

Attacks on Paris strike close to home

■ Fenton residents grateful that friends and family in France are safe

By Vera Hogan
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"Priez pour la France!"
These words written on the chalkboard outside The Laundry last weekend said it all. "Pray for France."
In the wake of last Friday's terrorist attacks in Paris, a few local professionals share personal stories that show just how

small a world we live in.
David Hamilton of Fenton is an International Student Coordinator at Kettering University in Flint.
"I went to school in Paris in 2008 and I can say that every visit so far has been
See PARIS on 10



SUBMITTED PHOTO



PAGE 3
**LADIES
NIGHT OUT
DRAWS
THOUSANDS**

Midweek Times

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

Fenton council selects potential projects

■ Grant could provide \$61,995 in federal funds for improvements

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com
The city of Fenton is eligible to receive \$61,995 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for 2016. A public hearing was held Monday, Nov. 9, to give community members a chance to share their ideas.

According to Assistant City Manager Mike Burns, funds are awarded once every three years. Of the \$61,995, 15 percent, or \$9,299.25 can be allocated toward nonpublic service-related projects.

In previous years, the city has used CDBG funds for a handicap accessible elevator at the Fenton Community and Cultural Center. The county has informed the city, however, that handicap accessible projects are becoming more difficult to get approval from the United States Housing and Urban Development Agency.

See PROJECTS on 7

Big flocks a big problem for Price Airport



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

"Bird strikes are an incredible danger," said pilot Tim Draeger. Before winter, these geese flock by the hundreds around Price Airport in Fenton Township. They are drawn by the water, open space and remnants of the recently harvested soybean crop. Draeger flies out of the airport in his Cessna 210. He said pilots will taxi their planes down the entire runway to shoo away the waterfowl. There has never been an incident here, and once it starts snowing, the birds will move on.

Most holiday staples cost about the same as last year

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com

Despite the bird flu and a washed out pumpkin crop, foods for this year's Thanksgiving meal will be in plentiful supply and won't cost much, if any more, than last year's feast.

With turkey as the centerpiece of most Thanksgiving meals, cooks will find both fresh birds and frozen turkeys plentiful, and at good prices.

"The largest fresh (non-frozen) birds this year will be 21-22 pounds, while normally they'd get up to 24 pounds," said Mark Russell, Meat Department

See HOLIDAY on 5

"The largest fresh birds this year will be 21-22 pounds, while normally they'd get up to 24 pounds."

Mark Russell
VG's Grocery
Meat Department manager

Lawyers due back in court on Wednesday

■ Teens remain behind bars as prosecutor, police, attorneys review evidence in alleged school-shooting plot

By Sharon Stone
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The attorneys for the three teens suspected of plotting to carry out a shooting at Linden schools are expected in Genesee County District Court today, Wednesday, Nov. 18, for a probable cause hearing.

See COURT on 9

TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE

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"If you don't like the way they funded the road bill, let's hear your ideas. You can't just 'cut spending.' Let me hear your specific ideas that would not ruin every other government department."



"I visit Traverse City regularly. They have one of the most vibrant downtowns in Michigan and almost every downtown street has parking. No one parks in mass lots. Parking right in front of the store you want to visit is a huge factor in their success."



COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

"Racism is not dead. It is consistently stoked by the leftist politicians who use it to keep minority communities fearful or resentful enough to turn out as a voting bloc on election day. They should be hung for treason."



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LADIES NIGHT OUT

draws thousands

■Linden, Fenton and Holly businesses host fun evening out for women

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The Ladies Night Out events in Linden, Fenton and Holly not only marked the beginning of holiday shopping, but cold weather prompted the use of hoods and boots.

The mission for attendees was to collect signatures from participating businesses to be entered to win a gift basket from area businesses.

Linden

This was the first ladies night event I had ever attended, and it might have been the most crowded I have ever seen at a bar. You couldn't move an inch without bumping into someone when they raffled off the gift baskets in Crow's Nest above the Linden Hotel, proving how well received the event on Saturday, Nov. 7 was.

"We felt it was a huge success. I never heard one negative comment the whole night. It was wonderful, everyone seemed



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Pat Roach of Fenton (left) and Susan Taliaferro of Burton shop for Christmas decorations at Pigeon in the Parlor in Holly on Friday. The store was packed with shoppers and event goers for Ladies Night Out, looking at the holiday décor.

to have a good time," said Leigh Boughton, one of the co-chairs of the event and owner of H2O Basement Waterproofing, Inc.

She estimated that 375 to 400 people attended the event, a huge increase from last year. She and Kevin Begola, owner of Bridge Street Exchange, co-chaired the event.

"We had a committee of about 10 people and everybody worked hard. We had a lot of volunteers. We want to make it bigger every year," she said.

It was a chilly night, but the constant flow of warm cider kept my hands warm going from business to business.

The Linden Ladies Night committee gave out high-quality, embroidered bags to the first 250 people to register. The event reminded me that I

don't shop my hometown enough.

To me, Thimbleberry's used to be a place for older women to shop, but now I'm planning to go back to buy a pair of leggings.

Bridge Street Exchange was packed with women shopping for their fathers, husbands, and sons. Participants took pictures with fun props at the photo booth.

"The photo booth went over really well," Boughton said.

Serendipity Wellness Spa and Dr. Wax Orthodontics were filled with people waiting to sample wine and eat cheese and crackers.

Natalie Howard of Tyrone Township said, "I liked seeing the new businesses. It was nice to see the owners open up. We should support our local businesses. Business owners get approached to support projects in the community. We should keep that in mind and try to start local."

Fenton

Fenton's Ladies Night on Friday, Nov. 13 was spread out from Elections on Silver Lake Road, to The Corner Bar and Grill on Owen Road, to Dibbleville downtown.

"It was a great night. It's a big kick off for the holiday season," said Stacy Mielcarek, who runs Yesterday's Treasures. She and Marjie Andrejciw, of Marjie's Gluten Free Pantry, organized the event.

She estimated 500 to 800 people attended the event.

See **LADIES NIGHT OUT** on 8



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | VERA HOGAN

AGS Middle School students wear purple on "Purple Out" day, aimed at raising funds and awareness for pancreatic cancer. Pictured are eighth-graders (front, from left) Lauren Bossenberger and Brie Sanford, and (back, from left) Stasha Campbell and Morgan Smith.

Students 'Purple Out' for pancreatic cancer

■Passionate Fenton AGS teacher spearheads annual fundraiser

By Vera Hogan

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Fenton — Students, staff and teachers throughout the Fenton school district donned the color purple on Nov. 12 during the third annual "Purple Out."

The fundraiser started the first year at Fenton Andrew G. Schmidt (AGS), said Jill Smigielski, a special education teacher and 20-year veteran at Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS). Last year, the high school joined in and this year, the effort was district-wide.

"One night, in October of 2013, I was so frustrated because everyone knows what pink means in October," Smigielski said. "But I felt like no one knew or recognized any of the other colors

See **'PURPLE OUT'** on 9

"I want to go grocery shopping and get purple bags. I want purple pizza boxes when I order pizza."

Jill Smigielski
AGS Middle School teacher

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
HANNAH BALL

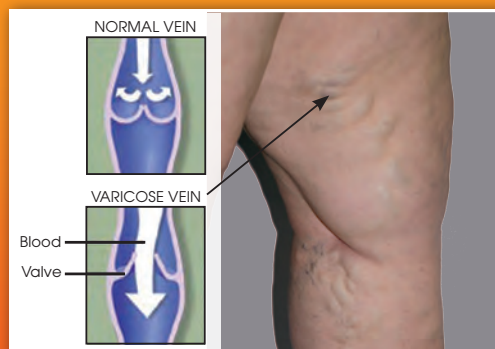
French Flamingo Fashion Accessories in Holly was filled with women shopping for hats, scarves and gloves during the annual Ladies Night Out on Friday.



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FROM THE LEFT
NATIONALLY SYNDICATED

Bill Press

High fives in Hillary-Land

As of Nov. 11, Donald Trump had either led or tied for first place in Republican 2016 polls for 114 days. But his performance in this week's debate proved what a disaster a Trump presidency would prove for the Republican Party — and for the Republic.

Trump only has one issue: his relentless, racist attack on illegal immigrants. He began by calling them 'rapists' in his June 16 campaign kick-off, while promising to build a 'great wall' along the Mexican border and have Mexico pay for it. He's now expanded his broadside to include rounding up all 11 million people estimated to be in the United States illegally and deporting them south of the border: a pledge he lustily repeated in the Fox Business Channel debate.

John Kasich and Jeb Bush dared challenge Trump. 'We all know you can't pick them up and ship them across, back across the border. It's a silly argument,' Kasich fired off. Bush correctly observed that people were probably doing 'high-fives' in Hillary Clinton's campaign headquarters, watching Republican candidates declare war on 11 million people who may have come here illegally, but are otherwise still law-abiding, tax-paying residents.

Imagine, first, the logistical nightmare of identifying these 11 million people, tracking them down, rounding them up and transporting them by bus, truck, train or plane. Imagine, next, the human toll: families torn apart in the middle of the night. Nothing could be more cruel, inhumane or un-American.

At the same time, Trump and his fellow Republicans totally ignore what Ronald Reagan did about illegal immigration. In 1986, faced with a similar problem of millions living 'in the shadows,' the man Republicans worship as their political god actually signed legislation granting 3 million people, anyone who'd been here for four years, permanent residence in the United States.

Anti-immigrant hysteria, of course, is nothing new to this country. But the fact that a major political party would embrace it is shameful. We can only hope Republicans come to their senses before the Iowa caucuses, some 80 days away. This is America. Mass deportation of immigrants is never going to happen — and should not.

HORRAY, YOU MADE your own point. If you know no one from other religions who is offended by 'Merry Christmas' then why not say 'Merry Christmas.'

■■■■
LENIN, STALIN, HITLER and Mao all wanted to destroy America. None of these dictators were as successful as Barack Obama. By pitting women against men, black against white, poor against rich, religion against religion and young against old, Obama is destroying America.

■■■■
THE NATIONAL NEWS media broadcast and print their propaganda. If you object to the propaganda, don't watch it or read it. A smaller audience means less advertising income. The media then either changes or goes out of business.

■■■■
AS AN INDEPENDENT, I have never been in this position. My list of bad Presidents Jimmy Carter, number 3 — I voted for him; Bill Clinton, number 2 — I did not vote for him; Barack Obama, number 1 — I did not vote for him. I will vote for whoever opposes Hillary — Democrat or Republican.

■■■■
PEOPLE, THE SPEED limit on Silver Lake Road between Poplar and Silver Parkway is 45, not 25. Thank you and have a great day.

■■■■
IF YOU NOTICE over the years, Obama doesn't appoint anyone smarter than he is. What does that tell you? It includes Hillary.

■■■■
MR. OBAMA WANTS to bring Syrian refugees to the states. The Greek government has announced one of

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the terrorist gunmen who had a part in killing over in Paris on Friday evening entered Europe while masquerading as a refugee just six weeks ago.

■■■■
NO ONE WANTS war except for the crazies who want more power. We cannot continue to stand on the wayside while they grow in power and strength.

■■■■
PLEASE CITE YOUR source for the '90 million-plus' people who quit looking for work. You're telling me that over 25 percent of this country's population stopped working?

■■■■
SO, YOU THINK because Hillary has been a public servant all her life, and the fact that she didn't get rich 'til she left office, would make her a great president. You're right, those are the only two points she can run on.

■■■■
THE PERSON WANTING a TV guide in the paper, if you have cable TV, there's a GUIDE button on your remote control. Push the button and then use your arrow buttons to move through the channels.

■■■■
I COULD NOT watch the Republican debates because that channel is not in my cable package. How are we expected to make decisions on the candidates? They should be on one local channel.

■■■■
PERSONALLY, I THINK the USA should institute the draft. If we as a country decide to go to war, then everyone should be in and supporting the effort in whatever way they are able.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times



FROM THE RIGHT
NATIONALLY SYNDICATED

Cal Thomas

Is Rubio the one?

We are moving beyond the 'who won' stage in the Republican debates into the 'who would you be most comfortable with as president' and 'who is best equipped to defeat Hillary Clinton?' The answer to both questions seems to be Sen. Marco Rubio.

The Florida Republican reminds me of John F. Kennedy's line in his 1961 Inaugural Address: 'The torch has been passed to a new generation.' JFK was 43 when he became president. Rubio would be 46.

Beyond the age factor, Hillary Clinton represents not only the past, but a failed present. She has no meaningful accomplishments and no vision for the future.

There was another answer that was Kennedy-esque. It came in response to a question by moderator Maria Bartiromo. She said that Hillary Clinton has more experience than almost all of the Republicans running for president. 'Why should the American people trust you to lead this country even though she has been so much closer to the office?'

Rubio treated the question like a home run slugger seeing a fastball over the plate.

'This election is about the future and what kind of country this will be in the 21st century.' He called it a 'generational choice,' contrasting Clinton's age (she would be 69 on Inauguration Day 2017) with his own energetic youth.

Next came the diagnosis of where he thinks we are: 'A growing number of Americans feel out of place in their own country — a society that stigmatizes those who hold cultural values that are traditional.' He added, 'For the first time in 35 years we have more businesses dying than we do starting.'

Rubio then flashed a dagger he will clearly use against Clinton and her 'experience' when he said, 'Around the world every day brings news of a new humiliation for America, many the direct consequence of decisions made when Hillary Clinton was secretary of state.'

In an opinion piece for CNN.com, former White House communications adviser Dan Pfeiffer wrote: 'There is no question that Rubio is the Republican that Democrats fear most.'

After Rubio's four debate performances, and especially the one Tuesday night, they should.

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Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

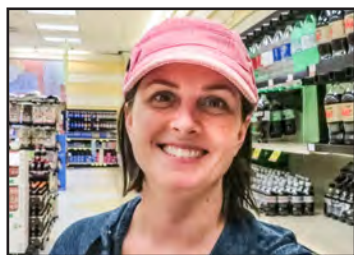
What makes you angry?

streettalk



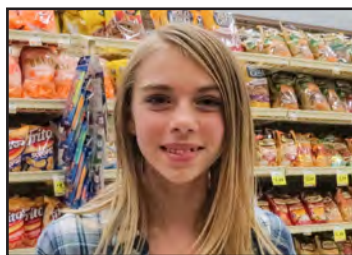
"It takes a lot for me to get angry. If I see people treating others rudely. If I see a supervisor treating someone in training poorly."

— Shelley Kenel
Fenton Township



"I don't like whining and I don't like intolerance. If I don't believe the same things, or like the same things, I don't like people who think they need to change your mind."

— Gwen Metiva, Fenton



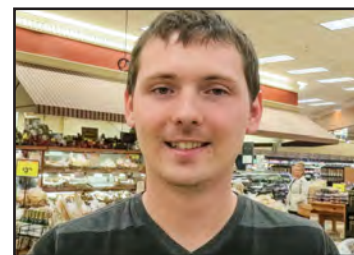
"The dogs when they decide to go to the bathroom in the house. I don't like school."

— Emilee Metiva
Fenton



"One time a friend of mine brought his girlfriend over and she was a druggie and stole money out of my wife's purse."

— Ron Dobbs
Tyrone Township



"Traffic. I absolutely can't stand other drivers when they're in such a hurry that they cut people off. It bothers me. I also don't like tail-gaters."

— Kyle Jones, Lennon

Linden woman searching for owner of vintage Bible

■ Contains handwritten note from mom to son in unknown war

By Vera Hogan

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Becky Williams of Linden loves collecting rare, old books, but there is one she hopes will find its way back home, at least to a descendent of its original owner.



Becky Williams

Williams purchased this particular book, a pocket Bible, from a barn estate sale in Linden last year.

"I've been hanging onto it but feel like I should make an effort to get it back into the right hands," she said. The reason

is because of the writings in the book, which are obviously from a mother to her son, fighting in a past war.

Judging by the age and condition of the pocket Bible, Williams estimates it could have belonged to a soldier fighting in World War II (1939-1945), or World War I (1914-1918).

World War I seems more likely, however, since there is a page inside the Bible about "The Pocket Testament League" and its "origins and aims."

The movement was originated in Birmingham, England by Mrs. Charles M. Alexander. It launched an international movement in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1908 by Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman and



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | VERA HOGAN

A mother's heartfelt message reads, "If people seem unkind - read John 15."

Mr. Charles M. Alexander.

On the "origins and aims" page, it reads, "The League is not simply a Bible-reading and Bible-carrying association. It is an aggressive soul-winning movement."

Charles Alexander was a popular 19th-century gospel singer who worked the evangelistic circuit for many years. In 1904, he married Helen Cadbury, daughter of the Cadbury Chocolate company president. She toured with him on the evangelistic circuit as a women's worker. Together they spread "The Pocket Testament League" around the world.

In 1908, Alexander joined with Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman in evangelistic campaigns that were to take them around

the world many times until Alexander's death in 1920.

During World War I, they evangelized in the army camps winning an untold number of servicemen to Christ.

Williams said there is another indicator of the age of the small Bible.

"You can tell by the formation of the letters in the mother's message to her son," Williams said, referencing in particular the "T" in Testament (see photos).

The way the mother addressed her son, "My Dear Boy," and signed her note, "Lovingly Your Mother" is also testament to an older style of writing.

The son's name is Corp. James L. **See BIBLE on 8**

“It’s sad to think that something like this would be tossed out, or end up in a sale.”

Becky Williams
Linden resident

HOLIDAY

Continued from Front Page

manager at VG's Grocery at Silver Lake Plaza. "They didn't have time to recoup their size (after the bird flu outbreak). They're priced at \$1.49 per pound."

Frozen whole turkeys make up three-quarters of the Thanksgiving market, and they were already born, slaughtered and frozen before the bird flu outbreak, so supply and price aren't greatly affected. "It won't be a problem for this year's turkey supply," said Craig Leppek, meat manager at Holly Foods. "Later in the season, it may be. We price our turkeys below our cost. That's just the nature of the business."

Holly Foods has both Spartan frozen turkeys, priced at 69 cents a pound, and fresh Butterball turkeys at \$1 a pound. "There are still plenty of turkeys, but just call ahead if you want to order a special size," said Leppek.

At both VG's stores in Fenton, the most popular turkey is the Spartan brand frozen turkey, priced at 49 cents per pound with an additional \$10 purchase. "That's always the turkey on my table," said Russell.

Marvin Yono, owner of Alpine Market Place in Linden, said that turkey prices are up slightly, but they're absorbing that cost rather than passing it onto their customers. "Fresh turkeys are about the same as last year," said

Yono. "A Spartan brand frozen turkey is 59 cents a pound with a \$20 purchase."

If pumpkin pie is your favorite Thanksgiving dessert, don't worry. There's enough canned pumpkin to make your pie, at least through the Thanksgiving holiday. But once the 2015 harvest has been shipped, there won't be any Libby's pumpkin puree available until the 2016 harvest.

SUMMARY

■ Many Thanksgiving Day meal staples are up slightly in price, but overall, your costs for cooking this holiday meal will be about the same as last year.

Libby, a division of Nestlé, boasts about 80 percent of the canned pumpkin market, with about 90 percent of its pumpkin crop coming from Illinois, which was hit hard by summer rains.

Shoppers can expect to pay about \$1.89 for a 15-ounce can of Libby's canned pumpkin, although it's the 30-ounce can that is

on sale this week at VG's Grocery for \$1.99, even lower at \$1.49 with a Yescard.

Cranberries, another holiday staple, are down 14 percent in price this year, according to the USDA, but prices are up for eggs (50 percent), russet potatoes (24 percent), spaghetti, corn and butternut squash (17 percent) and sweet potatoes (10 percent).

"Milk (prices) have come down," said Yono. The average price of milk now is \$2.22 a gallon, compared to \$3.78 last year, according to the USDA.

The average cost of a Thanksgiving feast for 10 people has hovered around \$49 since 2011, according to USA Today.

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Holly getting into the 'Christmas' mode

■ Mixed opinions as to where Dicken's Festival should take place

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

The 42nd annual Holly Dicken's Festival is on its way to being another successful holiday event.

The Holly Village Council approved a special event permit at its October meeting. This year's festival will take place Nov. 27, 28 and 29, and Dec. 5, 6, 12 and 13.

George Kullis, director of the Dicken's Festival Committee told the council that safety is a main concern for both the committee and the village. This year's event will remain on Saginaw Street and Battle Alley.

Kullis said there are mixed opinions among some businesses as to where the festival should take place.

"They just don't want to see the streets closed for the sake of closing it. They would like to see them filled," said Kullis.

Committee members had discussions with the Holly Police Department about moving the festival over to Broad Street and the practicalities of doing so. A plan that could be feasible was discussed, but because it looks like support for the festival is returning, it was decided to keep it on Saginaw and Battle Alley.

Kullis said the committee had to "beg" for vendors last year and ended up with three.

"This year we already have six and are getting phone calls daily."

George Kullis
Holly Dickens Festival
Committee director



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

The 2014 Dickens Festival was a huge success and included a lighted parade, the Holly High School Marching Band, a tree-lighting ceremony — and of course, a visit from Santa Claus. The 2015 event begins Nov. 27.

"This year we already have many more and are getting phone calls daily," he said.

Because businesses are asked to pay to sponsor the festival and the stage is placed in front of the Christmas tree on Saginaw Street, the businesses who have supported the festival don't want to see it moved to Broad Street.

"At this point in time it seems to be the favor of the community to leave the festival where it has been," said Kullis. "It is difficult

to make everyone happy but the business people seem to want the festival left where it is."

The other end of town is going to get a little boost of Christmas cheer as well.

Holly's Downtown Development Authority (DDA) agreed unanimously in

October to transfer \$4,000 from its fund balance to purchase Christmas decorations to place on North Saginaw Street through to the McDonald's restaurant.

There were no decorations in that area and this is a long-range plan of the DDA to increase the decoration areas," said Village Manager Jerry Walker.

'Run like the Dickens'

"Run like the Dickens" is a road race run through the village of Holly. The race will be held this year on Saturday, Dec. 12. This is a 10K Run, 5K Run, 5K Walk and the famous Tiny Tim Trot, where distance does not matter. Awards are given in 10K Run, 5K Run, 5K Walk, including heavyweight divisions. Tiny Tim Trot participants will all receive a medal.

Kicking the habit saves lives

■ Great American Smokeout is the day that quitters can win

By Vera Hogan

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Are you ready to put that butt out for the last time — or at least for a day?

The American Cancer Society (ACS) Great American Smokeout event is Thursday, Nov. 19 and a chance for smokers to triumph over their addiction.

Every November, the third Thursday is set aside to encourage smokers to quit for at least one day, and hopefully give it up altogether.

According to ACS, about 42 million Americans still smoke cigarettes, and tobacco use remains the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death in the United States.

As of 2013, there were also 12.4 million cigar smokers in the United States, and more than 2.3 million who smoke tobacco in pipes — other dangerous and addictive forms of tobacco.

By quitting, even for one day, smok-

ers will be taking an important step toward a healthier life, one that can lead to reducing their cancer risk.

Mindy Monroe of Argentine Township smoked for 18 years before quitting cold turkey.

"I quit because my ex-mother-in-law had COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)," Monroe said. "While visiting her in the hospital one day, my then-husband cracked a joke. She started laughing and choking, and could not catch her breath. I decided then I did not want to live my life that way. It was my wake-up call."

Monroe said quitting cold turkey was not as difficult as it is for some because she was more of a social smoker.

"The hardest part was when I would sit down with a cup of coffee, or if I went to the bar with friends," she said.

Monroe said people never really stop quitting though.

"Even after 18 years, if I get a whiff of cigarette smoke, that craving is still there."

Although it can be very difficult to quit smoking, the physical benefits of being smoke free occur almost as soon

See **SMOKEOUT** on 8

SUMMARY

■ The American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout event is Thursday, Nov. 19. The event is held the third Thursday of November annually with the hope smokers will take the first step to a healthier lifestyle by kicking the habit.

MICHIGAN VOTES

WHAT YOUR LEGISLATORS VOTED ON RECENTLY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. With one click, you can approve or disapprove of key votes by your legislators using the VoteSpotter smart phone app. This report was released Friday, Nov. 13.

Senate Bill 280: Ban schools and governments paying union officials to do union work

To prohibit the state and local governments, including public schools, from carrying union officials on their payroll for doing union work, on either a full-time or part-time basis. Under these so-called "release time" arrangements, many public school districts pay a local union official a teacher's salary to do union work on school time. All Democrats and six Republicans voted "no."

Passed 20 to 17 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ NO

Senate Bill 279: Ban public school/union pension spiking scheme

To prohibit public school districts from adopting arrangements in which a school employee goes to work full time for a teachers union but remains a school employee for purposes of collecting a government pension. Recent news reports have exposed how the recent presidents of the state's largest teachers union were paid by the union but remained school employees "on leave" for many years, thereby "spiking" their government pension payouts to six-figure amounts.

Passed 25 to 12 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 492: "Push back" against Obama NLRB franchise unionization rule

To establish that the owner of a local business franchise is the sole employer of its employees, rather than being a "joint employer" alongside the franchisor, with some specified exceptions. The bill was introduced after President Obama's appointees on the National Labor Relations Board ruled that all franchise employees are actually employed by the franchisor for purposes of union organizing. This would mean that employees at local stores franchised by a national chain (like McDonald's) could be unionized on a nationwide basis.

Passed 27 to 10 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 13: Eliminate straight ticket ballot option

To eliminate the straight party ticket option from election ballots.

Passed 23 to 13 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ NO
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ NO
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the

judge

Sobriety courts

There are a variety of definitions for the word 'sober.' Included among these are not being intoxicated or drunk.

I would dare say that there is something good to say about this definition, especially when discussing the issue of drinking and drunk driving.

A 2010 study by the United States Department of Transportation found that in the United States three people are killed in alcohol-related automobile accidents every two hours.

In 2014, Michigan had 255 drunk driving fatalities.

There are many other statistics and studies on this problem, but the bottom line is what is the solution?

Of course, there are many answers to this and over the years, the Michigan Legislature has enacted tougher drunk driving laws with more severe sanctions to address the issue.

The legislature has also enacted laws to allow for the treatment of those who use alcohol to excess and one of these laws is a statute creating what is commonly referred to as a 'Sobriety Court.'

This type of Court is specifically designed to deal with repeat drunk driving offenders and became effective on Jan. 1, 2011. The results have been positive with low recidivism rates.

For those admitted to the Court, it provides an opportunity to stop this type of behavior, which not only can have devastating consequences for others, but for the individual as well.

The Sobriety Court must comply with the 10 guideline principles of DWI Courts as promulgated by the National Center for DWI Courts.

In a nutshell, these principles require intensive treatment and supervision of offenders in a very structured setting.

Only those offenders who are serious about sobriety are admitted. There are over 30 Sobriety Courts in Michigan and on Nov. 2, the 67th District Court started its own.

Our Sobriety Court is a four-phase process lasting 24 months, which includes mandatory AA/NA attendance, frequent drug and alcohol testing, counseling, frequent Court hearings, and meetings with probation officers.

Participants are eligible to receive a restricted driver's license with a mandatory interlock device 45 days after the initial license suspension and not automatically have their cars immobilized or forfeited.

Being sober is a wonderful thing and our hope is that our new Court will help people reach this goal.

PROJECTS

Continued from Front Page

"Since the city does not have low- to moderate-income census tracts, Genesee County suggested utilizing funding to assist city residents through the CDBG Home Repair Program," Burns said.

He also said if the city chooses to utilize 15 percent of the grant funding toward public services programs, the city would have the opportunity to continue providing funding in the amount of \$9,299.25 for public service projects, which could be used to assist with operational costs, such as utility costs, at the Loose Senior Citizen Center.

"The allocation of \$9,299.25 would be paid tri-annual at a rate of \$3,099.75," Burns said.

In previous tri-annual funding periods, the city partnered with Fenton and Argentine townships to provide their portion of public services funds to the Loose Senior Citizen Center.

After the public hearing, the city has until Nov. 20 to submit its CDBG application.

Mayor Sue Osborn said the information provided with the meeting packet indicated funds could be used for a community building, which would include the community center.

Burns said the project can be submitted, but approval is up to the county.

Osborn also commented that the Christmas in Action (CIA) group helps local residents with home repair projects.

Newly elected Councilwoman Cherie Smith asked about sidewalk repairs in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods.

Burns said there is no census data that

denotes low- to moderate-income areas in the city.

For that to be an option, the city would have to go into a specific subdivision, perform an income survey, and receive a 90-percent response rate indicating residents fall in the low- to moderate-income range.

Councilwoman Pat Lockwood said the Loose Senior Citizen Center receives \$77,000 in annual funding from Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation.

After discussion on various possible projects, the City Council decided to submit several to the county for consideration (see sidebar).

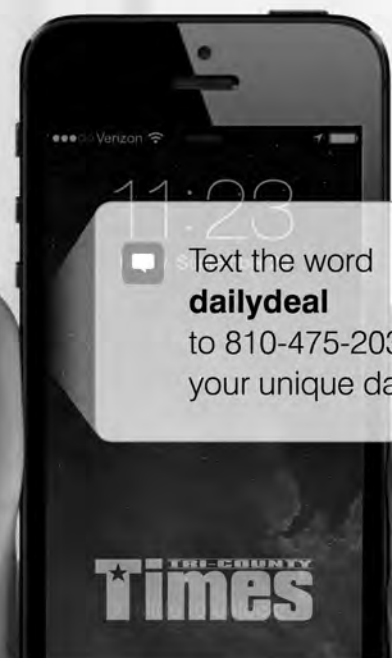
CDBG project ideas submitted

- Community center remodeling and renovations (i.e. new flooring, blinds, etc.)
- Fund programs offered at the Community Center to help offset costs to low- and moderate-income residents
- Fund various senior programs at the Community Center
- Repair the bridge leading from Community Center property to the World of Wonder campus
- Repairs and improvements to the parking lot at the Jack R. Winegarden Library
- Demolition of the city-owned structure at 206 East Caroline St.
- Purchase a self-contained breathing apparatus for the fire department
- Fund playground improvements at Mill Pond Park

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News briefs

Linden Community Development Block Grant

The Linden City Council voted to use the Community Development Block Grant money to remove architectural barriers at city hall to make the entrance handicap accessible, and to the Loose Senior Citizens Center. Out of the total \$9,515 Linden receives from the county, \$8,100 will go to

handicap accessibility at city hall, and \$1,400 will go to the Loose Senior Citizens Center for public service. The CDBG money must be used for the benefit of those in low- to moderate-income areas.

Sen. Dave Robertson to speak at Holly church

State Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Dist. 26) will speak about mental health at the Holly Presbyterian Church located at 207 East Maple St. on Nov. 20, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The community is invited to attend.

SMOKEOUT

Continued from Page 6

as you smoke your last cigarette.

Within 20 minutes, your heart rate and blood pressure drops. You'll be breathing more easily within a couple of weeks. Your risk of heart attack and stroke decreases after quitting as well.

Smokeout history

In 1971, Arthur P. Mullaney, a guidance counselor at Randolph High School in Randolph, Massachusetts, organized an event that set the wheels in motion for the Great American Smokeout, as we know it today.

In an interview with the American Cancer Society (ACS) News Today, Mr. Mullaney said, "Kids used to come into my office after school, and one day we were talking about college.

"I said, 'you know, if I could have a nickel for every cigarette butt I see outside we'd have enough money to send all of you to college.'"

He went on to say that if the smokers in the town of Randolph stopped smoking for a day and donated the money they would have spent on cigarettes, they'd have the makings for a college scholarship fund for students.

Before long, the plan for the first Smokeout was underway with the tag line 'Light up a Student's Future, Not a Cigarette.'

That first event, which took place in February of 1972, brought in \$4,500 and got enthusiastic support from the town of Randolph.

See several apps with this story that could help you quit smoking at tctimes.com

The second annual Smokeout event raised \$5,000, and by the time year three rolled around, the ACS had come onboard.

Just a few years later, the idea of a smoke-free day finally took off, and in 1976, the California Division of the ACS succeeded in getting nearly one million of its smoking residents to put the butts down for one day. The Great American Smokeout had been born.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Patricia Tyra (left), Brittany Untapher and Marlena Jarvinen get their pictures taken at Bridge Street Exchange in Linden at the photo booth for Ladies Night Out on Friday, Nov. 6.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

Continued from Page 3

"Twenty-five businesses participated," Mielcarek said. "This is the largest ever.

Everybody had a really good night. This was the first thing we had going since the Streetscape was mostly finished."

The cold and windy weather didn't stop hundreds of ladies from traveling from Gerych's and enjoying free wine, to Red Fox Footwear

and trying coffee and hot chocolate from the Mason Jar Coffee Company.

Aaron Brooks, owner of Mason Jar Coffee Company, gave out samples of his coffee and said people were "phenomenally" nice at Ladies Night.

"It's going great," he said. "The nice thing about an event like this is having people taste my coffee. The more I can expose people to what coffee is supposed to taste like, the better," he said.

You couldn't get through Fenton's Open Book without bumping into people. Many women visited the store to pick out their "blind date," a book wrapped in brown paper with a few words written on it describing the book.

Owner Karen Piacentini said, "Blind Date with a Book" is a hit every year.

"Every year we give out more and

more. (The event) is going good. I was concerned with construction but it's all done. It's fun to have everyone here," Piacentini said.

Holly

Holly's Ladies Night Out on Friday, Nov. 13 was the busiest out of the three events, with more than 2,000 attendees. "This was a record turnout," said Andrew Potter, executive director of the Holly Downtown Development Authority and Main Street Manager.

"This year it was 40 degrees and really windy. The girls didn't care. Our ambiance of downtown plays a big part. Every store was absolutely packed," Potter said.

Cupcakes and Kisses wanted to draw people in while starting gift giving early — if you bought a cupcake. Jewelry was baked into three different cupcakes as a surprise for three lucky women when they bit into the baked good.

Potter said many stores reported setting record annual sales on Ladies Night.

One popular Holly business was the French Flamingo Fashion Accessories. "I love this event, it's always so much fun," said employee Shannon Trantham. "So many people come in here who wouldn't normally come

in here. We get some great people from different towns and they come back for Christmas."

One popular Holly business was the French Flamingo Fashion Accessories.

"I love this event, it's always so much fun," said employee Shannon Trantham.

"So many people come in here who wouldn't normally come in here. We get some great people from different towns and they come back for Christmas."

“So many people come in here who wouldn't normally come in here.”

Shannon Trantham
French Flamingo
Fashion Accessories employee

BIBLE

Continued from Page 5

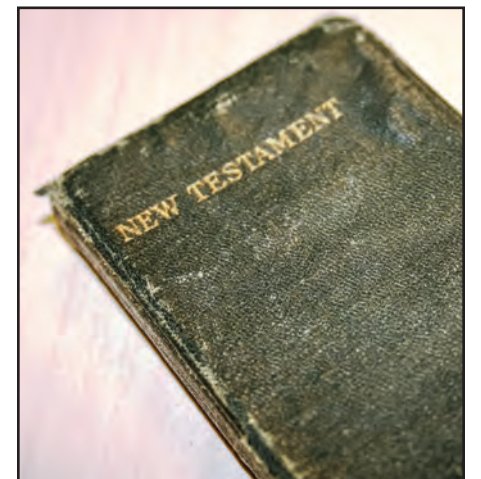
Smith, with a military address of HDQ, 2nd Repl. Batt., U.S.M.C. A home address is listed as 50 Windemere Ave., Highland Park, Michigan. It is an address that no longer exists, according to online searches.

Williams said she can't imagine how this little pocket Bible made its way to a barn sale in Linden.

"It's sad to think that something like this would be tossed out, or end up in a sale," she said.

Anyone with information about this little pocket Bible and whom it may or may have belonged to, can email vhogan@tctimes.com or call (810) 433-6823.

Source: wholesomewords.com



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | VERA HOGAN

The worn cover of the New Testament shows its age and that it was well-used.

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'PURPLE OUT'

Continued from Page 3

and it just so happened that November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month."

Smigielski's father lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on Oct. 28, 2009 at the age of 67.

In December of 2008, he had some back pains that he thought were a pulled muscle from shoveling snow, according to Smigielski.

"As time went by, it got worse and he finally went to see his doctor," she said. "While there, he passed a kidney stone. They thought that was his problem but ordered a CT scan to be safe. It was there the doctors saw the mass on his pancreas. He had a biopsy done and it was in March of 2009 that he was diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer.

"My dad's symptom was only back pain," Smigielski added. "After diagnosis, my dad did turn jaundice, which can be another symptom, and started losing weight.

"My family was fortunate that he lived seven months after diagnosis," she said. "Several people only live two weeks, sometimes two months. The lucky ones get a year.

"My dad was just such a great guy," added Smigielski. "He loved his family. He was married to my mom for 43 years before he died, raised three daughters and had two grandchildren.

"While pancreatic cancer did not define my dad, it took him from my family way too early," she said. "I watched my dad go from a healthy 175-pound man to maybe 100 pounds when he died."

Smigielski said she knows all families struggle when they lose a loved one to any type of illness.

"However, I'm not very good at sitting and doing nothing. I am a take action, try to make a change sort of person," she said. "My personal obsession has been to make



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fenton High School students purchased purple ribbons and the Student Council placed them on the wall to spell out this message of "Hope."

Purple in November mean the same as pink in October.

"Every single person in our country knows what pink means when they see it everywhere in October," Smigielski said. "I want that for November. I want to go grocery shopping and get purple bags. I want purple pizza boxes when I order pizza. I want the awareness spread and money raised so the researchers can make advancements and hopefully other families can have a better outcome if God forbid they have a diagnosis of this cancer."

Following her father's death, Smigielski said she did some research on pancreatic cancer and was overwhelmed to learn that one group—the NFL—had many connections to pancreatic cancer.

"Several former players, the Detroit Lions head of security, some of the players' agents and others had all died from pancreatic cancer," she said. "While I did that search, DeSean Jackson's name came up as his dad died from it in May of 2009. I knew that he was a popular player and I found his foundation and an email."

Smigielski didn't know it, but the email went to Jackson's mom. She admits "spewing some ugliness" to the woman about the lack of effort on the part of the NFL to recognize pancreatic cancer, while at the same time doing so much for breast cancer in October.

"I mean, after all, there are football games every Thursday, Sunday and Monday in November so why can't the players wear purple wristbands, socks, etc. in November," she said.

"She and I ended up emailing back and forth and we decided that the Purple Out at AGS would be a good start," Smigielski added.

"When I started thinking about doing something for pancreatic cancer awareness, I knew that middle school students needed something they could connect to," said Smigielski.

A wide receiver for the Washington Redskins, DeSean Jackson is a very popular football player in the NFL.

At AGS, staff paid \$5 each to wear jeans this week and we have several DeSean Jackson items that students are buying raffle tickets to win. Those items include a plaque, an autographed poster and two autographed 8 by 10 pictures.

"We also have DeSean bracelets and some other fun bracelets for sale," said Smigielski.

At the high school, the student council sold ribbons to students and those were put on the wall to spell out "HOPE" in purple. At State Road Elementary School, Principal Barry Tiemann is participating in No Shave November and State Road students brought in loose change to donate.

"My connection with his mom and our joint passion for raising awareness is what started our Purple Out," Smigielski said. "It makes sense to raise the money for his foundation as well."

COURT

Continued from Front Page

This hearing was the second time they were in court to learn about evidence against their clients. The first hearing, held last week, was adjourned to allow for more time for reviewing of reports and interviews.

Kenneth Karasick is representing Ryan Stevens, 18, of Linden. Jodi Hemingway is representing Lamarr Dukes, 15, of West Bloomfield and Elbert Hatchett is representing Kody Brewer, 15, of Wolverine Lake.

Following last week's hearing, Karasick said, "... These charges are just the beginning, the tip of the iceberg." He said there appears to be more the teens will be charged with based on evidence being brought by the prosecutors. "This school plot is probably the least of their troubles, from what I understand."

Argentine Township Det. Doug Fulton and Genesee County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Karen Hanson were present for the brief meeting.

Fulton said the investigation is ongoing and police are close to requesting

the prosecutor's office to issue additional charges. "We've wrapped up our interviews with anyone associated with the school," Fulton said.

Fulton said for the time being, they are waiting for everything that is being dumped from the three teens' cell-phones, including anything that may appear in social media.

Stevens has been lodged at the Genesee County Jail since Saturday, Oct. 31 when he was arraigned on conspiracy to commit first-degree premeditated murder, a felony punishable by up to life in prison and false report or threat of terrorism, a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

Dukes and Brewer have been lodged at the Genesee County Regional Detention Center, due to their ages, on the same felony charges.

The alleged plot came to light Wednesday, Oct. 28, after a student alerted school resource officer to a threatening message on Instagram. This set an investigation in motion and three suspects were identified, located and taken into custody.

Pancreatic cancer facts

- Pancreatic cancer is detected the majority of the time when the patient is already stage IV and start to have symptoms.

- There is no early detection test for pancreatic cancer. As far as funding for research, it has been the least funded cancer out there and is very resistant to treatment.

- Pancreatic cancer is currently the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States, and is anticipated to become the second by 2020.

- Pancreatic cancer is one of the nation's deadliest cancers with a five-year relative survival rate of just 6 percent. An estimated 72 percent of patients will die in the first year of diagnosis.

- It is estimated that in 2015, 48,960 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and 40,560 will die from the disease. Seventy-two percent of patients will die within the first year of diagnosis.

- Pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer with a 5-year relative survival rate in the single digits, at just 7 percent.

- While surgery offers the best chance for survival, fewer than 20 percent of pancreatic cancer cases are diagnosed early enough for surgical intervention. Even with surgery, the disease recurs in approximately 80 percent of these patients, who die within 5 years of recurrence.

Source: Pancreatic Cancer Action Network

SAVE THESE DATES!

BACK-TO-BACK

Linden

Holiday

Happening

Jinglefest

2015

HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES

Friday, December 4 & Saturday, December 5

LINDEN Friday evening	FENTON Saturday morning & afternoon
<p>PRESENTED BY:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> </div> <p>Friday:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting of the Luminares • Horse drawn carriage rides • Gingerbread houses • Linden Mills Museum • Tree contest • Live nativity • Community sing-a-long • Shopping in the Moon Light • Lighted parade • Pictures with Santa and much more! 	<p>FENTON MAIN EVENT SPONSOR:</p> <p>Saturday Morning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cookie Sale – 9 a.m. at Transfiguration Lutheran Church (Fenton Rd) and 10 a.m. at Fenton United Methodist Church Family Life Center • Holiday Shopping – begins at 10 a.m. Visit the Jinglefest webpage to view discounts and specials • Rotary Christmas Tree decorating – begins at 10 a.m. at Bush Park • Lunch with Santa – Session 1: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Session 2: 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Community Center <p>Saturday Afternoon (beginning at 3 p.m.):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JingleJog 5K • Music – Bob Steel • Horse drawn wagon rides • Ice Sculptures • Santa Paws pictures – Animal Health Clinic • Live Nativity and children's games at FUMC • JingleJam Tent – entertainment from 3 – 6 p.m. • Bake Sale – Mom to Mom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chili, hotdogs and refreshments – Boy Scout Troop 212 • Dibbleville Music – WHMI • Shopping Spree Drawing • Holiday Lighted Parade at 6 p.m. • Christmas Tree lighting following parade • Fireworks • Pictures with Santa – N. Leroy Business District • Refreshments – Fenton Beautification Committee

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PARIS

Continued from Front Page

for pleasure although I've done plenty of teleconferencing with colleagues due to my French language skills," Hamilton said.

"All of my contacts in France made it through the events unscathed," he added. "Where the attacks took place (non inclusive of the bombing outside the stadium) is without question the most popular area for Parisians and foreigners alike to congregate on a Friday night in Paris.

"I can remember many nights wandering the same streets where these heinous acts occurred," Hamilton said. "Most of the people I had the chance to communicate with were out and about but not in the area where the mass shootings occurred."

Hamilton said a couple of his close friends are regulars to the Bataclan

Theatre and were lucky to skip the show there that night.

"I think that, if not just me, but others stop going to places they love and want to visit then the criminal enterprises that carry out these crimes have won and we cannot continually live in fear," Hamilton said.

"I would not hesitate to visit Paris again as it's always been a second home to me and terrorists or not, it always will be," he added.

Mark Hamel, co-owner of The Laundry said he, too, has friends in France. He said most of them live in Nantes on the west side of the country.

"But we are friends with a young couple who do live in Paris, Anne and Guillaume, and their two young children," Hamel said. "Anne worked at The Laundry for a summer when I first opened. We visited them this past summer and had a picnic on the Champs de Mars next to the Eiffel Tower.

"Guillaume is a Paris police officer stationed at the foot of the Eiffel Tower," Hamel added. "I have been in contact with my friends in Nantes and they are fine."

"Anne and Guillaume contacted me yesterday (Monday) and are doing well," said Hamel. "Most people have been staying indoors the last few days and they are pretty shaken up still. They definitely see this act of terrorism as their 9/11."

"Our son, Bryan MacPhail-Fausey felt God's call a few years ago," said Penny Fausey, owner of Fausey & Associates

in Fenton.

A few years ago, while continuing to work full time in the automotive industry, Bryan studied and earned a Masters Degree in Theology. He was ultimately ordained a Baptist minister.

"He felt a great calling to become a missionary, and, his wife, Heather, readily agreed for she, too felt called by God," said Penny. The young Fauseys have three sons and two daughters. The girls, one almost 16 and the other 9 years old, were adopted from orphanages in China and Africa, respectively.

"Strangely enough, both Bryan and Heather were feeling a tug toward Africa before they ever went there. Their original intent was Ethiopia, but as time went by, they decided on Cameroon, Africa," said Penny. "The primary language in Cameroon is French. Hence, the French connection."

A year ago in May, Bryan left his job as an engineer to devote all his time to visiting churches all over the Midwest to talk about their mission and raise support. By the end of that summer, they had met their fundraising goals, and were able to pursue their dream.

"On Aug. 27, 2014 with about eight very full suitcases, we took them to Detroit Metro and said our good-byes for who knows how long," said Penny. "They flew into Paris's Charles deGaulle Airport and then onto their final destination, a few hours south of there.

Bryan and Heather are taking full-time classes at a University there learning French. The family will be moving to Africa next summer.

"I know they are a few hours away from Paris, but after 9/11, I had no idea whether the attacks were limited to one city or several," Penny said. "I did message them but it would have been after midnight their time.

"They both messaged me very early Saturday morning, about 1 a.m. our time, which made me extremely happy," Penny added. "When I awoke in the middle of the night I could see they were OK and go back to sleep.

"Because of all the horrible things going on in Africa, I've fretted for so long about them moving there, but thought the France part was pretty cool and a great experience for our grandkids," she said. "Who would have thought France was in danger."

Why was France targeted?

Mark Hamel, co-owner of The Laundry in Fenton, has studied in, and visited, France often. He offers some insight as to why France and the French are being targeted.

"The French people feel very strongly about the separation of church and state, more so than we do," he said. "In fact, you cannot display any form of religion in schools or in government positions.



Mark Hamel

That means no cross necklaces if you are Catholic, which most of France is, no yarmulke if you are Jewish and no jibab if you are Muslim."

Any signs of any religion are forbidden in France.

"The Muslims want France to change and the French resent someone coming into their country and forcing them to change," Hamel said. "The French are happy to welcome people from around the world but they feel they should assimilate into their culture, not make them change to accommodate them."

When fleeing persecution, France is a natural for relocation. It has a "phenomenal" social system, national health care, etc. As soon as refugees land in the country with their wives and children, France gives them all health care and compensation per child. There could be multiple wives and children.

"They are all of a sudden sitting pretty nice and the French resent that," Hamel said. "Their social system is being stressed and they blame the Muslim immigrants. They are taking a lot from France and not giving anything back. Add to that that they are trying to change them and you have a big problem."

The Muslims feel marginalized, the French don't want to change. Throw in a few radical extremists and innocent people are bound to get hurt, Hamel said.

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TRIVIA QUOTABLES

Q Who said 'I don't trust doctors. they are like golfers. Every one has a different answer to your problem?'

A The late Seve Ballesteros said it. The professional golfer won five major championships during his career. He died of brain cancer in 2011.

LINDEN FALL COACHES HONORED

The Linden varsity volleyball team had a strong season, finishing 33-13-5 overall and second place in the Metro League standings. The season has earned the Eagles' coaching staff some honors as well. Varsity volleyball coach Cori Mason was selected the Metro's Coach of the Year by her coaching peers. Meanwhile, JV volleyball coach Estelle Lashbrook also earned Regional Assistant of the year for her work with the volleyball program.

"She inspires kids to love this sport and they want to continue playing," Mason said about Lashbrook, who has been with Linden for the last four seasons.

The honors didn't stop there. Linden varsity girls cross country coach Teresa Wright guided her squad to a Metro League title and a fourth-place finish at the D2 state meet, also earning her Metro Coach of the Year honors.

Gilbert era returns to Fenton hoops program

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — John Gilbert doesn't think too much has changed since the last time the 1984 Fenton graduate coached the Fenton varsity boys basketball team during the 2003-04 season.

At least the game of basketball hasn't changed dramatically. There is one thing that has changed.

"Cell phones are different," Gilbert said. "They really weren't the big thing they are now — social media and all that stuff. The things that are distractions are probably the biggest changes than anything else. But kids are kids. They want to do well, play well, play hard and be around their buddies. I don't think that has changed since I was a player."

Something else that hasn't changed is Gilbert's passion to want to coach the team he starred on during the early- to mid-1980s. Gilbert was hired to replace Tim Olszewski in early June. Olszewski resigned the position so he could coach the Howell girls varsity basketball

team and return to coaching at the school he graduated from. Gilbert began his first official winter practice with his team at Fenton High School Monday, the first official day any Michigan boys basketball squad was able to practice in preparation for the 2015-16 season.

"It feels good to be back in the gym," Gilbert said. "It's always fun to be around the kids who are working hard. There is a lot of work to do, obviously, but it's been 10 to 12 years since I've been in a gym (coaching) and it will be fun to be back."

Gilbert began his first practice with a message to the approximately 16 players competing during Fenton's varsity basketball tryouts.

"Everybody in every gym is going to play hard today," Gilbert said to his team in their first official huddle. "Are you going to play hard in two or three weeks?"

Gilbert said the first days have value to the entire season.

"Really, I just want them to understand what I think is important as far as how hard you

See **GILBERT** on 12



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
DAVID TROPPENS

Led by Troy Smigielski, the Fenton varsity boys basketball team practices doing some training exercises during Monday's first official practice of the season.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

(From left starting with the front row) Fenton's state-qualifying competitors are Grace Siefker, Elise Cassidy, Cameron Mathews, Taylor Shegos and Bri Costigan.

Five Tigers ready for Friday's State swim meet at Oakland University

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Entering the 2015 girls swimming season, Bri Costigan was a given to qualify for the state meet.

After all, the senior has been to the D2 state meet every season ever since her freshman year.

However, when the senior had an accident that nearly cut her right thumb off earlier this fall, it looked like she would be lucky to return to the pool, much less qualify for the

state meet.

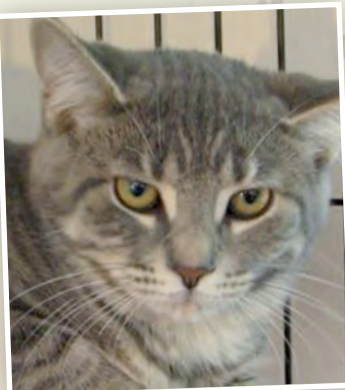
But Costigan, along with four other Fenton varsity girls swimmers and divers, did just that. She'll be competing in the 50 freestyle and with teammates Cameron Mathews, Grace Siefker and Elise Cassidy in the 400 freestyle relay at Friday's prelims at the D2 state meet being held at Oakland University.

"I'm supposed to go to the surgeon on Thursday to see when I

See **STATE** on 12

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GILBERT

Continued from Page 11

have to play — how I think the game should be played and that they are on my page and not on their own page,” Gilbert said.

“But you don’t win the season on the first two days of practice, and you don’t lose them either. It’s about setting a culture and a climate. It’s about getting them on board and getting them to believe what you are trying to do.”

The Tigers’ season begins with a sense of uncertainty. Always a Metro contender over the last decade, the Tigers graduated five players who earned at least All-Metro honorable mention status a year ago from last year’s 10-11 squad. Despite the sub-.500 overall record, the Tigers did finish a very respectable third place in the Metro League with a 9-5 mark.

Fenton fans will get a quick look to see where they may stand in the FML race this season when they travel to defending Metro champions Holly on Dec. 11. The team’s first actual game will be at Lapeer on Dec. 8. But on Monday, concerns about predictions and first games were off the radar. Instead there were drills, trying to get the players conditioning up. Equally important, it was a good chance for Gilbert to create relationships with his players at a time when basketball is the key thing on everyone’s mind.

“You don’t learn a lot about them (prior to the season),” Gilbert said.



“You just see who shows up, what they want to do and things like that. With football, soccer and other sports going on, they are in and out and you really don’t get to see a lot. Now, we get to see who put some time in since summer time and we get to see who is ready to play.”

Gilbert also can use his past as a teaching technique. While playing at Fenton, one of his coaches was legendary Fenton basketball coach Bob Bruder. After graduating, he went to Lake Superior State, scoring 1,329 points during his time on the basketball team. He’s a member of Lake Superior State University’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

“I had a great high school coach in Bob Bruder,” Gilbert said. “I had a couple of really good coaches in college who taught me how to play and to do things above and beyond what Bob taught me. I’m fortunate in that regards. I’ve mixed those things together and learned a few other things throughout the years. But I’m not different than any other coach. I’m trying to get the kids to play hard believe in each other and believe in what you are trying to do. When you do, good things happen, if you have the talent to do it.”

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Fenton varsity boys basketball coach John Gilbert talks to his team at the start of the Tigers’ first practice of the 2015-16 season on Monday.

David's Dabblings

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



BETWEEN LIONS’ LAMBEAU VICTORIES, I HAVE CHANGED

December 15, 1991.

Prior to Sunday, that was the last time the Detroit Lions defeated the Green Bay Packers at Lambeau Field.

I’d be lying if I said I remember exactly how I reacted to the Detroit Lions’ 21-17 victory on that date. The Lions were 10-4 entering that contest and I’m sure I was so full of Lions’ Kool-Aid that my thought process was not ‘I wonder if the Lions will win’ but more like ‘I wonder how much the Lions will win this game by.’

I have been a Lions’ fan all my life, but at the age of 22, my Lions’ fandom was hitting its lifetime peak. It wasn’t until that fall that I had finally purchased a car. Suddenly, I had access to going to the Lions’ home games. That season, I went to four home contests including the Lions’ playoff victory against the Dallas Cowboys (their only playoff victory since 1957). To get those playoff tickets, I went to the Pontiac Silverdome at 11 p.m. one night and waited in line for playoff tickets to go on sale the next morning.

The next season we went to a majority of the home games, and by 1993 I was a passionate Lions’ season-ticket holder. And I remained a season-ticket holder until 2007. A four-year move to Illinois couldn’t keep me away from the Lions. I didn’t miss a single home game, frequently going to work immediately after my six-hour drive back from the game.

Now, I only sporadically attend games. In fact, the last game I went to was the Dec. 22, 2013 overtime loss to the New York Giants, the contest that ended the Lions’ playoff chances that season.

What do I do on about half of the Lions’ regular-season games now? I compete in a curling league. In fact, our league starts at 4 p.m., so I missed the TD that put the Lions up by eight, missed the TD that Green Bay scored, didn’t see the on-side kick or didn’t witness Green Bay’s missed 52-yard field goal attempt. My way of keeping up on the game were updates people gave us while we were on the curling ice.

Wow, has my life changed since that last victory at Lambeau. Don’t get me wrong. I’m still a Lions’ fan. I certainly can be bitter about the Lions but that’s only because those stupid Honolulu blue and silver colors still run through my veins. But it’s interesting to see how I’ve changed in those 24 years. I went from being a complete nut-bag hostage to the Lions’ cause to being able to say ‘Eh, let’s join a Sunday curling league’ resulting in me missing large chunks of Sunday afternoon Lions’ games. And it’s probably fair to say those losses to Green Bay probably helped chip away at some of that nut-bag loyalty.

There are times I still wish the 1991 Lions’ fan remained in me. Even if the victory didn’t really change the Lions’ season, Sunday was one of those days. There is still that bug inside me wanting to pull myself back to 1991 wanting to watch that Lions’ blossom in my heart to exponentially expand again. But this period between wins has been pretty symbolic for me as well. It symbolizes the start of my most passionate times as a fan to where I was Sunday — a much more level-headed fan that can enjoy a fall Sunday beyond the Lions. If nothing else, I’m sure my wife is happy about the transition.

STATE

Continued from Page 11

have to go in for another surgery,” Costigan said. “My first practice I was able to make it through the full practice was probably last Thursday. ... It’s great (that I qualified for state) because it expanded my season so I was actually able to

spend time with all of my teammates.”

Two other Fenton athletes will compete in individual events. Diver Taylor Shegos won her regional diving meet and enters the state event as the third seed. Meanwhile, no one will be busier than Cassidy who will not only compete in the relay but is qualified to compete

in the 100 freestyle and 100 backstroke, individually.

Costigan, whose thumb is still a nice shade of black, says diving into the pool is the biggest challenge.

“Instead of thinking speed, I’m trying to cushion my entry into the water,” Costigan said. “It hurts when I go in, and if it hurts, it messes up my whole race.”

Shegos, a sophomore, was pleased with her regional performance.

“I was pretty surprised because I really wasn’t expecting to get first,” Shegos said. “I was pretty happy with that. I’m excited for states. I’m ranked third so it’s exciting.”

A year ago Shegos was sick, and she wasn’t able to advance to the finals. This year she expects to make it at least that far.

“Getting into the finals is pretty much (my goal),” Shegos said. “Top three would be nice, even top five or something like that. I’m just really excited.”

Cassidy is as excited as Shegos.

“Going to state means a lot,” Cassidy said. “Just being a part of this team and being with these four girls, we always get to work together, and push each other. It’s a great feeling.”

The squad hopes they push each other to some personal-best times and school record marks. Also, making it in the top 16 so they can swim during the state meet’s second day is another big goal.

“Last year I didn’t make it back to the finals,” Cassidy said. “This year knowing I was able to make the cut (early), ... I am hoping to make it in the top 16 and break the backstroke record. I think the relay has a shot at coming back and breaking the record as well.”

“I want to get back to my personal-best times and possibly even break the records,” Costigan said. “I know it will be really hard in the 50. Our relay is going for the record and trying to make it back for the next day.”

Friday’s preliminary meet begins at noon. Those who finish in the top 16 will compete in Saturday’s championship meet, also starting at noon. The top eight compete for the event title.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015

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Obituaries

Times

David E. Bant 1923-2015

David E. Bant - age 92,
of Linden, died Friday,
November 13, 2015. He
was born March 2, 1923

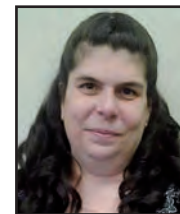


and lived
much of
his life in
Manis-
tique. In 1948,
David
married the
former

Shirlee M. Olsen in Manis-
tique. He was employed
as a teacher, principal,
and superintendent for
the Linden Community
Schools for 33 years. He
was an icon of the com-
munity and impacted the
educational needs of local
children. David is survived
by his daughters, Bev-
erlee (Stephen) Smaka
of Linden, and Barbara
Boren of Berkley; sons,
Jeffrey Bant of Manistique
and Bruce Bant of Manis-
tique; grandchildren, Jaimi
(Grant) Hegenauer and
Jeffrey (Nichole) Smaka;
great grandchildren, Cole
and Clay Smaka, and Jil-
lian and Aiden Hegenauer.
Visitation will be held from
10 - 11 AM, Thursday,
November 19, 2015 at the
Messier Broullire Funeral
Home, 211 Arbutus Av-
enue, Manistique, 49854.
Funeral services will follow
at 11 AM, at the funeral
home. Burial will be held
in the Fairview Cemetery at
Manistique. In lieu of flow-
ers, memorial donations
may be directed to the
Church of the Redeemer-
Presbyterian of Manistique,
314 Main Street, Man-
istique, MI 49854. The
family would like to thank
the staff at Caretel Inns of
Linden for the special care
David received during the
past 7 years and also to
Residential Hospice of Troy
for their care during David's
last days. Online condo-
lences may be expressed
at www.mbfuneral.com.

Christine Helen Wight 1964-2015

Christine Helen Wight -
age 51, of Byron, died
Sunday, November 15,



2015. Funeral
services will be
held
11 AM
Saturday,
Novem-
ber 21,
2015 at

Sharp Funeral Homes,
Linden Chapel, 209 East
Broad Street, Linden.
Burial will follow in Byron
Cemetery. Visitation will
be held 4 - 9 PM Friday
with a rosary being prayed
at 8 PM and 10 AM until
the time of the service on
Saturday. Those desiring
may make contributions
to Byron Future Farmers
of America, Alumni and
Friends. Christine was
born March 25, 1964 in
Detroit, the daughter of
Henry and Jacqueline
(Saville) Biscorner. She
was a 1982 graduate of
Roseville High School.
She married Donald W.
Wight Jr. on August 10,
1985 in Roseville. Chris-
tine is survived by her
husband, Donald; two
sons, Matthew Wight of
Coopersville and Donald
Wight III of Byron; mother,
Jacqueline Biscorner of
Roseville; two sisters,
Carol Biscorner of Ros-
eville and Cathy (Gerald)
Lemke of Dryden; father-
in-law, Donald Wight Sr. of
Algonac; several nieces
and nephews. She was
preceded in death by her
father, Henry Biscorner.
Tributes may be posted
on the obituaries page of
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3			2				8	

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)

Don't feel sheepish about looking to spend more time with that special person during the upcoming holidays. Do it because it's the right thing to do.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

Never mind letting misunderstandings repair themselves. Consider speaking up while the healing process can be shorter and sweeter and leave fewer scars.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

Romance is easily awakened in the Geminian heart, especially around the happy holiday season. So go ahead and make those plans with that special someone.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

Moon Children can glow with their own inner light as the holiday season magic takes hold. It's a very special time for Cancers and Libras together. Enjoy.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)

It's a good time for you fabulous Felines to take pleasure in your special gift for, well, taking pleasure! Look for this holiday season to give you every reason to purr.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)

This is a good time to let others who are in your life get a little closer to you. You'll both find out what you've been missing for far too long.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)

Open up your eyes and see some welcome surprises you've missed or overlooked for too long. What you find can lead to other favorable changes.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)

What you expect to be potentially troublesome might simply be especially challenging and well worth your efforts to check out. Good luck!

SAGITTARIUS (November 22

to December 21) A friendship might not seem as trustworthy as you'd like. OK. Ask your questions, get your answers and settle the matter once and for all.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)

A family situation moves into a new area because of (or, maybe, thanks to) some decisions you might have felt you could not avoid making.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)

You could be cutting it very close if you hope to make those holiday plan changes in time to avoid problems. Get a friend or family member to help.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)

Friends show how important you are to them. Keep these precious relationships thriving. They affect much that will happen to the fabulous Fish in the new year.

WEDNESDAY JUMBLE

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

TAFOO

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WATHE

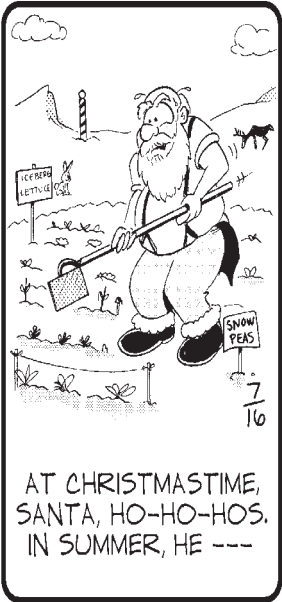
SHAWCE

TEGOTH

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

Ans: - -

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



NEW BIBLE Jumble Books Go To: <http://www.tyndale.com/jumble/>

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

KING FEATURES

ACROSS

- 1 A great amount
6 Construc-
tion piece
11 "Evang-
line"
setting
12 Housefly
larva
14 Street less
traveled
15 Past
16 Salt Lake
athlete
17 He hit 61
in '61
19 Scooted
20 Afterward
22 Three-man
vessel?
23 Lose color
24 Helvetica
lack
26 Most goose-
bump-induc-
ing
28 NOW goal
30 Slight touch
31 Run off (with)
35 "Loves me
(not)" factor
39 "The
Amazing —"
40 Bother
42 Post-bout
garb
43 Whatever
number
44 So far
46 Sheepish
remark

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	
11							12					13
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43				44				45		46		
47			48					49		50		
51								52				
	53							54				

- 47 News-
writer's
name
49 Circumvent
51 Lens clean-
ing solution
52 Culmination
53 Water
nymph
54 Philippine
knives
6 Drank up
7 Serenades
the moon
8 Early bird
9 Olden meet-
ing places
10 Units
11 Touches
13 Fundamental
belief
18 Wish undone
21 Family
member
23 Thread
25 To and —
27 Knock
29 Pastis
flavoring
31 Speedy
steeds
32 East Indian
fig tree
33 Charybdis'
partner
34 Desiccate
36 Trinidad
and —
37 Humiliates
38 Flat paper?
41 Skewered
entree
44 "—
Karenina"
45 Proof-
reader's
nightmare
48 Midafter-
noon hour
50 Campaign
pro

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

DVD RELEASES

WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS

Set in the world of electronic music and Hollywood nightlife, an aspiring 23-year-old DJ named Cole spends his days scheming with his childhood friends and his nights working on the one track that will set the world on fire. All of this changes when he meets a charismatic but damaged older DJ named James.

R, 1 hr. 36 min.

MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.

Set against the backdrop of the early 1960s, at the height of the Cold War, centers on CIA agent Solo and KGB agent Kuryakin. Forced to put aside longstanding hostilities, the two team up on a joint mission to stop a mysterious international criminal organization, which is bent on destabilizing the fragile balance of power through the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

PG-13, 1 hr. 56 min.



45% liked it

(Audience score on rottentomatoes.com)

79% liked it

(Audience score on rottentomatoes.com)

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VG's
grocery

Spartan
Frozen, Grade A
Self-Basting
Turkeys **49¢ lb.** with yes
Limit 1 With Additional \$10 Purchase

BUTTERBALL
Frozen, Grade A
Self-Basting
Turkeys **99¢ lb.** with yes
Limit 1 With Additional \$10 Purchase

Ground Fresh
Throughout the Day
Fresh 80% Lean
Ground Beef
Value Pack
\$2.99 lb. with yes



Honeycrisp Apples
Honey Sweet
and Extra Crunchy!
\$1.49 lb. with yes



MICHIGAN APPLES

PROUD TO LOCAL SUPPORT

Michigan
Russet Baking or
White Potatoes
8 lb. bag
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE with yes



Spartan fresh selections

PROUD TO LOCAL SUPPORT

Savings for your family!

Land O Lakes
Butter
Quarters or Half Sticks (16 oz.) or
Spreadable (13 - 15 oz.)
2/\$5 with yes



Coca-Cola or
Pepsi-Cola Products
12 pk., 12 oz. cans, 8 pk., 12 oz. btls. or
8 pk., 16.9 oz. btls. (plus deposit)
3/\$9.99 When you buy 3
Lesser or Greater
Quantities \$4.99 with yes



VG's Homemade
Carrot Cake
with Cream
Cheese Icing
8-inch
\$7.99 with yes



Lay's
Family Size
Potato Chips
10 - 10.5 oz. (excludes baked and natural)
BUY 1 GET 1 FREE with yes



Friday Only
DIGITAL DOWNLOAD



FREE

Download this coupon between
12am - 11:59 pm, Friday, November 20
and receive one (1) 6 oz. Spartan Stuffing FREE.
Must redeem by Sat., Nov. 28, 2015.
Visit shopvgs.com for details

with yes

3-DAY FUEL SAVINGS

Thursday, November 19 through Saturday, November 21

SAVE
50¢
PER
GALLON
ON GAS



**When you spend \$75*
or more on Groceries
in one transaction
with**



*Limit 1 offer per transaction
with yes card. Fuel discounts are limited to a \$75
purchase. See store for details.