

“The driver tried to stop, but it was too late.”

Chris Swanson  
Genesee County  
undersheriff

## Linden woman remains in critical condition

► Struck by teen driver as she walks onto North Fenton Road Friday night

By Sharon Stone  
sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786  
A 52-year-old Linden woman remains in critical condition at Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township after a car

struck her Friday evening in Fenton Township. Genesee County Undersheriff Chris Swanson said that sheriff's paramedics and the Fenton Township Fire De-

partment responded to North Fenton Road near the Sagebrush Cantina restaurant for a personal injury pedestrian accident.

See **CRITICAL** on 9

### Summary

► A Linden woman who was struck by a car Friday night in Fenton Township remains in critical condition at Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township.

PAGE 3  
**POLICE CHIEF  
URGES CAUTION  
ON AREA RAMPS  
KNOWN FOR  
SPIN-OUTS,  
ROLLOVERS**



# Midweek Times

\$1.00

VOL. 22 NO. 1

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015

2012 - 2013 - 2014 **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**



Soon, three or more counties in Michigan will be able to test welfare recipients for drug use if they are suspected of abusing drugs.

## Drug tests for some welfare recipients to start

► State will run one-year pilot program to combat drug use at taxpayers' expense

By Yvonne Stegall  
ystegall@tctimes.com

Gov. Rick Snyder recently signed legislation that has many cheering him on, while others are seeing it as an attack on the poor. This legislation, formerly House Bill 4118 and Senate Bill 275, creates a suspicion-based drug-testing program for adult welfare recipients.

This will initially be a one-year pilot program that will be used in a minimum of three counties. The specific counties have not been announced yet, as of this publication.

See **WELFARE** on 5

## It's all downhill from here



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Friday was the busiest time yet at Mt. Holly Ski Resort in Groveland Township. Here, skiers and snowboarders fly down the "Snow White" mogul area, and ride the ropes back up. Approximately 700 visit on busier days like this, with about 3,000 over the course of the weekend. Colder temperatures and increased snow should increase attendance this weekend.

## Fenton does not want to 'rush' decision

► City will vote to continue to extend medical marijuana moratorium

By Ryan Tackabury  
news@tctimes.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

“This didn't get brought up yesterday. We have to eventually take some kind of action.”

Les Bland, Fenton city councilman

## Nevermind sex

► Talk to your kids first about money, debt, savings accounts to help them have a brighter future

By Sally Rummel  
news@tctimes.com

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

Even today, parents often shelter their kids

### Summary

► Young people today have their own unique financial challenges that can be met with strong money management skills.

See **SEX** on 9

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**TEXT  
YOUR  
HOT LINE**



“The difference between FOX and NBC is that at least FOX presents all the news, not just the news that favors conservatism. NBC chose to ignore the history-changing videos of Jonathon Gruber trashing Obamacare and mocking Americans.”



“How can any gift certificate be sold as 'void after one year.' It was paid for, and it's a better deal for the merchant the longer you hold onto it. That seems like a bit of a rip-off to me. Can some merchant reply with a logical explanation?”



tctimes.com  
**COMMENT  
OF THE WEEK**

“Count me in for a 'no' vote on the sales tax increase. Clever of our do-nothing politicians to get us to do their work. Where is the part-time legislature petition? I'll sign it today.”



## New bill to reign in excessive FOIA fees

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

By Tim Jagielo

tjagiolo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

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 you “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**

## Dog’s fall through ice has happy ending

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

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

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.

We don’t know how it happened.”

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, when 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.”

**“Honestly, without those firemen, I don’t know if he (Buddy) would’ve gotten out.”**

**Amanda Braithwaite**

Owner of Buddy, an 8-year-old golden retriever



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mike Felker holds Buddy, the 8-year-old golden retriever that treaded water for 30 minutes after getting off his lead line and falling through ice.

## 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.

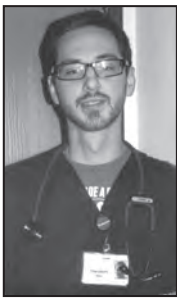
“Owners of dogs left outside in the cold with no shelter are committing a misdemeanor, if it is shown that treatment has risen to a level of abuse or cruelty,” said Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro. “We do get calls reporting abuse like this from time to time.”

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.”

### Academic Achievements

We are pleased to announce the graduation of  
*Theodore S. Nagy RN*



from Mott Community College with an Associates of Nursing RN  
Wednesday, October 15th, 2014. Theodore is a 2004 graduate of Lake Fenton High School.

*Love, Mom & Dad*



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# Times News & Features

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

► Fenton area home to many dangerous exit/entrance ramps on U.S. 23

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.

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

See **CAUTION** on 6

**“Any change in direction or speed can cause you to lose control.”**

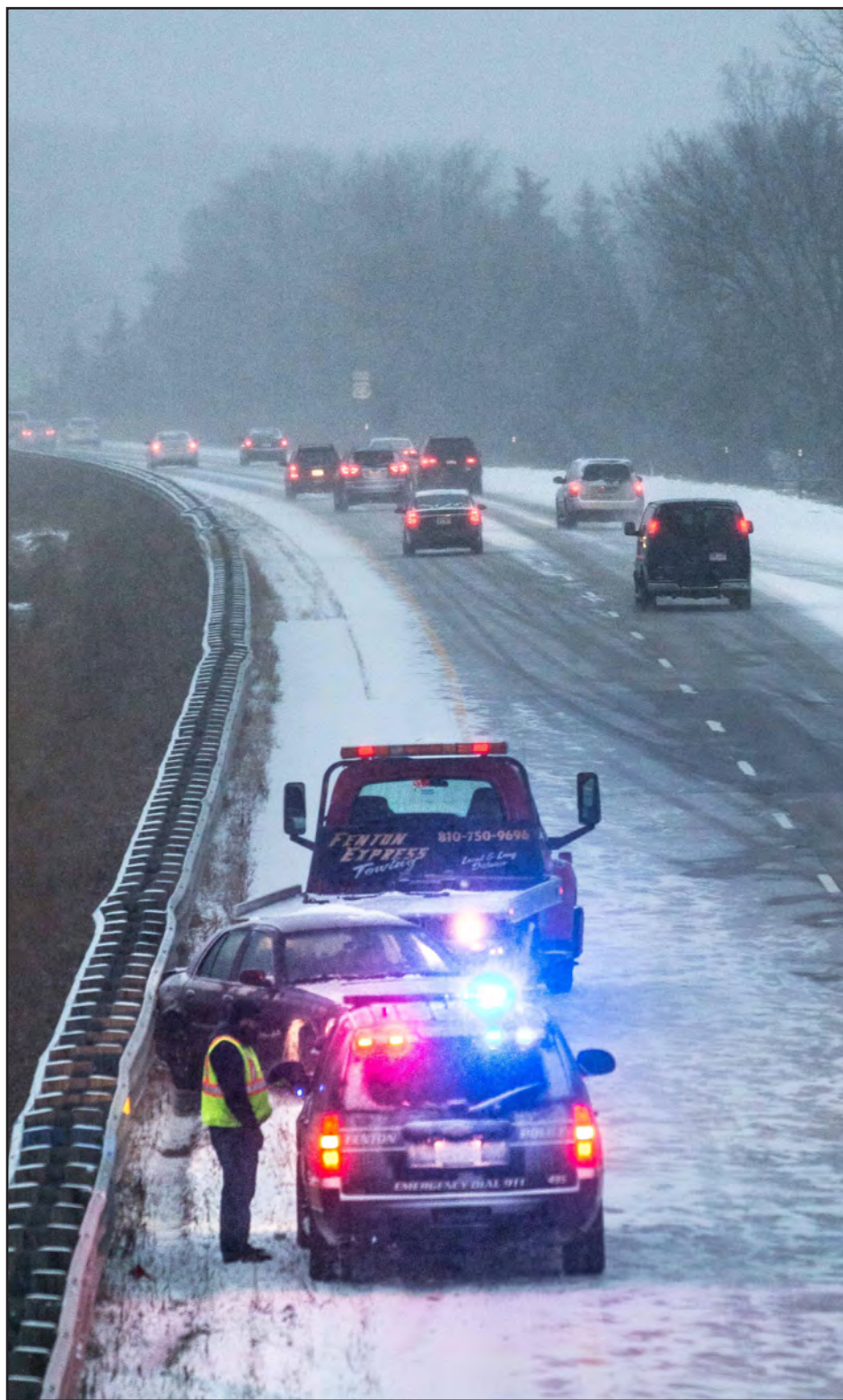
**Rick Aro**

*Fenton police chief*



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

A late November crash claimed the life of an Indiana man, during a brief bout of wintry road conditions.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

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



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The Tri-County Times (USPS 018-092) is published weekly (with exceptions) by Rockman Communications, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Periodical postage paid at Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699 and other post offices. Subscription Rate: 47.00 per year. No non-member subscribers. Postmaster: Send address changes to Tri-County Times, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699.

#### HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: ..... 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Friday: ..... 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
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| Circulation ..... 810-433-6797    | Website ..... tctimes.com    |



## FROM THE LEFT



Clarence Page

Nationally syndicated  
**columnist****'Selma': a film worth arguing about**

It is no crushing insult to 'Selma' that experts 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 Southern 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 affairs 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 '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-wheel 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 a .gov site when they 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

**Hot lines**

Submit at: tctimes.com,  
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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.

shuttering of Fox News on Dish! It's an excellent way to silence your political enemies. Who else would want to shut down Fox News?

**KUDOS TO JOE** Graves for sticking to his values and not raising taxes to fix the roads. After all, doing nothing seems to be working for unemployment.

**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 ago. 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 shows 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, caring, 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.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

## FROM THE RIGHT

Cal Thomas

Nationally syndicated  
**columnist****Mayor Cuomo — rhetoric and record**

How precious in the sight 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 resembles floor wax — all shine and no depth. In his Democratic convention speech, Cuomo referenced Ronald Reagan's line about America being a 'shining 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. After Democrats Roosevelt, 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 Cooper 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 themselves and improve their lives. Otherwise, it's nothing more than floor wax.

May Gov. Cuomo rest in peace.

**THE BEST PRICING AROUND**

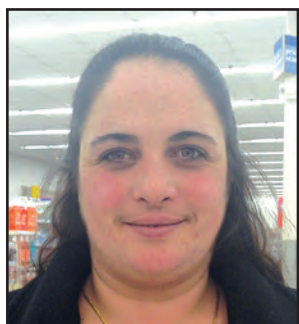
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Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

**What is your can't-miss TV show?****streettalk**

"My can't miss show is 'General Hospital.' I have been watching this show for 20 years now."

— Tanya Graff  
Antrim Township



"The TV show 'Survivor,' because I enjoy the game."

— Jenifer Littrell  
Holly



"I can't miss the show 'Scandal.' It is believable, it could happen, or it could be happening."

— Dawn Simons  
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



# 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 munici-

palities to assist homeowners in undertaking energy efficiency improvements that may be impractical without a source of low-cost financing. Energy savings could lower expenses for homeowners and utilities.

## Affidavit of parentage

Things will be a little bit easier now for people having babies. PA 409 allows an affidavit of parentage to be signed by a witness, not a notary public. Since most affidavits are signed in hospitals, where it is not common to have a notary on staff, this bill is part of a package of bills Snyder signed on Dec. 17, aimed to streamline provisions related to child support and paternity in Michigan.

## Firearms laws

Snyder vetoed a pair of bills because companion legislation was not approved in both chambers. He vetoed HB 5091, which addresses brandishing a firearm. In his veto letter, Snyder wrote that the bill was part of comprehensive legislative package addressing the application of firearms laws to pneumatic guns. Because not all parts of the package were enrolled at the end of the session, a veto was necessary to avoid a situation that would be confusing for both law enforcement and gun owners.

## Calhoun County properties

He also vetoed SB 1056. In his veto letter, Snyder wrote that 1056 is "a good bill that would clear up some newly-discovered title defects for certain properties in

See **GOVERNOR** on 6

## WELFARE

Continued from Front Page

The program, which will begin in October of this year, will test welfare recipients or applicants who are suspected of using drugs. If someone tests positive for drugs they will be referred to a treatment program. Benefits would be terminated for at least six months if someone refused to take the test or if they failed a second test.

Right now, the legislation only applies to those in or applying for The Family Independence Program, which provides temporary cash assistance to families with children and pregnant women. Some believe that this cash is being used to pay for drugs, rather than to help them pay for living expenses like those that it is intended.

State Rep. Joe Graves, (R-District 51), issued this statement, "The Michigan welfare program is designed to help residents get back to work —

it's a hand up, not a handout. This is a common-sense change to ensure Michigan's welfare dollars are going to the people who truly need it. Every welfare dollar blown on drugs undermines and endangers the program for those who are sincerely in need.

"This pilot drug-testing program will provide a screening process

**“This pilot drug-testing program will provide a screening process to identify users who are abusing drugs and defrauding Michigan’s taxpayer-funded welfare program.”**

Rep. Joe Graves, R-District 51

to identify users who are abusing drugs and defrauding Michigan's taxpayer-funded welfare program."

This isn't the first time Michigan has attempted a similar program. In 1999, the state implemented a program that allowed for randomly testing people

on welfare, but the courts ruled the program was unconstitutional, that it was an unreasonable search.

With this plan, Michigan's Department of Human Services will not be allowed to test people at random, but instead they will have to have a reasonable suspicion that someone is abusing drugs.

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## Police&amp;Fire

## report

**MEDICINE STOLEN  
FROM MAILBOX**

On Jan. 5, a 72-year-old Fenton man reported to Fenton police that some of his mail had been stolen from a community mailbox setup on Whisperwood Trail. The man said his wife's mail-order medication never arrived. A neighbor told him that mail of other residents was also missing from their mailboxes. Tracking the medicine delivery, the Fenton man learned that the medicine was delivered on Dec. 27. The post office was also advised of the theft.

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**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](http://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 relicensure 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 market, 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 cleanup 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](http://michigan.gov/snyder)



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the  
**judge****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 legislative sessions and 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 include 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.

**CAUTION**

Continued from Page 3

result in loss of control.

"Part of it is education, and experience," said Aro. Drivers need to remember to "let up on the gas and don't hit the brakes."

"Any change in direction or speed can cause you to lose control," he said.

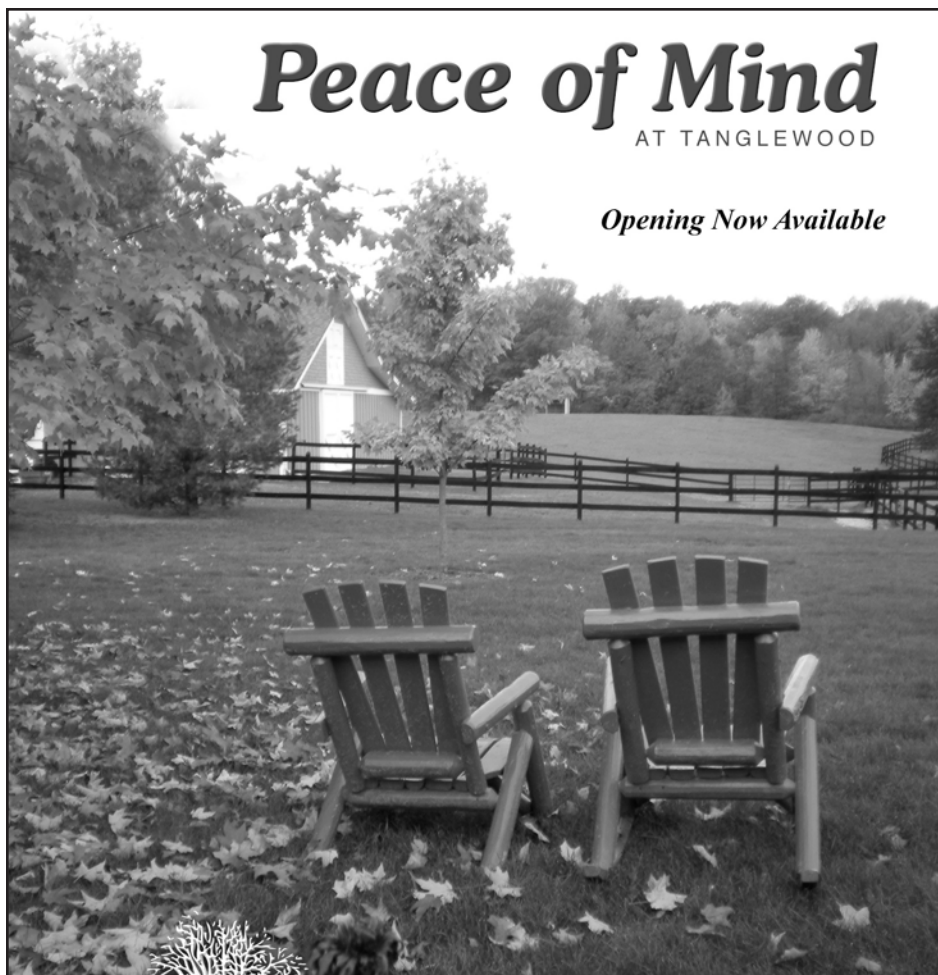
According to Lt. Michael Shaw of the Michigan State Police-Metro Post, troopers handled 67 traffic crashes from 8 p.m. Jan. 4 to 10 a.m. on Jan. 5.

Before heading out, motorists might want to check out weather and traffic conditions by visiting [www.mdotnetpublic.state.mi.us/drive/](http://www.mdotnetpublic.state.mi.us/drive/).

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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; 810-433-6792

A family in Flushing received their Nielsen Rating packets in the mail in late November. They didn't ask 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 Kryza 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 Kryza, 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 began, 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.

**“We were just sitting around doing nothing, so we figured it would be no big deal to do it.”**

**Mike Kryza**  
Nielsen Rating family

## FOIA

Continued from Page 2

legal fees the township paid when determining what they could hand over to Hoffman.

The bill would ding public bodies \$1,000 for "arbitrarily and capriciously" violating the act by charging an unreasonable fee.

It revamps an appeal system for information denials and high fees. Governmental entities can expect a 20-percent reduction in fees for every day they are late handling a citizen request. Departments are supposed to handle a request within five business days.

Fenton Clerk Renee Wilson said the city has assessed \$700 in fees for the entire quarter, and has helped process less than 20 since she started a year and a half ago. Most departmental meeting information and summaries can be found online today, which reduces the amount of FOIA requests.

She said the most common request is building department items. For example,

someone interested in a piece of property can request a fire department inspection sheet.

For her department, a fee of \$23 an hour, plus 10-cents per copy is already assessed, which is in line with the bill. She said the main way departments will run into trouble, is if they are consistently late handling requests.

Wilson isn't worried about the new law, should it pass. She said the new department policy will be geared toward the bill.

**An excerpt from the bill accurately sums up the purpose of a FOIA request.**

Everyone except those currently incarcerated "are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those who represent them as public officials and public employees, consistent with this act. The people shall be informed so that they may fully participate in the democratic process."

## '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.

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## 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 prevention.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

**"I couldn't have told you how many calories were in a hamburger bun or a banana."**

Laura Legant

Who used a 1,200-calorie diet to lose 50 pounds



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Laura Legant of Holly lost 50 pounds in five months in 2013. She limited calories to 1,200 per day and focused on vegetables.

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. Prevention.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

**DIESEL IN GRAND** Blanc \$2.99, Fenton \$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.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

When skiers and 'boarders can see snow in their back yard, they head out to Mt. Holly. On Friday, the snow was manmade. Real snow arrived later that weekend, leading to a busy weekend.



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## 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 of 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 helps 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 their 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 20somethingfinance.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.

**“In my own personal experience, I was taught the importance of working hard and saving money at an early age by my parents.”**

**Chad Robinson**  
Edward Jones financial  
advisor in Linden

## 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 Fenton 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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Wednesday, January 7, 2015

10

# More to life... After 50!

## Ease into retirement

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

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.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 retire-

ment 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

**"Sit down with a qualified advisor and ask the tough questions. Make sure any financial products you buy are in your best interest, not your financial advisor's."**

Fred Hensler  
CEO, Blue Sapphire Investment Partners

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 every day 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

See **RETIREMENT** on 13

## 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), should not 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 do not 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.

See **SAVINGS** on 13

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# 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 also can 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 also can 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.



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the animal, so an  
appropriate match  
can be made.”**

**Jody Maddock**  
Adopt-a-Pet in Fenton

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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.

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Fitness walking and swimming are both excellent cardio exercises that can be enjoyed all year 'round, thanks to indoor programs at area schools.

## 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](http://slpr.net) or call (810) 714-2011. To call the pool office directly, call (810) 591-2622 or email [jhaney@slpr.net](mailto: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.

### RETIREMENT

Continued from Page 10

their monthly income by waiting until age 70, but the wisdom of that decision also depends on a person's life expectancy.

Negotiating a transition from full-time work to part-time work may help ease both the psychological aspect of retiring as well as the financial. Going from 60 hours a week to zero can be a very difficult transition for some people to make in retirement.

The big question every aspiring retiree should ask themselves is, "What am I retiring to?" Hopefully, the answer will include a transitional path to a meaningful and productive life.



**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](http://www.hartlandschools.us) for details or call Director Julie Hill at (810) 626-2282.

### SAVINGS

Continued from Page 10

#### • Don't underestimate spending.

You will need money in retirement, and it's best that you don't underestimate just how much you're going to need. No one wants to be stuck at home during retirement, when people typically want to enjoy themselves and the freedom that comes with retirement. Speak to a financial planner to develop a reasonable estimate of your living expenses when you plan to retire.

#### • Pay down or avoid debt while you can.

Retiring with debt is a big risk. Try to eliminate all of your debts before you retire and, once you have, focus your energy on growing your investments and/or saving money for retirement.

#### • Start early on retirement saving.

It's never too early to begin saving for retirement. Although few twenty-somethings are thinking about retirement, the earlier you begin to invest the more time you have to grow your money. Enroll in a retirement plan now so you have a larger nest egg when you reach retirement age.

## PLUG IN.



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## 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 financial 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 advisors 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 overly 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.** Sudden purchases, 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.



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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Answer in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

HOROSCOPES

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)**  
Events could inspire adventurous Lambs 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 unseen traps.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)**  
Need a holiday now that the seasonal festivities are behind you? Good idea. Plan to go someplace 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 workplace 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 Leonas who had been going at a hectic pace over the holidays. Adding relaxation time 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.

WEDNESDAY JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DIATS

LAMBY

SPLEET

LETTOU

A:



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

KING FEATURES

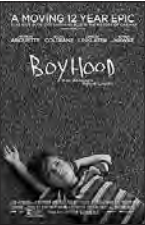
- ACROSS**
- 1 Birthright barterer
  - 5 Shade provider
  - 8 Agree
  - 12 Money
  - 13 "The Raven" writer
  - 14 Quite some time
  - 15 Desire for success
  - 17 Break suddenly
  - 18 Actors' lines
  - 19 Patterned cotton fabric
  - 21 Corn spike
  - 22 Skirt feature
  - 23 Klutzy sort
  - 26 Light touch
  - 28 Insinuating
  - 31 Old Italian bread
  - 33 Kitten's comment
  - 35 Quite some time
  - 36 Intoxicated
  - 38 Pitching stat
  - 40 Siesta
  - 41 Mid-month date
  - 43 Conclusion
  - 45 Electricity problem
  - 47 Begins
  - 51 Not "fer"

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- 52 Document with many signatures, maybe
- 54 Coin aperture
- 55 Ailing
- 56 Beige
- 57 Actress Daly
- 58 Hearty brew
- 59 Melody
- 6 of wit
- 7 Privy
- 8 Repairs
- 9 Flower used to flavor tea
- 10 Car starter
- 11 Throb
- 16 Frog's cousin
- 20 They (Fr.)
- 23 Antiquated
- 24 Football fill
- 25 Realization
- 27 Spelling contest
- 29 "CSI" evidence
- 30 Kreskin's skill
- 32 Slowish in music
- 34 Emulate
- 37 Small barrel
- 39 Con
- 42 Bygone photo hue
- 44 Goes out with
- 45 Brewery kiln
- 46 Unsightly
- 48 Puerto —
- 49 Ripped
- 50 Tightly fitting
- 53 Right angle

Answer in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

DVD RELEASES



88% liked it (Audience score on rottentomatoes.com)

**BOYHOOD**  
Filmed over 12 years with the

same cast, Boyhood is a groundbreaking story of growing up as seen through the eyes of a child named Mason (Ellar Coltrane), who literally grows up on screen before our eyes. Boyhood charts the rocky terrain of childhood like no other film has before. Snapshots of adolescence from road trips and family dinners to birth-days and graduations and all the moments in between become transcendent. Boyhood is both a nostalgic time capsule of the recent past and an ode to growing up and parenting.

R, 2 hr. 45 min



53% liked it (Audience score on rottentomatoes.com)

**LEFT BEHIND**  
The most important event in the

history of mankind is hap-pening right now. In the blink of an eye, the biblical Rapture strikes the world. Millions of people disappear without a trace. All that remains are their clothes and belongings, and in an instant, terror and chaos spread around the world. The vanishings cause unmanned vehicles to crash and burn. Planes fall from the sky. Emergency forces every-where are devastated. Grid-lock, riots and looting overrun the cities. There is no one to help or provide answers. In a moment, the entire planet is plunged into darkness.

PG-13, 1 hr. 50 min



**AUSTIN MCNEILL**  
Eagles' wrestler went a perfect 5-0 at the Adrian Team Tournament.



Did You Know?

► The first indoor bowl game was played on Dec. 19, 1964 at the Atlantic City Convention center.

## TRIVIA BASEBALL

**Q** What stadium was once named Weeghman Park?

**A** Weeghman Park opened in Chicago in 1914 for the Federal League's Chicago Whales. In 1927 it was renamed Wrigley Field.

## HOLLY GIRLS LOSE DEFENSIVE CONTEST VS. LAKELAND

Lakeland broke an 11-11 halftime tie with an 8-2 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 Koan led Linden with 10 points, while Cobrin Sines, Noah Giacomantonio 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@tctimes.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 mid-field 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 Fiebertz, 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," Fiebertz 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."

See THORNTON on 17

## ALL TRI-COUNTY BOYS SOCCER TEAM

### Player of the Year:

Ben Thornton

**Class:** Senior

**Team:** Linden

**Comment:** This was one of our toughest decisions for a Player of the Year. It was between Thornton and teammate Kevin Wright's goal production (33 goals). We chose Thornton based on his ability to score goals (14 goals), his ability to distribute the ball (17 assists) and his versatility. Thornton can dominate the midfield, score goals or sneak back to defense in the final minutes to preserve a one-goal lead. Thornton was a First-Team All-State performer.

### First team

Kevin Wright  
Logan Palmer  
Nolan McDonald  
Tyler Ziccardi  
Lucas Sammut  
Adam Gornick  
Jared Smith  
Cameron Davis  
Ben Huntley  
Derek Deighton

### School

Linden  
Fenton  
Linden  
Linden  
Holly  
Fenton  
Lake Fenton  
Linden  
Fenton  
Linden

### State awards

First Team  
Honorable Mention  
Honorable Mention

### Keeper

Lorenzo Rodriguez Holly

**Note:** Team is selected by our sports staff.



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | DAVID TROPPENS  
Linden's Koleton Strauss (top) went 3-2 at the Adrian Duals on Saturday.

## Eagles progressing, go 4-1 at Adrian

By David Troppens  
dtroppens@tctimes.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.

See EAGLES on 17

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## David's Dabblings

A few thoughts about the area's sports scene and some others not dealing with sports at all.



### LIONS LOST IT, NOT THE REFS

It seems it's the biggest penalty call that became a non-call in National Football League history.

By now, everyone has seen the play I'm talking about. It happened on Sunday with about 8:25 left in the fourth quarter of the Detroit Lions' playoff game against the Dallas Cowboys. The Lions led 20-17 and were facing a third-and-1 play. Lions' quarterback Matthew Stafford tried to throw a first-down pass to tight end Brandon Pettigrew. Cowboys' linebacker Anthony Hitchens defended the play by grabbing Pettigrew, face guarding him and then making contact before the underthrown ball hit Hitchens in the back for an incomplete pass.

Initially the call was pass interference, sending Cowboys' receiver Dez Bryant in a frantic froth. He illegally ran on the field without a helmet on and was never given a 15-yard penalty for the infraction. Then without any explanation the flag was disregarded and the Lions faced a fourth-and-1 play. The Lions punted and had a horrible 10-yard punt. From that point on, the Cowboys dominated the contest and captured a 24-20 NFC Wild Card victory.

The play and how the referees determined its outcome has been talked about not only by Lions' fans, but nationwide pretty much since it happened. Of course, Lions' fans feel their team was robbed, and many credit the play for the reason why the Lions weren't able to record their second playoff victory since winning the NFL Championship in 1957. I'm not one of those people.

Of course, how the officials call a game can make it harder or easier for a given team to win a contest. The Cowboys not getting one or both penalties on that third-and-1 play certainly didn't enhance the Lions' chances of beating the Cowboys in Dallas.

However, from that point on, it was the Lions' play that kept them from icing or winning the contest. A good punt could help the Lions' situation. Instead, they had a 10-yard punt, one of many times the special teams killed the Lions this year. The defense could've stopped Dallas from scoring the go-ahead touchdown. That didn't happen. And, finally, the Lions had one more chance to score a TD when they started with possession from their own 20 with just over two minutes left in the game and two time outs. Instead the Lions turned the ball over. And when the Cowboys gave it right back, the Lions failed to convert a fourth-down play, ending their chances.

I think, at the very least, a 15-yard unsportsmanlike call had to be given to Bryant. It would've given the Lions a first down and put them in good position to score again. However, the failed third down wasn't a death sentence for the Lions either. Instead, it was their play, actions they controlled themselves, down the stretch that doomed Detroit. Even the play the pass interference happened would've easily been avoided if Stafford made a good throw instead of playing darts in a Dallas player's back.

The Lions have only themselves to fault for Sunday's loss. They controlled their destiny time and time again after the 'officiating blunder.' However, it was their own blunders that have the Lions packing their bags for home, and have the Cowboys preparing for a game against Green Bay. It's that simple.

## 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 expect us to be in the same place as last year," Thornton said. "We lost 12 players from the year before and I thought we had too many freshmen and sophomores. 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," Fiebernitz said. "We needed somebody who could win balls in the air and still come back defensively. Ben was able to do that. he provided leadership."

Thornton played in the midfield which meant he was being asked to consistently create scoring chances during open play for the first time in his Linden varsity soccer career. He responded extremely 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. Thornton 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 currently in the Air Force, while his older sister, Samantha, has played the last two years at Slippery Rock University. So being challenged is nothing new to Ben.

"Oh yeah, we'd be in the backyard 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 1 soccer with Indiana Purdue Indiana University. Thornton was looking at Saginaw Valley State, Oakland University 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 continue 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 indication, it's going to be a great four years there as well.



**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** | MARK BOLEN  
Linden's Ben Thornton celebrates after scoring a goal this fall. Thornton is our 2014 Tri-County Boys Soccer Player of the Year.

## EAGLES

Continued from Page 16

They were Patrick Kerr (140), Avery Jacob (145) and Aaron Steedman (171). Justin Cygnar (103), and Koleton Strauss (119) went 3-2.

The Eagles (9-3) begin Metro play on Wednesday when Linden hosts defending 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 54-25, Almont 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, Tristen Nevadomski and Trent Hillger, each going 5-0. Corcoran and Hillger 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 Corcoran 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 tourney. 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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## Obituaries, Funeral Services and Memoriams



### 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 husband, Raymond E. in 2003. **Your condolences may be shared with the family at [swartzfuneral-homeinc.com](http://swartzfuneral-homeinc.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. Sharlyn 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; 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 Belcort. Memorial donations may be made to the Eastern Michigan Food Bank of Flint. **[www.dryer-funeralhomeholly.com](http://www.dryer-funeralhomeholly.com).**

## FUNERAL ETIQUETTE

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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](http://thefuneralsource.org)



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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  
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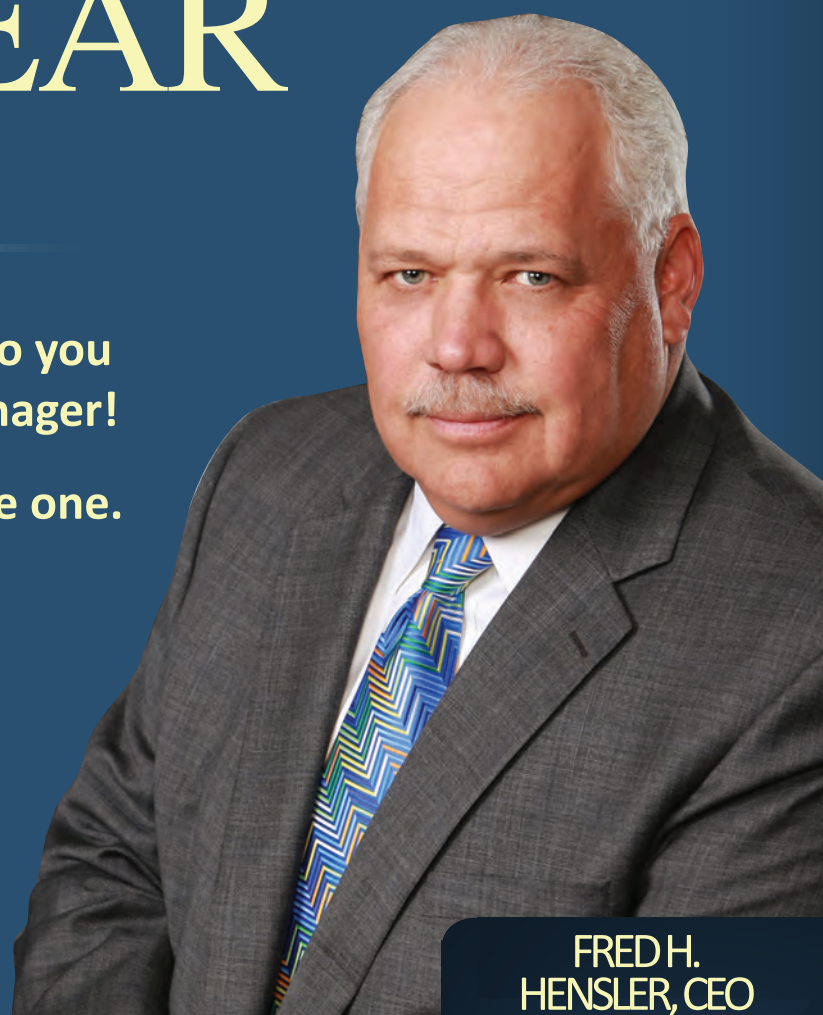


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