Lake Fenton grad, teacher’s aid at Sandy Hook, recalls horrors of shooting spree

Lisa Marlin, two other teachers, hid in closet when gunfire started

Lisa Black Marlin, a 1987 graduate of Lake Fenton High School, survived the shooting massacre last Friday at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn. She began working at the school in 2007 and was a teacher’s assistant.

According to an article at ClickonDetroit.com, Marlin moved to Newtown several years ago and was inside the school when the 20-year-old shooter went on his murderous rampage. She and two other employees hid in a supply closet when the gunfire began.

“I was scared. I was wondering what it would feel like if I were to get shot,” said Marlin in the article. “My two co-workers and I got into a little supply closet and we hugged them close and held our children.”

Frank’s Tavern to be torched

Building to be razed after firefighter training

By William Axford

Fenton Twp. — A long-standing fixture within Fenton Township is set to become the training ground for township firefighters. On Monday, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees unanimously voted to allow the Fenton Township Fire Department to utilize Frank’s Tavern, located at 14331 Eastview Drive, for training.

Township officials plan to raze the structure.
Mixing tracks

Local group of aspiring DJs hold event at Fenton Community & Cultural Center

By Olivia Dimmer

Fenton — Blue and purple lights flash and strobe between clouds of fog and groups of teenagers move to the buzz of the underlying bass. DJs spin records and punch buttons on computers to make fast-paced electronic and dubstep music for the crowd — a moderate sized cluster in the middle of the Fenton Community Cultural Center’s recreation room that was made into a venue for the event last Saturday.

Although the turnout was small, only about 40 teens and young adults, the attendees still danced and cheered to show their support for local music.

“I realized I needed to do a big show before I leave to California in January,” said Roberto Salgado, otherwise known as Bobo Kid. “I’ve always loved scratching records, and I’ve been in a few bands before so I have a musical background. DJing wasn’t that hard for me to pick up.”

Salgado picked up his first instrument when he was 13, and has continued to produce music with the Rap Avenger Music Group, the label he is signed to. He describes his music as a blend of Hip Hop and dubstep with a unique Latin flair. Others that performed at the event were DJ NH, Nate Ostrowski and DJ AA, Anthony Adkisson.

“When I was younger I listened to this song by ATB called ‘Ecstasy.’ The pure beauty of that song inspired me to produce music that expressed feelings I had that couldn’t be described with words,” Ostrowski said. “I fell in love with the music and the energy around it.”

Adkisson, an 18-year-old from Flint, has similar roots in discovering his interest in DJing and music, and takes every opportunity to become a better musician.

He has spent started spinning records around the same time. “We fed off of each other and tried to throw down sicker and filthier sets than the other,” said Adkisson. “We progressively got better. We met different people and collaborated, and went to different shows and observed other artists.”

Both Ostrowski and Adkisson remain unsigned, but are hopeful for their plans of becoming signed artists in the future. Ostrowski said he has been in talks with a few record labels. Until then, the DJs hope to keep creating events and shows to engage the youth in the local area. Along with giving kids something constructive to do on Saturday nights, these artists hope to spread their music everywhere.

“I want to tour the world one day,” Adkisson said. “If you listen to electronic dance music you would know why this genre of music speaks to me. I mean, when the drop of a song gives you the chills, you know it was meant for you.”

“My goal is to tour the world one day. If you listen to electronic dance music, you would know why this genre of music speaks to me. I mean, when the drop of a song gives you the chills, you know it was meant for you.” — Anthony Adkisson
Retailers battle food waste

Controlling inventory, distributing to charitable organizations part of solution

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6705

Fenton — At 7:30 on a brisk Tuesday morning, Ed Hyypio of Fenton pulled up to the receiving area of VGs on Silver Parkway in his pickup truck. Waiting for him outside the loading dock was a cart full of baked goods; doughnuts, cakes and muffins. He’ll take them to different church organizations, like the White Lake Presbyterian Church.

This is day-old baked goods that would otherwise be thrown away. Hyypio is the second person that morning to take baked items away for a worthy cause, said receiving manager Kathy Boyer. The first group took a cart at 6:30 a.m. “They take it seven days a week,” she said during her morning coffee break.

According to the National Resources
See FOOD WASTE on 8

Keep your foods fresh

Extend the life of your groceries by following these tips

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

If it seems like you’re throwing money down the drain every time you go to the grocery store, you may be right. Americans throw out approximately 14 percent of their groceries due to spoilage, according to Money magazine, adding to the already high cost of feeding a family. Knowing how to preserve and store your perishable foods can reverse that trend. Here are a few foods that typically go to waste, and how to preserve their “shelf life.”

Herbs

Herbs are some of the most expensive and perishable items you toss into your grocery basket. Since you usually need them only for one dish you’re prepping, there’s a lot of extra that you don’t often know what to do with.

The best way to keep herbs fresh is to stand them upright in the refrigerator in a glass of water and loosely place a zip lock bag over the leaves — extending their shelf life for at a week or two. For longer storage, seal them in zip lock bags and place them in the freezer — that will keep them at peak freshness for up to a month, more than twice as long as they’d last in the refrigerator. When you’re

See FRESH on 7

Food waste percentages

33 percent of meat,
25 percent of seafood,
20 percent of vegetable,
18 percent of grain,
17 percent of dairy,
15 percent of fruits are wasted annually in the U.S. according to the Resources Defense Council.
Explaining Evil

Trying to explain an evil act like the one that killed 20 children and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., is on a par with explaining how the universe was formed. The natural human reaction after extending sympathy and prayers for the victims and their families is to ask what actions might have been taken to prevent the massacre. More gun laws? Connecticut already has some of the strictest gun laws in the nation. Those laws did not prevent a man with evil intent from carrying out his heinous act. Some will blame TV and video game violence. Depictions of murder and other violent acts on TV and in the movies have grown in recent years, but people killed people long before TV and movies. Such explanations are too easy.

Would armed guards at Sandy Hook have helped? Possibly, but do we want guards at every elementary school, patrolling not only the halls, but playgrounds where kids ought to be able to play in an atmosphere of fun and freedom? That may be where we are headed.

What about locked doors? Sandy Hook’s doors were reportedly secured, but the shooter still managed somehow to gain entry.

Political leaders not usually identified with spiritual concepts are making use of the word ‘evil’ in accurately describing what happened in Newtown. We hear calls for prayers from politicians committed to the separation of church and state. Yet evil seems to have gained a foothold in America.

The way to deal with evil is to first acknowledge that it exists and that we all possess the potential for it. There may be no greater expression of evil than the murder of children in their classrooms. In calling for prayers, officials have taken an important first step in combating evil, but a larger question should be asked. If there is a source of evil, is there also a source of good? And if there is, has that source for good been offended by all of the accumulated evil we are piling up, affording it an upper hand? As a friend of mine says, ‘Not a sermon, just a thought.’

Cal Thomas
Nationally syndicated

A ‘right to’ words that work

Words have power. If anyone wonders whether conservatives have taken the lead in effective political catch phrases, the term ‘right-to-work’ should remove all doubt.

The phrase has popped up a lot in the news lately after Gov. Rick Snyder signed a bill that made Michigan the 24th state to enact ‘right-to-work’ legislation. Since 1949, labor unions hotly opposed such legislation, many people wonder, why do we call them ‘right-to-work’ laws?

The simplest answer: They mainly forbid unions from requiring workers to pay union dues, even in a union shop. But the biggest impact of such laws always has been in their power to weaken the effectiveness of strikes, the most powerful leverage that unions have. Unfortunately, for the labor movement, victories have gotten fewer and farther between these days. The very benefits that unions brought have led to the undoing of unions. Unions helped to raise working-class wages, benefits, work rules and the living standards that became the envy of the world. But rising global competition, among other recent decades has caused industry to move overseas — taking those good-paying jobs to where the cost of labor is a lot cheaper.

That’s why Michigan’s Republicans, including Gov. Snyder, pushed to join Indiana and other states, mostly in the South, to improve their ability to attract industry. For now, the victory for ‘right-to-work’ laws in Michigan suggests that labor unions are losing the war of words and images.

Today’s labor movement faces a public relations challenge. Like many other Americans, I appreciate what unions have done to raise wages and standards for all American workers, whether they belonged to unions or not. Unions brought us ‘the weekend,’ their ads point out, and indeed, they did among many other fine benefits that we mostly take for granted today.

But as the income gap widens between those Americans by Enya. Sounds like an epic war scene in a movie.”

What is your favorite Christmas Song?

Compiled by Olivia Dismorr, intern

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WEAPONS

Continued from Front Page

earlier this month. However, in light of the mass shooting in Newtown, Conn., Snyder vetoed the bill without much consideration before eventually vetoing the bill.

Part of the bill would have allowed private entities to prohibit concealed weapons on their property. However, since schools are a public location and are not owned by private entities, they would not have been able to prohibit concealed weapons. This provision was ultimately why Gov. Snyder vetoed the bill.

“Some say that if we had weapons in schools, the massacre could have stalled,” Graves said. “Go back to the scene in Colorado and 9/11, there were no weapons to stop the madmen. People who get madmen. People who get their concealed weapons licenses are not killing people.”

Joseph Graves (R – Argentine) voted in favor of the bill, although he did admit it was not perfect.

Graves noted that an additional eight hours of training would have been required for concealed firearm users wishing to enter schools and other public places.

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In February, Fenton Township resident Joe Caringi entered Lake Fenton High School with an exposed firearm, Caringi was within his legal right to do so as Michigan Penal Code Act 328 does not list schools as a location prohibiting open firearms.

“We must vigilant protect the right of law-abiding firearm owners, also we must ensure the right of designers public-entitites to exercise their best matters in defects of safety and security,” Snyder said in a press release. “These public venues need clear legal authority to ban firearms on their premises if they see fit to do so.”

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Joseph Graves State Rep. 51st dist (R-Argentine Township)

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Some say that if we had weapons in schools, the massacre could have stalled. Go back to the scene in Colorado and 9/11, there were no weapons to stop the madmen. People who get their concealed weapons licenses are not killing people.

In the same article mentioned above, Lake Fenton High School Principal Todd Reynolds said police were dispatched to the school and found Caringi was in compliance with the law.

Gun control has become a national debate in the wake of the school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., where 20 children and six adult staff members were fatally shot.

Those who oppose the bill say concealed weapons users have never stopped a school massacre and that their guns in schools increases the possibility of mass shootings and deaths. Pro-gun advocates say that areas that prohibit guns are ‘criminal enterprise zones’ and restrict a person’s ability to defend themselves.

In the past, we’ve been turning down (training locations) but we get so little fires, we need the training,” Volz said to the board. “There will be some things we need to do to make it burnable.”

Asbestos and adjoining power lines would have to be addressed before the fire department could use Frank’s Tavern as a training spot, Volz said.

Township officials also voted to rezone the property from commercial to residential.

TAVERN

Continued from Front Page

once it becomes unsuitable for training.

Township officials view the former shop on Sunday. “I am glad acts, such as these that restore my faith in humanity,” I will pay it forward — an Appreciative Police Officer.

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If we all make little changes in our daily living, we collectively can make big changes in our environment.

Turn off the water while brushing your teeth. The average American wastes 8 gallons of water while brushing their teeth with the water running.

Unplug the charger. Appliances use electricity even if they’re still plugged in — up to 40 percent of their full running power, in a year, that can add up to 190 pounds in greenhouse gases and about $70 extra on your electricity bill. You can use one power strip to plug in things that can be turned off, like phone chargers, that way you can turn them all off at once.

Cut down on plastic bags. Instead of taking new plastic bags every time you leave a store, put your purchases in a reusable bag or re-use the ones you already have.

Drive smarter. Don’t add extra weight, don’t speed, don’t drive aggressively and don’t overlap your air conditioner, all of which decrease fuel economy. Also, check the air pressure in your tires regularly. Poor air pressure can reduce your gas mileage.

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Court hearings by video
When I first started out as a lawyer in 1976, the idea of using technology in the practice of law or in the courtroom was for the most part simply that — an ‘idea’ which may have been on somebody’s wish list for the future but not something that would be used for the foreseeable future.

When we fast forward to 2012, I can only say that the use of technology today is an accepted fact and the ways that we use it in the court and legal system are almost too numerous to mention. Of course, computers and programs now play a large part in all of this and such things as computer recordkeeping, research, video computer recording of court proceedings and much, much more are now the norm.

The Michigan Supreme Court has consistently implemented rules allowing and promoting the use of technology and the latest example of this is a new Administrative Order effective Jan. 1, 2013.

In the new Order, the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) is authorized, until the further order of the Supreme Court, to approve the use of two-way interactive video technology in the trial courts to allow judicial officers to preside remotely in any proceeding that may be conducted by two-way interactive technology or communication equipment without the consent of the parties under Michigan Court Rules and Statutes.

The SCAO must approve any such arrangements and they are limited to the following situations:
- judicial assignments;
- circuits and districts that are comprised of more than one county and the judicial officer to travel to a different courthouse within the circuit or district;
- district court districts that have multiple court locations in which a judicial officer would have to travel to a different courthouse within the district.
- a multiple district plan in which a district court magistrate would have to travel to a different district.

Also the judge or magistrate must physically be present in a courthouse in his or her jurisdiction.

To say the least it will be interesting to see how this all works but unquestionably the use of technology, such as this is the wave of the future.
HALF LINE CONTINUED
FENTON SCHOOLS, MAYBE after this horrible tragedy you could get some decent security measures in place. Anyone can walk right into the middle school without being seen and do you really think people entering elementary schools are ‘going to check in at the office if they have an agenda?’

YOU KNOW THIS is a good place to live in because of how trivial the Hot line complaints are. Boo hoo, the government takes taxes out of my lottery winnings! Waah, the school concert didn’t play exclusively Christmas songs!

I WANT TO thank the woman who bought my lunch at the Chinese restaurant. I was totally surprised! I had to ask the server twice to be sure. It is a hard time for me right now and I truly appreciate your gift. I will pass it forward. Thank you!

CANT BELIEVE THE audacity of some people. My daughter and her family were eating breakfast at a local restaurant this morning and some woman walked by who recognized her daughter and remarked about my baby granddaughter; ‘Look at that baby with the big ears! What kind of person says that?’

LOCAL TEACHER Continued from Front Page
heard pops that we knew were shots. We prayed with all of our might. We named every single teacher we could think of and the students.

Marlin told Local 4 she could hear horrific screams over the intercom and loud voices telling the kids to get out of the classrooms. “We were wondering if that was a policeman or the shooter trying to get us to come out,” said Marlin.

She also remembers hearing the custodian running down the hall talking with 911 telling them it was still happening. Then she said she heard loud sounds coming closer and closer to where Marlin was hiding, but thankfully, it was police. “I felt safe because police were in the building,” said Marlin.

Quickly after the feeling of relief, came remorse, as Marlin learned about the victims and friends she lost at the hands of Adam Lanza. “For a half hour every day, I worked in the lunchroom with those first-graders and I know 15 of them very well,” said Marlin. “I’d tell them to sit on their bottoms and I’d give them forks and I’d hear about their playdates.”

Marlin said she will cherish those memories forever. “I’m sad for their parents. They were all wonderful, wonderful kids. They didn’t deserve this.”

“I was scared. I was wondering what it would feel like if I were to get shot. My two co-workers and I got into a little supply closet and we heard pops that we knew were shots. We prayed with all of our might.”

Lisa Marlin
Lake Fenton grad and aid at
Sandy Hook Elementary

FRESH
Continued from Page 3
ready to use them, just take out the portion you need and chop it while frozen. The herbs will defrost as soon as you add them to a hot pan.

Vegetables
• Lettuce should be washed immediately after you get home from the grocery store, then pat the leaves dry with paper towels. Place in a zip lock bag in the refrigerator crisper drawer. Add some air to the bag to make a ‘cushion’ for the lettuce. Don’t cut lettuce with a metal knife, as it will begin to wilt more quickly.
• Celery should be wrapped in aluminum foil before refrigerating it and will keep for a month.
• Cucumbers can be wrapped in paper towels and stored in the refrigerator’s vegetable crisper.
• Many fresh vegetables, for example, carrots, celery and broccoli, can be re-crisp by soaking them in ice water for at least a half hour. The ice water penetrates their cells and helps restore their crunch.
• Potatoes and onions need to be stored in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area — not rubber-wild until they have been cut open. One onion storage method is to use the legs of old pantyhose and tie a knot above each stored onion, hanging them in a cool, dry place. Cut the knot above the onion when it’s time to use the onion in your kitchen.
• Tomatoes should be placed in a paper bag, stem side up and keep cool and dry away from direct sunlight. They will keep for up to three days in the bag. Sliced tomatoes should be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator and used within 24 hours.

Fruit
• Citrus fruits can be stored at room temperature for several days. For best results, store citrus in the crisper drawer of your refrigerator. Fresh-squeezed juice, grated peel or zest may be frozen to provide citrus flavor to recipes as needed.
• Strawberries are best enjoyed the day you pick them, but if you’ve got a large quantity of delicate berries, line a plastic container with paper towel and place a single layer of berries on it. Don’t wash or remove the stems until you’re ready to use. You may even store them up to 10 days before using them.

DID YOU KNOW?
...the only food that doesn’t spoil is honey. The sugar in honey is a preservative, and honey is also acidic, which helps to keep out bacteria. All honey will crystallize at some point, but don’t toss it out. With a little gentle warming, you can make the honey clear again. Try microwaving it on medium heat for 30 seconds at a time.

Thank you Fenton area for shopping, donating and supporting our mission this year.

www.tctimes.com
Detroit women nabbed for retail fraud

- Store chain had been on lookout for suspects

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

Fenton police arrested two Detroit residents for retail fraud on Dec. 14. Police Chief Rick Aro said officers were dispatched to the Target store on Owen Road after receiving a call from security that retail fraud was in progress at 7 p.m.

Responding police officers learned that the chain of stores had been on the lookout for two females from Detroit who were allegedly walking out of stores with merchandise that they had not paid for. Aro said in similar incidents, the women would load up carts with store merchandise and push them past the checkout and out of the stores.

Based on the description provided by security, the officers spotted two black females loading merchandise into a gold Chevy Impala. The officers confronted the women, who were unable to produce any type of receipt.

The women, one 19, the other 24, were arrested for retail fraud and transported to the police station for processing. The women admitted to stealing the merchandise to sell for profit in order to pay their bills. One woman had $627 worth of merchandise in her cart while the other had $647 worth of merchandise.

After being lodged overnight, the women were released the next day pending warrant authorization.

Summary
- Two Detroit women were arrested after walking out of a Fenton department store with hundreds of dollars worth of stolen merchandise.

POLICE & FIRE
Continued from Page 7
DIAMOND WEDDING RING STOLEN
On Dec. 15, a 34-year-old Ortonville woman reported to Fenton police that her 14-carat diamond wedding ring had been stolen. Police Chief Rick Aro said the woman is a manager at a local fast-food restaurant on Owen Road. On Dec. 3, she worked from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. During that time, she stored her ring inside her wallet, which she kept in her purse. The purse was in the woman’s office. That afternoon, she walked into her office and saw a female employee holding her wallet. The employee claimed she was looking for an ink pen. Later that evening, the woman realized that her ring was missing. The employee quit two days after the ring went missing. Detectives are attempting to locate the former employee/suspect.

HUNDREDS OF CASES OF BEER STOLEN
At 6:35 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 14, Fenton police responded to a discount department store on Owen Road after store security reported that a significant amount of beer had been stolen. Police Chief Rick Aro said store security learned that a white male had walked off with more than 200 cases of Bud and Bud Light on multiple occasions since November. The cases were worth more than $3,000. Police are attempting to identify the male suspect using the store’s security surveillance videos. Aro said there might be a second suspect involved.

TEQUILA THIEF POSSIBLY IDENTIFIED
Fenton police have received a good tip on the woman caught on camera concealing a bottle of tequila in her purse while at a grocery store on Silver Parkway on Dec. 7. The woman entered the store with an unknown man. Store security reviewed surveillance videos after noticing that three bottles of tequila were missing. The Times ran a photo of the woman in the Wednesday, Dec. 12 edition. Fenton detectives are following up on that investigation.

Large grocery chains take great effort to control “shrink,” the theft or spoilage of food, to control costs. Some retailers donate meat items before it spoils. "The key to most of it is our ordering, being tight on inventories," she said. Kendrick looks at totals from the previous month and year, to anticipate ordering the right amount of items. She tweaks displays to not have too much at once to go bad. Everything that is lost is scanned and accounted for, because to grocery stores, waste is lost money. In her career, this careful electronic control has been in practice only a few years.

Rudy Yousses, manager of the Big Boy in Fenton is always fighting food waste. “We try to control what we’re wasting,” she said. “It’s a lot of money.” She also chose not to include how much food is wasted at the restaurant. “It’s just part of the business, you just gotta suck it up,” she said.

Her ordering habits are based on what is wasted per year. Mistakes made by staff, and customers sending plates back also contribute to waste, aside from food just being expired.

Like VG’s, her restaurant uses careful portion control, using only what can be served quickly. The buffet only slices produce and meat as it needs to. “We portion things singly as much as possible.” According to the National Restaurant Association, the cost of food and non-holdables in Genesee County are a percent of the budget of restaurants annually.

Kara Ross of the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan said that the food bank, along with national partner Feeding America, has developed relationships with major retailers like Walmart, Kroger, Meijer and Target to receive soon-to-expire meat. “They’ve identified that it’s better to donate it to the community than trash it,” she said.

Last year, three million pounds of meat was frozen a couple days before the sell-by date, and given to Feeding America, through a controlled supply chain to keep the product safe to eat. She expects 3.4 million pounds to be gathered through the “Retail Store Pick-Up Program” in 2012. A food pantry or soup kitchen would buy the food, which Ross said averages 99 cents per pound, though milk, dairy and produce is free. Her food bank serves 300,000 people annually in 22 Michigan counties. She said 19 percent of households in Genesee County are food insecure, meaning they may not know where the next meal is coming from.

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Happy Holidays to all the Spirits and Angels that are no longer physically with us.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES / FILE PHOTO
Students and teachers give time and donations to help others during the holiday seasons

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

Santa Claus better keep an eye on tri-county area schools — if he isn’t careful, they may put him out of business. This year, many lives will be happier and brighter thanks to the actions of the many generous students, teachers, and other staff members of local schools.

Linden schools have outdone themselves this year, raising more food for the Christmas Express than they have ever collected before.

“We involve every school in the school district in the food drive,” said Becky Stockero, a Linden High school teacher. “For example, the high school collects cans, the middle school collects peanut butter and jelly, and the elementary school collects primarily box food.”

According to Stockero, the high school alone collected close to 4,200 cans and boxes of food.

Tyler Collett, a Linden High School student, volunteered to help gather and transport the food collected by the many schools. “They said they needed help, so I was more than willing to,” he said. Collett was not too surprised by the giving nature of his fellow classmates. “I know that everyone was willing to help, and it was all a group effort,” he said. “Everyone put in a good effort, and there was a lot of food collected. I was really impressed.”

Stockero said that her students are generous. In addition to the food drive, the school donated blood at a blood drive on Tuesday. “Our kids not only give cans, they give of themselves too,” she said. At Fenton High School, students and staff alike throughout the entire building helped donate to three different causes — a Thanksgiving food drive, the Angel Tree program to provide Christmas gifts for those in need, and a holiday food drive coordinated with the Fenton Kiwanis club.

“It was spectacular. Quite a few more kids were sponsored this year throughout the Fenton community,” said Fenton High School Councilor Michelle Pietraszkiewicz.

At Lake Fenton Community Schools, third-grade teacher Patti Sabourin arranged a unique gift exchange for her class. Rather than buying gifts for one another, the class brought in dog and cat food, pet toys, and other items needed by the Humane Society. The class then visited and took the gifts to the Humane Society themselves.

Holly Middle School has also been keeping busy, according to Principal Linda Skrzynski. The eighth-grade class began a drive to collect clothing for needy families. Tracey Pinch, a teacher at the school, also helped to organize a ‘penny war’ with the students to raise money for Hurricane Sandy relief. Middle school students competed against each other to raise money and compete for a prize — a movie day for the winning class, as well as the chance to throw a pie at Pinch’s face.

The school plans to end the last day of school of 2012 with a holiday concert, sending students home with music in their mind. “It’s a pleasant way to end the day,” Skrzynski said.

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Make your own ornaments

Personalized works of art show creative side of anyone.

Holiday decorating is a big part of the holiday season. Storage bins are taken out of the attic or garage, and decorations are once again given their opportunity to shine for several weeks before being packed away again.

Among the many decorations families use to deck the halls are ornaments that were made by hand and from the heart. This year creating homemade ornaments can be a crafty project that helps families make new holiday memories.

Christmas tree ornaments come in all shapes and sizes and often tell the stories of holiday traditions. There are several different ways to create personalized, do-it-yourself ornaments and leave the cheap, easily broken ornaments from the dollar stores behind.

Photo ornaments

In a photo ornament case, you can create a family photo that can be changed and grown over the years. Experiment with different ways to create these ornaments.

You can glue a photo to a ceramic ornament and cover it with decoupage glue to set it permanently. Try purchasing clear, glass ornaments and then remove the top of the ornament, which is usually spring-loaded, before slipping a photo inside and replacing the top.

You can also laminate a photo, punch a hole in the top and affix a ribbon.

Ceramic ornaments

The popularity of paint-it-yourself pottery has led to an increase in ceramic and canvas shops across the country. During the holiday season, these shops offer many holiday items that can be painted. Often the store will then fire the pieces after they are painted so that they are shiny and hand-painted for display.

Crafty people who want to do their painting at home can visit their local craft or hobby shop, where typically there are unfinished ceramic ornaments that can be painted with acrylic paints found right in the next aisle. A finishing coat of clear glaze will help protect the ornaments from year to year.

Wood crafts

Many of today’s craft centers have expanded to include services devoted to unfinished wood items. Everything from letters to animal cutouts to boxes and rocking horses can be purchased and finished. Turn keepsake boxes into painted and ribbon-adorned gift boxes. Stamp a treasured charm that can be used to store and display for Santa’s crew. Turn small decorative pieces into ornaments for the tree. Paint and affix wood initials onto stocking holders to identify to whom each stocking belongs. Creative individuals can also create plain wood plaques into signs with clever sayings, such as “Park your sleigh here.”

Scarf gone around the house

Young children can use any medium for making ornaments. Garlands made of macaroni or popcorn are traditional. Fabric scraps can be sewn and stuffed with popcorn for handmade scent sachets. Hand-drawn pictures can be made, laminated and hung on the tree.

Only obstacle with regard to DIY ornaments is a limited imagination. Homemade items can add whimsy and a personal touch to the holiday season.

Summary

Why not try making your own one-of-a-kind ornament to hang on your own Christmas tree or to give as a gift.

Holly Presbyterian Church
Rev. Sharlyn Gates, Pastor
207 E. Maple, Holly
2439 S. Long Lake Rd.
Fenton, MI 48430
810-629-8761
www.trinitylcmsfenton.com

Cherished friends and families,

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CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
The children’s Christmas program will be at both 9:00am & 10:30am Worship Services on December 23rd

St. Rita Parish of Holly
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• New Year’s Eve Communion Service December 31 at 7:00PM

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Sunday, December 16th
Church School - 9:00am
Sunday , December 23rd
Church School - 9:00am

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
Clean carpets now to put best holiday foot forward

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

With Christmas less than two weeks away, there’s still time to get your home in tip-top shape for holiday entertaining — starting with your carpeted floors.

When your carpeting is beyond the point of a do-it-yourself steam cleaner, it pays to know the “ins and outs” of professional carpet cleaning. There are lots of choices to make and your satisfaction at the end of the project will depend upon the informed decisions you make about when to clean and what your options are.

Stain removal

Whether a stain reappears on your carpet after a cleaning depends mostly on how well you got the original spot out in the first place. Greg Quinn, owner of Fenton Carpet Cleaning, suggests that you follow your carpet manufacturer’s instructions about stain removal, and what method of professional cleaning is advised for your particular flooring. “Then use the services of a certified professional using the method suggested by the manufacturer,” said Quinn.

If you’re not sure about the carpet manufacturer, Quinn suggests you look up the website of a major carpet manufacturer like Shaw, Mohawk or Stainmaster. “They’ll offer the best advice in the industry,” he said.

In addition to following those instructions, he advises homeowners never to scrub a stain, always blot it out. Otherwise you risk compromising the life of your carpet, because you may damage carpet fibers by scrubbing. “Use a white towel to see if you’re getting transfer from the stain to the towel to know if the stain removal process is working,” he added. “Once you clean the area, you may want to use a hair dryer to make sure the area is thoroughly dry.”

When a carpet cleaning technician comes to your home, the first thing he will want to know is whether you have used anything to try to remove a particular spot. Then he will either treat the spot by counteracting the pH with a pre-spotter if needed, or the stained area will be cleaned along with the rest of the carpet.

Will the stains “come back” after the carpet has been professionally cleaned? If moisture from the stain has gone into the padding then pulled up (“wicking”) into the carpet, that can cause the stain to resurface on the carpet. That’s why it is so important to address a stain as soon as it happens and follow a professional’s stain removal instructions.

Summary

There’s still time to get your carpets cleaned for the holidays. Here’s what you should know so you will be most satisfied with the work completed.

CARPET CLEANING METHODS

HOT WATER EXTRACTION OR “STEAM” CLEANING

In this method, hot water cleaning solution is sprayed on the carpet and immediately extracted, along with the dissolved soil, by a wet vacuum. Extraction equipment can be portable or truck-mounted, the latter being more powerful in terms of spray pressure, heating capabilities and power of the vacuum pumps. While referred to as “steam” cleaning, the temperature of the heated solution never reaches the point of generating steam.

SHAMPOOING

The cleaning solution is showered onto the carpet through several openings in a circular brush. The rotary action of the brush whips the detergent into foam and provides agitation or rubbing action on the carpet. This suspends the soil, and the wet/dry vacuuming that follows removes it.

FOAM CLEANING

This system uses detergent in the form of foam. A machine generates the foam, which is agitated on the carpet by brushes. The foam is then removed, with trapped soil, by an extraction-vacuum pickup.

DRY (ABSORBENT COMPOUND) CLEANING

An absorbent dry compound containing solvents and detergents is sprinkled on the carpet and worked into the pile by a machine. It is vacuumed off after about a half-hour, removing the soil suspended by the compound.

Questions to ask your professional carpet cleaner

- What method does your company use and what services are included? Is stain removal extra?
- How do they treat spots and stains?
- Are their technicians certified?
- Are they insured?
- Do you have to pay more for evening/weekend cleanings?
- Are you responsible for moving furniture or are they? Will they help you move it back?
- How will this company respond if you are not satisfied with a particular cleaning job?

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Greg Quinn, Owner of Fenton Carpet Cleaning

Removing wine stains

Blot as much of the spill as possible. Vacuum up any dry particles. Mix 1/4 teaspoon mild liquid dish soap with one cup warm water. Pretreat the cleaning solution on an inconspicuous spot of carpet to ensure it does not discolor or damage the carpet. Apply solution first to cloth and use cloth to apply to carpet. Work from the outside of the stain. Allow the cleaning solution to remain on the spill for at least five minutes. Blot with a clean white cloth until no more stain transfers to the cloth. Do not rub the stain. Rinse with cold water. Be sure all cleaning solution is removed from carpet. If needed, repeat the process until either the stain is removed or the stain no longer transfers to the cloth. If the stain remains, try 2 tablespoons white vinegar with 4 cups warm water. If the stain persists contact a professional cleaner. Once the stain is removed, place layers of white paper towel on the spot to absorb any moisture. Weight down the towels with a non-staining glass or ceramic object. When the carpet is dry, vacuum to restore the texture.

Source: Stainmaster.com
Lady Bronchos post historical win vs. Clio, 38-30

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

Holly — Don’t ask any of the Holly varsity girls basketball team players or coach David Hall when the last time the Bronchos defeated the Clio Mustangs in a contest was. The best answer you would get is that it hasn’t happened since Clio joined the Metro League. Well, at least that was the case until Monday night.

The Bronchos’ tough halfcourt defense kept Clio’s many offensive weapons in check all night long, and Holly earned assists on 12 of their 14 field goals, resulting in an impressive 38-30 victory in a battle of Metro league undefeateds at Holly High School Monday night.

The win puts Holly (5-0, 6-1) in sole possession of first place in the Metro, and makes them only one of two undefeated teams remaining in the Metro League after Monday’s play. Linden, who hosted Kearsley on Tuesday and is Holly’s Friday night opponent, was 3-0 on Monday.

The team was thrilled with their history-making victory.

“The win is huge,” said senior Delaney Serra, who had four points, three assists and three rebounds. “It’s huge and it’s so exciting. Last year we were so close (to winning the Metro League), and this year the four of us that are returning want it so bad. We knew that feeling of losing it, and we don’t want to that feeling this year.”

“This game means everything. We’ve been working our butts off to get to this point,” said senior Abby Lewandowski, who had 10 second-half points. “We’ve been working our butts off.”

Holly’s Alyssa Copley takes a shot during the Bronchos’ 38-30 victory against the Clio Mustangs on Monday.

Metro League standings

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Holly’s Alyssa Copley takes a shot during the Bronchos’ 38-30 victory against the Clio Mustangs on Monday.
Bronchos capture third straight road victory, defeat Clio Mustangs 62-50

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

After losing its first two games, the Holly varsity boys basketball team is starting to put things together.

Holly captured its third straight road victory, defeating the Clio Mustangs 62-50 on Monday night. The win puts Holly at 3-2 in the Metro League, and feeling better about their contests before the winter break.

“We are flying under the radar and just winning,” Holly coach Lance Baylis said. “We started 0-2, and have won three straight on the road by an average of 15 points.”

“We don’t have a superstar. We have 13 players, and all 13 players have played all five games,” Check that. The Bronchos may have a superstar in the making. For the second time in five games, freshman Kyle Woodruff scored over 20 points. This time he started, netted four three-pointers and had a game-high 22 points.

“He got hot tonight,” Baylis said. “He had 22 points opening night and was not on his shot again until tonight. We started him last night to help jump start him, and it worked. He hit his first mid-range jumper and remained hot.”

Others that Baylis credited for the victory included Justis Kerner, Michael Alexander and Morgan Baylis, all for different reasons. Kerner provided 10 assists or illness. Still, those who went did well. Cliff Coleman (285) went 3-1 with another two wrestlers post winning records, but not place. Cody Sanders (152) went 3-2 and earned first-period pinfall wins in his first two matches en route to a fourth-place finish. Meanwhile, D.J. Melton also had two pinfall wins in his first two matches and placed fourth. Chase Hull (189) went 4-1 with three pinfall wins and placed fifth. Andy Donoho (171) took fifth with a 3-1 mark. Jared Corcoran (119) went 3-1 and Keinan Hagensen (140) went 2-1, but neither placed.

Linden used the opportunity to get some of their younger wrestlers into the lineup due to injuries or illness. Still, those who went did well. Cliff Coleman (285) went 3-1 with two pinfall victories and placed fifth. Luke Zimmerman (103) had a pinfall win as well and placed sixth. Zach Shaw (119) and Dylan Musall (125) also had winning records, but didn’t place.

“This was a great opportunity to get mat time,” Linden coach Todd Skinner said. “Almost every wrestler we sent to the county meet got a win. With as young as we are, I’m very pleased with how hard these young men are working. Hopefully, we can heal up and get ready for the Metro matches after the Christmas break.”

Fenton had one placer. Norm Golden (103) earned two pinfall wins and took fourth. Scott Becker (215) and Justin Hill (171) also finished the meet with winning records.

Linden’s Cliff Coleman (right) went 3-1 with two pinfall victories at the Genesee County Meet on Saturday.

Area wrestlers post solid results at county tourney

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

The elite of the Genesee County proved too tough.

However, the tri-county area teams did have some success at the county meet. Lake Fenton placed 11th with 79 points, while Linden was 12th with 62.5; Fenton placed 19th (36 points).

The Blue Devils had four placers and another two wrestlers posting winning records but not place. Cody Sanders (152) went 3-2 and earned first-period pinfall wins in his first two matches en route to a fourth-place finish.

Meanwhile, D.J. Melton also had two pinfall wins in his first two matches and placed fourth. Chase Hull (189) went 4-1 with three pinfall wins and placed fifth. Andy Donoho (171) took fifth with a 3-1 mark. Jared Corcoran (119) went 3-1 and Keinan Hagensen (140) went 2-1, but neither placed.

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Lady Tigers remain with a game of Holly, defeat Lapeer West 67-23

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

The Fenton varsity girls basketball team remained just one game behind Holly in the Metro League standings, defeating Lapeer West 67-23 on Monday.

The Tigers’ defense was outstanding, never allowing West more than seven points in any quarter. Meanwhile, Fenton’s offense netted at least nine in every quarter, and pounded down 22 points in the second quarter alone.

Fenton enjoyed a 39-13 halftime lead, and made sure West didn’t get back into the contest by outscoring West 28-7 in the third quarter.

Fenton was paced by Hannah Evo’s 13 points, five rebounds and two assists. Casandra Reuschlein added nine points and seven rebounds, while Carly Granger netted eight points.

Chanda June led West with 11 points.

After a slow 1-2 start, the Tigers are starting to play some strong basketball. They’ve won four straight by an average of almost 32 points a game. Fenton holds a 4-1 league record and a 5-2 mark overall.

Fenton returns to action at home on Friday against Brandon.
BRONCHOS  
Continued from Page 13
for this game, and we proved we deserved it. We came out and won."  
While the contest remained close throughout, the Bronchos were usually leading in what was typically an entertaining half-court slugfest against two of the league’s expected contenders. Monday’s Alyssa Copley scored all of Holly’s seven first-quarter points, leading the Bronchos to a 7-6 lead after the first eight minutes.  
In the second quarter, Holly’s perimeter shooting and offensive rebounds paid off nicely. Holly first six points came after offensive boards. First, Copley got a board and was fouled on the putback. She converted one of the free throws, tying it at 8-all. On Holly’s next possession, the Bronchos earned three offensive boards before Kyltyn Smith’s assist resulted in Serra’s three-point shot from the wing. The Bronchos’ lead was 11-8.  
Clo actually scored the next four points, but then Holly scored again. After getting an offensive board on a ball that went out of bounds, Serra assisted Smith’s three-pointer on an inbound pass, putting Holly up 14-12 with 2:17 left in the half. That lead grew to 17-12 in the second quarter. After Clo’s Brooke Pennington hit two free throws with 4:20 left in the period, Clo led 22-19. But, Holly recollected itself from there and got back to what they did well earlier in the game – playing unselfish ball. Instead of being the scorer, Copley became the disher with consecutive assists on layups by Lewandowski and Jenna Pepper. Holly led 23-22 with 3:12 left in the third after Pepper’s layin. The quarter ended with six straight Holly points on a Smith assist on another Layin. Holly led 25-22 entering the fourth quarter.  
The Bronchos never trailed in the fourth quarter, and raised their scoring run to eight points on what was the team’s only second-half unassisted bucket — a putback hoop by Lewandowski with 7:12 left. Clo cut the gap to 27-25 after a Cara Horst trey with 6:17 left, but Copley responded with assists on another Pepper layup and a Smith three-pointer. Holly led 32-25 with 4:11 left. Clo never came within one possession of tying the game ever again. “I wasn’t finishing, so usually when I can’t finish, I try to change things up,” Copley said about her assists. “They were coming on me and Abby was being left open. I kept getting it to her. Jenna got open a few times too. I had to change things up.”  
“She’s a good passer. She loves to just play the game,” Hall said. “She doesn’t have that mentality to do that. That (assist) she threw to Kyltyn (for the three-pointer) – that was huge.”  
Holly’s defense and stale off took over during the final four minutes. Holly successfully killed 1:10 off the clock with one possession, pretty much killing Clo’s chances of a comeback. If that didn’t do it, then Clo’s five turnovers down the stretch did it. Holly’s ability to regain its composure after Clo’s furious start to the third quarter was a big key as well. “We just kept our heads up,” Serra said. “We said at the beginning of this game, ‘Let’s keep our heads up no matter what and keep on tying.’ We wanted to make sure we had the Holly Bronchos out there.”  
Smith led the Bronchos’ offense with 11 points. She also had five assists and four rebounds. Copley did a little bit of everything, collecting nine points, seven rebounds, five assists and three blocks. No one scored more than nine points for the Mustangs. Allison Kitchen had nine, while Horst netted eight points. Holly’s defense held Clo to just 30 shots for the contest, making just nine of those (30%). Clio turned the ball over 23 times.

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Holly’s Delaney Serra had four points and three assists in the Bronchos’ 38-30 victory against the Clio Mustangs on Monday. She came the disher with consecutive assists on layups by Lewandowski and Jenna Pepper. Holly led 23-22 with 3:12 left in the third after Pepper’s layin. The quarter ended with six straight Holly points on a Smith assist on another Layin. Holly led 25-22 entering the fourth quarter.  

TIGERS  
Continued from Page 13
points at Kearsley on Dec. 11 before their three-point lead was erased by Holly in the final minutes. Monday’s triumph was the team’s third straight win against Kearsley, dating back to a 53-52 overtime loss on Jan. 15. Monday’s contest was the closest the Tigers have played in terms of scoring gap. “(Road victories) are a big momentum booster,” said Fenton senior Cory Cox, who scored a game-high 21 points Monday. “We played very well Friday (against Swartz Creek). Tonight, we had low energy and we pushed through and got the win.”  
Before the game, senior Cullen Turoczyn (12 points and three 3-pointers), West dominated the first 16 minutes of play. The Panthers led by as many as six points, with Carden’s three-pointer in the second quarter and they held a 27-25 lead at intermission. The turning point of the game came at the end of the third quarter. Trailng 37 with 2:50 left, Fenton went on a 10-2 scoring run to take a 47-40 lead at the end of the quarter. The Tigers continued their momentum in the final eight minutes, taking their largest lead of the night, 61-49, on a pair of free throws by Cox with 1:21 left to play. Cox scored 11 points in the second half — eight in the fourth quarter. It is the second straight game Cox has scored 20 or more points and the third in Fenton’s first five games. Monday, he also grabbed a game-high five rebounds and dished out five assists. “I think he took it personal in (Monday’s) second half,” Otiszewski said. “He’s an exceptional player.”  
James Claborn had 13 points, Eric Redman finished with 11 points and Mitch Shgos ended with six points and five assists for the Tigers. Zeshawn Jones-Parker had 16 points and four rebounds, Hunter Sharrard had 16 points, Tureczyn finished with 14 points and three assists, Matt Place had four boards and Nick Weber added four assists for West (3-2, 2-2 Metro).  
“We had some miscues,” West coach Chuck Mahoney said. “We weren’t able to get the ball cleared out. Once we had to extend ourselves out there, it was a little tougher.”

VICTORY  
Continued from Page 14
early in the fourth, leading by double-digits most of the final period. Holly returns to action at home on Friday against Linden. After an 0-2 start, each of the last three contests were won by double-digits. The wins include two margins of 16 points. Baylis is proud of the team’s progress. “One thing I like about our team is they are very workman-like,” Baylis said. “They weren’t cheering or celebrating in the locker room. It was business as usual. And now we have a chance to be 4-2 going into the break. It’s nice.”

BOYS BOWLING  
Linden 16, Fenton 15: It took a roll-off to lead the Eagles to the victory against the Tigers in a tight match. Fenton had baker scores of 176, 155, 129 and 134, while the Eagles had baker scores of 134, 159, 161 and 153. Baker scores are accumulated with each bowler on a team tossing two frames. Linden was paced by Russell Carney’s 172-175-347 series. Bryce Benedict had the team’s top game, rolling a 177. Tommy Sturtz rolled a 173. Fenton’s John Cryderman had the best series of anyone in the match, rolling a 209-176-265. Spencer Baughman rolled a 189 game for Fenton.

Holly 18, Clio 12: The Broncos captured their first win of the season with a final team match victory score of 786-769. After losing the first baker game, Holly won the second by a 181-169 score, taking a 4-2 lead. Clio also won the first match 730-706, but the Bronchos rebounded with the strong final team match, Mitch Smith had scores of 156 and 165, while Mitch Sharpe had two 168 games. “I am proud of the guys for continuing to work hard,” Holly coach Fred Walz said. “We still have not reached our potential. I am looking forward to see how we perform against Clarkston on Thursday.”

GIRLS BOWLING  
Holly 27, Clio 3: The Bronchos (3-0) remained perfect, dominating Clio. Heidi Martin led Holly with a 169-165-334 series, while Lisa Collins rolled a 162 game.

Linden 25, Fenton 5: Linden was paced by Taylor Roan’s 159-169-328 series. While Ashley Cowell had a 152-152-304 series. Fenton’s Jessica Bailey rolled a 133-145-278 series.
Trouble with the Curve

Gus Lobel (Clint Eastwood) has been one of the best scouts in baseball for decades, but, despite his efforts to hide it, age is starting to catch up with him. Nevertheless, Gus refuses to be benched for what may be the final innings of his career. He may not have a choice. The front office of the Atlanta Braves is starting to question his judgment, especially with the country’s hottest batting phenom on deck for the draft. The one person who might be able to help is also the one person Gus would never ask: his daughter, Mickey (Amy Adams).

An associate at a high-powered Atlanta law firm whose drive and ambition has put her on the fast track to becoming a partner. Against her better judgment, and over Gus’ objections, Mickey joins him on his latest scouting trip to North Carolina, jeopardizing her own career to save his. PG 13, 1 hr. 15 min.

Resident Evil: Retribution

The Umbrella Corporation’s deadly T-virus continues to ravage the Earth, transforming the global population into legions of the flesh eating Undead. The human race’s last and only hope, Alice (Milla Jovovich), awakens in the heart of Umbrella’s most clandestine operations facility and unveils more of her mysterious past as she delves further into the complex. Without a safe haven, Alice continues to hunt those responsible for the outbreak, a chase that takes her from Tokyo to New York, Washington, D.C. and Moscow, culminating in a mind-blowing revelation that will force her to rethink everything that she once thought to be true. Aided by newfound allies and familiar friends, Alice must fight to survive long enough to escape a hostile world on the brink of oblivion. The countdown has begun. R, 1 hr. 35 min.
NEW Private Party

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2012 PAGE 17

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Robert V. Brace
1923-2012
Robert V. Brace - age 89, of Holly, died Wednesday, December 12, 2012. Funeral services were held at 11 AM Saturday, December 15, 2012 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly. Burial was in Lakeside Cemetery, Holly. Visitation was from 5-9 PM Friday. Mr. Brace was born in Huntsville, MO on February 21, 1923, the son of Lloyd and Lana (Payton) Brace. He was retired from Rosell Excavating and enjoyed spending time at Wilkinson’s Auto Repair. He touched a lot of lives in Holly. He is survived by sons, Robert P. Brace and Ron Brace; step-children, Barbara Richotte and Gary Little; grandchildren, Joseph Richotte, Brian Richotte, and Jason Little; and adopted grandchildren, Sheila and Susan Magaw. He was preceded in death by his wife Helen, sister Ellen Fletscher and brother Gerald Brace. Memorial donations may be made to Genesys Hospice. www.dryerfuneralhome- holly.com.

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