve being on Saturday, retailers will be taking advantage of a weekend shopping date, and shoppers can expect many stores to be busy. Large retailers, from Macys and JC Penney to Kohls and Toys R Us, are offering extended hours all this week, trying to gain a competitive advantage from shoppers who are looking for last-minute deals and discounts. Toys R Us will actually be open around the clock until Christmas Eve, according to their website.

Locally, Wal-Mart will close on Christmas Eve at 8 p.m. Kmart will open at 6 a.m. all week and will close on Christmas Eve at 10 p.m. Sears Hometown Store in Fenton will close at 4 p.m. for the holiday.

hot line CONTINUED I JUST LOVED Lake Fenton High School's play 'The Wizard of Oz.' My kids were in it and they had a great time. Thank you to Brenda LaBonte for her hard work and for bringing Karen Whitaker and her husband, Bruce on board to make the play so enjoyable.

NOW THAT THE war is over, how about Iraq pay us retribution for what it cost us to free their country. We're the only country in the world that walks off giving these countries a free ride, not to mention loss of life from our military.

COME ON, THE Linden Pharmacy has been robbed three times and they're kicking in the back door? I think they can build a door someone can't kick in. Honest to Pete, this is just ridiculous. Obviously, this is not a safe location for a pharmacy, and the owner should consider relocating or getting a guard dog.

ON FRIDAY, DEC. 9, I fell in a store parking lot and broke my ankle. I would really like to thank the wonderful lady who stopped and helped my children and me. She called 911 and looked after my children. I want to wish her a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you, again, Rosa.

THE REPUBLICANS WANT Obama to be a one-term president simply because a second term would give him an opportunity to complete his plan for destroying this country.

I DON'T KNOW what anyone thinks, but I think Michigan football is back. What I've seen this year, the defense is vastly improved and the offense is vastly improved. So, I'm proud to say that Michigan is back.



CHRISTMAS EVE @ 4PM & 7PM @ FENTON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM 3200 West Shiawassee Fenton, MI 48430

Christmas Day @ 11AM

@ THE ROCK CHURCH 11400 LINDEN RD. FENTON, MI 48430

THEROCKCHURCH

f acebook

Continued from Front Page

readable. And, the Timeline lives up to its name, allowing users to go back to the very first post of a profile.

Every profile will automatically switch to the new Timeline layout before January 2012. Here's a breakdown of what's new with the Timeline and what you need to know.

Your privacy settings won't change

Privacy is a huge concern for users, especially for high-school students and college graduates searching for a job. All posts that were private will remain private, including statuses and pictures. Facebook is giving users a seven-day grace period to adjust their profile. So, activate your Timeline early and make sure your information is presented how you want the public to see it.

To adjust information on your Timeline, click on the icon next to the date of the post, right below your name. From there, users can limit posts to the public, specific friends, or set certain items for their eyes only. To remove items from your Timeline, simply click on the top right corner of a post and select "edit or remove."

Pictures are bigger and more prominent

Profiles are now dominated by a cover photo that stretches across the top of the screen, acting as a type of masthead. Profile pictures are smaller thumbnails at the corner of the cover photo. Got a pet you can't live without or captured a breathtaking view during your worldly travels? Be expressive

Quick facts about Timeline

• **Every profile** will be switched to the Timeline layout. Be sure to activate yours early so you can adjust it the way you want it to be.

• **Privacy features** aren't changing. If your posts were for your friends only, they'll still be viewed only by your friends.

• You list any event from your lifetime, starting at birth. The Timeline can cover your entire life.

and chose a photo that captures your personality.

You can go anywhere at anytime on your Timeline

On the right side of every profile is a timeline broken down by months and years. Click on a specific year and Facebook will show every post from that time period. For a more complete view of all your activities, click on the "Activity Log." You can also edit the privacy of each individual post from here or delete them outright.

Life events

For the majority of users, Facebook was developed long after they were born. The "Life Events" section allows users to upload images and write posts about happenings from the past. You can post a baby picture from when you were born and upload photos from your childhood, rounding out your entire Timeline.

Also new is a world map that users can fill out by flagging locations as trips or places lived. Photos can be uploaded for each location along with a description of each place.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The inverted Christmas tree at The French Laundry has become a conversation piece with the guests.

up Side down Continued from Page 3

Brennan and the other owner, Mark Hamel, found both trees at Haddon Nursery in November. Brennan believes the tree to be a blue spruce. They hung the tree after Thanksgiving, and plan to remove it on New Year's Day.

If the owners wanted the tree to be a conversation piece, it

"We just

wanted to do

something

different."

Chad

Brennan

Co-owner The

seems to be working. Joe and Pam Pineda, of Gobles, and her father Duane Theisen noticed the tree right away. "That's really cool," said Pam. "If anyone is going to do something unusual, it's The French Laundry."

going to do someing unusual, it's The ench Laundry." Brennan said the tree doesn't need to watered because the tree sap drains

be watered because the tree sap drains down continuously. A small bit of it can be seen at the very tip of the tree, which hangs down a little above face level.

Hanging, or standing a tree upside down, is not a new trend, although it is more popular this year. According to about.com, inverting a Christmas tree symbolized the Holy Trinity; the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in the Middle Ages.

An inverted tree represented an opportunity for retailers to hang more orna-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO The Christmas tree hanging from the cupola at The French Laundry is 6-feet tall and weighs about 30 pounds.

ments from the branches, while taking less floor space.

Those interested in buying an inverted artificial tree with a stand don't have to go far. Many types are available online.





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 1 Large Popcorn

(Free Refills)

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restaurants. - Dinner & a Movie Gift Baskets

also available

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TIMES MIDWEEK





pau L G. Dono Hue, M.D. To your rood health

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My husband is 73. I am sure he's going to die this winter. He insists on shoveling our snow, and we have lots of it. He says it's good for him; it gives him exercise. This from a man whose other exercise consists of popping open a beer can. He comes in after he's cleared the walk, puffing and exhausted. Please talk some sense into him. - M.L. ANSWER: After every snowstorm, city emergency rooms fill with older men who have had a heart attack after cleaning their snow-covered walks. Snow shoveling is strenuous exercise. It burns 420 calories an hour. The heart rate of a shoveler rises to 170 beats a minute, and the systolic blood pressure (the first number of a reading) exceeds 200. Of course, the demand depends on the depth and weight of the snow. Older hearts cannot support such stress.

In addition to the work of shoveling, cold weather adds more demands on the heart. Unless a man your husband's age has had medical clearance for such exhausting exercise, he is tempting fate.

re Lease D THis wee K **DVDs&Movies**

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS

Woody Allen's most accessible and enjoyable comedy in years. Owen Wilson



and Rachel McAdams play Gil and Inez, a betrothed couple vacationing in Paris before their marriage. She's a spoiled, upwardly mobile young woman with wealthy parents. He's a dreamer of a screenwriter who falls in love with

the city of lights. One night, Gil walks alone through the city and is magically transported to the Paris of the 1920s, where he meets up with the likes of Cole Porter, F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Josephine Baker, Gertrude Stein, Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dali and Luis Bunuel. He's enamored with the idea that - unlike the present - the 1920s was a golden era, but as his midnight walks take him further away from Inez and her world, he discovers that the illusion people have that a life different from theirs would be much better might not be true after all.

DOLPHIN TALE

Inspired by the amazing true story of a brave dolphin called Winter and the compassionate people who banded



together to save her life. Swimming free, a young dolphin is caught in a crab trap off the Florida coast, severely damaging her tail. She is rescued and transported to the Clearwater Marine Hospital, where she is

named Winter. But her

fight for survival has just begun. Losing her tail may cost Winter her life. It will take the expertise of a



dedicated marine biologist, the ingenuity of a brilliant prosthetics doctor, and the unwavering devotion of a young boy to bring about a ground-breaking miracle a miracle that might not only save Winter but could also help thousands of people around the world.

WARRIOR

Tommy Riordan, an ex-Marine haunted by a tragic past, returns home and enlists his father, a recovering alcoholic and his former coach, to train him for a mixed martial arts tournament awarding the biggest purse in the



history of the sport. Tommy's estranged brother Brendan, a former MMA fighter unable to provide for his family as a public school teacher, also enters the competition. Set on a collision course with each other, the two brothers must finally

confront the forces that tore them apart, all the while waging the most intense winner-take-all battle of their lives.





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

Linden girls overcome third quarter, defeat Kearsley, 35-31

By AI Zipsie

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 **Flint** — Linden's varsity girls basketball team had a nightmare of a third quarter on Monday, scoring just one point in it.

However, the Eagles came up big at "crunch time" and came away with a 35-31 win against Kearsley.

The Eagles (3-2, 3-3) trailed 28-24 with 4:24 left in the game, mainly due to being outscored 11-1 in the third quarter. However, the Eagles fought back. Madison Nosek took an inbound pass underneath the Linden basket, scored and was fouled.

She missed the free throw, but the hoop cut the gap to just two. Later, Samantha Thornton then had a hoop and also hit a free throw, tying the contest at 30-all with 2:20 left.

With 1:56 left, Linden's Sydney Elmer stole an inbounds pass and took it all the way down the court, getting fouled. She made the first free throw, and the Eagles led for good at 31-30.

"It was an exciting ending," Elmer said. "We just pulled together, worked as a team and it paid off at the end."

Later, Nosek hit a free throw and Thornton scored on two free throws after getting an offensive rebound. Linden led 34-30. Kearsley struggled at the free-throw line, only making one of six shots from the stripe down the stretch.

"We let (Kearsley) back in the game and then we came up with the win down the stretch," said Linden coach Ben Varner. "Sam's free throws were huge and we had

some big rebounds at the end. Maija, on the break, had the nice pass (to Nosek). We work on making free throws at practice but struggled tonight (making only 9 of 28)."

"As a team we already beat our record of wins from all of last season," said Satkowiak. "We've been pulling it off, but we just got to get more together as a team."

Nosek led Linden's offense with eight points. Ann Roda had a game-high 13 points for the Hornets.

The Eagles' Kaitlyn Dunleavy had to leave the game after she took an elbow to See LINDENon 16

SPORTS TRIVIA Times DOMS What is the most overtimes a Division 1 NCAA men's basketball game has gone? Linden's On this date in 1981, Cincinnati defeated Bradley A 75-73 in a game that went seven overtimes. Kelsey Brecht WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2011

Fenton basketball teams handle Lapeer East easily

Tigers' defensive press, finishing ability prove strong in 59-17 win

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Fenton — Payton Maxheimer and her Fenton varsity girls basketball teammates had fun Monday night.

Pretty much everything went well for the Tigers as they defeated Lapeer East 59-17 in a Metro League contest.

The Tigers defended well, allowing East to just 28 shots in the game while forcing 26 turnovers. The Tigers created opportunities off those turnovers, scoring 22 points off of steals while on the break. And the Tigers were efficient with their offense, netting 27-of-64 from the field while committing just 10 turnovers. And, perhaps most important of all, everyone contributed. All but one player scored and every player saw plenty of playing time, contributing in other ways, whether it be rebounding, passing or with steals. For example, Maxheimer's six-point and threeassist day was a pretty good representation of any player on the Tigers' squad Monday night.

Five other players had as many or more points than she had. But no one had more than Hannah Evo's 10 points.

"It was fun. It's always fun to do the things we can and progress," Maxheimer said. "We picked up our intensity. We knew what we had to do because we have been struggling on defense. We needed to come out really strong. I think everyone on our team is pretty equal. We are all working as hard as anyone else, so we can do well."

The Tigers always create turnovers with their defensive pressure, but there were two areas in which Fenton improved upon on Monday. First off, their turnovers were down on offense. Secondly, when the Tigers earned steals, they converted on them at an NBA-proficient rate. That wasn't ever more evident than at the start of the second quarter when the Tigers earned four steals during East's first five possessions and finished four with transition hoops. And each bucket was See TIGERS' on 15



Fenton's Julie Gilbert (right) dribbles past a defender in the Tigers' 59-17 victory against Lapeer East Monday night.

Fenton boys earn fourth blowout win of Metro season

PAGE 14

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Tim Olszewski is frustrated.

His team is 4-1, with its only loss being against one of the expected Metro League contenders in overtime.

Yet, as his team completed the last game of the first quarter of the season, it's tough to tell exactly where his squad lies.

That's because in the team's four victories, the Tigers have won the games by an average spread of 36 points. So while they are victories, Olszewski sounds like a man who almost would rather lose games right now in the interest of more competitive games.

"Right now it's tough to know where we are," Olszewski said. "We played three games and won them by 30-some points. We went into Kearsley beating three teams that were a combined

See BOYS on 16

Holly wrestlers take fourth place at Oakland County meet

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 There was good news and bad news for the Holly varsity wrestling team at the Oakland County Meet on Saturday.

The good news was most of the team's established stars performed well. The problem was that the next tier of wrestlers didn't do as well as coach Don Pluta hoped, resulting in a fourth-place team finish.

All that said, the team wanted to finish in the top three, and came within five points of doing that, finishing behind third-place Rochester. And if one of the

wrestlers made weight, the Bronchos would've been more than likely to finish third.

The Bronchos had no illusions of beating eventual champion Detroit Catholic Central or second-place Oxford.

"We took fourth but we would've taken third if we had one kid make weight that put us back," Pluta said. "That's one thing I do not tolerate and am not happy about, letting the team down that way.

"But our top kids wrestled well. My second-tier kind of kids didn't step up and See HOLLY on 16



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Holly's Blake Cuthbert (top) works on trying to turn over a foe during a recent meet. Cuthbert took sixth place in his weight class at the Oakland County meet.

Fenton hockey squad wins fourth straight

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Fenton's varsity hockey team is continuing its winning ways.

The Tigers won their fourth straight contest, defeating a quality Grandville team 4-2 on Saturday.

"We played well," Fenton coach Jeff Mynatt said. 'They were a tough team, but we finally put all three periods of hockey together. There were a lot of good opportunities and we capitalized on enough of them to give us the lead for good in the third period."

The Tigers never trailed but Grandville did tie it at 1-all before Fenton scored two goals and took a 3-1 lead into the third period.

The Tigers are still short on skaters. They played with 11 skaters on Saturday, which was one more than they had in a 5-0 victory against the Tri-City Chiefs last week. However, a 10-minute penalty in the third put Fenton right back to 10 skaters and just three defensemen.

"They did a very good job," Mynatt said about his three remaining defensemen. "They played outstanding in that third period."

Tyler DeLong led the Tigers with two goals, while Alex Broadworth and Wyatt Betrus scored one, his second in as many games. Broadworth's goal was the first of the season.

In net, Joe Foguth earned the victory.

The Tigers travel to the Polar Palace for a non-league game against the Goodrich Martians on Wednesday.

Tri-Cíty Chiefs at Grand Ledge Invitational

The Chiefs dropped a pair of contests, losing to Grand Ledge/Waverly 11-1 and then to the Unity Knights 11-0.

In the opener, Tyler Donnelly had the only goal. In net, Thomas Messenger made nine saves, while Kyle Long made three.

In the second game, 26 Tri-City penalty minutes didn't help the team's cause. Messenger made 18 saves in the contest.

TIGERS'

Continued from Page 14

made by a different player — one each by Hannah Gadola, Carly Granger, Kristina Kinney and Evo. The spurt put Fenton up 30-7.

"Tonight, we finished them," said Fenton coach Brad DeWitt about the steals and transition opportunities. "We did a much better job finishing, not fouling and not throwing the ball away. Finishing is the appropriate term.

"We were happy with everything. Ev-

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS Fenton's Wyatt Betrus (front) chases a puck during a recent game. Betrus scored a goal in the Tigers' 4-2 victory against Grandville on Saturday.

eryone got to play and played well. They did a nice job. It was a good game for us. Everything clicked for us and fell into place."

After Evo's 10 points, Ellie Cowger had nine points and Sarah Collier had eight. Granger, Ashley Bearden and Maxheimer had six points. The Tigers had 14 steals, while Bearden having three of them. Kinney led the team with six rebounds, while Granger and Collier had five each. Maxheimer and Jailen Judson had three assists each.



THE AREA'S ONLY FULL SERVICE CAMERA SHOP

LF's Demember earns county title

By Al Zipsie

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 **Davison** — Lake Fenton's James Demember made a statement Saturday at the Genesee County Meet.

Demember, a junior, won five matches to win the 119-pound weight class title. Demember did not get to wrestle at the County Meet last year as he was not eligible until January because he was a transfer. Demember won a 3-2 decision against Birch Run's Josh Hobson in the finals. In the semifinals he turned back Davison's Derek Humphrey.

"I had never faced Hobson before. I knew he would be tough," said Demember. "I have been watching my teammates win for a long time (at Detroit Central Catholic as a freshman and Lake Fenton as a sophomore). I am a junior now and it's the time to step it up. Anything less than a state championship this year would be a disappointment.

"Sitting out part of last year was hard and with what happened at state last year (he was unable to make weight at state). I faced some tough kids (at Hartland) and finished third, but I was really happy with the way I rebounded today at a big meet."

"James is a hard worker and it really paid off for him tonight," said Lake Fenton coach Vance Corcoran.

Demember, was the only tri-county area champion. Host Davison won the event. Lake Fenton finished sixth, while Linden was ninth and Fenton 18th.

Linden's Jeff Fisher (189), who has **See DEMEMBER** on **16**

Continued from Page 15 bulked up, made the finals for the second straight season. Last year he lost by one point in the title match with Lake Fenton's Drew Morris. This year, he lost a heartbreaking 3-1 verdict in three overtimes to Kearsley's Robert James. Fisher dominated Montrose's

the semifinal. "I don't want to sound cocky, but you can tell in the first 30 seconds how it will turn out," Fisher said. "I could tell right off that I was stronger (then Karchner)."

Collin Karchner to earn a 9-2 win in

Jeff's older brother was Kyle Fisher, who made it in the finals last season. He's now wrestling at Central Michigan University. Jeff now has his chance to shine.

"I have always been in the shadow (of Kyle)," Jeff said. "He has come down from Central and has helped me out at practice."

"Jeff has been wrestling all his life, since the first grade," Linden coach Todd Skinner said. "He has put on weight and looked good."

The big surprise came from Linden's Tyler Satkowiak (215), who finished a solid third place. Satkowiak beat Carman-Ainsworth's Devon Schofield 4-3 in the third-place event.

"Tyler Satkowiak was the sleeper," Skinner said. "He was on the junior varsity last year, but has really improved and is coming on as he showed today."

The only other area top four-finisher was Lake Fenton's Todd Melick (125), taking fourth after a rib injury.

BOYS Continued from Page 14

0-9, while they played Creek and West, so they were more prepared for the speed, strength and overall performance it takes (to be competitive in a game). We play them and then we rebound and win by 40. It's really hard to gauge our team right now. It's not a knock on the kids. It's just how the cycle (with the schedule) is right now."

The Tigers are expected to be one of the Metro contenders, along with Kearsley, the squad who beat Fenton on Friday. Others expected to be in the Metro League mix are Swartz Creek, Lapeer West and Holly.

The Tigers scored 20 points in the first quarter and held Lapeer East to just 12 second-half points, helping spark an easy 67-29 road Metro League victory. The win keeps Fenton just one loss behind firstplace Holly, who has yet to play any of the other expected Metro League contenders yet this season.

"It was nice to get the victory against a tough loss," Olszewski said. "We still need to play better than we did, but it's a journey."

The Tigers' schedule has been one of extremes. East holds a 1-4 record and currently is tied for the second-best record of any team the Tigers have played this season.

The Tigers had several players post strong performances against East. Ryan Hickoff led the squad with 21 points, eight steals and six rebounds, while Dylan Hickoff had 13 points an seven rebounds. Eric Readman also had 13 points, while Cory Cox had 10 points and 10 rebounds. Jack Lukas chipped in five rebounds.

The Tigers' defense was strong all night long, only allowing as many as 10 points



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Fenton's Eric Readman (right) scored 13 points in the Tigers' win aginst East Monday.

in a quarter once. Three-point shooter, Matt Ayers, who scored 20 against Holly earlier this season, only managed five against Fenton. In fact, no one scored more

than five points for East.

The Tigers (4-1) get a chance to face a stronger team today when they travel to face Davison.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SCOTT SCHUPBACH

HOLLY

Continued from Page 14

get over the top. We need them to wrestle better if we are going to achieve the goals we have in place."

The Bronchos left the meet with their share of highlights. Mason Cleaver (125) and Shawn Scott (189) not only left the tourney as their weight class champions, but also were MVPs for the entire tournament.

Cleaver beat two-time state runner up, Rochester's Josh Wood, 3-0 in his final match, earning the title. He went 4-0 with three pinfalls. In his junior season, Cleaver appears to be taking his wrestling a notch higher.

"I saw signs of it last year, but how fast they have matured this year is surprising," Pluta said.

"I expect as a junior, him to do these kind of things, but he's really come a long way."

Scott won his first three matches, but then got into the finals where he faced DCC's Kevin Beazley. He won

Continued from Page 14 the face. The team also had two players af-

ter the Holly game on crutches. Linden scored the first seven points of

the game on a Kelsey Brecht three-pointer, and two drives for hoops by Sargent. Kearsley finally got on the scoreboard after almost seven minutes had elapsed, trailing 7-2 after one quarter. With four seconds left in the first half, Nosek had a slick pass inside to Satkowiak, putting Linden up 20-1. It was Linden's biggest lead of the game.

Satkowiak had six points and six rebounds, getting them by attacking the basket. what many considered the match of the night, defeating Beazley 5-2.

"Beazley has been getting a lot of national rankings and is ranked above Scott in the state, so he was looking forward to the match. It was such a good match, both of them got a standing ovation. The ref came up to me and said that was a college-quality match."

Elsewhere on the squad, Tyler Gibson (119) and Anthony Gonzales (140) earned third-place finishes, while Andrew Scott (145) took fourth. Blake Cuthbert (171) placed sixth.

"I like the intensity of our upper-level kids, not only in competition but in the wrestling room," Pluta said.

"They are pushing themselves and working hard, doing the right things. Conversely, our sophomores and juniors have got to raise their game in the match and in the wrestling room."

Holly competes in the challenging Oxford Duals on Dec. 28.

"Coming off my knee surgery I am working at going to the basket," Satkowiak said. "I am getting stronger and feel confident with it."

"The girls on this team keep getting hurt and we keep battling."

Boys basketball Kearsley 68, Linden 27

The Hornets outscored Linden 43-14 in the first half.

Paul Adas led Kearsley with 23 points, while Peter Nagy had 14 points. Kevin Baker paced Linden with seven points, while Travis Hull, Marshall Ryan and Josh Hoeberling had four points each.





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Sin



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Charles Ray "Charlie" Leachman Jr.

1934-2011 Charles Ray "Charlie" Leachman, Jr. - age 77, of Fenton, died Monday December 19, 2011 at his

residence. Services will be



held 11 AM Thursday, December 22. 2011 at

Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Visitation will be held 3-8 PM Wednesday and 9 AM Thursday until time of service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Genesys Hospice. Mr. Leachman was born June 1, 1934 in Holland Michigan, the son of the late Charles R. Sr. and Pearl J. (Durance) Leachman. He married Barbara Jean McLellan in Detroit on April 4, 1959. Charlie enjoyed golfing, boating and loved life. He was one of the original founding members of the annual 6 Pak Golf Open. Charlie served in the Air Force and was a member of the Fenton American Legion, Fenton Moose and Fenton Eagles. Mr. Leachman retired from the G.M. Chevy V-8 plant with 30 years of service. Surviving are his wife Barbara of Fenton; children, Lori Childs of Fenton, Cheryl Kinal of Waterford and Charles "Chas" Leachman of Fenton; grandchildren, Scott Childs, Roman and Sonia Kinal and Lainey Williams; 3 sisters, Mary Lou Rosen of Livonia, Marjorie (Richard) Jones-Brawley of Livonia and Pamela (Jamshed) Bhathena of West Bloomfield; special friend Steve Vaneffen and many nieces, nephews and cousins. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to Dr. Pienta and staff at the U of M Cancer Center and also to the staff at Genesys Hospice. Friends may share an online tribute on the obituaries page of www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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FORECLOSURE NOTICE This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any infor-mation obtained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the numberlisted below. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by: Michelle A Fletcher, An Unmarried Woman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender, its successors and assigns Mortgagee, dated March 10, 2005 and recorded March 22, 2005 in Instrument # 200503220032757 Instrument # 200503220032757 Genesee County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage was assigned to: BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP fka Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP, by assignment dated December 28, 2010 and recorded January 18, 2011 in Instrument # 201101180003072 and re-recorded by affidavit dated February 2, 2011 and recorded February 3, 2011 in Instrument # 201102030005902 on which mortgage there is claimed to which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars and Thirteen Cents (\$62,239.13) including interest 4.625% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and The statute in such case harde and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Genesee County at 10:00AM on December 28, 2011 Said premises are situated in City of Burton, Genesee County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 502. Duran Heights, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 11 as 2237 E Williamson St, Burton MI 48529 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later. Dated: 11/30/2011 Bank of America NA successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP fka Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 11-51038 Ad #17453 11/30, 12/07, 12/14, 12/21/2011

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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 numbe listed below. Notwithstanding, if the deb secured by this property was discharged in a Chapter 7 Bankruptcy proceeding this notice is NOT an attempt to collect that debt. You are presently in default under your Mortgage Security Agreement, and the Mortgage Holder may be contemplating the commencement of foreclosure proceedings under the terms of that Agreement and Michigan law. You have no legal obligation to pay amounts due under the discharged note. A loan modification may not serve to revive that obligation. However, in the event you wish to explore options that may avert foreclosure, please contact our office at the number listed below Attention. The following notice shall apply only if the property encumbered by the mortgage described below is claimed as a principa residence exempt from tax under section 7cc of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7cc. Attention Valeria Brown, regarding the property at 1006 W Genesee St. Flint, MI 48504. The following notice does not apply if you have previously agreed to modify the mortgage loan under section 3205b. 3205a, 3205b and 3205c do not apply unless the terms of the modified morta loan entered into were complied with for one year after the date of the modification You have the right to request a meeting with your mortgage holder or mortgage servicer. Potestivo & Associates, PC. is the designee with authority to make agreements under MCL 600.3205b and MCL 600.3205c, and can be contacted at: 811 South Blvd., Suite 100 Rocheste Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123. You may also contact a housing counselor. For more information, contact the Michigan More information, contact the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) by visiting www.michigan. gov/mshda or calling (866) 946-7432. If you request a meeting with Potestivo & Associates, P.C. within 14 days after the notice required under MCL 600.3205a(1) is mailed, then foreclosure proceedings will not commence until at least 90 days after the date said notice was mailed. I an agreement to modify the mortgage loan is reached and you abide by the terms of the agreement, the mortgage will not be foreclosed. You have the right to contact an attorney and can obtain contact information through the State Bar of Michigan's Lawyer Referral Service at (800) 968-0738. Dated: December 21, 2011, Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 infor-mation may be faxed to (248)267-3004, Attention: Loss Mitigation Our File No: 11-53898 Ad #18016 12/21/2011 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 numbe listed below. Notwithstanding, if the debt secured by this property was discharged in a Chapter 7 Bankruptcy proceeding, this notice is NOT an attempt to collect that debt. You are presently in default under your Mortgage Security Agreement, and the Mortgage Holder may be contemplating the commencement of

foreclosure proceedings under the terms of that Agreement and Michigan law. You have no legal obligation to pay amounts due under the discharged note. A loan modification may not serve to revive that obligation. However, in the event you wish to explore options that may avert foreclosure, please contact our office at the number listed below. Attention: The following notice shall apply only if the property encumbered by the mortgage described below is claimed as a principal residence exempt from tax under section 7cc of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7cc. Attention Blondean Ayers, regarding the property at 3326 Brownell Blvd Flint, MI 48504. The following notice does not apply if you have previously agreed to modify the mortgage loan under section 3205b 3205a, 3205b and 3205c do not apply unless the terms of the modified mortgage loan entered into were complied with for one year after the date of the modification. You have the right to request a meeting with your mortgage holder or mortgage servicer. Potestivo & Associates, P.C is the designee with authority to make agreements under MCL 600.3205b and MCL 600.3205c, and can be contacted at: 811 South Blvd., Suite 100 Rochester Allo M 48307 (248) 844-5123. You may also contact a housing courselor. For more information, contact the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) h gov/mshda or calling (866) 946-7432. If you request a meeting with Potestivo & Associates, P.C.within 14 days after the notice required under MCL 600.3205a(1) is mailed, then foreclosure proceedings will not commence until at least 90 days after the date said notice was mailed. If an agreement to modify the mortgage loan is reached and you abide by the terms of the agreement, the mortgage will not be foreclosed. You have the right Van holde infectiosed. Hol meet the right to contact an attorney and can obtain contact information through the State Bar of Michigan's Lawyer Referral Service at (800) 968-0738. Dated:December 21, 2011. Potestivo & Associates, PC, 811. South Blvd, Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 infor-mation may be faxed to (248)267-3004, Attention: Loss Mitigation Our File No: 11-54095 Ad #18103 12/21/2011

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