She's been to every restaurant in Genesee County

Cathy Roeper has walked through the doors of every restaurant in Fenton and Linden, but not as a paying customer. She's an environmental sanitarian, i.e., a restaurant inspector, for the Genesee County Health Department, Environmental Health Division. Her job takes her into about 140 different eating establishments twice a year in the city of Fenton, Fenton Township, city of Hartland, and the townships of Davison and Fenton. As a health inspector, her responsibility is consumer safety.

An in-depth look at Holly Area Schools

Biggest district at seven buildings, 124 square miles

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6785
Holly — Phil Godin, 12, tosses fish food into the 500-gallon tank in his first-period ecology class at Holly Middle School Wednesday morning.

The tilapia grab at the bits of food, dotting anyone near the tanks with water. "Smells like dog food," he said.

The tilapia are part of the impressive aquaponics system, with two brightly lit grow beds.

Holly Elementary second- and third-grade students enjoy their Jump Rope for Heart event Wednesday morning, which has raised about $20,000 over the past 10 years. Students in this class, taught by Jason McLaughlin, raised $1,879 for the American Heart Association this year.
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Lower interest rates a boon for home buyers

Families can save thousands with lower mortgage payments

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

With mortgage rates lower than they’ve been in 20 months, you now have more home buying power in your budget than you’ve had since May 2013. Before Christmas 2014, 30-year fixed mortgage rates were topping out at 4.25 percent. Today, rates have fallen to 3.65 percent.

Adding to the market excitement of lower rates is the lowering of the FHA mortgage insurance premium to .85 percent, down from 1.35 percent, announced Jan. 9 at President Obama’s State of the Union address. It went into affect on Monday, Jan. 26.

“This drop in rates is a great thing for people who want to buy or refinance,” said John Ottny of Star Mortgage in Fenton. “Not only can existing FHA buyers benefit by the dramatically lower interest rates, but also the cut in monthly mortgage insurance. A typical family could save up about $900 a year, and not many people know about it.”

Ottny added that the refinancing process has been streamlined, with no appraisal or upfront costs required. “You just submit it like a new closing, but it’s paid for by an interest rate credit,” he said.

The lowering of the FHA monthly mortgage insurance premium was geared toward spurring the market on to increase volume, according to Lori Rock, mortgage manager at Dort Federal Credit Union, with an office in Fenton Township. “Two years ago, the feds increased this premium based on loans, and the market for FHA loans closed up.”

Realtors are cautiously optimistic that these new rates will have a positive effect on local real estate transactions. “Lower interest rates are always great,” said John Wentworth of Re/Max Platinum. “No one knows how long we’ll have these rates, so take advantage of them. But don’t make that the sole reason you buy.”

“The more tools we have, the more we can sell,” said Michael Wagner, associate broker for Coldwell Banker Professionals in Fenton. “Anytime there’s a drop in rates and mortgage insurance, it creates more buying power. If a homebuyer was set on a particular budget, these new rates will help them purchase more of a home. If they were looking in the $120,000 range, they may now be able to step up to $130,000.”

Patrik Welty of Legacy Realty in Fenton sees the demand being already strong in the area for new home purchases. “Homebuyers are going to feel fortunate to be in the market when rates are low,” he said. “Where it makes a difference is how much you’re going to buy, not whether or not you’re going to buy. It will make a difference in the amount of money a buyer will qualify for.”

“It’s going to be phenomenal for buyers and sellers,” said John Tremaine of Tremaine Real Estate in Fenton. “One thing you can count on is change. Seize the day. These rates aren’t going to be around forever.”

Not all birds fly south for the winter

Bird watching is a favorite pastime for many, even during cold, snowy months

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

Anyone looking outside this time of year can easily see that not all birds migrate south for the winter. A few die-hard Michigander birds stick it out in the cold and snowy months.

Winter can be a little harder for birds when it comes to finding food, so you can help them out by having bird feeders in your yard and keeping them stocked. The birds that come to visit them will repay you with their beauty and whimsy.

Katy Hughes of Rose Township is a local bird watcher. She said “I’m an avid bird watcher. See BIRDS on 10A

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PHOTOS BY SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Common winter birds in Michigan and what they like to eat

See Page 10A
Thank you for your service

Despite, or maybe because of, negative commentary by Hollywood leftist sissies like Michael Moore, Seth Rogen and Bill Maher, American Sniper has been the top movie in America for the last two weeks. It will likely take in $300 million before it runs its course. I urge you to see it at your earliest opportunity. No movie that I've ever seen has done a better job of giving America a peek behind the curtain of modern war — and the soldiers who wage it — better than American Sniper.

Clint Eastwood has captured on film the tragedy that, for many soldiers, the war doesn't end just because they return to America — it's often just starting. The psychological struggles they face are something almost all civic leaders fail to even consider, much less grasp. I got the sense that for Chris Kyle, the sniper the movie was based on, the call to duty to protect his country and his fellow soldiers was so physically and psychologically powerful that in civilian life he felt like he was betraying them, despite his four tours of duty.

But, I digress. Here is why every adult should see this film. I believe the biggest failure to our returning troops is the lack of even a simple acknowledgement of their service by an indifferent citizenry. Battle-scared soldiers who watch the news after returning home quickly realize that no one cares about their sacrifice — it's simply not interesting to Americans. We are far more captivated by the latest details of the world's live of the celebrities who benefit the most from that freedom, yet who despise and disparage the soldiers who provide it. Sorry Sarge, but there's no news window left to educate Americans about the unpleasant business of fighting a war. We're too busy providing in-depth coverage of Miley, Merkel and Michael Moore.

In a couple of weeks millions of Americans will be glued to their TVs watching the Oscars, including the annual tearful and reverent tribute to celebrities who died over the last 12 months. I can't help but wonder what a soldier, who saw his friends die anonymously in a foreign country, feels sitting in front of the TV listening to glowing tributes of the 'accomplishments' of the likes of Robin Williams, a comedian who committed suicide, and Philip Seymour Hoffman, a junkie who overdosed on heroin. How do the families of the dead soldiers feel? Betrayed, bewildered and disgusted would be my guess.

May you Bestwood made a movie that is supposed to be a wake-up call to us. Maybe it's our call to duty.

I WONDER IF the 'king' was as vocal when Reagan was tripping (200 percent) the national debt, or when Bush was doubling (100 percent) it as he is now that the debt has gone up 75 percent under Obama. Let's hear it 'king'.

TIRED OF DAILY murders? Reinstall capital punishment. It won't stop senseless killings, but might cut by 50 percent or so.

I'M WONDERING HOW raising money for our government is going to help me. They're deep enough in our pocket already.

AT BASKETBALL PRACTICE, a player grabs a teammate and throws him to the floor so hard it breaks his shoulder bone in two. This boy gets a one-game suspension and the injured player is out for the season. I guess when it comes to sports there is no punishment.

JUDGES, ESPECIALLY the Supreme Court, absolutely have the right to overrule the will of the people. How do you think Jim Crow laws were overturned? Magic? Judges are highly educated on the constitution, and have a duty to strike down unjust laws.

I AM CONFUSED about the 'Bergdahl' Hot line, since the facts have not been released. Was this soldier worthless to you before or after he was released / traded? Were the donations, selling out the people to corporations will be responsible for the demise of the USA?

ALL YOU PEOPLE who keep calling in to complain about the president, do you think he has an easy job? Why don't you try it once and see how you would do.

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Who do you think will win the Super Bowl?

asked at Fenton High School

Seattle, because the Patriots are cheaters.

“Seattle, because I like Russell Wilson and Richard Sherman.”

“Patriots, because Tom Brady is from U of M and the best quarterback every year.”

“Seahawks, because I like how the team plays.”

“Seattle, because Mar-shawn Lynch is the best running back.”

“Seahawks, because I love their defense and I love the way they play.”
Donning a striped jailbird costume, Fenton Township resident and trustee Rob Kesler jumps into Lake Fenton for the 2014 Polar Plunge. Kesler is accompanied by his nephew Joey Riker.

**Don’t forget to take the plunge**

Moose Lodge’s ‘Polar Plunge’ is an icy splash, fundraiser for Special Olympics

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

The Fenton Polar Plunge will take place on Saturday, Feb. 7 at the Fenton Moose Lodge, 2245 Sonora Drive in Fenton Township.

For anyone who has attended this highly popular event, arriving early or parking at a friend’s home near the lodge can be helpful. In response to the many guests for this annual fundraiser, there will be a shuttle running from the Lake Fenton Middle School to the Moose Lodge throughout the event to leave room for safety vehicles to get through.

Registration will begin at 11 a.m. at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, located next door to the Moose Lodge. The parade of costumes will start at 1 p.m., with the plunge immediately following. The Awards and After Splash Bash will begin immediately following the last plunger, at the Fenton Moose Lodge.

Event organizer Pat Peters said the goal for this year is $60,000. “The state set their goal at $50,000, so it sets our higher because we brought in $62,000 last year.” If the goal is reached, Peters said he will be having her head shaved, on stage, before giving out the awards.

More than 170 jumpers have already registered. Peters said the dive team is always a wonderful help each year. “We always have an ambulance on hand, but we’ve never needed them,” she said. There is currently 12 to 14 inches of ice on the lake and the jump hole will be cut the morning of the jump. Michigan will be having 29 Polar Plunges this winter season. Polar Plunges are a Law Enforcement Torch Run (LET) event. LETR is one of the largest grassroots fundraisers for Special Olympics globally and the Polar Plunge helps to raise funds for more than 21,000 athletes who participate in Special Olympics Michigan.

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**Registration:** Lake Fenton High School Main Office
Tuesday evenings 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Beginning Wednesday December 2, 2015 or call to make a personal appointment at 810-591-9466

For more Information: lakefentonschools.org

**SECURITY EXPERT: Beware of Craigslist dangers**

Deal with local people at safe, public places

When Daniel Zeitz posted his Play Station 4 for sale on Craigslist, the young Georgia man had no idea what would befall him.

The 28-year-old was shot and killed last September while meeting a potential buyer in a parking lot of an apartment complex, allegedly by a 16-year-old girl who, along with her boyfriend, sought to steal the video gaming system.

Twenty-year-old Nathaniel Vivian and the teenage girl, whose name has not been released, met Zeitz at about 9:30 p.m. outside an apartment in Sandy Springs, Georgia. When Vivian tried to rob Zeitz of his PS4, a struggle ensued during which the girl fired a shot from a .25 caliber handgun that passed through Vivian’s hand and struck Zeitz in the chest, killing him, police say — all while her 16-month-old baby looked on.

Zeitz’s murder is part of a long string of crimes associated with Craigslist — from murder and theft to prostitution and kidnapping.

While buyers and sellers must enter the popular online marketplace at their own peril, security experts say certain precautions can be taken to ensure safe and lawful transactions.

“The biggest deal is to meet in a place that’s safe,” said Raymond Foster, a retired LAPD lieutenant who is an expert in police technology. “You’re essentially going on a blind date. There’s been no referral. I would pick a place I was very comfortable with.”

A Missouri father shielded his family from gunfire as they were robbed in July while trying to buy their teenage son his first car — a 2007 Hyundai Sonata — from an individual posing as a seller on Craigslist. Last February, federal authorities busted a ring of diamond thieves victimizing sellers across the country under the direction of a state prison inmate who was using Craigslist to set up “robberies by appointment,” according to the FBI.

“All traditional crime has migrated to the Internet — robbery is robbery.”

See CRAIGSLIST on 8A
Looking forward to trophy times

December and early January featured the annual college football bowl games, nearly all of them ending with trophy presentations. The last few weeks have brought trophies to deserving professional teams as they eliminated lesser squads. Now, all eyes are on the Super Bowl.

What makes a champion? A desire to win, natural talent, dedication, discipline and, in football lingo, a willingness to leave it all on the field. In other words, being willing to sell out for the cause, to hold nothing back, or to pay the price required to claim the trophy.

Sometimes the most exciting time in these championship games occurs during the final few minutes. There’s even a provision in the rules of football to help make this happen called ‘the two-minute warning’.

The two-minute warning often does wonders. After this break in the action, each tick of the clock becomes more important. Players plunge, pass and perform with new vigor and breathing-taking efficiency, forgetting former blunders and making the most of the moments that remain. These end-time revivals have rescued teams that seemed hopelessly behind and bound for defeat. Games have been won or lost depending on how well teams used their final two minutes.

Life’s like that. Many who had considered themselves losers have snatched victory from the jaws of defeat during their remaining moments and for them the best is yet to come. Trophy time is ahead and they’ll not be left out on presentation day.

These last-minute winners realized they didn’t have time to look back and mourn over past mistakes or gloat over old accomplishments. Past sins are forgiven when they are confessed to the Lord and there isn’t time to allow them to hold us back anymore (1 John 1:9).

Former victories can only be enjoyed to the point that they build faith for greater ones. They must never be allowed to make us feel we’ve arrived or done enough to retire from serving God and helping people.

I often carry and frequently read a newspaper clipping about a man who held nothing back in his effort to make a difference:

‘John Wesley traveled an estimated 250,000 miles in 40 years; preached 4,000 sermons; produced 400 books, knew 10 languages. At 83, he was annoyed that he could not write for more than 15 hours a day without hurting his eyes and at 86 he was ashamed that he couldn’t preach more than twice a day. He complained in his diary that there was an increasing tendency to lie in bed until 5:30 in the morning. Imagine what trophy time would mean to those who serve like him.

Paul recognized the talent and discipline of athletes in their efforts to win prizes but reminded his readers that these trophies were all temporary, saying he had chosen to invest his life earning trophies that would last.

A woman told me she had retired from the job she had held at her church but later returned to serve again. She wanted a timeless trophy. How about you?

Roger Campbell was an author, broadcaster and columnist who was a pastor for 22 years. Contact him at rcministry@ameritech.net.
BREAK-IN ON ROLSTON ROAD
On Wednesday, Jan. 28, the Genesee County Sheriff’s Department responded to a home in the 3300 block of East Rolston Road to investigate a breaking and entering complaint.

The suspect(s) forced their way in through a window at the rear of the house. Jewelry and coins were stolen.

WATERFORD MAN STEALS TOOLS TO SELL FOR CASH
At 7:24 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 25, Fenton police responded to the 3000 block of Fenton Drive for a suspicious person.

The caller said a man was entering a building under construction and walking out with tools. Upon arrival, police locked the suspect’s vehicle and made contact with him, a 30-year-old Waterford resident.

While the man was in custody, police recovered a heard of tools worth of tools from his Ford Explorer. Police also recovered an unknown substance, which is being tested by the state lab. The man told police he had not been making much money lately and stole the tools to sell. Police will seek a warrant for breaking and entering with intent to steal. Additional charges are pending the lab results of the unknown substance.

Lt. Jason Slater said the man’s 15-month-old son was in the vehicle at the time of the incident. The child was turned over to his mother and child protective services was notified.

BOOT STUCK ON ACCELERATOR CAUSES FIVE-CAR CRASH
At about 11:40 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24, Fenton police responded to a business parking lot on Owen Road for an accident involving five vehicles and unknown injuries.

Lt. Jason Slater said an 83-year-old Tyrone Township woman was backing out of a parking space in her Ford Focus. While in reverse, her boot became stuck on the accelerator. Her car struck a 56-year-old Argentine Township man walking by and the car pinned him against another vehicle. The Focus continued in a backward circular motion, striking four more vehicles, one car with two occupants and three that were unoccupied and parked. The injured man refused transportation to the hospital but said he would take himself there. Police will ask the state to reevaluate the woman’s driving privileges.

BREAK-IN ON SOUTH LINDEN ROAD
At 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24, deputies with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Department responded to a break-in at a home in the 11000 block of South Linden Road in Fenton Township. Dep. Geno Gaticka said domestic and rare coins were stolen, as well as costume, gold and diamond jewelry. Deputies discovered the suspect(s) made entry into the home by forcing their way through a window. The break-in remains under investigation.

The homeowner said they received a random phone call from someone claiming to be with their insurance company prior to the break-in. This unknown person was trying to set up an appointment at the house and possibly used information as to when it would be best to break in.

TWO RETAIL FRAUD SUSPECTS ARRESTED
At 6:40 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 23, Fenton police responded to a store on Owen Road for a possible retail fraud in progress. A loss prevention employee told police that they recognized a couple of men from prior retail incidents. Police made contact with the two Jackson area men, one 26, one 28. Police learned that the men had left the TV they were suspected of attempting to steal and exited the store and drove away in a 2003 Chevy Venture van.

Police saw that the van had no license plate on it and initiated a traffic stop on Silver Parkway. Both men had multiple arrest warrants from other jurisdictions. The 28-year-old suspect was arrested for retail fraud, lodged overnight and picked up the next morning by Pittsfield Township police. The 28-year-old was arrested for possession of marijuana and retail fraud. Police believe the men are responsible for other retail frauds and other police agencies have been contacted.

BEWARE, PHONE SCAMS CONTINUE
The Genesee County Sheriff’s Department has received multiple complaints from Fenton Township residents regarding IRS scams, as well as other phone scams. Dep. Gero Gaticka urges anyone who receives a random phone call from someone claiming to be with the IRS, an insurance company, organization, etc. not to give out any personal information, including whether they are home. These unknown callers might use unsuspecting victims’ personal information to gain access to their financial accounts or to find out when their home is unoccupied and possibly be broken into.

HOT LINE CONTINUED
YOU HAVEN’T READ about too many of the good things Republican leaders have done in Washington through the last six years because it has all been stopped on Harry Reid’s desk. Now the president will have to deal with it and you’ll hear about it, as long as the mainstream media report it.

IN RESPONSE TO Michael Moore steps out of his house and you’ll hear about it, as long as the mainstream media report it.

WHY IS IT the word ‘God’ can’t be mentioned in schools, but they are studying other religions? I don’t understand it.

I’D BE WILLING to bet that when Michael Moore steps out of his house on a windy day his head whistles.

I HOPE MY children and grandchildren are paying attention. The U.S. used to be the strongest nation on the face of the earth.
CRAIGSLIST
Continued from Page 5A
and scams are scams,” Foster said. “The Internet allows criminals to cast a wider net and allows them anonymity.”

Craigslist tells its users that if they, “deal locally, face-to-face,” they will avoid 99 percent of scam attempts. The site advises buyers and sellers to ignore emails and texts from non-local persons and to “deal with locals you can meet in person.”

“Never wire funds,” the site cautions. “Don’t accept cashier checks or money orders. Never give out financial information (bank account, Social Security, PayPal account, etc.) Do not rent or purchase sight-unseen. Refuse background/credit checks until you have met landlord/employer in person.”

The site also lists ways in which users can identify a potential scammer, such as “an email or text from someone that is not local to your area” or “a vague initial inquiry, e.g. asking about ‘the item.’”

“I’m constantly on Craigslist,” said Robert Siciliano, a security expert with bestHomeSecurityCompanies.com, who recently bought a boat on Craigslist.

“As a Craigslist consumer, there’s always a chance you’re going to be dealing with someone who is desperate. And desperate people do desperate things.”

“Because there is that chance, you need to exercise as much caution as possible,” he said. “Whenever I invite someone to my property, I find out as much as I can about that person before they get there. They text me and I call them so I have their number. Then I Google their number and find out what their name is. I look them up on Facebook to see who they are.”

“Those tools are available to everyone,” he said, noting that many people are under the false assumption that Craigslist users are already vetted. Foster noted that by Googling an email, you can see if it shows up on any scam boards.

He urged that people use “common sense” when making transactions.

“Don’t go to a parking lot. Meet them in the mall. They’re much less likely to pull out a gun in the food court. Don’t go into someone’s basement to check out a pair of skis,” he said.

Both Foster and Siciliano agreed that perhaps the best place for buyers and sellers to meet is in front of a police station.

“We’re programmed from a very young age that if we read it, it must be true,” said Foster. “But just remember what your grandfather said. ‘If it’s too good to be true, it probably isn’t true.’”

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TRUE or FALSE?

Kraft cheese won’t melt

Setting viral food post rumors straight

By Yvonne Stiegall
ystiegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

It’s likely that at some time or another you’ve seen one of those posts going viral on your social media account about a cheese that wouldn’t melt or a burger that wouldn’t mold.

Most of these food myths have been debunked, but not all of them. Here are a few of the most recently popular ones and what some bloggers and experts found out about them.

Kraft cheese won’t melt

Recently, claims were flying that Kraft cheese slices don’t melt and are similar to plastic. People making videos of them melting the famous cheese slices with their lighters quickly and easily dispelled this rumor.

Anyone who has ever bought this cheese-product and used it for a delicious grilled cheese sandwich knows that Kraft cheese does in fact melt, just like any other cheese slice.

McDonald’s burgers won’t mold

Many bloggers have taken the challenge over the past few years to prove that McDonald’s burgers and fries are made out of some mystery ingredients that won’t mold. Non-molding food is the least of the reasons why many folks pass on fast food, mainly because it’s high in calories.

While you can seemingly find proof online showing that the burgers stay mold free for weeks on end, you can find studies that explain this phenomenon also. Mold needs certain atmospheric conditions in order to grow. If you are keeping your burger in a dry environment, it is less likely for the mold to appear.

Walmart ice cream sandwiches won’t melt

While people still aren’t exactly sure why, the Walmart-brand ice cream sandwiches just don’t melt as most ice cream does. A radio station employee out of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was one of many people to test this theory and concluded that this seemingly normal snack does not actually melt.

Instead, after over an hour in 80 degree Fahrenheit temperatures it just has a watery-like substance that separates from it, somewhat.

McDonald’s nuggets ingredients

Grant Imahara, formerly of the show MythBusters, took a trip through a factory that makes McDonald’s chicken nuggets to see what exactly goes into them. This happened after videos were posted online of strange fibers inside these little McNuggets. People wondered, ‘What are those nuggets made out of?’ Some rumored it was pink slime; others thought maybe it was beaks and other unwanted chicken parts. Imahara, on his tour, found out that real chicken, cut from whole chickens, and actually the good parts, are what is ground up and made into those world famous nuggets.

The lesson here is that you should not always believe what you read or see online.
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Common winter birds in Michigan and what they like to eat

- **House Sparrow** - oil sunflower seed
- **Black-capped chickadee** - shelled peanuts, oil sunflower seed, Fritos, suet, stripped sunflower seed
- **Northern cardinal** - oil sunflower seed, shelled peanuts, striped sunflower seed
- **Downy woodpecker** - peanuts, oil sunflower seed, suet
- **White-breasted nuthatch** - peanuts, sunflower seed, suet, striped sunflower seed
- **Mourning dove** - oil sunflower seed, peanuts, millet, thistle
- **Red-bellied woodpecker** - peanuts, oil sunflower seed, suet, striped sunflower seed
- **Northern flicker** - peanuts, oil sunflower seed, suet, striped sunflower seed
- **Dark-eyed junco** - millet, oil sunflower seed, Fritos
- **American goldfinch** - thistle, oil sunflower seed
- **Blue jay** - peanuts in the shell, oil sunflower seed, suet, striped sunflower seed
- **Tufted titmouse** - shelled peanuts, oil sunflower seed, suet, stapled sunflower seed
- **House finch** - thistle, oil sunflower seed
- **European starling** - shelled peanuts, oil sunflower seed, suet, striped sunflower seed
- **American crow** - peanuts, oil sunflower seed
- **Carolina wren** - shelled peanuts, suet
- **Eastern bluebird** - shelled peanuts, suet
- **American robin** - shelled peanuts, suet
- **Cedar waxwing** - berries

Source: www.lansingwbu.blogspot.com
Fire departments from Fenton Township, Fenton City, Mundy Township and Hartland Township battle a house fire in the 8400 block of Bella View Drive, south of Center Road in Tyrone Township. Heavy smoke was observed coming from the house at 9:43 a.m.

**Tyrone Township home destroyed by fire**

> Four fire departments battle blaze, freezing weather, lack of hydrants

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

A two-story Cape Cod-style home in Tyrone Township was destroyed by fire Wednesday morning. Fenton Township, which services this area of Tyrone Township west of U.S. 23, was assisted by Fenton City, and Mundy and Hartland townships.

Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz said the homeowner drove her son to school and returned home as she normally does. When she pulled up to the garage, she couldn’t get the garage door to open. He said she walked around to the kitchen window and noticed some light smoke. When she opened a door, the backdraft knocked her back a bit, at which time she called 911.

Fenton’s fire chief, Bob Cairnduff, heard the 911 call and arrived quickly. Fenton Township began arriving within minutes and Volz said the home was already about 50 percent engulfed in flames.

Portable tanks and tanker trucks were used and the fire departments were forced to go off site to hydrants in the city of Fenton to obtain more water for their tanker trucks.

Volz said the home is a total loss and the family’s two cats were not located. Fenton Township firefighters cleared the scene about 3 p.m. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. While Fenton Township’s fire department was on scene, Linden City Fire Department was on call for any medical runs.
Holly School Board

President Michael Newcomb is serving his third term on Holly Area School Board and has been in the district for 20 years. He is employed by the Worldwide Corporation, and has had three children in the HAS system.

Vice President Robin Carne is a lifelong Holly resident. She is serving her third term for the Holly school board. Carne is the mother of two sons, both graduated from Holly High School. Carne has been employed by General Motors Corporation for 33 years.

Secretary Peter Deahl is serving his first term on the school board, and his first term as secretary. His current term ends in 2016.

Treasurer Leon Sharpe is serving his first term with the Holly school board. Sharpe has been married to Linda and has been a resident of the school district for more than 38 years. His two children graduated from Holly schools. Sharpe taught in Holly for 30 years, retiring in 2005. Linda taught in Huron Valley Schools for 33 years. He worked with students from young fives through eighth-grade.

Trustee Sue Julian is serving her fourth term with the Holly school board. Julian is the mother of two sons, both of whom graduated from Holly schools. She is an avid volunteer in and around the Holly community.

Trustee Linda Blair is serving her second term, after being first elected in 2008. Blair retired after 40 years as an elementary teacher at Patterson Elementary. She has four children who all graduated from HAS.

Trustee Tara Peters is serving her first term on the HAS board of education. Peters serves as board reporter before being elected to a seat.

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TRIVIA

How many shutouts have there been in Super Bowl history?
A: A team has never been shut out since the Super Bowl began. However, there have been a total of 38 shutouts in Super Bowl history, spanning from 1967 to 2022.

SUPER TRIVIA ABOUT THE SUPER BOWL
Since it is Super Bowl weekend, the sports staff thought it would be nice to add a few trivia questions to ask to test your Super Bowl knowledge.
1) Who was the first AFC team to win the Super Bowl?
A: Old-timers should find this one easy. In Super Bowl III the Joe Namath-led New York Jets became the first AFC team to win a Super Bowl.
2) What Super Bowl game was played at the Pontiac Silverdome?
3) Name the current NFL franchises never to appear in a Super Bowl.
A: The Detroit Lions, Cleveland Browns, Houston Texans and Jacksonville Jaguars.
4) What Super Bowl has no network footage of it remaining?
A: Super Bowl I. Back then it was common not to retain such tapes.
5) How many rings does the NFL supply the winning team of the Super Bowl?
A: Up to 150 rings.

Eagles declaw Fenton Tigers

Linden posts six pin victories vs. area rivals
By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789
Linden — Both are young teams.
Knowing that to be the case, both squads realize their best days are ahead of them.
Yet, when it’s Fenton vs. Linden, thinking ahead to the future doesn’t matter much when the event begins. What does is what’s happening now. And for the Linden varsity wrestling team, that meant a victory against their rivals, Fenton, on Wednesday at Linden High School.

Tigers get hot in fourth, beat Brandon
By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789
The Fenton varsity girls basketball team was coming off of three straight losses. A win was needed. The Tigers got that victory, but it didn’t come easy. Fenton (5-2, 6-5) overcame a 51-39 deficit entering the fourth quarter to capture a 70-63 overtime victory at Fenton High School on Tuesday night.
“The kids kept their composure and kind of chopped away at the lead,” Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Becki Moore said. “Brandon came out on fire. They shot really well. They had six threes in the first half. One of their best players (Katie Hendershot) came back from an ACL and led them with 18 points. They are definitely better with her.”
The Tigers are pretty good themselves when they have some of their weapons working, and on Tuesday night Hannah Eco, Sarah Cummings and Carly Granger were having strong offensive nights. Their contributions were needed.

Hodges shows he belongs with Bronchos
Scores 18 in Holly’s 77-74 victory vs. Hornets
By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com
Flint — Ian Hodges had to wait for his time.
A transfer from Carman-Ainsworth, Hodges was unable to play for the Holly varsity boys basketball program until after Jan. 19.
Playing in only his second game with the Holly Bronchos, Hodges scored 18 points in the Bronchos’ 77-74 win against Kearsley.

Don’t put your life on our line.
This winter, prevent a senseless tragedy by steering clear of train tracks. Not only is riding a snowmobile on a railroad’s right of way illegal, but you may also be too focused on having a good time to hear a train coming.
Tigers hold off Brandon in fourth, earn 46-44 win

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

Ever since Tim Olszewski took over as head varsity boys basketball coach at Fenton High School, the Tigers have struggled in games at Brandon High School.

“It’s a consistent battle to go to Brandon ever since I’ve been here,” Olszewski said. “It’s just a different place. It’s a very large venue, has lots of bleacher space and they sit far from the court. And the scene is a consistent thing that never changes. If you practice there every day it probably helps a little.”

Well, the Tigers had another tough contest at Brandon on Tuesday, but got out with a 46-44 victory.

The Tigers led by 10 with about three minutes left, but had to stave off a final shot by Brandon to earn the win. Brandon’s final shot was missed.

“It was the Linden game all over again,” Olszewski said. “We had missed free throws, some untimely turnovers and didn’t box out on their missed free throws. The next thing you know it’s a two-point game and their ball with eight seconds to go.

“We played really good defense on the last possession. They took a low percentage shot, but it was more excitement than what I was hoping for. Let’s put it that way.”

The Tigers (6-2, 6-4) trailed at one point 12-2 in the first quarter, but ended the period with a 14-4 run, actually taking a 16-13 lead into the second quarter.

“Christopher Gilbert played exceptionally well. I thought Austin Bossenberger played well for us. Peyton Coffman played well. We fed off the things they were doing,” Olszewski said. “We were able to increase the tempo and that helped us. Some guys took care of the ball when we needed to.”

Coffman and Ross Ebert led the Tigers with 10 points each. Ebert also had a team-high six rebounds and three blocks. Coffman grabbed four boards. Gilbert finished with nine points and five assists. He also earned three steals.

Evan Welch finished with six points, while Nick Wyrick had four points.

Flushing, Linden 35

The Eagles were outscored 41-10 in the opening half, resulting in the loss against the Raiders.

Flushing scored 31 points in the second quarter.

Trent Strang, Mike Gold and Tyler Hoeberling led the Eagles with six points each, while Johnny Campbell netted five points.

Fenton’s Nick Wyrick grabs a rebound in a recent contest against the Linden Eagles. Wyrick scored four points in the Tigers’ 46-44 victory against Brandon on Tuesday.

Buerkel’s OT goal leads Griffins to 4-3 victory

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

Life has been good for Brendan Buerkel and the Metro League Griffins lately.

Winners of four of their last five games, the Griffins have enjoyed their finest period of the season lately, and Buerkel’s offense has helped spearhead that run.

On Wednesday, Buerkel either scored or assisted on all four Griffins’ goals, leading the squad to a 4-3 overtime victory against the Goodrich/LakeVille co-op squad.

Buerkel provided the game-winning goal in overtime with assists coming from Buck Hudson and Jake Thompson. Early on, it looked like the Griffins, a co-op squad made up of Fenton and Linden students, was going to struggle. They trailed 3-1 entering the third period. However, Buerkel scored a power-play goal in the third period, cutting the gap to 3-2. Then, Connor Phillips responded with the game-tying goal off assists from Hudson and Buerkel.

The Griffins (6-9-1) tied it 1-all in the first period on a Phillips goal, coming off a Buerkel assist. However, Goodrich/LakeVille responded with the next two goals, resulting in the Griffins’ two-goal deficit entering the third.

Buerkel and Phillips have each scored 15 goals this season. During the team’s recent five-game hot streak Buerkel has scored eight goals and dished eight assists. In net, Manny Vonnvolakis earned the victory, making 26 saves.

Fenton/Linden returns to action on Saturday at the Troy Sports Center for a 7 p.m. contest against non-league foe Bishop Foley.

For more on high school sports, check out www.tctimes.com/hsports.
blue devils face tough teams at own tournament

by david toppens

dickson decision was tight and frost followed steedman and there were three points.

"there is no exception in wrestling," Vance Corcoran said. "we are a very good team that wrestled tough against some of the best teams in the state. we were right there with Tecumseh, who ended up taking second place to Hartland."

Trent Hilliger defeated two ranked wrestlers in the state. He defeated two of the top five ranked wrestlers in his weight class in the state. His victories in the 215 weight class came from Tecumseh’s third-ranked Landon Pulham and from Dakota’s Antonio Balabani.

Devan Melick and Tristan Neudomski went 4-1 during the day, while Hunter Corcoran went 3-1. Jackson Neudomski went 3-2.

“We have a week off from competition. See DEVILS on 17A

Tigers continued from page 14A

Granger and Cummings each provided six points in Fenton’s 22-point fourth quarter, while Evo hit a key three-point play with 2:55 left, cutting the Brandon margin down to one. Cummings converted a free throw during the final 20 seconds to tie the game at 61-all. Granger kept Brandon from having a chance to win it by earning a steal. Her desperation shot to win before overtime wasn’t successful. In the overtime, it was all Fenton, with Evin scoring six of her team-high 22 points in the session. She hit a big three-pointer and then helped ice the game with 3-of-4 free throws in the extra session.

Evo chipped in five rebounds, two assists and two blocks to go with her 22 points. Cummings had 21 points, 10 rebounds, two steals and a blocked shot, while Granger finished with 12 points and four assists. Madison Shegos netted six points, five rebounds and four steals, while Katie Conroy had five rebounds.

Fenton netted 20-for-27 shots from the free-throw line, helping aid the win. "Early had a season-high 12 points and was 4-for-4 from the line. Madison Shegos also was 4-for-4 from the line. That’s something we’ve been working on," Moore said about the free throws. "We’ve struggled on the line as of late and we are working on them in practice, but now the focus is on how important they are. We are not going to overlook the free points. (Hit)ing 20-20 of 27 is moving in the right direction."

Holly hosted Fenton on Friday for a pivotal Metro contest between teams tied for second in league action. For more information on the game go to www.tctimes.com
**DEVILS**
Continued from Page 16A

tion to heal up a little, and really work on what needs to be done to get our team and individuals as far into the state tournament as possible,” Lake Fenton coach Vince Corcoran said. “I’m very excited by our young guys are performing.”

Fenton hosts team tournament

Jake Church (140) and Connor Putnam (130) paced the Tigers with 4-1 records, while Josh Tonsley (145) went 3-1. Tommy Adams (135) and Scott Becker (189) went 3-2. David Foster (215) and David Church (160) had two wins each.

**REID**
Continued from Page 15A

points, four rebounds and four steals, while Brooke Jackman had seven re bounds and four assists. Eight players scored for the Bronchos.

Meanwhile, Holly’s defense remained strong as well, never allowing Kearsley more than nine points in a quarter.

Holly hosted Fenton for a key Metro League contest on Friday. For more on that game go to www.tctimes.com.

**Flushing 46, Linden 25**

The Eagles (3-5, 5-8) were outscored 16-2 in the opening quarter, resulting in the loss. Sterling DeGaver led the Eagles with 14 points, while Megan Kenney had seven points and eight rebounds. Taylor Smith chipped in four points, three steals and two assists.

Holly’s Jake Daniels scored 20 points in the Bronchos’ 77-74 victory against the Kearsley Hornets on Tuesday.

Kearsley had one more run left in them. Aided by eight Holly four-quarter turnovers and two consecutive missed front ends of one-and-one free throw opportunities, Kearsley was able to cut the Holly lead to 71-67 with 1:06 left on a short baseline jumper by Deitrick Young. However, the Bronchos did just enough to ice the game at the charity stripe during their final three possessions. Hodes made two free throws and Simms was a perfect 4-for-4 during the final 24 seconds at the line, leading Holly to the victory. A buzzer-beating three-pointer by Kearsley’s Jalen Gal lery made the final score sound closer than the game actually was in the final seconds.

“We practice free throws every day after practice and before practice,” Simms said. “You have to practice them so when it comes down to the game, you can make it.”

Holly finished the contest shooting a sizzling 51 percent (28-for-55) which included nine converted three-pointers in the mix. However, Holly kept Kearsley close by turning the ball over 18 times. Also, Jenkins proved unstoppable, scoring a game-high 27 points. Webster also helped Kearsley’s cause scoring 10 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter.

The Bronchos knew there was good and bad to take out of the victory.

“I liked the energy from the bench. We played with a lot of energy,” Hodges said. “(We need to improve getting) defensive stops. We just can’t give up (close to) 80 points. Against a good team, if we let up 80 points, we are going to end up losing against a good team. We can’t keep going back-and-forth, back-and-forth. We know we can score too, but defense wins games.”

The Bronchos had plenty of offense with Simms, Hodges and Daniels. Daniels had his typically strong night, netting 20 points, seven rebounds, three assists and three steals. Partee and Tonsley chipped in six points each with Tookey earning three rebounds and four assists.
LIBRARY
Continued from Front Page
Board Chair Bobbie Sweetman.
But on Monday, Assistant City Manager Mike Burns presented to council the situation with the library. The issue is that there is 586 linear feet of plumbing that is still wrapped in asbestos insulation. That insulation was encapsulated when the library was converted from a post office, but today, that encapsulating wrap around the asbestos has begun to deteriorate. The problem was discovered a few weeks ago.
Burns asked for up to $30,000 to remove the wrap, the asbestos, and rewrap the plumbing. The council agreed unanimously.
Burns guesses the library will be open in late February or early March. The city still has to find contractors for the job, and work with Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
For safety, Sweetman said, “The council did exactly the right thing. The library board is very pleased at how the council thoroughly fixing the problem, instead of just re-wrapping the asbestos pipes. She said once the library is open, residents will love it. “It’s breathtaking to walk in there now. It’s friendlier, it’s very, very clean and bright.”
About the overall project
The library received new plumbing, electrical, shelving and tile. The overall renovation is being done in two phases, costing $310,000 total before the asbestos issue, and financed by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).
Patrons and employees will be able to see the original terrazzo floor at the entrance, new plaster overhead, and all will appreciate upgraded bathrooms and electrical service and new carpeting.
Two new study rooms will be added, and the children’s library area will be modernized. Shelves are already going up in the children’s area, which also has new paint and carpet.

She’d rather see the building open to the public again, but is glad they’re thoroughly fixing the problem, instead of just re-wrapping the asbestos pipes. She said once the library is open, residents will love it. “It’s breathtaking to walk in there now. It’s friendlier, it’s very, very clean and bright.”

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ROBBED
Continued from Front Page
a blue pry bar. The safe, containing an unknown amount of cash, was missing.
The store’s video surveillance recorded three suspects entering the store after they pried open the front door. Once inside, the suspects stole the safe, cash, loose change and a bottle of Sky vodka. The suspects appeared to be wearing masks during their crime spree.
Anyone with information is asked to contact Det. Curt Novara of the sheriff’s department at (517) 540-7942 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAKUP.
This same store was held up at knifepoint on Nov. 14, 2014. The 20-year-old Holly suspect’s case is pending in Livingston County.

THIS WEEK’S INSERTS
- Alpine Marketplace
- CVS Pharmacy
- Holly Foods
- Kmart
- Life Line Screening
- Rite Aid
- Sears Hometown Stores
- Target
- VG’s
- Walmart
RESTAURANT
Continued from Front Page
Linden, village of Goodrich and a portion of Flint to license and regulate their food safety practices.

Her list of clients includes restaurants, bars, schools, concessions, catering kitchens, rental halls and private organizations that serve the public.

Roeper’s primary job is to visit an eating establishment every six months with an unannounced visit, spending about one to one-and-a-half hours in a small restaurant and three to four hours in a larger facility, checking food temperatures, hand washing practices, maintenance and repair issues.

“The biggest thing I’m looking for is that hot foods are kept hot and cold foods are kept cold, at the right temperatures for food safety,” said Roeper.

“That is one of the biggest contributors to food-borne illness (food poisoning). I’ll meet with the restaurant manager or person-in-charge, we’ll review menus, check thermometers, test strips, make sure all food is date marked and that at least one person on staff is current with their food service manager certification.

My major emphasis is that food is safe for the public.”

The worst thing she’s ever seen in a restaurant in her thousands of inspections since 1996 has been live rodents. “I once went with a supervisor to close down a place that had a roach infestation,” she said. “I’ve seen it all.”

How do most restaurants react when she walks through the door for their twice-a-year inspection?

Some people panic, some people take it in stride, according to Roeper. “It can be amusing. You can see people rush back into the kitchen to do something. We want to see what people are scrambling to do.” Shirley’s Café manager Becky VanDriessche has been in the restaurant business for 30 years, the last 10 with her family’s own eatery in Linden. “I usually know when it’s time for Cathy’s visit. It’s a little nerve-wracking, but we never have anything major. We’re clean freaks.”

Each restaurant is given an evaluation report via email immediately after the visit. “We try to have priority issues corrected off the shelf for our next visit. If there are a lot of violations that we want to be sure are done, we’ll set an exact date for two weeks to come back for a return visit.”

Evaluations are available online at gchd.us under Environmental Health.

Roeper’s biggest frustration is repeat offenders, those who don’t correct the problem. If a problem becomes severe, and endangers the public, she has the right to close a restaurant down.

“People always ask me what the best restaurants are in town, but I honestly don’t know about the quality of different menu items,” said Roeper, a veteran of the Genesee County Health Department for 20 years. “We’re not allowed to taste the food while doing an inspection, but we are allowed to have a beverage, if we’re offered one.”

Perhaps her biggest compliment to a local restaurant is when this Linden resident shows up to dine at a local eatery during her “off” hours. “My family knows where I’ll go and where I won’t go,” she said. “Even when I’m not working, if I can peek in the kitchen, I usually do.”

After inspecting The Fireplace Bar and Grill in Fenton Township Wednesday, Cathy Roeper (right) goes over results with owner Mardell Landis. There were no real issues, and none related to food.

I once went with a supervisor to close down a place that had a roach infestation. I’ve seen it all.

Cathy Roeper
Environmental sanitarian

TRI-COUNTY TIMES  TIM JAGIELO

Things like date marking and proper storage of food, having hot and cold water, and necessary certifications are part of a health inspector’s checklist.

CITY OF FENTON
ORDINANCE NO. 688

Ordinance No. 688, which amends Chapter 32 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fenton, to regulate parking on streets and in public lots, to provide the City the authority to designate public-parking areas as permit-parking areas and to repeal all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict therewith, was enacted by the Fenton City Council.

Ordinance No. 688 was adopted at a regular meeting of the Fenton City Council held on January 26, 2015. This Ordinance will take effect thirty (30) days after publication.

The complete text of Ordinance No. 688 is on file in the office of the City Clerk and available for review by the general public during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

ADOPTED: January 26, 2015
EFFECTIVE: February 25, 2015
PUBLISHED: February 1, 2015

Renee Wilson
City Clerk

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EXPERT SPEAKERS
Nael Tarakji, MD
Flint Neurological Center

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Event ID: TR270465 (1200426)

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Nael Tarakji, MD
Flint Neurological Center

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