Sign complies with township ordinances

First Amendment rights topless bar to have billboard
By Sharon Stone
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786
Fenton Twp.— Despite some people finding it offensive, the billboard along U.S. 23 near North Road advertising Dèjà Vu does not violate any ordinances in Fenton Township, according to Thomas Broecker, operations manager for the township.
The Times began hearing complaints about the billboard from readers who saw the sign as they drove north U.S. 23. See BILLBOARD on 7A

My life as Sparty
Fenton AD spent two years as MSU’s mascot while attending the university
By David Troppens
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786
Mike Bakker had always been an athlete. Fenton High School’s athletic director played soccer, basketball, swimming and tennis when he went to Rochester High School, and was a member of Michigan State’s successful rugby club for two years while he was on campus. Being a mascot never crossed his mind. At least not until his roommate, Joe Wolack, made a case for Bakker to apply for the role of MSU’s mascot.

Fenton looks into bridge replacement options
Local Bridge Program could save 95 percent of replacement costs
By Ryan Tackabury
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282
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See BRIDGE on 8A

The Sheriff’s Auction
A chance at a ‘steal of a deal’ on foreclosed homes
By Tim Jagielo
ljagielo@tctimes.com
Flint — Although the weekly property auction at the Genesee County Courthouse isn’t the flurry of activity one might expect, important things happen at these common place auctions — sales for millions of dollars in property occur, and lives can be changed. Or, incredible deals can be found. See AUCTION on 12A

Fenton resident and Fenton High School athletic director Mike Bakker spent two seasons at Michigan State University as Sparty. Bakker spent two years at Michigan State University as Sparty. Bakker spent two years at Michigan State University as Sparty.

My life as Sparty

Summary
- Playing the role of “Sparty” was not easy. Bakker was molested twice by a player for the MSU basketball team.
- Bakker was an offensive player for Michigan State University, but he was a defensive player for the MSU football team.
- Bakker said he was a “great athlete” as a high school student.

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Free Gift With Purchase
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*Good while supplies last, limit one per customer. Charms shown on bracelet are sold separately.
America’s best-selling cookie is 100 years old

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com

Oreo cookies are celebrating their 100th birthday this month, as Nabisco’s best-selling cookie since they were first created in 1912.

In 1912, Nabisco (an abbreviation of its former name, National Biscuit Company) had a new idea for a cookie — two chocolate discs with a creme filling in between. The first Oreo cookie looked very similar to today’s version, with just a slight difference in the design on the chocolate discs.

Why is it called an Oreo? No one is exactly sure, but it may be named for the French word “or” for gold, the Greek word “oreo” for mountain, or even more likely, the name is a combination of taking the word “oreo,” a type of crumbly cookie, and the prefix “O,” standing for original.

Although Southwestern Airlines offers the cheapest prices for luggage, charging $20 for the first and second bags checked, according to airfarewatchdog.com. For three to nine bags, Southwest charges $50 total or $150 for 10 or more bags.

The Air Travel Consumer Report from 2010 charted 6,424 for Southwest with only 74 canceled flights, or 1.2 percent.

AirTran — AirTran charges $20 for the first bag checked and $25 for the second. For three bags or more, AirTran charges $50. This airline had the fewest baggage mishandlings in 2010 with less than two complaints per 1,000 customers.

See AIRLINE on 14A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELLO

Air travel can be biggest vacation headache

Hidden fees, delays, terrible service can ruin travel experience

By William Axford
axtord@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Spring Break is nearly upon the tri-county area. While many residents are obsessively counting down the days, booking a flight can ruin their vacation before it even starts.

Fliers may be surprised to know that airports do not assess fees for handling luggage; each airline sets its own prices for customers. Here’s a rundown of some the best and worst airlines and what to watch for when making flight arrangements.

Best Airlines

Southwest — This airline has some of the cheapest prices for luggage, charging $20 for the first and second bags checked, according to airfarewatchdog.com. For three to nine bags, Southwest charges $50 total or $150 for 10 or more bags.

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See AIRLINE on 14A

Summary

With spring break quickly approaching, it’s a good to take note of what expenses you might encounter when you arrive at the airport.
Random royal thoughts

Rush Limbaugh stupidly called a woman a slut on his show recently. His remark has been vilified (justifiably) by nearly every commentator on television. Last year comedian Bill Maher called Sarah Palin the ‘c’ word (yes, it’s the one you are thinking of) on his show, in addition to mocking her Down Syndrome son. Not one person in the mainstream media has ever mentioned it.

If you went back in time and murdered your mother, would you disappear the moment she died? And wouldn’t she then reappear, because you never existed?

Quit blaming President Obama because he died? Would mainstream you ‘c’ every time you addressed him (or her)?

The ABC network has been one of the harshest critics of Rush Limbaugh’s stupid remark. Debuting last Sunday on ABC was a new program, “GCB,” which stands for “Good Christian Bitches.” ABC is also promoting a new sitcom coming in April titled “Don’t Trust The Bitches in Apartment 23.” Shouldn’t we all be far more outraged by this? Normalizing the grossly demeaning euphemism “bitch” can only result in the increased usage of it in reference to wives, mothers and daughters. ABC is owned by the formerly honorable Disney Corporation.

The senior vice president of drama development for ABC, Channing Dungey, said that “treating religion and Christianity with respect is very important to everyone involved in GCB.” If Ms. Dungey can say that with a straight face, she should be on the other side of the camera.

Can someone explain to me why nearly all public toilet seats (at least in the men’s bathrooms) have that gap in the front? There must be some sort of logic behind it.

Less than two years ago President Obama awarded Colorado-based Abound Solar $400 million and promised America in his weekly radio address that Abound would “manufacture advanced solar panels at two new plants, creating more than 2,000 construction jobs and 1,500 permanent jobs.” Abound never hired one additional employee, never built a new plant, and has laid off 70 percent of the employees at it when it got the $400 million.

How can there be a law that says it’s illegal to put money in other people’s parking meters?

I find it interesting that the word ‘politics’ is made up of the words ‘poli,’ meaning ‘many’ in Latin, and ‘tis’ as in ‘bloodsucking parasites.’

How can our government make it illegal for anyone other than the USPS to put anything into our mailbox, even though we bought the mailbox and it is on our property?

Quotes offered in If I Were King do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. E-mail the King at lb@tctimes.com. Some information reprinted from the Internet.

Hotlines

All submissions, if accepted for publication, must be 40 words or less. All letters to the editor are subject to editing. Change is needed at the Holly Post Office. Postmaster has zero clue about customer service and it carries down to the counter personnel. Postmaster wants to go to Davison. It is in HHS’s best interest if he does. Change of attitude is needed there before they are forced to close.

I’d like to make a comment on that Steve Losey who ran for the 51st district. Being in a small business, maybe, if I’m lucky, I get 33-35 days off per year. Then you take a guy like that who worked from 2008-2012 and only worked 425 days. He then has the nerve to call in 70 times. He only worked one year total out of four, and I’m getting sick of it. I know everyone else is.

Our library is in a wonderful location and has a lot of character. It just needs a little TLC.

No one deserves a certain salary. Economics and supply and demand determine what a person will be able to earn. If you have a very specific skill, and there are very few that have it, and someone needs it, you will make more. Only a socialist would not understand this.

Quoting a Democrat after the Paul Scott recall... “Did you learn your lesson?” All that MEA money spent to get right back where we were. I hope the monies used for that useless recall came out of the pension funds. Mr. Graves, congratulations!

So you resent being called a hypocrite but you admit you don’t have time to shop around for American products. I guess that makes you a lazy hypocrite. By your own standards, it’s OK to buy a foreign car if you don’t have time to shop around.

I was glad to read that the Argentine man was able to chase away the man who broke into his house when he approached the intruder with his gun. More crime and violence can be reduced by locking vehicles and homes, whether at home and day and night.

That is the worst thing I have ever read, where open firearms are allowed in school? Had I encountered that around when I went to vote, I would have run out the door without voting. Concealed or otherwise, guns should be nowhere near schoolchildren. That law should be changed.

Does anyone out there know anything about this Michigan “do not call” list? I registered my home phone number months ago and now I seem to get more “do not calls” then I ever did?

In response to the person who has clean stuffed animals to donate — Holly Area Youth Assistance would gladly accept these from you. If you are still interested, please contact Cherry for details at (810) 287-6489.

Really, don’t you think if someone could afford a muffler or to fix the muffler, that they would? You are rude and inconsiderate. Some people do not have the funds to fix the muffler at this time. Put yourself in their shoes.

As a conservative, I am pro-life because abortion is the killing of an innocent, living baby still in the mother’s womb waiting to be born. I am also for capital punishment, because it is pronounced on an adult found guilty of first-degree murder.

There have been many cases over the years when school has been called off when it didn’t look bad, but the back dirt roads were covered in ice and the buses couldn’t get through. That may have been what happened.

I can see men buying $3,000 worth of condoms over seven to eight years of college! People read the transcripts of what this intelligent young woman stated or shut up. I believe women with health conditions should be allowed birth control. Why don’t you?

Just wanted to tell the staff at the times, the paper gets better every week. I read every issue front to back. Thank you.

See Hot line throughout Times.

Who will be the final two teams in the NCAA March Madness?

Linden High School Basketball players

“I think it’s going to be North Carolina and Syracuse.”
— Marshell Ryan, freshman

“North Carolina and Duke, because I think they’re the best teams out there.”
— Tanner North, freshman

“Duke and Kentucky, because Kentucky is number one and Duke is just a favorite.”
— Jake Marshall, freshman

“Michigan State and Kentucky, because they’re two elite teams.”
— Travis Pett, freshman

“I’d say Syracuse and North Carolina because I think they’re both pretty good.”
— Travis Rinks, Sophomore

“Syracuse and Michigan because I like Syracuse and Michigan just won the Big 10 title.”
— Brendan Finch, Sophomore
IT’S TORNADO TIME

Planning ahead and being aware of your surroundings could keep you safe

By Ryan Tackabury
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

As we leave winter behind us and draw closer to spring, we are also approaching tornado season.

If the weather outside starts to take a turn for the worse, the safest people are those who are not only aware of their surroundings, but also know how to react properly.

An unusually dark sky with a greenish hue, a loud roaring sound, and hail falling from the sky are all possible indicators of an incoming tornado.

When a tornado may be forming, you should keep yourself cognizant. “Put the TV or radio on,” Fenton Fire Chief Robert Cairnduff said. “When they hear the sirens, realize that we only set them off if there is an imminent threat.” For an online source, Cairnduff also advises checking the website www.noaa.gov, which is a useful resource that even the fire department uses. “We go there for the radar. It is typically the most up to date.”

When listening for weather updates, it is important to know the difference between the two types of tornado alerts. A tornado watch indicates that conditions are right for a tornado to form. A more severe tornado warning means that a tornado has actually been spotted.

“If you hear the sirens going off, take alert and take cover,” Cairnduff said. The safest place to be is the lowest portion of the home, such as the basement. If the basement is not an option, look for the most central, windowless room or hallway.

Building an emergency disaster kit can also be very helpful. “Having a radio

with batteries is important,” Cairnduff said. He also recommends flashlights, non-perishable foods, and extra batteries in an emergency kit.

Families may find it helpful to sit down and come up with a family plan, so that everyone understands what to do and what to avoid when faced with a tornado warning.

Just because a tornado ends, does not mean the need for caution does as well. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recommends keeping enough supplies in an emergency kit to last at least three days. In the wake of a large disaster, it will take some time before help arrives.

Damage caused by a tornado can also present additional hazards that are important to avoid. Do not touch any power lines knocked down by the storm. Be careful when entering a building with structural damage. In addition to potential instability, the tornado may have damaged gas lines and caused leaks.

Cairnduff recommends checking FEMA’s www.ready.gov, which provides information on how to deal with many types of natural disasters.

TORNADO FRIDAY, AUG. 27, 2007

At approximately 5:34 p.m., an intense storm system whipped through the Fenton area. This storm system included powerful winds, heavy rains and an F2 tornado. Heavy damage occurred to the downtown Fenton area, including a large area south of Silver Lake Road and an area along Grange Hall Road into Holly.

“When they hear the sirens, people should realize that we only set them off if there is an imminent threat.”

Chief Robert Cairnduff
Fenton Fire Department

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Police investigate Argentine break-in

» Intruders enter Seymour Road home during the day

By Sharon Stone

The Argentine Township Police Department is investigating a breaking and entering, which occurred at a home in the 11000 block of Seymour Road on March 3.

Summary

» A home on Seymour Road was broken into during the day on Saturday, March 3.

Argentine Township police are investigating.

Police responded to the home at 5:15 a.m. and spoke with the homeowner who said she had left her home at approximately 2:45 p.m. that day. When she returned home at about 5 p.m., she believed something was wrong when she discovered that the deadbolt lock on the door from the house to the garage was unlocked.

The resident said she always locks that door when she leaves. As she started to walk into her home, she noticed that a screen door was missing, a window on the south side of the home was broken and a toy box underneath a window had been overturned. She exited the home and called 911.

The responding officer and resident walked through the house and it appeared that nothing was missing; however, random lights were on leading police to believe that the intruder went through the house.

Unknown tire tracks were observed in the yard.

Police noticed that the suspect(s) attempted to break into the garage and placed in the patrol car. A fresh footprint found on the front door of the house is under investigation.

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Spray paint found on home

On Feb. 28, Holly police responded to a home in the 300 block of Cogshall Street to investigate a malicious destruction of property complaint.

The homeowner said he arrived and found graffiti done in grey spray paint on a rear window of the house and on a dumpster stored in his yard. He believed it while he renovates his home. A neighbor said they did not notice any paint the day before. There are no suspects at this time.

Driver in crash found to have warrants

At 8:37 p.m. on Saturday, March 2, Holly police responded to an automobile crash at the intersection of North Holly and Quick roads involving a 47-year-old Fenton Township man. There were no injuries. A Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) inquiry revealed the man was driving with a suspended license and had to arrest warrants, one from Mt. Morris and one from Grand Blanc. Police arrested the man for driving with a suspended license and transported him to the police station for processing. The man was turned over to Grand Blanc police.

‘Ding dong ditch’ goes awry

At about 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6, Holly police responded to a home in the 3000 block of Hill Top to investigate an attempted breaking and entering. The homeowner said that someone had attempted to kick in her front door. Police checked the area and saw two individuals crossing Hill Top at Valley Rise then hide behind a van.

The juveniles were ordered to approach the officers, were searched and placed in the patrol car. A fresh footprint found on the front door of the home matched the shoe print of one of the juveniles in custody. The males were taken to the police station and their mothers were called to be present during questioning. The investigation revealed that the juveniles intended to do a “ding dong ditch,” however, one of the males instead ran up, kicked the front door and ran away. Both male juveniles were later released to their mothers.

ICE causes six-car pileup Friday morning

Motorists were in for a rude awakening Friday morning as several spun out on southbound U.S. 23, just south of Thompson Road in Fenton Township.

Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz said a 3/4-mile stretch on the highway became very icy and the fire department responded to the area at 5:15 a.m. to assist the Genesee County Sheriff’s Department, which was already on scene. Volz said four of the six vehicles involved in the spin outs were traveling together as a caravan from the Flint area to Howell. A few of the motorists involved sustained minor injuries, such as lacerations to their face from windshields breaking. All but one of the vehicles required towing.

Fenton Express Towing responded to the scene. The Genesee County Road Commission was called to the area and salt was applied to the highway.

Families are invited to experience the ‘Magic’ that comes from a Camp Copneconic Adventure at our Summer Camp Preview!

Sun., March 18th

Families are invited to experience the ‘Magic’ that comes from a Camp Copneconic Adventure at our Summer Camp Preview!

Sun., March 18th

Enjoy the Magic

Receive $20 off each camper when you register at the Summer Camp Preview

Experience the Magic

Families are invited to experience the ‘Magic’ that comes from a Camp Copneconic Adventure at our Summer Camp Preview!

Sun., March 18th

Sign up online at www.campcopneconic.org to reserve your spot to tour camp, meet staff, sample camp activities and enjoy our Wizards of Copneconic theme!

Activities may include:

- Zip Line • Festival House
- Giant Swing • S’more Making
- Quidditch • Spell Casting • Conjurer Crafts

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To learn more about each program or to register online, log on to our Web site at:

www.campcopneconic.org

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(Between Thompson & Baldwin Rds.)

www.tctimes.com
Fenton 3rd Thursday is March 15
The community is invited to shop 3rd Thursday merchants in Fenton on March 15 to enjoy great deals and fun from 4 to 8 p.m. while enjoying beautiful ensembles, and supporting the Fenton Community Orchestra, playing from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at various locations. Here’s a list of participating 3rd Thursday merchants and the deals they are promoting:

- **A Joyful Noise Music Studio** — 10 percent of all sales will go to The Fenton Community Orchestra.
- **Barking Babes** — 15 percent off all winter wear
- **Déjà Vu Coffee** — All tall hot/iced Latte’s are $2.99.
- **Billemeier Camera** — Up to 30 percent off Tamrac bags, and up to 15 percent off all Promaster goods including filters, lighting, flash accessories, backgrounds etc.
- **Crust a baking company** — $3 off a Whole Fruit Pie.
- **Fenton’s Open Book** — Special St. Patrick’s jewelry and more from Mary McHale and her Over The Moon Jewels. Ten percent of the sales from 4-8 p.m. this evening will be donated to The Fenton Community Orchestra.
- **Fenton Winery & Brewery** — Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day early with Corned Beef Sandwiches, Fenton’s homemade root beer from the Fenton Brewery, and thousand island dressing.
- **J & J’s Gluten Free Pantry** — Free samples.
- **Kimberly Kay Furniture** — 50 percent off on four featured closeout items. First come, first served! Marie’s Gluten Free Pantry Free samples of GF pound cake with coconut milk ice cream and mixed fruit preserves.
- **Pipsqueak Boutique** — 20 percent off all resale items and 10 percent off all new boutique and hair accessories.
- **Sweet Variations** — 20 percent off any spring and Easter gift items, including St. Patrick’s Day items.
- **The Edge Gallery** — Framed Art 50 percent off (excludes consignments), free poster print with framing.
- **The French Laundry** — $2 off cocktails and 25 percent off appetizers.
- **Yesterday’s Treasures** — 20 percent off all tea cups.

‘THE GRADUATE’ TO BE SHOWN FREE ON THURSDAY AT COMMUNITY CENTER
The Fenton Film Series will be showing the classic film, ‘The Graduate’ on Wednesday, March 14. Again this month, the Fenton Film Series will present a free event in downtown Fenton at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center at 7 p.m. Dustin Hoffman, in his first major film role, turns in a landmark performance.

Now in its second year, the Fenton Film Series continues with its mission of showing free, high quality movies every month. The Fenton Film Series is possible by generous donations from sponsors, including the Fenton Downtown Development Authority, Tanglewood Assisted Living & Home Care, Edward Jones financial advisor Patrick Perfit, Behind Your Design, Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation, and Comfort Keepers. Free refreshments will also be available, including sandwiches from Jimmy John’s Gourmet Sandwiches, pastries and coffee from The French Laundry and homemade root beer from the Fenton Winery & Brewery.

**OPTIMIST CLUB MEETINGS**
The Fenton Area Optimist Club meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 a.m. at Bob Evans restaurant on Owos Road in Fenton. The Fenton Area Optimist Club is a local youth service organization, part of Optimist International — which features thousands of clubs and more than 90,000 members in the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean. Optimists provide programs and opportunities for children to acquire new skills and confidence as they grow. Their mission is to make a difference in the lives of children in the Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden school districts. Potential new members are welcome and encouraged to join.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME THIS SATURDAY** — SET CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR BEFORE GOING TO BED
The good news is that Daylight Saving Time (DST) will create longer periods of daylight this spring. The bad news is that you have to give up one hour of sleep this Sunday to get it. Daylight Saving Time (DST) will begin Sunday, March 11 at 2 a.m., when residents set their clocks ahead one hour. This time change precedes the first day of spring and the vernal equinox, which is set to take place at 1:14 a.m. on Tuesday, March 20. DST will end on Sunday, Nov. 4 at 2 a.m., when everyone can resume his or her normal schedule before winter begins.
Dresses for Africa

State Road Elementary School students in Gabrielle Brzendine’s class helped to sew 30 dresses for children in African countries, out of pillowcases with colorful patches sewn by parent volunteers.

Councilman Les Bland believes the bridge would be considered a good candidate to be replaced. Bland recalled inspecting the bridge when he was the DPW director, and noted that holes could be seen through the bridge. “I am all in favor of doing it, as long as the city can bear the costs,” Bland said.

“The bridge has to be replaced,” Bland added. “There is no doubt in my mind.”

When the application is completed, it will be submitted to the city council for approval. The Local Bridge Program has a deadline of May 1, by which time the application must be finalized and sent out.

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Doors open at 5 p.m. • Heather Highlands Golf Course
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The Holly Kiwanis organization raises funds to support our community programs that include: Scholarship funds, holiday baskets, financial assistance with heating, fuel bills, medical expenses and other community-based projects.

BRIDGE
Continued from Front Page
well as right-of-way, design engineering, and construction engineering costs would cost the city an approximate $421,350, and be funded during the 2015 fiscal year.

Submitting the application will require $3,000 and will take a month of time for OHM, the city’s engineers, to complete.

While there is no guarantee that the Silver Lake Road bridge would be selected for funding from the Local Bridge Program, several members of the Fenton City Council seemed optimistic, and believed that taking action soon is necessary.

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Q. How often should I clean out my dryer vent?
A. At least once a year depending on the length of the vent. If your vent is in excess of 12 feet from the wall to the outside of your home we recommend twice a year. When determining the length of vent, add 3’ for each elbow in the vent. So if you have 10 feet of vent and 4 elbows, you have 22’ of vent. Manufactures only recommend a maximum of 30’ on any dryer vent, and that includes elbows.

Q. How much earth would be required to fill a 30’ on any dryer vent, and that includes elbows.

8A Sunday, March 11, 2012 www.tctimes.com
Police bust marijuana grow operation

Eleven plants, useable marijuana, equipment recovered

Holly — Shortly after 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7, Holly police officers executed a search warrant at a home within the village. During the search of the home, which was unoccupied, officers located a marijuana grow operation in the basement. Eleven plants were seized, as well as several pounds of useable marijuana and various equipment utilized in the grow operation.

The suspect in the case, a 44-year-old Holly man, was arrested at the scene and later released. Charges are pending against him for manufacturing marijuana.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

Until the problem with gangs and violence are taken care of, we need more citizens in our community like Joe Carangi. And people like Mr. Krug need to take a hike.

President Obama is not in the import/export business. People like ‘Mutt’ Romney are the people who are importing and exporting, and sending our jobs overseas.

This is not in the import/export business. People like ‘Mutt’ Romney are the people who are importing and exporting, and sending our jobs overseas.

This message is for people who are quite elderly, which I am. I’ve seen politics with gangs and violence are taken care of, we need people like Mr. Krug need to take a hike.

This message is for people who are quite elderly, which I am. I’ve seen politics with gangs and violence are taken care of, we need people like Mr. Krug need to take a hike.

My boss doesn’t let you tell your story first. He thinks he’s always right, and he doesn’t back up his employees. He thinks his job is just so much more important than ours.

Are you a Wartime Veteran or Surviving Spouse?

You may qualify for the aid and attendance benefit. Call to find out how. Wednesday, March 14, 2012 6:30 pm Location: Abbey Park 3221 E. Baldwin Rd. Grand Blanc
OREO
Continued from Page 3A
“re” from “cream” and placing it between the two “o”s in “chocolate,”
making “o-re-o.” Anyway you like them, the word Oreo is short, easy to
pronounce and remember.
But one thing that just about ev-
eyone disagrees on is the best way
to eat an Oreo. Some people like to
bite into the cookie like a sandwich,
while others lift the top off and eat both halves separately. Some
people will not eat an Oreo unless there’s a glass of milk nearby for
dipping, while others happily munch
on an Oreo without a beverage.
Kathy Shouse, owner of Kathy’s
Patisserie Cakes & Bakes in Fenton,
has always had her own love affair
with America’s favorite cookie.
“You’ve got to ‘unscrew’ an Oreo
first, then lick the frosting from one
side and dip the other side in milk,”
she said. Shouse creates many Oreo
desserts in her bakeshop, including
Oreo brownies, personal-size Oreo
cheesecakes and a full-size Oreo round cake — just like the cookie,
with frosting in the middle.
The shape and design of the Oreo
cookie didn’t change much until
Nabisco released their Double Stuf
Oreo.
Nabisco continued to introduce
variations, including the fudge cov-
ered Oreos in 1987, the Halloween
Oreos in 1991 and the Christmas
Oreos, in 1995.
No matter how it was named,
more than 362 billion Oreo cookies
have been sold since it was first in-
troduced in 1912, making it the best
selling cookie of the 20th century.

HOMEMADE OREOS

INGREDIENTS
For the chocolate wafers:
1 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
2/3 c. unsweetened cocoa
1 t. baking soda
1/4 t. baking powder
1/4 t. salt
1 c. sugar
3 c. plus 2 T. room-temperature,
unsalted butter
1 large egg

For the filling:
3/4 c. room-temperature,
unsalted butter
3/4 c. vegetable shortening
2 c. sifted powdered sugar
2 t. vanilla extract

DIRECTIONS
Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a
medium bowl, mix flour, cocoa, baking
soda and powder, salt, and sugar, then
beat in butter and egg. Mix until dough
comes together in a mass. Take rounded
teaspoons of batter and place on a
perchment paper-lined baking sheet
two inches apart. With moistened hands,
slightly flatten the dough. Bake for 9
minutes, rotating once for even baking.
Set on a rack to cool. To make the cream,
place butter and shortening in a mixing
bowl. At low speed, gradually beat in the
sugar and vanilla. Beat on high for two
to three minutes until filling is light and
fluffy. To assemble the cookies, use a
pastry bag with a 1/2 inch round tip and
pipe teaspoon-size blobs of cream into
the center of one cookie. Place another
cookie, equal in size to the first, on top of
the center of one cookie. Place another
cookie, equal in size to the first, on top of
the cookie, equal in size to the first, on top of
the cookie, equal in size to the first, on top of
the cookie, equal in size to the first, on top of
the cookie, equal in size to the first, on top of
the cookie. Dunk generously in a large glass of milk.

Tips:
• Make sure to use vegetable shortening.
• Match the cookies into pairs before you
  start adding the cream to any of them, just to
  make sure you can get them all close in size.

SOURCE: SMITTEN KITCHEN


**Homemade Oreos**

Kathy Shouse, of Kathy’s Patisserie Cakes & Bakes
in Fenton shows her freshly made Oreo cake that
she baked especially for Oreo’s 100th birthday.
ENGAGEMENT

HENK-MILLER
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Henk, of Fenton proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Jill Handley Henk, to Robert Miller of Louisville, KY. Jill is a 2004 graduate of Fenton High School, and 2006 graduate of The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where the couple met. They both currently reside in Iowa City, IA where Rob is completing his final term at the University of Iowa College of Law, and Jill works for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute while pursuing her MBA.

ENGAGEMENT

MICALLEF-FLYNN
The engagement of Amanda Micallef to Kevin Flynn has been announced by her parents, Anthony and Judith Micallef of Holly. His parents are Daniel and Diane Flynn, also of Holly. The bride-elect is attending Grand Valley State University, graduating in May of 2013. Her fiancé is in the U.S. Navy with a rating of Petty Officer 3rd class. A wedding ceremony is planned after Amanda’s graduation in 2013.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

HOW CAN THE homes on Lobdell Lake have an increase of assessed values of 40 to 50 percent? Every economic indicator shows that home values decreased for 2011. Just another sign that Argentine Township does not know what they are doing.

THE TIMES ARTICLE failed to mention the women attempting to persuade voters at the polls were teachers. Still trying to steal the seat and restore their expensive benefits. They continue to make people like me question if they are more loyal to the MEA than the students and parents.

REMEMBER THE LAW of nature that says, “For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.” You keep forcing your religion into our schools, and they will force the government gets into your religion!

ARE YOU LOOKING for a way to honor those who have served and sacrificed so much for our nation? Great Lakes National VA Cemetery in Holly needs volunteers on April 14 at 9 a.m. to clean up headstones. Invite your family, kids, friends and neighbors. Let’s show our support!

A LOT OF couples don’t get married because it doesn’t pay to be married. Some women don’t put the baby’s father’s name on the birth certificate because they’re on state aid and they would take money from him. Our government is discouraging marriage.

A CHRISTIAN is defined as someone who is a follower of Jesus Christ, not a gun toting, pro-life/anti-woman religious zealot Republican like some of you may think. I am an Episcopalian, and the church’s position on abortion is that it is up to your own moral conscience.

ALL THIS WIND blew someone’s trash and recycle bin into my yard. Probably one of those college educated neighbors of mine working hard to keep our city going. I’ll hold it for you, I don’t mind.

I BEG TO differ with the Hot line posted in Wednesday’s edition that says the recall was due to the fact that Scott lied and did not listen to the people who voted for him. I disagree. He did what the people who voted for him wanted to do by enforcing stricter regulations and accountability standards for teachers.

There’s nothing like a brand new home!

Great Clips
Haircuts that fit you.

FENTON • Silver Lake Village
18040 Silver Pkwy
(Behind Walmart, next to Subway & Batteries Plus)
810-71GREAT (714-7328)

HOURS: M-F 9-9; Sat. 9-6; Sun. 10-5

$4.99 haircut offer expires: 4/20/12
Not valid with any other offers. Limit one coupon per customer. Good only at Silver Lake Village.

$100 off with mention of this ad

Matt Henning
989-627-5801

SINCE 1984
BUILDING
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Design, build, move-in by summer
FREE meeting with initial design
Most Award Winning Builder, Parade of Homes
Call TODAY, it’s a great time to build!
AMERICAN JUSTICE UNLIMITED?

Whatever happened to, “By the people, for the people?” Hey police/cops did not, “To Serve and Protect” once exist?

The Fenton community of concerned voting, gun-toting citizens are getting restless, our borders are infested by back-stabbing, after-taxation robbers, liars, and thieves.

Four trivial tickets were recently awarded to me by my Tyrone Police, Livingston County’s finest. My recent award came three business days after setting up legally, “The Fenton Disability Network.” In my rightful handicap spot outside Livingston County Courthouse, my Corvette’s windshield displays a violation. Did my, “No Cop” license plate lead to my unjust $195 to add to your coffers?

My two current/former Fenton Township residences leads to more injustices. Physical threats and property damage by intruders is countered by cops. Essentially I am threatened with responses of, “You have no rights.”

Fenton Police, please - please listen. Fenton’s former police chief and I have talked. A verdict, to be determined by the residents, to see if they can have the sheriff’s department put notice on the home that it is vacant. The owner likely gave the house up and won’t be redeeming it, so the redemption period with that notice is only 30 days.

Sometimes, said Hope, bidders who win a property play dirty, and do not get the deed changed in their name so the current owner has difficulty redeeming it if they want to. He refuses to sell to one investor because of this reason. ‘You can’t leave people like that, it’s not fair,’ said Hope.

Realtor Shelly Masica saved her own client from losing a home to a bid simply by staying to hear the prices. At the last minute, an investor swooped in to make a bid on the property but did not, because Masica was there, and the client would likely work with her to save the home.

This posturing happens at these auctions, where groups of investors will sometimes negotiate bids or properties to make sure everyone goes home happy. In rare cases, a bidding war ensues.

Hope said that last week, a pair of investors bid back and forth up to $14,000 more than the initial bid price.
2012 EXPO

2012 EXPO WAS HELD SATURDAY, MARCH 3 AND SUNDAY MARCH 4 • PHOTOS BY TIM JAGIELO
**AIRLINE**

**Continued from Page 3A**

**Worst Airlines**

US Airways – Skytrax, the world’s largest airline review site, places US Airways amongst the worst airlines to fly. Out of nearly 700 reviews, customers placed US Airways at a 3 on a 10-point scale when it came to satisfaction. Luggage prices aren’t winning the airline any popularity points either. According to airfarewatchdog.com, passengers can expect to pay $25 for their first bag and $35 for their second. Each additional bag lighter than 50 pounds costs $125. For bags 51 to 70 pounds, passengers have to pay $90 or for a bag 71 to 90 pounds, $175.

United – United’s luggage prices can vary depending on where passengers are traveling. The first bag is $25; a second bag is $35 if traveling to or from the U.S. and Canada. If you’re going to Central or South America, however, that second bag will cost $30. Trans-Atlantic flights place that second bag at $70. Depending on your international flight, luggage can cost between $200 and $400 per bag.

**Things to watch for**

Extra booking fees over the phone – MS-NBC estimates airlines place an extra $5 to $20 for passengers who book their flights via phone or even in person. The best way to avoid these fees — book online.

**Utilizing frequent flyer miles** – Airlines are notorious for charging extra fees when it comes to cashing in on frequent flyer miles. Among the most irritating is being penalized for using frequent flyer miles without notifying airlines with “sufficient notice.” Fees can get high, costing up to $100, so check with an airline before cashing in on those “free” miles.

**Traveling with pets and infants** – Flight critic George Hobica says parents can expect to pay either $10 or 10 percent of the adult fare just to hold their infant, even if you’re only taking up one seat. Airlines may charge a fuel surcharge too, which could cost up to an extra $100 each way. Bringing Fido with you brings extra fees, ranging from $50 to $100 each way, according to Hobica.

**Boarding passes** – It is easy to forget things when you’re wrangling with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and battling with clerks over hidden fees. For a smoother transition onto the plane, print your boarding passes at home. Most smartphones can be used as a boarding pass as well, leaving you with one less thing to worry about.

**Driving to Detroit Metro Airport** – With the close proximity of Bishop Airport in Flint, driving to Detroit is unnecessary. Booking a flight out of Bishop will increase the ticket price but you’ll save on gas and the headache of fighting traffic.

---

**Tunis Air in Benghazi handled passengers’ baggage to the same standards as larger airlines like Delta.**

**Be Closer...to Culture and Community**

**Thurs. March 15 • 4 - 8 pm**

Support the Fenton Community Orchestra!

Shop 3rd Thursday merchants in Fenton on March 15th and enjoy great deals and fun from 4–8pm while enjoying beautiful ensembles playing from 5–6:30pm at various downtown merchant locations.

Shopping • Dining Entertainment • Extended Hours

Brought to you by the City of Fenton DDA FentonBeCloser.com

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*See credit union for details. Some restrictions and Financial Plus Federal Credit Union standards apply.
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A.K.A. “Melch”
810.513.1561
mowaddy@sbcglobal.net

Jeff Tufford
810.606.1000
www.themichiganmortgageexpert.com

HomesByMelch.com
A.K.A. “Melch”
Steve Melchor
$233,000
March 11, 2012

for hunting, farming, etc. Apple, cherry and other common tree categories found by their
ACREAGE
index

www.TheMichiganMortgageExpert.com

Just minutes off I-75/US-23
Exit 18 in Flint
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517-577-4275

10500 Lake Shore Dr., FENTON TWP.

Place your Classified ad Online!
Visit www.tctimes.com
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Thousands of visitors
Everyday!
NOTICE – FAIRVIEW CEMETERY
CITY OF LINDEN

Anyone wishing to salvage flowers, wreaths, etc. from Fairview Cemetery should do so by Sunday, March 18, 2012. After that date, they will be removed and disposed of by the sexton of the cemetery.

Scott Fairbanks
Sexton of Fairview Cemetery
NOTICE
ROSE TOWNSHIP
2012 ANNUAL SPRING ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP DAYS

Rose Township will hold its annual Roadside Clean-Up for residents and property owners on the following date:
Saturday, May 19, 2012
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Residents and township organizations are encouraged to participate in the clean-up of the roadsides.

Dumpsters will be located in the Rose Township Park located on the northwest corner of Milford Road and West Rose Center Road. Refuse to be disposed of must be transported to the dumpsters. THERE IS NO ROADSIDE PICKUP. No commercial pickup will be allowed.

Constable Emilie Bair will be on duty to verify residence and/or property ownership. Fire department personnel will be there to assist with loading materials into the dumpsters. Propane tanks will be accepted. No barrels, gas or fuel oil tanks, stumps, brush or concrete will be accepted. Paint cans must be empty or filled with sand or cat litter. Each household will be permitted four (4) car tires; additional tires will be accepted at a price of $4.00 per tire and $25.00 per tire for tractor or large truck tires.

Burning permits to allow the burning of leaves and brush are available by telephone at (248) 634-2620.

Bags for cleaning roadsides will be available at the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan beginning April 23, 2012 until May 17, 2012 and also at the clean-up day location on clean-up day.

Rose Township’s regular recycling date is May 5, 2012. Residents may call 248-634-7551 with any questions.

Debbie Miller
Rose Township Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD TUESDAY MARCH 27, 2012 AT 7:00 PM BY THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AT 12060 MANTAWAUKA. THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

HO12-0048 Diane Tushin 3332 Horrell Ct. requesting home occupation permit to operate a pet service establishment in residence. Parcel 06-15-501-013

HO12-049 Carl Savage Jr. 2477 Davis St. requesting home occupation permit to operate a consulting firm in residence. Parcel 06-22-554-006

ZBA12-004 Peter Van Driesche 7389 Newberry Rd. Durand requesting land area, frontage and lake frontage variances to repartition platted lot back to original lot size, property is located at 4277 West Four Lakes Dr. Parcel 06-21-527-014

ZBA12-005 Benjamin Carriere 1500 Triple Oak Dr. requesting sight line variance to add additional height to accessory building on lake side of property. Parcel 06-12-552-010

ZBA12-006 Harry Brink 6050 Birch Rd. Flint requesting front setback, side yard setback and sight line variances to construct new residence on vacant property at 13500 Wenwood Pkwy. Parcel 06-13-577-008

COPIES OF THE ABOVE LISTED APPLICATIONS AND THE TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE FOR YOUR REVIEW. YOUR OPINIONS MAY BE EXPRESSED VERBALLY AT THIS HEARING OR IN WRITING TO THE BOARD OF APPEALS PRIOR TO THIS HEARING. THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ENCOURAGES YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THESE APPEALS.

This notice is published in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

Fenton Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 14 days notice to Fenton Township.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Fenton Township by writing or calling the following: Robert Krug, Fenton Township Clerk, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430. (810) 629-1537.

Ordinances, meeting schedules and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF LINDEN
PARKS & RECREATION 2012-2016 DRAFT PLAN

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers located at 201 N. Main Street, Linden, Michigan 48451. The public hearing is being held to receive comments and consider the adoption of the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016.

A Parks and Recreation Plan will assist the City in identifying recreation needs within the community. The plan will serve as a guide to document priorities within the community. The plan will serve as a guide to document priorities for the next five years.

The hearing is intended to provide an opportunity for interested citizens to express their opinions regarding all aspects of the proposed Parks and Recreation Plan.

Copies of the draft City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016 will be available for public review at the Linden City Hall, located at 132 E. Broad Street, Linden, Michigan, 48451 on February 6, 2012, as well as on the City’s website at www.lindenni.us.
NOTICE – OAKHILL CEMETERY
HOLLY TOWNSHIP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to anyone wishing to save decorations from Oakhill Cemetery should do so by removing those items from the cemetery by March 31, 2012. After that date all decorations will be removed and disposed of by Holly Township.

Karin S. Winchester, Holly Township Clerk
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: Richard L. Ockerman Jr. and Katrina Reitano, on property known as: Lots 194 and 195, Lot 21 of Hill-Larsen Acres, as Recorded in Vol. 71, p. 21, Genevese County, Michigan, which also includes any interest Green Tree Servicing LLC, as Servicer Pass-Through Certificate Trust 2000-4, by Green Tree Servicing LLC, as Servicer, in accordance with power of attorney under MCL 600.3241a(c), notice of the sale being given. The above described real property is located in the Township of Flushing, Genesee County, Michigan, at public sale, the premises, or some part of them, at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage borrower for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: 3/11/2012 Everbank, Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Zeppetitti, P.C., 811 South Blvd. Suite 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. The redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a(c), including interest 5.625% per annum. Under the conditions of the mortgage, the statutory notice of sale has been posted and mailed, or unless under MCL 600.3241a(c), the redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a(c). 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; or unless MCL 600.3240(17) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 36 of the Revised judicature act of 1945, under MCL 600.3270, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage borrower for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: 3/11/2012 Everbank. A successor in interest to Green Tree Servicing LLC, as Servicer. ABN AMRO Mortgage Group Inc., Mortgagee.蛟. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307-5812 (248) 644-1632 Fax # 516-10516 ABN 007919 0209 0209 0210112012

FORECLOSURE NOTICE. The tenancy 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: ABN AMRO Mortgage Group Inc., Mortgagee.蛟. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307-5812 (248) 644-1632 Fax # 516-10516 ABN 007919 0209 0209 0210112012. The redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600-3241a(c), including interest 5.625% per annum. Under the conditions of the mortgage, the statutory notice of sale has been posted and mailed, or unless under MCL 600-3241a(c), the redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600-3241a(c). 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; or unless MCL 600-3240(17) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 36 of the Revised judicature act of 1945, under MCL 600-3270, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage borrower for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: 3/11/2012 Everbank. A successor in interest to Green Tree Servicing LLC, as Servicer. ABN AMRO Mortgage Group Inc., Mortgagee.蛟. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307-5812 (248) 644-1632 Fax # 516-10516 ABN 007919 0209 0209 0210112012.
**HARTLAND TOWNSHIP**

Spacious 4 bedroom colonial in popular Rolling Hills Sub w/Hartland schools district. Great traditional floor plan, fireplace in Great room, large kitchen w/island & wood floors on the first floor, 2288 sq. ft. + 1200 sq. ft. in finished walkout lower level w/2 family room, shed, covered porch, deck for enjoying the beautiful rolling view & 2 car garage. Freshly Painted. **$204,000**  
Call Ann Hernandez-Gabler 248-240-2272

**FENTON**

Charming older home on corner lot close to downtown Fenton. Freshly painted, very clean. 5 bedroom 2 story home with two of the bedrooms on the 1st floor, central air, 1133 sq. ft. Lots of storage space, enclosed porch, storage shed detached 2 car garage with electric, floor drain and workshop. Move-in-ready but some updates needed. **$73,900**  
Call Vera Hogan 810-516-3463

**ROSE TOWNSHIP**

Beautiful property! Interesting farmhouse in need of work but great potential! Lots of room, large rooms with bedroom and study on main floor, 1728 sq. ft. Full basement, in-ground pool & plenty of space to play on 2.5 acres. Move-in-ready but some updates needed. **$49,900**  
Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971

**FENTON TOWNSHIP**

Well maintained Condo that backs up to the Nature Conservatory, with hardwood floors in Great room, dining room, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, central air, 1st floor laundry. **$105,1 sq. ft., lower level walkout, deck off kitchen and 2 car garage. Need more space?**  
Finishing lower level walkout with 9 ft ceiling and plumbed for bath could add up to 960 sq. ft. **$116,500**  
Call Bob Cole 810-825-8229

**FLINT**

1916 Laurel Oak Drive 2 Story Townhouse with spacious floor plan, 3 bedrooms and 1 ½ baths, 1st floor laundry, gas fireplace in family room, central air, full basement and garage. **$34,900**  
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

**TYPENAE TOWNSHIP**

Relax & Enjoy. Nicely located on private wooded 1 acre setting, fenced backyard & sprinkling system. Spacious deck off dining area leading to in-ground Pool for summer enjoyment, walkout basement w/3 bedrooms. w/natural fireplace, 1st floor bedroom & 2 bedrooms on 2nd level, 1½ baths, heated garage W/220, shed w/storage above & cement floor & 2 car garage. **$156,000**  
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

**FENTON TOWNSHIP**

3 Bedroom 2 Story home offering nice sandy beach and breathtaking views. Large rooms with fireplace and study on main floor, 1728 sq. ft. Full basement, enclosed porch, in-ground pool & garage. Neater deck, roof, carpet, paint and drywall. Also available buildable lot across street. Sold separately for $100,000. **$650,000**  
Call Arielle Chumley 810-265-6500

**HOLLY TOWNSHIP**

2118 Orange Hall Road Beautiful property! Interesting farmhouse in need of work but great potential! Lots of room, 2402 sq. ft. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas log fireplace, covered porch, four season heated room and 2 barns. Possible mother in law quarters with separate entrance. Fenced, could be horse farm. Good location with easy access to I-75 and US-23. Great opportunity! **$79,000**  
Call Sheila Rhoades 810-348-7357

**FLINT**

818 Southwood Drive 3 Bedroom Ranch in a great neighborhood. **$143,000**  
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

**ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP**

8244 Whitney Road Spacious 5 bedroom home is ready to move right in. Family room, dining room, 2 full bathrooms, 1st floor laundry and 1725 sq. ft. Numerous updates including new boiler, well pump, paint and carpet. Enjoy peaceful setting but close to amenities. **$104,900**  
Call Lisa Carasino 810-845-7261

**LINDEN**

9005 S. Big School Road **$99,900**  
Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971

**FENTON TOWNSHIP**

4067 Autumn Wood Drive This 3 bedroom ranch is close to Shopping, Schools, and I-75. Open floor plan, gas log fireplace in living room, central air, 2 full baths 1st floor laundry 1600 sq. ft. full basement, deck, 2 car garage and professional landscaped. **$149,900**  
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

**FENTON TOWNSHIP**

4067 Autumn Wood Drive This 3 bedroom ranch is close to Shopping, Schools, and I-75. Open floor plan, gas log fireplace in living room, central air, 2 full baths 1st floor laundry 1600 sq. ft. full basement, deck, 2 car garage and professional landscaped. **$149,900**  
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300
Sparty's history

Frat house origins: Mike Bakker said a frat house initially created Sparty when they made a mascot with an exaggerated head out of papier-mâché and a pair of shoulder pads. At the time, Sparty only appeared for football games.

He's back: In the late 1980s, the Student Alumni Foundation brought him back. "The original pictures are a lot different than the way he is now," Bakker said. Since then, Sparty has become an institution, well-recognized by people around the nation.

Being seen: Sparty has been shown in a couple ESPN commercials throughout the years. He's also appeared on the cover of the Wil version of "NCAA Football 09." "EA Sports had a poll to see which mascot would be on the cover, and Sparty won by more than 75,000 votes.

Hall of Fame: Sparty has been nominated to the Mascot Hall of Fame in 2006 and 2007, but has yet to be inducted.

NCAA March Madness 2012
Selection Sunday: March 11
National Bracket Day: March 12
First Four: March 13-14
Second Round: March 15-16
Third Round: March 17-18
Sweet 16: March 22-23
Elite 8: March 24-25
Final Four: March 31
National Championship: April 2

SPARTY Continued from Front Page

saw an ad in the school newspaper for “Sparty” tryouts, Michigan State’s well-recognized mascot.

"My roommate at the time said, ‘I’m going to try out for that,’” Bakker said. “So he got all the information. I helped him put together his tryout kit. I went to the tryouts and sat in the mock crowd.”

That time in the stands changed everything.

"I had a blast at the tryout, just hanging out," Bakker said. “One of the judges told me I should really consider doing this, just from what he saw from me in the crowd. So my next year, when I saw the ad in the paper, I got an application, filled it out and went from there.”

Bakker’s two-year reign as Sparty, a Michigan State gladiator decked out with an exaggerated head, and protected by his green armor, was about to begin. The next year Bakker tried out for the non-commissioned position and was hired. Bakker was one of a handful of people that rotated the job of playing Sparty. Of course, he attended many football and basketball games, but the job title stretched far from those two positions. Sparty would go to many other sporting events, student signings, student alumni events and even graduation parties and weddings.

"It was not easy work," Bakker said. "It was a lot of fun, but it was hard work. You were exhausted. You were pretty much done at the end of the day."

Bakker said the Sparty costume itself weighed about 35 pounds and added about 45 pounds to your body once it became wet. It was hot, too. Warm football dates were the worst.

"When I was there they had the Astroturf at the stadium, and the heat coming off that field — it was crazy hot in that costume," Bakker said. "It was about 20 to 30 degree hotter with it on than the outside air temperature. It was common to lose six to eight pounds during a football game, just sweating it out of you."

Game days started well before the beginning of the contest for Sparty.

"You are going from seven in the morning if the game starts at noon because you have so many appearances that you are doing for a home football game," Bakker said. “And then you are going to the game after that. It was an all-day thing. It was great, but it was a lot of fun.”

KEYS TO BEING A MASCOT

Being Sparty meant being in shape.

"You had to stay in shape and you had to be someone who was athletic," Bakker said. "You couldn’t go do it any other way. ... You had to stay in shape and keep yourself in good condition to do it.”

Second, Bakker had to master his non-verbal skills, because like most mascots, Sparty can’t speak.

"It takes a lot of practice," Bakker said. "One thing you had to do was over-exaggerate your movements because the costume would consume your movements.”

Props were important. Keys were used when a key play came up. If Sparty wanted to get the fans to cheer, there also was what Bakker called “The Scream Tank.”

"It was a big garbage can I painted white with a big block S on the front of it," Bakker said. “The cheerleaders would lift me up and hold that trash can in front of me. I would grab the cover of the trash can lid and hold it up. Under the cover we had the word ‘scream’. You’d hold it up and they’d scream. You could do it at different paces, whatever.”

The biggest component to mascots is not talking.

"Having a mascot speaking completely takes away from the aura of a mascot, and what they represent," Bakker said. "It’s just the way it has always been. ... If you can’t see any body parts of the mascot, you do not talk.”

MASCOT PERKS

Through his role, Bakker enjoyed many highlights. Many of these included traveling. He went to the University of Oregon for a football game. He also went to the 2000 Citrus Bowl when the Spartans defeated Florida 37-34. He also met Muhammad Ali at a basketball game at the Breslin Center. But Bakker said the biggest thrill happened right at Spartan Stadium.

"Running out of the tunnel at Spartan Stadium was probably my favorite part,” Bakker said. "I only had the opportunity to do it a few times, but leading the team out of the tunnel is such a high, so much adrenaline and excitement. I had a lot of great moments, but the greatest feeling is running out of that tunnel. You can’t beat it.”

“Wanted fans to enjoy the game and enjoy the experience. It wasn’t about Mike Bakker. It’s about Sparty and upholding the image. It’s for all those little kids, some that are deathly afraid of you and some that love you, and everyone in the alumni, some up to 90 years old.”

Mike Bakker
Former MSU Mascot ‘Sparty’

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Mike Bakker, the athletic director at Fenton schools, was Michigan State’s “Sparty” mascot for a couple of years.

“I wanted fans to enjoy the game and enjoy the experience. It wasn’t about Mike Bakker. It’s about Sparty and upholding the image. It’s for all those little kids, some that are deathly afraid of you and some that love you, and everyone in the alumni, some up to 90 years old.”

Mike Bakker
Former MSU Mascot ‘Sparty’
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Area resident makes a living with rustic art

By Tim Jagielo

On Wednesday, the spring breeze swept through Ed Adams' garage workshop, but it didn’t take the smell of pine, or the sounds of a band saw, or a wood file away as he worked on his latest pieces — a set of end tables.

Adams of Fenton Township turns simple twigs and weed-trees into works of rustic art that belong beside a fireplace in a cabin, and are sold at Fenton Home Furnishings. When finished, his tables made of simple materials will cost $219 each in the store.

Adams was a heavy equipment operator. After retiring, he began making the pieces, and that lead to supplemental income. He was recognized in 1994 in Country Folk Art Magazine, which is no longer published.

Scattered around his home on the lake are

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Kindle Fire winner

TRI-COUNTY TIMES • TIM JAGIELO
Norm Butts, of Linden, won the Kindle Fire from the Tri-County Times’ raffle at this year’s Fenton Community Expo. Expo attendees who filled out a survey were automatically entered to win the popular Kindle Fire.

Q: I have a 2005 Dodge Neon SRT-4. When I am driving, the power will turn off and then back on. The emergency brake and engine light will come on as well as the gauges and the radio will turn off. Sometimes it will just turn the car off. It happens more after I shift out of gear please help me.

A: Doug, This sounds like a loose connection to me. I would start by wiggling the wiring harness’s around while the car is idling and see if you can duplicate the problem. Be careful not to get near any moving or hot parts when doing so! Also, check the battery connections and the ground connection at the block.

Do you have a question that you would like to have answered? E-mail it to me at: askthemechanic@wilkinsonautorepair.com

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES • TIM JAGIELO
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Love on the line

My e-mail program started having problems. “Error occurred” kept appearing on my computer screen... not an encouraging sign since e-mail is my primary means of sending this weekly column to more than 100 newspapers in the United States and Canada.

A quick call to the technical support department of my Internet provider sent me on an international telephone journey to technicians who are supposed to know how to fix problems like mine. Starting with an overseas expert who quickly gave up on my difficulty, I was switched to Canada, Arizona and Texas for additional help. At each of these stopovers, I probed the needs of these helpful pioneers, ending each conversation with: “Remember God loves you!” “God bless you,” said the overseas contact.

“I try to remember that but sometimes forget,” replied the Canadian.

“I’ve made some mistakes in my life,” volunteered the man from Arizona, while letting me know he was interested in what I had to say. I mailed a faith-building book to him. The Texan was cheerful, friendly and most helpful of the four, but non-committal.

My e-mail problems were finally solved by a friend not far from my office with some help from one of my computer-wise grandsons. But I didn’t count my nearly fruitless telephone conversations with those supposed to be in the know wasted. Each of these contacts provided opportunities to share my faith with a person in need.

A sign on a shelf directly across from my desk says, “Blessed are the brief for they shall have lower phone bills,” a good reminder of the cost of calling for one who loves talking to people, but the advent of telemarketing temporarily cooled my enthusiasm for phone calls.

How could these interrupters of my life know when I was eating, enjoying a conversation or involved in the most pressing work of my day? Why didn’t they mind their own business so I could get on with mine? Then, one day, I realized that calling me was their business and my business was to find out about their personal needs so I could help them.

This change of perspective has enabled me to welcome these formerly unwanted calls, seeing each one as an opening to connect with a person who is simply trying to make a living and likely in need of encouragement and faith. Since my change of attitude, I’ve been amazed to discover what a few kind words can accomplish when spoken to a person who has been told off, cursed and hung up on.

Many of these formerly rejected ones have written to me, sharing their problems and asking for guidance in addressing them. How sad to have missed this opening to care!

Our Lord took time to talk to troubled people. Consider His compassion in taking time to talk to the woman at the well of Samaria who came to faith and told her friends about this One who loved her and them (John 4).

The next time your phone rings, consider it the sound of opportunity. Let’s make sure needy ones aren’t turned off by a signal that we’re too busy!

Roger Campbell is an author, a broadcaster and columnist who writes a column for 22 years. He can be reached at rogerc@ameritech.net.
Surefire tips for picking your NCAA brackets

1. **Pick Duke** to reach the Sweet 16—at least. Love ‘em or hate ‘em, the Blue Devils have made the third round of the Tournament 10 years in the last 12 (though they’ve missed two of the last four). Nevertheless, Coach K is a terrific in-game coach, and Duke should have a high seed.

2. **#10 seeds make great sleepers**. Even office pool veterans might find this one surprising—I’m not sure why it doesn’t get the same amount of media hype as the ever-reliable 5-12 upset. 2006 and 2007 were the first times since 1996 that at least one #10 seed didn’t reach the Sweet 16. Kent State and Gonzaga have even made the Elite Eight as a #10 in relatively recent memory, along with everyone’s favorite, Davidson, in 2008.

3. **Free throw percentages matter**. What all of your favorite buzzer-beating highlights from previous tournaments DON’T show is the number of times the losing team has missed one or more free throws prior to the victors’ heroics. Good free throw shooting teams win, the others lose.

4. **Wayne Gretzky’s 2,857 career regular season points**. With scoring being down in the National Hockey League compared to most of Gretzky’s career, it’s hard to fathom anyone catching him. However, it seems the trend in most sports is to increase offense. And, if that ever really takes root in the NHL, then someone might give the record a run one day. Chance of being broke: 1.5 percent.

5. **UCLA’s seven straight NCAA tournament championships**. Under John Wooden, UCLA won every title from 1966 to 1973. Since its March Madness time, I guess we should have a college basketball record listed here. But, honestly, with a change in the basketball landscape I think there’s a small chance this could be broken one day—a very small chance. Chance: 3.33 percent.


**WHO WILL WIN**

National player of the year?

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**23 ANTHONY DAVIS**

Freshman

Anthony Davis was named SEC freshman of the week after averaging 15.5 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks in wins over Georgia and at Florida. His 22-point, 12-rebound performance against Florida was his 14th double-double of the season.

**0 THOMAS ROBINSON**

Junior

No one plays with more grit and effort inside the Big 12 than Robinson. He’s a grinder and a player that continues to get better. Let’s not forget Robinson’s season was the worst year of his life, losing his mother and grandparents within weeks of each other.

**23 DAVON GREEN**

Senior

Possesses strong leadership qualities, one of the best of Tom Izzo’s coaching tenure. His best traits are his versatility and high basketball IQ. Very skilled passer, strong rebounder, very tough player. Enters his senior season 70 rebounds shy of the Michigan State career top 10 rebounding. Averaging 8.6 points and 8.0 rebounds, ranking second on the team boards.

**23 CAL RIPKEN JR.**

One has to admire someone who can break such an impressive streak as Cal’s 2,632 consecutive hits played. 1985 – Brett Favre’s 321 consecutive games played: One has to admire his streak of 321 NFL games played, and his streak of 297 consecutive starts. And he did it at quarterback. The record could be put into jeopardy one day if the NFL seasons extend to 16 games. Chance of being broke: 1.0 percent.

2012 – Cal Ripken’s 2,632 consecutive games played: To break the streak, a player would have to play about 16.5 seasons consecutively. If someone begins their streak today, it’ll be 2028 when he’s breaking Cal’s record. Chance of being broke: 0.5 percent.

1 – Cy Young’s 511 career pitcher wins: There’s a reason why Major League Baseball has an award named after him. Young pitched at the turn of the 19th and 20th century, a time when hurlers could pitch 40 to 50 games a season and win over 30 a season. Chance of being broke: 0.01 percent.
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RUSTIC ART
Continued from Page 1B

a variety of pieces he has made, serving as a functioning portfolio of rustic art — a unique mirror, bookshelf or table, the fireplace mantle and a few picture frames. Most of it is finished with birch and intricate twigs, and a lacquer. His wife Ann paints small country scenes that become a focal point to his work.

His ingredients for various in-home furniture pieces are slender willow trees, twigs of varying thickness, birch bark peeled off from near Mio and pine from a saw mill. “That’s why it’s such a mess in here,” he said, referring to his workshop.

His materials come from unlikely places — Northern Michigan hunting grounds, farmer’s fields, ditches and lumber mills. He collects them in rain, snow and heat and is very picky about what he gathers. “Every piece is different, because you’re dealing with twigs and sticks, and every one of those has their own character,” he said. “I look at it and say, ‘Will that stick fit into that piece?’”

With a laugh, Adams admits he’s taken apart a lot of finished pieces because something did not fit. “It’s like a puzzle,” he said.

Adams compares his work to a painting, a fair comparison considering all it takes to get it right.

To make the set of end tables, he begins with the legs of willow, a tree he describes as a weed that is normally cut down.

A one-inch piece of pine from a sawmill becomes the top. He braces the willow legs with wood to keep them square during construction.

The sides of the table top are finished in birch bark, which he had drying, flattened in a side room. It is glued and nailed down. He trims the top with twigs to tie it together.

The top itself is lacquered in a dark finish and trimmed in split willow. Eventually the bracing is removed and he adds a lower shelf made with more willow branches.

It takes him a day to make the two end tables. It might take him three to make a shelf, and a week to make a dining room table.

The finished, sturdy piece is then clear coated. “It’s not rocket science,” said Adams.

On the other hand, he spent a month learning from an artisan in Alabama more than 20 years ago. He decided to learn all the small tricks after a failed attempt at a three-legged table.

Though Adams said anyone can be taught to build, he does it exceptionally well. He’s good enough to have sworn off of expanding his operation, or doing any more trade shows.

The stores that commission his work keep him busy enough, and that works for him.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
This mirror frame in Adams’ home is a unique piece that he built with gathered wood materials.
iPad 3 coming next week

HD screen, improved camera best features of next-gen tablet

By William Axford
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Just three months after the holiday season, Apple is releasing the next version of its popular tablet. The long awaited iPad 3 will be released March 16 (this coming Friday). Here’s everything you need to know about the device and whether updating your iPad will be worth it.

Clearer Display

Apple is beefing up the iPad’s retina display, which creates clearer fonts and pictures. Apple has the iPad 2 and iPad 3 laid out side-by-side on their website and the new iPad’s clarity is astounding. The new retina display has a 2048-by-1536 resolution with 3 million pixels. By comparison, HDTV has 2.1 million pixels. Overall, the iPad 3 has four times the amount of pixels the iPad 2 does.

Faster connection

According to Apple’s website, the iPad 3 uses 4G LTE, one of the fastest cellular networks in the world. The new iPad comes with two cellular antennas, allowing for more connectivity around the world. The new iPad comes with Apple’s latest chip, the A5X, ensuring the device is just as fluid and smooth as other iPads. The iPad 3 even has the same amount of battery life (10 hours) and comes to life instantly with a single touch.

Users should note however that many cell phone providers have yet to set up a 4G network. Paying extra for faster connectivity features doesn’t necessarily mean they will be utilized from the get go.

Better camera

The new iPad comes with a 5-megapixel camera with more exposure options and better face recognition than previous iPads. Perhaps the biggest upgrade with the camera is HD recording, allowing users to record in full 1080p. The new camera also has a hybrid filter, similar filters used in SLR cameras, allowing for clearer pictures.

Is it worth it?

Apple is asking $499 for the iPad 3 (or new iPad as Apple is calling it). The iPad 2 received a $100 price drop, fetching a $399 price tag through Apple. Despite the numerous improvements, the iPad 3 hasn’t dazzled everyone. Online reviewers say that while the new HD features have created the best picture on a tablet so far and the upgraded camera records incredible videos, the overall features of the new iPad aren’t quite enough to ditch the iPad 2 yet. If you haven’t bought an iPad yet, forking over an extra $100 may be worth it. But for current iPad 2 owners or money conscious consumers, sticking with older models may be the best bet.

Summary

The iPad 3 has several improved features, including HD display. While the upgrades bring the iPad into a new frontier for tablets, it does not make the iPad 2 obsolete. Be sure to review the new iPad’s features before purchasing it.

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Tommy Studt
16-year-old sophomore
Linden High School
My family: parents, Tom and Jennifer Studt and I have three siblings, Gary Tiffany and Gracee.

Keep your chin up and never quit.

What sports and leisure activities do you enjoy?
Bowling.

My dream car is: an Enzo Ferrari.

My dream travel destination is: Hawaii, just to get away.

My all-time favorite movie is: Happy Gilmore, because I like Adam Sandler.

My earliest memory is: when I got my first dirt bike for Christmas, I was 5.

If you could have one superpower, what would it be? Super speed, so I wouldn’t be late for anything.
I always: Try my best.
I never: Quit.

If you could make one rule everyone has to follow, what would it be? No fighting, because I’m not really a big fighter.

Is there an event in your life you would like a ‘do-over’ for? I’d redo my regionals for bowling, we did terrible.

If you had to walk through downtown all day wearing a sign, what would it say? Have a nice day, because that’s what I would want people to do.

What’s an upcoming event you are looking forward to? Graduation, because I’ll finally be done.
Front row seats and backstage passes. Who are you seeing? Metallica, because they’re my favorite heavy metal band.

What was the best day in your life so far? I’d say a day from the summer I spent with my dad.

What are your plans after graduation? I’m going to a small community college like Mott.

How are you preparing for college? Working hard and keeping my grades up.

My all-time favorite movie is: Happy Gilmore, because I like Adam Sandler.

My earliest memory is: when I got my first dir...
How does Kesler Avenue sound?

Poker winner gets road named in his honor

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

Fenton — After several tense, yet fun hours of playing cards, Rob Kesler, of Fenton Township was the last man standing at this year’s Texas Hold ‘em poker tournament. Kesler was the winner of the tournament, taking home the grand prize of $1,000.

and a parent in the Lake Fenton school district, was excited about his big win. He thought long and hard about naming the street for his wife, Lisa, but in the end decided to name a portion of LaRoi Street, Kesler Avenue, in honor of his entire family.

As winner, Kesler also took home the grand prize of $1,000 and an engraved bracelet donated by Medawar Jewelers of Fenton. Tom Bertisch, a member of the FAPSEF board of directors and vice president of commercial banking at The State Bank said they presented Timothy Jalkanen with a check for $10,000 Thursday night. Bertschy would have more details in a few days.

Kesler, a Fenton Township trustee and a parent in the Lake Fenton school district, was excited about his big win. He thought long and hard about naming the street for his wife, Lisa, but in the end decided to name a portion of LaRoi Street, Kesler Avenue, in honor of his entire family.

The Fenton Area Public Schools Education Foundation (FAPSEF) hosted the charity event at the Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grill Thursday evening.

Wearing his lucky poker shirt, Kesler won his way through several rounds of play. Kesler, a Fenton Township trustee and a parent in the Lake Fenton school district, was excited about his big win. He thought long and hard about naming the street for his wife, Lisa, but in the end decided to name a portion of LaRoi Street, Kesler Avenue, in honor of his entire family.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE EXPO WAS wonderful, I enjoyed it so much. Thank you, Ti-County, and thank you to all the other businesses that participated. I had a very personalized experience at each booth I visited, and what better way to encourage shopping local? I look forward to next year’s expo.

I AM APPALLED at the turnout from the City of Linden and Genese County too. Only 19 percent of the registered voters in the City of Linden voted in our primary election. Only 10 percent of registered voters in Genese County voted. This is not right. People should know better.

THE VOTE ON the Democratic ballots in Genese County’s election, out of 9,977, more than 11 percent voted against Obama. I wonder what the court would have been, had they run a qualified candidate.

AS FOR THE person wondering why marijuana is illegal and alcohol is not — I do not smoke marijuana, and I don’t drink alcohol. However, I can offer you this, one word: money. If the government could make as much money off marijuana as they do alcohol, it wouldn’t be a problem.

DEBATING LIVING TOGETHER before marriage? With God’s viewpoint in the discussion, the debate is over. Intimacy outside of wedlock is sin.

MY SHORT time on this earth, I noticed that radio talk shows; whether they lean left or right, only serve to divide and whip up the people into a frenzy. Society should be operated by the principles found in God’s word. Let me draw your attention to Romans 13:1-7, let’s be in there.

ALL OF YOU Christians out there judging people and telling them, how wrong they are for this or that, are worse than the sinners you are criticizing. Why? Because you are making people think that God won’t love them because of the choices they make. God may not endorse their choices, but he does not endorse their criticism toward them either.

WHEN LABOR UNIONS came into existence, no doubt it was for a good cause. But as is the nature of man, good things become corrupted as money becomes involved. Don’t abolish the unions, fix the corruption.

TO THOSE WHO complain about Mr. Gaing (the man who brought the gun into the school during the vote), would you be complaining if you knew him or someone else shot someone who was about to kill your child or loved one? I think not.

FACT IS JESUS was pro-choice! He allowed people the freedom to choose and didn’t force his beliefs onto them. I don’t like the idea of abortion, but it’s not my right to force my beliefs on someone who is OK with it. Christian Democrats focus on issues outside of abortion.

TRY BEING INFORMED instead of just opinedation. It would make the Hot lines more enjoyable.
Obituaries, Funeral Services and Memorials


Norris Cordon Walls, Norris Cordon Walls - age 90, lifelong resident of Davison, died Friday, March 9, 2012. Funeral services will be held at 11 AM Monday, March 12, 2012 at the Davisburg United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Davisburg Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2-8 PM Saturday and Sunday at the Dryer Funeral Home. Mr. Walls was born in Davison on July 16, 1921 the son of Colin and Grace (Wicks) Walls. He worked as a farmer, worked for the Oakland County Road Commission, and then retired from Walls Real Estate. He was an active member of Davisburg United Methodist Church for over 75 years, was a charter member of Davisburg Rotary, and was instrumental in the organizing of Neighbor for Neighbor. After retirement he administered Neighbor for Neighbor, providing food and comfort to hundreds of area families. His life was his sermon. He loved and was loved by all. He was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Pauline. Surviving are his children, Colin (Karen) Swift, and Cathy (Jim) Disbrow; 8 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Neighbor for Neighbor. www.dryerfuneralhome-holly.com.


Roy Stephen Ashley, Roy Stephen Ashley - age 70, of Linden, died Thursday, March 8, 2012 at his residence. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 E. Broad St. Linden, Pastor Donald Neville officiating. Burial in Argentine Cemetery. Visitation will be held at the funeral home Monday from 1-4 and 6-8 PM. Those desiring may make contribution to the charity of your choice. Roy was born June 3, 1941 in Flint, the son of Francis Ashley and Vera Ann (Bukowski) Ashley. He had resided in Linden his entire life. Roy was a self-employed concrete contractor. He was a member of the County Line Tractor Club and was an outdoorsman. Surviving are: 3 sons, Jeffery and wife Mina Ashley of Argentine, Timothy Ashley of Fenton, Scott Ashley of Fenton. 3 step-children, Techia Spears of Howell, Lisa and husband Tim Myers of Troy. NC and Carl Ayliiffe of Plymouth; 9 grandchildren; his former wife, Ann Ruthord of Flint and Jill Ashley of Howell. 3 brothers, Rob- ert and wife Dean Ashley of Simi Valley, CA, Roger and wife Mary Ashley of Linden and Walter J. Ashley of Holly; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and step son, Billy Ayliiffe. Online tributes may be posted on the obituary page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.


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Single Mom’s Banquet

Saturday, March 24, 6-8 P.M.
Dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M.

If you are a Single mom, and currently do not have a church home, you are invited to a FREE banquet in your honor.

If you are not a single mom but would like to invite and attend this event with a single mom, we welcome you to do so. This is a Ladies only event. Childcare is provided along with dinner for your children. Come as you are! Casual Dress!

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吹得动的同事让新娘子感到不安

DEAR AMY: I’m getting married later this year and would like to invite most of my co-workers — with the exception of one. This co-worker consumes way too much alcohol, and her desperate cries for attention are an embarrassment. How do I hand out my invitations without giving her one? I don’t like confrontation and try to avoid it at all costs, but I have to face this one.

— Stressed-out Bride

DEAR BRIDE: Do not hand out your wedding invitations at work. They should be mailed. She will undoubtedly ask if her invitation was lost in the mail. And that’s when you will have to say, “I’m sorry, but you aren’t being invited.” If she is bold enough to ask you why she isn’t being invited, you should tell her, “Your behavior at social events has made me uncomfortable.”

DEAR AMY: Is there a kind and appropriate way to ask a neighbor to turn loud music down without offending him? We think it may be unwise to comment on this in the middle of the night. Do you have any suggestions?

— Stopped Rocking at 10 p.m.

DEAR DEAR: I think you should actually initiate this conversation in the middle of the night, when it is happening. The tone of your comment should be in the neutral, “Dude — can you turn it down? We have to work in the morning” spectrum. If he complies, you should follow up the next day to acknowledge it and thank him for being responsive. If he doesn’t comply, it may be time to raise the volume on the request.

吹得动的同事让新娘子感到不安

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have had headaches since I was 12. I am now 32. I hear people talk about their migraine headaches and wonder if I might have them. What makes a headache a migraine headache? I take aspirin for my headaches. It helps, but not all that much. Are there special medicines for migraines?

ANSWER: Yes, there are special migraine medicines, so it is important to determine if your headaches are true migraine headaches.

Some of the distinguishing attributes of migraines are the following: They begin before age 40. More women have them than men. The headache starts out with minor pain but often progresses to intense and incapacitating pain. The word used to describe it is “throbbing.” Nausea and vomiting frequently accompany it. In a little more than half of migraine patients, the headache is on one side only. Bright lights and nose intensify the pain. Sufferers try to find a dark, quiet room where they can lie down until the headache goes, and that can take four to 72 hours.

Migraine sufferers can identify triggers that bring on their headaches. Stress, missing a meal, too much or too little sleep, menstrual periods, bright lights, certain odors like cigarette smoke or perfume and fatigue are some of the things that start a migraine. Alcohol — beer and red wine in particular — chocolate, some cheeses and cured meats like hot dogs, sausage and bacon are triggers for some.

Aspirin, Tylenol, Midrin and naproxen alleviate mild migraines. Cefergot is a migraine standby. A group of newer drugs are especially good for migraine sufferers. Seven of them are available. Some names are Imitrex, Maxalt and Zomig. Imitrex comes as a nasal spray and as an injection, administered like insulin. Zomig also comes as a nasal spray. This is a godsend for those who become sick to the stomach along with the headache.

Not all migraine headaches produce all the signs and symptoms I mentioned, but if you have more than two of these characteristic symptoms, it’s a good bet that you suffer from migraines.

吹得动的同事让新娘子感到不安

BUFFALO CHICKEN SOUP

In the search bar, type: Buffalo Chicken Soup for full recipe.

BUFFALO CHICKEN SOUP

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup uncooked orzo pasta
- 2 tsp. olive oil
- 1/4 cup yellow onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 medium carrots, peeled, and cut into half moons
- 2 tsp. ranch dressing seasoning mix
- 3 Tbs. fresh cilantro, divided
- 32 ounces chicken stock
- 2/3 cup Frank’s Buffalo Wing Sauce
- 4 ounces cheddar cheese, grated
- 4 ounces Parmesan cheese, grated
- 2 cups cooked chicken, cubed or shredded
- 1/4 cup green onions, chopped and divided
- 1/4 cup blue cheese crumbles

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Holly’s tradition getting stronger

Bronchos have earned six champs in four years

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

When Shawn Scott started wrestling for the Holly varsity wrestling team, he aspired to get his photo on the wall. That would mean he was a state champion. The most current champion on that wall was 1999 champ Justin Torres.

“I saw (the photos) on the wall and I wanted to be that guy,” Scott said. “And now it’s Josh Houldsworth, Jake Hyde and Anthony Gonzales that people look up to. I wanted to be one of those top elite guys in Holly that everyone remembered.”

Scott (215) is now one of those wrestlers. He was one of two Holly grapplers to win a state title at the state wrestling meet recently. The other was Gonzales (145), who is now a two-time state champion.

Mason Cleaver (125) had a chance too, but settled for second. It seems these days there’s always a Holly wrestler threatening for a state championship. But, then again, maybe it seems that way because it’s true. Holly wrestlers have won six state championships in the last four years. And two others were runner ups. It’s quite a change, considering before the recent four-year run, the last champion was Torres before the turn of the century.

But now, Holly had Josh Houldsworth (145) and Jake Hyde (160) win titles in 2009. In 2010, it was Gonzales (112) becoming the first freshman champion in school history and Houldsworth (2010) the first back-to-back state champ in school history. Last year, Scott (171) was a runner-up, but this year the Bronchos returned to the top of the podium with Scott and Gonzales. Indeed, a new tradition has been established.

“The program means everything,” Gonzales said. “It’s all the wrestlers and the coaches work for. All the little kids look up to (the state champions).”

Let’s not forget the Bronchos also made it to the team state tourney for the second season in a row this year. Holly coach Don Pluta understands the tradition the program is creating.

“We have a lot of club kids here,” Pluta said about the crowd at the state meet. “The more success you have at the high school level, the more those kids see it and the more they want to be like Anthony or Shawn. Anthony is a two-time state champ. They want to be two-time state champions.

He might end up becoming a three-time. They want to be what he is. “We really pride ourselves with the condition of our program from the top, down. From the high school level to the middle school level to the club level, we have so much support from the kids and the parents. We want people to be part of that success.”

Lady Eagles’ run ends in Eaton Rapids regional

NO PROBLEM IN SEMIS
Fenton defeats Brandon in district semifinal action.

Area swimmers competing at state meet

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

And the Division 2 State Boys Swimming and Diving Championships took place at Holland Aquatics Center on Friday and Saturday, the event had a pretty strong tri-county contingency at the meet.

The Fenton Tigers had seven participants at the meet, while the Holly Bronchos had one.

The Fenton Tigers competing at the meet were swimmers Adam Ransom, Josh Bryant, David Congdon, Adam Andreski and Brant Cassidy. Fenton divers competing were Rob Brownlee and Taylor Thorpe. Holly’s representative was Aaron Delhaven.

“We are taking seven and it’s certainly the most we have taken (to state) in a very long time,” Fenton coach Brad Jones said. “We are capable of making the second day in the relays. However, it will have to be a perfect relay of four great swims, nothing less.”

Ransom will be busy. He is competing in the 50 freestyle and the 500 freestyle individually and will be competing in the 200 freestyle relay and the 400 freestyle relay as well. None of Fenton’s other swimmers are competing in individual events.

The Tigers’ 200 freestyle relay team probably has the best chance of advancing to Saturday.

Delhaven probably has the best chance of advancing to a second-day swim. He’s seeded 16th in the 110 backstroke and 22nd in the 200 freestyle.
Tigers move on to district final, beat Brandon

Four Fenton player scores in double-figures, leading squad to title contest with Clarkston

By Al Zipsie
dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Swartz Creek — Fenton rolled past Brandon 69-44 Wednesday in the nightcap of the Class A district semifinal.

The Tigers (11-1), the four-time defending Metro League champions, faced Clarkston in the district title game on Friday night. The results of that game can be found elsewhere in this publication.

If Fenton, who has won 18 straight games, is going to win a district title, they had to beat the team who has the longest district championship streak in the history of the state. Clarkston entered Friday’s game with 18 straight district titles.

“We came in and did what we needed to and got the win,” Fenton coach Tim Olszewski said. “We have to play better Friday. We will have to play an excellent fundamentally sound basketball game against a team like Clarkston. If we come out confident and play the way we can, we can prevent Clarkston from winning a 19th in a row (in a District).

“We are a good team, anybody who has watched us knows we play excellent sound fundamental basketball with our tough defense.”

Brandon came out playing scrappy. Charles Rice IV scored nine of his 10 points in the opening quarter, sparking the Blackburns to the early lead. His hoop with four seconds left in the first quarter gave the Blackhawks a 15-11 lead.

Fenton senior Conor Muntin tied the game at 18-all on a layup on an assist from Eric Readman. Readman was in on six of what was an eight-point Fenton run. He followed that hoop with a stop-and-pop jumper in the paint, giving Fenton the lead for good. Fenton led 20-18 with 4:58 left in the second quarter. He also dove the paint for a hoop for another hook. Finally, Dylan Hickoff scored as Fenton led 26-20 at halftime.

The Tigers got some breathing room with a huge third quarter, erupting for 26 points. Fenton outscored the Blackhawks 43-24 in the second half to break the game open. The Tigers had balanced scoring with four players in double-figures, led by Ryan Hickoff with 17 points. Cory Cox added 16 with a team-high 10 rebounds. Dylan Hickoff and Readman added 10 points each. Mitch Shegos came off the bench with seven second-half points. Fenton had seven three-pointers, led by four from Ryan Hickoff. Muntin turned in a solid game with six points and nine rebounds. Quinton Cook led Brandon with 17.

“He is a tough kid and does not get the attention other starters on the team get.”

“He is our vocal leader and directs the show on defense,” Olszewski said. “He is a tough kid and doesn’t get the attention other starters on the team get.”

“We are an athletic team,” Muntin said. “If we come out with the intensity on defense and play our tempo, we know we are one of the best in the state. If we can play the game we can play, we can beat Clarkston.”

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

Eaton Rapids — Like most seasons, the Linden varsity girls basketball team did a little “What if?” thinking on Tuesday night in the Eagles’ regional semifinal game against the Marshall Blackhawks.

They wondered what if a few more layups went in, what if a couple of the turns over runs didn’t happen and what if they were able to rebound a little better. If just one or two of those things happened, the Eagles may have not suffered the 41-32 regional semifinal loss at Eaton Rapids High School.

However, instead of wondering “What if?,” the Eagles probably spent some time remembering what they accomplished as well.

The Eagles (12-11) finished the season with a district title for the second time in three seasons. They also compiled a winning record. In short, they had a lot to feel good about.

“I’m proud of my girls for the season and making it this far,” Linden senior Sabrina Kinney said. “I’m proud of my team because we reached some points that no one thought we’d reach. No one thought we’d be 500. No one thought we’d win districts. So to make it this far, we are better than what
Linden's season ends after loss to Stockbridge

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

Fowlerville — The Linden Eagles had a decent opportunity to win the school's first boys basketball tournament since the 1998 squad won a regional title, but it didn't happen.

The Eagles (10-11) saw the Stockbridge Panthers score the game's first seven points, as Linden never led in a 49-42 semifinal loss at Fowlerville High School Wednesday night.

The Eagles have had their share of tough games in Fowlerville's gym.

The Eagles lost to a winless South Lyon East team in the semifinals of the district at Fowlerville High School in 2009.

“We haven’t played well in this gym since the 1990s, and back then it wasn’t even this gym,” Linden coach Denny Hopkins said. “For some unknown reason they were ready to play. We’d put a run together, get it down to two or four, and then we’d throw the ball away.”

Linden trailed 7-0 after a three-pointer by Stockbridge’s Marcus Friggie with 1:52 left in the opening quarter. The Eagles, finally, scored their first bucket of the game when Kevin Baker hit a driving shot with 1:20 left in the opening quarter. The Eagles trailed 2-0 after one quarter.

In the second quarter, Josh Hoeberling hit a three-pointer on Linden’s first possession, cutting the gap to 7-5. However, the Eagles would never get any closer than that. It was still just a 9-7 lead after a post shot by Dillon Nash, but the Panthers scored the game’s next four points and the Eagles were never within two points in the first half again.

Linden fell behind by as many as 18-10 in the second quarter, before a three-pointer by Shaye Brown cut the gap to 18-13 entering the half.

Linden cut the gap to two points twice in the second half. The second time came at 19:17 after Baker converted a free throw, but Stockbridge went on a 9-0 run after that point, raising the gap to 28-17. After that run ended, the Eagles never got any closer than five points.

The last time Linden was within five points was at 38-33 on two free converted throws by Baker with 3:43 left in the contest. However, Stockbridge’s Devin Allen scored on a putback hoop with 3:22 left and then scored on a fastbreak layup with 3:06 remaining, giving the Panthers a 42-33 lead.

The Eagles’ last gasp came after Brown hit a three-pointer, cutting the gap to 47-40 with 55 seconds left, but Linden was able to score just one more time the rest of the game on a Baker field goal.

“That was probably the worst we’ve played in a long time.” Hopkins said. “We’ve gotten so much better since Christmas and then we turn around and do what we did today. It’s totally frustrating.”

Linden hit on just 15-of-49 shots, while committing 19 turnovers. Stockbridge also turned the ball over 19 times, but shot much better from the field (16-for-37) and also made 15-of-24 free throws, 11 of those conversions coming in the fourth quarter.

Brown had 10 points, eight rebounds and three steals, while Baker had 10 points, three rebounds and three steals. Nash netted eight points.

Kaleb Gramer led Stockbridge with 17 points.

Lake Fenton struggles early, falls to Fowlerville in district semifinal

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

Fowlerville — It wasn’t an easy year for Lake Fenton’s inexperienced boys basketball team.

The squad finished the season at 2-19, but that only cut the deficit to 13-4. And after that, Fowlerville scored the first five points of the last period. The last two came on a fastbreak layup by Tommy Kassab.

“The situation only got worse before it got better for Lake Fenton in the second quarter. What was already a 5-0 run at the end of the first period, turned into a 12-0 run during the start of the second quarter. Even after Zac Zielinski ended the run with two converted free throws with 5:32 left in the first half, Lake Fenton trailed 25-8.

Linden’s Shaye Brown tries to find some space to take a shot during the Eagles’ 49-42 loss against Fowlerville in district semifinal action on Wednesday. Brown scored a team-high 10 points for the Eagles. He also had eight rebounds and four steals.

Lake Fenton had just 25 percent shooting on 15B.

The Blue Devils still dropped a 75-50 contest against Fowlerville in district action.

“Once you get in a hole like that, there isn’t much you can do,” said Lake Fenton’s Darren Welch, who scored a game-high 24 points.

The Blue Devils tried quite a few times to get out of that hole, but once they trailed by double-digits, they never got the deficit out of double-figures.

Lake Fenton’s last two points of the first quarter came on a runner by Chase Hanson, but that only cut the deficit to 13-4. And after
REGIONAL
Continued from Page 12B
down right away, kept fighting and batting. It just shows what they’ve become.”

What the Eagles became was a pretty solid and reasonably resilient squad. The Eagles entered tourney time off of three straight regular season game losses, but rebounded from that run with three wins in districts for a district championship. Included in that streak of wins were two overtime victories against teams with winning records — Stockbridge and South Lyon East.

The Eagles tried to display some of that resiliency again on Tuesday night. Linden hit just four field goals in the first half, and trailed 23-12 at the half against Marshall. The scenario got progressively worse at the start of the third quarter when Marshall reeled off the second half’s first six points. A layup by Marshall’s Laura Vandyke upped the Redhawks’ lead to 29-12 with 5:24 left in the third quarter.

However, the Eagles fought back. Consecutive three-pointers by Kinney, Jordan Sargent and Kinney cut the lead down to 29-21 with 1:51 left in the third quarter. However, that’s when poor rebounding and turnovers hurt Linden. Linden then turned over its last three possessions of the third quarter and allowed four second-chance points after offensive boards by Marshall over the next 1:51, allowing Marshall to take a 34-21 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Eagles made one more run. Trailing 40-25, a fastbreak layup by Kelsey Brecht with 1:52 left allowed the Eagles to go on one more moderate run. They cut the gap to nine on a Kinney trey, but only 36 seconds remained after that hoop.

“We had to stop turning the ball over and needed to box out,” Kinney said. “We are the smallest team. We just have to push back and be tough.”

Kinney led all scorers with 16 points. No other Eagles had more than five points. Jordan Sargent had five points and eight rebounds. Madsin Nosek fouled out with just three points. She did have three steals.

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Holly humbled by state-ranked Clarkston, 73-19

By Al Zipsie

dhoppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Swartz Creek — Clarkston came roaring out of the gates and then slammed the door behind them on Holly.

The Bronchos’ season ended with a 15-6 record after a 73-19 drubbing at the hands of the Wolves Wednesday in the Class A District semifinal. Holly’s boys suffered from cold shooting, and the game got away from them early. The Bronchos had Nic Stoll score the team’s only basket in the first quarter. Clarkston led 19-2 after the opening quarter, and led 32-8 at halftime.

The Wolves erupted for 28 points in one quarter and 23 in the third quarter, and continued the rout time. The Wolves jumped for 28 points in the opening quarter, and led 32-8 at halftime.

Clarkston led 19-2 after the first quarter. Clarkston outscored the half being played with a running clock. Mitch Baenziger led Clarkston with 15 points.

The Bronchos have only 10 points combined. Stoll had six points.

21 points.

The five Bronchos’ seniors had only 10 points combined. Stoll had six points. The prep careers also ended for Jared Plawski, Donovan Williams, Austin Hopkin and Blake Ordway.

Summary

- The Bronchos trailed 19-2 after one quarter and 32-8 at halftime, resulting in the district loss.

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton’s Darian Welch scored a game-high 24 points in the Blue Devils’ 72-50 loss to Fowlerville on Wednesday.

Welch was 11-for-15 from behind the arc.

Lake Fenton coach Matt Furey said, “We missed seven or eight layups in the first half. If we make our puppies and layups, it’s a two-possession game at the half.”

“We weren’t very good at the beginning of the season, and we kept working hard in practice. We kept staying together and toward the end of the season we had some games we could’ve won. We came up just short, but we stayed together and kept working hard.”

Hanson had 10 points for Lake Fenton, while Jeff Burke had six points and four rebounds. Zielinski had five points and two steals.

The Blue Devils did a solid job against Fowlerville post player Brendan Gorske, but other Gladiators stepped up to make up for the lost production. Garrett Brigham

“Perhaps just wasn’t our day,” said a dejected Stoll, who has signed to play at Michigan Tech. “I get to step forward and still play some more basketball.”

“I remember my first year (as a sophomore), how the seniors felt then. I never knew what they were feeling until now when we are in that position.”

Clarkston has a very nice team. They played a great game,” Baylis said. “It just didn’t happen for us tonight, end of story.

There’s no reason to lament on it.

“All I can say is I love my players and am proud of them. The team has integrity, and the seniors are a great group of guys. They will move forward and focus on life, and remember the friendships and relationships they had here.”

After Stoll’s six points, Parker Rowse had five points and Logan Spiker had four points.

Holly returns four juniors, a sophomore and three freshmen with varsity experience next winter.

DISTRICT

Continued from Page 13B
times, resulting in a 37-18 deficit at the intermission.

In the second half, the Blue Devils fought hard to cut into the deficit. Two converted free throws by Hanson cut the gap to 53-36 after three quarters, and early in the quarter the gap was 55-39 after a Zielinski free throw. However, Fowlerville went on a 9-2 run, raising the gap back up to 64-41 with four minutes left in the contest. Lake Fenton never cut the gap under 20 points again.

“We only had five turnovers in the second half and had it a couple of possessions away from making the deficit single-digits,” Lake Fenton coach Matt Furey said.

“But we missed seven or eight layups in the first half. If we make our puppies and layups, it’s a two-possession game at the half.”

“And we needed to get on the line. We did what we had to get to the line, but we weren’t getting the call. We were initiating contact with their defenders, and we weren’t rewarded for it.”

Still, the Blue Devils thought this year was a valuable learning experience. Lake Fenton is a team that should return most of its players next year.

“We learned teamwork,” Welch said. “We stuck together the whole season and never gave up. That should help us for next year.

“We weren’t very good at the beginning of the season, and we kept working hard in practice. We kept staying together and toward the end of the season we had some games we could’ve won. We came up just short, but we stayed together and kept working hard.”

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