

Hometown businesses thriving despite winter's challenges

'We really do appreciate those who come out in spite of the cold and snow' Judy Achey, Caravan Hallmark Store

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

kids at the high school are bullying,

check out

the Twitter

page 'Fenton Confes-

sions.' It is heart-

44 I regret alle-

POLITICS

breaking and sad."

giance to the flag of

the misguided states

of America, and to

the welfare state for

from God, divisible,

with persecution and

44 I am feeling presidential. My wife is like

congress — spends

everything wrong is

most of the money and makes the rules, then tells me

my fault. President

Obama is lucky for term limits. I signed

44 Just so I understand, if I lie to the

government it's a

felony. But when, not

if, they lie to us it's

'just politics."

up for life.

fractured nation apart

which it stands, a

injustice for all.'

Michiganders are a hardy bunch. This relentless cold, snowy winter has taught us that if we really want something, we'll go out and get it in spite of the weather.

Local businesses have endured a lot of weather-related challenges this winter, and yet day after day, they see loyal residents patronizing their businesses and helping them to earn a living for their families.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO Sloan's Sales and Service owner Jeremiah Sloan works on a concrete saw Wednesday afternoon in his Linden business

It's always good to be reminded that our efforts to shop and eat locally are appreciated by local business owners.

Of course, it's been easier for some than for others.

The Holly Donut Shop has been just as busy this winter as last, even though they had to shut down for two days because of the weather last month. "Our January sales were the same as last year, in spite of having to close for two days," said owner Juanita Yager, now in her 36th year. "We have a nice, loyal clientele."

The Caravan Hallmark Store in Fenton has had to close early for four days because See BUSINESSES on 22A

Never-ending snowfall tough on budgets



A Linden City plow truck travels up Ripley Road on Wednesday. Local road commissions and municipalities are burning through their winter maintenance budgets much faster than the last several years.

Fenton has used two-thirds of funds with lots of winter still to come

Times editorial staff

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Fenton — Throughout the day on Wednesday, Fenton road crews were out again, handling several inches of fresh snow ----just as they have done many days over the past several weeks.

Directors of various road crew departments for the tri-county area have provided an update of how this winter is affecting their budgets. The increased work hours and salt are eating away at available funds, but they will continue to keep the roads clear. See BUDGETS on 21A

L It's not only the fatigue and the time the DPW guys have spent plowing, but also pushing back the amounts of snow in the downtown area. 77 Paul Zelenak

Linden city manager

Five years and still no clues ► Family of missing Fenton woman keeps hope alive

with purple ribbons **By Sharon Stone**

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786 Five years ago Wednesday, the lives of a Fenton family changed forever. On Feb. 11, 2009, they called Fenton police to report that Randa



mother Anisse Jawhari discovered

Randa Jawhari

Shiawassee Avenue apartment the morning of Feb. 11. One of Randa's sisters was the last to speak with her by phone the night before.

See RANDA on 8A

Silverman Properties defaults on payment

Village files with court for consent judgment

By Amy Mayhew

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Holly — Last summer's optimism that Silverman Properties would make good on its financial promises to the village is fading after the developer missed its second scheduled payment of \$50,000 on Dec. 1.

In 2012, Holly Village filed a See PAYMENT on 14A



was missing. Randa's her daugh-

Jawhari, 42, of Fenton

ter's empty

delivery truck come over to your driveway and clean out his wheel wells. Sheeesh.

HOT LINE of the week

66Anyone else see a problem with a system that if you work you have to pay taxes to the Federal government, yet if you don't work the Federal government pays you?99



WEEKEND TIMES

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NEWSANDFEATURES

Police&Fire report

TEEN SHOPLIFTS TABLETS

On Feb. 3, Fenton police responded to a retail store on Owen Road for a retail fraud complaint. Police learned that a 17-year-old Tyrone Township male had concealed two 7-inch RCA tablets worth \$138 underneath his clothing and exited the store without paying. The merchandise was recovered and the teen was processed at the police station. He has a March 3 court date for retail fraud.

OWNER OF JEWELRY BOX SOUGHT

On Nov. 11, the Livingston County Sheriff's Department recovered a jewelry box that was stolen during a break-in entering. The sheriff's department is seeking the public's assistance in identifying the owner of the jewelry box. Shown here is a photograph of a charm with a person's

picture. Anyone recognizing the person in the picture is asked to contact Det. Don Welch at (517) 540-7930

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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What our schools are teaching about evolution and creationism

Creation and evolution go together, are not exclusive

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795 Schools Like Luke M. Powers Catholic High School in Flint and St. John School in Fenton are regulated by the Diocese of Lansing, and align to Common Core Standards for testing.

The Diocese of Lansing encourages that both the religious side and the scientific theory of evolution are taught. They align with Common Core standards, but try to provide more beyond that.

Spokesman Michael Diebold with the Diocese of Lansing said they do not teach the idea

seven days per the Old Testament. "The Church Fathers have always understood that," he said. In fact, he said that the church has long supported the "big bang" theory. "We teach the best that science has to offer, and we give glory to God for his wisdom and love in creating this world, which we, along with all prior and future generations, are working to understand," he said.

To the Diocese, science explains how God created the Earth. Powers Catholic acting principal Sally Bartos said the school teaches evolution as scientific theory, and all Catholic schools in Michigan are free to teach it. She said God is behind who we are, but "evolution has convincing evidence." In her words, creation and evolution go together, "hand-in-glove... We're not in conflict, let's put it that way."

The basic framework of teaching creation or evolution is that no matter what, God is the center of human life, and although scripture may not be taken as literal fact, it serves as the basis for the premises they use.

Concerning the recent debate between Bill Nye (The Sci-

It's not like either you have evolution or creation, it's seen as something that can go hand-in-glove with one another.77 **Sally Bartos** Acting principal, Powers Catholic High School

ence Guy) and Creation Museum creator Ken Ham, she said "I don't know that we could debate it, because we don't see one at the exclusion of the other," said Bartos. "We just say that God is the center of our soul, and evolution certainly has scientific relevance."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO In this September 2010 file photo, Mitchell Ferris (12, when pictured) listens to science teacher Tim Cavric at Andrew G. Schmidt Middle School on the first day of class.

The Catholic Diocese of Lansing, on evolution

The Diocese uses both science and religion in exploring the origin of the world and universe. They do not take the seven-day creation story as literal fact, and expect science to explain how God created "Heaven and Earth."

Evolution, a standard theory in high school biology

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 It's been 89 years since John Scopes fought to have evolution in science classes and ultimately changed science education in America. This week, television personality and scientist Bill Nye debated creationist Ken Ham on how the origins of life should be taught to students, further fueling the seemingly never ending debate of religion versus science in the classroom.

The debate continues to rage on, including the idea that a supreme architect guided the process of evolution.

A recent Pew Research study found that 60 percent of Americans support the theory of evolution. Of the Americans who do believe in evolution, half said it is "due to natural process such as natural selection." The other half of Americans who accept evolution still believe in a deity, stating, "a supreme being guided the evolution of living things for the purpose of creating humans and other life in the form it exists today.'

Whether it is accepted, evolution is a part of the Michigan curriculum and taught in public schools across the state. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) states that "Over time, changes in genetic information can affect the size, diversity and genetic composition of populations, a process called biological evolution."

Creationism, the religious belief that the universe is less than 10,000 years old and was created by a supernatural being, is not included in Michigan's curriculum for biology. Rep. See EVOLUTION on 11A



that the world was created in

I can't help but wonder ...

If I Were

What a surprise! Another celebrity is dead from substance abuse (the politically-

correct term for being an addict). In just the last few years a host of Hollywood fools have drank, snorted or injected themselves to death — Amy Winehouse, Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson and Heath Ledger to name just a few.

After watching the grossly shameful overkill coverage by the media of the selfinduced death of Philip Seymour Hoffman, my question is why do so many actors and presidential assassins have three names?

No wait, that's not it. My question is why is the self-induced death of an actor who never contributed anything of real value to the world treated like

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proved for publication, must be 50 ressarily reflect the views of the Tri-C right to edit for clarity, length and lial

WHERE WILL PEOPLE park? I heard they are looking for a place for a big parking lot and they are going to charge people to park in Fenton to come visit their restaurants and shop, and all that other good stuff because they want to recoup the money.

AFTER LISTENING TO the state of the

union address, I pray that our next president comes from the world of business and has a grasp on the fundamentals of economics and accounting instead of the basics of Socialism.

I'M 68 YEARS old, been driving for a long time. Diesel used to be 10 cents less than gas. Now it's 70 to 80 cents more than gas and it's a byproduct of gas. Why aren't the diesel people just screaming?

OBAMACARE HAS ALREADY had a

significant impact on America with more than six million people being kicked off their insurance plans and with 275,000 of those in Michigan. Obamacare is continuing to raise the cost of medicine and healthcare in the United States. It's a travestv.

'YOU CAN'T HANDLE the truth.' This comes to mind, when read you people bashing Fox News. You're so blinded by the liberal media, that you never hear the real, uncut stories. I dare you to watch Fox. You will be surprised.

Compiled by Torrey Christopher, intern

it's a world-changing event for people like you and me? Why does the mainstream media label this event

as a tragedy? A tragedy is By Foster Childs defined by Webster's dictionary as 'a lamentable, dreadful calamity or event.' Truth be told, most of us don't view Philip Seymour Hoffman's death as a tragedy. There is nothing lamentable about a spoiled and pampered actor for whom wealth, fame and adulation were not enough. Sad? Maybe. But certainly not tragic. Hoffman was a seasoned drug-user who knew

the risk. He chose to take the risk and he lost. Game, set and match. The real tragedy of this debacle is

that unmarried Hoffman left three nowfatherless children waiting for him in

a NYC park while he lay dead on the bathroom floor of his penthouse suite, an empty syringe hanging from a vein in his arm. Nice parenting skills Phil.

To add insult to injury, the NYC police flew into full 'celebrity-death' mode, pandering to the media madness around them. The resources of the entire force were marshaled in order to apprehend the 'friends' responsible for this 'tragedy.' Meanwhile, other crimes and heroin overdose cases from the same night will not be investigated because...well, because the victims are not celebrity junkies, they're just your average, everyday junkies. Hey, no harm, no foul.

I can't help but wonder what the family of Army Special Forces Sergeant Daniel Lee Tyler felt while watching the bizarre, over-the-top media coverage of Philip Seymour Hoffman's death on TV? I can't ask Sergeant Tyler himself because he is dead. He died in Afghanistan last month defending his country. He was killed by 'hostile fire,' not by a

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TO THE ROMNEY lover. Don't forget all

the functioning companies Bain bought

just to debt load and dismantle. How many

jobs were lost? I'm sure Romney neither

JUST CHECKED WITH several sources.

Women in this country make 33 percent

president lying about this is hogwash!

YOU IGNORANT CLIMATE-change

less than men, so your conclusion about the

disbelievers. We can do nothing about the

knows nor cares.

upid's Retreat \$105

Enhancement

needle intentionally stuck in his arm. I can't help but wonder why no mainstream media, nor any celebrities, sent any tweets or condolences to Frances Tyler, Sergeant Tyler's mother.

I can't help but wonder what Sergeant Tyler's wife thinks about a nation that eulogizes and grieves for an overweight, drug-addicted actor who died in a NYC penthouse, but ignores her husband who died anonymously, thousands of miles from home, in a desert, while protecting that nation.

Most of all, I can't help but wonder if Army Special Forces Sergeant Daniel Lee Tyler's last thought was of his 6-month-old daughter — a daughter whom he will never see or know.

A daughter who will never see or know her daddy.

Now that is a tragedy.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. E-mail the King at king@ tctimes.com. Some information reprinted from the Internet.



Letters, 150 words or less must be signed and include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and liability. Letters must be written exclusively for the Times

Leader in Me project

The staff and students of Holly Middle School would like to thank The Home Depot of Fenton for generously donating the supplies for our Leader in Me project. It means a great deal to our staff and students that you chose our school's project for a donation. The students are very excited about decorating the school and making our building look great. We are very appreciative of the paint, paintbrushes, and sharpies. They will be put to good use. It is nice to know your company values education and today's youth. Without your support, this project would not have been able to happen at this time. We will be forever grateful. Thank you again on behalf of everyone at Holly Middle School.

– Alyssa Chamkhi, Holly Area Schools

pollution that we create? How naive, just ask the folks in West Virginia about their drinking water the last month for starters. Try reading some science journals, take some classes, please!

MOST OF THE prognosticators of today would have been called soothsayers in the past. Only their tools have changed. Today they massage computer models rather than medicine bags, or tossing bones.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

street talk

Do you believe in evolution or creationism?

gimmie, gimmie.'



"I have never given it any thought, but evolution makes more sense."

John Hoenicke

Fenton



"Creationism, but it's more complicated than one or the other."

Jack Penkivech Cedar Springs



"I am a Christian. I believe in creation.'

— Jan DeFord Fenton



"Creationism because the Bible tells the story. My parents introduced me to it, but I studied philosophy." Maxine Link

Fenton Township



"Evolution. I think it's a process and that's how tails were lost."



"Creationism, but that's not all exclusive. There is

evolution through God's

hand."

Craig Hayden Tyrone Township



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AND, THE DEMOCRAT party of John F.

Kennedy, is not the Democrat Party of to-

day. 'Ask not what your country can do for

you, ask what you can do for your country.'

Now, it is 'take, take, take and gimmie,

LOVED YOUR ARTICLE on robins. My

for worms. If you notice, they often dart

down and come up with one.

mother told me they run and stop to listen

Beware of small charges on credit card statement

► Scammers hope cardholders won't notice teeny transactions

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) is warning residents to check their credit card statements very carefully. With this new con, scammers are banking on the fact that many consumers don't check their statements all that carefully.

Don't fall for it. Review your recent statements for unexplained charges of \$9.84 and contest them with your bank or credit card issuer (call the number on the back of your card).

How the Scam Works:

You spot a recent strange charge of \$9.84 on your credit card statement. The source listed on your bill is an unfamiliar website. You check out the web address, and it's not the business website. It's a generic landing page that claims to offer "Customer Support." The text promises to "refund 100 percent of your last payment" and provides a phone number and email address.

What's going on here? Scammers are charging stolen credit card numbers for a small amount of money. (Recent victims were all charged \$9.84, but scammers may change that amount as word gets out.) The expectation is that many cardholders won't notice the relatively small charge, and the credit card companies won't go after such a minor sum.

Victims report calling the "customer support" site and receiving verbal confirmation that the charge would be canceled. However, don't take the scammers at their word. Contact your bank to report the charges and request a new credit card. Your credit card information has been compromised, and it's likely scammers will be back for more.



Cromaine Library Book Sale The Cromaine Library, at 3688 North Hartland Road, Hartland, will hold a Book Sale on Feb. 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Feb. 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Books are 10 cents each. Don't miss the great sale. Bake sale is on Feb. 21.

HOW TO REDUCE YOUR RISK OF CREDIT CARD FRAUD

- Report lost cards and incorrect charges promptly. In the United States and Canada if your credit card is lost, stolen, or used without your permission, you may be responsible for up to \$50. If you report the loss before the card is used, you're not responsible for any unauthorized charges, according to the BBB. In addition, many cardholders are protected by zero liability policies set in place by credit card companies.

- Request a new card if you notice unauthorized charges. Fraudulent charges mean your card information has been compromised. Be on the safe side and request a new card.

- Never lend your card. And don't leave your cards, statements and receipts lying around your home, car or office.

- Never sign a blank charge slip. Draw lines through blank spaces on charge slips above the total so the amount can't be changed.

- Use caution when ordering online or over the phone. Always be cautious about disclosing your account number on the telephone or online unless you know the person you're dealing with represents a reputable company.



Fenton Ancestry Search Team to meet Fenton Ancestry Search Team (F.A.S.T.) is a monthly genealogy discussion group for genealogists at all levels in the greater Fenton area. The next F.A.S.T. session is going to be **Monday**, **Feb. 10 at 7 p.m.** at the Transfiguration Lutheran Church, 14176 North Fenton Road (just north of the city limits, next to Chase Bank). This month's topic is "Ancestral migration routes to Michigan." Also, feel free to bring any family search questions to our open discussion forum.





Celebrate Our Anniversary with Us!

Thank you for supporting us the past 2 years! It's our 2nd anniversary and we want to show our appreciation for your continued support by inviting you to enjoy the daily specials below from February 10 - 16:

	Monday, February 10	^{\$} 1.25 Single ButterBurgers, ^{\$} 2.25 Double Cheeseburgers ALL DAY!
_	Tuesday, February 11	Buy 1 Get 1 Free ANY Value Basket
	Wednesday, February 12	^{\$} 1 Cheese Curds & ^{\$} 1 Onion Rings
	Thursday, February 13	\$4.99 Chicken Tender Value Basket, \$1 1-Scoop Sundae
	Friday, February 14	\$4.99 Double Cheeseburger Value Baskets
	Saturday, February 15	\$11.99 Burger Bundle – Includes 5 Burgers and a family fry.
	Sunday, February 16	\$2.50 Kid's Meals, \$1 Shakes



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Ice Dam Prevention

This winter, take these steps to avoid costly and potentially dangerous ice dams:

- Keep your attic well ventilated. The colder the attic, the less melting and refreezing you'll have on your roof.
- Keep the attic floor well insulated to minimize the amount of heat rising through the attic from within the home.
- As an extra precaution against roof leaks, have a contractor install a water-repellent membrane under your roof covering.



New interim Pastor at First Presbyterian

► Full-time pastor in place until formal search is completed

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 First Presbyterian Church of Fen-

ton welcomes the Rev. Jacob "Jake" Kaufman as full-time interim pastor, following the retirement of the Rev. Dale Swihart.

As a Transition Ministry Specialist, Kaufman has served as interim pastor at 12 churches over the past 20 years, including nine in Michigan. He was also a pastor at four churches during the 20 years prior to that.

Born and raised in Her-

kimer, N.Y, Kaufman currently lives in Munith, near Jackson, while making his home in Fenton mid-week and on Sundays to serve his congregation. "I'm delighted to be here," said Kaufman, in an interview on Wednesday. Kaufman earned his undergraduate degree at Hope College, then continued his education at New Brunswick Theological Seminary with a Bachelor's of Divinity degree, Princeton Theological Seminary with a Master's of Theology degree, Faith Ev. Lutheran Seminary with a Doctor of Ministry degree and San Francisco Theo-

logical Seminary with a Doctor of Science of Theology degree.

His wife, Dawn, whom he married in 2012, is the director of the MBA program at Bethel College in South Bend, Ind. He has a daughter, Ruth Ann, of Holland and a son, Dave, of Jacksonville, Fla., plus two grandchildren.

Kaufman will serve First Presbyterian Church of Fenton

until the search committee finds a new pastor to call. "This interim period and search process normally takes 12 to 18 months," he said. He will participate with officers, group leaders and church staff in a Leadership Retreat on Saturday, March 15.

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"Jake" Kaufman



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

The three West Bloomfield police officers who escorted the O'Rourke girls to the Daddy-Daughter Dance last Saturday took their dancing steps to a new "low" by surfing on the dance floor. From left are Eileen O'Rourke and Art Smith, Mary O'Rourke and Derek Kase and Andrea O'Rourke and Joe Miller.

Big shoes to fill...

► Three West Bloomfield police officers escort O'Rourke daughters to dance By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Fallen West Bloomfield police officer Patrick O'Rourke wasn't here to take his three daughters to the Daddy-Daughter Dance last Saturday night at AGS Middle School in Fenton.

But he certainly was there in spirit. O'Rourke, 39, was the first West Bloomfield police officer to die in the line of duty in a standoff on Sept. 9, 2012. His comrades at the police

department, who have forged closer

relationships with each other, other officer families and especially, the O'Rourke family, have never forgotten that date.

When O'Rourke's daughters Eileen, 11, Mary, 9 and Andrea, 6, asked three officers in the department months ahead of time to escort them to the dance, each gladly obliged and made it a special evening none would ever forget.

Police officer Art Smith escorted eldest daughter Eileen, 11, to the dance, taking her first out to dinner with her mom, Amy and her date, Eileen's grandpa, Steve Corry. "It was very sentimental, emotional and powerful for me," said Smith, who had been called in to help support the patrol staff after O'Rourke had been shot. "We've all become like family. We were able to help fill a void for the O'Rourkes this night. It was a blast."

Eileen had as great a time as her date did, spending lots of time on the dance floor and introducing Smith to her friends. "Most of it was fun," she said, hinting at her quiet emotions. "I've gone to the Daddy-Daughter dance every year since second or third grade."

Officer Derek Kase escorted 9-year-old Mary to the dance, taking her out to dinner and bringing her a wrist corsage. A bachelor about to be married, Kase's "cut-ups" on the dance floor belied his own memories of Sept. 9, when he physically helped carry O'Rourke's body out of the gunman's house while still in grave danger. "He was funny and he likes to dance," said Mary, recalling the evening.

Six-year-old Andrea was taken to the dance by officer Joe Miller, who

had been the first officer to get to the hospital after the shooting. After returning from the dance, Miller posted this on Facebook:

"Tonight was an amazing night. I had the privilege of taking Andrea O'Rourke to her dance. She liked her flowers and I got candies from her. We go to dinner and the waitress came over and

asked if we were going to the dance. Andrea looked at her and said, 'My daddy got shot and died last year. So we all decided to bring police officers. So this is my daddy.

"After the 'awwws,' the tears began to well up in my eyes as we ordered our food. We sat there and ate, laughed and enjoyed ourselves. Then we got to the dance and cut all sorts of rugs. Andrea was able to run around with her friends, dance with me and gave me several hugs. I know she never got to with Pat, but I hope I did him proud. Love you, Andrea, and thank you for a memorable night."

These three officers are among the officers whom I consider my

heroes.77 Amy O'Rourke Widow of slain police officer Patrick O'Rourke

Facebook knows what you don't post

Online browsers follow every keystroke on every website even if you don't hit 'publish'

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The cliché of 'think before you post' on Facebook is generally one of the first lessons taught when it comes to social

media. But what happens to all that information you don't post? Recently, the new online site Slate reported that Facebook knows when you type out a status or comment, even if you don't click on post. In a world of constant online access and individual monitoring, the prospect of hav-

ing what you don't share recorded in a database can be troubling.

But it's not just Facebook that knows what you've typed or deleted. It may arguably be every website you visit. Slate writer Jennifer Goldbeck said the code in online browsers track each keystroke on every website. Those pair of boots you didn't purchase on Amazon? Your computer knows about it. In fact, there's a good chance an advertisement for those same boots will show up the next time you're on Facebook. Gmail watches keystrokes as well, saving unsent email messages as a draft, allowing users to access unsent mail.

As anyone who has lost a job opportunity or been chastised by friends because of Facebook postings will tell you, keeping a clean social media profile has become an expected responsibility. Facebook collecting, storing and potentially sharing deleted and unpublished statuses can be just as alarming. A Facebook representative told Goldbeck that instances of self-censoring are recorded, not necessarily the text itself.

Goldbeck discovered that Facebook was following self-censored posts after reading an article by researchers at Carnegie Mellon University. The report notes that engineers at Facebook are analyzing what makes people think twice before hitting the share button and how to eliminate this hesitation. Researchers point out that Facebook is built off user information and the more that's shared, the more the website can potentially generate in money.

News briefs

Public hearing on federal funding for Fenton's streetscape project

A Public Hearing will be held Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Willard P. Harris Auditorium, third floor, Genesee County Administration Building, 1101 Beach Street, Flint, as part of the Genesee County Metropolitan Alliance meeting. This hearing is an opportunity for residents to review and comment on a proposed amendment to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP lists federally funded transportation projects eligible for funding. The proposed amendment is available for public review at the address above or online at www.gc4me.com. Proposed funding to be discussed is \$417,593 in Transportation Alternatives Urban Areas funds and \$157,851 in STP Enhancement funds for Fenton's streetscape project.

Goldbeck argues that the government spying by entities like the National Security Agency (NSA) should make users paranoid about what's being shared about them. "Facebook, on the other hand, is analyzing thoughts that we have intentionally chosen not to share," she writes.

fore becoming as paranoid as Goldbeck.

Facebook on the other hand, is analyzing thoughts we have chosen not to share. 77 Jennifer Goldbeck

Writer for Slate

Users should exercise some caution be-First, it's not clear if Facebook programmers can influence people to share more information, even if they analyze a breadth of self-censored statuses. Major news outlets like the New York Times and Guardian report existing users are posting less information about themselves and

A NEW

REASON TO

SMILE

teenagers are favoring other sites like Instagram and Snapchat. People paranoid about what informa-

tion is kept about them should perhaps approach the Internet as "think before you touch a key."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE CBO REPORT says more than two million workers will leave the labor force because of Obamacare, not lose their jobs. These are older workers not yet eligible for Medicare who can't retire because they need insurance. They can now get affordable coverage and retire, leaving those jobs for younger workers.

PRE-OBAMACARE, 85 percent of

Americans had healthcare coverage. The other 15 percent (plus illegals) by law must receive treatment at ER. The richest country? We are so far in debt, we will never see the light of day. We are flat broke!

WHEN NIXON WAS president we as a country spent 7 percent of GDP for healthcare. Today it's 17 percent and growing. The cost is killing our economy and dividing the country into haves and have-nots. There are many simple solutions, unfortunately, our politicians don't care about people, just special interest money.

IT'S AMAZING HOW many Obama voters refuse to see this guy for what he really is in order to justify their voting for him. Subscribing to 'Hear No Evil, See

No Evil, Speak No Evil,' will not change the fact unless changes are made quickly, the future looks bleak.

NICE CALL FENTON Schools on Wednesday morning. The roads were terrible! And don't use the excuse other schools didn't close — our kids go to Fenton!

BLESSINGS AND A big thank you to a good Samaritan, his two sons and my neighbor Doug for digging me out of the snow bank on Bent Oak. They worked for over an hour and would not even take lunch money. Thanks to all.

OBAMA WAS AGAINST the war on terror and wouldn't have had the shot at Bin Laden if it wasn't for Bush. Also, the median household income is down, unemployment is up and we have been promised road improvements since 2009. Doesn't sound like he has accomplished much.

A FOURTH STUDY shows that the Keystone pipeline should have been OK'd five years ago. Barry will have to sign it now because six Democrats have jumped off the sinking ship to try to save their jobs. Our lives depend on us becoming energy independent. Color

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Township still looking to build park

Baseball diamonds and soccer fields in the works

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton Twp. — The Board of Trustees approved the township's five-year parks and recreation plan at its meeting on Monday. Included in the plan is an outline to create a community park located on Thompson Road near Wiggins Road. The park will include soccer fields, parking, baseball and softball fields.

The park was conceived by Clerk Robert Krug more than two years ago, when property was reverted from the county back to the township.

According to the township park committee's action plan, phase one of the park will include cultivating sporting fields on the 34.6-acre site. Phase two would add a sledding hill, nature center, picnic pavilions, a basketball court and a splash pad. After getting the park built and structures established, park officials plan to work with other organizations such as Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation to bring in activities and programs.

Tentatively, volunteer and civic groups would uphold maintenance of the park.

The proposed park has faced criticism in the past, especially from residents living near the site. Krug has argued in the past that the park will come at a minimal fee to the township and will depend largely on community support and donations. Construction for the park was slated for fall of 2013 however, no action has been taken yet in assembling the park.

RANDA

Continued from Front Page

With no substantial leads, the investigation by Fenton police remains open, but stalled. Ground and aerial searches, help from Crime Stoppers, a reward, fliers, and interviews have not turned up anything to lead investigators to Randa's whereabouts. Det. Scott Townsend has since taken over the case after Det. Ron Skarzynski retired last year.

Townsend said Friday that there is nothing new to report in the investigation. He hopes that someone steps forward with a tip and that the family can get closure. "Someone knows something. If we can just get them to talk," he said. If someone has any information, they are to call Fenton police at (810) 629-5311 and ask for Townsend.

Randa's family continues to look for her.

They are convinced that someone knows when and why she left her tiny apartment sometime between 11:30 p.m. on Feb. 10 and 8 a.m. on Feb. 11. Randa, who lived alone, was very ill and moved slowly.

While Randa's family has faith that they will one day learn what happened to her, they understand that might never happen without the community's help. One tip could make a difference.

As their reminder, Diana Anderson, Randa's sister, said they have all been tying purple ribbons around trees in remembrance of Randa. Anderson said they would be so grateful if residents in the area did so, as well. There is nothing organized, but Anderson said that if anyone has any type or shade of purple ribbon, yard or cloth, that they tie a piece around a tree to remember Randa. "That would be awesome," said Anderson.



High school video production gets \$50K for new equipment

We've

been very

successful

program.77

with this

Rick Ashley

Video teacher at

Fenton High School

Fenton — The Fenton High School video program may see some upgrading in the near future. The Fenton board of education voted to allow video teacher Rick Ashley to place bids for new computer and video equipment for roughly \$50,000.

The equipment will be purchased with PEG monies, a fee cable companies legally have to set aside for Public, Educational and Government access television. Ashley said the new equipment will enhance Fenton High School's growing video production program.

"The program started with 25 students. We're now at approximately 170 students," Ashley said. "A lot of that is because of the funding we're allowed to get."



If there is no accident report and a driver is not identified, funds to cover the repair/replacement comes from the taxpayers, through the gas and vehicle registration taxes. "The guardrails are there to protect," said Daly. "We replace them as soon as possible.

Editor's note: If you have a question related to the tri-county area, send your question to sstone@tctimes. We will try to answer your question in a future issue

Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden school districts have formed the Fenton Area Cable Television (FACT) consortium in order to bring more unified programming to channel 99. FACT has also appeared before other

governing boards such as the cities of Fenton and Linden and townships of Tyrone and Fenton in order to be granted PEG funding.

Any new equipment acquired through PEG funding will be shared by all three school districts. Ashley said Channel 99 is currently running on a 24-hour cycle where programming and production

is completely done by local students. Ashley said the video programs at the local high schools have encouraged students to pursue video production as a career.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I'M BEHIND YOU Mr. King. Your article was accurate — corrupt, government officials. Those who run for any kind of seat are corrupt, mudslinging, back stabbing thieves themselves just to enrich their pockets while they live off everybody else.

TO ALL THE grandparents that babysit their grandchildren and then complain about how they act. Do you know how to say no? We get really tired of hearing how you wish that the parents could afford a babysitter.

CALIFORNIA HAS NAPA valley for their

wine area. Our whine area is southern Genesee County, northern Oakland County and the main whine is from Republicans. Hey, get started early, start bashing your next president, Hillary. She's coming Republicans, she's coming. Hope you don't like it as much as you don't like Obama.

HERE I AM reading my paper down in Florida, and I read where Dan Ruth received a Pulitzer Prize in 2013 for his writing. I wasn't aware that they gave Pulitzer prizes for dribble, but I guess I was wrong.

YOU CAN TELL a lot about a person by the way they put their garbage out to the road. If they have no recycling like plastic bottles, tin cans, and paper, you know it's in their garbage can. And they have no feelings for others. C'mon, recycle and help our grandchildren in the future.

REMEMBER THOSE NATURAL gas suppliers that went door-to-door? Well now, people who signed up to that are locked into their higher rate because if you look at your Consumers bill, the rates have dropped. Who's making the money?

KIND OF BRINGS tears to your eyes to think that Waxman, after only 40 years at the public trough, decided he might retire. I mean how sad, all those benefits for 40 years and now he's going to walk away.

FOR THE CALLER whose definition of Fox News was 'rich people telling middle class people how to blame the poor.' It was spoken like a true liberal who has never watched Fox News.

THE GOOD NEWS is that during his state of the union address President Obama told only one lie. The bad news is it was the entire speech.

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To have your insert/flyer viewable online, call Gail Grove at 810-433-6822.

Area students to be honored for citizenship

The Sashabaw Plains Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will honor seven high school students including three from the tri-

county on Feb. 11 at Fountains Golf Club



David Doyle Corrine Brown

in Clarkston. Caitlin Wiley was chosen to represent Fenton High School, Corrine Brown was chosen to represent Lake Fenton High School and David Doyle was chosen to represent Linden High School. DAR recognizes and rewards high school seniors who possess good citizenship qualities of Dependability, Service, Leadership, and Patriotism, to an outstanding degree, in their homes, schools, and communities. Wiley, Brown and Doyle, as well as the other students representing their schools will be awarded Good Citizen pins, certificates, and monetary gifts.



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I really appreciate that fact that my truck was delivered to my house! My wife had to work late and was not able to bring me up to the dealership to retrieve the truck and you guys delivered it to me! I am telling EVERYONE!!! Thank you! Daniel W.

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MichiganVotes.org, a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, providing concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. For more information, visit http://www.MichiganVotes.org. Michigan Votes released these voting results on Friday, Jan. 31.

Senate Bill 273: Impose licensure on "psychological associates"

To impose licensure and regulation on "psychological associates," with license fees, continuing education mandates, a mandate to have accumulated 6,000 hours of experience prior to being eligible for a license, and other requirements imposed on potential new entrants to this profession by a board of existing practitioners.

Passed 34 to 3 in the Senate Sen. Jim Ananich D-Genesee County voted: 🔀 YEŚ 🗆 NO

Senate Bill 711: Extend Cobo sales tax exemption

To extend for another two years the 2014 sunset on a law that exempts from sales tax the purchase of tools and equipment by a contractor if these are used to fix or renovate Cobo Hall in Detroit. Passed 34 to 1 in the Senate

Sen. Jim Ananich D-Genesee County voted: 🗙 YES 🗆 NO

Other newsworthy legislative developments

 The Senate Finance Committee voted on party lines to approve Senate Bill 402, which would gradually roll back a 2007 income tax increase until the rate returns to 3.9 percent in 2017, down from the current 4.25 percent rate. According to the Senate Fiscal Agency, when fully phased in this would save taxpayers around \$850 million annually. The bill is now pending before the full Senate.

• In the House, House Bills 5265 to 5267 were introduced to cut the current 4.25 percent rate to 4.05 percent in 2016, and then reduce it by 0.1 percent each year, but only if in the previous year this tax has taken in at least \$300 million more than it did the year before. The Chairman of the House Tax Policy committee (who is also the sponsor of HB 5267) said he plans a committee vote on the bills by the end of February.

 Another House committee approved House Bill 5108, which would repeal a state law that bans ticket "scalping" at sports and entertainment events. The bill is now pending before the full House.



CABIN FEVER? Games and family activity ideas to keep you occupied when weathered in

By Amy Mayhew

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

This winter seems to be dragging on. While snow piles up and cold temperatures keep many inside, some families are fighting back with fun indoor activities to beat the winter blues. Creativity and some basic items found around the house can turn a boring evening or Saturday afternoon into one that

the kids will remember for years to come.

CHARADES

One of my favorite childhood memories is the time when a tornado took out the power and sent my whole family including my grandparents and favorite aunt down to the basement during an August family birthday party.

We gathered our folding chairs into a circle and began playing an impromptu family game of charades with the flashlight's beam projected on the person in the middle, acting out a word for us to guess. Eventually, the power came back on and we could all go back upstairs, but I would have been content to stay in the basement for the rest of the night. The love and laughter generated in those precious moments without power was way better than any birthday present could ever produce.

SHADOW PUPPETS

Using that same flashlight, a powerless night can come to life by creating animals and other creatures in shadow form on the wall. The more hands, the more

creative the displays can get — and it can easily turn into a family guessing game. **GHOST STORIES**

Why let a perfectly spooky, dark house go to waste when you could use the time to freak the kids out with a good old ghost story? Using the flashlight creatively during the part while you're describing the scary details, helps keep young listeners occupied.

FLASHLIGHT TAG

If your power outage happens during the summer, there's nothing like sending the kids out to the backyard for a little flashlight tag to pass the time. In winter, the game can be moved to the basement — no big deal. Either way, it may require a little adult supervision, but the basic rule is if you get caught in the crosshairs of the flashlight, you're out. It's fun, and the kids can burn a little energy off in the process.

BOARD GAMES AND CARDS

Why not use the time to fire up the Monopoly board and show the kids the "old school" way to pass time. Heck, use the darkness to play a creepy game of Clue. Whatever the game — chess, checkers or even Chinese checkers, the kids will have a blast spending some quality game time with you, and they'll never be able to comprehend that you lived before the Internet.

There are all kinds of card games out there — Uno, Old Maid, and Skip-Bo to name a few. But even if you have a simple deck of cards, kids love Go Fish, Crazy 8s and War — they're easy to play, and you can include multiple players.

EVOLUTION Continued from Page 3A

David Agema (R–Grandville) has told media outlets in the past that evolution is a theory and not fact, arguing creationism should be taught as a counter to evolution.

It should be noted that scientific theory is different from the regular definition of theory. Livescience.com defines a theory as an "explanation or model based on observation, experimentation, and reasoning, especially one that has been tested and confirmed as a general principle helping to explain and predict natural phenomena." Creationism by contrast is considered a myth, which Merriam Webster defines as a "traditional story of ostensibly historical events that serves to unfold part of the world view of a people or explain a practice, belief, or natural phenomenon." Scientists like Nye have argued creationism has no place in science classes since the existence of a deity cannot be experimented or tested through the scientific process. Astrophysicist Neil De-Grasse Tyson said via Twitter, "I object to religion in science classrooms not because it's religion but because it's not science."

MDE guidelines for biology courses do not include theories on the origin of life. Instead, the guidelines deal exclusively how living creatures change over time.

Creationism is taught as an alternative in some southern states such as Texas, Tennessee and Louisiana. Private schools that do not have to adhere to state guidelines in Michigan have the option of teaching creationism.





GAMES FOR KIDS

Clue

- Sorry
- Chinese CheckersChutes and Ladders
- Game of Life
- Source: www.familyeducation.com





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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I AMY MAYHEW Only 271 of the 900 promised homes were built by Silverman as part of Holly's Pulte

PAYMENT Continued from Front Page

lawsuit against Silverman Properties for tap-in fees the developer promised to purchase under the terms of the original agreement. Silverman had until April 2011 to make good on its promise, but did not fulfill the obligation, Village Manager Jerry Walker said.

Homes development, as shown in this 2007 photo.

Last May, the village and Silverman Properties entered a settlement agreement in which Silverman Properties agreed to pay the village of Holly \$497,000 in tap-in fees. Should Silverman Properties default on the payments, a consent judgment against Silverman Properties would require them to pay \$700,000 to the village of Holly.

On Aug. 6, the village received its first installment of \$100,000, Walker said. Silverman was on the hook to make a second payment of \$50,000 on Dec. 1, but failed to do so. During a Village Council meeting on Jan. 29, village attorney Mike Gildner said inquiring phone calls, email and letters written to the developer had gone unanswered — that is, until last week.

Gildner said he received a phone call from Silverman's attorney, stating that he was in the process of trying to assist the developer in hammering out some deals to "liquidate some money." "He anticipated — at least he said he was hopeful — that those deals would be done and some cash would be available Feb. 1 to pay not only your December payment, but also your March payment as well, which is your next installment," Gildner said.

Based on the information, Gildner said he asked Silverman's attorney to send a "good faith" payment to the village prior to paying the December and March installments. No payment was ever received.

Gildner said he had attempted to contact Silverman again before last week's council meeting for a status on the payment, but said his phone calls were not returned.

"I have consulted with Jerry (Walker) — we have a consent judgment they agreed to, for a much higher amount than what was settled, and I can put that in place and get it entered into the court," Gildner said. "If we get some money, we get some money, but I just don't think we can sit and wait and let them pay when they want to pay us."

As of Feb. 3, Gildner had not received any payment on behalf of the village from Silverman Properties. He was expected to file the appropriate paperwork for the consent judgment with the court.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | AMY MAYHEW

Second-grader Devon Green-Hernandez holds the jump rope for classmates, Aaron Crain and Emily LeBrecque as they take part in Wednesday's Jump Rope for Heart at Davisburg Elementary School.

Heart-pumpin' fun for a good cause

When talking

about the heart

and stroke, almost

every student had a

comment or a story

about someone in

has a problem with

their family that

cardiovascular

Jason McLaughlin

health.77

By Amy Mayhew

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Davisburg — Second-graders at Davisburg Elementary School in the Holly school district didn't need any help staying warm on Wednesday. They took part in

the American Heart Association's "Jump Rope for Heart"— a program designed to teach students not only the importance of living a heart-healthy lifestyle, but also the importance of giving back and raising money for a good cause.

Using sponsor forms, students asked friends and relatives to donate to the American Heart Association. Additionally, Holly Area Schools' gym teacher Jason McLaughlin said students were

able to designate a person for whom they were jumping, such as a grandparent or other relative who has suffered a stroke or heart attack.

McLaughlin originally began the program at Holly Elementary School in 1998. Since then, the annual program has spread to other elementary schools in the

district, including Davisburg and Rose Pioneer. While this year marks the 17th year Holly Elementary School students have taken part, Rose Pioneer logged its third year, while Davisburg Elementary School marked its second year in the program.

McLaughlin's students have made a huge difference, having raised more than \$25,000 for the American Heart Association since 1998.

"Jumping rope for somebody like that really brings it home for the student — they have a better understanding of how strokes and heart attacks affect everyone in one way or another," McLaughlin said.

Gym teacher, Holly Area Schools "Jason (McLaughlin) does a great job with this program," Youth Marketing Director for the American Heart Association, Cindie DeWolf said Wednesday. "He's a great teacher, a great inspiration to the kids, and a wonderful volunteer for our organization." For more information on the Jump Rope for Heart program, visit them online at www.americanheart.org.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

IRS SCANDAL WAS investigated by an Obama donor who determined nothing was improper. The tax-exempt accusers weren't even interviewed. Today, it was announced that the IRS is re-instating bonuses for a 'snow job' well done.

JUST TO CLARIFY, beginning teacher salaries are low to mid 30s. Teachers, with 10 plus years experience, a Masters or Ed. Spec. degree, and extra coaching or other school jobs earn the wages that were presented in the article

last week.

THE HOT LINES prove that there are no 'compassionate conservatives.' Conservatives scream that if you're unemployed, just go work at McDonald's instead of being on unemployment, and then they're against raising minimum wage to help people who've done exactly that because 'it's not meant to pay a living wage.'

FOR ALL THE Obama Kool-aid drink-

ers who write Hot lines extolling the president's virtue, brilliance, non-partisanship, and business acumen, I cite an apropos Mark Twain saying: 'It's easier to fool people than to convince them that they have been fooled.'

MOST NEW HEROIN addicts get hooked by taking legal synthetic heroin

like Oxycontin and Vicodin. Don't just think it happens to someone else's kid. These drugs should not be left out and forgotten. If your family has a history of addiction, alcohol etc., avoid at all costs.

CAN ANYONE TELL me where I can find salmon from the USA? I have been to all the stores in Fenton and Holly and every package or fresh seafood counter says it's from China, Chile or Thailand. What did we do, run out of salmon in this country?

OUR FORMER GREAT country has made the transformation to a European Socialist country in just five years. W/H telling people to accept your healthcare, quit your job and receive all the benefits and a free Obama cellphone. The Democrats have made life grand for non-taxpayers.

JUST SO EVERYBODY knows Gov.

Snyder's Super Bowl ad was made by a company in California, not Michigan. Just wanted to let you know.

KUDOS TO THE couple on Eddy Lake Road for repeatedly snow plowing our Dauner Road property. Thank you. It was greatly appreciated by an elderly couple.

EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS stupid Super Bowl is terrible, including and mostly the commercials. Terrible.

THE BAD THING about Seattle winning

the Super Bowl is Pete Carroll gets caught cheating at Southern Cal and then gets a plum job at Seattle and kids from Southern Cal are still suffering from his cheating.

WELL, AS YOU can plainly see in the

interview before the Super Bowl by O'Reilly and Obama, Obama has a real problem with reality. He doesn't seem to know what reality is; he lives in a dream world. He had no answers and a lot of questions.

THIS IS REGARDING these young entertainers. The money has gone to their head and where are their parents? What kind of growing up were they taught? Drop them from all entertainment, send them back to kindergarten and start over again. It's a shame to look at these kids, they're narcissists.



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Times

SPORTS TRIVIA BASEBALL

When did the **Cleveland In**dians become the Indians?

The name was changed to the Indians on Jan. 16, 1915. They were named the Naps in honor of player-manager Nap Lajoie prior to that date.

AREA SIGNINGS

Wednesday was National Signing Day for prep athletes who wanted to make their collegiate homes official.

Among that list were three Powers students from tri-county residencies. Trent Grimes, who played for the Fenton varsity football team until his junior season, is headed to Central Michigan University.

Two Powers soccer players with local ties are going to the next level. Allyson Haran is headed to Wake Forest University, while Heather Rolls is going to Georgetown University. Both were participants on Powers' state championship girls team in 2011

Lake Fenton's Jordan Newman, who is within 15 goals of breaking the Michigan prep record, signed with Charleston Southern University.

Fenton basketball/ soccer player Hannah Evo is headed to Saginaw Valley State University to play basketball, while Fenton senior Sara Wujciak will be swimming at Johns Hopkins University.

The sports staff plans on having more detailed stories about each in future editions.

Andrew TIMES SDOM Goodman Fenton wrestler won his team district match on Thursday. Individual team districts are Saturday. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2014 WWW.TCTIMES.COM

Little change on Tri-County Top 5 poll

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 There's a tiny nudge up here or there, but for the most part the Tri-County Winter Top Five Poll has remained about the same for about a month now.

And to be honest, it doesn't look like there's going to be that much dramatic change in future weeks either. But, we've been wrong before, so we'll see how it shakes out as early February becomes late February and eventually becomes early March.

These rankings only include events through Thursday.

No. 5 - Holly wrestling: The Bronchos finished the team portion of the season with a 24-7 mark, earning a tie for second in the final Metro standings. Most teams would enjoy that type of success, but for the Bronchos it was a "down" season. That's a pretty telling statement about how good the Bronchos have been in recent years.

No. 4 - Holly boys basket**ball:** The Bronchos (11-3) have won two straight since the loss at home against Swartz Creek, and Clio gave them a present by defeating Lapeer West, putting the Bronchos back in first place in the Metro. They are tied with West in the loss column, but have played — and won — one more league game than the Panthers. The title is out there for Holly to take. We are guessing they'll do just that. Honestly, there's no team as good as the Bronchos in the Metro.

No. 3 - Fenton boys swim: The Fenton boys swim team defeated Brandon on Thursday and are now just one dual meet away from completing half of the league title. The squad competed at MISCA on Saturday, and hopefully will be coming home with a few more state-qualifying times. They might need them to fight off the Holly varsity boys basketball team, who would love to get back into the top three of the poll.

Meet

Sweet Pea

Sweet Pea is as

sweet as can be!

of our adult cats,

She, along with all

are just \$40 for the

month of February!

No. 2- Lake Fenton wrestling: The Blue Devils didn't win a team district title as expected last week, but that's only because Mother Nature forced the tourney's delay until Monday. The Blue Devils would love to qualify for the team state meet by winning a district and regional title next week. Expect either Lake Fenton or Birch Run to advance to Battle Creek.

No. 1 - Holly girls basketball: Only six games remain between the Bronchos and a perfect 20-0 regular season. The two biggest challenges remaining during the regular season are a Feb. 14 trip to Notre Dame Prep and a Feb. 21 road trip to Fenton.

Holly's defense will keep them in any game, as only two teams have managed to score in the 40s against the Bronchos. They have allowed 30 or less in nine of their 14 contests so far this year.

Simply stated, it's been a fun year to be a Lady Bronchos' fan.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Two mainstays this season on the Tri-County Winter Top Five Poll have been the two Holly varsity basketball programs, making Holly High School the place to be during Friday night home doubleheaders. (Top photo) Allyssa Copley (right) and the Holly varsity girls basketball team has been at the No. 1 spot most of the winter, and remain atop the poll again this week. They remain undefeated entering Friday night's contest against Linden. (Left) Joshua Simms (left) and the Holly varsity boys entered Friday night in first place outright and tied with Lapeer West in the loss column in the Metro League race. They are looking to move up the poll again.





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Bronchos' four-year district string snapped

►Linden, Fenton defeated in team district openers

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 **Ortonville** — Just as with the regular season, Holly's dual with Brandon on Thursday night went right to the final match.

And just as with the regular season, the Bronchos found themselves on the losing side during the Division 2 team district at Brandon High School, losing to the Blackhawks, 38-32.

The four-time defending district champions led 28-17 with five matches left, but won only one of those final five bouts, resulting in the loss.

"Sadness. It's not easy watching another team take away that trophy," senior Andrew Scott said about the loss. "It happens. They wrestled a better match and it happens."

"Both times it came down to the final match," Holly coach Don Pluta said. "I thought our kids wrestled with a lot of heart, a lot of pride. They just had a little bit more than we had today. I'm still proud of the kids because they battled every match."

Both teams ended up winning seven matches. However, a tight 3-2 decision victory by Brandon's Trevor Bourdeau against Kyle Pepper (145) and Thor Wardell's (152) pinfall victory against Holly's Keegan Soles gave Brandon the district crown.

Holly started strong, with Scott (160) winning a major decision, Tre Flores (171) earning a pinfall victory and Vince Bianchi (189) collecting a tight 5-4 decision win, but Brandon won three of the next four matches. Noah Brenner (285) was Holly's only victory in that mix, collecting a key 4-2 overtime win.

Trailing 17-16, Holly built up another lead, entering the final two matches. Josh Gonzales (119) and Colton Cleaver (125) earned pinfall wins, while Sam Johnson (140) earned a 16-5 major decision victory, giving Holly a 32-29 lead with two matches left. Any sort of victory would've given the Bronchos their fifth straight district title in the final two matches, but Pepper lost a tight 3-2 decision after Bourdeau earned a third-period reversal to take the lead for the first time. Soles also led his match 2-0 after one period, but a reversal in the second period set up Wardell's pinfall win.

Holly ended the team season with a 24-7 record. Holly's senior class finished with three league crowns and three district titles.

"It all started when we were younger and looked up to the high school guys and we wanted to keep up the tradition," Scott said. "I think we did a good job stepping in their shoes and keeping on the tradition. From where we were at the beginning of the season, we've made a lot of progress."

Fenton & Linden at Linden Team District

The Fenton Tigers and Linden Eagles both lost in the opening round of their team district matches at Linden High School on Thursday.

Fenton lost to Fowlerville 56-25, while the Eagles fell to state-ranked Goodrich 45-22.

"I liked our chances at first and we got the matchups we wanted, but good things didn't go our way," Linden coach Todd Skinner said. "Goodrich started out with four pins in a row, and then our 189-pounder got hurt and couldn't finish."

Trailing through five matches, Nick Sioui (215) responded with a strong overtime win, followed by Austin McNeill's major decision victory at heavy-weight. Luke Zimmerman (112) earned a third victory in four matches for Linden, but that Eagles couldn't make up the early deficit.

Patrick Kerr earned a pinfall victory, trailing at the time by a point with 20 seconds left.

"This team knows what they have to do in the offseason, and with the success they've had this year, the future looks very bright for next year," Skinner said. "The great thing about these underclassmen is that they want to stay together and finish the ride."





TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN

(Top photo) Holly's Sam Johnson (left) won this match with Brandon's John Allan, but the Bronchos still fell short in team districts. (Above) Linden's Austin McNeill won his match, but Linden lost to Goodrich.

LF girls press issue, beat Beecher

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

Lake Fenton — The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team would like to forget about the month of January.

Included in the middle of it was a fivegame losing streak.

However, it looks like life is getting better for the Lady Blue Devils, as Lake Fenton captured its second straight victory with a 55-48 win against Flint Beecher Tuesday night.

Lake Fenton made it three in a row defeating Mt. Morris 51-40 Thursday.

"It's big for us. We needed some wins," Lake Fenton coach Dan Schloegl said about Tuesday's game. "That puts us up in the upper half of the league, so that's nice. Beecher is a good team. Their record doesn't indicate how good they are. They play some solid competition."

The Blue Devils (6-8) looked in trouble early on, trailing Beecher by a 15-9 score after one quarter, but a 23-11 spurt in the second period, put the Blue Devils ahead at the break. During that 23-point explosion, Sophia Sahouri scored eight of her game-high 15 points, sparking the run. Lake Fenton entered the half leading 32-26.

"What we did is we went from our halfcourt trap and jumped them with our full-court press," Schloegl said. "We haven't been using it that much and we got four or five turnovers with it, and got some easy baskets, which really helped."

The quarter helped establish the Blue Devils as the leading team, but the Lady Bucs kept on challenging that lead. Early in the third quarter, Beecher's Areionna Carter hit a 10-foot jumper, cutting Lake



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN Jordan Newman (left) attacks the basket during the Blue Devils' 55-48 victory against Beecher on Tuesday.

Fenton's lead to just 45-43 with 6:15 left in regulation. However, the Blue Devils responded with a Sahouri assist on a Kaitlyn Begley layup, raising the gap back to 47-43. While the contest remained close the rest of the way, Beecher never cut the lead back to within a one-possession game. The hoop actually started a run of six straight Lake Fenton points, capped by a putback hoop by Autumn Beardsley. Lake Fenton led 51-43 with 1:52 and held on from there.

Perhaps the biggest possession during See LF on 19A



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LF's Newman headed to Charleston Southern

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

Lake Fenton — While playing with her Michigan Gators' travel team, Lake Fenton senior Jordan Newman was noticed by Charleston Southern University women's assistant coach Christi Rosti. She was sent an email discussing the school's interest in her playing at Charleston Southern.

A few months later, Newman was at another national tournament with the Gators when Charleston Southern head coach Eric Terrill saw her play and was so impressed he sent her an email as well.

It wasn't until the two Buccaneer coaches compared notes that they realized they had picked out the same player at different events - Newman.

So it should come as no surprise when Newman had to make a decision what school to continue her soccer career in the fall she selected D1 Charleston Southern University. The program is giving her a full-ride scholarship, a pretty rare reward given to any freshman player at the D1 level.

'That was pretty cool," Newman said about the two emails. "My dad (Mark) saw the two emails and he said 'They must really like you' and I ended up calling them and the coach told me the whole story. They really liked me, so I was going to go down there and make my decision. And when I went down there I kind of made my decision when I saw the campus and everything."

It's easy to see why Charleston liked what they saw in Newman. Newman has scored 154 goals in her prep career,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I DAVID TROPPENS

Jordan Newman signs her National Letter of Intent to play Division 1 college soccer at Charleston Southern University on Wednesday. Her mom, Laurie Newman, watches.

leaving her just 15 short of breaking the state record for most goals scored by a prep athlete. With her great desire and determination, Newman's goal totals keep rising each year. She had 40 her freshman season and 56 her sophomore year. Last year she scored 58.

"We saw Jordan play several times and identified her as someone who would fit very well in our attack," said Terrill in

a press release. "She has a nose for the goal and has successfully played at all levels, including scoring a goal in the national championship game. She has a legitimate shot at being the all-time goal scoring leader in Michigan state history and is an impactful player. We see her fitting in with our returning forwards, and think she's going to help us take the See NEWMAN on 19A

Fenton swimmers defeat Owosso

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 The Fenton varsity boys swim team has proven itself pretty tough to beat in the Flint Metro League.

On Tuesday, the Tigers proved they can be tough to beat outside the league as well. The Tigers took firsts in 10 events, leading Fenton to an easy 101-80 victory against Owosso.

Brant Cassidy and Mike Banner finished the day with two individual firsts. Cassidy earned his in the sprint events, taking first in the 50 freestyle (22.82) and in the 100 freestyle (51.16), while Banner won the 200 freestyle (1:58.54) and the 500 freestyle (5:26.15).

The Tigers dominated the relays, winning all three. Cassidy took part in two of those as well. He teamed with Zahne Macklin, Brent Nakkula, and Landon Mikulenas to win the 200 freestyle relay (1:37.22) and also grouped with Nakkula, Zac Miceli and Kyle Banner to win the 400 freestyle relay (3:43.24).

The 200 medley relay team of Austin Landis, Macklin, Miceli and Nakkula also opened the meet with a victory, posting a time of 1:50.95.

Other individual winners were Miceli in the 200 individual medley (2:22.08), Landis in the 100 backstroke (1:01.91) and Macklin in the 100 breaststroke (1:09.29).

The Tigers headed to the MISCA meet on Saturday.

PREP REPORT

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Holly 51, Lapeer East 18: The Bronchos remained perfect for the season by holding East to just six first-half points

Nine players scored for Holly with Kaitlyn Smith leading the squad with 11 points. Katie Ordiway had eight points, five rebounds and two assists, while Paige Reid had seven points. Allyssa Copley netted six points. Oridway and Abby Lewandowski sparked the strong defensive effort.

► Fenton 54, Kearsley 25: The Tigers (8-2, 9-4) held Kearsley to just

14 points during the first three quarters, crusing to the Metro League victory. The Tigers distributed the ball effec-tively, earning 17 assists while turning the ball ever just 12 times. Search Curr the ball over just 12 times. Sarah Cummings led the team with 13 points, six rebounds, four steals and two blocks while 10 other Fenton players scored at least a bucket. Katey Cairnduff (four rebounds), Emma Brant and Hannah Evo had six points each, while Katie Conroy and Carly Granger had five assists each. Granger also had four rebounds.

Swartz Creek 50, Linden 42: Swartz Creek outscored Linden 20-10 in the fourth quarter, earning the Dragons the victory. Taylor Smith led Linden with nine points, while Alyssa Logie had eight points and seven rebounds. Jessie Spencer chipped in six points and six boards

BOYS BASKETBALL

Holly 58, Lapeer East 36: The Bronchos moved back in a tie for first in the loss column with Lapeer West by crushing East. East scored just 14 first-half points, trailing 28-14 at the break. Holly's Jake Daniels led the Bronchos with 20 points, while Kyle Woodruff netted 11 points. Joshua Simms had seven points, while Morgan Baylis and Isaac Casillas had six points each

• Kearsley 56, Fenton 54: The Tigers trailed by 10 entering the fourth quarter, but tied it up at 50-all, setting up overtime. However, Kearsley edged the Tigers 6-4 in the extra session.

James Claborn had a monster game, scoring 26 points and grabbing 14 rebounds. Eighteen of his points came from behind the three-point arc. Dillon Gardner had 15 points and six boards. Alec Thomas netted five points

Swartz Creek 74, Linden 37: The Eagles (1-9, 1-11) scored only 14 points in the second half, setting up the loss. Linden had 26 turnovers and made only 9-of-24 free throws. Kyle Korman had 14 points, six rebounds, four blocks and two steals, while Collin Hoberling had six points. Austin Buerkel netted five points and grabbed rive rebounds. Trent Strang also had five rebounds.

Linden freshmen 61, Swartz **Creek 38:** The Eagles (11-1) were paced by Hunter Michael, who netted a game-high 22 points. Aaron Sarkon added 12, while Gavin Lunde had 10. Cole Sarkon chipped in seven. SKI

Divisionals: The Holly/Oxford boys captured the Divisional meet title by scoring 36.5 points. Greg Schultz was the slalom champion (56.69) while Lars Joergens-Koka placed third (57.50). Joergens-Koka was the giant slalom champion(49.29), while Schultz placed fifth in GS (50.30)

The Fenton/Linden boys placed fourth overall. Seth Thompson placed fourth in the slalom (59.08) and 12th in GS (51.50) to lead the squad

The Fenton/Linden girls placed third overall with Zoe Weinberg capturing the divisional title in the slalom (1:01.45) Caitlin Wiley placed sixth in the slalom (1:06.38). Kelsey Dietrich led the squad in GS, placing fifth (53.49). Holly/Oxford placed fourth with Emma Ford taking sixth in GS (53.75) and eighth in the slalom (1:07.46).



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Betty Ritter, Daughter of Margaret S.

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Blue Devils struggle vs. Bucs, 77-37

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Lake Fenton — Living life in the same conference as Beecher can be tough in the world of basketball.

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team found that out on Tuesday night.

Beecher's defense held the Blue Devils (6-6) to just 32 percent shooting and forced Lake Fenton into 22 turnovers, resulting in a 77-37 Bucs' victory at Lake Fenton High School.

Beecher, the defending Class C state champions, scored the opening bucket of the game — a three-pointer by Malik Ellison — and never trailed. The Blue Devils cut the gap to one, twice. The first time came on a Pete Plasters assist on a Chris Bell layup at 3-2. The second time came at 5-4 on a drive and an underhand scoop layup by Bell as well. However, the Bucs went on a 15-2 tear the rest of the quarter, capturing a 20-6 lead entering the second quarter. Lake Fenton never saw the deficit in single-digits again.

"I think we worked pretty hard," Lake Fenton boys basketball coach Jake Erway said. "I thought we played unafraid. I think a lot of things went against us. I think we had too many unforced turnovers, silly turnovers when we threw the ball way.

"This may sound crazy, but looking back at the game, it didn't feel like a 40-point loss. I know that might sound silly, but in that first half, if we get one or two more loose balls, or get a call or two more here or there, then it's a lot different game, not a 23-point halftime deficit."

The Blue Devils particularly struggled in the first half, scoring just 13 first-half points. However, the offense performed better in the second half. Sparked by freshman Jalen Miller's 18 second-half points, the Blue Devils scored 24 points in the final 16 minutes.

"I thought as a team we started to get the movement we needed," Miller said. "I didn't want us to get down, and we started playing as a team. In the first half, we just went along. We have to play hard."

"It was nice to see the future a little bit. He played great," Erway said. "He knew when to attack and when to lay off. In the first half he may have played scared a little bit, but I think in the second half he got determined and was able to turn it on a little bit."

However, the stronger offensive production wasn't enough to stop Beecher, as the squad had five players score double-digits. Sammy Toins had a teamhigh 15 points, while Tommy Johnson and Aquatius Burks had 12 points each. Amariontez Ivory had 11 points, while Malik Ellison netted 10 points.

Miller added six rebounds and three steals to go with his 18 points. Chris Ross chipped in six points and three rebounds, but no other Blue Devils scored more than four points.

Miller hopes the team can take lessons from playing the defending champions.

"We need to play much harder and play better defense," Miller said. "We have to play as a team.

"There's nothing tougher (about playing a state-championship caliber team). It's the same stuff (as with another opponent), but you have to play harder as a team."

"You just have to give Beecher credit," Erway said. "They played some great defense."

during her signing party on Wednesday.

"He's always been with me and I would

natural. It just comes natural to me. When

I get out there, it's like my goal I don't

"She's taken advantage of every oppor-

think about things. I just go out and do."

tunity to get better," Lake Fenton coach

Lenny Glasstetter said. "I think that really

helped her. And she has that drive to suc-

ceed. A lot of people have all the given

athletic ability, but they don't have the

drive to go that one step further. She gave

up a lot of stuff to do it and now she gets to

Now what remains is Newman's senior

play at the D1 collegiate level."

"I honestly think (my aggression) is

not be here without him.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN Lake Fenton's Jalen Miller (front) scored 18 second-half points in the Blue Devils' 77-37 home loss to Beecher on Tuesday night.

season. Barring injury she should break the state goal record early in the season.

"I don't go into games thinking I have to score this many goals," Newman said. "I just go out there and score and at the end of the year what I score, is what I score. I scored 40 my freshman year and I was like 'Wow. I am the leading scorer.' After that trying to score 40 goals just became the average."

But Glasstetter said she's much more than a goal machine.

"She's a leader on and off the field," Glasstetter said. "She has a great personality. We have a lot of great times."

Newman's great times will continue at Charleston Southern University.



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NEWMAN **Continued from Page 18A**

steps to pushing the program to the next level."

Newman has her own desire and the aid of her parents to credit for her success. Newman has loved soccer since a young age and has worked hard to make herself the player she is right now. And her family has helped her tap into that ambition as well.

"This man has been with me since I was 3 years old, kicking the ball with me and taking me to practices," Newman said about her dad, Mark Newman, to players, family members and friends

LF

Continued from Page 17A

the run was one that didn't end up in any Lake Fenton points. In fact, it ended with a turnover. With 4:37 left in the contest and Lake Fenton leading just 47-43, the Blue Devils took 1:03 off the clock with one possession, shortening the contest significantly. And while Lake Fenton didn't score on the possession, the Blue Devils had the ball back in 30 seconds after Beecher failed to score on four shots during its next possession. After the time out, Jordan Newman assisted Ashton Fuller's layup, putting the Blue Devils up 49-43.

"We did that (took time off the clock with a delay offense) against Montrose and it worked well," Schloegl said. "I figured rather than going with that up-anddown style with Beecher we should slow it down. We decided to do that only up by four, but it really helped."

Sahouri's 15 points included nine converted free throws. Newman, who is headed to Charleston Southern University to play D1 soccer in the fall, scored 10 points. Miranda Quick netted eight points while Fuller and Beardsley had seven points each.

"I told the kids we are not far from being a really good team," Schloegl said. "All of our losses, we've been in all of them. There have been very few games we've been blown out of."

Against Mt. Morris, Lake Fenton won the fourth quarter 15-8, sparking the win Fuller led the Blue Devils with 13 points, while Sahouri netted 10 points. Alex Blossom chipped in seven points.

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*#ROBOCOP (PG13) TUES NIGHT/WED MORNING 12:05 WED 10:00 12:45 3:25 6:05 8:50 THUR 10:00 12:45 3:25 6:05 8:50 11:30 *#ROBOCOP:

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Sing your heart out on Valentine's Day

► Local quartet will sing to your love in person on Feb. 14

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

If you're looking for a creative way to share your love on Valentine's Day, you might want to check out this original idea.

Local barbershop singers, "House Blend Quartet" will visit your sweetheart in person at their home or workplace, sing them a Valentine medley and give them a long-stemmed red rose, all for just \$25. The in-person sing-o-gram appearance will take between five and 10 minutes.

"Singing telegrams are a real treat for both the sender and the receiver," said Cindy Breeding, one of the quartet members. "If you'd like for us to give your Valentine a box of candy, a card, flowers, balloons or other special gift, just give it to me ahead of time and we will hand deliver them for you, along with a sweet serenade."

If a phone call would be more convenient because of a distance, a phone-ogram can be sung for \$10, according to Breeding. The quartet will pro-

vide this service one-day only, on Friday, Feb. 14 in the local area of Fenton, Linden and Holly. For more information, contact Breeding at (810) 397-9050 or Kay Koby at

(278) 804-3620. "We've been practic-



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Organizer of romantic sing-o-grams

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- Write a romantic message on paper, scroll it up and place it in a clear glass bottle for a "message in a bottle." Hide the bottle somewhere your loved one is sure to find it.

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Breeding, lead, and Vonda Ruth, tenor.

ing our Valentine medley

for weeks," said Breeding.

"It has been a lot of fun."

o-gram is just one way

people express their ro-

mantic feelings for an-

other on Valentine's Day.

tell someone you love them

Other creative ways to

Using a romantic sing-

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If sending a card is your likely way to

HOT LINE CONTINUED

OBAMA IS A young man. When he's no longer president, he's going to make millions of dollars giving speeches before all the liberal groups. Do we have to support him for the rest of his life; the secret service and all the benefits that go with it if he's making that kind of money? It doesn't make sense.

I AM SO glad all you people who voted for Romney and have plenty of money because I have a hard time.

share your love, you're not alone. About 142 million greeting cards are sent on this holiday, making it the second-largest holiday for giving cards, following Christmas as number one.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Americans will spend about \$160 on their special someone this year, up from \$130 per person in 2013.

SEVERAL POPULAR

VALENTINE'S GIFT IDEAS:

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The "House Blend Quartet" practices in the Argentine Township home of Cindy Breed-

ing (second from right) on Wednesday. From left is Ann Mau, baritone, Kay Koby, bass,

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TO THE PERSON who lost their son to heroin two months ago, I am so sorry. I come from a family of drug abuse. I want you to know that you may never find the answers you want, unfortunately. I encourage you to speak out about drug abuse and you may find the justice for your son that you are looking for.



BUDGETS **Continued from Front Page**

"It's putting a pinch on our budgets," said Fenton Department of Public Works (DPW) Director Dan Czarnecki. Fenton still has some wiggle room left - around 25 percent of the budget.

Prior to Wednesday, Fenton had spent about \$26,000 on staff hours, roughly 63 percent out of a \$41,000 winter staffing budget, which combines regular hours and overtime.

Czarnecki said they have used 1,335 tons of salt so far, out of the 1,800 tons they have on pre-order. The amount they've used cost \$64,000 or 67 percent of the \$95,000 for all 1,800 tons of salt.

"Right now we have about a third of our winter maintenance budget remaining and about the same amount of winter remaining," he said via email. "At this time I do not think we will need to tap into other funds to cover winter maintenance, but that could change if winter stays as hard as it has been."

Czarnecki does however think that there will be no extra funds left for other street maintenance activities, once winter is over.

GENESEE COUNTY

More snow and ice this winter may lead to more cracks and potholes this summer. The Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) has spent \$2.43 million from October 2013 to January of this year. Director John Daly said that's a 12 percent increase over last year and more severe winter storms may put a squeeze on the commission's annual budget.

"February is a critical month for snow fall. It could have some impact on summer operations," Daly said. "Toward the end of March we'll look and see how much money we have left. There are no worries yet."

Daly said the commission is responsible for nearly 5,000 miles of highways, lanes and county roads. The length of road covered by GCRC is comparable to taking a road trip from Bangor, Maine to San Diego.

So far, the road commission has used 12,676 tons of salt, which amounts to \$474,000. From Jan. 3 to 5 alone, Daly said the commission used 1,114 tons of salt and 100,000 tons of sand, and that maintenance equipment cost \$800,000. The commission's 123 employees have worked 1,920 regular work hours and 1,923 overtimes hours so far this winter. GCRC's fleet of 52 trucks have been out on the roads as early as 4 a.m. on some days, laying down sand and a pre-wet mix when roads are too cold for salt to be effective.

Daly said workers will continue to do whatever it takes to keep highways and roads within the county safe for driving.

WEEKEND TIMES

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A Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) salt truck plows and salts Silver Lake Road near Linden on Wednesday. The GCRC is responsible for township roads.

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making a trip

from Bangor,

Maine to San

County Road Commission

Diego. 77

Director of Genesee

John Daly

road miles.

That's like

The director will have an idea how this winter will impact the budget for summer projects sometime in March.

"We haven't been hit on a major holiday and that's significant in keeping our costs down. We will do whatever we have to do to keep the roads safe," said Daly.

LINDEN

City Manager Paul Zelenak said the city DPW has surpassed their normal allotment of salt for the whole year at the end of January. Zelenak doesn't anticipate running out of salt or sand before the end of winter however. Zelenak's

main concern is the amount of hours DPW workers have spent on the road, as they have worked significantly more this winter than past seasons.

"It's not only the fatigue and the time the DPW guys have spent plowing, but also pushing back the amounts of snow in the downtown area," Zelenak said. Downtown snow piles are relocated to other city properties to help keep roadways clear, Zelenak added.

Zelenak wants to remind residents that it's illegal to dump or push snow into the

road and to keep fire hydrants clear, in cases of emergency.

"It's very unsafe when you have a clear patch of road and snow is put in the middle of the streets. Our DPW guys are doing a commendable job. I ask that residents have some patience — 15-inch snow piles take a lot of time to remove from downtown.'

HOLLY VILLAGE

Director for Holly's Department of Public Works, Brian Klaassen said the village of Holly has logged 465.5 hours of straight time, 227 hours of overtime, and 17 hours of double overtime in employee costs for keeping the village's streets and intersections clear of ice and snow this winter. He said total cost for

geted \$28,900 for salt and other winter maintenance supplies," Klaassen said, adding that the village has used 700 tons of salt to date, has exhausted

its overtime budget, and spent nearly \$24,000 of the \$25,000 budgeted for fuel.

Public Information Officer Craig Bryson for the Road Commission of Oakland County said the get is approximately \$12 million, and that so far, the organization has spent about

"Our five-year average for salt use is 64,000 tons,' Bryson said.

"So far this winter, we have already used about

70,000 tons, and there's at least two months of winter left."

Bryson estimates that the RCOC has used approximately 25,000 hours of overtime for the winter.

"So, while we are not over budget for the winter, there is certainly a chance we will exceed our winter budget by the end of the season," Bryson said.







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BUSINESSES Continued from Front Page

of the weather, and owner Judy Achey has found that a lot of regular customers just haven't gotten out in this weather. "We really do appreciate those who have come out in spite of the cold and snow," she said.

Every day, more and more spring items are coming in. "We've got lots of cute things for Valentine's Day, Easter and even your garden," said Achey. "Spring is coming!" Until it does, she's offering an Inventory Reduction Sale to close out seasonal items, Department 56 lighted houses, Jim Shore collectibles and more.

Thimbleberry Antiques in Linden has been slower this winter, but owner Kit Malone feels optimistic every time resort wear trickles into the store. "The weather has slowed things down a bit, no question about it," said Malone. "But spring things are starting to come in, and we notice already that we have more business when the sun's out, whether it's cold or not. I've been doing this for 24 years, so we sort of go with the flow."

Restaurants have their own unique challenges because of slim profit margins in the food business and increasing



Expo Exhibitor Orientation 6:00-7:00pm

All 2014 Expo exhibitors are encouraged to attend orientation. At orientation packets will be provided regarding what is expected of all exhibitors at Expo as well as useful information to help make this the best experience for your business. This will also be a great time to ask any questions you might have concerning Expo. All businesses in attendance will be entered into a drawing to win a FREE booth at the 2015 Fenton Community Expo! Your business MUST have a representative at orientation to be entered into the drawing. The drawing will be held at 7:00pm.

Flashback Reunion

7:00-9:00pm Taking place of the Meet & Greet that was held the Sunday morning of Expo, the Flashback Reunion will be a great time to meet your fellow exhibitors and celebrate 30 years of Expo! The Fenton Hotel will provide hors d'oeuvres, coffee, soft drinks, and a cash bar. This reunion is open to all exhibitors and the public so feel free to bring family or friends and enjoy the evening with other local businesses.

80s Flashback Booth Contest!

Decorate your expo booth in your best totally tubular 80s theme for a chance to win your office lunch! The winner will get to choose any Chamber member restaurant to provide lunch for their office (\$300 maximum). Only member business exhibitors are eligible.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Jeremiah Sloan's on-deck projects at Sloan's Sales & Service in Linden include a chainsaw, generator and snow blower.

competition. "Lost business due to weather can't be replaced," said Mark Rummel, owner of Mancino's Pizza & Grinders in Fenton for almost 16 years. "But loyal customers do make an extra effort to come out in spite of the snow. People still have to eat and they crave comfort foods and a familiar setting this time of

year. Especially popular right now is our new deep dish pizza."

At the Linden Hotel, owner Sharon Flowers said sales are fairly typical, and she has put out a "comfort food" special



Loyal customers do make an extra effort to come out in spite of the snow.**77** Mark Rummel

Owner of Mancino's

for February of goulash and garlic bread. Sawyer Jewelers' Chip

Beltinck said that his store is in "project mode," working on custom orders that people bring in during this slower time of year. "Traffic is down, but volumes are good, so I'm not disappointed. We're actually busier on most bad-weather

days because people stay closer to home," he said. "As soon as the weather warms up just a bit, we'll be ready to go. It will be really busy."

Several local businesses have been extra busy because of the bad weather. Sloan's Sales & Service in Linden can't keep up with the demand for snow blowers and just have a very few left. "This year, the snow has been a real boon for business," said owner Jeremiah Sloan.

Sears Hometown Store has been very busy, too, selling out of snow blowers and generators, but a shipment of the last snow blowers of the season was scheduled to come in on Thursday. "Now we're looking forward to spring," said Tim Stone, co-owner with his brother, Jeff Stone of Fenton Township. "All of our tractors now in-stock are on clearance to make room for a new tractor line this spring," he said. "There are some great deals."



town Meet Tim Hiscock

- Ski coach
- Husband, father of three
- Nurse anesthetist

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Tim Hiscock is coach of the Mt. Holly Thunderbolts Ski team and the joint Fenton/Linden Ski teams. He's a certified level 200 instructor through the U.S. Ski Association. Olympic-level coaches are certified to 500. His season starts in January, but training happens all year, and his athletes play multiple sports.

What are you looking forward to in the Winter Olympics? We're very excited about seeing it. My focus is alpine ski racing. Young Mikaela Shiffrin has done great in slalom. Ted Ligety, I expect him to have a gold in giant slalom. I think Bode Miller is peaking at the right time to win in the Super G as well. I think those all have chances for gold medals. It's going to be really fun to watch this year. Outside of that, Winter Olympics, I'd watch anything in that — curling, I love it all.

Can your team learn anything from watching the Olympics? Absolutely, anytime you can watch world class athletes, racing, as a coach you can pick things out. It's common for me to give out schedules for World Cup events. The best way to learn is to hear coaching advice, and then watch higher level athletes in racing. I try to get my team every weekend to watch one of these world cup events televised.

How is the team doing now? We started this year as a rebuilding season. We've had a lot of new athletes come to the team. So far it's looking like we have a very good shot to do well in a regional meet. Recently we took second at the Lake Orion Invitational. We were up against a very good field of teams. I was very encouraged by the way they skied.

You don't coach full-time — what is your daily job? I'm a CRNA (certified nurse anesthetist). I do anesthesia at Hurley Medical Center. In addition to that I own a conference company where I provide anesthesia conferences for CNRA and anesthesiologists. I do that all over the country. I also do some staffing for CRNA's in different facilities. I have a master of science in anesthesia, from the University of Michigan-Flint.

What can you tell me about your

family? I'm married. I've lived in Fenton my whole life. I married my high school sweetheart, Jill. We have three children. Nathan is 7, Emma is 12 and Madeline is 13, all of whom are ski racers, who train right along with us at practices.

Do you have any hobbies? Our family is very active, we mountain bike in the summer, we like to be outside doing stuff like that, we vacation in areas where we rock climb and stuff like that. We're busy with soccer and other sports in the off season. We just enjoy as much time outdoors. In ski season that's all we have time for.

How much time do you spend each week spent as coach? In season, basically it's Monday through Thursdays. I'm a slalom coach for the Thunderbolt Ski Team on Mt. Holly and I've done that for 20 years. I also coach the high school teams now.

Do you have any Olympic aspira-

tions? This is kind of where I am going to be — at the high school level, my goals as a coach is to put together a state championship team.



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"(Training) this year it's been really excellent because of the weather. It started in December and it hasn't really stopped." Tim Hiscock Fenton/Linden Ski coach

WEEKEND TIMES

TRI-COUNTY TIMES TIM JAGIELO Fenton/Linden ski coach Tim Hiscock installs one of 20 downhill ski gates at Mt. Holly on Thursday, before a regional meet.



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Life Sty FLORIDA

It's not too late to plan a trip to the 'Sunny South'

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Who isn't dreaming of powdery white sand right now, instead of cold white snow?

Right now, it's in the upper 70s and low 80s in Florida, right on par with average Florida temperatures in February. Winter-weary Michigan residents contribute mightily to Florida's \$67 billion a year tourism industry and if you'd like to add to that number, it's not too late to get on the bandwagon.

Fenton residents Kevin and Cortney Gwaltney always make their early spring travel plans about this time of year. "We'll go for a couple of weeks, spending time in Orlando and visiting nearby family," said Gwaltney. "Sometimes we drive, sometimes we fly, it just depends."

Cheri Church, of Travel Brokers in Fenton, said they have been swamped with phone calls from people wanting to get out of Michigan for a breather from this weather. "There's still time to plan a trip now, especially if you can be flexible on travel times," she said.

#1 ORLANDO Orlando remains at the top of destination travel to Florida.

From Disney World to Universal Studios and beaches just an hour away, this central Florida vacation spot just keeps getting bigger and better. "If you want a great experience for your family with kids about age 8 and up, make sure to visit Universal Studios. You're missing out if you don't go there at least once," she said.

#2 KEY WEST

Key West is really a hot spot in Florida, according to Church. "You can fly into Miami or Fort Lauderdale and drive down from there. It is an expensive place to visit, but worth the trip."

#3 SOUTH BEACH/MIAMI

If you want to be where the action is and go where the celebrities go, South Beach is it. "It's the hip place to be seen," said Church. "Old hotels have been renovated so that visitors have the 'old charm' with a modern setting. You're not on the beach, but you can walk to the beach from the South Beach area." Of course, it's also pricey, but you can always stay for a couple of nights, and then change your destination, she said.

#4 THE GULF SIDE

Tampa, Fort Meyers, Naples, Marco Island are all go-to popular Florida destinations. "This is where you'll find older theme parks, like Busch Gardens that are still worth a visit," said Church. "There are beautiful beaches on this side of the state, which extends about four hours by car."

#5 DESTIN/THE PANHANDLE

"The Panhandle is an absolute white sand, blue water beach area," said Church. "You can bring a family here and rent a two- or three-bedroom condo for a little lower price than central or southern Florida.' Other popular areas are the Daytona Beach/New Smyrna area, especially for beach driving and surfing.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO Kevin and Cortney Gwaltney spend time in Orlando every year, enjoying the hotels and experiences at Disney World with kids Kali, 7 and Cole, 4.

> HOW TO GET TO **FLORIDA** FROM MICHIGAN See Page 4B

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Eric's Automotive

Saturday hours, financing plan are boon to new business

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Eric Graham has worked in the automotive repair business long enough to know that the most important building that gets done in any business is relationships.

"Building a reputation of trust is what I do in my business," said Graham, with 26 years of experience in automotive repair in the tri-county area. "My motto is 'straightforward service.' I'm not into sales. I prefer to just tell people what needs to be done with their vehicle."

Open since Nov. 1, Eric's Automotive is located at 1375 North LeRoy St., in the Marathon plaza of businesses. He and another certified mechanic on staff provide every mechanical service available for a vehicle — from struts and brakes to electrical repair, transmissions,

air conditioning and more.

While he's new at this location, Graham is a familiar face in the tri-county area. "I'm a fourth generation Fenton native," said Graham. "Most recently, I worked in Linden for seven years and have a huge clientele."

Eric's Automotive will very soon be implementing a repair financing program that will allow customers who need service done to have the work completed, then paid for with a specific plan in place. "This is for customers who may not have liquid cash or the use of a credit card," said Graham. "We can get the repairs done."

Business hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to schedule a repair, call Eric's Automotive at (810) 354-8293.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SALLY RUMMEL

Eric Graham has a lifetime of repair tools and almost three decades of experience for his new service business, Eric's Automotive.

Business profiles



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SALLY RUMMEL

Jessica Pascuzzo, DVM, examines Bailey, a Yorkshire terrier, after a recent dental cleaning.

Fenton Veterinary Clinic

Long-time associate acquires practice

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Jessica Pascuzzo, DVM, is a very familiar face at the Fenton Veterinary Clinic. After nine years as associate veterinarian at this clinic, she has now purchased the practice

owned by Dr. Paul and Martha Tremblay. "I feel very fortunate to have come into such a wonderful practice right out of veterinary school," said Pascuzzo. "I've had nine years here to work side-by-side with and learn from Dr. Tremblay. He's still going to be here on a limited basis a couple of days a week for awhile."

Pascuzzo credits the staff for a smooth transition, which officially took place on Monday, Jan. 27. "Most of the staff has been here longer than I have," she said, with a smile. Vickie Bales has assumed the position of office manager, formerly held by Martha Tremblay. Also on staff are two veterinary technicians, two veterinary assistants and three receptionists.

to be a veterinarian, since having her first puppy as a toddler. "This has been my childhood dream," she said. "Seeing how owners and animals interact and how I can keep this connection healthy and happy is what I love to do. It's a big responsibility."

Pascuzzo also finds it heart-warming to have "grown up" with some of the puppies and kittens who came into the practice when she first started and are now full-grown. "I've gotten to know all their families, too, over the years."

Fenton Veterinary Clinic will continue to offer general medicine for dogs and cats, treatment for sick pets and emergency care, routine surgery and specialty surgeries done on-site. "We also offer ultrasonography, digital X-rays, on-site lab services and more," said Pascuzzo. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The clinic is located at 14115 Pascuzzo said she has always wanted Fenton Rd., telephone (810) 629-1564.



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Tips for choosing athletic shoes

Proper-fitting shoes make all the difference whether you walk or run. Running and walking are among the purest, most natural forms of exercise around. With new innovations like Freon-



filled midsoles and pump-it-up tongues, it's knowing which shoes to buy that seems to require an advanced degree.

□ Don't make shoes multitask. Walking shoes are stiffer; running shoes are more flexible, with extra cushioning to handle greater impact. If you do both activities, get a pair for each one.

□ Choose the wrong athletic shoes and you could end up lying on the couch nursing shin splints or aching heels instead of enjoying a brisk walk or run.

□ Know your foot. Sure, we've all got 10 toes and two heels, but beyond that, feet come in a variety of shapes -- and knowing your foot's particular quirks is key to selecting the right pair of shoes.

□ Bring your own socks the ones you wear while running or walking. If you wear orthotics, bring those, too. Shoes need to fit with the orthotic inside.

Don't believe in breaking in. Running and walking shoes should feel comfortable right away.

□ Use the rule of thumb. There should be about 3/8-1/2 inch between the front of your big toe and the end of the shoe — about a thumb's width. The heel should fit relatively tightly.

□ Understand the bells and whistles. Some models of running shoes look better suited to a space mission than a run in the park, but some of those groovylooking features actually serve a purpose. Clear inserts, filled with gel, Freon, or air, provide extra shock absorption, as do those springy-looking things.

□ Don't over- or underpay. Good-quality running and walking shoes are fairly pricey — and usually worth it. "A \$15-shoe will not be as good as an \$80 shoe."

Under the second second

Red flag: HAIRLESS FEET OR TOES

WHAT IT MEANS: Poor circulation, usually caused by vascular disease, can make hair disappear from the feet. When the heart loses the ability to pump enough blood to the extremities because of arteriosclerosis, the body has to prioritize its use.

WHAT TO DO: Treating the underlying vascular issues can improve circulation. Toe hair seldom returns, but nobody complains much.

Red flag: TOES THAT TURN PATRIOTIC COLORS

WHAT IT MEANS: In cold weather, Raynaud's disease (or Raynaud's phenomenon) causes the extremities to first go white, then turn blue, and finally appear red before returning to a natural hue. For reasons not well understood, the blood vessels in these areas vasospasm, or overreact, causing the tricolor show.

WHAT TO DO: See a doctor about medications that can widen blood vessels, which reduces the severity of attacks.

Red flag: COLD FEET

WHAT IT MEANS: Women, especially, report cold feet. It may be nothing—or it may indicate a thyroid issue. Women over 40 who have cold feet often have an underfunctioning thyroid, the gland that regulates temperature and metabolism.

WHAT TO DO: Insulating layers of natural materials work best for warmth. (Think wool socks and lined boots).

Red flag: A SUDDENLY ENLARGED, SCARY-LOOKING BIG TOE

WHAT IT MEANS: Probably gout. Yes, that old-fashioned-sounding disease is still very much around — and you don't have to be over 65 to get it. Gout is a form of arthritis (also called "gouty arthritis") that's usually caused by too much uric acid, a natural substance. The built-up uric acid forms needlelike crystals, especially at low body temperatures. And the coolest part of the body, farthest from the heart, happens to be the big toe.

WHAT TO DO: See a doctor about controlling the causes of gout through diet or medication. A foot specialist can help relieve pain and preserve function.

Red flag: PITTED TOENAILS

WHAT IT MEANS: In up to half of all people with psoriasis, the skin disease also shows up in the nail as many little holes, which can be deep or shallow. More than three-fourths of those with psoriatic arthritis, a related disorder that affects the joints as well as the skin, also have pocked, pitted nails.

WHAT TO DO: A variety of medications can treat both psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis and can restore the nail bed surface in many cases.

Red flag: THICK, YELLOW, DOWNRIGHT UGLY TOENAILS

WHAT IT MEANS: A fungal infection is running rampant below the surface of the nail. Onychomycosis can persist painlessly for years. By the time it's visibly unattractive, the infection is advanced and can spread to all toenails and even fingernails.

WHAT TO DO: See a foot specialist or your regular physician for care and treatment.

Before your next pedicure check out these safety tips

• Don't shave your legs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Environmental Protection Agency warn against shaving, using hair removal creams, or waxing your legs and feet during the 24 hours before getting a pedicure. "Hair removal can cause cuts or subtle abrasions that you don't even notice on your feet," says Dr. Kurtz. These tiny openings in the skin can allow bacteria and fungus to enter.

• Once you're inside, take a look around. Do the surfaces and water where clients put their feet appear sanitary? If they look dirty, find another place to get a pedicure.

• **Don't let the pedicure** technician cut your cuticles. When this protective barrier gets cut or removed, it's easy for bacteria and fungus to enter.

• Be sure your feet are smoothed properly. A standard pedicure usually includes removal of dead skin on the feet, but this should be done with a pumice stone or foot file, not a razor-type tool. If used incorrectly, a razor can easily remove too much skin and cause infection or permanent damage to the skin.





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Fenton Film Series presents 'Much Ado About Nothing'

On Wednesday, Feb. 12, the Fenton Film Series presents the comedy "Much Ado About Nothing" at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center. The movie starts at 7 p.m. and admission is free.

Renown director Joss Whedon filmed this new version of Much Ado About Nothing in 2012, and presents Shakespeare's classic comedy in a way that's understandable and enjoyable to both Shakespeare aficionados as well as those who are brand new to the bard. Critics describe the movie variously as "second to none," "a masterpiece," "utter joy" and just "an awful lot of fun."

Now in its fourth year, the Fenton Film Series continues with its mission of showing free, high quality movies every month in downtown Fenton in the auditorium of the community center.

The movies are presented free thanks to the generous donations from sponsors, including the Fenton Downtown Development Authority, Tanglewood Home Care, LPL financial advisor Patrick Perfitt, Behind Your Design, Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation, Lockwood of Fenton, and the Tri-County Times.

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B -HOW TO GET TO **FLORIDA FROM** MICHIGAN

Your choice of transportation depends on your budget, how much time you have and your personal preferences, according to a recent travel article in USA Today.

OPTION 1 – TRAVEL BY CAR

I-75 will take you directly from Michigan to Florida, with a driving time to the state line of about 20 hours and 43 minutes, according to TravelMath.com. To accurately compare this travel mode with flying, make sure to include gas, hotel and meals along the way.

OPTION 2 - TRAVEL BY AIR

A number of major airlines offer direct and connecting flights from Detroit Metro, Bishop Airport in Flint and Capital Regional Airport in Lansing. There are local flights available to Fort Meyers, Fort Lauderdale, Orlando, Tampa, and more. For best deals, contact your local travel agents, including Travel Brokers and Superior Travel in Fenton.

Other options are train or bus travel, but those will take between two and three days each way and involve multiple stops.



Cupid's arrows are flying through the mail again and I'm somewhat of an authority on the subject. I've been in love with the same woman and we're heading toward our 64th wedding anniversary. Add to that the many weddings at which I've officiated.

Life Style

Featured

columnist

By Roger Campbell

Love and marriage

One of the tenderest times in the events leading to marriage is the first appointment with the minister. Two young lovers enter the pastor's study, to talk about getting married. First, I asked the prospective groom why he wanted to marry this woman. His answer was always essentially the same: because he loved her.

'Why do you love her?' I then asked. An awkward period of silence often followed that question. One answered, 'Well, it's not because of her looks!' I've often wondered why we didn't lose that one. Finally, after time to think about his answer, he would come up with some reasons for doing so. Then I asked the same question of the intended bride, who quickly volunteered several reasons for her love. I then asked both of them to enlarge on their love lists and bring them to our next appointment.

At our second meeting, I carefully went over both lists, saying, 'You are each marrying an imperfect person. You both have faults that will begin to show up after you're married and that will be the time to review your lists again.'

www.tctimes.com

What was I trying to do? I was making an effort to teach these who were soon to be married how to build a lasting relationship by focusing on their strong points, the positive characteristics that had brought them together.

Ruining a marriage is easy. All you have to do is accentuate the negative. Those who build on faults shouldn't be surprised when earthquakes come.

An unhappy woman thought there was no way to save her marriage. She told the reasons for her pessimism and unfolded a bitter story about her husband's faults. He was neglectful, unloving and unspiritual.

'Is there anything good about him?' I asked.

She hadn't thought about that in a long time. After a few moments, she started naming a few redeeming qualities in this scoundrel and before she left my office her attitude had changed. He wasn't so bad after all.

Looking for the best in others is not a denial of their shortcomings. On the contrary, it simply recognizes their faults and then acts in love.

This is exactly how the Lord responds to our failures. In spite of our blunders and mistakes along the way, He loves us, meets us where we are and offers us forgiveness. That's why grace is so amazing: it's extended to the undeserving.

There are no perfect people and therefore no perfect marriages. But there is hope: those who respond in faith to God's love will discover the secret that makes love and marriage last. Roger Campbell is an author, a broadcaster and columnist who was a pastor for 22 years. He can be reached at rcmin-istry@ameritech.net

streettalk

Compiled by Torrey Christopher, intern What is your dream vacation?



"A Mediterranean cruise. My husband and I wanted to go for our 10-year anniversary and never did." — Dana Brennen Linden



"Go on a cruise to the tropics because of all the snow we have had."

> Dottie Wright Tyrone Township



"Hawaii. I've always wanted to see it and visit the Pearl Harbor Memorial."

— Janice Ricksgers Gaines



"Vegas. My daughter lives there and I would like to stay at the Wynn. It is expensive."

 Kenneth Price Fenton



"Cancun. I am going there for spring break to relax for a week with my wife."

— Ernie Bondy Fenton Township



"I am a stay-at-home person. I have been everywhere and I don't want to go back."

 Robert Tannechill Fenton





Mother Nature thinks of everything

DID YOU

The top running speed

of a white-tailed deer is

about 40 mph?

The average number of

times a white-tailed deer

poops is about 13 times

per day?

Deer are "ruminants" or

that is, cud-chewers?

The average length of

the white-tail's tail is

nearly 11 inches long?

Unhunted, the average

life expectancy of a

white-tailed deer is

about a decade.

Michigan's white-tailed deer are built to endure tough winters

Amy Mayhew

new@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 There is no arguing that this year's

winter weather has been some of the worst we've seen in decades. But can you imagine having to ride it all out while living in the woods, sustaining yourself only upon the foods you find available within your environment?

Well, welcome to the world of the Michigan white-tailed deer. Fortunately for our beloved herd, nature has built them to endure even the coldest of winter weather.

The white-tailed deer comes equipped with a couple of features that assist him in dealing with Michigan's snowy winter conditions, and wickedly low temps. First, hightech insulation in the form of his coat, and second, his ability to build fat reserves during the summer and fall that he can tap into during winter months.

If you're a Michigander, then you've undoubtedly noticed that the color of a deer's coat changes with the seasons. In the summer, the deer's red-

dish-brown coat is made up of dense or solid hair follicles. In the fall, he'll shed that coat and sprout a thicker, darker one. The thing is, it's not thicker because he grows more hair — it's thicker because each individual follicle of hair is hollow. The air trapped inside of each of the hairs enables him to retain heat.

Have you ever seen a deer standing in



And beneath the miraculous coat is yet another layer of insulation, this one coming in the form of fat—energy stockpiled from foraging high-calorie foods. In fact, a pregnant doe carrying one or two developing fawns for birthing in May or June might go into the winter carrying as much as 25-percent of her body weight in the form of fat.

> Since most of the food offered by the winter landscape is low-energy, deer actually throttle back on their metabolism, reducing their activity and eating less during the winter months. As the winter months melt away, so too, does the deer's waistline. Perhaps we could all take a lesson from the whitetail, huh?

Deer that don't make it through the long winter are typically last year's fawns, followed by old bucks, and finally does. Severe winters like the one we're currently having can take a toll on the fawn population, and as a result, put a dent in the overall size of next year's herd.

We typically don't see deer so much in the win-

ter because they're content to bed down in the woods, maintaining all possible energy for staying warm, and foregoing eating for sometimes weeks at a time.

The bottom line is we don't need to feel sorry for the white-tail in the winter. It's yet another lesson for us that regardless of what you think, Mother Nature thinks of everything.



PHOTOS BY I RG BERNIER (Above) In the winter, deer will bed down in wooded areas, conserving all of their energy for staying warm. (Right) A pregnant doe may carry as much of 25-percent of her body weight in fat into the winter.





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Times



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hr@mottchc.org or

MCHC-HR, 806 Tuuri Place, Flint, MI 48503.

Visit www.mottchc.org for more details. EOE M/F

INCOME PROPERTY for sale -

Fenton Township, 12 units on 2

1/2 acres. Brick and aluminum,

maintenance free. All rented

income, \$6.400/month, Quick

sale. \$550,000. Discount for

cash. 810-629-8694, 810-964-3472, 810-735-6887.

THOUSANDS OF HOMES SOLD! Contact the Scott R. Myers Group (810) 397-3192, cell (810) 695-4111, ext. 114 or myersremax@yahoo.com

HARTLAND

12316 Highland Rd. (M-59)

(810)632-7427



REAL ESTATE WANTED. Mark and Tim buy houses. Fast closings available. Sell today! Please call 810-584-5575.



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



LINDEN SCHOOLS, build home ownership quickly. Prices start at \$550/month. Sewer, water, and lot rent included. 810-735-9422.







FENTON - LAKE WINDS PLAZA. 2 separate retail/office units available. New carpet, just painted. 1 unit is 1,340 sq. ft. 2nd unit is 1,080 sq. ft. These units can be rented separately or combined for a square footage of 2,420 sq. ft. Great parking! Get the Best rate in town! No NNN, brokers protected. Call 248-884-8167.



Rooms/ Apartments or Rent LINDEN - TWO bedrooms.

810-629-4957. Misc. Wanted

ALL SCRAP STEEL FOR CASH. Scrap and vehicles accepted! Certified scales. Will pay \$5 over scale price with this ad. We buy catalytic converters. batteries, radiators, etc. Call for pricing. We also carry a full range of new and used auto parts. Bridge Lake Auto, 9406 Dixie Hwy., Clarkston. 248-625-5050. Monday-Friday, 8-5:30p.m., Saturday, 9-2p.m. www.bridgelakeautoparts.com. See us on facebook.

GET YOUR Local news delivered to your E-Mail FREE. Visit www.tctimes.com to sign up!



Misc.

Wanted

ALL SCRAP metals picked



SHEPHERD, red collar, near Fish Lake and Elliott Rd. and Seven Lakes State Park areas. Call 248-634-1468.

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WEDNESDAY JUMBLE ANSWERS

Jumbles: SOGGY TAKEN CENSUS BROGUE Answer: What you'd expect to have for breakfast at a lighthouse-"BEACON" & EGGS

SUNDAY JUMBLE ANSWERS

Jumbles: FAITH PROXY GLOBAL EYEFUL Answer: Why the cop turned musician got fired from the band-HE WAS "OFF BEAT"

HOUSE PLAN OF THE WEEK his 1902 sq.ft. Storage 466 sq.ft Main Floor Garage Lower Floor 842 sq.ft. 435 sq.ft Dimensions Living Area 2744 sq.ft. 67' x 64'10' 2000 SERIES



REAL ESTATE CO. www.englandrealestate.us	
JUST LISTED! Spacious & beautiful 4494 sq. ft. home on 1.2 acres. Beautiful kitchen & nook, formal dining w/see through fireplace to living room. Family room in LL w/access to in-ground pool, bath & changing room. Additional living space in LL. Basement & large 3 car garage. A must see! \$380,000. Howell Schools.	START PACKI 1300 sq. ft., 3 1st floor laun 2 car garage Schools.



and comfortable 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home. Offering 2052 sq. ft., plus unfinished upper level could be additional living area. Convenient floor plan. Spacious living room with fireplace plus waterside Florida room for relaxing & enjoysing scenic views. 1 car detached garage. Dock included. \$226,000. Hartland Schools.



HARTLAND SCHOOLS! Private, peaceful 10 acre setting.

ss cheerful unique 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers newer kitchen with hickory cabinets and plenty of counter space. 10x29 deck with steps and scenic views of pond and woods. Pella wood windows. Relax in the spacious great room, plus family room with wet bar in lower level. Much more! Large 26x28 garage. Newly listed @ \$250,000.

PUBLIC NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2014 AT 7:00 PM BY THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FEN-TON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AT 12060 MANTAWAUKA. THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ZBA14-0002: Mike Struckhouser, 13311 Haddon, Enid Blvd Fenton:

Requesting a maximum allowable sq. footage of accessory building and sight line variances to construct a new house after demolition of existing structure. Parcel 06-14-577-056

ZBA14-0003: Tamara Veatch, 2366 Lost Creek Ct. Flushing:

Requesting a maximum allowable sq. footage of accessory building, height and sight line variances to construct a new house at 5086 Harp Dr. Parcel 06-29-577-052

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

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

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

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

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

ROBERT KRUG, FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

_ethbridge plan 30-586

The Lethbridge is a traditional country home, designed for construction on a lot that slopes down at the right and rear.

An impressive array of gathering spaces fills the central part of the main floor, while a wing to the right comprises the spacious owners' suite, plus a library/office and powder room. Two more bedrooms, a family room and a large, unfinished storage room are in the daylight basement below, where they link to a lower level deck.

Stone veneer columns frame the custom metal railing that rims the wide front porch, and wooden shutters accent the multipaned windows there. More stone veneer covers much of the front facade, while gracefully sloped copper roofing crowns the window bay.



ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP ACCEPTING BIDS

Argentine Township is accepting sealed bids for demolition and cleanup of a property located at 15276 Outer Drive, Linden, Mi., parcel #01-27-501-130. All demolition material and refuse is to be disposed of in a State certified landfill. The property must be returned to a finish grade, seeded when weather permits. Argentine Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept/ and or refuse any and all bids.

Sealed bids must be received at the Clerk's office at 9048 Silver Lake Rd., Linden 48451 by 2:00 p.m. February 24, 2014.

Denise Graves Argentine Township Clerk

TYRONE TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS HELD FEBRUARY 4, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.

- 1. Present: Supervisor Mike Cunningham, Treasurer Marna Bunting-Smith, Clerk Keith Kremer, Trustees Soren Pedersen, Chuck Schultz, Cam Gonzalez and David Walker.
- 2. Approved the agenda as amended; approved the consent agenda as presented.
- 3. Received and placed on file Communications #1-6.
- 4. Livingston County Undersheriff Mike Murphy and 911 Central Dispatch Director Don Arbic discussed reports and protocols with the board.
- 5. Adopted Resolution #140201 to reaffirm the property tax administration fee.
- Authorized the distribution of allocated funds to the Hartland Senior Center.
 Accepted the proposed health insurance plan for employees for the 2014-2015
- Accepted the proposed health insulance plan of employees of the 2014-2015 fiscal year at a 17% savings.
 Agreed to pursue selling a small piece of township property, parcel 4704-05-
- Agreed to pursue selling a small piece of township property, parcel 4704-05-201-023.
- 9. Authorized officials to obtain a "Foreclosure Due Process Certification" for closing and title insurance on the White Lake Rd. property.
- 10. Discussed the issues of installing a building generator.
- 11. Discussed forming future committees and agreed to hold special meetings as needed as a "Committee of the Whole".
- 12. Adjourned at 8:41 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 <u>www.tyronetownship.us.</u> The next regular meeting of the Tyrone Township Board will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tyrone Township Hall. The public is encouraged to attend.

PUBLIC NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS FEBRUARY 3, 2014

The Fenton Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday February 3, 2014 at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan and took the following actions.

- 1. Supervisor led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
- 2. Approved the agenda as presented.
- 3. Approved invoices and expenditures for payment in the total amount of \$224,095.10.
- 4. Conducted a public hearing for the purpose of obtaining citizen input for a proposed 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan.
- 5. Adopted Resolution No. 2014-01, formally adopting the Fenton Township 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan 2014-2018.
- 6. Conducted the first reading of a proposed amendment to the Dangerous Buildings Ordinance.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2014-02, supporting the request from the Silver & Marl Lakes Area Homeowners Association to participate in the DNR Canada Goose Egg & Nest Destruction Program in 2014.
- 8. Adopted the 2014 Board of Review Property Tax Hardship Policy.
- 9. Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

A complete copy of the minutes of this meeting and any ordinances adopted at the meeting are on file and available for review at the Fenton Township Office, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday. Ordinances, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

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Times

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

At their meeting of February 3, 2014 the Fenton Township Board conducted the first reading of a proposed amendment to Dangerous Buildings Ordinance No. 719 to revise language relating to the appeal process. The second reading of the proposed ordinance amendment will be conducted at the February 17, 2014 Fenton Township Board meeting.

A complete copy of the proposed ordinance may be obtained at the office of the Fenton Township Clerk, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430. The proposed ordinance is also available on Fenton Township's website at **www.fentontownship.org**.

ROBERT E. KRUG FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

NOTICE of 2014 BOARD OF REVIEW FOR THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOLLY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Review of the Township of Holly will meet at the Holly Township Hall, 102 Civic Drive, Holly, Michigan as follows:

Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM Organizational Meeting to receive 2014 Assessment Roll from Assessor [MCL 211.29(1)]

Appointments will be taken for:

Monday, March 10, 2014 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:30 PM-4:30 PM

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Thursday, March 13, 2014 from 1:00 PM-4:30 PM and 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Friday, March 14, 2014 ONLY IF NECESSARY, from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:00 PM-5:00 PM OR 1:00 PM Board Signing Session Only

The 2013 tentative equalization ratio is 50% and the estimated multiplier is 1.0000 for all property classification.

Appointments before the Board of Review may be made for the dates listed above by calling Oakland County Equalization, toll free, 1-888-350-0900 Extension 85583 or 248-858-5583. Appeals may also be made in writing and must be received prior to the closing of the Board of Review. All written appeals should be addressed to:

> Oakland County Equalization, Holly Township Assessor 250 Elizabeth Lake Rd., Suite 1000 West Pontiac, MI 48341

Please use Parcel Identification Number when referring to your property so that records can be quickly located.

Protest at the Board of Review is necessary to protect your right to further appeals to the Michigan Tax Tribunal for valuation and exemption appeals and/or State Tax Commission for classification appeals.

HOMEOWNER'S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AFFIDAVIT INFORMATION IS REQUIRED BY P.A. 105 of 2003: If you have purchased your principal residence after December 31 last year, to claim the principal residence exemption for next year if you have not already done so, you are required to file an affidavit before May 1 this year.

Persons needing assistance in attending an appointment should call the Township Clerk's Office at (248) 634-9331 ext. 301 at least 7 business days prior to the appointment.



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have a look"

85 "I'd like to

TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE PERSON who assumed that anybody looking stuff up on their phone, iPads or computers is automatically cheating. You learned all your lessons from a book. Well kids nowadays learn and get this stuff from the school over the Internet. I don't suppose when you were a youth you ever looked up an answer in the back of the book did you?

book on global warming please send it to me. I'm running out of firewood and I can burn the book to keep warm.

I HOPE THEY print this to help others; this man squirted what he thought was eye drops in his eyes. It was glue. His mistake was bad, he's in the hospital.

I COULDN'T BELIEVE my eyes last week when I saw the salt truck spreading salt and right behind was the snow plow. Does this make sense to anybody? This was on South East Street in Fenton. The roads should be plowed first and then the salt spread. What a waste of salt. This is our money being spent wrong.

I JUST READ that the top four Obama supporters earned \$45 billion, that's billion with a B, in stock bonuses last year but you won't hear the local union stooges or any other quote, '99 percenters' bring up the fact that the wealthiest Americans, the billionaires, are actually Obama supporters. Interesting how they see things.

MOSQUITO

SQUAD

Dave Lamb

DAVE LAMB

HEATING & AIR

CONDITIONING

THESE JUDGES HAVE to come down harder on these lawbreakers. I call them punks. Instead of slapping their hand, go hard on them, go hard and let's cut this out. This is ridiculous.

I LIVE IN Florida and they are babbling about making marijuana available for medical marijuana. There's no way you can stop people from doing what they want and marijuana is a lot safer than drinking booze. You are listening to an 84-year-old guy, so I know just a little bit about what I'm talking about.

I'VE BEEN READING about the scan-

dals in the military from the air force, to the army, to the navy. I think it exemplifies that when a country doesn't have a leader, this is what you will see develop.

THIS IS TO all you Democrat liberals out there: I have one of those confederate flags hanging in front of my house too. And we hate to tell you, but, we told you so. LOL

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THIS IS IN reference to The King article. Do Americans realize the constant downfall of our government, remember Hitler, remember the Holocaust? Don't sit by waiting for another Hitler to consume us. Wake up America, we will pay a big price if we continue to allow government to control and erode freedom and our lives. Thank you.

MY HEART GOES out to the family of actor Mr. Hoffman. What about the other ones who have died from this drug? Did they all get this TV attention? A mother who's been there.

Obituaries, Funeral Services and Memoriams Marian J. Lynch, Marian J. Lynch - age 93, died February 5, 2014.

Andrew Roth - age 28, died January 30, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Roger Haack,

Roger Haack - age 65, died February 1, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.

miss you so, we will love

you now and forever.



Mary Smith,

Mary Smith - age 96, died February 5, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Ann Light,

Ann Light - age 75, died February 6, 2014. Services entrusted to Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Marvelle Copeman,

Marvelle Copeman - age 93. died February 6, 2014. Services entrusted to Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.







Items up for auction include: vacation getaways, fine jewelry, art local restaurant gift certificates, signed sports memorabilia, golf packages and more

Richard E. Harper Jr.,

Richard E. Harper Jr. -October 29, 1958-January 20, 2014.

Surviving are his parents, Richard Sr. and

Rosemarie Harper; wife, Patti Rhonda Harper-Welch. We





Leesa Wells, Leesa Wells - age 55, died January 31, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Jasmin Zia,

Jasmin Zia - age 29, died January 30, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Larry Dishaw.

Larry Dishaw - age 64, died February 4, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Alexandria Kapture, Alexandria Kapture - age 98, died February 6, 2014. Services entrusted to Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Gerald Hughes, Gerald Hughes - age 93, died February 6, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com







John Valeri - age 93, died

memories at www.temrowski-

Temrowski

February 3, 2014. Share

familyfuneralhome.com.

Family Funeral Hom Cremation Services 500 Main St. • Fenton • 810-629-2533

Betty Estes - age 81, died February 3, 2014. Services

provided by Sharp Funeral

Homes. www.sharpfuneral-

Dora Saltiel - age 86, died February 4, 2014. Services

provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www.sharpfuneral-

harp

Marvin Cuppernoll,

Marvin Cuppernoll - age

Funeral Homes. www.

James Dodder.

James Dodder - age 76,

Services entrusted to Sharp

died February 4, 2014.

Funeral Homes. www.

sharpfuneralhomes.com.

sharpfuneralhomes.com.

86, died February 2, 2014.

Services provided by Sharp

Betty Estes,

homes.com.

Dora Saltiel.

homes.com.

John Valeri.

Andrew Roth,



LuAnn Easton - age 58, died February 4, 2014. Services provided by Sharp Funeral Homes. www. sharpfuneralhomes.com



LuAnn Easton,



IF ANYBODY HAS a copy of Al Gore's

www.tctimes.com

PHILLY CHEESESTEAK SLOPPY JOES



diprecipecre

• 1 lb. lean ground beef

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 large white onion, chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 2-3 T. steak sauce
- 1 T. hot sauce, or more to taste
- 1/2 cup beef stock
- salt and pepper
- 4 dinner rolls, toasted if desired
- 1 T. butter
- 1 T. flour
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup provolone cheese, shredded

🛱 directions

- 1. Heat large skillet over medium-high heat, then add ground beef. Brown beef 5-6 minutes, or until cooked through. Add onions and green peppers and cook another 3-4 minutes, until vegetables start to get tender. Stir in the steak sauce, hot sauce, and beef stock, season with salt and pepper, then bring up to bubbling and cook another 2 or so minutes.
- 2. While meat cooks, melt butter in medium-size pot over medium heat. Stir in flour and cook about 1 minute. Whisk in milk, bring to bubbling, and let thicken (about 2 minutes). Turn off heat and add cheese, stirring until smooth and melted.
- 3. To serve, place scoop of meat mixture on bottom half of each roll, then top with the cheese sauce and remaining half of roll.



ESCAPE PLAN



One of the world's foremost authorities on structural security agrees to take on one last job: breaking out of an ultra-secret, high-tech facility called 'The Tomb." Deceived and wrongly imprisoned, Ray Breslin (Sylvester Stallone) must recruit fellow inmate Emil Rottmayer (Arnold Schwarzeneg-

ger) to help devise a daring, nearly impossible plan to escape from the most protected and fortified prison ever built. ESCAPE PLAN is the first pairing of action legends Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger in leading roles, and co-stars Jim Caviezel, Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson, Vinnie Jones, Vincent D'Onofrio and Amy Ryan. R, 1 hr. 55 min.



FREE BIRDS

In this irreverent, hilarious, adventurous buddy comedy, directed by Jimmy Hayward (Horton Hears a Who!), two turkeys from opposite sides of the tracks must put aside their differences and team up to travel back in

time to change the course of history - and get turkey off the holiday menu

for good. PG, 1 hr. 30 min.



Mother plans to host very awkward shower

DEAR AMY: My sister's daughter is getting married, and the number of attendees is limited. As a result, my sister is hosting a bridal shower before the wedding only for those who are not invited to the wedding. This seems rather unusual and gives the appearance of looking for gifts. Is this acceptable in today's times, or what would you suggest for future situations like this? — Confused

DEAR CONFUSED: Common sense tells you that this shower is going to look like a gift grab because it is. The purpose of a shower is to 'shower' the couple with gifts. The guests should be people who are also invited to the wedding. Otherwise, as you note, there is a massive elephant dressed in tulle dancing in the middle of the room (the wedding, to which none has been invited). Sometimes co-workers or out-of-town friends not invited to the wedding will throw a shower for a couple, but the difference is that it is their generous idea for an event, which they host. Your sister is missing the point in another way: Direct family members should not host showers (normally a member of the bridal party will host) because the event is too directly tied to their own self-interest.

DEAR AMY: When hosting my large extended family for a family feast, my niece's husband held out his child's soiled diaper to me and said, 'Here's a present for you.' I found this gross and disgusting, to say the least. Biting my tongue to keep from making a smart remark, I found a plastic bag for the diaper and put it in the trash. Do you have any suggestions for me should this happen again? — Grossed Out

DEAR GROSSED: Let's rehearse this scene in advance of your next family gathering. Him: (Holding out diaper) 'Here's a present for you.' You: (Tossing him a plastic bag and turning toward group) 'Dessert!' What I'm trying to convey is that his behavior in that moment was pretty obnoxious. But just because he draws attention to himself in this way doesn't mean that you have to go there.







"Sent from my iPhone," really?

Learn how to change your email signature

While it's cool to have the "Sent from my iPhone" email signature, not everyone likes that. You can easily change and personalize your email signature in Settings.

Launch Settings and tap on "Mail, Contacts and Calendars'. Scroll down and you'll find the "Signature" option. Tap on it and change to your own email signature.

You're given with an option to configure signature per email account. Select "Per Account" and vou're allowed to key in different signatures.

The tip is provided by Handbook for iPhone Lite.



DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I am a 69-year-old woman, writing to you for information on probiotics. After taking antibiotics for a sinus infection, I developed diarrhea and bloating. I had many tests and scans. Everything was OK. My symptoms continued. On my third visit, they took a stool specimen, which showed yeasts. The doctor suggested I go to a health-food store and buy probiotics. I did, and a miracle happened: My diarrhea stopped. Is yogurt considered probiotics? For how long and how often should you take probiotics? - N.A.

ANSWER: Probiotics contain live microorganisms that promote health when eaten. Microorganisms are bacteria and fungi. The thought of swigging down bacteria or fungi might be a turnoff. However, these microorganisms are the good kind, not the kind that causes infections. They work for us. Probiotics can restore to the digestive tract the normal balance between good and bad germs. They also appear to have a stimulatory effect on the immune system. Probiotics come as tablets, cheeses, milk, yogurts, juices and other drinks. The labels on these products must say 'live and active cultures.' The names of the organisms most often used are lactobacillus, bifidobacterium and sacchromyces. Some brand names of probiotics are Culturelle, Align, Floraster and the vogurt Activia. Curbing diarrhea is only one use for these products. They're also used for irritable bowel syndrome and other conditions. Yogurt is a probiotic if it contains live cultures. How long can you take them? That's a question that can't be answered. The studies haven't been done. The side effects from probiotics are few. It seems to me that you can use the yogurt probiotics forever. The others are probably equally safe for long-term use, but definite statements aren't possible. The labels on the products ought to tell you how long they can be used and in what doses to use them.

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