Linden woman remains in critical condition

By Sharon Stone
sstone@ctimes.com; 810-433-6786

A 52-year-old Linden woman was struck by a car Friday night in Fenton Township. Genesee County Undersheriff Chris Swanson said that sheriff’s paramedics and the Fenton Township Fire Department responded to North Fenton Road near the Sagebrush Cantina restaurant for a personal injury pedestrian accident.

See CRITICAL on 9

Fenton does not want to ‘rush’ decision

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

Fenton — The first work session meeting of the New Year for the Fenton City Council covered a very familiar topic — with familiar results.

After an hour discussing the proposed ordinance that would outline the legal methods to grow medical marijuana in the city of Fenton — an ordinance that has been discussed at length and been approved by the Planning Commission, the city council is still uncertain of moving forward.

The ordinance as proposed would allow for carriers of a medical marijuana license to grow 12 plants in their own home, or have a designated caregiver.

See ‘RUSH’ on 7

Nevermind sex

By Sally Rummel
news@ctimes.com

Remember when you were a kid and no one ever talked about money around you? In fact, money was only second to sex taboo subject of conversation in many households and social circles.

Even today, parents often shelter their kids.

See SEX on 9
New bill to reign in excessive FOIA fees

By Tim Jagielo

Gov. Snyder may sign Freedom of Information Act amendment which favors citizens

With some exceptions, you can request and receive a variety of information from governmental bodies, for a fee through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Most people know what you mean when you say “FOIA’d” something (pronounced “foy-uhd”).

A set of bills are on their way to Gov. Rick Snyder’s desk, which amend the 1976 FOIA, and are designed to make the process more fair, and inexpensive for the one making the request.

House/Senate Bill 4001 is designed to cap the fees associated with making a FOIA request, punish a department for handling a request too slowly and grant recourse if one feels they were unfairly denied information or overcharged.

The bill limits fees for the administrative work it takes to gather the requested information, to three times the state minimum wage, which is $8.15. It also caps the copy fee to 10-cents per page.

Sometimes the fees can run to hundreds of pages, and can get rather expensive. For example in 2012, while investigating the Timm and Maria Smith property case against Holly Township, Oakland County Commissioner Bob Hoffman was assessed a $429 fee from the township clerk, which included See FOIA on 7

By Sally Rummel

It didn’t take but a few moments for Buddy, an 8-year-old golden retriever, to run from his family’s yard onto the slippery and uncertain ice of Dollar Lake in Fenton Township on Sunday afternoon.

“We put him on his usual line for 10 minutes,” said his owner, Amanda Braithwaite, along with Mike Felker. “He loves doing snow angels but this time, he got off the line and ran.”

When an 88-year-old neighbor from across the lake looked out and saw Buddy submerged in the icy cold water with his paws trying to grip the ice, she called 911. She estimated that Buddy had been treading water for more than 30 minutes.

The Fenton Township Fire Department was on the scene in seven-and-a-half minutes. Dep. James Vernier and a neighbor used a ladder to span the distance between Buddy and the shoreline to rescue him from the icy lake. They put him in the back of the police car to find the owners, whom Felker heard all the commotion, and realized that Buddy had run off the line in the yard.

He was shaken and exhausted by the experience, said Braithwaite, but otherwise, OK. “Honestly, without those firemen, I don’t know if he would’ve gotten out,” she said. “Never again will we leave him outside unattended, especially in the winter.”

She said that Buddy’s an avid swimmer in the summer, and that’s probably what saved him.

This is the second case of a dog rescue in Fenton Township so far this winter, and the other one didn’t have a happy ending.

“A dog died in Loon Lake in December after falling through the ice,” said Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz. “We weren’t able to save it.”

Volz cautions pet owners and people in general that the ice isn’t stable right now, especially when it warms up during the day with the sun, and then gets cold at night. “It’s just not safe out there,” he said. “I wouldn’t recommend going out on it. The safest way to deal with the ice is to stay off of it.”

He strongly recommends that if you see an animal fall into the icy water, don’t try to rescue it yourself. “Call 911 as fast as you can,” said Volz. “It’s too dangerous for you to go in after it. We’ll end up having to rescue you and it won’t do the pet any good.”

In addition to possible drowning, cold weather can be dangerous for pets, so pet owners are advised to keep a close watch on their animals during winter weather. “Pets shouldn’t have any prolonged exposure to freezing temperatures,” said Jessica Pascuzzo, DVM, at Fenton Veterinary Clinic.

If pets are kept outdoors, pet owners are required by law to provide adequate shelter, water and food, according to the Michigan Humane Society. Adequate shelter means a well-built, insulated doghouse large enough for a dog’s comfort standing and lying down, elevated slightly for air circulation, the door facing away from prevailing winds with a protective flap to eliminate drafts. Clean, dry straw should be provided instead of rugs or blankets, which absorb moisture and freeze in frigid temperatures.

Pet owners should take their dogs on short walks in the winter,” said Pascuzzo. “Make sure to inspect their paw pads after being outdoors, as they can get cracked or have little ice balls form between their toes and their nails can split.”

Left out in the cold…

What to do if you see a pet left outdoors in frigid temperatures

It’s not only inhumane to leave a pet outdoors in extremely cold temperatures, it’s also a crime.

“Owners of dogs left outside in the cold with no shelter are committing a misdemeanor, if it is shown that treatment has risen to a level of abuse or cruelty,” said Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro. “We do get calls reporting abuse like this from time to time.”

It’s important that a person record what he or she sees, before making that call. Take note of the date, time, location and type of animals involved. Write down as many details as possible about the situation, also using video and photographic documentation, suggests the Michigan Humane Society.

“We’ll take the call and investigate the complaint by documenting the conditions and contacting the owners,” he added. “If we can articulate that it’s risen to a level of cruelty, we’ll go to the prosecutor and request a warrant for ordinance violation.”

Dog’s fall through ice has happy ending

Pet owners need to take special precautions in winter to prevent accidents and injuries

By Theodore S. Nagy RN

Auto-Owners Insurance ranks highest among auto insurance providers in the J.D. Power and Associates 2008-2012 Auto Claims StudiesSM. 2012 study based on 12,508 total responses, ranking 26 insurance providers. Excludes those with claims only for

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Police chief urges caution on area ramps known for spin-outs, rollovers

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

With frigid winter weather finally here, motorists are reminded that ice, snow and winds from the west can wreak havoc on U.S. 23 through the Fenton area.

Since 2011, there have been hundreds of emergency responses to U.S. 23 from Tyrone Township, north to Mundy Township. Some of these accidents involved multiple vehicles.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said ice-related road crashes in the Fenton area are really no different from any other stretch of highway. It seems that every area has an overpass that is notorious for crashes, whether it is on I-75, M-15 or I-69.

Aro said I-69 at Miller Road is always bad, especially during icy road conditions.

"Any change in direction or speed can cause you to lose control."  
Rick Aro  
Fenton police chief

The most likely cause of crashes near overpasses is the lack of insulation underneath the structure. With cold wind whipping below the overpass, wet pavement in this area freezes before other stretches of roadway.

U.S. 23 through the greater Fenton area includes numerous exit and entrance ramps. Local residents are familiar with the exit and entrance ramps at Silver Lake and Torrey roads, however, drivers unfamiliar with this area could find it tricky to exit the highway safely as other cars are accelerating to enter the highway in the same space.

Aro said that any time drivers are changing lanes or hitting the brakes, there is the potential to lose control. Oftentimes, as vehicles are entering the highway, motorists driving at posted speeds on the highway are forced to brake or move over. This reaction, coupled with slippery road surfaces, can cause you to lose control.

Treacherous driving conditions led to several small spin-outs and crashes in Fenton, in this case, on southbound U.S. 23.
FROM THE LEFT

Clarence Page
Nationally syndicated columnist

SELMA: a film worth arguing about

It is no crushing insult to ‘Selma’ that critics dispute its accuracy. In today’s movie culture, accuracy only matters when the movie is worth arguing about. Guardians of President Lyndon B. Johnson’s memory are upset that he is portrayed as an obstructionist who had to be persuaded by the brutality of South- ern police at the Selma-to-Montgomery protest march into pushing what became the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

In fact, Selma was LBJ’s idea, Joseph Califano, LBJ’s top domestic assistant, argues in a Washington Post op-ed. LBJ ‘considered the Voting Rights Act his greatest legislative achievement.’ Johnson (played by Tom Wilkinson) is portrayed as resisting King (played by David Oyelowo) on the voting rights push because the president wants to launch his War on Poverty. The film also shows, without directly implicating Johnson, some of J. Edgar Hoover’s devious efforts to scuttle King and the movement.

My verdict? The film does take some liberties with historical details in the way that every historical movie does. As Menand’s article details, LBJ ordered up the ‘g—damnest toughest voting rights act that you can devise.’ But, as the movie shows, he also asked King to wait as progress stalled on Capitol Hill.

Two years after iconic news footage of police dogs and fire hoses tearing into peaceful civil rights marchers in Birmingham helped pass the 1964 Civil Rights Act, everybody understood the power of television to accelerate political and social changes that had been stalled since the Civil War.

Yet, as former NAACP President Ben Jealous said as we happened to meet in the theater lobby after viewing ‘Selma’ in Washington, D.C., ‘The troubling thing about the movie is its relevance today.’

Indeed, the historical issues in this film — voting rights, police conduct and equal justice, among others — still dominate headlines. That’s why this dispute over a movie’s historical accuracy matters more than most Oscar season chatter. We need to know how far we have come in civil rights history to help us figure out where we’re going.

THOSE OF YOU who take joy in proclaiming that America is no longer a Christian nation should welcome this cold weather as you will likely find it very hot where you will be spending eternity.

I HAVE FOUR-wheeler drive and I am sure I can go as fast as I want and get anywhere. Yeah, right.

SO SOMEONE BELIEVES Tim Geithner’s book ‘Stress Test.’ He couldn’t pay his federal income taxes for four years, yet someone wants to quote him on tax evasion.

WHY DO PEOPLE think it’s all right to carry puppies through the grocery store? And why doesn’t anyone tell them they need to leave?

OBAMA’S TWO-WEEK vacation in home state Hawaii ends and he heads home to Washington, right? Wrong. First thing is a flight to Detroit with a speech on how he saved the auto industry with no mention of how it was a continuation of Bush’s work.

WE’RE AN OLD couple and someone at Leo’s paid for our meal today. Thank you, and we’re passing it on.

COULD SOMEBODY EXPLAIN to me why the website for the Federal Reserve Bank is .gov site when there are no more part of the government than Federal Express, Is it fraud?

GOD DOESN’T TAKE any of our crap. If you don’t want to go to heaven just keep doing your own thing.

THE POTUS MUST be behind the shuttering of Fox News on Dish! It’s an excellent way to silence your politi- cal enemies. Who else would want to shut down Fox News?

KUDOS TO George Clooney for sticking to his values and not raising taxes to fix the roads. After all, doing nothing seems to be working for unem- ployment.

I HAVE A HARD time believing that anyone honestly believes that electing a black man for president somehow would instantly change the opinions of any racist, black or white. We, as a society, have a long way to go. Don’t believe me, just read the Hot lines every week.

THE NATIVE AMERICANS complained about the diseases that immigrants brought over hundreds of years. It’s a small world. You don’t have to be an illegal to travel and spread a disease.

REGARDING THE SOURCE Listed for the accuracy of Fox News, a little research showed it was of course a left leaning, so called ‘non-profit’ school of journalism. After reading a few of their articles, it comes as no surprise they side with NPR over Fox News. Nice try.

MY HUSBAND AND I are honored to live near Holly’s ‘Family of the Year,’ Charlotte and Ed Pedley. This award couldn’t go to more conscientious, car- ing, and big-hearted people than the Pedleys. We’re lucky to have them as neighbors and friends.

NICE TRY, BUT maybe you should read the Poynter article.

FROM THE RIGHT

Col Thomas
Nationally syndicated columnist

Mayor Cuomo — rhetoric and record

How serious in the right of progressives was one of their saints, Mario Cuomo, the three-term governor of New York who died last week at age 82.

In most media accounts, references were made to two speeches Cuomo delivered in 1984, one at the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco where Walter Mondale was nominated for president, and the other at the University of Notre Dame where Cuomo spoke about abortion and the ‘proper’ role of religion in politics.

The thing about progressivism is that it researches its way — all shine and no depth. In his Democratic convention speech, Cuomo referenced Ronald Reagan’s line about America being a ‘shin- ing city on a hill.’ Cuomo responded, ‘A shining city is perhaps all the president sees from the portico of the White House. But there’s another part to the shining city. ... In this part of the city, there are more poor than ever. More and more people who need help but can’t find it. ... There are people who sleep in the city streets, in the gutter where the glitter doesn’t show.’

This is boilerplate Democratic rhetoric we’ve heard since the days of Franklin Roosevelt. Democrats have been, Truman, Kennedy, Johnson, Carter, Clinton and Obama, are fewer families in trouble? Are there fewer poor people? Statistics reveal there are not, so why do so many embrace progressive ideas?

My one encounter with Cuomo came after a column I wrote following his 2007 debate with former Speaker Newt Gingrich at the Union in New York, the site of a famous speech by Abraham Lincoln. I said that Gingrich clearly won the debate and made a mockery of Cuomo’s liberalism.

Cuomo called me and after identifying himself launched into a tirade that lasted about 90 seconds. He then hung up giving me no opportunity to say much more than ‘hello, nice to hear from you.’ Vanity, Vanity.

Most obituaries and news reports called Cuomo ‘inspiring.’ Inspiration is good if it motivates people to do for them- selves and improve their lives. Otherwise, it’s nothing more than floor wax. May Gov. Cuomo rest in peace.

What is your can’t-miss TV show?

“My can’t miss show is ‘General Hospital.’ I have been watching this show for 20 years now.”

— Tanya Graff
Antium Township

“The TV show ‘Survivor,’ because I enjoy the game.”

— Jennifer Littrell
Holly

“I can’t miss the show ‘Scandal.’ It is believable, it could happen, or it could be happening.”

— Dawn Simans
Fenton Township

“I like ‘Fox News,’ they don’t gloss over important things, and they have a different perspective.”

— Dave Lonsbury
Fenton Township

“I can’t miss ‘Fox News’ because it is more conservative.”

— Chuck Terry
Swartz Creek

“I like ‘The 100’ because it is a good Sci-Fi.”

— Adam Shafer
Fenton Township

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street talk

Compiled by Alexi Rose, intern
**Governor signs 13 bills into law, vetoes others**

> Bills range from OWI limits, paternity, college athletes, to bear shooting permits

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

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder was busy the last week of December signing or vetoing the many bills that piled up on his desk over the last month. On Wednesday Dec. 30, the governor signed more than 13 bills, and vetoed some too.

**Legal blood alcohol content lowered**

Snyder signed legislation improving public safety by strengthening laws for drunken driving while operating watercraft, snowmobiles and off-road vehicles (ORVs). According to a press release from the Governor’s desk, Snyder said, “It is vital to keep our waterways and other recreational areas safe for all Michiganders.”

There are some new rules for people drinking and driving motor vehicles that are driven off-road. Public Acts 402-405 of 2014 make the blood alcohol content (BAC) limit 0.08 percent in Michigan while operating all watercraft, snowmobiles and off-road vehicles. This reduces the limit from its current level of 0.10 percent to match the standards for people operating all other vehicles.

**Energy efficiency improvements**

For people wanting to get their homes more energy efficient, PA 408 creates the Municipal Utility Residential Clean Energy Program Act, allowing municipali-
Police & Fire Report

GOVERNOR
Continued from Page 5
Calhoun County. Unfortunately, a procedural defect in the bill would prevent it from taking effect even with my signature. The bill was linked to SB 52, which was not taken up in the state House.

For more information on these and other legislation, visit legislature.michigan.gov.

Other bills signed
PA 406 increases deposits that are required when a candidate asks for an election recount. The deposits have not increased since the 1960s and fees do not come close to covering costs associated with a recount. The deposits would increase from $10 to $25 per precinct and require a $125 deposit per precinct if the number of votes separating a winning candidate and the petitioner, or the number of votes separating the votes for and against a proposal, were more than 50 or 0.5 percent of the votes cast, whichever was greater.
PA 407 allows the Department of Natural Resources to issue shooting permits with guidelines in areas where bears are damaging crops.
PA 410-413 give the state the option to permanently revoke and prohibit re-licensure of individuals who engage in a pattern of fraudulent acts for personal gain and harmed patients. The bills also ensure the same grounds for disciplinary action apply to licensed and registered health professionals.
PA 414 excludes college athletes from the definition of “public employees” entitled to collectively bargain. The bill would ensure that college athletes are students, first and foremost, and should not be treated as employees by their schools.
PA 415 designates a date by which a person may conduct business as a Michigan investment broker, similar to a stock exchange. Setting the date at May 1, 2015 gives the Corporations, Securities, and Commercial Licensing Bureau adequate time to prepare for the processing of applications for registration.
PA 416 eliminates a 2016 sunset on a 7/8 of a cent-per-gallon fee and requires revenue to be used to clean up leaking underground fuel tanks. The fee originally was set to expire in 1998 and has been extended several times, but revenue was diverted to other spending. This bill permanently dedicates $20 million to its original purpose, petroleum related cleaning work.
PA 417 prohibits the Department of Environmental Quality from promulgating air emission rules for wood stove manufacturers or enforcing new federal emission standards on wood heaters. The law is intended to address concerns about federal Environmental Protection Agency rules and regulations.
SB 1167 sponsored by state Sen. Dave Robertson, now PA 418, changes the requirements for serving as a petition circulator in Michigan. The bill clarifies that a petition circulator must be at least 18 years old and a U.S. citizen by removing the previous requirement that a petition circulator be a registered voter in Michigan to bring the state in compliance with a recent court ruling. In addition, the bill makes changes to the language on the petition form, warning that it is a violation to sign or allow someone to sign a petition more than once.

Source: michigan.gov/snyder

End of Year Legislation in Michigan
Under Michigan’s system of government, the legislature conducts its business in two-year sessions. We have just witnessed the end of the 2013-2014 legislative session.

If a proposed bill has not been passed by both the House and Senate by the end of a session, it then dies for lack of support, and a new bill must be proposed in the new subsequent session for consideration.

Historically there is a flurry of activity late in the session from after the November elections in an attempt by legislators to have bills passed in time.

This period of time is commonly called a “lame duck” session, and refers to those legislators who are still in office to the end of the year but were not reelected due to term limits or a defeat at the polls.

Of course, many of the legislators have returned for the new session. This term traces its origins to the 18th century London stock exchange.

In the last two months there have been more than 200 bills approved by the legislature for review by the governor, with a number already having been signed and a few vetoed.

These bills range from prohibiting college athletes from forming unions, allowing farmers to shoot nuisance bears, which damage crops, and on a variety of criminal and civil law topics.

Of local interest among these bills (since we have so many lakes and boats in this area) are bills that were signed into law on Dec. 27, 2014, which reduced the alcohol level for operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol from .10 to .08. Additional law changes contained in the bills included increased penalties for motorboat, snowmobile or off-road vehicle violations involving alcohol and/or drugs and for having a minor on board at the time of the violation.

A different type of legislative enactment occurred on Dec. 19, 2014, when the legislature referred a proposed constitutional amendment to the voters to decide whether there should be an increase in the sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent to help fund transportation including the repair of roads, streets and bridges. This proposal will be on the May 5, 2015 ballot.

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Area family gets chance to be a Nielsen household

- Random ratings help companies to spend $70 billion on TV ads

By Yvonne Stegall ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6702

A family in Flushing receiving their Nielsen Rating packets in the mail in late November. They didn’t want to be a Nielsen family, but they took the opportunity to share their TV viewing preferences with the company.

According to Nielsen.com, becoming a Nielsen family happens strictly by chance. “We cannot ask every home to participate, so we carefully select a sample of homes in your community to represent the entire TV audience. To be statistically accurate, it is essential that our samples be randomly selected. Every household in the U.S. has a chance of being selected, no matter where it is located,” according to the FAQs section on the site.

The unfortunate part of the Krzyza family’s week with Nielsen Rating was that it was over Thanksgiving, when all that aired on television were reruns and holiday specials. “We were just sitting around doing nothing, so we figured it would be no big deal to do it,” said Mike Krzyza, who has family in Fenton. He and his wife Phyllis both received their own logbooks to track what they watched.

Mike said, “They were persistent about calling to make sure we were participating.” He also said they received a crisp new dollar bill for their troubles.

What does Nielsen Rating do for TV? Since the 1950s, when this ratings system was developed, Nielsen has offered the media industry the expertise it needs to make the best marketing decisions possible. Their television measurement services capture video viewing across all screens: television, computers and mobile devices. National and local TV ratings help media companies and brands decide how to spend the nearly $70 billion on TV advertising in the U.S. alone.

However, ratings are only one of the audience measurement services they provide. “Consumers are changing with the times, and the same goes for us. As technology continues to evolve and media companies try new ways to attract viewers, understanding what consumers are watching — and what they’re watching on — is more important than ever.” Since today people are viewing media all over, including through their mobile devices, Nielsen has kept up with the times and works to track the viewership on people’s devices too.

“RUSH” Continued from Front Page

grow that same amount for them either in the patient’s or the caregiver’s home. The ordinance would also allow for growing facilities in the city’s industrial park, and outlines the restrictions on such facilities, including the requirement that they are subject to regular inspections.

The main topic of debate amongst the city council was the inability to force those same inspections on residents growing medical marijuana in their home.

Councilwoman Cheryl King expressed concern over how the ordinance would be enforced, “I just want to make sure we have some control over it to a certain degree,” she said. “If they (the police) can’t go into a private home, then I don’t think we should be letting it (medical marijuana) in the home and we should just have it in the industrial area.”

Councilman Bradley Jacob argued that home inspections would be a violation of privacy. “Nobody should be able to come into your home without your permission or a warrant... I understand that is inconvenient,” he said. “But if you start busting in people’s doors without permission or a warrant then we have a problem.”

Councilman Les Bland brought up his frustrations with the inaction on the matter. “We talk and we talk,” Bland said. “We’ve had months. This didn’t get brought up yesterday. We have to eventually take some kind of action.”

Others, however, argued in favor of the council to take it’s time when approaching the matter. “I think if anyone has any doubt in their mind, we’re not under any obligation to do anything other than extend the moratorium,” said Councilwoman Pat Lockwood. “I don’t think anyone should be pushed into voting for this before they are ready. Because if you do, you might not like how the vote turns out.”

Mayor Sue Osborn said she would like to take a look at ordinances enacted in other cities before seeing the ordinance comes to a vote. “I don’t want to rush into it,” Osborn said. “It’s not to punish the patient, in my mind,” she said. “It’s to protect the health, safety and welfare of the children and so the police chief can have some way to monitor what’s going on as best as possible.”

The current moratorium is set to expire on Feb. 1.
Do you know what a 400-calorie breakfast, lunch and dinner looks like?

Local woman shares journey on 50-pound weight loss

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

After all the food excesses of the holidays, many people are starting out fresh in January with a new eating plan to either lose weight for good, or take off a few pounds they gained between Thanksgiving and New Year’s.

Laura Legant of Holly, who lost 50 pounds between May and October of 2013, would be the first person to admit she had no idea how many calories were in any of the foods she was eating, before she embarked on her own weight loss journey.

She learned quickly how fast calories add up. “I couldn’t have told you how many calories were in a hamburger bun or a banana, so I wasn’t making very good choices,” said Legant, a kindergarten teacher, business owner, wife and mother of four.

During her six-month weight loss journey, she kept her daily calorie allotment at about 1,200 calories, with a heavy emphasis on vegetables. That’s on the lower end of what most weight loss experts suggest for daily calories. Many people will lose weight at 1,500 calories, especially if they are men, exercise regularly or are women weighing more than 165. Women who are less active or are older, may need the lower 1,200-calorie range to actually lose weight.

Health sites like prevent.com use 400-calorie meal plans, or you can give yourself more flexibility with 300 for breakfast, 400 for lunch and dinner, with 100 calories for a snack.

What does 400 calories look like?

At breakfast, 400 calories can “buy” you a one-cup serving of cooked oatmeal with your choice of fruit and a teaspoon of honey or maple syrup to sweeten it. You could also make a peanut butter and banana “sandwich” on a whole wheat English muffin, with blueberries on the side.

If you like eggs, make yourself an omelet with one whole egg and two egg whites, then fill it with spinach, tomatoes and a sprinkle of mozzarella cheese, with a side of whole-wheat toast.

For lunch, you can make yourself a garden pasta salad with 3 ounces of chicken, a slice of “crustless” broccoli cheese pie with a side of melon and lightly tossed garden salad, or a turkey pastrami sandwich with plums and baked chips on the side.

Your dinner plate can consist of a variety of foods based on lean protein and vegetables, including honey soy-glazed salmon with spinach and peppers, turkey and bean chili or fennel-crusted pork with roasted root vegetables. Preventon.com suggests that you divide your plate in half, filling half with vegetables and fruit and the other half split between high-quality, low-fat protein and starch.

These are just a few examples of good eating with fewer calories, but there are literally hundreds of menu sites that can help you get started. Check out recipes on eatingwell.com, cookinglight.com, skinnytaste.com, prevention.com, weightwatchers.com., to name just a few. There are also several free apps available on your smartphone to keep track of your calories consumed and burned, one of which is the LoseIt app. Then just “do the math” to add up to your daily calorie allotment. “It’s not like a math class that I took, got an A, and now it’s over,” said Legant. “It’s an ongoing process and I have to use the math all the time.”

HOT LINE CONTINUED

DEISEL IN GRAND Blanc $2.99, Fen-ton $3.39. And, the four gas stations at Owen and U.S. 23 all collude on the price — to the penny.

HERE IT IS 2015 and Fenton public schools still has no complete school calendar.

HOW MANY MORE months are we going to look at your grey Porsche SUV parked in your driveway? It has not moved in six months. If it does not run, get rid of it.

I GET A bang out of the headlines about the oil glut bankrupting nations. Nobody said anything when the oil companies were making $50 billion in profits. When the little guy gets to save some money the world is suddenly coming to an end.
SEX
Continued from Front Page
from grown-up realities like money, trying to save them from the truth of their own financial shortcomings.

The bad news is, many young people leave home not knowing how to handle the financial challenges they’ll face. Many kids go off to college not understanding the reality of student loan debt, aggressive credit card use and how to begin saving for a house, kids and a future retirement.

These young people in their teens and 20s are just beginning to put into practice what they learned about money as they grew up. What they do in these years largely defines the financial habits they have learned throughout their lifetime.

Because many young people have delayed marriage, buying a home, having kids, etc. due to student loan debt and a lukewarm job market, many of these lessons are starting out later in life, putting young people behind in building their financial foundation.

“In my own personal experience, I was taught the importance of working hard and saving money at an early age by my parents,” said Chad Robinson, 30, an Edward Jones financial advisor in Linden. “This allowed me to obtain my college education while accruing very little debt compared to the average student. I do look back and wish my parents and I were educated regarding more advantageous options for both us to invest in my education and even my retirement, an option most families aren’t aware of. This is why I talk about these topics in my practice and at community and school events.”

Here are a few financial lessons parents need to pass on to their kids.

**Lesson #1 – Differentiate between wants and needs**

Parents can help kids understand the difference by showing them exactly how much it costs to run a household, then incorporate them into the savings process by encouraging them to help reduce household spending, according to bankrate.com. The money that is left can be shown in cash, a huge motivator for kids.

**Lesson #2 – Share the secrets of saving**

Many kids grow up seeing their parents only spending money, so there is a lack of awareness about saving it. If parents show their children their own investments or savings accounts, it will teach them the value of compounding interest and encourage them to save rather than spend.

**Lesson #3 – Instill smart spending habits**

The easiest way to teach kids smart spending habits is to let kids earn some cash, then help guide them in their purchasing decisions. Even poor spending decisions made at a young age help kids understand the value of their money and will be an effective financial lesson for the future.

Kids also model what their parents do. If kids see parents spending more money than saving it, that’s a lesson they will take with them into adulthood.

**Lesson #4 – Don’t overuse credit cards**

One of the financial lessons a person needs to learn is how to handle credit responsibly, to build a strong credit history, according to 20somethingsfinance.com. Your credit score, built from your credit history, can have a profound monetary impact on your future mortgage, insurance rates, even job hiring.

If you’re going to use a credit card, don’t carry a balance over from month to month or pay any late fees. This is how you use a credit card responsibly, and it can provide a strong return in consumer protection, building credit history and even paying you back with a percentage of earned money.

Young people need to understand that credit cards will be marketed aggressively toward them, especially in college, so they need to be vigilant about all the offers that will bombard them, according to Robinson.

**Lesson #5 – Keep track of your student loans**

About 70 percent of college graduates one year ago left college with an average of $28,400 in debt, according to U.S. News & World Report.

This debt is carried with a graduate until it is paid off and can be a life-changer for making decisions to buy a home, have children, etc.

Edward Jones Financial Advisor Chad Jones advises that you make sure you understand all the terms of your loans, i.e., how much you’re expected to pay each month, when payments are due, what interest rates you’re paying, what credits may be available for on-time repayment, etc. You might be able to achieve a more favorable repayment schedule by consolidating two or more loans. Once you start repaying your loans, do whatever you can to stay on track with your payments.

**Lesson #6 – Still save money, even if you have debt**

Whether you have a medical emergency or need to make a last-minute car repair, you need to have some funds socked away so that you don’t have to rack up any more debt. If money is tight, first account for essentials like food, shelter and clothing, then decide how much of the leftover discretionary income can be allocated toward debt reduction and savings.

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**SEX**

Continued from Front Page

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**CRITICAL**

Continued from Front Page

Swanson said the woman, identified as Michelle Holm, and her boyfriend were waiting for a table at a restaurant at around 8 p.m. The restaurant was very busy and Holm’s boyfriend left in his vehicle to check out another restaurant.

While he was gone, she walked outside. Swanson said investigators are unsure as to why Holm walked into the road, but as she started to walk across North Fenton Road, she was struck by a 2003 passenger car, driven by a 16-year-old female.

Holm was wearing dark clothing and the roadway in this area is not well lit, according to the sheriff’s department. Deputies were unable to locate any witnesses.

Sheriff’s paramedics transported Holm to the hospital. Swanson said there was no alcohol use or cell phone use suspected of the 16-year-old driver.

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**I was looking for an affordable one.**

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Ease into retirement

Consider a ‘practice retirement’ that will allow you to try out your financial and emotional readiness

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

The days of getting a gold watch at a retirement party and stepping out into the sunset of one’s Golden Years with a fat pension are long gone.

Today’s retirement paints a far different picture. Older Americans increasingly are working well into their 60s or 70s, many out of financial necessity and others because they want to remain active into their older years. Some are taking a “phased approach” to retirement, working fewer hours or changing careers altogether.

Easing into retirement can take many other forms: taking more frequent vacations while still working or living on a smaller budget with the security of a paycheck.

“I always suggest people take retirement on a ‘test drive’ before they actually retire,” said Fred Hensler, CEO of Sapphire Blue Investment Partners, in Fenton Township.

Here are three reasons why to do it:

• Live on less. People have it in their mind that they can live on a lot less money during retirement and that’s not necessarily true; in fact, it’s often not true. “If you’re used to a $100,000 income and think you can live on $70,000, try it out for a year and see how you do,” said Hensler. “Once you’ve punched the time clock for the last time, you can’t punch that same time clock again.”

• Golf doesn’t last forever. So often, people retire and think, “That’s great, now I’m going to move south and play golf.” However, golf gets pretty boring if you play it everyday for weeks on end. “Make sure you prepare yourself ahead of time with adequate things to do to keep yourself motivated and busy,” said Hensler. “The emotional part of retirement is just as important as the financial.”

• Try before you buy. So many newly retired people pick up and move to Florida or Arizona without finding out first if that move is really right for them. “Go down and rent a place for a month or so, and make sure to visit during an ‘off’ time like the summer. Get accustomed to the community, the weather, etc., before you make a decision to buy. Otherwise, you might find yourself financially stuck living in a place you don’t like.”

Other ways of easing into retirement include holding off on Social Security, living within your means and not relying on Social Security benefits until later, maybe even age 70, according to bankrate.com. That will mean you’ll likely continue working, while your Social Security benefits will increase 8 percent per year, for every year you wait to take them. People can just about double their Social Security benefits. “Even if they aren’t ready to fully retire, many people continue to work part-time in some capacity,” Hensler said. “They have the benefit of Social Security, so they can go back and forth, never really stopping completely.”

“Set reasonable goals. Retirement nest eggs don’t need to be enormous. Many retirees have a net worth of less than $1 million, and many people live comfortably on less than $100,000 annually. When planning for retirement, don’t be dissuaded because you won’t be buying a vineyard or villa in Europe. Set reasonable goals for your retirement and make sure you meet those goals.”

“Recognize there is no magic wealth-building plan. Saving comes down to formulating a plan specific to your goals, resources, abilities, and skills. Make saving a priority and take advantage of employer-sponsored retirement programs if they are offered.”

Successful ways to stretch retirement savings in 2015

Many budding retirees plan to travel, relax and enjoy the company of their spouses when they officially stop working. But such plans only are possible if men and women take steps to secure their financial futures in retirement.

According to a recent survey by the personal finance education site MoneyTips.com, roughly one-third of Baby Boomers have no retirement plan. The reason some may have no plan is they have misconceptions about how much money they will need in retirement. Successful retirees understand the steps to take and how to live on a budget.

• Have a plan. Many people simply fail to plan for retirement. Even men and women who invest in an employer-sponsored retirement program, such as a 401(k), shouldn’t make that the only retirement planning they do. Speak with a financial advisor who can help you develop a plan that ensures you don’t outlive your assets.

• Set reasonable goals. Retirement nest eggs don’t need to be enormous. Many retirees have a net worth of less than $1 million, and many people live comfortably on less than $100,000 annually. When planning for retirement, don’t be dissuaded because you won’t be buying a vineyard or villa in Europe. Set reasonable goals for your retirement and make sure you meet those goals.

• Recognize there is no magic wealth-building plan. Saving comes down to formulating a plan specific to your goals, resources, abilities, and skills. Make saving a priority and take advantage of employer-sponsored retirement programs if they are offered.
Simple ways to maintain your mental acuity

Many people know that a combination of a healthy diet and routine exercise is the best way to maintain their physical health. But what about mental well-being? Memory lapses are often assumed to be an accepted side effect of aging, but such an assumption is incorrect, as there are many steps men and women can take to maintain their mental acuity well into their golden years.

• Find time for cardiovascular exercise. Cardiovascular exercise can help men and women maintain healthy weights and reduce their risk for potentially deadly ailments like diabetes and heart disease. But cardiovascular exercise can also boost brain power. Cardiovascular exercise pumps oxygen-rich blood to the brain, and that blood contains glucose that can fuel brain cells. Cardiovascular exercise also strengthens blood vessels, which can help prevent potentially devastating diseases, such as stroke, that can have a lasting and negative impact on cognitive function.

• Find time for friends and family. Many people need no reason to socialize, but those that do can now cite boosting brain function as a great reason to get together with family and friends. Routine socialization can keep a brain sharp by reducing its levels of cortisol, a potentially destructive hormone brought on by stress. Researchers also believe that routine interaction with other people stimulates structures in the brain’s frontal lobe that are likely responsible for planning, decision making and response control.

• Squeeze in a nap every so often. Naps can have a reenergizing effect on men and women, but a study from German researchers also found that naps can also improve memory. In the study, researchers divided participants into three groups: people who would stay awake for 60 minutes; people who would sleep for six minutes; and people who would sleep for 30 to 45 minutes. After the hour was up, participants were given a word recall test, and those who slept performed better on the test than those who hadn’t. But the development that was perhaps most interesting was that those who slept for just six minutes performed just as well on the test as those who slept for far longer, leading researchers to suggest that men and women need not take long naps to improve their memories.

• Include fish in your diet. A study from researchers at Chicago’s Rush University Medical Center found that people who eat fish once per week have a 60 percent lower risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease than those who do not include fish in their weekly diets. Researchers credit this lower risk to DHA, an omega-3 fatty acid that is found in both the brain and in fish such as salmon and tuna.

To stay sharp in your golden years, eat healthy, keep exercising and stay connected with friends and family.
While pets can really help some seniors, the best match should be made between person and pet.

**Pets and seniors are ‘a match made in heaven’**

Research shows that pets help improve a person’s mental well-being, if the match is right.

**By Sally Rummel**

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Seniors and pets can be a match made in heaven.

Pets help a person’s mental well-being, provide a feeling of being needed and help seniors get more exercise. Research has shown that people who have animal companions live longer lives.

In turn, senior pets sometimes get overlooked at Adopt-a-Pet in Fenton or other animal rescue shelters because people often don’t see all the special attributes they offer. Typically more calm and relaxed, these “older” pets don’t require as much exercise or care as young pups or kittens. They also already have a routine and often don’t require much training.

That’s why Adopt-a-Pet offers a Senior Friends program, matching a person over 65 who has no other animals, with a cat or dog over age 5. “We waive the adoption fee in these cases,” said Jody Maddock, program director at Adopt-a-Pet. “We look at the needs of the person as well as the animal, so an appropriate match can be made.”

If you’re looking for a pet for your older mom and dad, here are some things to consider:

- Are your parents set in their ways? If your parents don’t like change, they may not be a good candidate for a pet.
- Have they had a pet before? An elderly person who is an experienced pet owner may be a better candidate for a pet.
- Do they have disabilities? For those who are physically challenged, a cat usually requires less care than dogs. A small dog that’s paper-trained or an indoor bird are other ideas for companion animals.
- Do they need a therapy pet? If a senior is infirm or impaired, they may be a candidate for an assistance or therapy dog to help them function or interact.
- Is the pet the right age? A puppy or kitten may not be the best choice for elderly owners because of the care they require. A young pet may also outlive its owner. Yet, it’s important that the pet isn’t too old, or it may start to have its own physical limitations.
- Does the pet have a good temperament? A large dog isn’t always a deterrent to a good relationship with a senior and a small dog isn’t always the best fit. Small dogs tend to be very high energy and require more effort and commitment. It’s more about the personality of the animal than the size.
- Is the pet healthy? It’s important that any potential pet be examined by a professional. You don’t want any senior’s health to be compromised by an animal carrying a disease.
- What about finances? Pets do cost money. Even a small puppy can cost more than $800 its first year for food, medical care, toys and grooming.
- What will happen when the senior is no longer able to care for the pet? It’s important that the pet is provided for in a will and a caregiver named. Even more basic is that someone knows that an elderly person has a pet, so that if the person is rushed to the hospital, the pet won’t be left alone.
Walk and swim your way to fitness this winter

Local schools open their door for community residents to use their facilities

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

If you enjoy walking and swimming for exercise during warm weather, now’s the time to move indoors to continue getting your exercise benefits this winter.

Fitness walking

Fenton High School offers a free walking program in its high school hallways from Nov. 17 through April 30 on Mondays through Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m.

Walkers must stop by the Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation office in the Fenton Community & Cultural Center to pick up a walking badge prior to participating.

Linden Community Schools open its doors for walkers at the following times: Linden High School from 6:15 to 7:15 a.m. and Linden Middle School from 6 to 7:30 a.m. and from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Holly community residents are welcome to walk the halls at Karl Richter Campus of Holly Area Schools from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Walkers should enter the building from the north entrance (school administration office), sign in, and pick up a map of the walking area.

There will be no walking at area schools when the schools are closed due to inclement weather, or are closed due to holidays.

Swimming

Fenton High School’s pool is open for a number of aquatic programs and swimming lessons. Community programs are operated through Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation and include:

- Aqua Zumba is known as the Zumba “pool party,” blending the Zumba formula with traditional aqua fitness disciplines. Aqua shoes are strongly recommended. Sign up for a class or pay a drop-in rate of $8 visit.
- Senior Splash is a low-impact program for seniors, incorporating cardio, core work, leg and arm exercises for a full body workout.
- Swim Fit is a six-week coached water fitness class for experienced adult swimmers. This hour-long workout is ideal for triathletes, former swimmers and anyone looking to improve their swimming technique.
- Lap Swimming is a great way to get in shape. At least two to three lanes are set aside during lap swim times. Swimmers will share lanes, if necessary, and circle swimming is expected when the pool is busy.

For more information about class times and prices, visit slpr.net or call (810) 714-2011. To call the pool office directly, call (810) 591-2622 or email jhaney@slpr.net.

Holly High School has its own pool, which is operated by the Holly Township Parks & Recreation Department. This eight-lane swimming pool goes from a depth of 3 ft. 9 in. to 13 ft. deep with a diving board. Children 3 and under are admitted free and those 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information about classes, open swims and lap swims, call (810) 591-2622.

Hartland Community Aquatic Center, with a lap pool and leisure pool, is open for 13 different water exercise classes every week — from open swims, to lap swims, Splash & Play and swimming lessons.

Swimming lessons and water exercise classes are all offered.

For more information, visit www.hartlandschools.us for details or call Director Julie Hill at (810) 626-2282.
Understand and avoid elder financial fraud

Elder fraud is a financial crime that targets older men and women who are often unable to recognize they are being victimized. Elder fraud is a broad term that can be applied to a host of crimes, from stealing money or property directly from an individual to using an older person’s property or possessions without permission.

Many seniors are targeted through telemarketing scams in which elders are scared into giving money out of fear of losing their homes. Some are exploited by people closer to home who forge signatures or get an older person to sign over deeds or power of attorney.

Criminals often see elderly men and women as easy targets. Seniors may be suffering from declining physical and/or mental health, which compromises their ability to defend themselves or even recognize they are being taken advantage of. Seniors also may be embarrassed that they were duped and not share their experiences with others as a result. But elder fraud also can be perpetrated by family members who aim to acquire an elderly relative’s assets.

Recognizing scenarios where fraud may be committed can help men and women protect their elderly relatives from being victimized by elder fraud.

- Confirm professionals are who they say they are. More than 170 designations and certifications are used within the financial industry to identify professionals. Some of them do not necessarily mean a person is qualified or can be trusted to handle an individual’s assets.

Always ask a financial advisor if he is overseen by a government agency or is authorized to provide advice under the “fiduciary standard of care.” Be especially careful when dealing with professionals who try to push certain products or those who suggest shortcuts and blending services. Such professionals are not necessarily criminals, but they may have ulterior motives in mind and not be overtly concerned about you or your loved one’s financial well-being.

- Pay attention to your accounts. Unusually large withdrawals from automated teller machines or cashed checks with signatures that do not match the signature on the account are both indicative of fraud. If you are monitoring a loved one’s accounts, question any surges of activity in accounts that are normally somewhat inactive.

- Ask a loved one to keep you abreast of changes in their will. Abrupt changes in a will or other financial documents should also cause concern. Family members caring for a senior should be aware of any major changes to important documents.

- Monitor a loved one’s purchases. Suddenly purchasing, whether it’s an updated insurance policy or unnecessary home repairs, may be indicative of elder fraud.

Elder financial fraud targets an often vulnerable segment of the population, and it’s often up to loved ones to protect their elderly relatives from being victimized by such crimes.
ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
Events could inspire adventurous Llamas looking to make a major career or personal move. But as always, get all the facts before rushing into any sort of deal or commitment.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
What seems to be a great opportunity could cause even usually practical Taureans to ignore their inner caution cues. Best to move carefully to avoid falling into un- seen traps.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Need a holiday now that the seasonal festivities are behind you? Good idea. Plan to go somewhere wonderful. You’ll return refreshed and more than ready for a new challenge.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Progress continues to be made on that pesky weekly problem. Meanwhile, don’t assume a personal situation will work itself out. Best to get more involved earlier than later.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)
Catnaps are definitely recommended for Leos and Leenas who had been going at a hectic pace over the holidays. Adding relaxation to your schedule helps restore your overdrawn energy reserves.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Sure, some of the new friends you made over the holidays might move out of your life at some point. But at least one might show significant “staying power” with some encouragement.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Encourage family members to join you in supporting a relative who could be facing a difficult emotional challenge in the New Year. Showing your love and concern helps keep his or her hopes up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
While a long-deferred decision suddenly might take on some urgency after news on a related matter, you still need to weigh all factors carefully before deciding one way or the other.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
This is a good time to reassess the earlier plan you made for the New Year. Some elements you felt you could depend on to make it work might no longer carry that assurance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Forming a renewed connection with a former associate is only the first step toward working out your new plans. Be prepared for problems, and deal with them as soon as they arise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
A romantic situation that was going smoothly not too long ago might take a new turn. Be honest about your feelings before you decide whether to follow it or take another path.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)
The wise Pisces (that’s you, of course) will make sure everyone knows you plan to keep your options open and listen to all sides of the situation before making any decisions.
TRIVIA

**BASEBALL**

Q: What stadium was once named Weeghman Park?

A: It was renamed Wrigley Field.

HOLLY GIRLS LOSE DEFERENTIAL CONTEST VS. LAKELAND

Lakeland broke an 11-11 halftime tie with an 82-edge in the third quarter, eventually resulting in the Bronchos’ 30-22 non-league loss to Lakeland on Monday.

It was a defensive game all night. The only time either team scored double-digits in a quarter was in the fourth when Lakeland scored 11. The Bronchos (3-2) led 8-5 after one quarter, but scored only five points in the middle two periods.

Kaitlyn Smith led Holly with seven points, while Brooke Jackman had five points and a team-high six rebounds. Paige Reid added five points and five rebounds.

LINDEN FRESHMEN BOYS BASKETBALL REMAINS PERFECT

The Linden freshman boys basketball team remained undefeated, beating Owosso 37-35 on Monday.

Nick Koon led Linden with 10 points, while Cabrin Sines, Noah Giacomantoni and Zach Horst had eight points each.

THORNTON LEADS OUR TEAM

Linden senior did a little bit of everything for Eagles

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

It was hard to know what to expect out of the Linden varsity boys soccer team this fall.

The team had 10 of 12 starters graduate from the previous season. During that year the Eagles won the Metro League, captured a district title and spent part of the season ranked No. 1 in Division 2.

Asking the team to match those numbers in the fall of 2014 with just two starters coming back seemed a bit much.

But guess what? The Eagles surpassed what they did in 2013, and Ben Thornton was a big reason why it happened. The senior made the move from a defensive position to play more in the midfield in 2014, and all it did was make the Eagles as good as ever.

The Eagles defended their Metro League crown, and capped the season with a district crown and a trip to a regional title game. Once again, the Eagles spent a small part of the season ranked No. 1 in Division 2, capping the season with a 20-3-1 record overall. And according to Linden coach Kevin Feibernitz, Thornton was one of the major reasons the success happened. It helped him edge out fellow senior teammate Kevin Wright for the Tri-County’s 2014 Boys Soccer Player of the Year honors.

“The heart and soul of our team was Ben Thornton,” Feibernitz said. “He brings a lot of tenacity. That’s a word I use a lot to describe him. He comes in and leaves everything out on the field. You can never question him as far as bringing it. Even if things are not going well for the team, he’s always bringing it. He’s always playing good.”

EAGLES PROGRESSING, GO 4-1 AT ADRIAN

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tricitytimes.com

The Linden varsity wrestling team is young. But, the Eagles are still enjoying some success.

Linden had a strong 4-1 record at the Adrian Duals.

The squad defeated Jackson 36-31, Romulus Summit Academy 72-9, Farmington 50-27 and host Adrian 54-27. The squad’s only loss was against Salem, a 45-34 verdict. Linden left the tourney in second place.

“We are (off to a solid start),” Linden coach Todd Skinner said. “But right now we are plagued with a few injuries and the sophomores and freshmen are carrying the load which is a lot of pressure for them. I wish we had more experience, but when you start one senior and one junior, I’ll take how we are performing.”

The Eagles had three wrestlers finish with 5-0 records. They were Luke Zimmerman (112), Cade Dickson (160) and Austin McNeill (215). Others who went undefeated were Dawson Blank (140/145), who went 3-0; and Jaylin Matney (140/145), who went 2-0. Three others went 4-1 at the team tourney.
THORNTON
Continued from Page 16
Thornton admits he’s a little surprised how well his senior year went at Linden.
“Going into the year I thought it would be a rebuilding year. I didn’t ex-
pect us to be in the same place as last year,” Thornton said. “We lost 12 play-
ers from the year before and I thought we had too many freshmen and sopho-
more. We had more of those guys than juniors and seniors. It just looked like it
was going to be a rebuilding year.
Thornton is naturally a defensive player. He plays defense on his travel
team, the Michigan Wolves, and has been a standout defender for the Eagles
as well. However, in 2014 he was asked to change his role to help the team thrive.
“He was our anchor at center-back for our defense last year,” Fiebert said.
“We needed somebody who could win balls in the air and still come back de-
fensively. Ben was able to do that. he provided leadership.”
Thornton played in the midfield which meant he was being asked to con-
sistently create scoring chances during open play for the first time in his Linden
varsity soccer career. He responded ex-
remely well, scoring 14 goals. He also
dished off 17 assists.
“It was really fun because for my travel
team all I do is play defense,” Thornton
said. “It’s fun to play different positions.
You get the ball more in the midfield and have more opportunities to score.”
A little help from
Thornton’s siblings
He also helped make the Eagles strong with 50-50 balls in the midfield. Thom-
ton is never shy trying to win a header or
with putting his body in the middle of a
physical confrontation for the good of the
team. He said having two older siblings
— Joe and Samantha — helped him learn
how to be a physical player. Joe is cur-
rently in the Air Force, while his older
sister, Samantha, has played the last
two years at Slippery Rock Univer-
sity. So being challenged is nothing
to Ben.
“Oh yeah, we’d be in the back-
yard almost every day playing
keepaway,” Thornton said. “We
had a goal in the backyard and
we’d play one-on-ones. When
you have your brother and
sister pushing you out there,
you figure ways to get around
them and be more aggressive.
It was a lot of fun.”
And now it looks like Thornton
is going to follow the footsteps created
by his sister. He’s going to play Division
I soccer with Indiana Purdue Indiana
University. Thornton was looking at
Saginaw Valley State, Oakland Univer-
sity and Detroit Mercy as well.
“I saw all the schools and I thought
IUPUI fit well,” Thornton said. “They
also had the major I am going into
(Civil Engineering).”
Thornton is excited to contin-
ue his career.
“It’s great knowing all the hard
work paid off and has gotten me to the next level,”
Thornton said. “I’m excited to see what happens.”
If his prep career is any in-
dication, it’s going to be a great four years there as well.

EAGLES
Continued from Page 16
They were Patrick Kerr (140), Avery
Jacob (145) and Aaron Steedman (171). Justin
Cygmar (103), and Koloten Straus
(119) went 3-2.
The Eagles (9-3) begin Metro play on
Wednesday when Linden hosts defend-
ing Metro League champions Brandon
and Flushing.
“Wednesday is a critical night as we host
Brandon and Flushing, which will not be a
cakewalk,” Skinner said. “Our youth will
have to be ready to compete if we are going
to stay alive for the Metro (title).”
Lake Fenton at North Branch
Team Tournament
The Blue Devils went a perfect 3-0 with
victories against North Branch 54-28, Al-
mont 54-30 and Freeland 52-30. In
the championship round of the tourney
the Blue Devils lost a tight match to Cross
Lex 35-34 and then to Brandon 43-21.
Lake Fenton’s undefeated wrestlers
were A.J. Geyer, Hunter Corcoran, Tris-
ten Nevadomski and Trent Hilliger, each
going 5-0. Corcoran and Hilliger won all
five matches with first-round pins, while
Nevadomski defeated Division 2’s fourth-
ranked wrestler in the state by a 6-1 score.
“So far so good with our young team,”
Lake Fenton head coach Vance Corco-
ran said. “We won the 15-team Mayville
Tournament two weekends ago and now
we finished a strong third place at the
12- team North Branch tournament. My
younger kids are realizing the hard work
ethic it takes to compete at a high level in
high school. They continue to work hard
every single day. Only good things can happen
when you put forth the effort.”
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KENNEL ATTENDANT
needed day time hours. Apply in person between 3:30 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday, 2399 E. Hill Rd., Grand Blanc. 810-694-3669.

INSURANCE CSR
needed for Fenton insurance agency. Experience preferred but not required. Please send resume to jfarkowski@bnnich.com.

DENTAL ASSISTANT
with front desk experience preferred. Surgical experience a plus. 32 hours a week. Submit resume to 1100 Torrey Rd. Ste. 500, Fenton, MI 48430.

GENERAL LABOR -
Pfer Golf Cars seeks person for general labor. Please call 248-634-9444.

TERRY MATLOCK
SCHOOL OF
PERFORMING ARTS
is looking for full time infant teachers and teacher aids. Please apply in person at 1350 Grand Pointe Ct., Grand Blanc, MI 48439.

PART-TIME
for dance studio in Fenton. Will be answering phone calls, scheduling lessons, and taking payments. Computer experience and evenings required. Great opportunity for college students.

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

ARGENTINE CARE CENTER, INC.
9051 Silver Lake Rd., Linden, MI 48451 Phone: (810) 735-9487 Fax: (810) 735-9605.

DIRECT CARE
full-time position, day shift open in Davison. Must Be MDOT trained. Good pay and benefits. Call 248-634-5122.

WANTED SALESPERSON:
To sell utility and cargo trailers. Fenton/Hartland area. Must be dependable with good communication skills. Casual work environment, will train. Call 810-750-5971.

PRINTSITES is currently seeking an experienced Customer/Help Desk Support Representative to work in our fast paced Contact Center. Job requirements include: Outstanding communication (written and verbal) skills. Ability to work within a team environment. Ability to multi-task. Type 60 wpm. Computer experience necessary. Preferred experience in customer service, retail or sales. Full time, Monday-Friday, occasional weekends. Paid holidays, and vacations. Day, Evening and Split Shifts available. Benefits and 401K eligibility after 90 days. Email: career@printsites.com.

EXPERIENCED INDIVIDUAL
with proven writing skills for part-time reporting position. Reporting duties would include some local government meetings, as well as events in the Fenton area. Photo journalism skills a plus. This position is part time with compensation based on experience. Qualified candidates can email resume and newspaper writing samples to news@tctimes.com.

TEMPORARY FARM LABOR:
James Martin Farms, LLC, Enterprise, AL, has 2 positions for grain and oilseed crops. 3 months experience required for job duties listed: must be able to lift 75 pounds; must be able to obtain driver’s license within 30 days; once hired, workers may be required to take random drug tests at no cost to worker; testing positive or failure to comply may result in immediate termination from employment. Tools, equipment, housing and daily transportation provided for employees who can’t return home daily; transportation and subsistence expenses reimbursement. $10 hour, may work nights and weekends; three-fourths work period guaranteed from 2/15/15-12/1/15. Apply at new MI Workforce Office with Job Order #1517255 or call 269-657-1014.

SIGN UP for Text blasts to receive local real estate listings — Text realestate to 810-475-2030.

BRAND NEW HOMES

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1998 CHEVROLET PRIZM
4 door, good condition, 140,000 miles, 5 speed, new clutch, $1,700. Call 810-922-6553.

CARETIEL INNS OF LINDEN is looking for
CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANTS
to be part of our long-term care facility. We currently have opportunities available for all shifts Full Time and Part Time.

If you are passionate about providing care and assistance to the elderly, our facilities provide a beautiful environment in which to work.

This position is responsible for assisting residents with the activities of daily living.

If you would like to be part of an elite direct care giving team please apply in person at: 202 S Bridge St, Linden or email resume to hcaretelindem@gmail.com.

GUEST ASSISTANTS
for our New Assisted Living Unit NOW OPEN! We have IMMEDIATE OPENINGS available for all shifts part time.

Responsibilities include providing daily personal care, meal service, light housekeeping, and social interaction.

If you would like to be part of an elite direct care giving team please apply in person at: 202 S Bridge St, Linden or email resume to hcaretelindem@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED
Dental Assistant - Pfer Golf Cars

Contact us at 248-634-9444.

Kitchen Attendant - Fenton

Contact us at 810-750-1547.

Insurance CSR - Argentine Care Center

Contact us at 810-735-9487.

Direct Care - Davison

Contact us at 248-634-5122.

Wanted Salesperson - Argentine Care Center

Contact us at 810-750-5971.

Public Welcome!

Holistic Fair at Fenton Moose! Saturday, January 10, 2015

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PURCHASE

9051 Silver Lake Rd., Linden, MI 48451 Phone: (810) 735-9487 Fax: (810) 735-9605.

DIRECT CARE
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WANTED SALESPERSON:
To sell utility and cargo trailers. Fenton/Hartland area. Must be dependable with good communication skills. Casual work environment, will train. Call 810-750-5971.
Obituaries, Funeral Services and Memorials

**June M. Morgan, June M. Morgan -- of Fenton, age 89, passed away Saturday, January 3, 2015 at her residence. Private service will be held. Burial in Crestwood Cemetery. Surviving are daughters, Rae Ann and husband James Spencer, Pat and husband Doug MacLean and Sandi and husband Willie Herndon; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren; and brother, Tom Meyers. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Maggie; gardening; and talking to people. Surviving are his wife, Marianne; military honors and burial will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Visitation will be from 9:30 AM until the time of service on Thursday, Mr. Kjetlien was born in Rugby, ND on July 15, 1938, the son of Olaf and Alta (Hall) Kjetlien. He was a US Army veteran and was retired from UPS after 28 years of service. He loved his grandchildren, his dog, Maggie; gardening; and talking to people. Surviving are his wife, Marianne; 2 daughters, Stephanie (Bill) Seavey of Fenton and Kylee Kjetlien of Fenton; and 2 grandchildren, Megan and Jacob Seavey. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Lorraine Belcourt. Memorial donations may be made to the Eastern Michigan Food Bank of Flint. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.**

**Howard C. Kjetlien 1938-2015**

Howard C. Kjetlien -- age 76, of Holly, died Monday, January 5, 2015. Funeral services will be held at 12 noon Thursday, January 8, 2015 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly, with Rev. Sharilyn Gates officiating. Military honors and burial will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Visitation will be from 9:30 AM until the time of service on Thursday. Mr. Kjetlien was born in Rugby, ND on July 15, 1938, the son of Olaf and Alta (Hall) Kjetlien. He was a US Army veteran and was retired from UPS after 28 years of service. He loved his grandchildren, his dog, Maggie; gardening; and talking to people. Surviving are his wife, Marianne; military honors and burial will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Visitation will be from 9:30 AM until the time of service on Thursday, Mr. Kjetlien was born in Rugby, ND on July 15, 1938, the son of Olaf and Alta (Hall) Kjetlien. He was a US Army veteran and was retired from UPS after 28 years of service. He loved his grandchildren, his dog, Maggie; gardening; and talking to people. Surviving are his wife, Marianne; 2 daughters, Stephanie (Bill) Seavey of Fenton and Kylee Kjetlien of Fenton; and 2 grandchildren, Megan and Jacob Seavey. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Lorraine Belcourt. Memorial donations may be made to the Eastern Michigan Food Bank of Flint. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

**FUNERAL ETIQUETTE**

What should I say to the bereaved? Using your own words, express your sympathy. A kind word about the person who has died is always appropriate. If the family wants to talk, they usually simply need to express their feelings; they aren’t necessarily looking for a response from you. The kindest response is usually a warm hug and to simply say, “I understand”. While you don’t want to offer only clichés, there are some commonly used expressions that you can rely on if you don’t know what to say. You want to keep your remarks simple, direct and honest.

Source: thefuneralsource.org

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**Obituary Ad**

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**PLANNING COMMISSION CITY OF FENTON GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2015**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Fenton Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, on Thursday, January 22, 2015 for the purpose of considering miscellaneous text amendments to Article 22, Signs, including the following highlighted Sections. Section 22.04(c), General Standards for Permitted Signs: wording requiring that new box sign panels with a white or tan background be blackened internally so only the letters show when illuminated.

Section 22.05, Specific Sign Standards, footnote (c), Changeable message signs: These amendments will eliminate changeable message wall signs in any commercial or industrial district and all changeable message signs in the CBD, Central Business District, while allowing them for institutional uses in residential districts with Planning Commission approval.

Section 22.05(c), Projecting and Canopy Signs: Wording clarification and a reduction in the size of projecting signs from 32 to 16 square feet in area.

Section 22.08, Changes to Permitted Signs. This is an added Section that requires a new sign permit for physical, structural and electrical changes to an existing permitted sign.

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

A copy of the zoning ordinance amendments is available for public inspection at the City of Fenton offices, 301 South Leroy Street, during regular business hours. Written comments concerning the project may be submitted at the above address prior to the hearing and will be made part of the official record. The minutes of all meetings are available at the City Clerk’s office.

Comments and questions may be directed to the City of Fenton Protective Inspections Department at 810-629-2261.

PLEASE CONTACT THE FENTON CITY CLERK’S OFFICE IF ANY ACCOMMODATIONS ARE NEEDED DUE TO A DISABILITY.
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