

# Will she be retiring soon?

► 21-percent drop in world-wide Barbie doll sales

By Yvonne Stegall  
ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Mattel CEO Bryan Stockton announced that there was a 22-percent drop on third-quarter net income and a 21-percent drop in worldwide sales of Barbie dolls. This is Barbie's fourth consecutive quarter of lower

sales, according to Mattel. What does this mean for Barbie? If you ask most children and parents, it seems that Barbie has lost her place in the hearts of  
**See BARBIE on 13A**



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES**  
TIM JAGIELO  
Barbie sales have been down for four consecutive quarters according to Mattel Corp.

PAGE 3A:

**MOVIES**

AT THE THEATER  
THIS HOLIDAY  
SEASON

**Weekend Times**

sunday edition

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## Visitation this weekend for Fenton grad struck and killed in hit-and-run

► State police looking for witnesses to Tuesday night accident in Rose Township

By Sharon Stone  
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Michigan State Police-Metro Post is investigating a fatal hit-and-run collision involving the death of a Jamie Garcia, 21, of Holly late Tuesday night in Rose Township.



Jamie Garcia is shown here in a 2010 Times file photo.

According to police, dispatchers were notified at about 11:30 p.m. Tuesday about the body of a man, later identified as Garcia, lying in the road at Hickory and Bone roads. Troopers determined that Garcia had

been struck by an unknown type of vehicle while walking in the road.

Troopers are looking for witnesses to the crash. Anyone with information is asked to call the MSP Metro Post at  
**See HIT AND RUN on 5A**

## 'There is no longer a Black Friday'



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | TIM JAGIELO

Black Friday morning retailers were quieter than in years past. "As you can see, there is no longer a 'Black Friday,'" said Kmart store manager Marie Susalla. "It's not really about one day anymore." Most "doorbuster" deals from retailers were available all week online, with the bulk of onsite shopping occurring on Thanksgiving evening. Susalla said that electronic sales have not been as hot as in previous years. In 2014, it's all about toys and items like bedding.

## Red Kettle drive coming up short this year



► Annual campaign is 30 percent lower than expected, but Fenton area remains generous

By Tim Jagielo  
tjagiolo@tctimes.com

**Fenton** — By noon, Sheila Ely's red kettle was full. She had to jam the cash into the plastic container with a paint stick while people kept stopping by.

She said shoppers have been generous at the VG's on Silver Parkway in Fenton, and fun to work with. "It's really good to meet different people, and that's what I like, friendly nice people."

**See KETTLE on 18A**

**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | TIM JAGIELO

Salvation Army bell ringer Sheila Ely works at the VG's on Silver Parkway on Wednesday. Pre-Thanksgiving Day shoppers kept her busy.

### ATTORNEY FOR GAS STATION:

## 'Not an intentional event'

► Cleanup for underground gasoline leak in Linden will not be a quick process

By Yvonne Stegall  
ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

**Linden** — Last weekend, the Times reported on the meeting that took place at Linden City Council Chambers on Friday, Nov. 21. It included city officials, residents, and representatives from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and others.

**See GASOLINE LEAK on 14A**

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“Took your advice and reluctantly gave ‘shop local’ a try. I was blown away by the service, selection and friendliness of the local businesses. Your ads guided me to many quaint stores I never paid attention to before. Thank you for the education.”

“The problem is that those in government who pretend to be the ones solving most of our problems are actually the ones who are creating, causing and propagating most of our problems.”

“Folks, please try to carry a couple of cash dollars for that wonderful organization, the Salvation Army. Donations are way down due to so many people who carry little or no cash these days. Thank you.”

“Attention NBC – Michael Brown was not an ‘unarmed 18 year-old black man,’ he was a criminal who assaulted and robbed a clerk. The Ferguson hoodlums are not protestors, they are thugs and rioters. People who sneak across our borders are not ‘undocumented workers,’ they are illegal immigrants. Tell it like it is.”

tctimes.com  
**COMMENT OF  
THE WEEK**



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## What to see at the theater this holiday season



## Lots of family movies coming out just in time for Christmas

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

If you don't have a family tradition of going to see the newest fun flick in the theater, maybe it's time you started one. There are many family-friendly films coming out over the next month that you will surely want to see.

On Nov. 26, "The Penguins of Madagascar" opened in 3D. According to comingsoon.net, "Super spy teams aren't born...they're hatched." Discover the secrets of the greatest and most hilarious covert birds in the global espionage biz: Skipper, Kowalski, Rico and Private. These elitists of the elite are joining forces

with a chic undercover organization, The North Wind. Together, they must stop the villainous Dr. Octavius Brine from destroying the world as we know it. This movie is rated PG.

On Dec. 12, "Exodus: Gods and Kings" opens. It is an epic adventure of one man's daring courage to take on the might of an empire. This film brings new life to the story of the defiant leader Moses as he rises up against the Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses, setting 600,000 slaves on a monumental journey of escape from Egypt and its terrifying cycle of deadly plagues. This movie is rated PG-13, and may

See **THEATER** on 12A

### MOVIE REVIEWS

#### Penguins of Madagascar

Frenetic and frequently funny, Penguins of Madagascar represents the



Warner Bros. shorts than to the realist Pixar sensibility that informs most

See **REVIEWS** on 12A

## 'I'd like to introduce you to...'

## The etiquette of introductions

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

How many times have you gone somewhere with someone and they started talking to someone you didn't know, yet failed to introduce you to that person? Introductions allow you to become part of the conversation and without them, you are left feeling as though you aren't a part of the talk.

While it may seem simple enough to just introduce two people to one another, there are rules to the process of introduction. Who is introduced first depends on many factors, including age, sex and whom they are to the

person doing the introductions.

To start with, introductions aren't just about the people you are introducing. You need to

make sure that you look a person in the eye when you are speaking to them. Also, be sure to speak clearly.

According to emilypost.com, you speak to the person you'd like to honor first. Here are four basic guidelines from etiquettedaily.com:

- **A younger person** is introduced to an older person. The older person's name is stated first. For example, "Aunt Karen, I want you to meet my friend, Anna Gustafson. Anna, this is my aunt, Mrs. Rossman."

- **A person of high rank or special prominence** is named first and receives the introduction. The lesser rank is introduced to them. For example, "President Obama, may I present my husband, Kevin?"

See **INTRODUCTIONS** on 18A



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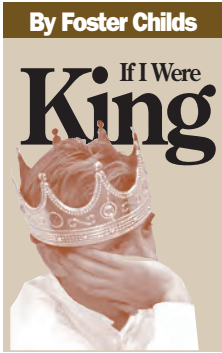
# An ‘attitude of gratitude’

Good Lord, what has happened to us as Americans? So many of us seem to be so unappreciative — unthankful if you will — about so much these days.

Watch the news, pick up a newspaper, listen to talk radio — all seem to be dominated by complainers. Republicans chronically complain about the Democrats and Democrats constantly complain about the Republicans. The rich complain about the poor being given handouts and the poor complain about the rich not being taxed enough. Those with jobs complain they aren’t paid enough, the jobless complain they can’t get a job. In Ferguson, Missouri, the blacks complain about the police and the police complain

about the blacks. Citizens complain about immigrants that are in the U.S. illegally, illegal immigrants complain about not being granted instant and unregulated citizenship.

In a nutshell, we simply have become a nation of ingrates who aren’t appreciative for what we have. We take for granted the fact that 99 percent of the people reading this never go hungry. In fact, we complain about consuming too much food. Over 80 percent of the people reading this own their own home. Almost 90 percent of us have a decent paying job. And if we don’t, we have unemployment benefits that can tide us over until we do. Most of us are blessed to have good health due to easily available doctors and medications,



unlike many in the world who have no defense against famine and disease. We even complain about the weather — the same weather that provides our country with such diverse beauty. From the majestic glaciers of Alaska to the rocky and rugged beaches of California. To mysterious anomalies like Old Faithful in Yellowstone to our world famous Great Lakes. From the sandy beaches of Florida, to the Badlands of South Dakota to the amber waves of grain in Iowa — there is so much to see and experience in America that it would take us a lifetime to visit it all. What a gift — right in our own backyard. It was just a generation or two ago — when I grew up — that we didn’t have a lot of material things. What we did have back then, and something that seems

to be lacking in so many families and individuals these days, is contentment. We were grateful for what we had, not focused on what we didn’t have. That’s a shame — to live a life surrounded by beauty and abundance unmatched in the world and not recognize or appreciate it. We most certainly could solve so many of our social ills if we were to simply take the time to be more thankful for all the gifts and blessings we enjoy each and every day — and to share this “attitude of gratitude” with our friends and family.

As for me and my house, we will try harder to be appreciative of, and thank God for, the miraculous good fortune to be born in America, and to live in Fenton.

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. Email the King at king@tctimes.com. Some content adapted from the internet.

## Hot lines

Submit at: [tctimes.com](http://tctimes.com), call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

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

**HUGE THUMBS-UP** to Cooper Landscaping Services for fixing my mailbox out of pure kindness. You guys are awesome!

**TO ALL TIM** Horton’s staff on Owen Road, all shifts, you are so friendly, so efficient, and such sweet people. Thank you for your care and good service to your customers. God bless you. Sincerely, Cindy.

**OBAMA HATERS, WHY** is it wrong for Democratic Presidents to issue executive orders and right for Republicans? Times article states since 1969 Republicans have issued 1,353 orders (48) per year. Democrats have issued 875 orders (48) per year. Perhaps hypocrisy, or is it something else?

**APPRECIATION TO DEEHL** Chiropractic Life Center of Fenton. Thank you for your dedication and care for your patients. Your care is very genuine.

**HATS-OFF TO** Nelson Roofing. They did an excellent job in a nice short time and the cleanup was perfect. Job well done. Thank you very much Nelson Roofing.

**HEY JULIE, SALLY** and Debbie at State Bank drive thru, thank you for always going the extra mile with my transactions. You’re the best!

**IT’S NICE TO** have the Farm Store in where the old Farmer Jack was. Finally, it is leased.

**HEARTFELT THANKS TO** Katie at The Paw Palace and Dr. Osmun, Companion Animal Hospital in Linden for saving the life of our black lab, Maggie! Can’t say enough good things about these two local businesses and their outstanding employees!

**DO YOU UNDERSTAND** now what ‘no boots on the ground’ means? Hagel does. We won’t defeat ISIL! The Air Force is the best manned artillery in the world, but artillery requires ground direction.

**MY PARENTS VISITED** us for the first time since we moved to Fenton and were blown

away by our newspaper, the Times. They live in a large town in Wisconsin and would love to have a newspaper like ours. Made me appreciate the Times even more.

**SAFE STREETS, ROADS** and schools, thank you to Chief Aro and the entire Fenton Police Department.

**POINTE ANIMAL CLINIC** is the best. I took my puppy there to get neutered. I called around for pricing and they had the best prices. They were quick and easy and they did a great job. I have been going there ever since.

**I WANT TO** thank the sales lady at Vic Canever Chevrolet who made shopping for a new vehicle very pleasant for my wife and me.

She handled herself in a professional manner, and we were surprised when the purchase was completed, she told us that this was her first sale. Thanks.

**THIS IS FUNNY.** My brother says the reason the gas prices are high is because of President Bush and the Republican Party. Now that prices are on the downswing, do we give credit to the Democrats or the Republicans?

**CONGRATULATIONS ALLURE HAIR** Company from an appreciative client. I am grateful for the professionalism, customer service, and talents of the staff. Keep making our community beautiful!

**CARETEL OF LINDEN** sure is a generous organization. Thank you so much.

**WELCOME TO FENTON** Family Farm and Home. We very much enjoyed shopping at your store. Thank you so much.

**PARENTS, PLEASE REMIND** your kids not to stand on the side of the road while waiting for the school bus. As a driver, it is very hard to see when it is dark, raining or snowing. Just stand back a bit in the driveway. Seymour Road is horrible for this.

**THANK YOU TO** the Lasco family for their very generous donation to the schools. Normally don’t go to the football games but did that night because of your ad. I will consider a Ford for my next vehicle.

**A SPECIAL ‘THANK you’** to Applebee’s for covering my twin and my birthday dinners. — Dorothy Orr and Barbara Spencer.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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**Maryann McConnell**  
Pre-Planning Specialist

Compiled by Christopher Jones, staff reporter

## What’s the best deal you have found shopping?

## streettalk



“At Rent-a-Center you can go in there, get something today and you get four weeks free.”

— Evelyn Barnum  
Tyrone Township



“Snowblowers for \$160 and candles for \$1.49.”

— Christopher Smith  
Tyrone Township



“We got a comforter, sheets, blankets, for \$148 total.”

— Cindy Richman  
Grand Blanc



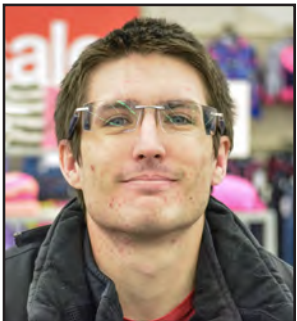
“For footwear, buy one get one free. I got jeans for nine bucks.”

— Paul Sherman  
Fenton



“At Walmart we found a \$249 touchscreen laptop.”

— Ashley Haines  
Highland



“A vacuum cleaner for \$234 and we got 20 percent off of that.”

— Tim Frasier  
Holly



# Linden man gets visit from Secret Service after social media post

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

If you think it's all just conspiracy talk when someone tells you that the government is watching what you post online, even if your settings are set to private, just ask Ty Spilker, 22, of Linden how fictional it really is. He found himself face-to-face with Secret Service agents four years ago after posting the lyrics to a song he posted on his Facebook page.

This happened when Spilker was 18. Nothing ever came of the incident, but he said, "They said that if I ever saw them again I'd be doing federal prison time."

According to Spilker, he wrote some lyrics for a song that bashed President Obama. He said rappers and punk rockers write politically and anti-politically charged songs all the time.

After posting these lyrics on his Facebook page, he said, "Two Secret Service guys showed up to my house, searched my car and room, without a warrant."

While Spilker was singled out over lyrics, there is an array of other things that can bring the cops or Secret Service to your door. From photos of underage drinking to threats against other people (not just the President), social media doesn't just keep us in touch with friends and family, it also opens us up to scrutiny from those in authority.

On top of that, many employers and even schools, check social media profiles of their employees and students. It's better to be safe than sorry when it comes to what you share on social media.

According to a year-old article from NBCNews, "Americans online are increasingly accessible and affordable to authorities, no NSA-level clearance required. Those in charge are monitoring more and more and social networks are happy to comply, especially where extra revenue is involved."

Spilker said, "I just want people to know that we are being watched and there are certain things that we cannot do or say even if we live in a so-called free country."



Ty Spilker

**Two Secret Service guys showed up to my house.**

**Ty Spilker**  
Linden resident

## Don't do this online...

- **Post illegal activities** — Photos of underage drinking, drug use or anything else illegal may be used as evidence in a court of law. If it's something you don't want the authorities, or your parents, seeing, don't post it.
- **Bullying** — Bullying has been more widely visible, probably because of social media. When a person turns to social media, blogs or virtually any online space as a forum for hurtful speech, the risks are immeasurable, including the possibility of criminal prosecution.
- **Trash teachers/bosses/coworkers** — Imagine if someone you work with or go to school with were to see your post? You could lose your job, get kicked out of school, or depending on what you've said, face jail time.
- **Post objectionable content** from school/work computers or networks. When you are at school or work, you should be focused on school or work. Some employers ban the use of social media, unless it's something you are using for work purposes. Employers can implement systems that track logins and IP addresses, and they can find out what you're posting while on the clock.
- **Threaten violence** — Threatening a person or group of people in any situation is unbelievably serious. Even posting an anonymous, empty threat to an obscure online forum full of strangers will raise red flags. As soon as authorities have located a threat, they have the right to investigate — and they will. This includes the posting of song lyrics on social media.
- **Never rely 100 percent on privacy settings** — Although most major social networks update you with privacy improvements, the changes are often too frequent to follow and can get complicated. However diligently you may protect your social media identity, it's best to assume anything you post is fair game — and potentially seen by the police or Secret Service.

Source: mashable.com

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## HIT AND RUN

Continued from Front Page

(248) 584-5740 or the Detroit Regional Dispatch Center at (313) 237-2450.

For funeral details, go to [www.sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://www.sharpfuneralhomes.com).

Garcia is a graduate of Fenton High School where he played varsity football and baseball. He received two associate's degrees from Mott Community College.

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## Police&amp;Fire

## report

**MEDICINE STOLEN FROM CAR**

On Tuesday, Nov. 25, a 24-year-old Holly woman filed a larceny from an auto complaint with Fenton police. Sometime between Nov. 24 at 6:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Nov. 25, someone entered her unlocked vehicle and stole her medication while it was parked at a retail store on Owen Road. Fenton police are working with the store's loss prevention to review the store's security video.

**FENTON POLICE ARREST FLINT MAN**

At 10:15 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 24, Fenton police were dispatched to an apartment complex at North Road and Poplar Street on a report of a suspicious male and female attempting to sell narcotics. Initially, police were unable to locate the suspect vehicle. Five minutes later, another call came in advising police the vehicle had returned. Police located the vehicle on northbound U.S. 23 at Thompson Road and initiated a traffic stop. No narcotics were found, however, the driver, a 29-year-old Flint man, was driving with a suspended license. The vehicle was impounded and he was issued a court appearance ticket.

See **POLICE** on 7A



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## Calendar of events

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

The Livingston County Genealogical Society will meet at **7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 4** for its Christmas meeting. Please bring a dessert to share. Members will talk about the ancestor who they would like to meet. The group meets at the First United Methodist Church, 1230 Bower Street in Howell. The meeting is free and open to the public. For details, call (810) 227-7745.

**BREAKFAST WITH A CHRISTMAS ANGEL**

The First Presbyterian Church of Fenton is hosting its annual Breakfast with a Christmas Angel at **10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13**. The community is invited to this free event for young children and their parents or caregivers in Fellowship Hall at First Presbyterian Church of Fenton. Enjoy a light breakfast, the true Christmas story, crafts, and fun! Please call the church office at (810) 629-7801 if you plan to attend. Reservations are welcome but not necessary. The church is located at 503 South LeRoy Street.

**SECRET SANTA HOLIDAY SHOPPE**

P.A.L.S. Linden Elementary is hosting its Secret Santa Holiday Shoppe & Craft Show during Linden's Holiday Happening, on Saturday, Dec. 6. The event is located at Linden Elementary, 400 South Bridge St. It runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is the perfect opportunity to find unique handcrafted gifts, including autographed books from a local author. There is no entry fee.

**FIRST ANNUAL ART & CRAFT SHOW**

The village of Holly Fire Department is hosting its inaugural art and craft show Saturday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. It is located at the Karl Richter Center commons area, 300 East St. They will have works from many local artists and photographs available for a unique shopping experience. There is a \$5 suggested donation at the door.

## Tri-county fundraisers

**TIN CAN RAFFLE TO BENEFIT LAKE FENTON'S MUSIC PROGRAM**

Tin Can Raffle 2014 is a unique fundraising event at Lake Fenton High School on Friday, Dec. 5 from 4 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to benefit the Lake Fenton Community Schools Music Program. It is similar to a silent auction, however, guests purchase tickets and place them within tins cans that vary in value based upon the suggested value of the prize they are associated with. The winners will be randomly selected from the cans and contacted in the evening of Dec. 6. Many of the prizes, which are provided by band members and their families or local businesses, are for events or gift baskets that can be used during the winter months or tie into the holidays. Cash donations will be pooled to purchase larger ticket items to add to the excitement. For details, please visit [www.neonmoonentertainment.com/tincanraffle.html](http://www.neonmoonentertainment.com/tincanraffle.html).

**'RAFFLE ROUND UP' TO HELP LOCAL FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS**

Now through Dec. 19 at My Sister & Me Consignment on North LeRoy Street, come join their "Raffle Round Up." Enter to win awesome prizes donated by several local small businesses. Round up your loose change or donate to enter into the raffle. All proceeds go to local community families for much-needed Christmas items. Winning raffle tickets will be drawn on Dec. 19.

**WORLD'S GREATEST OFFICE PARTY**

The 30th annual World's Greatest Office Party is set for Thursday, Dec. 4 from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre, 5353 Gateway Centre in Flint. It's being presented by Rebecca Bartley w/Icon Mortgage Lending. The World's Greatest Office Party is one of three major annual fundraisers that Whaley Children's Center (WCC) hosts to help fund its nationally accredited residential and clinical programs for children who have suffered from abuse and neglect. All proceeds from ticket sales, raffles and the silent auction directly benefit WCC. Please contact Abbey Smith with any questions at (810) 600-0109 or at [ASmith@WhaleyChildren.org](mailto:ASmith@WhaleyChildren.org). For information, like their Facebook page, World's Greatest Office Party.

**SANTA RUN/WALK FOR YMCA OF GREATER FLINT**

Join 2,000 costumed Santas as they run and walk through downtown Flint to raise money for youth programming at the YMCA of Greater Flint. The fifth annual Santa Run/Walk, presented by Al Serra Auto Plaza, will be held on **Saturday, Dec. 6**. The 5K and 1-mile fun run and walk begin at noon. Registration for the race begins at 9:30 a.m. at the Flint Farmers Market. Fees for the Santa Run/Walk Adult 5K and 1-mile are \$30; Run/Walk Child 5K and 1-mile are \$15. Race fees will include a 5-piece Santa suit and milk and cookies station during the race. Register online at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com), keyword "Santa Run." For more information, call (810) 232-9622.

## News briefs

**Fenton students advance in Lions International poster contest**

Three local seventh-graders have won local art competitions sponsored by the Fenton Lions Club, as part of the 27th annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Entries by Ellie Vansbinder of AGS Middle School, Jessica Underwood of Lake Fenton Middle School and Kyla Murray of St. John School were chosen. They will advance in competition through the ranks up to the international grand prize. These three students and their parents will be honored by the Fenton Lions Club at a dinner at Lockwood of Fenton on Jan. 21, 2015. These winners received gift cards of \$25, and the second and third place poster artists at each school received \$15 and \$10 gift cards, respectively. "It's obvious that these young people have strong ideas about what peace means to them," said Fenton Lions Club President Warren Hein.



## Red Cross reminds area of blood need

### ►Hectic holiday season depletes agency of blood, platelet supplies

This holiday season, the American Red Cross (ARC) encourages individuals to give something that means something — a blood or platelet donation. This simple, potentially lifesaving act can give patients in need another holiday season with family and friends.

“The need for blood is constant during the winter months, but donations can slow — especially around the holidays,” said Jim Flickema, chief executive officer of the Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region. “Long holiday weekends, like Thanksgiving, pose an extra challenge when many donors are traveling to be with family and friends. Therefore, we encourage people to make an appointment to donate blood and help ensure a sufficient supply for patients in need.”

Donors of all blood types, particularly O negative, A negative and B negative, and platelet donors are urged to schedule an appointment.

Eligible donors can learn more and schedule an appointment to give blood using the Blood Donor App, by visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

### Upcoming area American Red Cross blood drives

**Tuesday, Dec. 2**  
**8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**Linden High School**  
7201 W. Silver Lake Road  
Linden, MI 48451

**Wednesday, Dec. 3**  
**12 to 6 p.m.**  
Faith Lutheran Church  
12534 Holly Road  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

**Saturday, Dec. 6**  
**9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
First Presbyterian Church  
503 S. LeRoy Street  
Fenton, MI 48430

**Monday, Dec. 8**  
**12 to 6 p.m.**  
Fenton VFW Post  
1148 N. LeRoy Street  
Fenton, MI 48430

**Wednesday, Dec. 10**  
**8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.**  
Holly High School  
6161 East Holly Road  
Holly, MI 48442

Source: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

## POLICE

Continued from Page 6A

### HIGHLY INTOXICATED DRIVER

At 4:45 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 26, Fenton police were dispatched to the 1100 block of Torrey Road to investigate a crash. A silver Toyota had backed up onto a rock and appeared stuck. Officers on scene determined that the driver, a 50-year-old Fenton Township resident was intoxicated. A preliminary breath test revealed the driver needed immediate medical attention. The driver was transported via STAT ambulance to Genesys Health Park. Due to the high level of intoxication, the driver was admitted for medical treatment. Pending the blood results, police will seek a warrant for OWI.

### ARREST MADE FOR HIT AND RUN

At 4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 27, Fenton police were dispatched to Shiawassee Avenue and Adelaide Street for a hit and run crash. Dispatch advised the officers that the victim, an off-duty Tennessee officer, was following the suspect vehicle, which had failed to stop and identify at the crash. The vehicle continued to drive through Fenton and onto northbound Fenton Road. Grand Blanc Township police stopped the vehicle on Baldwin Road. Fenton police responded to the traffic stop and learned that the driver, a 23-year-old Flint resident, was intoxicated. The driver was arrested for OWI and leaving the scene of a crash. The suspect was lodged at the Fenton police station until sober and released with a court appearance ticket.

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## Stop SAD before it stops you

### ►Light therapy, exercise, fresh air, eating healthy should help

By Yvonne Stegall

[ystegall@tctimes.com](mailto:ystegall@tctimes.com); 810-433-6792

According to the Mayo Clinic, Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that's related to changes in seasons. It begins and ends at about the same time every year. For many, it starts when the days get shorter and it gets dark earlier. It can last from fall until spring. Like depression, it's draining.

As a Holistic Life Coach, this reporter has dealt with depression, like SAD with clients in the past. As a human, I have suffered depression, including SAD, myself. The worst thing you can do for a loved one going through any form of depression is to tell them they'll "get over it."

There are reasons depression happens, and there are reasons why SAD happens, although the specific cause is still unknown. A few things factor into its causes however, which include the reduced level of sunlight, the drop in serotonin levels and the change in melatonin levels.

The reason we don't see SAD as prevalent in the summer months is because the sun is shining and we have more daylight time in which to enjoy life. Our body gets the vitamins and minerals that the sunshine supplies, and these things help our mood to stay elevated.

While SAD may share some normal depression symptoms, according to the Mayo Clinic, there are some "specific to winter-onset SAD" symptoms. These include irritability, tiredness or low energy, problems getting along with other people, hypersensitivity to rejection, heavy "leaden" feeling in the arms or legs, oversleeping, appetite changes, especially a craving for foods high

### SAD is more common for these people

- Women
- People who live far from the equator, where winter daylight hours are very short
- People between the ages of 15 and 55
- The risk of getting SAD for the first time goes down as you age
- People who have a close relative with SAD

Source: WebMD

in carbohydrates and weight gain.

While there are a few professional treatments for SAD, sufferers can do some things from home if they are feeling a little blue from all the dark outside. Professional treatments include light therapy, medications and psychotherapy.

Take some time each day to let the light in, even if the sun isn't shining right at that moment. Open the shades, sit near the windows, or take some time to go outside if it isn't too cold. Exercise is a great natural way to boost

your mood. Eating healthy can also do many good things for our mood.

One of the professional treatments that can also be done from home, which has been gaining much popularity, is light therapy. The Mayo Clinic defines light therapy as a way to treat SAD, depression and certain other conditions by exposure to bright artificial light. During light therapy, sufferers sit or work near a device called a light therapy box or lamp. The light therapy device gives off bright light that mimics natural outdoor light.

**“The worst thing you can do for a loved one going through any form of depression is to tell them they'll 'get over it.'”**

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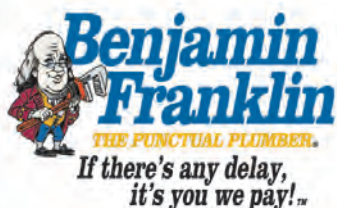
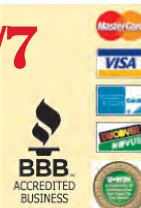
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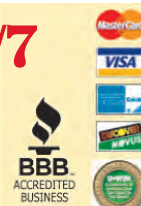
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# Southern Lakes Parks & Rec wants your input

## ►Crafting five-year plan with community's help

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

If you're interested in a multi-use trail way (bike trail) connecting Fenton and Linden or would like to have more indoor and outdoor sports fields in the area, let your feelings be known in a survey now being conducted by Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation (SLPR).

"It's all part of our five-year Master Recreation Plan, which we're working on in conjunction with our local municipalities in the city of Fenton, city of Linden and Fenton Township," said Vince Paris, executive director of SLPR. "This plan will be submitted to the state of Michigan for approval in spring 2015, and will allow us to apply for grants through the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) for land acquisition, park improvements, trail way construction and more."

With the trail way being the number one priority for many local residents, Paris wants people to know that while SLPR is very supportive of this project, the Genesee Metropolitan Planning Commission is the lead agency for getting grants for a tentative trail way. "It really helps that SLPR falls in tune with the county system and our local municipalities, so when the state sees our master plan, they'll recognize that our plan is a regional concept," said Paris.

The Recreation Master Plan is a process that began 18 months ago. "It's a planning tool that binds us closer with our three municipalities," said Paris. "The original intent of our charter was to collaborate with our schools to provide recreational opportunities for residents in all three districts. That allows us to branch out in so many ways. We can get involved in just about anything that has to do with recreation."

**It's a planning tool that binds us closer with our three municipalities.**

**Vince Paris**  
Executive Director of Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation

The community survey is the next step following the surveying of 3,500 participants via email, as well as "key shareholders" from school superintendents to city managers and elected officials. A public input session was held three weeks ago, talking about goals and objectives for SLPR in the next five years. "We formalized a draft, which has been made available publicly for our residents to see and comment on," said Paris.

The survey is available in many locations throughout Linden and Fenton,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Carpenter Justin Andre ascends an extension ladder to do work to the roof of the Fenton Community and Cultural Center on Wednesday. The addition to the community center will provide more space for SLPR cultural classes.

including both libraries, city halls, Fenton Township Civic Community Center, Loose Senior Center, administrative offices at Linden, Fenton and Lake Fenton schools, Fenton Community & Cultural Center and the Fenton Train Depot. It's

### Summary

►Community residents are encouraged to read and comment on the proposed five-year Recreation Master Plan drafted by Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation.

also on the SLPR website at slpr.net and their Facebook page, according to Paris. "People can also call our office at (810) 714-2011 and request a copy."

The community has a 30-day period to make comments, ending on Friday, Dec. 12. After that, the board will make final revisions, and then submit the plan to the state for approval next spring. "If the plan is approved, we can start to move forward," said Paris.

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Fenton **Jingle Jog 2014**

**5K RUN • WALK**

**SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 6, 2014  
3:00 PM**

Race begins and ends behind the Fenton United Methodist Church Family Life Center, 119 S. Leroy St. Fenton, MI

#### ENTRY FEE

Before November 21 Deadline - \$20  
After Deadline - \$25

#### PACKET PICK-UP

Race Day - 1:30pm - 2:45pm  
Fenton United Methodist Church  
Family Life Center

#### NEW COURSE

Mostly flat, fast and well-marked on paved streets in downtown Fenton. Roads are open to vehicle traffic, but are monitored by volunteers and police.

#### FACILITIES

Restrooms and shelter are available.

#### AWARDS

Awards to 1st Place Male & Female, 1st Place Masters Male & Female, 1st-3rd Place Male & Female age groups.

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- The first 200 registered will receive a Jingle Jog mug. Soup, rolls, hot chocolate & cookies for all participants
- Wear a Santa costume and you will receive a \$5 dollar refund at registration.
- Jingle Jog kicks off the Jinglefest celebration, shopping, ice sculptures, horse & carriage rides & lighted parade at 6:00 pm

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Fill out this form to register by mail or drop off. To register online, please visit [www.runsignup.com/fentonjinglejog](http://www.runsignup.com/fentonjinglejog). You can also register on race day at packet pickup.

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ APT NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ AGE ON 12-6-14: \_\_\_\_ SEX: ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE  
EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
EVENT ENTERING: ☐ 5K RUN ☐ 5K WALK TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
T-SHIRT ONLY IF PREREGISTERED BY NOVEMBER 21ST 2014 SIZE ADULT: ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL (Additional \$2.00)  
In consideration of my participation in this event, I for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive all rights and claims for damages I may have against the organizers, hosts, or sponsors of this event, their agents, representatives, successors, and assignees for any and all injuries suffered by me at said event, or which may arise out of my traveling to, participating in, and returning from this event. I further state that I am in proper physical condition to compete in this event.  
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## You are invited to the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual COMMUNITY MEMORIAL SERVICE

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Refreshments following the service

Decorate an ornament dedicated to your loved one and displayed on our Christmas tree. Beginning Friday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> until the event, you are invited to come by Dryer Funeral Home to decorate an ornament that you can take home after the memorial service. Supplies will be provided.

Facing the holidays with the absence of a loved one challenges our ability to cope and to share in the joy of the season. We hope that decorating an ornament in their memory can be a statement of love and by attending the Memorial Service, may provide hope and encouragement.

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Fenton Schools - \$274,900

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Linden Schools - \$189,900

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Linden Schools - \$169,999

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Lake Ponemah Waterfront

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PENDING

Lobdell Lake - \$399,999

PENDING

Oyster Lake - \$174,999

PENDING

Holly - \$164,999



## THEATER

Continued from Page 3A

be better suited for families with older children.

On Dec. 17, "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies" opens. It is the epic final tale in the Hobbit trilogy revolving around the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, Thorin Oakenshield and the Company of Dwarves. While not yet rated, this movie is probably best for older children.

On Dec. 19, "Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb" opens. This film brings back our favorite night security guard, in what comingsoon.net described as "the wildest and most adventure-filled Night at the Museum ever." Larry, the guard, spans the globe, uniting favorite and new characters while embarking on an epic quest to save the magic before it is gone forever. This one is rated PG.

On Dec. 25, "Christmas Day,

Into the Woods" opens. It is one of the newest altered fairy tale stories. It's rated PG. The film is a modern twist on the beloved Brothers Grimm fairy tales, intertwining the plots of a few choice stories and exploring the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests. This humorous and heartfelt musical follows the classic tales of Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Rapunzel.

"Unbroken" also opens on Christmas Day. This is a film based on the book by the same title, an epic drama that follows the incredible life of Olympian and war hero Louis "Louie" Zamperini who along with two other crewmen, survived in a raft for 47 days after a near-fatal plane crash in WWII — only to be caught by the Japanese Navy and sent to a prisoner-of-war camp. It is rated PG-13.

## REVIEWS

Continued from Page 3A

American animated features, Penguins is packed with gags and moves with the kind of gummy elasticity — the stuff of eye-pops, anvil drops, and giant mallets pulled out of nowhere — that's become awfully rare in the age of computer animation.

### Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb

The trailer for Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb promises an Egyptian connection, a trip to London, and the usual antics requisite of any installment in the Ben Stiller-led franchise. Returning alongside Stiller are Owen Wilson, Steve Coogan, Ricky Gervais, and (the late) Robin Williams, while Ben Kingsley joins in as an Egyptian pharaoh, Rebel Wilson as an awkwardly endearing British security guard, and Downton Abbey's Dan Stevens as the gallant Sir Lancelot. Concerned that there's something wrong with the magical tablet



that brings the American Museum of Natural History exhibits to life, security guard Larry (Stiller) ventures to the British Museum in hopes of saving his friends. The film will definitely feature a joke about monkey pee, but it probably won't delve into the complicated political controversy surrounding the museum's foreign acquisitions.

Source: avclub.com

## Michigan VOTES

Recently proposed constitutional amendments

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. While the legislature is in a two-week recess with no voting, this Roll Call Report examines recent constitutional amendment proposals of interest. Note: There will be no Roll Call Report during Thanksgiving week. The Report will return on Dec. 5.

### House Joint Resolution OO: Require congress approve large-impact rules

Introduced by Rep. Tom McMillin (R), to submit an application to Congress calling for a "convention to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution," limited to proposing an amendment establishing three-year sunsets on all federal departments without congressional reauthorization, and requiring congressional approval of all major administrative regulations that impose an economic burden exceeding \$100 million. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

### House Joint Resolution PP: Call for limits on federal interstate commerce regulation

Introduced by Rep. Tom McMillin (R), to submit an application to Congress calling for a "convention to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution," limited to proposing an amendment clarifying that Congress's power to regulate commerce does not extend to activity within a state, whether or not it affects interstate commerce, or extend to compelling an individual or entity to participate in commerce or trade. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

### Senate Joint Resolution DD: Revise allowable School Aid Fund uses

Introduced by Sen. Bruce Caswell (R), to place before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment to replace state constitutional language allowing tax revenue earmarked to the state "School Aid Fund" to be used for "higher education," with new language limiting this to community colleges. In other words, tax dollars earmarked to this fund could only be spent on K-12 public schools and on community colleges. See also SJRs H, U and AA, and HJR Z, which would restrict School Aid Fund use to K-12 schools only.

Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

### Senate Joint Resolution EE: Make state constitution "gender neutral"

Introduced by Sen. Steve Bieda (D), to place before voters in the next general election a constitutional amendment to edit the document to make it "gender neutral." For example, the current constitution adopted in 1963 establishes that "Every person has a right to keep and bear arms for the defense of himself and the state." Under the proposal, that would become "for the defense of himself or herself." Referred to committee, no further action at this time.



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Director, Service Operations

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# Treatment plant earns \$56,000 rebate from Consumers

►Energy-efficient improvements lead to savings at Fenton Township facility

The Genesee County Water and Waste Services is saving energy and money with improvements to its wastewater treatment plant, resulting in a nearly \$56,000 energy-efficiency incentive payment from Consumers Energy.

Genesee County Drain Commissioner Jeff Wright and other officials accepted a \$55,522 rebate check Thursday from Consumers Energy representatives during a presentation at the Fenton Township facility at Hogan and Silver Lake roads, where the upgrades occurred.

“This energy-efficiency program incentive from Consumers Energy provided an excellent opportunity to upgrade some of our equipment that will result in lower operating costs at our treatment facility,” said Wright.

“Not only are we acting as a good environmental neighbor, but we are also keep-

ing costs down at the same time, which means we don’t have to pass on those additional energy costs to our customers.”

The following mechanical projects were designed to reduce electric use:

- An aeration blower and control upgrades that will save 64.3 kilowatts per year, or about \$45,066.40.
- A circulation pump motor replacement that will save 13.8 kilowatts per year, or about \$10,455.61.

“Helping Michigan save energy is our promise and we’re pleased to work with Genesee County staff on this project,” said Teri Van Sumeren, Consumers Energy director of energy-efficiency solutions. “The savings received today are a direct result of the dedicated staff we have here at our Fenton Township facility, and across the board in Genesee County,” said Wright in a press release. “Our employees have a track record of innovation and wholehearted commitment to our public’s quality of life, and I am glad we have an opportunity to showcase that level of dedication here today.”

## BARBIE

**Continued from Front Page**

many little girls. Monster High, American Girls and even the Frozen movie dolls, have shoved her to the wayside.

While many adults have a beef with Barbie over her unreal figure, Monster High dolls are even more unrealistic, but at least they aren’t trying to portray real life. We all know werewolves and other creatures that go bump in the night aren’t real. And while Mattel might not be making as much on Barbie, from FB reports, they’ll do just fine on Monster High sales this year.

Mattel also has its hand in Disney, and the popular dolls from Disney’s Frozen will be cashing in for them, too.

Many little girls love the American Girl line of dolls, although they are in a higher price bracket than Barbie and her Mattel counterparts.

Not all little girls are anti-Barbie this year though. Tessa Stickel commented on the Times Facebook page that, “Oddly

enough, my 5-year-old is requesting ONLY Barbies for Christmas this year. Many of her friends are asking for American Girl dolls or dolls from Ever After High/Monster High.”

### IN OTHER BARBIE NEWS...

A controversial Barbie book was recently pulled from shelves. In ‘Barbie: I Can Be A Computer Engineer,’ Barbie has trouble with her computer job and needs some guys to come in and help her out. The book is being called “sexist.” Instead of being a story about Barbie having a successful career, it turned out to be a book about all the mistakes she made.

There is also a new “Barbie” out there, called Lammily, lammily.com. This Barbie competitor derived her name from her creator, Nickolay Lamm. She is designed to look more like what girls look like in real life, including stickers for scars, bruises, freckles and more.

“Oddly enough, my 5-year-old is requesting ONLY Barbies for Christmas this year.”

Tessa Stickel  
mom

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**AS A SENIOR** citizen and a widow, I was very nervous about buying a vehicle. Thank you to the staff at Randy Wise for your patience and understanding. I love my new Buick.

■■■

**I AM SO** grateful for Harry at Veck’s Auto Repair. He has always been so honest and fair with us.

■■■

**IF THE MENTION** of racism is a conversation stopper for you, you are probably a racist.

■■■

**HALL CHRYSLER** has the best staff in the world. They fixed my mini-van even though I brought it in right at closing. Thank you so much. Signed, a busy mom.

■■■

**JUST WANTED TO** recognize the LaFontaine auto business on Silver Parkway for their patriotic display of all the American flags. Kudos to you!

■■■

**GREAT CLIPS’ KINDNESS** made me feel special at a time when I needed it most. (I

have just begun my chemotherapy.) Thank you Holly and team for lifting my spirits and the special treatment from my initial call through my cut.

■■■

**THANKS AUTO LAB** for helping me keep my old van running. If you are looking for great service and owners you can trust you can’t go wrong with them!

■■■

**THANKS CHRIS AT** Canever Chevrolet for the excellent service to my truck. Your diagnosis fixed it instead of having to replace it. That saved me a lot of money.

■■■

**IF THAT WERE** a white kid that got shot you wouldn’t have heard about it on TV. The kid was acting like a criminal and got treated like one. Are black people just supposed to be allowed to do whatever they want?

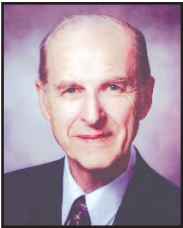
■■■

**I AM A** believer in the ‘shop local.’ Just had a bad experience with a Flint store. They more or less told me tough luck. I took my non-functioning item back to a Fenton store and received replacement – no questions asked! Thank you Fenton Sears.

■■■

## Featured columnist

By Roger Campbell



### The healing power of Thanksgiving

‘Do you still look out your study window and give thanks?’ asked my grandson.

During one of the most difficult periods of my life, I started this early appointment to give thanks because of the following wise words from A.W. Tozer: ‘Now as a cure for the sour faultfinding attitude, I recommend the cultivation of the habit of thankfulness. The heart that is constantly overflowing with gratitude will be safe from attacks of resentment and gloom,’ adding, ‘thanksgiving has great curative powers.’

Tozer’s claim of the healing power of thanksgiving came to my attention when I was struggling with health issues so I decided to test it, giving birth to my continuing morning treks to my study window to start my day with an attitude of gratitude.

When grandchildren came to stay overnight, the soft sound of slippers on tiny feet would alert me to the arrival of one or more of them heading into my study where they stood beside me as I gave thanks for my blessings.

A minister called early one morning to ask how to survive a difficult period in his life. ‘Try giving thanks,’ I advised. And my prescription for peace was born out of experience.

When members of a wagon train

headed west on the Oregon Trail they were confident and optimistic. Then reality arrived. Tempers flared as conflicts over their obstacles divided former friends. The trip seemed longer and more discouraging every day, so this gloomy group decided to call a meeting to air their complaints.

When the meeting was about to begin, someone made a suggestion that lifted the clouds covering this company of complainers and enabled them to recapture their dreams. ‘Before we do anything else,’ he said, ‘I think we should thank God that we have come this far with no loss of life and strength enough to finish our journey.’

After giving thanks for things they had been taking for granted, an opportunity for voicing complaints was given but it was greeted with silence. Thanksgiving had turned their minds from problems to praise and sent them on their way with their vision renewed and the confidence to achieve it.

Thanksgiving is a powerful, healing, life-changing attitude mentioned 140 times in the Bible. ‘It is good to give thanks to the LORD,’ said the Psalmist (Psalm 92:1).

Abraham Lincoln saw thankfulness as a means of binding up the nation’s wounds following the Civil War and his Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1863 reveals that desire. His call to remember our blessings is needed today in angry America.

When I started giving thanks every morning I thought I wouldn’t live much longer, but these many years later I’m writing this column about the healing power of thanksgiving.

And you’re reading it.

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



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## GASOLINE LEAK

Continued from Front Page

Betsy Nightingale, with the EPA, was the first to speak about the emergency response they participated in starting last year. Odors were investigated at 105 North Bridge St. last year, but there was no danger with the levels of benzene they found. After the complaint from the business at 109 North Bridge Street, which Nightingale was a responder on, the EPA came back in to investigate again. They did monitoring at 13 buildings.

During the meeting, speakers went over the tools that were used for monitoring, as well as maps showing where testing was done and levels that were found at each of these. Benzene was one of the things they tested for, which had the highest levels found at 109 North Bridge St., which is the Bridge Street Exchange shop. They pointed out that Benzene is found in our day-to-day life, including cigarettes, glue, paint and even some hair products.

When it comes to testing these releases, what is most important is the threat to people. If there is no immediate threat to people then there is nothing done. However, when a threat is detected an immediate response happens, such as the mitigation system that was put in at Bridge Street Exchange.

Kevin Begola, owner of Bridge Street Exchange, said, "Overall, I am glad this meeting happened, but I do feel as though more information is needed. I wish the state of Michigan group that controls the cleanup efforts and the oversight of this project was present at the meeting."

Joel Parker, with the DEQ, spoke at the meeting about the testing that was done, such as 30 water samples and 29 soil samples. However, he pointed out that tests are done in a moment in time, which means that things can change from test to test.

**"I am glad this meeting happened."**

**Kevin Begola**  
 Owner, Bridge Street Exchange

Begola said, via email, "The other major item to take into consideration is that this testing was done 'in a moment in time' and this is something people need to realize. Day to day and month to month the smells come and go and the gas moves, etc. Although I was the center of this investigation with my property, I feel as though it is going other places underground."

For anyone curious about the old gas station on West Broad Street, testing was done there in catch basins and air tests in the basement. They confirmed the leak did not come from there.

As far as representation for Beacon & Bridge at the meeting, their attorney, Clifford Knaggs, was in attendance. He wanted people to understand that this was "not an intentional event."

As paperwork and information becomes available, the city of Linden will be posting downloads and more on their website to help keep the public informed.

Marjorie Frisch, of the DEQ, said, "I will be communicating with Beacon & Bridge's consultant, Christie Santiago from PM Environmental, Inc., to discuss the need to address immediate risks first, such as NAPL and Vapor Risks. This is required in the Initial Assessment Report (IAR) submitted in 180 days from November 14, 2014 (the confirmed release date)."

Cleanup will not be a quick process, as the above statements show. After the 180-day deadline, they have another amount of time to turn in their final report. Cleanup can take years, and is a matter of getting contamination levels back down to where humans are safe.

A small amount of talk happened when it came to concerns of the benzene reaching the river. However, the DEQ didn't seem to think it would come to that and said they would continue to monitor the situation.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**I HAVE HAD** my nails done all across this great country of ours — manicures, pedicures and acrylics. The best I have encountered so far is Heather at Retreat Salon and Spa in Fenton. She is truly an artist and a talented person. Thank you, Heather. You are awesome. God bless.

**THANK YOU PICASSO** Services! You took such great care of us last year and are on top of your game already this year! This weather has been a pain in the butt!

**WE'RE ALL SUPPOSED** to be brought

up like Christians, but we lie to our kids about the Lord's birthday. Christmas? Bah humbug.

**THANK YOU CHASSÉ** Ballroom instructors. You have single-handedly reignited the passion in our marriage. Didn't want to go, ended up loving it. We love it.

**I AM WAY** over 18 years old, and I am pretty much an old man. If you are 18, you are old enough to go die for your country, but you aren't old enough to sit at the bar with your friends. I think if you are in the military, you should be considered old enough to go buy a beer.

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## TRIVIA GREAT QUOTE

**Q** Who said, "If you act like you know what you're doing, you can do anything you want — except maybe neurosurgery?"

**A** Baltimore Orioles' player John Lowenstein said it in 1984.



## A time of optimism for girls hoops teams

►Bronchos look to be top of the tri-county heap again

**By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Right now everyone is excited.

Everyone expects to contend for a league crown and everyone is beaming about their team's potential.

That's what the preseason of any sport is about.

But starting on Monday, the varsity

**Holly's Kaitlyn Smith**

girls basketball season will begin, and those visions of enthusiasm will be tested.

Linden opens the season by traveling to area foe Lake Fenton on Monday for a 7 p.m. contest.

"It's a new team," Linden senior Megan Kenney said. "We only have eight girls, so we will be really close because of the bonding we are doing at practice. There are so few of us, we can't have separate groups."

"I like that we have less girls because it's easier to run plays and work together

with our chemistry," teammate Taylor Smith said. "We'll have to be in good condition."

"The thing I enjoy the most about our team is every girl has those wide eyes," Lake Fenton's first-year coach Brian VanBuren said. "Most times you hope to reach a core group and it extends to everyone else. It's not been like that here. Every girl I've encountered is eager to get better, and that seems to be the viewpoint of the community."

**See OPTIMISM on 16A**

**Times**

SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER 30, 2014  
PAGE 15A

# Sports

## INSIDE SPORTS

### FENTON FOOTBALL

Find out where the Tigers finished in our final top 10  
**See Page 17A**



**Did You Know?**

► The most yards in an NFL game was collected by two teams in an NFL game is 1,133 yards.

### RUNNER'S LOG Jinglejog 2014

Fenton's annual Jinglejog 5K Run and Walk is slated for Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Fenton United Methodist Church located in downtown Fenton. The race will begin at 3 p.m. Race day packet pick up will be from 1:30 until 2:45 p.m. at the Fenton United Methodist Church. The cost is \$27 on the day of the event. The race has a new course starting behind the church and continues through the paved streets in downtown Fenton.

#### Run Like the Dickens

The 10K run and 5K walk and runs will be held Dec. 13 starting with the 5K run at 9 a.m. The race entry is \$35 prior to Dec. 1 with a long sleeve shirt and \$18 without. After Dec. 1 the prices are \$35 and \$20, respectively. On the day of the race the prices are \$40 and \$22.

The race begins and ends near Holly's Karl Richter Campus. It is run through the streets of Holly. The event has grown into one of the largest road races in the Flint area.

## Quesnelle going bowling

►Headed to All-Star game at Citrus Bowl

**By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden senior Ethan Quesnelle's prep football career isn't over yet.

The Eagles' starting quarterback has one more game remaining — and this one is in the Citrus Bowl in Florida.

Quesnelle was recently selected as an Offense-Defense Diamond in the Rough, earning him the chance to compete in the Offense-Defense All-American Bowl set up by the organization on Jan. 3.

"I am definitely excited," Quesnelle said. "I got home from practice one day and my mom told me when I got home and it definitely was a surprise and a shock. I hopped right on the Internet and started to get to know more about the organization. It was an exciting day."

The Offense-Defense Diamonds in the Rough event is part of a week-long series of events capped by the ninth-annual

**See QUESNELLE on 17A**



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | MARK BOLEN

Linden's senior quarterback Ethan Quesnelle (left) tries to run upfield for some yardage in a past Eagles' game.

### Tri-County Times' Fall Top 10 announced

►Bottom half of poll includes three Fenton programs

**By David Troppens**

dtroppens@tctimes.com

It shouldn't be this hard.

When it came to making the Tri-County Top 10 Fall Poll, the good ol' sports staff was sweating it out for a few hours.

Honestly, we think a good argument could be made for five teams to be on top of our list. We had teams that dominated the Metro, but weren't as strong as others in the postseason. We had others that peaked at the end of the season, but weren't even true contenders for a league title. And then we had other teams that were kind of in the middle of those two scenarios.

Fortunately, for us, this edition of the two-part

**See TOP 10 on 17A**

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## Tri-County's 2014-15 Girls Basketball Previews

### HOLLY BRONCHOS

**Coach:** David Hall

**2013-14 Record:** 16-0 Metro champions, 22-1 overall, won district title, lost in regional semifinals against Canton.

**Graduated All-TCT**

**players:** Tri-County Player of the Year Allyssa Copley, Abby Lewandowski.

**Returning All-TCT**

**players:** Kaitlyn Smith.

**Team summary:** The Bronchos finished a perfect 20-0 last regular season and return a lot of the pieces that made that year possible. Kaitlyn Smith returns as one of the league's strongest offensive players. Brooke Jackman is one of the players who will have to make up for the loss of Copley in the post. Jenna Pepper and Paige Reid also earned a ton of playing time a year ago. Other returning varsity players are Michaela Luchow, Shayla Lipishack, Amanda Pucher and Emily Trest. The Bronchos will be missing one player that represented a big part of their last four years — Copley. Her size will be missed. However, the Bronchos should remain a strong program.

**Coach Hall says:** "We don't say anything about last year, that was last year. When I talked to (ex-Fenton varsity girls basketball coach) Brad DeWitt, it seemed for years and years were were trying to make our move up and beat teams like them. And now it's different because we are getting everyone else's best game, but we are fine with that. The kids are good, they are nice kids and we know people want to beat us. We're respected."

**Prediction:** The Bronchos will enter the season as one of the Metro contenders, but not as the favorites. That honor goes Flint Metro League newbies Flushing. However, the Bronchos should be right in the mix again this year. And while matching last year's perfect 20-0 regular season probably isn't realistic, Holly will win its share of games this winter.

Holly's  
Brooke  
Jackman



### LAKE FENTON BLUE DEVILS

**Coach:** Brian VanBuren

**2013-14 Record:** 4-8 in GAC Red, 7-13 overall, lost in opening round of districts to Goodrich.

**Graduated All-TCT players:** Sophia Sahouri, Jordan Newman.

**Returning All-TCT players:** None.

**Team summary:** Brian VanBuren is taking over a squad that has only a handful of returners and very little varsity experience returning from those players. The most experienced player returning is Autumn Beardsley, who earned honorable mention status in the GAC a year ago as a junior. After Beardsley, the senior returners are Kim Roe, Lauren Oppenheiser and Kaitlyn Begley. Oppenheiser and Roe

will play forward positions, while Begley can play just about anywhere. Two other players who should make an impact are guard Sierra Arroyo and fellow guard Alexis Cash. Arroyo led the JV in scoring.

**Coach VanBuren says:** "If we can get the ball to Autumn in the post, that's what our strength will be. We need to play off our strength in the post. ... Definitely our weakness is we are inexperienced. Even Lauren and Kim didn't play a lot last year, and we have a two freshmen and a sophomore on the roster."

**Prediction:** Lake Fenton is a young and inexperienced team, so taking that into consideration, just matching last year's record could be looked upon as a solid season. The Blue Devils appear in a rebuilding mode.

### FENTON TIGERS

**Coach:** Becki Moore

**2013-14 Record:** 13-3 in Metro, second place, 15-7 overall, lost in district final to Holly.

**Graduated All-TCT players:**

Hannah Evo.

**Returning All-TCT players:** None.

**Team summary:** The Tigers were a strong squad last year but they did lose five seniors from that team. The good news is there are still some talented players remaining. Seniors Carly Granger (guard), Katie Conroy (guard), and Katey Cairnduff (forward) should be fixtures in the starting lineup. The other two will be sophomore guard Emma Brant

and junior forward Sarah Cummings. Both have nice varsity experience as well.

The Tigers don't have a lot of height, but do have some athleticism. Expect the Tigers to try to exploit that athleticism this year.

**Coach Moore says:** "The kids are doing well. They are working hard. We return six from last year so we have some kids back, but we do have a whole lot of new faces as well. We'll see how everyone meshes together."

**Prediction:** The Tigers were selected by the Metro coaches to finish third this season, and that seems like a pretty good position. Expect the Tigers to be among the contenders in the Metro, or at the very least have a say who does win it.

### LINDEN EAGLES

**Coach:** Ben Varner

**2013-14 Record:** 5-11 in Metro, 9-13 overall, lost to Brandon in district opener.

**Graduated All-TCT players:** Alyssa Logie.

**Returning All-TCT players:** Taylor Smith.

**Team summary:** The Eagles will face the season with a depth problem if not for just one reason — the squad has just eight varsity players. That's right, eight players. However, the Eagles do start with Taylor Smith, who has the potential to be one of the best players in the league. Megan Kenney also should be a strong post player. She represents pretty much all the height the Eagles have. Everyone else is about the same size. Some faces to watch out for this year are Alexis Brandt, Jordan Holscher and Sterling DeGayner. They

are expected to be the other starters. The rest of the players are Madison Maxheimer, Lauren Klein and Rhiannon Morse.

**Coach Varner says:** "We are fast. We are going to run, but we are small. Megan is our tallest girl and everyone else is the same. It's funny. You can go to our practice and there's her and everyone else at the same size. We playing four guards and her. But we are fast so we are going to have to do some things differently than we have in the past."

**Prediction:** The lack of numbers could be a problem for Linden, so it's hard to place the squad in the upper division. However, the Eagles are usually competitive in most games they play, and there's no reason to think that won't be the case again this year. Getting to .500 would be a nice season.



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | FILE PHOTO  
Fenton's Katie Conroy is one of the Tigers' returning players this season.

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### OPTIMISM

Continued from Page 15A

The Fenton Tigers begin play on Monday as well. The Tigers travel to Howell.

"We have a lot of good girls here," Fenton senior Katie Conroy said. "I think we'll take it game by game, do the best we can and put a lot of work into practice."

"We have a lot of returners and starters back so I'm really excited about the chemistry we are going to have," fellow senior Carly Granger said. "We all come to practice every day and work hard."

Defending Metro League champions Holly open on the road against Hartland on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

"We just have to come to practice every day and work hard," Holly senior Brooke Jackman said. "We have a lot of talent. We just have to get better every day."



## QUESNELLE

### Continued from Page 15A

Offense-Defense All-American Bowl, all-star football game pitting 88 senior athletes from all around the nation. Among those who have played in past games are NFL players Cam Newton, Carlos Dunlap and Dez Bryant.

The organization hosts full-contact camps throughout the nation, and many of the players involved in the game take part in those camps. Quesnelle was invited to some of the camps but was unable to attend. At the time he probably felt his chances of competing in the game ended with not attending the camps. However, Quesnelle did attend the Northwestern Showcase Camp and he thinks they may have seen him play there.

"About week four or five I received the email inviting me to the game. It was a surprise," Quesnelle said. "I assume they got hold of some film and evaluated me on that film. It wasn't something I expected but I appreciate the opportunity."

Quesnelle transferred from Fenton High School to Linden for his senior year and became part of a two-player quarterback competition. As the season continued, Quesnelle became more comfortable and his final statistics proved that out. He completed 148-of-236 passes for 1,728 yards. He also finished with 409 rushing yards on 76 carries. He threw or ran for 21 TDs. Quesnelle accomplished many of these stats with the Eagles' other skill position players in flux all season long due to injuries that seemingly continuously struck the team.

"It was definitely a challenge to change schools. But I was lucky I wasn't going from a Power-I to a spread team, but was going from a spread to another spread," Quesnelle said. "It took some time to learn the progression and the plays. ... Once we got to 7-on-7s and playing live games I progressed better and better."

"It was an awesome group of guys. I was given an opportunity to play with a great talent. And when we had the injuries it was fun watching some of the kids step up. It was great being able to mentor players and receivers who were learning to play varsity ball."

Quesnelle expects to leave Dec. 28, and once down there the team will have three days of two-a-day practices. There are several All-Star games at various age levels. Quesnelle is one of just four Michigan players competing, and he's just one of two quarterbacks on his team.

"I checked out the roster, Googled some of the names so I could see some of the talent," Quesnelle said. "I am excited to play with these kids. They definitely have some good talent."

"One of the things I want to take out of the experience is getting to know players from across the country and build some friendships. I want to see what it is like to play football in other places around the country."

A good performance could help Quesnelle's recruiting stock as well. Right now mostly lower Division 1 schools and Division 2 schools have shown interest in the senior.

Quesnelle is excited about playing in the Citrus Bowl.

"That is going to be something playing in the Citrus Bowl," Quesnelle said. "Just playing in a college stadium like that will be awesome."

## TOP 10

### Continued from Page 15A

installment of the Tri-County Top 10 will be a bit easier. This one will be dealing with the second half of the 10. So here's No. 6 to 10 from our Tri-County Top 10.

**No. 10 - Holly girls golf:** It was a crazy season for the Metro League girls golf season. Flushing cruised to the title, but after that there was a crazy fight for second and third place. The Holly girls ended up finishing in second, giving them our No. 10 spot in this poll. The Bronchos finished the dual season tied for first at 6-1 with league champs Flushing and third at the first Metro meet. They only placed fourth at the final Metro meet, but it was a strong enough performance to give the Bronchos second in the final league standings. Holly capped its season finishing fourth at regionals, one place out of a state trip spot.

**No. 9 - Linden football:** I have always looked at tradition meaning more about the weaker seasons than the stronger seasons. I think squads with great tradition find a way to fight through adversity and figure a way to make something out of what looks like a tough scenario. Linden football did that this year. Expected to be among the league's elite, injuries made that goal nearly impossible to accomplish. Yet, the Eagles finished the regular season at 6-3, earning another playoff spot despite injuries compounding week after week. Linden finished 6-4, losing in the opening round of the playoffs, but just making the playoffs was a considerable performance. Teams without the tradition Linden has would've used those injuries as an excuse to finish 4-5 or worse.

**No. 8 - Fenton volleyball:** Flushing joined the league and the Raiders ended Fenton's six-year run atop the Metro. Still, the Tigers finished a dominating second in league action and captured a third straight Class A district title by beating Grand Blanc in a five-set thriller in the title match. Fenton ended up losing to Novi, a team that advanced to the state semifinals, in the regional semis. The Tigers won 38 matches.

**No. 7 - Fenton football:** Simply stated, the Tigers were the overwhelmingly dominant team in the Metro League this fall, outscoring Metro foes 279-94. That gap would've been considerably larger if not for the four-time defending Metro champs creating mercy-rule continuous clock games on what seemed a weekly occurrence.

The only reason the Tigers aren't



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Fenton's Alec Thomas is tackled by Linden's Ryker Rivera. Fenton football finished No. 7 on our Tri-County Fall Top 10 Poll, while Linden ranked ninth.

ranked higher has to do with their post-season performance. Fenton competed for a half with Farmington Hills Harrison, but were crushed in the second half, resulting in a 35-10 defeat at home. Even one postseason victory probably would've put the Tigers in the five spot. If they won a district crown, they may have been No. 1. However, No. 7 is a nice spot. And once again, the Tigers proved that entering every football season they deserve to be considered the Metro's favorites.

**No. 6 - Fenton girls swimming and diving:** It was supposed to be a semi-rebuilding year. Some thought that maybe a team like Brandon could sneak up on the Tigers and win the Metro. That didn't happen. The Tigers' young squad dominated all Metro foes and cruised to their 11th straight league title.

The Tigers took an impressive nine swimmers and divers to the state meet as well. However, for Fenton to have moved up in the top half, the Tigers needed a couple of the entries to score team points. That didn't happen this year. But considering every performer at state was an underclassmen, we don't think that will happen again next year.

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FRI-SAT 11:05 12:10 3:20 4:35 7:35 9:45  
11:10 SUN -WED 11:05 12:10 3:20  
4:35 7:35 9:45  
THUR 11:05 12:10 3:20 4:35 7:35  
9:45 11:10

**\*THEORY OF EVERYTHING (PG13)**  
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FRI-SAT 11:30 2:05 4:40 7:15  
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## KETTLE

Continued from Front Page

It was not too surprising that the shoppers were hustling in and out of the store laden with bags. It was the day before Thanksgiving and the parking lot of VG's was a very busy place.

The tri-county area is historically one of the more generous areas for giving. While Ely is busy in Fenton, as a whole the program is actually down in donations, according to Joy Martinbianco, development director for The Salvation Army of Genesee County. The kick-off for the bell-ringing season was in early November, and runs

until Christmas Eve. The goal is to raise \$807,000, and so far, she guesses they're 30 percent behind. She attributes the deficit to the rainy, cold weather.

"That's put a little damper on our beginning," she said. "Hopefully the hearts will come forward and they'll place money in the kettles for us."

Like the North End Soup Kitchen in Flint, the Salvation Army is handling a record number of people they're assisting. The funds support most programs through the year, and she said that 85 cents of every dollar goes into programming, strictly in Genesee County. The other 15



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Sandra Matthee of Fenton watches granddaughter Marissa, 6, give money to the Salvation Army. "She likes to do it, every time she sees them she wants to give money," said Matthee.

cents goes into utilities and staffing the Salvation Army administration.

While this year, so far, is a little low, donations have been strong over the last 10 years. Another factor in donations is a lack of cash in pockets. In a report by bankrate.com, 40 percent carry less than \$20 in cash on their person at any given time, and 9 percent carry no cash at all.

Martinbianco said for right now, adding a mobile swipe option has not been discussed. "I think the giving might be that much greater," she said if a program for using credit and debit cards in addition to cash was implemented.

**Out of every dollar given, 85 cents goes into Genesee County programming and assistance.**

The card system in the U.S. as a whole will be changing in 2015 anyways, switching from magnetic swipe strips on cards, to a micro chip, eliminating the need to sign-and-swipe cards.

Bell ringers are both paid employees, and volunteers.

Ely is an employee, though civic groups like the Optimists, Rotary, and Kiwanis clubs, as well as church groups will make up the bulk of the bell ringers.

Whether paid or volunteer, 400 will be out all over Genesee County, ringing bells at the entrances of certain businesses for The Salvation Army until Christmas.

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## INTRODUCTIONS

Continued from Page 3A

- **When introducing family members** to others, the other person's name is generally said first if the people being introduced are of roughly the same age and rank.
- **Traditionally in social situations,** men are introduced to women.

Always chose your words carefully. Just because you are asking the Pope to meet your niece doesn't mean your niece is the important one. You are focusing on the Pope and the fact that he is important and you'd like him to meet your lowly niece. Use terms like, "I'd like to introduce..." "May I introduce..." "I'd like you to meet..." In a more formal situation

you could use "May I present..."

Full names are usually used in introductions, with proper titles for those of importance (like the president). When introducing adults and children, first names are usually fine unless it's a case of introducing teachers and students. In this case, you would use Mrs. Smith or Mr. Johnson, and then the child's full name.

Again, part of the purpose of introductions is to allow someone to join a conversation. Try starting a conversation by sharing a topic both people have in common, such as, "Kevin, I think you and Aaron share a passion for obscure '80s music. Aaron might like to discuss some of the lesser known rock bands from this decade with you."



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# Meet Megan Salvia

- Former Hollywood movie producer
- A producer on The Oprah Winfrey Show
- Stay-at-home mom

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Megan Salvia, 37, recently moved into a new home in Holly Township with her husband, Josh, and two kids, Mia, 4, and Will, 2½. Salvia traded her Chicago townhouse for a rural eight-acre parcel of land, and her Manolo Blahnik high heels for ballet flats in her new role as a stay-at-home mom, after eight years of working at The Oprah Winfrey Show. The show ended its 25-year run on the air in September 2011.

**What took you to Hollywood in the first place?** After graduating from Michigan State University in '95, I bought a convertible, packed it up and drove out to California with enough savings to last for three months without a job. I got a lucky break with my first job, working as a development runner for Jerry Bruckheimer Films (Top Gun, Lone Ranger, Black Hawk Down, Beverly Hills Cop, to name a few), then as a development assistant. We made three different movies in three different countries: Morocco, Prague in the Czech Republic and Australia. It was busy, busy, busy, but we were treated so very well.

**How did you get your job on Oprah?** I was coming home from LA to the Detroit area for a visit in between movies, contemplating a move closer to home. When Mom picked me up at the airport, we stopped at Twelve Oaks Mall and I got a phone call from a head-hunter, asking me if I'd like to work on The Oprah Winfrey Show. We bought an interview outfit at the mall, my mom turned right around and drove me back to the airport and I flew to Chicago for the interview. I never did make it home that trip.

**What kind of job did you do at The Oprah Winfrey Show?** The Oprah job was actually a step down for me in a way, because it was for an executive assistant job, when I had really wanted to be a producer. I was an executive assistant to Oprah's executive producer, who totally ran everything for Oprah. The producer let me go to Africa for a couple of months to work on Oprah's documentary, "Building a Dream," about the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa. I was promoted to pro-



**"Oprah knew me by name and would hug me when we saw each other. She's an unbelievably considerate, generous woman like you see on TV."**

**Megan Salvia**  
Former producer on  
The Oprah  
Winfrey Show

duction assistant, then worked my way up to associate producer. I actually started the development of OWN, Oprah's own network. That's what I was doing when the show ended.

**What happened then?**

Most of the people were offered an opportunity elsewhere. I chose not to take it. It's hard for that job to translate to anything else. It's like a well-oiled machine, where we did everything as a team. I was spoiled, I didn't have to do any of my own editing, graphics, etc.

**What was it like to work on Oprah's show?** It was a lifestyle. It was very women-centric, especially compared to the sexist mindset of a lot of Hollywood producers. I lived with my best friends who also worked at Harpo Studios. We had our own spa, our own gym, our own restaurants. We didn't have to leave the studio. You're "winning and dining" with lots of famous people, and getting fabulous gifts. We also had from Thanksgiving to New Year's off, plus most of the summer off, which is when we traveled a lot together.

Having our Harpo "family" disperse when the show ended was the hardest part. Oprah gave us a 16-day Mediterranean cruise with our husbands two years before our last year. Out of the cruise came 16 "cruise babies," including our daughter, Mia, who was born in 2010. I was nanny-sharing with a friend and we were all bouncing back and forth between the spa, changing room, etc. I often didn't get home 'til midnight.

**What brought you back to Michigan?** When we had Will in 2012, we were living in a small townhouse right in the city. We decided to move back to Michigan to be close to family, so the kids could know their grandparents and their cousins. We lived with my parents in Brighton while our house here was being built.

**What's it like to be a stay-at-home mom living in the country after having a career in the limelight and living in the city?** It's been a huge transition. We've only been in our new home for three weeks. Josh came from a 500-acre farm in Kentucky,

## TRI-COUNTY TIMES

SALLY RUMMEL

Megan Salvia plays with her two children, Mia, 4, and Will, 2½, who are the center of her life now as a stay-at-home mom.

so we're hoping to dabble in farming a bit here — maybe a few grape trees, animals. I don't know yet if there's another job waiting for me that I can do from here. It's been a big adjustment from Hollywood to Holly (said with a smile).



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- Randall

**A:** Randall, this sounds like a blower motor wheel that is coming loose. You will need to take the blower motor out to check this, but also be aware that this time of year that small animals like to hide nuts and other items in places like this. Don't be surprised to find this and if you do, try spraying some perfume or ammonia around the fender wells and under the car as this odor will offend the little rodents. Be careful not to spray on to anything that may get hot or create a spark as these items can be flammable.

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