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#### ONLINE COMMENTS

#### **HOLLYWOOD**

**44**Only Hollywood **could** profit from incredibly violent movies for decades and then point the finger at oun owners as the root cause of violence from our youth. Hypocrites

#### **CELEBRITIES** Lance Armstrong is going to learn a



lesson about loyalty in the celebrity world. It's going to

get ugly folks.

#### 'GIRLS' 441 tuned in to

watch a cable show called 'Girls' because it won a Golden



Globe. The filth and depravity was mindnumbing. Good

Lord, what are we becoming?

#### **SCHOOLS**

**44**Can our schools use a little common sense in the future, rather than shut the



schools down every time some fifthgrader leaves a

'threatening message' in a bath-room?"

#### **HOT LINE**

of the week

**66I'VE GOT AN** idea. If making guns illegal will get rid of them, why don't

we make heroin, cocaine and crack illegal also?









As times have changed, so have our maps 3A









VOL. 20 NO. III

AT LITTLE

**CAESARS** 

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2013

Fenton schools to pay more than \$16,000 for survey

Failed bond proposals to be addressed in questionnaire

#### **By William Axford**

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) will pay EPIC-MRA \$16,700 to conduct a comprehensive sur-

vey of the community within

coupons.tctimes.com

its district. Superintendent Timothy Jalkanen said the goal of the survey is to get feedback from the community on how the district is performing and attitudes from the public. The survey

will include parents and families who do not have children enrolled.

Jalkanen said the results of the survey would be utilized to improve FAPS.

See SURVEY on 20A

#### **Summary**

▶The Fenton Area Public Schools district will pay a polling firm \$16,700 to conduct a comprehensive survey of people within the Fenton school district.

We felt it was important to have a professional company assess the school district. 77

**Timothy Jalkanen** Superintendent of Fenton Area Public Schools

#### **Fenton doctor** sentenced to 55 months in prison for fraud scheme

► More than \$1.6 million fraudulently billed

A podiatrist from Fenton was sentenced to 55 months in prison for his involvement in a \$1.6 million Medicare scheme, after pleading guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud.

See DOCTOR on 20A

#### **Social Security** it's a big decision

▶When to start collecting your benefits or, more importantly, when not to

#### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

About 10,000 Baby Boomers from the generation of "The Sixties" are entering their own decade of the 60s every day, bringing the reality of retirement and Social Security closer and closer to home.

See **SOCIAL SECURITY** on 22A

#### Summary

You'll have to ask a lot of questions to get the right answer as to when to start taking your Social Security benefits.

#### Corvette is brightest star at Detroit auto show



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I CHRIS HARBOWY

The 2014 Chevrolet Corvette is the North American International Auto Show's main event. The Corvette is expected to have a base price of \$50,000 according to Car and Driver, and should be released in the fall of 2013.

#### Sports cars, all-new vehicles drive enthusiasts to 2013 Detroit auto show

#### **By Chris Harbowy**

news@tctimes.com

**Detroit** — The automotive arms race has just been turned up a notch or two with the resurgence

of the sports car. In addition to Chevrolet's allnew 2014 Corvette, the star of this year's event, there were sports cars from Acura, SRT, Scion,

Ferrari and Maserati just to name a few.

While at this year's show, don't forget to visit the booths in the

See CARS on 15A

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- 6 and under free) Ticket window
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

This 110-year-old house at 212 College St. in Holly has an interesting past that involves a swirl of rumors ranging from humorous to ridiculous.

#### The mansion the circus built

#### ► Holly home built by Barnum and Bailey founder filled with grandeur

**By William Axford** axford@tctimes.com

**Holly** — The existence of a 3,200-squarefoot house on a quiet street in Holly is entrenched with The Greatest Show on Earth.

seven fireplaces, five bathrooms, two kitchens and an estimated 20 to 30 doorways, the home at 212 College Street is mammoth and impossible to miss.

Housing six bedrooms,

Considering who built the home, the grandeur should come as no surprise. James Anthony Bailey, of the famed Barnum and Bailey Circus, built See CIRCUS on 10A

**L** asked her, 'Why would you say that? **People are** going to try to dig up my yard, looking for elephants.' 77 **Helen Bates** Homeowner



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## **FEATURES** AND **NEWS**

#### **SMART SOLUTIONS**



#### New lightbulbs

Rub a dime-sized dab of petroleum jelly over a new lightbulb's metal threads before twisting it into an outdoor fixture. The oil in the jelly forms a waterproof barrier that keeps the elements out and prevents rust from forming and metal from expanding (meaning the bulb won't be stuck when it comes time to change it again).





Instead of throwing away a vacuum bag once it's full, hang on to it! Most bags are durable enough to be reused three or four times. Simply clip off the top of the full bag, dump out the debris, fold the top edge over once, then staple it closed.

#### TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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efore you reach for your phone and call a professional, take a look at this quick list of simple fixes. Chances are you can remedy small problems around your house, saving you money and time.

**Unclogging a drain** — If a drain in your house is backing up and clogged, consider boiling some water and then pouring it down the drain. The heated

water can break up grease and other particles that have gotten stuck in the pipe. However, Lifehacker.com recommends this remedy for metal pipes as water hotter than 175 degrees can melt PVC pipes. For more pressing problems, consider using a drain snake, a common tool sold at hardware stores. These remedies could save you from potential bills with the plumber.

#### Squeaky door hinges and floors –

If you have a door that groans every time it's used, realsim-



ple.com advises using WD-40 or petroleum jelly onto the hinges. If lubricating the hinges doesn't quiet the door, try lifting the hinge

pins and using three-in-one oil on them. For squeaky floors, talcum powder can

work in a pinch as a temporary fix. The website recommends removing any remains of the powder however, if you plan on restoring the floor.

**Difficult door locks** — If the locks on your door are starting to stick, powdered graphite can be used to loosen them up. Costing less than \$5 at any hardware store, powdered graphite should be applied whenever locks start getting tight and will keep you from needing the services of a locksmith.

Filling holes in the wall — According to Lifehacker.com, small wall holes can be filled with caulk, spackle and even toothpaste. For bigger holes, a

See REPAIRS on 8A



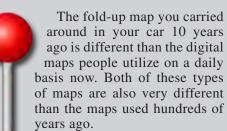
## You are here'

Astimes have changed, so have our maps

#### By Ryan Tackabury

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Whether you have taken part in a long road trip, or simply needed directions to a newly opened restaurant, you have likely used a map.



See MAPS on 7A



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### My son's gift enables others to live

After learning of and writing about so many heart-wrenching deaths, either from accidents or illnesses, in the past couple of weeks, my heart breaks for

all of the families involved. Nothing can change the course of a family more than the sudden death of what was a healthy and vibrant family member. I know their pain, all too well.

One Linden family found the strength to donate their daughter's organs, giving the gift of life to many others. I've lived through that pain, as well.

If you aren't aware, my 12-year-old son, Brad died on July 1, 2000 from

complications of an asthma attack. My husband Jeff and I made the most difficult decision of our lives by donating his organs. That moment came after Dr. Brian

**Sharon Stone** 

From the

Nolan at Hurley presented Jeff and me the truth about Brad's condition. With the help of our pastor, Dale Swihart of the First Presbyterian Church of Fenton, and a lot of tears, we came to the conclusion that Brad

would not need those organs in Heaven, but others here could be saved.

A woman from Detroit, Pamela Powell, received a double-lung transplant with Brad's lungs, and a North Carolina woman, Donna Allgood, received Brad's

kidney and pancreas. Both women are thriving. We have not met Donna but we

**46** I look

forward to

seeing Pam

as our hugs

always give

me another

opportunity

to feel Brad

breathing. 77

have corresponded with her through emails and Facebook. We have met Pam, and she and her husband David have become an extended part of our family. An older gentleman from Pentwater received Brad's corneas, unfortunately, we have not been in contact with him. Also, a woman from Nebraska received a kidney from Brad, but her condition was too advanced to be helped by his gift.

Jeff and I host annual golf and hockey tournaments in Brad's memory and Pam

attends these events to lend her support and to share her story. My family will be seeing Pam this Sunday when she shares her transplant story again, this time with the congregation at St. Paul

Lutheran Church in Royal Oak, my sister Jan's church.

I look forward to seeing Pam as our hugs always give me another opportunity to feel Brad breathing. Jeff and I are registered to be organ donors and we also joined 'Be the Match' when we had our cheeks swabbed during Katie's Game last summer.

If possible, please consider registering to be a donor by going to giftofli-

femichigan.org, Michigan.gov/sos or marrow.org.

## Hotlines

or call 810-629-9221

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

I WOULD LIKE an update on the Josh Pacheco story. I was wondering if the names of the students who bullied him are going to be published in the paper and what kind of punishment they are receiving for their crimes.

I'M 80 YEARS old and I've been all around the world and back. Never have I seen our country in such turmoil.

THE \$50 BILLION alleged hurricane aid is stuffed with \$35 billion worth of democratic pork and fraud for pet projects that have nothing to do with hurricane aid. When will America wake up and get rid of these criminally deceptive thieves called senators and congressmen.

I'M SORRY SOMEBODY has to pay their fair share of taxes. All I expect the wealthy to pay is the same percentage that I pay.

IF YOU THINK somebody is collecting welfare and doesn't need it, it's not Obama's fault, it's yours. It's your responsibility as an American taxpayer to report fraudulent activity.

**THAT'S A GOOD** point — make sure your chimney sweeps are insured and licensed. Make sure all your contractors are insured. Your insurance won't cover them on your property.

KWAME KILPATRICK IS to Obama

what a molehill is to a mountain. Two sociopaths (no conscience), both robbing the people who elected them blind.

**IF YOU'VE EVER** used the terms 'fair share,' '99 percenters,' or 'spread the wealth around' you are part of the problem, not the solution.

I'M ALL FOR keeping our kids safe, but what's next, X-rays and cover-alls? If it's going to happen, it's going to happen. Overreacting is asinine.

THE DRIVE-BY shooting — I don't know what people were thinking when they let a bar

be that close to a neighborhood. The traffic is terrible and people park in front of our houses and litter. I see no benefit.

**THIS IS FOR** all you gun people out there. I'm not against you owning guns. What I'm worried about is people getting guns illegally. There should be a background check to make sure whoever owns guns is responsible.

WHICH NEANDERTHAL THINKS Obama's running for a third term to change the laws? What kind of imbecile thinking is that?

SO, \$275,000 FROM the general fund to the

sewer fund in Tyrone Township. Anybody still wondering where their public safety money is going?

#### PRESIDENT OBAMA'S TELLING us

that if we don't keep borrowing money to pay our bills we'll become a 'deadbeat' nation. False. We have the money to pay our bills but not enough to pay new bills. Solution — stop spending and pay off debt.

**THE U.S. IS** the richest country in the world and one of just a few developed nations without national healthcare (the others being a few Balkan states and Belarus). Considering how controversial Obamacare has been, I can only imagine how uncaring we look to the rest of the developed world.

NOT ONE, NOT two, but 19 executive orders from King Obama to reduce your constitutional right to own a gun. What will it take for you to understand this man's agenda, to lose your Fourth Amendment rights protecting you from unlawful search and seizure?

YOU CAN'T MAKE this stuff up. The left screams 'you do not need more than five shots to kill a deer.' No kidding. The Second Amendment has nothing to do with hunting. Anyone know why Paul Revere rode through the countryside yelling the British are coming?

TO THE PERSON making \$50,000 who stated Obama raised their taxes: The payroll tax holiday that Obama created letting us keep 2 percent more in our paycheck for two years, expired as he said it would. Romney was not going to extend it either. It's alarming how misinformed you are

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

streettalk



Compiled by Olivia Dimmer, intern

#### What was your most rewarding home project?



"We built our entire home; that was pretty rewarding. We already had the land and it's near the woods and on the water."

— Melinda McEmber, Fenton



"I sewed some new curtains and hung them in the living room just to update them a bit."

> — Alex Haas Fenton



"We put in new laminate flooring because the old one was worn."

> — Janna Bonikowski Fenton



"We built a new deck so I could work and enjoy outside. It's actually not as complicated as you might think."

— Rick St. Louis, Clarkston



"We put in a brand new wood floor in our son's room."

> — LeAnn Franks Lake Fenton



"We remodeled our entire home, it was quite the undertaking with the doors and bathrooms needing to be redone."

— Betty Kehoe, Fenton



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Then State Sen. John Gleason interacts with local students, in a 2012 file photo. He recently became the Genesee County Clerk and Register of Deeds.

**My message is** 

change things.

Fenton city councilwoman

**Pat Lockwood** 

that you can always

Attend meetings.77

▶State and local level politicians have decades of experience, driven by public service

**By William Axford** 

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton City Councilwoman Pat Lockwood didn't intend to make a career as a politician.

Back in the late '80s, Lockwood approached the Fenton City Council to address an issue with the local roads. After being told the best way to create change

was to get involved with politics, Lockwood embarked on a career that includes a decade of service as Fenton's mayor, holding the position of state representative for the 51st district and working under former Gov. Jennifer Granholm

as a transportation commissioner advisor.

"I loved it when I got a quick call back from someone who said 'you really helped me," Lockwood said. "Being in politics has led me to work with a lot of interesting people. It exposes you to all sides of the issue."

Genesee County Clerk and Register of Deeds John Gleason said he originally had no intentions of running for any office despite coming from a family of public servants and campaign workers. But after being pushed to run by fellow church members, Gleason has held various public offices throughout Michigan.

"I've really been blessed because I've seen an array of responsibility. I've had a lot of great experiences," said Gleason, who formally served as state senator of the 27th district.

But those who dream of glory as a politician should be forewarned. Long hours, stressful negotiations, public outcry and constant criticism are virtually guaranteed for anyone seeking public office. The U.S. Congress, for example, had a record-low 10 percent approval rating this past August, according to a Gallup poll. Currently, the U.S. Congress has an

18 percent approval rating.

"The hardest part about being a politician is the lack of respect we have for institutions, whether it's marriage or government or the church," Gleason said. "We don't compromise anymore. Now it's whoever has the biggest stick wins."

Another difficulty for local politicians is getting younger people involved in government. Most of the local governing entities include retirees and members who have served for more than a decade. Seeing new faces in local government can be something of an anomaly.

"It's tougher financially for people

today. Oftentimes they have to work two or more jobs," said Ray Culbert, who has served as a councilor for the city of Linden for 22 years and the planning commission for 35 years. "Those who do serve are passionate,

passionate people about their community. They're on fire about what they can do to make our communities better.'

Still, some new faces are popping up in local governments. In the Village of Holly, four new people have assumed roles as council members. Tyrone Township has three new trustees and Fenton Township has one new person.

"One of the things I have found is younger people are so involved in their careers and families that they don't have the time to commit," said Fenton Township Clerk Robert Krug, who has served on the board of trustees for 15 years. "Those of us who do get involved tend to have older kids.

Despite the drawbacks, Lockwood still believes politics, especially at the local level, is the best way to create change. Lockwood has visited local high schools in hopes of drawing younger people into local politics.

"It's important that we listen to the kids. They're the future of this community," said Lockwood. "My message is that you can always change things. Attend meetings. The more we involve and engage the youth of our communities, the more we get."

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## How U.S. spends \$1 trillion more than it has

#### ▶'If we all did that, we'd all go bankrupt'

#### By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Imagine if your expenses cost 175 percent of your income. Money expert Dave

**Late** They're

that don't

**Penny Fausey** 

using dollars

exist. They're

pulling them

out of the air.

CPA, Fausey and Associates

Ramsey gave an example you made \$55,000 annually, your expenses were \$96,000, and you had accumulated debt of \$366,000.

This is how the federal government operates each day. It's not a new problem; as early as 1940, the government was running a \$2.9 billion deficit with \$6.5 billion in income.

Local governments are not allowed to operate this way. Every local municipal body — Fenton, Holly, Linden or any of the townships, returned a clean audit for their finances for 2012. They are required to balance its budget, which is done through sometimes painful cuts and wage concessions.

"The way the government budgets, it doesn't make sense, if we all did that we'd all be bankrupt," said Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Penny Fausey, of Fenton. "The way the federal government budget, is a wonderful program on how not to budget."

She made it clear that an average citizen cannot run their home this way, and if they

do, they would be buried beneath interest payments.

Fenton Township resident Stephen Martin has a book of personal finance in the works and he can speak with some authority on staving off debt. For two years and six months he was unemployed, and his family survived on \$24,000 in income, plus unemployment insurance. He had two

sons living at home, a mortgage and three vehicles. "We never missed a payment, we never fell behind with anything," said Martin, who wasn't alone as a white collar autoworker out of work. His family cut everything down to the necessities, pushed

Martin said his family used funds from a 401K instead of adding debt. His familv weathered the storm and he is now employed.

The arguments can be made that the national government, compared to an average household, is not a fair comparison, and that these two things function differently. Fausey said comparing a household to the

federal government isn't fair because the same rules simply don't apply to a business or private citizen.

"There's no way for a personal budget being the same as federal government," said Chris Douglas, an associate professor of economics at The University of Michigan-Flint.

Douglas said the government can run an enormous tab because of treasury bonds. "What you're really doing is taking out a new credit card to pay for an old credit card," he said.

Essentially, the Federal Reserve Bank will aggressively buy up government treais used to maintain the debt payments. A normal citizen doesn't have this option.

In the short run, Douglas said the deficit problem is exacerbated by a weak economy, which includes more payments for unemployment insurance and less in tax revenue. He also hypothesized that sometime in the 1950s elected officials began using tax cuts and further spending on programs to

win votes.

**Summary** 

►The Federal

Government runs a

deficit of more than

\$1 trillion each year,

with \$16 trillion in

accumulated debt.

Most of the federal

debt is in treasury

bonds.

Also, taxes since WWII had been 19 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), and taxes are nowlower at 16 percent of GDP.

"It's not sustainable at all. The question is how long can you do it," said Douglas. "I think the real worry is that at some point you're just not going to borrow anymore."

Douglas isn't sure when the deficit spending would actually lead to a money crunch, but he guesses the danger zone is at around 90 percent deficit spending. He compared the U.S. to Japan, which has 240 percent deficit spending. The difference is that most of the debt is held by Japanese citizens.

To fix it, Douglas said spending would have to fall 40 percent, and then more spending would be cut to pay off past investors. "It just becomes a real cash flow crunch. It would be like if the bank decided to call you on your mortgage."

Fausey has strong feelings on the topic and schools her clients in responsible saving, spending and budgeting. "Live within your means. Don't spend more than you earn. Take care of food, shelter and clothing," she said. "Then you go from there. Account to every penny, especially if you're on very tight funds.

"I guess we are a bad example. It's really just not good business," said Fausey. "They're using dollars that don't exist. They're pulling them out of the air."

#### Spending terms

National Debt: The current national debt is around \$16 trillion, according to about.com. This is the accumulated past debt from the government. Most of it is debt owed to U.S. businesses and citizens from treasury bonds. **Deficit:** The amount spent over the amount taken in. According to the Congressional Budget Office, (CBO) the annual deficit is \$1.2 trillion, and has been over \$1 trillion for the past four years.

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#### Police&Fire report

#### **WOMAN STEALS VIDEO GAMES**

Fenton police are seeking first-degree retail fraud charges against a 25-yearold Owosso woman. A loss prevention employee at a retail store on Owen Road apprehended her after she exited the store with merchandise she had not paid for on Jan. 16. Lt. Jason Slater said the woman placed several video games and other electronics in her cart. She was observed concealing the merchandise in her purse and coat. After exiting the store, the employee confronted her. She turned over 15 video games, two PS3 controllers and a PS3 headset -\$1,154 worth of merchandise. Police learned she had an outstanding warrant from Shiawassee County. She was processed at the Fenton police

station, where she admitted to stealing the items in order to sell to pay off some bills. She was then turned over to Shiawassee County officials on their warrant.

#### **TWO MOTORISTS CRASH ON EXIT RAMP**

Fenton police responded to two unrelated crashes at the exit ramp from southbound U.S. 23 to North Road on Friday. At 7:06 a.m. a 19-year-old Flint male, driving a pickup truck was reportedly traveling too fast to negotiate the sharp curve on the exit ramp. He told police his truck slid on a patch of ice, which caused it to roll onto its side in the ditch. He was wearing his seatbelt and was not injured. He was listed at-fault on the crash report. A second similar crash occurred at 12:05 p.m. This time an out-of-town female, unfamiliar with the exit ramp, failed to negotiate the sharp curve and crashed her vehicle. She was not injured and her vehicle was not damaged.

#### **MAPS**

#### **Continued from Page 3A**

"One of the things about maps during the age of exploration was there were no lines of latitude and longitude," said Gregory Havrilcsak, a history lecturer at University of Michigan-Flint. "One of the first innovations were grid lines — they were straight horizontal or vertical, they didn't consider curvature of the earth."

Havrilcsak said that these gridlines though were still important, as they allowed navigators to pin point where they were with reasonable accuracy, where before all they had to navigate with were the stars. Havrilcsak said that these gridlines in a way were a precursor to the modern GPS navigation system. "In gridding the world, we have gridded ourselves."

We now live in an era of digital maps that, thanks to strides in technology, contain more information than ever before, and in many cases, more information than anyone would have ever thought possible.

Google Maps, for example, not only can tell you where a road or a town is located, but the best route to take, sites of traffic situations that may slow

#### Summary

► Today's navigation systems owe everything to a long evolution of mapping technology.

vou down, the phone number of the destination you are trying to reach and street level photos of every point along your route

so you know what to look for.

People around the globe have a better, more accurate idea than ever before about the shape of the world thanks to these digital maps.

Yet, even without our modern tools. cartographers were skilled at their job and produced many accurate maps. "The French made the first maps of Michigan, as the French were the first explorers of this area. The maps they made were reasonably accurate," Havrilcsak said. These maps can be dated back to almost 400 years ago.

A cartographer's job is never done and, while we have a more accurate picture of the world than we did not long ago, there is no shortage of maps that need to be made. If anything, the advent of new technological cartography tools has increased the need for

cartographers — there is more to map than ever before.

The median pay for a cartographer is about \$54,510 per year. The number of cartographers is not necessarily very big — 13,800 were employed in the United States in 2010, though the field of work is growing faster than average, and is expected to grow 22 percent by 2020 according to the Department of

No longer charting the world we see every day, cartographers are tasked with mapping the ocean floor, the reaches of space, and everything in between.

#### Top rated navigation devices

#### **Garmin Nuvi 3590 LMT**

If you are looking to buy the best of the best, look no further than the Nuvi 3590 LMT. The LMT stands for "Lifetime Maps and Traffic," which means that along with the device, you receive free map updates and minute-to-minute traffic updates to help you find the quickest route to your destination. Voice activation also makes the device simple to use. You are paying for quality of course, and so this model of the Nuvi 3590 will cost you with a current listed rice of \$380.

#### TomTom VIA 1605TM

If you are looking for a navigation device that is easier on the wallet, but still includes all of the bells and whistles you want, such as free map and traffic updates, you could look to buy a Tom-Tom. The main drawback of the model is its two hour battery life, which can be corrected by charging it as you go with your car's power jack. You can expect to pay around \$180 for this device.

If you have a smartphone, you already own a GPS device that can help you navigate to wherever you would like to travel to. Depending on which phone you have, you might have an option as to which navigation software you would like to use, which most likely comes down to a choice between Apple and Google. Apple's recent maps app was met with a great deal of criticism, with incorrect routes and destinations not being where they should. Google Maps has been perfected over the years, and has much more accurate results — and is now once again available on both iPhone and Android for free.

#### Police chief offers free defense workshops

#### ▶'Self Defense' for women, 'Ground Defense' for police

#### **By Sharon Stone**

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Argentine Township Police Chief Daniel Allen will be hosting a free Ground Defense workshop for any law enforcement officers from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16.

According to Allen, the most dangerous place for a police officer to end up is on the ground, fighting for their lives, fighting to keep the weapon from being taken and just surviving a ground assault. This situation can happen by accident, by the officer slipping and losing his or her footing, and ending up in a ground confrontation.

Allen suggests that if those going through the class take away just one technique that could save their life, the workshop would be worth it. Participants should wear comfortable athletic clothing, bring duty belt with no firearm and wear cross training, running, wrestling or martial arts shoes.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO Argentine Township Police Chief Dan Allen will be conducting a self-defense class for women.

#### Free Women's Self Defense Workshop

Allen said he will also be holding a free Women's Self Defense workshop on Saturday, Jan. 26, from 11:30 a.m. to

Both workshops will be held at the Warriors Den, 10293 South Saginaw Road, just south of Baldwin Road in Grand Blanc. For more information, call (810) 618-7932.

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**TUESDAY & THURSDAY** 6:00рм - 9:30рм

**CLASS REGISTRATION CONTINUES THROUGH JANUARY 28TH!** MONDAY & WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: 6PM-7:30PM

#### **GED CLASS** REGISTRATION

(Pre-Registration required)

#### Students must:

- Not be enrolled in a program to complete high school.
- · Provide a valid Michigan driver's license or picture ID and social security card.
- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Students 17 years of age may register for classes and complete GED testing with signed release from their previous high school.

#### **CLASS FEE: \$75.00** Payable at time of registration (cash or money order only)

#### **GED TEST** REGISTRATION

#### Students must:

- · Have formally withdrawn from their
- former high school.
- Provide a valid Michigan driver's license or picture ID and social security card.
- · Register with the Three District GED
- office for testing. Attend Mandatory Class prior to testing

#### **GED TESTING DATES:** Test Dates

#### **Mandatory Class** February 19, 2013 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm March 5, 2013 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm April 16, 2013 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm May 14 2013 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

March 13 & 14, 2013 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm April 17 & 18, 2013 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm April 24 & 25, 2013 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm May 15 & 16 2013

February 27 & 28, 2013 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

#### **TESTING FEE: \$180.00**

Pavable at time of registration (cash or money order only)

#### Location

**Lake Fenton High School Office** 4070 Lahring Rd. • Linden • 48451

810-591-9465



Call for additional registration dates or to make an appointment

#### DDA OK's \$60,095 for cultural center drawings

#### ▶ Planned restoration will fix leaky roof and fire code issues

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

**Fenton** — A leaky roof will soon just be one more memory in a building that is already full of history.

The Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is considering taking another step forward in the renovation of the Fenton Community and Cultural Center by paying \$60,095 for full construction plans to be drawn up.

A building inspection conducted by the Fenton Fire Department found several areas where improvements needed to be made relating to exit signs, fire extinguishers, evacuation plans, and code issues. Additionally, the building's roof has also recently begun leaking. Most of the issues were described as being minor.

According to the DDA, all of these issues were already items to be addressed by the planned restoration and expansion of the building.

Kevin Johnson of Rhodes and Johnson, the contractor hired by the city for the restoration project, recommended that the city have full construction drawings completed for the project, which City Manager Lynn Markland described as the next step in the process to move forward.

We don't want to go and repair this roof and pay the \$15,000 or \$20,000. or whatever it's going to be, and come back four months later and rip it all off. 77

Craig Schmidt, DDA chairman

This was a thought that was echoed by **DDAChairman**Craig Schmidt. "I agree with both Lindhout (and Associates architectural firm) and Rhodes and Johnson. It's all part of our plan in moving forward. We also got an update that there is fundraising going on, and it's preced-

ing OK," he said.

The concern of just addressing the issues outside of the restoration was the possible waste of money in addressing the same matter twice. "We don't want to go and repair this roof and pay the \$15,000 or \$20,000, or whatever it's

#### Summary

▶ Restoration plans will address community center's leaky roof and fire code violations.

going to be, and come back four months later and rip it all off," Schmidt said.

Having full construction plans will also

allow for a better estimate into the actual cost of the project. "The construction budget was estimated at \$1.8 to \$1.9 million. They really can't get any more accurate figures on that until the construction drawings are done," Markland said.

The DDA voted unanimously to move forward with the full construction drawings, but the matter still requires



#### **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

IT'S TRUE, WE live in an affluent, safe, sane and conservative community. In order to embrace progressive viewpoints, it requires people to think about what's fair for everyone more than about what's best for them personally. Unfortunately, many people don't seem to have this

FENTON SUPERINTENDENT – YOU

should be proud of the work being done by Mr. Wright and Mr. Bassin. Last week's concert was very entertaining and well done. It's obvious the students are benefitting from the efforts of these two men, including how to be courteous and respectful of others.

I LOVE THE AAU volleyball program through SLPR, but this year the girls were packed into one gym. Also, they couldn't tell us where they would practice and at what gym time. How can you start a program and not have gym time? Come on SLPR, get with the program.

CUT OUT AND save. Mental health – government healthcare (aka Obamacare) you will be required to have a mental health exam in order to buy any firearm. Seem crazy? Care to make a wager? Elections have consequences. You wanted him, you got him, King.

OK, SO FENTON eighth grade is so big this year that halfway through the year, they have to shuffle the kids' schedules around to fix a big gym class. My child loved his schedule and does not want to change. Why didn't they do this before school started.

YOU'RE AN IDIOT if you believe the trash Snopes puts out. Every question about the President was written as 'false' but really is 'true.' Snopes supports the Democrat Party and if someone starts a fact about it, Snopes says it's 'false' and it really is 'true.'

I JUST LIKE that I received a 1.7 percent military raise but my check is \$60 lighter now every month. How is that possible since congress receive such a huge raise? Do they go and defend their country and put their lives on the line? It just doesn't seem fair.

#### REPAIRS

#### Continued from Page 3A

fiberglass mesh can be placed over the hole. Using a joint compound, the hole can be covered and eventually sanded down and painted to match the rest of the wall.

**Making linoleum shine** — Using an eraser or a cloth, rub toothpaste onto linoleum to get rid of scuffs. Realsimple. com also recommends using WD-40 and a towel as an alternative. Liquid dish soap and water should be used afterward to degrease the linoleum.

**Cracks in the wall** — While they may not seem as pressing as holes in the wall, cracks can devastate a home. Air can escape, water can drip through and mold can grow from cracks. Thankfully, caulk is inexpensive and easy to apply. A report on wate.com advises using cloth and rubbing alcohol to clean up the crack. After the area is dried up, caulk should be applied and smoothed out with a wet finger.



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#### **CIRCUS**

#### **Continued from Front Page**

the home in 1903 for his brother Edward McGinnis. After one tour through the house, it is evident that the home has the flair of showmanship that circuses are renowned for.

Hand-carved lion heads bare their teeth from one of the fireplaces. An 8-foot by 6-foot solid wood door dwarfs those who pass it by. A mural of an unnamed small town covers an entire wall in a room comprised of red velvet wallpaper. Stained-glass windows with original copper fixtures populate the home. These are just a few of the details that pop out in a house that seemingly has an unending amount of doors and rooms.

"I'm looking forward to selling it but I love showing it," said Realtor Lori Goldsmith. "Everyone wants to see it. Showing it can become somewhat of a three-ring circus."

Current owner Helen Bates bought the house with her husband Gordon in 1961 and lived in the house for 51 years. Prior to their purchase, the house had been fitted into several apartments. Bates said her husband was a realtor and described him as a 'house nut,' and had to own the house when he first came upon it in the mid '50s.

"It's the only house I've ever been in that has that style of interior detail and artisan work. You can't find anything like that anymore," said Bates, who worked as a kindergarten and first-grade teacher at Holly Elementary School, located less than a half mile away. "We used to do lots of entertaining, parties and things like that. Gordon lit every fireplace and turned on every light in the house. He liked it very, very much."

Given that the house — dubbed as the 'McGinnis Mansion' — was built by a ringleader of one of the most famous circuses, wild rumors and speculation led to legends



(Above) For Realtor Lori Goldsmith of Holly, selling this home is personal. "I'm really fond of (the owner) and very fond of the house," she said. Goldsmith notices something new about the house every time she gives a tour, like this time during a tour on Wednesday. (Below) The carved heads of a lion flanks one of seven functioning fireplaces inside the home.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO
This fireplace is on the second floor.
Each of the seven fireplaces is decorated differently.

that Bates had to confront over the years. There was speculation that circus animals stayed in the house during the off-season of the carnival. The immaculate carvings within the house are said to have been crafted by the circus workers themselves, whom people believed stayed at the house and practiced there during the winter.

While the rumors have enhanced the perception of the house, Bates said none of the rumors have been substantiated.

"I don't know of any place they could have put the animals," Bates said. "A teacher once told her students about an elephant buried in my yard. I asked her, 'Why would you say that? People are going to try to dig up my yard, looking for elephants."

Still, Bates has fond memories of the home. She never has made a big deal of the house but does have difficulty describing the home to other people. However, Bates can no longer maintain the home due to age and has decided to sell. "It would make an amazing bed and breakfast. It has the bathrooms," Goldsmith said. "It has the charm and a history."

For \$299,900, the allure of the circus and a piece of history can be all yours. For those interested in purchasing the house, Goldsmith can be contacted at (810)-249-4079.

#### MORE ABOUT

#### JAMES ANTHONY BAILEY AND HOLLY

- James Bailey was born July 4, 1847
   in Detroit. Orphaned at an early age,
   Bailey traveled with other circuses starting when he was a teenager. Bailey's circus was first called Cooper and Bailey Circus until 1881, when Bailey teamed up with P.T. Barnum.
- Helen Bates, owner of the McGinnis Mansion, said it was built next to the railroad since Edward McGinnis had a career associated with railroads.
   According to lore, the circus regularly came through Holly due to its access via the railroad.





This is the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade and organizations throughout the country will be having vigils on this day. Children are welcome.

Tuesday, January 22 at 6:30 pm
The Freedom Center

2473 W. Shiawassee, Fenton, MI 48430 810-629-5261

#### Massive cabbage nets fourth-grader \$1,000

#### ▶Tomek student wins scholarship from Bonnie Plants

#### **By Olivia Dimmer**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Weeks of watering the garden in his backyard finally paid off for Tomek Eastern Elementary fourth-grader Aaron Toth. After receiving a small cabbage seedling from his teacher via Bonnie Plants, an organization that helps to teach children about agriculture, Toth along with his mother Kristin cared for the cabbage plant until it grew to be almost as big as Aaron was.

Aaron's cabbage was selected by his teacher to enter the statewide competition, which was then selected by the Commission of Agriculture. Aaron gained a \$1,000 scholarship to put toward his education and a newfound appreciation for gardening.

Aaron's school participates in the Bonnie Plants Cabbage Program and helps to distribute cabbage seedlings to all thirdgraders. When Aaron received his, the Toth family was able to integrate the cabbage into their already existing garden.

"When we first got the plant we watered it until it got too big to just stay in a pot," Aaron said. "We moved it into bigger pots until it was warm outside and then put it in our garden. I feel good about winning.'

Aaron's mother said that his enthu-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | COURTESY

Aaron Toth poses with his cabbage, which was selected to be the statewide winner. Later this month, Aaron will be presented with an oversized check for his college education.

siasm for gardening emerged with the project, as Aaron remembered to water his plant even when his mother forgot. She believes the project showed Aaron where his food comes from, and that this knowledge is a great thing.

"We are so excited here at Tomek that Aaron's hard work and dedication is being recognized," said Jen Turner, Aaron's third-grade teacher. "He is an amazing student and person.'









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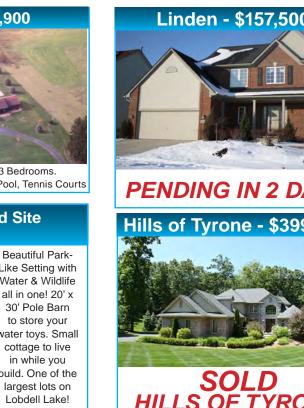
Maintenance, Snow Removal

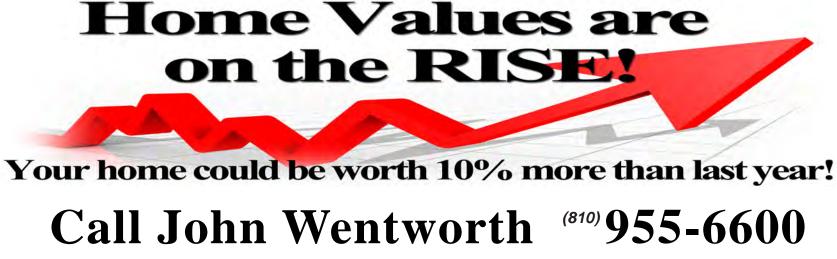
\*Must be under contract by

January 1st, 2013.









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#### **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

LAST NIGHT'S LINDEN High School choir concert with the Linden Youth Choir was fabulous and a breath of fresh air! Great job Mrs. Ravert, the kids from the high school and even the elementary buildings. Hard work was put into making last night very enjoyable by all. Great job!

APPARENTLY POLITICS IS the only thing people around here have to complain about. Really, people? It is what it is for the next four years, like it or not. Start using the Hot lines for constructive complaints and concerns, please.

POLITICS IS NOT a bloodsport in which you must hate the other side. Our politics

are informed by our circumstances. I've not walked in my neighbor's shoes. They've not walked in mine. We both know things the other does not. Thoughtful disagreement is healthy, unthoughtful disrespect is most certainly not.

I'D HARDLY CONSIDER it whining when I demand financial responsibility from my school district. Fenton schools has the highest millage rate in the area but they want more, more, more. The things they want could be purchased if money was prioritized smartly.

WHERE DO YOU people get all your information from, the Republican Party? If the debt ceiling is not raised the U.S. will default on its payments. Veterans' benefits is just

one area that will not be paid. Stop playing silly games and raise the debt ceiling now.

IF I COULD pass a law, it would be that nothing could be added to a bill unless it were directly related to that bill — no pork, just concentrate on the issue at hand.

THE CAMPAIGNER AND Chief was at it again with his dog and pony show. This time he used four elementary students to help him write 23 executive orders on gun control that have zero chance of passing but he will just blame the GOP as he always does.

FOR ALL YOU folks with ice rinks in your yard, Flint has a used Zamboni for sale.

#### Social News

#### **ENGAGEMENT**



#### **WARDIN-POZNIAK**

Mr. David Wardin of Fenton is proud to announce the engagement of his daughter, Kathryn Louise Wardin of Fenton, to Andrew Stanley Pozniak, also of Fenton. Andrew is the son of Stan and Sue Pozniak of Greensboro, N.C. The couple both attended Fenton schools where they met, and are both 2008 graduates of Fenton High School. They also both recently graduated from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. The bride-tobe works at the University of North Carolina in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies, and the future groom is employed by Volvo Trucks in the design studio, both in Greensboro, N.C. A March 2014 wedding is planned to take place here in

#### **ENGAGEMENT**



#### **GILLILAND-WATT**

James and Linda Gilliland of Fenton are excited to announce the engagement of their daughter, Holly Gilliland, to Jeff Watt, son of Mike and Peggy Watt of Romulus. Holly is a mental health therapist with Heron Ridge Associates in Plymouth and Ann Arbor. Her fiancé works in human resources and is employed by Chrysler. A September 2013 wedding is planned.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I CHRIS HARBOWY
The Michigan-made Quadski operates
like a quad runner when on land and like
a jet ski when in the water.

#### **CARS**

#### **Continued from Front Page**

Cobo Hall lobby, where you'll find James Bond's famous Aston Martin DB5 and an interesting vehicle known as the Quadski. The Michigan-made Quadski operates like a quad runner on land and like a jet ski on water.

Now entering its 25th year as an international event, this year's North American International Auto Show features more than 500 vehicles on display, including some of the automotive world's most eagerly anticipated new vehicles.

All-new vehicles introduced at this year's show include:

- 2014 Corvette
- New Buick Encore Luxury Sport Ute
- Diesel Jeep Grand Cherokee
- New 2014 Chevrolet Silverado
- New Ford Transit Van and Transit Connect Van
- Chevrolet Spark EV (Electric Vehicle)
- Ford Fiesta ST
- Acura NS-X
- Toyota Corolla Concept Vehicle
- Fiat 500 four door
- Nissan Versa Note and many more!

When parking, remember that Cobo Center is one of the People Mover route stops. Nearby parking is available in the following lots:

#### Joe Louis Arena

900 West Jefferson

Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 11 p.m.

#### · Cobo Roof Deck

625 West Congress

Hours: 6 a.m. – 11 p.m.

#### Millennium Garage

432 West Congress

Hours: 6 a.m. – 11 p.m.

## DID YOU KNOW



- The first Detroit Auto Show was held in 1907 at Riverview Park.
- Last year, more than 770,000 visitors passed through the doors during public days.
- The economic impact of the auto show to Metro Detroit is between \$350-375 million.
- The first year international auto manufacturers displayed their vehicles at the Detroit Auto Show was 1957, domestic models now shared floor space with Volvo, German Isetta, Mercedes-Benz, Jaguar and Porsche.
- The black tie gala, held on the evening before the show officially opens to the public, has become one of the largest single-night fundraisers in the world. NAIAS has raised more than \$65 million for children's charities since the inception of the Charity Preview in 1976.

#### LOCAL DEALERSHIPS

weigh in on what's the best value, design and most exciting for 2013

#### MATT STEVENS

#### General sales manager Vic Canever Chevrolet of Fenton

Best Value: "We have the new Impala coming out that's going to be outstanding, for the size and the price point."

Best Design: "The new Corvette for sure. That's an all new Corvette, it's just really cool. That's what everyone is calling about — asking about the Corvette."

Most exciting for 2013: "We got a new Silverado coming too, that's an allnew design. It's something I'm excited about. Truck sales for us have really started to pick up."

#### JAY LASCO Vice president of operations Lasco Ford of Fenton

**Best Value:** "I think we'd have to say the 2013 Fusion, affordable payments and price, and a top-notch sedan that meets most luxury standards. It's fun to drive and it's 100 percent new over last year."

Best Design: "Value and design, I'd have to say the Fusion. It's a show stopper. It has 47 city, 47 hwy and 47 combined miles, per gallon."

Most exciting for 2013: "The most exciting thing we're hearing about is the Ford F-150 concept truck. You also have the Ford Explorer and Explorer Sport in our showrooms. You're talking about a 100-percent re-make of a vehicle. It's a 23-miles-per-gallon combined."

#### JIM HALL

#### Hall Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram

**Best Value:** "Chrysler 200. It's a fully loaded car for a really low payment. It's just a great seller for Chrysler. You get a great deal."

**Best Design:** "The new Liberty is completely redesigned. It's going to come out in the second quarter. It's really nice, refined, it just looks great."

Most exciting for 2013: "I'd probably say the Dart. The Dart's a really cool car, it's really safe, really advanced with all the features, it's just a great vehicle."

#### **BOB JOHNSON**

#### New car sales manager Randy Wise Buick/GMC of Fenton

**Best Value:** "The new GMC Terrain. It offers the best competitive payment out there right now."

**Best Design:** "The all new Buick Enclave. Some of the corners puts the car's look into the crossover."

Most exciting for 2013: "The new pick-up truck (Sierra) they'll introduce this summer. It will actually be a 2014 model."

#### STACY BRIGHT Sales associate Szott Ford in Holly

**Best Value:** "The best value is the 2014 Ford Focus, (for) gas economy. It gets close to 36 miles per gallon."

**Best Design:** "That would be the Ford Fusion, the new body style is really nice, the front fascia, the steering's tighter."

Most exciting for 2013: "I really like the Escape, with the 1.6 Eco boost engine you get great power and gas economy, and it's a great look for an Escape."





TRI-COUNTY TIMES I CHRIS HARBOWY

(Top) James Bond's Aston Martin, complete with weapons is on display. (Just above) The Ram 1500 was named 2013 Truck of the Year.

#### Important NAIAS information

- Location: **Cobo Center**, One Washington Blvd, Detroit
- Show date and times: **Saturday, Jan. 19 to Saturday, Jan. 26** 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. (no admittance after 9 p.m.)

**Sunday, Jan. 27** — 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (no admittance after 6 p.m.)

- Early access for handicapped individuals at 8 a.m.
- Enter at the Oakland Entrance.

#### Ticket Prices:

- Adults: \$12 per person
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#### SPORTS TRIVIA TOPIC

He rushed for 47 TDs at the University of Michigan and was drafted by the New York Giants in 1995.

Tyrone Wheatley turned 41 on Saturday.

Random

THOUGHTS

Name him.

The Detroit Red Wings finally started their season with a road game at St. Louis on Saturday. I hear a lot of talk about the Red Wings being depleted and that they might not make the playoffs this year. I think people are focusing too much on what they lost, and not some of the pieces they do have. Are they a Stanley Cup favorite? It's fair to say no. But I'd be a bit shocked if the Wings didn't make the playoffs.

It's been tough to watch the Detroit Pistons this winter. Once again they are hovering below the .400 win percentage standard. They have played better basketball since the Christmas season, but even with that surge, they are on pace to post their fourth straight sub-.400 win percentage season in a row. As bad as the Pistons were before the Bad Boy era, they were never that bad. Andre Drummond has been entertaining, and can be a nice piece to the future. But beyond that, there isn't much talent on this team. It's time. Joe Dumars deserves credit for winning an NBA title as GM, but he deserves credit for making the Pistons what they are now. And for that, I hope he gets fired this offseason. Lake Fenton girls hoops extended to overtime to beat LakeVeille

18

AN EASY SWEEP

Lake Fenton wrestling crushes GAC foes in dual.

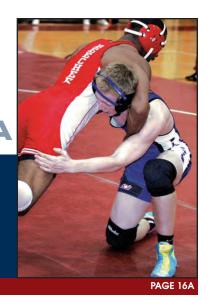
PG 7

IAKE FENTON'S SIDNEY SCOTT

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SE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2013 www.tctimes



#### **Holly wrestling returns to Winter Top Five poll**

#### Fenton boys basketball remains on top of prep list

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

When winter time comes, one thing is usually pretty certain about our Top Five lists.

You can pretty much figure the Holly varsity wrestling team is going to be in the poll.

That hasn't been the case for a good chunk of the winter season this year, however. A reasonably slow start, coupled with some undefeated squads, kept them in the rare position of being on the outside hoping to get in. But that will change this week. Want to find out where the Bronchos rank? Keep on reading.

Remember these polls never include the Friday sporting events. So this poll will not reflect the Fenton vs. Holly boys and girls varsity basketball games played on Friday night. Those games can certainly change the poll next week.

First, here's a list of teams waiting to get into the poll. The Holly varsity boys basketball team started the season 0-2, but has played well in recent weeks. An upset win on Friday against Fenton would probably get them in next week's poll. And how about on the girls' basketball scene. All four area teams have had solid seasons. However, this week's poll only includes one of those four squads. Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden all could find themselves in the poll if they keep winning in future weeks. Lake Fenton's wrestling program was No. 4 last week, but fell out after a tough weekend tourney, albeit against tough competition.

And now to the actual top five:

**No. 5: Fenton/Linden girls ski** - The coop team is 2-0 after beating Grand Blanc this week. They've won their first two meets by a combined score of 120-56.

**No. 4: Holly wrestling -** The Bronchos are 4-0 in Metro League action and starting to look like the team that the league feared they'd become. The two-time defending champions will



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS

Tres Flores (right) and the Holly varsity wrestling team are No. 4 in this week's Tri-County Winter Top Five poll.

have a challenge on their hands on Wednesday when they face the Brandon Blackhawks. That match could dictate if they fall off the poll next week or possibly rise.

**No. 3: Holly girls bowling -** The Bronchos remain undefeated. Brandon was slated for this Saturday. That result could tell us a lot about just how good the Bronchos are.

**No. 2: Holly girls basketball -** I read in another publication that the Bronchos have been a surprise team this year. Say what? I think most

expected the team to be right in the thick of the Metro race. But maybe being undefeated at this juncture in Metro action is a bit shocking. While they are talented, this team did have a lot of new faces on its roster when the season began in November.

No. 1: Fenton boys basketball - The squad that all winter teams measure themselves to so far this winter. The Tigers win by double-digits and are not always pleased with the performance. That's when you know you are a good team.



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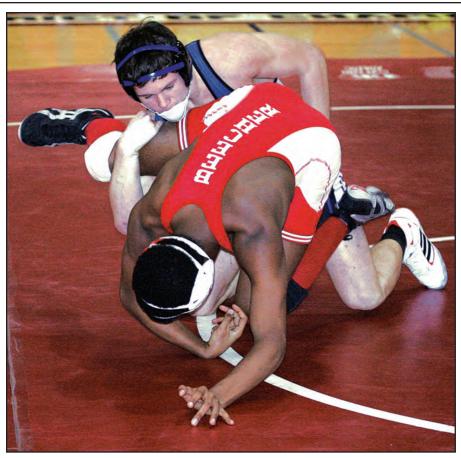


#### **Gypsy**

Gypsy looks like a tiny lab. She is about 1 year old and only about 25 pounds. She is full of energy and love.



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS

Lake Fenton's Cody Sanders (back) holds on to a Beecher foe during the Blue Devils' victory against the Bucs on Wednesday.

## Hard working LF wrestlers earn double-dual GAC sweep

**By David Troppens** 

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Flint** — James DeMember and D.J. Melton know what it's like to be on a wrestling team with the potential to win a state championship.

Both were members of Lake Fenton's 2010-11 team that advanced to the D3 team state final match before finishing the season as state runner-ups.

And while that team may have been among the most talented in school history in any sport, there's one thing the two senior captains won't call that squad. They won't say it was the hardest working wrestling team they've experienced during their seasons in a Blue Devil uniform.

Ask them and they'll tell you this year's team is.

"I've never been on a team that works this hard," said DeMember, who became a Blue Devil his sophomore and wrestled at Detroit Catholic Central his freshman year. "We've always had egos on the team that wouldn't work as hard, and this year we don't have that. I think it's the hardest working team I've ever been on in my life. We had a great team two years ago, but, in my opinion, this team works harder."

Melton, who was on that state runnerup team as well, agrees.

"It is the hardest working wrestling teams we've had since I was a freshman," Melton said. "We go in that room and don't screw around. We work hard all day until 5:30 or 6 o'clock. It's going really good."

At the Blue Devils' dual meet against Beecher and Perry at Beecher High School Wednesday night, Lake Fenton recorded five pinfall wins in a 55-18 victory against Perry, and then recorded five more pinfall wins against Beecher in a 54-24 victory.

"It's been going good," Lake Fenton coach Vance Corcoran said. "I think we are coming along well. We still have

some work to do. We have three kids with not much experience, but they are improving, working hard, filling in the spots and doing the team a favor. We are doing well."

The Blue Devils improved their record to 21-7 overall with the sweep.

"We are doing pretty well," DeMember said. "Our younger guys are starting to perform better than I thought they would, and everybody is doing pretty good. I'm pretty happy."

On Wednesday, eight wrestlers finished the night with two victories. A pair earned two pinfall wins. DeMember (125) is one of those wrestlers. He earned two first-period pinfalls in a combined 2:46. Meanwhile, Cody Sanders (152) also earned a pair of first-period pinfall victories in a nearly identical 2:49. Others like Jared Corcoran (119) and Chase Hull (215) were denied the opportunity for two first-period pinfalls because of a forfeit in the second match of the night. Both earned pinfall wins in their first match.

Others that left Beecher High School's gymnasium with two more victories on their ledger were Able Knight (189/215), Melton (160), Andy Donoho (171) and Lucais Harvey (285).

Brooke Harvey (112) and John Barry (130) each had a victory via pinfall, while Brittany Harvey (145) earned a forfeit victory.

The Blue Devils are excited about what the next month, or so, may hold for the squad.

"We definitely want to make regionals at least," Melton said. "State is always on the mind, it's always the goal, but I think (the goal is) working hard and getting better. We have a lot of young guys, so a lot of it is just getting them ready too."

"You are not going to be a state team all the time, but we are still competing very well in our conference," DeMember said. "I feel like our program is building. ... It's definitely on the rise."

## **Bronchos prove they remain top stud in Metro League race**

**By David Troppens** 

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**Holly** — Just a week ago, Don Pluta was happy his Holly varsity wrestling team was victorious, but many questions remained in his head about the team's ability to maintain their status as Flint Metro League's top dog.

But on Wednesday, the Bronchos probably eased Pluta's mind a bit.

The Holly Bronchos convincingly defeated Lapeer West 63-13 and Clio 69-8 en route to a Metro League sweep at Holly High School.

"We wrestled well," Pluta said. "I was surprised by the score. I expected a tighter match, especially with Lapeer West. They did have two guys out. The thing I am most happy about is no one was pinned last night. That was huge."

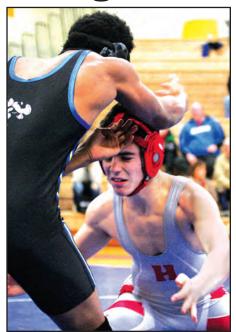
The Bronchos also keep adding wrestlers to enhance their depth. Last week, football player Evin Papuga (215) joined the team, and he had a strong debut. He went 2-0.

"We got another nice addition with Evin Papuga," Pluta said. "He has solidified our upper weights."

Nine other Bronchos left the meet with perfect 2-0 records. They were Colton Cleaver (103), Justin Hennard (112), Keegan Soles (130), Anthony Gonzales (135), Mason Cleaver (140), Jesse Torres (145), Kyle Pepper (152), Andrew Scott (160) and Johnny Williams (171).

The Bronchos, winners of each of the last two Metro League titles, will have a big meet against Brandon and Swartz Creek at Swartz Creek High School on Wednesday. The Blackhawks look to be the Bronchos biggest competition in this season's Metro race.

"We seemed to have turned the corner and are wrestling like we expect from Holly wrestling," Pluta said. "We have a huge challenge ahead with Brandon next Wednesday. Brandon is our biggest obstacle in the league, but we do not take anyone lightly."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS Holly's Jesse Torres (right) prepares to attack an opponent in a recent match. The two-time defending Metro League champion Bronchos defeated Lapeer West and Clio on Wednesday in dual meet action.

#### Kearsley 42, Linden 27 Brandon 49, Linden 30

The Eagles had Cliff Coleman (285) and Zach Shaw (119) go 2-0 in the two

"It was a little disappointing dropping both duals but we are undermanned right now with injuries and eligibility," Linden coach Todd Skinner said. "We do have some very talented young men on the team though, and everyone is making improvements. It's a rebuilding season and we are focusing on the kids we have."

The Eagles that won one match were Luke Zimmerman, Austin Golden, Mike Emington, Tanner Shuck, Austin McNeil, Josh Rakay and Nick Sioui.



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#### Ididarun proves successful in fifth season

#### By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Sometimes bad weather is exactly what an outdoor event craves.

To a point, that's the case with the fifth-annual Ididarun Race.

For the second straight year, participants didn't have to worry about competing in snow during the event that is about two-thirds on roads and about one-third on grass and trails. Snow is one of the features the event craves.

However, even without snow, the eight-mile course, which can be attacked individually or as a relay between two competitors, still had its tough points.

"It could've been called the Ididamud this year instead," one of race organizers Clint Lawhorne said. "One of the biggest differences is probably that time doesn't really matter because the conditions generally make it really hard to run typical times. No one is going to set an eight-mile or a four-mile personal record in mud or snow."

That said, it seems people have See HOLLY on 19A



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#### \*MAMA (PG13)

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\*SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) FRI - SAT10:15 1:00 3:40 6:20 9:00 11:40

SUN - WED 10:15 1:00 3:40 6:20 9:00 THUR 10:15 1:00 3:40 6:20 9:00 11:40

THE LAST STAND (R)FRI - SAT12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:45 11:55 SUN - WED 12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:45 THUR12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:45 11:55

#### STARTING THUR JAN 24

\*2D HANSEL AND GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS (R) THUR10:00 12:05 am \*3D HANSEL AND GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS: REALD 3D (R) THUR10:00 12:05 am

\*\* HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS:
AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (R)
THUR10:00 12:05 am

\*\*MOVIE 43 (R)
THUR 10:00 12:05 am THUR 10:00 12:05 am \*PARKER (R) THUR 10:00 12:05 am

# ZERO DARK THIRTY (R) THE IMPOSSIBLE (PG13) **GANGSTER SQUAD** (R) **A HAUNTED HOUSE** (1 **\*@3D TEXAS CHAINSAW REALD 3D** (R) 2D TEXAS CHAINSAW (R) PARENTAL GUIDANCE (PG) LES MISERABLES (PG13) DJANGO UNCHAINED (R) THIS IS 40 (R)
JACK REACHER (PG13) THE GUILT TRIP (PG13) **@3DTHE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG13)** D THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED **JOURNEY REALD 3D (PG13)** 

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#### LF defense works overtime to earn victory

**By Jordan Climie** 

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Lake Fenton** — It was the second time Lake Fenton and LakeVille played each other this season, and the second time the Blue Devils defeated their Genesee Area Conference Red Division foe. But they needed a little extra time on Thursday night, topping the Falcons 43-37 in over-

"All year long we talked about defense," Lake Fenton coach Matt Gildner said. "In overtime, what won it for us was forcing bad passes."

Part of that defense was senior Sidney Scott, who let herself be known almost from the beginning of the game with a presence in LakeVille's offensive zone to block shots and nab a few steals. She was also present with her tall frame to grab errant shots for rebounds, both offensively and defensively.

"Sidney is a force on the boards," Gildner said.

For Scott, the game was much closer than she imagined it would be.

"We didn't realize how close it would be because we beat them before," she said. "When we came out of halftime, we played better."

She finished with 14 points to lead the Blue Devils.

At the start of the game, Scott was a target for the Lake Fenton offense, which tried to get her the ball under the basket several times. Unfortunately, the LakeVille defense was like a swarm, clogging up any Blue Devil that had the ball. In total, Lake Fenton scored seven points in the first quarter, and all seven points came from the free throw line as the Blue Devils were unable to get off clean shots.

Luckily for the Blue Devils, their defense was also staunch, allowing only five points in the first quarter to the Falcons.

The second quarter shifted though as LakeVille found their rhythm behind junior Maddie Skias. She would regularly take the ball from end to end, either driving for a lay-up or taking a jumper for the outside that usually connected. She finished with a game-high 18 points and aided the Falcons in scoring 14 in the second quarter to give the visitors a 19-15 halftime lead.

"With coach telling us all our mistakes, we came out even harder," Scott said of



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Lake Fenton's Makenzie Gottron (front) netted 10 points in the Blue Devils' 43-37 victory against LakeVille Thursday night.

Lake Fenton's halftime break.

Indeed the Blue Devils did play with a renewed sense of purpose as they went on a 4-0 run to start the third quarter to tie the game at 19. Freshman Taylor Smith became a focal point of the offense as Scott and senior Makenzie Gottron, who were both bottled up in the first half, also started to find open shots. Gottron finished with 10 points and Smith finished with six.

At the start of the fourth quarter, the Blue Devils were up 30-26 after draining 15 shots in the third. But they couldn't hold onto the lead as LakeVille began to chip away at that deficit. Skias again led the charge for the Falcons, who were able to score four more points than Lake Fenton in the final frame to tie the game at 37 and take it into overtime.

The Blue Devils had opportunities in the final minute to set up a game-winning shot, but failed to capitalize.

"We were rushing our shots," Gildner said.

The five-minute overtime belonged to the Blue Devils, however.

Not allowing a single point by LakeVille, Lake Fenton scored six, including a few courtesy of technical fouls against the Falcons bench. Skias herself was in foul trouble and had to come out of the game, leaving the Falcons without their leading scorer and driving force for much of the game.

Lake Fenton (6-1, 8-2 overall) now looks to host Perry on Tuesday.

"It's going to be a tough game," Gildner said. "They like defensive pressure and they have several girls that can score.

"We need to close it out and play with intensity.'

To get to where they are now, Gildner has been using a lot of team-building activities.

"These girls are starting to mesh," he said. Our bench in constantly in the game...it helps out with big games. Everyone wants to succeed and be a part of it."

#### Linden girls return to winning ways, defeat Lapeer East

#### **By David Troppens**

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For three games, the Linden varsity girls basketball team was given the best of what the Flint Metro League has to offer.

It resulted in three tough losses.

But that stretch is over for now. And the Lady Eagles are back to their winning ways.

Linden made short work of Lapeer East, defeating the visiting Eagles 59-13 on Tuesday night.

Linden blew the game open pretty much from the opening whistle, capturing a 12-3 lead after one quarter. That lead grew to 29-7, effectively ending the competitive phase of the contest.

"We got some turnovers and we played some fairly good defense in the first half," Linden coach Ben Varner said. "We fouled a little bit. They shot 13 free throws in the first half, but we were able to fix that in the second half. We allowed only four free throws in the second half. We got back at it again."

The Eagles find themselves kind of "in the middle" when it comes the Flint Metro League. Linden has established they are stronger than the teams below them in the

standings, winning games between these schools by an average of 25.3 points. None of Linden's foes the squad has beat have come closer than 12 points. However, while the team competed with Clio, Holly and Fenton, they found themselves on the losing end of all three road contests. The Eagles will get a chance later in the season to prove they have closed the gap against the top three teams, and will get that opportunity on their

"They definitely learned they have to stick together no matter what the score is," Varner said. "The main thing we have to do is stay mentally tough and stay together. We know teams are going to make runs on us. It's how we respond to that run. For us to compete with better teams in the league we need to be able to withstand their run. Talking to them, they are seeing that's what we have to do."

The Eagles (5-3, 6-3) didn't have to worry about East creating any runs, never allowing more than four points in any quarter. Meanwhile, the Eagles scored at least 11 points in each stanza.

"We needed to get another win," Varner said. "We were trying to go in with the same

attitude we had for the Fenton, Holly and Clio games. We didn't want to have a letdown, and the kids did a nice job with that. We went out, did what we needed to do to get a win.'

Linden was paced by Niki Sargent's 16 points, while Maija Satkowiak had 11 points and three assists. Bri Holscher, Alyssa Logie and Rachel Maxheimer each had six points. Holscher also added seven rebounds, three steals and three assists, while Loge had six rebounds and five steals. Sydney Elmer also had three assists.

In JV action the Linden girls won 63-22. Isabel Mackenzie and Sam Greene had 18 points each. Mackenzie also had eight steals.

#### Lake Fenton 57,

#### **Bloomfield Hills Lahser 42**

The Blue Devils trailed 26-25 at the half, but won the third quarter 20-3, resulting in the non-league victory.

Sidney Scott and Mackenzie Gottron were the clear stars for Lake Fenton. Scott had a game-high 26 points, 11 rebounds and four steals, while Gottron chipped in 23 points and nine rebounds. The rest of the Blue Devils' roster had eight points.

#### **Draeger's star shines at Queen of Diamonds Showcase**

**By Torrey Christopher** 

colleges.

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789
Like many high school athletes, Lake Fenton sophomore
Melody Draeger dreams of being recognized and recruited by

She got this opportunity when she attended the Queen of Diamonds Showcase North on Jan. 5 and 6.

In order to attend the Queen of Diamonds Showcase softball players must apply, and only 264 athletes are accepted of the 2,000 that apply. Players are selected based on criteria such as ability, academics, and coaches' requests and referrals.

"It was amazing to be chosen," Draeger said. "I didn't know only 264 players were accepted until a few months before and I was shocked."

Her performance earned her another honor. She was one of 17 players selected from the event to represent the USA on a North American Select team to play in The Europe Cup in the Netherlands in Ian 2015

Prior to the showcase, players were assigned teams and a coach. However, they didn't get a chance to meet their teammates until they arrived. They were given some time to get to know one another before their first of three games began.

The first game had an unusual setting. It was held in a batting cage with only the pitcher, batter, umpire and catcher. Players had to bat and hit the net for points. Melody scored four points, the most on her team, making her MVP of the game.

"It was cool to get MVP," Draeger said. "The coaches elected me because they said I had a positive influence, I was energetic, and a good hitter."

The final two games included a full indoor field, but batters started with a 1-1 count. They also started every inning with a runner on first base. Each inning was either three outs or six batters long. Draeger's team won both games. Draeger had two putouts on runners attempting to steal.

Draeger, who plays second base and catcher on Lake Fenton's varsity softball team, also continues perfecting her game in the off-season. One way she does this is on the Adrenaline 16u fast pitch travel team.

"For the travel team we practice once a week during off-season," she said. "I also go to camps and work out in the weight room at my school."

Draeger has had coaches help her improve her game throughout the years as well.

"I had a personal trainer, who was a family friend, come over to my house for a few months to help me with fundamentals," Draeger said. "I usually have a pitching coach as well, but I haven't seen him lately. He is a softball coach at Michigan State."

Draeger, a sophomore, has awhile to wait before she has to seriously worry about making college decisions. However, her dream is to play at Michigan



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Lake Fenton's Melody Draeger (right) slides into second base during a Blue Devils' game last spring. She competed at the Queen of Diamonds Showcase and earned an invitation to The Europe Cup.

State University.

She was a member of Lake Fenton's regional championship and the Genesee Area Conference Red Division championship varsity softball squad a year ago. She batted .392 with 22 RBI last year.

The team was primarily freshmen and sophomores last year, so expectations in the spring remain high again this year.

#### Linden, Lake Fenton wrestlers compete in dual weekend tourneys

#### **By David Troppens**

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The Linden varsity wrestling team competed with two weight classes empty, but still found a way to have some success at the Swartz Creek Team Tournament on Saturday.

The Eagles went 3-2, defeating Montrose, Kearsley and Orchard Lake St. Mary's. Their losses came to stateranked Brighton and in a tight loss to Troy.

Individually, the Eagles had three wrestlers finish with undefeated marks. They were Zach Shaw, Dylan Musall and Cliff Coleman. Austin Golden posted a 4-1 mark, while Josh Rakay was 3-1. Austin McNeal was 3-2, while Alec Monticelli went 2-2.

"Overall, it was a pretty good day, and we even voided two weights," Linden coach Todd Skinner said.

"To do that and walk out 3-2, we were pleased."

#### Lake Fenton host Duals

The Blue Devils (19-7) defeated Dakota, West Bloomfield Lahser and Davison's 'B' squad and lost to Macomb Dakota, Lake Orion and Monroe Jefferson.

Jared Corcoran was the Blue Devils' top performer, going 5-0 with five pinfall wins. James DeMember, Chase Hull, Cody Anders and Lucais Allen went 4-1 each.

"Right now I think we are starting to mature as a team," Lake Fenton coach Vance Corcoran said.

"Our younger wrestlers are starting to step up in big matches, and our leaders are doing a better job of leading the way with such a young team.

"I think we are right where we should be as far as records go."

Lake Fenton competed in another weekend tournament on Saturday at Brandon.

#### HOLLY

#### **Continued from Page 18A**

learned to enjoy the event, based on the 160 participants. This year's winner was Ann Arbor's Lindsey LaLonde, who finished the eight-mile event in 49:44. He was followed by Swartz Creek's Jarren Guy (50:36) and Linden's Gary Ruddy (51:50).

The first female to cross the finish line was Flushing's Addie May (56:54), placing sixth overall. Swartz Creek's Kris Kotula was the second woman to finish (1:08.25).

In the relay event, where two competitors each run the four-mile course once, Flushing's Kenny Wall teamed with Kyle Schwieman (47:05). Linden's Ryan Torok and Roger Phillips (47:49) placed second,

while Ferndale's David Barnett and Royal Oak's Adam Quinn (49:05) placed third.

Durand's David Madrigal and Jamie Madrigal (55:16) were the first co-ed team to finish, placing sixth overall. The first female relay team to complete the race was Fenton's Kathleen McGowan and Rochelle Jones (1:04.36), placing 13th overall.

#### **SPORTS BRIEFS**

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

▶ Lapeer East 58, Linden 39: Linden got 12 points from Travis Rinks, but it wasn't enough for the Eagles to earn their first win of the season. Shaye Brown had nine points, while Kyle Korman netted eight points.

#### **BOYS SKI**

► Holly/Oxford 22, Flushing 59: Holly/Oxford's Greg Schultz and Lars Joergens-Koka each earned a first and a second, leading the co-op team to the victory.

Schultz won the slalom (59.47) and placed second in the giant slalom (44.25), while Joergens-Koka placed first in the giant slalom (44.25) and second in the slalom (1:00.44). Spencer Christen was third in the slalom (1:02.98), while Zac Felix placed third in the giant slalom (45.30).

▶ Grand Blanc 29, Fenton/Linden 58: The Tigers were paced by Seth Thompson, who placed second in the giant slalom (44.63) and the slalom (1:00.66). Julian Weinberg placed third in the slalom (1:01.03).

#### **GIRLS SKI**

► Fenton/Linden 26, Grand Blanc

**49:** Fenton/Linden's Kelley McKay placed first in the giant slalom (46.60) and second in the slalom (1:09.15), helping the squad to the win. McKenna Valley won the slalom (1:04.77), while Flannery Wise placed third (1:09.38). In giant slalom Lauren Rhoades placed second (47.00), while Valley took third (47.68).

▶ Holly/Oxford 32, Flushing 45: Holly/Oxford won the giant slalom 14-24, sparking the victory. Alyssa Wysocki placed first in the giant slalom (49.68), while Emma Ford placed third (50.88). In the slalom, Abby Wrobel placed third (1:15.56).



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## ASK THE MECHANIC

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- Nick

Nick, The problem you may be having now is low fuel pressure due to the pump getting hot from running low on fuel. On a new and healthy pump this may not happen right away, but on an older fuel pump you want to be careful not to run it low on fuel too often. You can check this with a fuel pressure gauge. However, you will need to know the specification for your vehicle.

You can get the specs from most parts stores or call me at 248-382-1280 with the vin # and I can give this info to you.

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**Mother's Day Dinner** May 12th

#### SURVEY

#### **Continued from Front Page**

"We felt it was important to have a professional company assess the school district," Jalkanen said. "EPIC-MRA is widely used and well respected. Over 100 districts have used this company."

According to its website, EPIC-MRA is a research firm that conducts public opinion surveys, focus group research, bond proposals and millage campaigns.

**We always** 

need to update

technology. It's

putting a strain

budget.

**Wayne Wright** 

Lake Fenton Community

Schools superintendent

on our operational

The survey will address the schools' failed bond proposals as well. Last year, FAPS tried to pass a bond proposal in May. When that proposal failed, the school district tried to pass the bond again in November, which failed again. FAPS had to pay Genesee County \$13,466 for the special election held in May. School officials sought \$9.6 million

in their first bond and then \$8.4 million in their second bond.

Had they been approved, the failed bonds would have been used to update technology, buses, security and infrastructure within the school district. Currently, FAPS has two existing bonds; one for \$41.5 million passed in 1998, which funded the construction of the A.G.S. Middle School. The second bond was passed in 2006 and allocated the district \$24.5 million, which was used to build a new stadium, auxiliary gym, the fine arts wing in the high school and to purchase new technology. Currently, 6.35 mils exist for homeowners in the Fenton school district.

"The need for technology did not go away, the need for safety did not go away," Jalkanen said. "Part of the survey will ask the community if they would support (a bond)."

Jalkanen expects the survey to be done within the next two months.

In neighboring Lake Fenton Community Schools (LFCS), Superintendent Wayne Wright echoed Jalkanen's views

> on the need for schools to update their technology.

> "We always need to update technology. It's putting a strain on our operational budget," said Wright, who added that \$100,000 of the district's budget is used to update technology. Currently, homes within the LFCS district have 4.6 mils for a \$30 million

bond passed in 2002, which constructed the high school.

"We're pushing hard for legislators to allow sinking funds to be used on technology," said Wright. When asked about a possible bond to address the shortcomings of the district's technology, Wright said, "We haven't had any discussion in that regard."

Jalkanen said the \$16,700 used to fund the survey will come from the district's line item budget for professional services. "Using the survey, we will move forward with making the district as good as it can be," Jalkanen said.

#### **DOCTOR**

#### **Continued from Front Page**

Richard Alan Behnan, D.P.M., 56, was sentenced this week in Bay City and was ordered to pay \$1,427,133 million in restitution and \$196,956 to Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Between 2000 and 2010, Behnan traveled extensively throughout the state and provided services to patients at senior centers and assisted living facilities. During that time, Behnan, along with his partner Kelly Morel, filed claims for nail avulsion procedures to Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield. However, investigators learned that Behnan had been merely trimming and polishing patients' toenails, procedures not covered by medical insurance.

In some instances, Behnan submitted claims for nail avulsion procedures he claimed to have performed at a time when he was outside of the United States.

According to the U.S. attorney's office, Behnan billed and received a total of \$1,624,089 in fraudulent claims.

Morel pleaded guilty in May 2011 and was sentenced this week to 18 months

U.S. Attorney McQuade said, "We hope that cases like this one will alert doctors and other health care providers that defrauding taxpayers through Medicare fraud is a serious crime that will land them in prison."

FBI Special Agent in Charge Robert D. Foley said, "Those who commit health care fraud by illegally billing Medicare for services never performed are stealing money from all taxpayers. The FBI is vigorously committed to stopping these criminal acts."

The case was investigated by the FBI and prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan.

#### **HOT LINE** CONTINUED

#### 

NOW THAT THE Second Amendment has been tweaked, next will be a task force that will mirror our military numbers, which will control our citizens. This is known as Marxism. He talked about it in a speech but deaf voters didn't hear it and blind voters didn't see it.

TO THE PERSON who wanted to know how taxes went up. If you actually worked for a

living, you would have seen the 2 percent increase in federal tax. TRUTH – NOW YOUR doctor will be asking

you if your have guns in your home. Know why? Are you concerned yet?

THE ROYAL OAK fondler/exposer gets \$50,000 bond, the .22-caliber shooter gets a \$5,000 bond and the girl who ran the stop sign and killed a Fenton man in his prime of life gets a \$25,000 bond. Why are any of these people bonded out? They should be in jail.

#### **AREN'T THE LINDEN** city administrators responsible for the sewer tap in mess? The mayor says, 'we've known for years' they weren't correct. Administration created the mess now let them fix it. Charge each of them half the total amount due.

YOUR TAXES AREN'T going up a dime unless you make more than \$400,000 a year. The Social Security tax issue was originally a tax holiday that was going to expire on Jan. 1, either way. The rate only went back to what it was when the President first took office.

#### 

IT DOES NOT matter if you are pro gun, neutral or anti-gun. You see, what matters, is this. If you support or allow any of the freedoms we were granted to be taken away, directly or indirectly, the other freedoms will eventually be taken too.



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SALLY RUMMEL Jim Kruzan of Kaydan Wealth Management in Fenton puts together about half a dozen different scenarios for clients when determining their best financial path in retirement.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY Continued from Front Page

The days of "30 years and out" in most career paths are gone, with people working longer and carrying debt they never used to have.

"One thing is for certain, there's no pat answer to the question about when to begin taking your Social Security benefits," said Jim Kruzan, of Kaydan Wealth Management in Fenton. "There is a very 'black and white' answer as to what age you will be able to maximize your Social Security benefits, but you have to take into account many other issues to determine what will work best in your own situation."

The biggest problem is that many people don't spend enough time to determine the best way to claim their benefits, and it costs them a lot of money in retirement.

Even though it may be tempting to take it early, Kruzan cautions people that it may make more sense to allow benefits to accrue at 8 percent per year, especially with tax rates going up this year. "That 8 percent is a lot more certain than what you can count on in the stock market during a four-year period, if you waited from age 66 to 70 to collect," he said. "Plus, you're

also entitled to a cost of living adjustment in your Social Security payment."

Because of the complexity of the issue, Kruzan strongly advises people to consult a professional. At their office, he runs through five or six different scenarios with his clients, showing what the Social Security benefits will be if he/she draws them at age 62, defers them until full retirement age, if the couple keeps work-

**L**It's important that

you take a long, hard

look at all the angles.

There are no 'right

rule, if you're still

reason to not start

taking benefits. 77

Jim Kruzan

answers' across the

board. But as a general

working, this is a good

Owner of Kayden Wealth Management

ing and other critical factors—such as one's health and expectation of longevity. "Unless someone has advanced longevity in their family, we base our figures on a mortality age of 85," said Kruzan.

Even though you don't have a crystal ball in hand to know exactly what your future will hold, you can base your decision by considering these guidelines from forbes.com:

• If you're still working, don't claim benefits before your full retirement age (for those born between 1943 and 1954,

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full retirement age is 66), unless you need the money just to survive. An earnings penalty will penalize you for any money you earn above \$15,120.

• Consider your family genes and general health. If you're in poor health and want to get some of your tax dollars back, then claim Social Security sooner rather than later. You can calculate your life expectancy on socialsecurity.com based on

health, family history, exercise, eating, drinking, driving habits and social relationships.

• Don't get hung up on the break-even date — the age you have to live to so that waiting to collect a bigger check pays off. By waiting, you're buying a larger inflation-adjusted lifetime annuity for a lot less than you could buy a commercial annuity.

• Understand the cou-

ples' game. Social Security actually treats married couples favorably. If one partner dies, the survivor can claim the deceased spouse's check instead of his or her own, assuming the dead spouse's check is larger. When both partners are still alive, one can claim 50 percent of spousal benefits at 66, while allowing his or her earned benefit to build until age 70.

"It's important that you take a long, hard look at all the angles," said Kruzan. "There are no 'right answers' across the board. But as a general rule, if you're still working, this is a good reason to not start taking benefits."

For more information about your own retirement and to calculate your benefits, visit SSA.gov

#### Here's an example:

You are turning 62 in June 2013 and earn \$50,000 a year. You could collect about \$1,011 a month as a single if you retire at 62 years, or \$1,420 a month at your full retirement age of 66 in 2015, or \$1,972 a month starting at 70 in 2019.

Source: forbes.com



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#### News briefs

#### **FAPSEF** receives \$2,900 donation

James B. Kruzan, CFP, CRPC, of Kaydan Wealth Management, Inc., in Fenton, recently presented a check for \$2,900 to the Fenton Area Schools Education Foundation (FAPSEF). Every year, Kruzan pledges to donate \$100 for each offensive touchdown scored at home by the Fenton varsity football team. Since 2007, he has donated upwards of \$11,700 and the number continues to grow. Kruzan has served as a trustee and finance committee chairman for the FAPSEF for eight years. Over the years, he has donated regularly to Fenton schools and other local area organizations. Kruzan resides in Fenton with his family and both of his children attended Fenton schools.

## Meet Troppens

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

Tri-County Times Sports Editor Dave Troppens not only covers sports in Fenton, Linden, Holly and beyond, he is also into curling, the sport that involves ice, brooms, and sliding stones. In addition, he creates his own soccer sports board games, based on actual professional leagues.

What are these games? It's actual cards of the season that were just completed. I take their stats, and make cards based on statistical data. And with that data you can recreate a game, or a whole season.

Why would someone want to do that? It's a way to learn more about the leagues. It's more common in baseball. For instance, I've replayed the 1946 American League baseball season. I wasn't alive then, it's a way to learn about these teams in a different way. It's interesting, but it's geeky.

#### What would a reader be surprised to learn about you? The

(high school) contacts I have think I'm really quiet at games. I have been known to do some crazy stuff at sporting events. I have been 'the crazy' fan. When I was younger, starting waves was very common. This is not a lie — I have gotten a team a penalty before, because they moved on my cadence call. I was at a CMU game, the opposing team was at the line and I remembered their cadence and I yelled 'hut!' They all jumped, and got a penalty on that play.

That's like the 'hey batter-batter' thing? But I took it to a new level. At my sporting events, I've been known to be a kind of fruit-loop, but never at games for work.

You have a thorough understanding of all the local teams and players. How long would it take to get up to speed in a totally **different area?** It's the familiarity of a community, I think that's the biggest problem. It takes at least two years to begin to understand a community. You



can write things that might be 'right' when you first get to a community, but from the community flavor, you don't exactly have it right, if that makes sense. Frequently there's new things I learn about the past. Each year I learn about area athletes that I didn't know about. For example I didn't know Fenton High School swimming had been a power house in the past. I guess there's always things that surprise you.

Tell me something the community would have no idea you have to deal with as the sports editor. Not that I'm complaining, but you can only be at one place at one time. People ask, 'why aren't you at this game,' and 'why aren't you at this game.' You're only one person, you have to pick and choose your games based on one or two criteria. Technically I'm my own boss, but really, the schedule is my boss.

What do you love about your **job?** What I love about working at a small paper like this — you get to watch kids over a two-, three- or four-year period, you get to watch them grow up. You get to see them start as a goofy kid, and you get to watch them mature as the years go on. They're not your kids, but it's fun to watch that. There's something about high school sports that is different than anything else, than pro sports. They're not doing it to be paid, they're doing it because they love it, and it's fun watching them when they play for those reasons.

something about

high school sports that is different than anything else, than pro sports." Dave Troppens Tri-County Times

sports editor

TRI-COUNTY TIMES Sports Editor Dave

Troppens' office is littered with sports memorabilia, like a stack of newspapers and Detroit Tigers mug. The pennant behind him is of the short-lived United

States Football League team, Michigan Panthers. He said he likes them because they're the only Detroit pro football team to win a championship. "So I honor them with my own geeky banner," he said.

#### tctimes.com

23A

#### ONLINE COMMENTS

**Several stories appear on** the Times website before in print. **Read our viewers' comments:** 

#### STORY: **DOCTOR SENTENCED TO 55 MONTHS**

**44Bunk! It should** be up to the individual doctor to define what procedure they performed and not some stinking government entity.'



#### STORY: **FENTON WILL** RELUCTANTLY PAY **44** Good for CN

railroad. Anytime any entity can sock it to the government instead of

the other way around, I'm for it."

**The City of Fenton could always** insist that payment will only occur upon receiving a description of the services rendered. An honest company wanting payment for services

rendered would happily submit the invoice with a full accounting of what was done.

#### The poor council members are really

going to cry when they learn that the Michigan Legislature has increased the amounts which road authorities must pay to railroads for the maintenance of signals at crossings, effective Dec. 21,

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FINANCIAL FREEDOM	6B
BUSINESS NEWS	2B
OBITUARIES	14B
MLK JR.	3B

Section



## Life Style

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## according to women's health.about.com.

#### It's not just for men anymore

**By Sally Rummel** 

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

With all of today's TV commercials about sexual dysfunction and "low t," you might be led to believe that the hormone testosterone is only important in improving a man's sex life.

However, research shows that testosterone may actually give both men and women better health and a longer life.

What is testosterone? Testosterone is a male hormone that helps sperm production in men, as well as causing and maintaining secondary male sex characteristics such as growth of facial hair and deepening of a boy's voice during puberty,

44...If you have a low level of sexual

desire or are feeling

fatigued, it should be

checked out. Jamal Hammoud, M.D. Chief of Endocrinology at McLaren-Flint and Genesys Regional Medical Center and a clinical professor at Michigan State University

sexual desire and the maintenance of healthy bones and muscles. When all of your hormones are work-

ing at their proper levels, you probably won't notice the effects they have on your body. But if you do suffer from depression, fatigue, low sex drive, unex-

While testosterone is generally considered a male hormone, the ovaries in

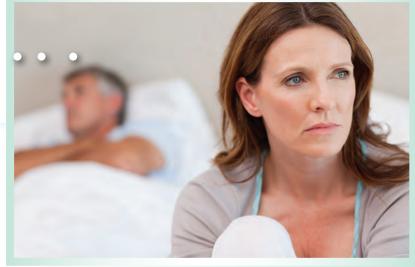
women also produce small amounts of testosterone, which helps regulate female

> plained weight gain, etc., you may want to have your testosterone levels checked out with your doctor.

"This isn't a routine blood test, but if you have a low level of sexual desire or are feeling fatigued, it should be checked out," said Jamal

Hammoud, M.D., chief of endocrinology at McLaren-Flint and Genesys Regional Medical Center and a clinical professor at Michigan State University.

See **TESTOSTERONE** on 5B



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | LEARNVEST.COM

Women suffering from depression, fatigue, low sex drive or unexplained weight gain may want to have their testosterone checked by their doctor.

#### Who SHOULD NOT have testosterone replacement therapy?

#### Women\_

with a history of breast or uterine cancer, or those with cardiovascular or liver disease.

#### Men\_

with benign prostatic hypertrophy, prostate cancer or elevated PSA, sleep apnea, high blood counts or congestive heart failure.

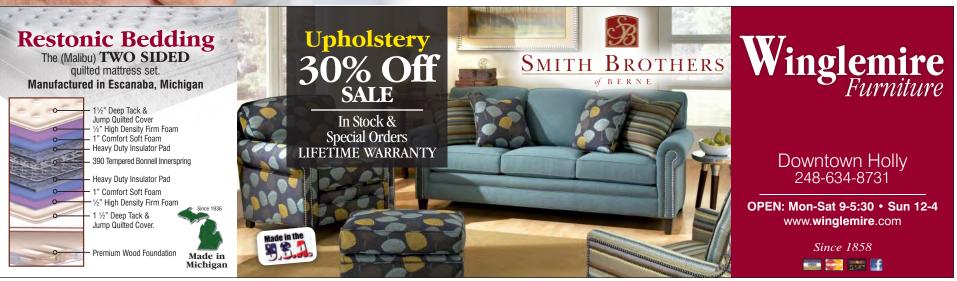
#### What's the difference between Testosterone Replacement Therapy and Performance-Enhancing Steroids?

While anabolic (muscle-building) steroids used by some bodybuilders and athletes contain testosterone or chemicals that act like testosterone, the forms used by athletes illegally are

in much higher doses than those used by patients in replacing natural levels. They also are often "stacked" with other substances that boost the overall muscle-building effect.

Source: Livestrong.com





#### **The Tool Chest**

#### Business *profile*

New Holly business caters to men who like to buy and sell tools and collectibles

#### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com

The Tool Chest, open in downtown Holly since November, is a combination of reality TV hit shows, "Storage Wars" and "Auction Hunters."

Aisles and aisles of used and some new tools — from hand tools to large saws and other "handyman" items - create a destination for men to go where they can buy, sell, trade or consign their own tools and collectibles. It's a haven for many quality tools, including Snap-on and Mack brands, which are priced at 60 to 70 percent less than retail.

"I have a lifetime collection of tools and other collectibles," said Chris Wilkinson, who owns this new busi-

ness along with Wilkinson Auto Repair in Holly. "I decided to open The Tool Chest instead of auctioning off my collections, although I still have plenty of my own."

for babies and young children.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SALLY RUMMEL Chris Wilkinson (left), and Christine Grove are business partners at The Tool Chest in downtown Holly.

Wilkinson also relies on the expertise of his business partner and store manager, Christine Grove, who has many years of experience in handling estate sales, eBay sales and more. She carefully researches each item to get the best price for both buyers and sellers.

Grove is encouraging local residents to do some of their own spring cleaning and bring in items for consignment.

"Now there's a place where guys can go in Holly to buy and sell," said Wilkinson.

The Tool Chest is located at 215 South Saginaw St., across from the village offices. "We're right by the railroad tracks downtown,"

said Wilkinson. Store hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (248) 634-2533.



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SALLY RUMMEL

Serendipity Day Spa owner Jessica Skop takes a moment to relax in the new Sterling's Wine Cellar, located inside the spa.

#### **Serendipity Day Spa**

Opens Sterling's Wine Cellar inside Linden spa

#### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

What goes together better than a pampering spa experience and wine?

For Serendipity Day Spa owner Jessica Skop, the answer was easy. That's why she opened Sterling's Wine Cellar in December, tucked cozily inside her Linden spa at 129 East Broad St.

'It's a fantastic concept. Women love it," said Skop. "We are one of Michigan's only day spas complete with a liquor license, which makes Sterling's the perfect addition to any spa party or quiet spa day for yourself. From birthdays to bachelorette parties, a visit to Serendipity Day Spa is a pampering, fun event.'

Serendipity Day Spa is proud to utilize Fenton Winery & Brewery as their primary wine provider and distributor. The wine bar includes 12 wines, plus beer and non-alcoholic beverages by the glass, as well as approximately 40 bottles available for service.

People can enjoy Sterling's by sitting at the comfortable wine bar or choosing a cozy table near the fireplace. Packaged gourmet snacks are also available.

Sterling's Wine Cellar is Serendipity Day Spa's most recent expansion, following a major renovation at its second location in Frankenmuth. Skop opened Serendipity Day Spa in her hometown of Frankenmuth in March 2009 at River Place Shops. Located across from SugerHigh Bakery, this Frankenmuth spa now offers five treatment rooms, six pedi chairs, four mani stations and a small boutique.

Serendipity is beginning its monthly charity program, which offers \$50 gift cards for \$40. All proceeds go to the charity of the month. See their Facebook page for details on the guidelines and a list of charities they are supporting this year.

Watch for more details about the spa's Valentine's Day couples' massage packages at both locations.

#### School briefs

#### **Holly Academy fosters** desire to learn with e-reader

The new, 8 gigabyte Nook tablet is now standard issue for middle school students at Holly Academy. In all, 87 were purchased so each class could have a complete set. Funds were raised through the Holly Academy Education Fund, which included an extra 8 gigabyte memory card for each unit. The tablets will be used with the school's WIFI and educational apps for reading, science, social studies Spanish and math. The units are also loaded with novels like "Journey of the Sparrow," "The House on Mango Street," and others. Holly Academy has found that technology, like e-readers, has benefited students of all grade levels, which have access to the tablets when the middle school students aren't using them.

#### Business briefs

#### Kruzan named to 2013 Chairman's **Council for 11th straight year**

James B. Kruzan, CFP, CRPC, registered principal, branch manager at Kaydan Wealth Management, Inc., an independent firm in Fenton, recently achieved membership in Raymond James Financial Services 2013 Chairman's Council. Chairman's Council honors are presented to financial advisors who have demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to personal service and professional integrity. This marks the 11th consecutive year that Kruzan has qualified for this recognition. Kruzan joined Raymond James in 1987 and has more than 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. He provides an encompassing financial planning and management program designed to help truly driven people simplify and streamline their finances and lead fuller lives. Kruzan has two offices, one in Fenton and one in Clarkston.

## THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT Source: List25.com



#### ONLY U.S. CITIZEN WHO NEVER HELD OFFICE TO HAVE A **HOLIDAY NAMED AFTER HIM**

There are only two other people in American history that have national holidays honoring them — George Washington and Christopher Columbus.



#### 4. HE WAS A TREKKIE

And a pretty big one at that. In fact, he was so into Star Trek that he managed to convince Nichelle Nichols, who played Uhura, to stay on the show beyond the first season.



At 12 years old he jumped out of a second story window in an apparent suicide attempt following the death of his grandmother.



#### 6. 'I HAVE A DREAM' **IMPROVISATION**

The final and most famous part of this speech, the part from which it derives its name, was actually a masterful piece of improvisation on behalf of King





#### 7. HIS HEART WAS 20 YEARS OLDER THAN HIM

Upon autopsy following his assassination, it was found that although King was only 39, he had the heart of a 60 year old. Doctors concluded that this was probably due to the heavy stress he faced in his life.



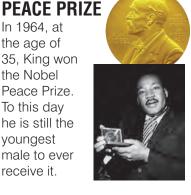


#### **BORN WITH A DIFFERENT NAME**

His father was born "Michael King" and Martin Luther King Jr. was originally called "Michael King Jr." After a family trip to Germany his father, a pastor and missionary, changed both of their names to "Martin Luther" after the German Protestant Reformer.

8. YOUNGEST MALE TO WIN NOBEL

In 1964, at the age of 35, King won the Nobel Peace Prize. To this day he is still the youngest male to ever receive it.



#### **STABBED BY A MENTALLY ILL** WOMAN

While he was at a book signing in 1958 he was stabbed by a woman who was later concluded to be mentally ill. The knife passed so close to his aorta that doctors said even so much as a sneeze could have killed him.



#### 9. NOT THE ONLY **MEMBER OF HIS FAMILY TO BE** ASSASSINATED

Tragically his mother, Alberta Williams, was also killed in her Atlanta church in 1974.



#### **10. NAME IS ON MORE THAN 700 STREETS**

In almost every major city in American, and dozens of small ones, there is bound to be a street bearing his name.

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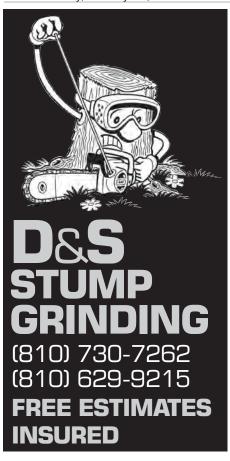
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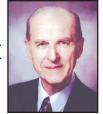
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Your Home May Be Worth More Than You Think!



## Featured columnist

By Roger Campbell



#### Staying content in crisis

Does it seem to you that the world, maybe even your life, keeps lurching from one crisis to another? How can we stay calm and content in crises?

Paul, the apostle, claimed he had found the answer to this question: 'I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content,' he said (Philippians 4:11). And this man of faith practiced what he preached. When he and his fellow missionary, Silas, were beaten and thrown into prison with their feet locked in stocks, they prayed and sang praises at midnight. Their praying could have been predicted (most of us pray when we're in trouble), but these suffering servants of God broke into songs of praise in prison. Even in jail, they were joyful.

Conditions were far from ideal

in that dismal place. Tomorrow was uncertain and the present was painful. How could they sing and praise God with their back bruised and bleeding from the recent whippings they had received and with their feet locked in those hated stocks?

The answer lies in their ability to focus on what they had rather than on what they had lost and their choice of faith over feelings. If this was to be their last night, they refused to waste it feeling down over their problems. Even in this dark place and under almost unbearable conditions, they knew they were not alone because God was with them. The night was dark but they knew the Lord was their light and this drove their clouds away.

Instead of being overcome by their problems, Paul and Silas started giving thanks and soon broke into a dungeon doxology. The other prisoners were so deeply moved that when God answered the prayers of these faithful men by sending an earthquake that shook the doors of the prison off their hinges, not one tried to escape. They all remained to hear what Paul and Silas had to say.

You may find yourself in an unpleas-

ant situation. You're tired of problems and feel whipped by one crisis after another. You wonder if life will ever get back to normal. In addition, the stress caused by these difficulties has subjected you to emotional pain as real as any physical discomfort you've ever experienced. How can any of us remain tranquil when life gets tough?

Here's one possibility! We can start thanking God for His love and the basics of life that we're prone to take for granted. Thanksgiving opens the door for contentment to enter. Darkness soon departs and light breaks through...even when we're in jeopardy.

Paul had a quiet heart in the face of suffering and possible death because of his absolute confidence that God was working everything out for his good (Romans 8:28). He was convinced that he lived within the circle of God's love and this confidence enabled him to rise above the circumstances.

Let the storms come, let the key turn in the lock of the prison door giving entrance to his persecutors, let the whip fall on his back again and again. No matter. This trusting man was persuaded nothing could separate him from the love of God and this made him content in every crisis.

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



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## events

#### NATIONAL CEMETERIES TOPIC AT NEXT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Tyrone Township Historical Society will hold its next meeting on Monday, Jan. 21 at 6:30 p.m. A meeting a program will follow the potluck dinner. The group meets at the Tyrone Township Hall on Center Road. Everyone is invited. The speaker for Jan. 21 is Rick Anderson, administrator of the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly Township. He will offer historical information concerning national cemeteries and information for veterans. All veterans are encouraged to attend. Contact Connie Powell at (810) 629-2031 for more information.

#### NAMI GENESEE COUNTY MEETS JAN. 22

NAMI Genesee County is a support group for persons with mental disorders, their relatives, and friends. Meetings are 7 to 9 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the McLaren Community Medical Center, 1314 South Linden Rd., in Flint. Enter through Radiology door. The speaker on Jan. 22 is Dan Russell, who will address Medicare and Medicaid changes resulting from the new healthcare law. Familyto-Family classes for relatives of adults with mental illnesses will begin on Feb. 14 at the Alternative Veteran's Service Center. NAMI Basic classes for caregivers of children and adolescents with mental illnesses will begin Feb. 6 at Mott Children's Health Center. There is no charge for NAMI meetings and classes. Call (810) 232-6498 for more information.

Life Style

#### 'It's been a great 50 years'



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

Linden Kiwanis President Don Rajsich (right) honors Mike Murphy for his 50 years of community service with the organization. Murphy joined the Kiwanis when he set up shop at Murphy's Village Laundromat. Linden Kiwanis organizes multiple community service events, such as their annual Euchre tournament, holding barbeques, and decorating the city of Linden at Christmas. "Being in the Kiwanis is a great opportunity to help out," Murphy said. "It's been a great 50 years."

#### **TESTOSTERONE**

Continued from Page 1B

"First, we try to find out the cause of low testosterone levels, although we usually don't find a reason, unless there's a tumor on the pituitary gland," said Hammoud. "Before beginning any treatment for a man's 'low t,' we also have to rule out prostate cancer by monitoring his

Summary Many

Many women as well as men may benefit from having their testosterone levels checked and treated.

prostate specific antigen (PSA) numbers." Men with prostate cancer or elevated PSA should probably avoid testosterone treatment, according to WebMD.

A deficiency of this important hormone can also trigger erectile dysfunction, enlarged pros-

tate, muscular weakness, poor endurance, irritability, poor concentration and poor memory. Low levels of testosterone may increase the risk for heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis and Alzheimer's.

"Low testosterone levels can cause osteoporosis," said Hammoud. "When your testosterone is at optimum levels, it is good for your bones, building muscle and reducing fat. You'll feel stronger."

However, he adds that Testosterone Replacement Therapy (TRT) should only be done for medical purposes under the guidance of a person's doctor.

Low testosterone in men is defined as total testosterone below 300 ng/dL. — and 5 to 10 percent of men over 40 have it, according to Hammoud. "It's very common," he said.

For women, testosterone levels between 50 and 100 ng/dL are considered normal, based on a woman's stage in life. Testosterone in women maintains physical, mental and sexual health. It stimulates hair growth and the development of bone,

muscle and skin. It helps regulate mood, affects memory and concentration, and promotes a general sense of well-being. The hormone also drives a woman's sexual interest, arousal and response.

## Whether you're a man or a woman, you can be treated with testosterone replacement therapy in several different forms.

- Skin patch worn on the arm or upper body and applied once a day.
- **Gels** absorbed directly through the skin when applied daily. Some gels may also be applied through a pump.
- Mouth patch a tablet that sticks to the upper gums above the incisor, the tooth just to the right or left of the two front teeth. Applied twice a day, it continuously releases testosterone into the blood through the oral tissues.
- **Injections** injected directly into the muscles every two to three weeks.
- Implants implanted as pellets in the soft issues, slowly absorbing the testosterone into the bloodstream.

According to Hammoud, women can either take testosterone as a tablet along with estrogen, or as part of bio-identical hormone treatment with a specialized formula made in a compounding pharmacy.

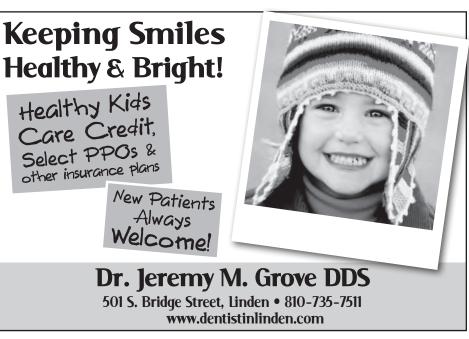
"If you have low testosterone levels, you will feel much, much better if you have testosterone replacement therapy," said Hammoud. Many men report improvement in energy level, mood, sex drive and sexual performance. Testosterone also increases bone density, muscle mass and insulin sensitivity in some men.

Should a woman be worried that testosterone replacement therapy will result in an overgrowth of body hair, a deepening of the voice or mood changes? Not if the testosterone is being restored only to its natural levels.

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## FINANCIAL FREEDOM

Planning ahead is the key to your family's financial future

PAGE



TRI-COUNTY TIMES LEVURIN

Even in the "fog of uncertainty," people can follow constructive trends in the marketplace that will provide them with clarity in making investment decisions.



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## Findaclear financial view By Sally Rummel news@tctimes.com 810-629-8282

Fiscal cliff... health care limbo...

higher taxes...

The amount of uncertainty in

today's financial market could scare just about anyone out of investing, but wealth management firm Edward Jones advises people to watch for constructive underlying trends amidst the "fog of uncertainty."

Here are a few of the trends mentioned in a recent U.S. Market Insight report:

**Trend #1:** The U.S. economy has continued to grow, albeit slowly, and modest growth can be expected going forward. With 2 percent growth in 2012 and modest growth likely in 2013, consumers have more money to spend on things other than debt — consumer payments on debt as a percent of disposable personal income are at the lowest level since the early 1990s, due to today's low interest rates.

**Trend #2:** Corporate earnings remain solid for many companies, supporting healthy dividend growth and more com-

Many risks are out of our control, while underlying trends can help you make wise decisions

panies repurchasing shares, which should help support stock prices over time.

**Trend #3:** Corporate balance sheets are very healthy.

More companies are starting to return cash to shareholders in the form of dividends and stock repurchases and reinvesting in the business.

**Trend #4:** Stocks are attractively valued when compared to forward-looking earnings. Stocks are currently trading at 13 times the next 12-month earnings estimate — this is below the historical average price-to-earnings ration of 15 since 1980.

Edward Jones, with three offices in the tri-county area, recommends that people focus on the fundamentals of healthy companies that are well-positioned to grow despite today's uncertainties. These companies have charted their own path by implementing a unique strategy, introduced a new product or have built a competitive advantage, allowing them to continue their earnings growth despite slow economic growth.

#### Top investment strategies

for today's uncertain market conditions:

- **Stay diversified** this will allow you to participate in strong markets but also will protect you against market setbacks.
- Remain focused on the long-term. Don't let near-term market fluctuations and media headlines drive your investment decisions. Remain focused on your desired course to help you achieve your long-term goals.
- **Rebalance your** portfolio with your investment objective and risk tolerance. Shift your asset allocations due to market

fluctuations by buying more of an investment you don't have enough of and selling something you own too much of.

• Consider investing in companies that are charting their own course. These companies have unique characteristics that should allow them to continue to grow earnings and dividends despite the uncertain environment. You may want to consider companies that have the potential to consistently raise their dividend over time.

Source: Edward Jones

#### Three offices of **Edward Jones** in tri-county area:



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## 'Honey, they've shrunk our checks!'

#### ▶ Evidence of the fiscal cliff shown in your first January paycheck

#### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Look closely at your first paycheck in 2013 — you'll notice that it's 2 percent smaller, thanks to a bigger bite taken out for Social Security.

That's one of the issues from the fiscal cliff financial fiasco that wasn't "saved" in time for January 2013. "This is the first thing people will notice as a result of the fiscal cliff," said Holly tax preparer Glen Mitchell of The Tax Center. "It's the end of the Bush tax credits, which were in place for two years. Now we've gone back to the system that was in place for 30 years before that."

Other than a shrunken paycheck, you may find that the IRS will be pretty much "back to normal" as it was in the year 2011, according to Mitchell, who adds that this is his preliminary observation after very recent events. But he also warns that we may have some big surprises coming from the state of Michigan for this tax year.

"Most people don't realize that the state of Michigan implemented a number of new laws that were put in place in May, 2011 to be effective for the tax year



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Now's the time to get your financial records ready for the upcoming tax season.

2012," said Mitchell. "There will be many reduced tax credits and deductions. A lot fewer people will be getting refunds and many people will be paying in this year."

There will be a huge difference in the Homestead Tax Credit, he added. Many people will be paying hundreds of dollars more in this one area alone.

"Pensions will also be taxed this year, depending on your age tier," said Mitchell. "People born after 1952 will be the hardest hit, with all pension income, dividends and capital gains taxable until age 67,

when some breaks will apply."

You have 99 days from now until April 15 to get your financial records in order for Uncle Sam.

"Now's the time to get your records together and monitor your mail for important documents that are necessary for filing," said Mitchell. "Once you've gotten documents in the mail, be sure to put them all together with other important tax papers in a file or other safe place that you'll remember for the next three months."

Most people don't realize that the state of Michigan implemented a number of new laws that were put in place in May, 2011 to be effective for the tax year 2012. There will be many reduced tax credits and deductions. A lot fewer people will be getting refunds and many people will be paying in this year. "

**Glen Mitchell** 

Owner of The Tax Center in Holly

His company uses a checklist for their clients, and also advises people to use their last year's tax return for information they'll need this year.

What financial items do people often forget? Mitchell says that unemployment statements are often forgotten since they come at the end of the month. "People rarely can remember the dates or amounts of the checks," said Mitchell.

College tuition, books, fees, etc. for an education tax credit are often forgotten about, because the paperwork usually goes to the student, not the parents. "People can take this tax credit when the loan was incurred, even if they borrow the money for the loan," said Mitchell. "Clients often think the money has to be paid back before they'll get the credit, but that's not the case."



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#### ▶ Experts offer financial tips for smoother transition

In challenging financial times, it can be difficult to pay bills today, let alone save for the future. In fact, a recent survey conducted by Lincoln Financial Group found that 72 percent of Americans say that the state of the economy is making it challenging for them to stay on track with their retirement savings.

"With everything that Americans have on their minds today, the economy can weigh heavily on retirement savings decisions," says Chuck Cornelio, president of Retirement Plan Services at Lincoln Financial Group. "But it's important not to take a break from saving.

Even if you are already enrolled in your employer-sponsored retirement plan, like a 401(k) or 403(b), there are steps you can take to help better prepare you for retirement.

#### Five tips to help you get started

• Enroll in your employer sponsored retirement plan. Participating in your employer-sponsored retirement plan reduces your taxable income today, while helping to build retirement savings for tomorrow. If you don't know how to get started, contact your benefits administrator or human resources department to



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | QUIZZLE

Meeting with a financial expert can clear up any questions you may have regarding your retirement plans.

## Are you ready to retire?

help you enroll.

- Consolidate assets. Consolidating your retirement assets into one account helps to simplify the savings and income planning process and can help your money grow over time.
- Schedule a retirement plan check-up. Make it a habit to schedule an annual plan

check-up just as you would your health exam. An annual meeting with a financial professional will help you stay on track of goals.

 Resist the temptation to borrow against your retirement plan. While the best plans can be impacted by unexpected events, avoid borrowing against your retirement

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plan savings. When you do that, you may miss out on potential returns when the market recovers. All the time you spend paying back the loan is time you're not making contributions, missing out on the ability for your money to grow.

 Increase contributions with income boosts. Whenever you receive extra cash from a tax refund, a bonus, a salary increase or some other pleasant surprise, consider increasing your retirement plan contributions. Even increasing by a percentage or two can make a big difference in the long run. When you hit the maximum contribution level in your employer-sponsored retirement plan, a financial advisor can help you find the right place to invest additional savings.

Although retirement may seem far off when you are in the middle of your working years, getting on track early and saving steadily can help you fund the lifestyle you want to live in your retirement years.

For more information, visit www.lincolnfinancial.com.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I GUARDIAN

Watching your budget closely and increasing the amount you save whenever possible will help as you approach retirement age.

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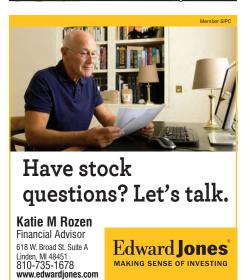
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#### Featured Sectio Planning ahead is the key to your family's financial future

#### **By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

There's no time like the present to begin making sound financial decisions in 2013.

Here are five ideas to help you increase your financial worth this year:

#### Begin looking at your numbers for your biggest savings goal — retirement.

If you're one of the lucky ones who can expect to live about 30 years after retirement, you'll want to make sure you have enough dollars for all those years. Only 42 percent of working-age Americans have even tried to calculate what they will need in retirement, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute in Washington, D.C.

- a. How much will you need? To replace your current income for 30 years (assuming an investment return of 3 percentage points above inflation), about 20 times one year's income. Social Security aims to replace about 40 percent of your annual income. By that yardstick you would need to save about 12 times your annual income before you retire.
- b. For a more precise number, contact the Social Security Administration retirement calculator.



#### Ramp up your investment strategy.

Open a Roth Individual Retirement Account (IRA). You can invest up to \$5,000 for 2012 and \$5,500 for 2013 and a nonworking spouse can invest the same. If you are older than 50, add \$1,000.

Some experts suggest investing money in emerging markets small cap dividend exchange-traded funds for the best overall returns of any investment at the moment — although these are considered volatile growth investments and will not be suitable for everyone's investment strategy.



#### Hold a two-week auction at your house.

Sell your unwanted/unneeded items at local consignment stores, at auctions, using classified ads, etc. This project will raise instant cash and will help you get rid of your clutter. It's a win-win.

#### Set yourself a target and then double it. See how close you can get.

On a much less cheerful note, imagine that you are dead and picture your family's scenario. According to government statistics, about one in eight people currently aged 40 will die before they reach 65.

## ways to improve your finance footing'

First on your to-do list is to get life insurance and disability insurance, if you have dependents.

Second, make a will. If you already have one, make sure it's up to date. Dying without one can be catastrophic for the family left behind.

perfect time to get started on sound financial footing.



#### Take an axe to your budget and see what you can cut.

Call your cellular provider and your TV company and haggle for a better deal. In a competitive market, they'll likely find you a discount if you ask for one.

**DID YOU** 

About 60 percent of Americans have

less than \$25,000

saved for retirement,

excluding the value

of their home. Thirty

percent have less

than \$1,000.

**KNOW** 

Rather than buying expensive pay TV, watch movies and TV using an online service for less than \$10 per month.

The New Year is a



**WEDNESDAY DEADLINES** Display Ads: 3 p.m. Monday

Line Ads: Noon Tuesday

SUNDAY DEADLINES Display Ads: 3 p.m. Wednesday Line Ads: Noon Thursday 810-629-8194

#### classifieds **VEVV** classified ads **O V HOMES • AUTOS JOBS & MORE!** & real estate N.TCTIMES.COM/CLASSIFIEDS

#### Long Term Nursing Care Facility...

is seeking individuals that have a passion about providing the best in elderly care and is now hiring for the following:

#### **Contingent RNs**

on all shifts and

#### **PT Nurses** on Midnight shift

Apply in person at 202 S. Bridge Street, Linden, MI 48451 - OR - send resume to hrcaretellinden@gmail.com



Long Term/Skilled Nursing Care Facility

**Growing healthcare** corporation in Flint is offering an excellent opportunity for a professional, dynamic Director of Nursing. Please email us your resume to hrcaretelamerica@gmailcom.

**REQUIREMENTS** - Duties for this position may include:

- Current MI License for RN
- 2-3 Years experience in management and in LTC
- Implements new plans and/or policies for the Nursing Dept. and monitors the progress of the implementation
- Evaluates all nurses and promotes good rapport among nursing personnel, medical staff, therapy staff, residents, family members and visitors
- · Assists in the development of criteria and standards for measuring the quality of health care.

#### **MUST HAVE:**

- · Licensed R.N. with previous management experience in a long term care facility.
- Knowledge of State and Federal Regulations.
- Have outstanding written / verbal / organizational skills
- Proficient in MS OFFICE



Long Term/Skilled Nursing Care Facility

#### **Personal Notices**

BILL AND GALE DEAN would like to thank their customers for the generous Christmas gifts they received. They were very much appreciated.

#### Life Guide Center and Over the Moon present: Cabin Fever Psychic Fair! Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup> 5:00-10:00 pm

We will have: Chinese Face Reading Mediums · Astrologers **Tarot Card Readers** Palm Readers Oracle Readers Reiki Healers Reiki Gemstone Jewelry Runestone Readings

**Animal Totem Readers** Readings begin at \$10.00 The Faricy Building 110 Trealout Dr., Suite 105B (Behind Luigis)

For more information call: Mary McHale at 810-814-5777

#### Help Wanted

#### **DIRECT CARE STAFF**

needed in group home for developmentally disabled adults. Must have valid driver's license, clean driving record, and background check. Position requires TB and drug test. Looking for fun. energetic, caring staff. 810-750-0382.

#### **HARTLAND** 12316 Highland Rd. (M-59) (810)632-7427

(248)887-9736

(810)629-8515 SERVING LIVINGSTON, OAKLAND, GENESEE AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES SINCE 1970. MEMBER MIS







www.englandrealestate.us



LET IT SNOW! Well maintained 1930 sq. ft. 2 story home on 1.37 acres. Offering 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining, living room. family room with fireplace, full basement & 2 car garage.



PEACEFUL RETREAT! Nice 2 bedroom cottage on all sports Maxfield Lake. Great views! Convenient kitchen open to living area with wood burning fireplace. Large deck on lake side for entertaining. \$145,000. Hartland Schools



NEWLY LISTED! Spacious ranch with nice setting! 1400 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 1 ½ baths, living & family room, full basement, oversized garage, fenced yard and shed. \$169,000



LAKEFRONT HOME! Stylish custom built 1 1/2 story home on all sports Lake Tyrone. 1741 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, sharp kitchen, dining area with cherry cabinets & granite counters open to great room with soaring ceilings. Deck for relaxing & enjoying the views. Walk-out lower level finished with bedroom, walk-in closet & full bath. 4 car garage w/finished loft area. Paved road. Hartland Schools. \$231,000.

#### Help **Wanted**

#### PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST

for dance studio in Fenton. Will be answering phones, scheduling lessons and taking payments. Computer experience and evenings required. Great opportunity for college students.

Send resume to 3180 W Silver Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430 Fax to: (810) 750-1547 Email to:

#### LOOKING FOR A **NEW CAREER?**

Join us for information about a Real Estate Career.

**CAREER INFORMATION SESSIONS** FEBRUARY 7, 14, 21 6 pm Start Time for All Session

ANKER 120 N. Leroy St., Fenton

**Call Today to Reserve Your Spot** 810.629.2220

#### mechanic needed. Petroleum Company needs good drivers. Hazmat endorsement with

DRIVERS AND DIESEL

one year experience. Will train good drivers to haul petroleum products. Call Adam, 734-946-2615 or email aedwards@ rkapetroleum.com.

FRONT DESK person needed for a busy dental office. Must be warm and caring. Please mail resume to: Dr. Rachor, 1398 N. Leroy St., Fenton. Mark (Personal).

#### **CNAs**

Needed for

2nd & 3rd shifts

#### **ARGENTINE CARE** CENTER, INC.

9051 Silver Lake Rd. Linden, MI 48451 Phone (810) 735-9487 Fax: (810) 735-9035

#### Help Wanted

**DIRECT CARE** - Clarkston. Ortonville. White Lake areas. full or part-time. Call 248-887-

#### **Employment** Wanted

ELDER CARE - Let me help you with your loved one. I am experienced, with impeccable references. TB tested, CPR certified. 810-735-5910.

> Cars **For Sale**

2007 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE, 115,000 miles. \$14,000 or best. Clean, loaded, cherry red. Call 810-397-4582.

> Garage **Sales**

#### Lake Fenton

LAKE FENTON ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE. Friday, January 25th, 9-3pm., Saturday, January 26th, 9-12pm., Lake Fenton United Methodist Church, 2581 N. Long Lake Rd. Household goods, collectibles, gently used coats and clothing.

#### **Real Estate** For Sale

CONDO FOR SALE by owner. 122 Creekwood Circle, Linden. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, handicap accessible, \$118,000, Call 810-659-9084.

#### Place your Classified Ad Online!

Visit www.tctimes.com and click on Classifieds.

timesonline

#### /acant Land **For Sale**

FENTON - LOON lake 2 waterfront and 2 wooded lots. \$12,000 and up. Quick sale, terms. 810-629-8694, 810-964-3472, 810-735-6887.

#### Industrial

#### **COMMERCIAL**

**PROPERTY** for lease. Light industrial Building-Space #1-3000 SF or Space #2-8200 SF. Amenities: Office space included, 16' overhead door, A/C in shop, Northern Oakland County, off Dixie Hwy., minutes from I-75/E Holly Rd (Exit 98). Call for more information, 810-444-1380.

#### Real Estate **For Rent**

HOLLY SCHOOLS, 2 bedroom, possible 3rd in basement. 970 sq. ft. \$650/month plus security deposit. No pets. 248-917-7067.

#### Office/Retail

#### **DESIRABLE UNIT has** become available in Lake Winds Plaza, Fenton. New carpet, just painted, 1,080 sq. ft. Get the BEST rate in town! Great parking, no NNN, brokers protected. Call 248-884-8167.

VARIOUS ROOMS and suites. North Towne Professional Centre, 810-714-3103.

NOTICE OF ERROR - It is the responsibility of the advertiser to check the correctness of each insertion of an advertisement. The Tri-County Times will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion and for only that portion that may have been rendered valueless by an error.

#### We have openings in our beautiful Assisted Living facility for **part time** Guest Assistants afternoon & midnight shifts only.

DUTIES will include providing daily care, meal prep and medication administration to elderly residents. Prior experience is preferred, but we will consider training the right candidate if you have customer service experience

This job requires a high school diploma and 1 year of experience.

**Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)** 

(Part time midnight shift only). Must have certification from the State of Michigan as a nurse aide and worked with the elderly in long term care environment.

Apply in person at 202 S. Bridge Street, Linden, MI 48451 - OR send resume to hrcaretellinden@gmail.com



Long Term/Skilled Nursing Care Facility

LINDEN - ONE and two bedrooms. Close to park and lake. Heat included. \$499/\$599 per month. 810-629-4957.

**GET YOUR** Local news online everyday. visit www.tctimes.com.



Senior Living Beyond Compare!

- •24/7 Personal & **Skilled Care Services**
- Activities Galore
- Pet Friendly
- Transportation Entertainment
- Barber/Beauty Salon

You're going to love it here!

It's time to make that move right into our gorgeous 2 bedroom apartment available now!

Come visit our community to receive a FREE GIFT!

16300 Silver Parkway • Fenton South of Silver Lake Road in Fenton

(888) 320-9507 TTÝ 800-649-3777

v.lockwoodseniorliving.com Mon-Fri 9-5 • Sat 10-4



#### Free Heat & Hot Water

Limited Availability

- · Select Unit Specials
- Pets Welcome
- Sparkling Interiors
- Lake Fenton Schools



888-605-8658

200 Trealout Drive (In Fenton, off North Leroy)

Professionally managed by MRD 💍

fentonestates@



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



#### Monday-Friday 10-5 • Sat. by appt.

mrdapartments.com

# Times 629-8194



#### **Genesee County 2013 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program**

#### **Argentine Township to hold Community Development Hearing**

The Township of Argentine will hold a Community Development Public Needs Hearing on January 28, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden MI 48451.

The purpose of the hearing is to offer an opportunity for citizens to express their ideas on community needs and project proposals concerning the use of Federal Community Development block Grant (CDBG) funds for 2013 Program Year.

The Township of Argentine expects to receive approximately \$35,500 of 2013 CDBG funds. The funds are provided by the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission Community Development Program from an annual entitlement grant received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

The funds are intended primarily for projects in low-and moderate-income neighborboods

> Denise Graves, Clerk Argentine Township

#### **NEED AN IDEA FOR DINNER?**



Find recipies at www.tctimes.com/living/food for thought



#### **NOTICE** ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP

Please be notified that the Argentine Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Meeting on Monday, February 4, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Rd, to consider the following Variance:

Victor Lamb is requesting a Variance for a Rear Yard Setback. Described as 01-36-501-034, Lots 11 thru 14, with exceptions, Haviland Beach (05) FR 01-36-501-032.

A complete copy of this tax description may be viewed at the Township office during regular office hours.

> Denise Graves, Clerk **Argentine Township**

#### EGACY REALT PROFESSIONALS, INC

810-629-1511

**Experienced Agents • Exceptional Service** www.LegacyRealtyPros.com

526 N. LeRoy • Fenton



**FENTON** 1008 Long Street

4 bedroom Ranch on cul-de-sac in the City of Fenton, with fireplace in living room, 1.5 bathrooms, 1st floor laundry, 1520 sq. ft., basement, fenced backyard and 2 car garage.

\$89,900 Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



#### OWOSSO TOWNSHIP 3003 W. M-21 Excellent opportunity zoned General Commercial C-2.

Highly traveled M-21 just west of Owosso. Good location for convenience store or restaurant on corner lot.
Previously used as a gas station.

\$150,000 Call Sue Fleming 989-627-0481



HOLLY 312 N. Saginaw Street Bank foreclosure. Needs substantial renovation. 4 bedroom farmhouse, 1.5 baths,

living and family rooms, 1st floor bedrooms, 1st floor laundry, basement, deck, enclosed porch and 1630 sq. ft.

Cash offers only.

\$19,700



#### ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP

16104 Softwater Lake Road 96' Waterfront on Softwater Lake.
3 bedroom modular home, 1248 sq. ft., Full walk-out basement and .92 acre. Hurry, this will not last.

\$59,900

#### **GROVELAND TOWNSHIP LEGAL NOTICE** PROPOSED AMENDMENT: Z 2013-001

Proposed Ordinance to Amend Section 21.00.00 of the code of the Township of Groveland. Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Groveland Township Hall, 4695 Grange Hall Road, Holly, MI for the purpose of hearing all persons interested in the proposed amendment. Said amendment, if adopted by the Groveland Township Board, would revise the Groveland Township Codified Ordinances, as amended, and change the zoning map text of the Township of Groveland of the following described property:

> Z 2012-002, PIFER REAL ESTATE, SEC. 30. 02-30-200-015. SW CORNER OF GRANGE HALL AND HAWLEY ROADS, HOLLY, MI. REZONE RE/F (Rural Estate/Farm) TO B-2 (Community Business)

Proposed language for the amendment is available at the Township Office during regular business hours. If you are unable to attend the meeting, your written comments are welcome prior to the night of the meeting, or you can telephone (248) 634-4152.

#### KING FEATURES

**ACROSS** 

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ANSWER KEY LOCATED IN THIS EDITION

Misc. For Sale

**TANNING BED** and hexes. \$500 and up. 810-629-3600.

#### TRI-COUNTYTIMES PHOTOS

- Any staff photo published in the Tri-County Times can be purchased by calling 810-433-6797.

#### Misc. Wanted

TURN YOUR SCRAP STEEL into cash. Scrap and vehicles accepted! Certified scales. Will pay \$5 over scale price with this ad. WE NOW OFFER MISCELLANEOUS SCRAP PICK UP SERVICE. We also carry a full range of new and used automotive parts. Bridge Lake Auto and Truck Parts Inc., 9406 Dixie Hwy., Clarkston, MI. 248-625-5050. Monday-Friday, 9-5:30p.m., Saturday, 9-2p.m. www.bridgelakeautoparts.com. See us on facebook.

ALL SCRAP metals picked up including appliances. We buy scrap cars/trucks, farm equipment/motor homes. 810-730-7514, 810-449-0045.

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

TOP DOLLAR paid for unwanted cars and trucks. FREE pick up. Call 810-347-0139.

#### Lost & **Found**

FOUND NECKLACE near N. Leroy and Kellogg Rd. Call 810-701-0786 to identify.

#### **Pets**

2 KITTENS, 1 white 1 brown/ gray. Small adoption fee. Call 248-634-2750.

#### **Firewood**

SEASONED MIXED hardwoods, south of Fenton. Picked up \$50/face cord. Call 313-938-9237.



#### – Recycling Tip –

Choose the reusable alternatives to disposable products:

- · sponges or rags vs. paper towels
- reusable razors vs. disposable shaver
- coffee mugs vs. paper or plastic cups
  - · washable plates vs. paper
- · cloth napkins vs. paper cloth diapers vs. disposable
- · handkerchief vs. tissues
- reusable mesh coffee filters vs. paper

## A Look back at the

Week of Jan. 21, 1984



1. Owner of a Lonely Heart - Yes

2. Say Say Say Paul McCartney & Michael Jackson

3. Karma Chameleon - Culture Club

4. Talking in Your Sleep

- Romantics

5. Break My Stride

Matthew Wilder

6. I Guess That's Why They Call it the Blues

- Elton John

7. Twist of Fate

- Olivia Newton-John

8. Joanna

- Kool & the Gang

9. Running with the Night

- Lionel Ritchie

10. Say it isn't So - Hall & Oates

#### TYRONE TOWNSHIP **REGULAR BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS HELD JANUARY 15, 2013**

- 1. Present: Supervisor Mike Cunningham, Clerk Keith Kremer, Treasurer Marna Bunting-Smith, Trustees Cam Gonzalez, Soren Pedersen, and Chuck Schultz. Absent: Trustee David Walker.
- 2. Approved the agenda as presented; approved the consent agenda as presented.
- 3. Received and placed on file Communications #1-4 as presented.
- 4. Appointed Dave Wardin and Brenda Wehrli to the Planning Commission.
- 5. Appointed Anne Linder and Jeff Young to the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Adopted Resolution #130101 to negotiate summer tax collection for Tyrone Township school districts.
- 7. Approved the 2-year Election Consolidation Opt-In Agreement to conduct school elections.
- 8. Approved the loan of \$275,000 from the general fund to the sewer fund.
- Adopted Resolution #130102 to proceed with refinancing the 2005 sewer bond at a lower interest rate.
- 10. Adopted Resolution #130103 adopting the PIRO (Planned Industrial, Research, and Office) amendments to Zoning Ordinance #36.
- 11. Discussed street lighting special assessment districts.
- 12. Approved the special assessment fund budgets for presentation at the budget public hearing.
- 13. Opted out of the Senate Bill #7 health insurance provision for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.
- 14. Accepted the Plante Moran bid for the 2012-2013 audit.
- 15. Reviewed a first cut of the general fund budget for 2013-2014.
- 16. Directed the Planning Commission to draft a business definition pertaining to the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act.
- 17. Resolved to go into closed session to discuss confidential attorney-client communications at 9:41 pm. Reconvened in open session at 10:13 pm.
- 18. Accepted the attorney's recommendation to settle the Richmond lawsuit with the plaintiff admitting fault and paying restitution.
- 19. Adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

The minutes of all regular and special Tyrone Township Board Meetings are on file and may be reviewed at the Tyrone Township Clerk's Office, 10408 Center Road, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and online at www.tyronetownship.us. The next regular meeting of the Tyrone Township Board will be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tyrone Township Hall. The public is encouraged to attend.

Legal **Notices** 

#42725 12/30/2012,01/06/2013,01/13

/2013,01/20/2013

FORECLOSURE NOTICE In the even 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. this property is claimed as a principal residence exempt from tax under section 7cc of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL .7cc please contact our office at (248) 844-5123. This firm is a debt collector attempting to conditions of a certain mortgage made by: John R. Haynes and Janette M Haynes , husband and wife to Option collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for this pur-pose. If you are in Haynes , husband and wife to Option One Mortgage, Corporation, Mortgagee, dated August 18, 2006 and recorded August 31, 2006 in Instrument # 200608310077694 and modified by agreement dated May 16, 2008 and recorded August 2 9, 2008 in instrument # 200808290062347 Genesee County Records, Michigan Said mortgage was assigned to: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for the Structured 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: Suzanne M. Pinkney , a woman to Citizen s Commercial and Savings Bank , Mortgagee, dated April 28, 1993 and recorded May 5, 1993 in Liber 2873 Page 727 Genesee County Association, as Trustee for the Structured Association, as Trustee for the Structured Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-Z, by assignment dated October 10, 2008 and recorded October 20, 2008 in instrument # 200810200072021 on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Sevent Number Of Two Hundred Priges and Sevent Records, Michigan Said mortgage was assigned to: LaSalle Home Mortgage Corporation , by assignment dated September 30, 1996 and recorded July 16, 1997 in Liber 3561, Page 730, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Twenty-Three Thousand Hundred Twenty Dollars and Seventy-One Cents (\$256,720.71) including Fifty-One Dollars and Forty-Four Cents (\$23,051.44) including interest One Cents (\$256,720.71) including interest 2% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mort-7.375% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or gaged p remises, or some part of them, at public vendue, Circuit Court of Genesee County at 10:00AM on February 13, 2013 Said premises are situated in Township of some part of them, at public vendue. Said premises are situated in Township of Atlas , Genesee County , Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 17, Town 6 North, Range 8 East, described as: Beginning at a point on the East and West one-quarter line th at is South 88 degrees 48 minutes 45 seconds. West 1500 feet from the East one-quarter corner of said Section. Circuit Court of Genesee County at 10:00AM on January 30, 2013. Said premises are situated in City of Flint, Genesee County , Michigan, and are described as: Lot 786 of Chevrolet Subdivision, according to the re-corded 45 seconds West 1500 feet from the East one-quarter corner of said Section 17; thence south 88 degrees 48 minutes 45 seconds West 125 feet along the East and West one-quarter line; thence South 0 degrees 15 minutes East 400 feet; thence North 88 degrees 48 minutes 45 seconds East 125 feet; thence North 0 degrees 15 minutes West 400 feet to the point of Perigning Commonly Known as 8366 plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 8, Pages 8-9. Genesee County Records Commonly known as 3313 Herrick, Flint MI 48503 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned accordance with MCL 600.3241 o MCL 600.3241a, in which case the beginning. Commonly known as 8366 Burpee Rd, Grand Blanc MI 48439 The redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upor edemption period shall be 6 months fron redemption period shall be 5 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 or MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c) which because it also period shall be 30 MCL 600.3241a(c) which because it 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 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 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 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: 1/13/2013 U.S. Bank National Association as Trustee for the Structured 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: 12/30/2012 CitiMortgage, Inc., successor by merger to ABN AMRO Mortgage Group successor by merger to LaSalle Home Mortgage Corporation Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite Association, as Trustee for the Structured Association, as Trustee for the Structured Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-Z, As-signee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 12-66646 Ad #43915 01/13, 01/20, 01/27, 02/03/2013 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 12-70580 Ad

Legal

**Notices** 

Legal Notices

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: Eric T. Larson and Annette K. Larson, Husband and Wife to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for New Day Financial, LLC its successors and assigns Mortgagee, dated February 22, 2005 and recorded March 30, 2005 in Liber 4752 Page 933 Livingston County Records, Michigan Said mortgage was assigned to: Random Properties Acquisition Corp III, by assignment dated January 11, 2013 and subsequently recorded in Livingston County Records on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Three Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Four Dollars and Ninety-Five Cents (\$322,304.95) including interest 8.49% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them at public vendue, Circuit Court of Livingston County at 10:00AM on February 20, 2012 Said premises are situated in Township of Howell, Livingston County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 28 of Sundance Meadows, as recorded in Liber 35 of Plats, Pages 46, 47, 48 and 49, Livingston County Records. Subject to easements, restrict tions or reservations of record. Commonly known as 4421 Sundance Circle, Howell MI 48843 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL600.3241 or MCL600.3241 a, 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 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961. under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale orto the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: 1/20/2013 Random Properties Acquisition Corp III, Assignee of Mortgagee Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 811 South Blvd. Suite 100 Rochester Hills, MI 48307 (248) 844-5123 Our File No: 12-74343 Ad #44103 01/20, 01/27, 02/03, 02/10/2013

## service directory

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**13B** 



#### **BY TRIBUNE MEDIA**

#### SundaySudoku

	7		2		4	5	1	
		3	5			4		
				7				3
4	3							
			1	2	8			
							5	6
6				8				
		1			6	9		
	5	9	7		3		8	

ANSWER KEY LOCATED IN THIS EDITION

#### PLANNING COMMISSION CITY OF FENTON **GENESSE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PRELIMINARY (PUD) PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Notice is hereby given that the City of Fenton Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on Thursday, February 7, 2013 for the purpose of considering a request to amend the Pine Creek North Preliminary PUD Plan, Parcel #53-25-400-011, to be known as the Fenton Wellness Center, (Medi Lodge). The proposed amendment would allow for development of a licensed nursing home facility that specializes in rehabilitation along with attached senior housing units. The project is located north of Main Street and west of Eddy Lake Road.

The public hearing will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers, 301 South Leroy Street. The purpose of the public hearing is to describe the proposed project and receive public comment on the proposal. All interested parties are welcome to attend and present their comments.

A copy of the special land use application is available for public inspection at the City of Fenton offices, 301 South Leroy Street, during regular business hours. Written comments concerning the project may be submitted at the above address prior to the hearing and will be made part of the official record. All minutes of meetings are available at the City Clerk's office.

Comments and guestions may be directed to the City of Fenton Zoning and Building Administrator, Brad Hissong, at 810-629-2261.

PLEASE CONTACT THE FENTON CITY CLERK'S OFFICE IF ANY ACCOMMO-DATIONS ARE NEEDED DUE TO A DISABILITY.

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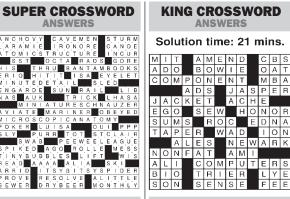
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#### **PUZZLE ANSWER KEYS**

King Crossword, Wednesday Jumble, Wednesday Sudoku puzzles are located in last Wednesday's issue. All other puzzles are throughout this edition.



#### **WEDNESDAY SUDOKU** 9 2 6 8 1 3 4 5 8 5 3 4 9 7 6 1 7 1 4 6 5 2 8 3 1 3 8 9 7 4 5 2 5 7 2 1 3 6 9 4 4 6 9 5 2 8 3 7 6 8 5 7 4 1 2 9 2 9 1 3 8 5 7 6

3 4 7 2 6 9 1 8

#### **SUNDAY SUDOKU**

_									
7	9	7	6	2	3	4	5	1	8
2	8	2	3	5	6	1	4	9	7
9	5	1	4	8	7	9	2	6	3
6	4	3	8	6	9	5	7	2	1
8	7	6	5	1	2	8	3	4	9
1	1	9	2	3	4	7	8	5	6
3	6	4	7	9	8	2	1	3	5
4	3	8	1	4	5	6	9	7	2
5	2	5	9	7	1	3	6	8	4

#### **WEDNESDAY JUMBLE**

Jumbles: GUILE AFTER SUBDUE GIGGLE Answer: How she improved her knowledge-BY DEGREES

#### **SUNDAY JUMBLE**

Jumbles: NOTCH OUNCE UPKEEP COOKIE

Answer: What the poultry farmer called the car he drove to market—HIS CHICKEN COUPE

#### Obituaries, **Funeral** Services and Memoriums

#### Norma Burke,

Norma Burke - age 82 died January 18, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### Frances Eichorn.

Frances Eichron - age 92, died January 15, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Robert Wheeler.**

Robert Wheeler - age 75, died January 14, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Judy Pownall.**

Judy Pownall - age 68, died January 13, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Betty English.**

Betty English - age 85, died January 15, 2013. Share memories at www. temrowskifamilyfuneralhome.com.



#### **Dorothy Harter,**

Dorothy Harter - age 81, died January 14, 2013. Share memories at www. temrowskifamilyfuneralhome.com.



#### Aloysius Teuber,

Aloysius Teuber - age 76, died January 13, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### Martha Needham,

Martha Needham - age 82, died January 13, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### Ardis Rickman,

Ardis Rickman - age 73, died January 15, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Rose Marie** (nee: Rocheleau) **Burkhart.**

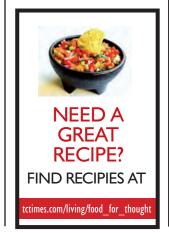
Rose Marie (nee:Rocheleau) Burkhart age 85, died peacefully January 16, 2013. Mrs. Burkhart will lie in state Monday, 10 AM at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 2099 N. Hacker Rd., Howell, until the time of her funeral Mass 11 AM. Visitation will be Saturday, 3-8 PM and Sunday, 3-8 PM at the Temrowski Family Funeral Home, 500 Main Street, Fenton. A Rosary recital will be Sunday, 6:30 PM. Share memories at www.temrowskifamilyfuneralhome.com.



#### **Nancy Brown,**

Nancy Brown - agé 75, died January 15, 2013. Share memories at www. temrowskifamilyfuneralhome.com.





#### **Mary Redick.**

Mary Redick - age 89, died January 16, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **Delores Dodds,**

Delores Dodds - age 82, died January 12, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Morris Rosenthal**,

Morris Rosenthal - age 89, died January 16, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Marlene Campbell,**

Marlene Campbell - age 94, died January 13, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### William Ambrose,

William Ambrose - age 66, died January 13, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Marian Pennington,**

Marian Pennington - age 95, died January 17, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### Robert Niggemeyer,

Robert Niggemeyer - age 75. died January 17. 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Doris Wykes,**

Doris Wykes - agé 93, died January 17, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### Marian **Pennington**

#### 1917-2013

Marian Pennington - age 95, of Burton, died Thursday, January 17, 2013.



Services will be held 11 AM Monday, January 21, 2013 at St. Jude Episco-

pal Church, 106 E. Elizabeth St, Fenton, with Pastor Josh Hoover officiating. Mrs. Pennington was born October 1, 1917 in Leeds, England, the daughter of Jack and May Laycock. She married Arthur Pennington and he preceded her in death April 1994. She had been employed by Smith Bridgeman's. Mrs. Pennington had resided in Flint most of her life. She was a member of St. Christopher Episcopal Church. She liked to bowl and enjoyed playing bridge. Mrs. Pennington was always involved with people and activities. Surviving are: son, Edward Pennington; 4 grandsons, Edward and wife Kim Pennington, Christopher and wife Teresa Pennington, Jason and wife Michelle Pennington, and Steven and wife Ashley Pennington; 11 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandson. Online tributes may be posted on the obituaries page of www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### Times

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Recycling Tip —

Use rags (old t-shirts, fabrics, etc.) rather than paper products.

William McCoy, William McCoy - age 68, died January 16, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### **Theodore Rockwell,**

Theodore Rockwell - age 76, died January 11, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



#### **How can you HELP?**

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#### **Ronald Gerard Rockman**

#### 1963-2013

Ronald Gerard Rockman - age 49, died unexpectedly Monday, January 15,



2013 in Boynton Beach, Funeral Mass will be held at 11 AM Monday, January 21, 2013 at St. John

the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 Adelaide Street, Fenton, MI with Fr. Kurrian Kollapallil celebrant. Visitation will be 9:30 AM until the time of Mass at St. John Church. Ron was born January 27, 1963 in Flint, MI, the son of Ella Mae Conrad Rockman and Richard Rockman, Sr. He was a graduate of Fenton High School and Graphic Design Institute of Northern California. Ron's outgoing nature earned him various management positions over a ten-year period with Hilton Worldwide in Oxnard, CA. For the past twelve years Ron was employed as a certified Health Care Professional in Boynton Beach, FL, specializing in the care of geriatric patients. In his spare time Ron also volunteered at the Humane Society where he quickly became a favorite of all the dogs and, reluctantly, even some cats. His ready smile, sharp wit and loving nature will be missed by all who knew and loved him. Surviving are Ron's brothers and sisters; Richard Rockman, Jr. and wife Karen of Fenton, Craig Rockman and wife Bethany of Fenton, Deborah Rockman of Grand Rapids, Lisa Branham of Fenton, as well as special friend and companion Robert Gordon of Boynton Beach, FL, his beloved four-legged friend Jackson, and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews who loved him dearly. He was preceded in death by his father, Richard Rockman, Sr., mother, Ella Conrad Rockman, brothers Randall John Rockman and Glenn Anthony Rockman. A private memorial service will also take place on Sunday, January 27, 2013 in Boynton Beach, FL. Anyone wishing to make a donation in Ron's memory, please consider Life Challenge, 17667 Pierson Street, Detroit, MI 48219. www.sharpfuneralhomes.



#### Naomi Peltonen.

Naomi Peltonen - age 81, died January 17, 2013. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.





Tide Alleggis Pampers Old AIR Wille Asses ( Glade ALPO Weight Watchers )

# Sunday Jumble Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. CNOTH NOUCE WHAT THE POULTRY FARMER CALLED THE CAR HE DROVE TO MARKET. Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER KEY LOCATED IN THIS EDITION





## Bacon Wrapped Apple Barbecue Chicken

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 3-4 chicken breasts
- ½ cup barbecue sauce
- 1-2 apples, peeled and grated
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 6-8 slices of bacon

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1. In a small bowl, combine barbecue sauce, grated apple, and lemon juice.
- 2. Rinse chicken breasts and pat dry. Wrap 2 pieces of bacon around each chicken breast half.
- 3. Place wrapped chicken in a greased 4-5 quart slow cooker and top with BBQ sauce mixture.
- 4. Set to low and cook for 8 hours.

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paw's corner

## ways pets could improve personal health

**Lower blood pressure:** Petting a dog or cat can lower blood pressure, as can watching a fish swim around a tank.

Reduce stress: Research has indicated that when people spend time with a pet their levels of cortisol, a hormone associated with stress, is lowered while their level of serotonin, a hormone

associated with improved mood and well-being, is increased.

**Lower cholesterol:** Lifestyle factors associated with pet ownership, particularly a focus on increased physical health and activity, can help lower cholesterol levels.

**Fight depression:** Many therapists have prescribed pet therapy as a method to alleviating and recovering from depression. A pet is an unconditional friend and can provide that listening ear a person needs to talk through problems.

Improve physical activity levels: Heading to the gym is one way to get a workout, but spending an hour walking the dog or tossing around a ball for a game of chase and fetch is another way to get the heart pumping.

ADHD therapy: Children and adults with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder often benefit from working with a pet or having a pet as a family companion. Playing with a pet is a great way to release excess energy and focus on tasks. Also, a pet with his or her unconditional love can help someone with ADHD overcome self-esteem issues. Similar results are possible when pets are used as therapy animals for children with autism and other behavioral disabilities.



DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I have back discomfort upon lying down. It doesn't matter where I lie or what position I'm in for my back to hurt and often one or both hips. Getting out of bed in the morning is hard and uncomfortable. Once I have had my morning shower and am up and around, I'm fine.

We have thought of replacing our mattress, but how do we find something that will help? What would you recommend?

— M.W.

**ANSWER:** I strongly recommend that you see your family doctor before you invest any money in a mattress.

Some of what you describe fits the picture of osteoarthritis — stiffness upon wakening, difficulty getting out of bed and relief of symptoms after taking a hot shower. Before you spend a penny on a mattress, have your back examined and the problem diagnosed.

iPhone tip of the week



#### **Custom Vibrations**

To set custom vibration patterns, navigate to Settings > Sounds > Ringtons > Vibrations. Scroll to the end of

the page and select "Create New Vibration." Tap the screen to begin and continue tapping when you want a vibration to occur — these are denoted as black dots on the progress bar. Tap "Stop" when you're done and save your pattern with a custom name. You can now assign that custom pattern to any contact or event that you want.



## Cheating boyfriend should move on

**DEAR AMY:** I'm almost 30, and I've been with my boyfriend since we were teenagers. We live together at my father's house. My

boyfriend recently told me that he got another girl pregnant. He says he doesn't love her and doesn't want to be with her but that he does want to be there for the baby.

I'm lost and confused.
We've been trying to have a baby for about five years now. It broke my heart when he told me he was having a baby with another



Amy Dickinson

girl. I hear from other people that he tells her he loves her and wants to be with her and the baby — but then he comes home and tells me otherwise. I don't know what to think.

I don't want to break up. I'm in love with him and can't live without him, but I don't want to be in a relationship where I'm not happy.

— Heartbroken

**DEAR HEARTBROKEN:** Be brave and give him the boot. Once you do, you will become stronger and more courageous. Then you'll wonder what took you so long to realize that you can live — and live well — without him.

**DEAR AMY:** My husband and I invited a couple out to dinner to a restaurant we all like. We hadn't socialized with them in quite some time, and I was really looking forward to catching up.

When we were finalizing the plans for the evening, I received a text that our friends had invited another couple whom we have never met. Is it as rude as I think it is? — Fuming

**DEAR FUMING:** If they wanted to include another couple they should not have sent a text declaring their intentions but should have called you and verbally asked if you would object. Your friends didn't behave well. It would be very easy to answer by text, "We are hoping to catch up privately with you, but we'd love to meet your friends another time."



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#### 16190 Crest • \$328,000

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