

Traffic engineer will study downtown truck issue

Council to address proposed ordinance banning big trucks

By Vera Hogan
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The discussion of truck traffic in downtown Fenton is not over. The Fenton City Council decided Monday to consult with the city's traffic engineer, Pete LaMorie of Progressive Engineering in Grand Rapids, and go over his findings at the January work session.

LaMorie will be asked to study truck traffic patterns and whether rerouting trucks through the industrial park to Silver Lake Road is appropriate. "There's quite a bit of truck traffic downtown," said City Manager Lynn See **TRAFFIC on 6**



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CHRISTMAS SPIRIT OVERFLOWS AT HOLIDAY HAPPENING

MidweekTimes

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015

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

\$1.00

VOL. 22 NO. XLIX

Fenton epicenter of holiday festivities

As in previous years, thousands converge on downtown Fenton for Jinglefest

By Tim Jagielo
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Fenton — The crescendo of the night was the fireworks display, blasting up into the night sky, framing the Fenton Community and Cultural Center with colorful light. The fireworks came on the heels of the tree-lighting ceremony, and before that, the 60-minute lighted parade literally highlighting local businesses, civic groups and churches.

The brass and percussion of the Fenton High School Marching Band led the parade and the Lake Fenton High School Marching band brought the parade to a spirited end.

As always, Santa Claus was there for photos, and there was See **JINGLEFEST on 8**



Sara Krebaum and daughter, Joslyn, 3, of Tyrone Township watch the Jinglefest parade Saturday night, standing atop the outdoor benches of the Fenton Fire Hall restaurant.

Gun sales, CPL requests spike after mass shootings

A record amount of background checks have been processed this year from citizens wanting guns

By Hannah Ball
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The Genesee County Clerk's office gave out more than 200 Concealed Pistol License (CPL) applications the first week of See **CPL on 5**

Median household incomes vary from 2009-2014

Average income for Holly Village residents increases, decreases for Linden residents

By Vera Hogan
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This is part one of a two-part series, based on a new U.S. Census report highlighting average income levels. Leaders of other tri-county areas will speak about the report's findings in part two.

Although the local communities appear to be on the road to economic recovery, the toll it took on income and poverty rates from 2009 to 2014 speaks for itself. See **INCOME on 6**

TEXT YOUR HOT LINE
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“I am not going to watch any more Lions games. They have wasted another season and are wasting the career of one of the best quarterbacks in franchise history. Bad ownership is at the core of their chronic failure. Therefore nothing will change until the ownership does.”

“What happened to the Nativity set in front of the community center? We miss it. It was a tradition to take my family there to see it.”

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“Just wondering if anyone else felt they should change the sign out front of St. John's elementary from 'pray to end gun violence' to 'pray to end all violence?' ”

Police&Fire report

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU (BBB) WARNS ABOUT DELIVERY SCAM

Be on the lookout for scammers who are taking advantage of the holiday season. How the scam works: Your phone rings, and it's a delivery company saying that you have a package on the way. Soon, the doorbell rings and it's a delivery person holding a gift basket. You ask who sent the gift, but the delivery person doesn't know. He or she may claim the card was sent separately. You decide to accept the "gift" anyway. Before the delivery person can leave it, he or she says you need to pay a nominal "verification fee." In one version of the scam, the amount allegedly confirms that the basket, which contains a bottle of wine, was given to a person of legal drinking age. The delivery person claims he or she can only accept credit or debit cards, and produces a hand held card scanner. The "card scanner" is actually a device that collects the credit/debit card number, PIN and/or security code. Con artists then use this to make unauthorized charges or commit identity theft. Protect yourself from a delivery scam: Be suspicious of a package from an unrecognized delivery service or source. If a friend or family member wants to surprise you, they will likely send a gift using

an established service. Do not give your credit or debit card to someone at your door. Unless you requested the package and expected to pay something, you shouldn't have a fee at delivery. Asking for ID is OK, but not a credit card. It is not out of the ordinary to ask for identification when alcohol is delivered, but the receiver would not be required to pay a fee to receive a gift. BBB has a warning about a number of holiday scams at bbb.org/holidayscams. To report a scam, go to BBB Scam Tracker www.bbb.org/scamtracker/detroit.

CONCERNED ABOUT SOMEONE'S DRIVING ABILITY?

On Nov. 29, a family member called Fenton police because they were concerned with the driving ability of an elderly relative, who they said was suffering from dementia. The caller said their relative's current medical condition was interfering with their driving skills and they wanted to know what to do. Lt. Jason Slater said if anyone has concerns about another individual's driving ability, they are advised to go to the Secretary of State website www.michigan.gov/sos, clicking on the "Referral for Driver Reexamination" link or search for that phrase to read more information. Complete the confidential form indicating why they believe the person should be reevaluated. The Secretary of State will then follow up on the referral and determine if further testing is warranted.

From the editor

Sharon Stone



MSU Spartans beat Iowa, priceless roadtrip for Times editor and family

To say this weekend was a blur would be an understatement. Anyone who knows my husband or me knows that we are diehard Spartan fans. So are our kids.

My husband, Jeff, and I graduated from MSU. We met in the spring of 1982 at Coral Gables, an East Lansing bar and married two years later. Our daughter, Laura, graduated in 2011 and our son, Jake, is a junior there.

Jeff and I have followed Spartan sports for years, mostly football, basketball and hockey and try to go to home games whenever we can. We wish we could go to more games, but there just never seems to be enough time or money to do so. Being on campus and walking around downtown East Lansing feels like home. It always brings back great memories and creates new ones for our family.

As this year's football season progressed, our Spartan football team kept us stressed out and sitting on the edges of our seats or pacing around the room. It seemed like every game was just as much of a test on the team as it was our nerves. Not until the clock would run out could we relax and celebrate another victory. Even our friend from Nebraska sent us a note apologizing for their win over the Spartan's one loss.

On a last-minute decision following our win over Penn State, Jeff and I (our Christmas gift to each other) decided to treat Laura and her husband Ed, and Jake and his girlfriend, Karlee, to the Big Ten Championship Game in Indy. Tickets cost more than we've ever paid for before and because it was a last-minute decision, hotel rooms in Indianapolis were nowhere to be found.

None of that mattered. Equipped with a ton of snacks and blankets, we set out early Saturday morning for one big road trip. Win or lose, the six of us got to spend the day together and

cheer on our Spartans.

Indy was a flurry of activity from the moment we pulled into the parking lot, which was within easy walking distance to the Lucas Oil Stadium and the Slippery Noodle Inn, a designated Spartan bar for the day.

Iowa fans, decked out in bright yellow and black outfits, and Spartan fans, decked out in green and white were everywhere. Once in a while, you spotted a blue and gold, or red sweatshirt in the crowd. Tailgate parties, music and large groups of friends and families energized downtown Indy. We even ran into friends from Fenton. Everyone was there to cheer on their team. This was it. Whichever team won would advance to the playoffs. This was a dream come true, especially for my husband.

As usual, we sat on edges of our seats for the entire game. And, as usual, I would often be saying my little Spartan prayer and Laura would be rubbing her lucky Spartan beads.

In typical Spartan fashion, Coach Mark Dantonio and his players pulled off another exciting win. It was such a close game against a very good team, but somehow, the Spartans just win.

Following all of the hugs, high fives, celebrations and speeches, we walked back to our SUV, noticing the predominantly green and white crowd still basking in the victory, many heading to their hotels. For us, it was a quiet ride home, but a very happy ride home. It's not often that we hit our pillows at 5:45 a.m.

Life is short and this roadtrip was priceless to Jeff and me. Our kids will definitely remember it. We look forward to cheering on our Spartans this New Year's Eve when we go up against Alabama. I have a feeling, however, this game will be watched in our living room as we ring in the new year.



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Christmas spirit overflows at Holiday Happening

■ One of Linden's most successful events draws more than 1,000 visitors

By Hannah Ball

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Linden — The lack of snow didn't dampen anyone's spirits at the Holiday Happening on Friday in downtown Linden.

Kids had a wonderful time, diving for candy during the parade, telling Santa what they wanted for Christmas, and going on carriage rides throughout Linden.

SUMMARY

Attendees enjoyed the parade, carriage rides, Christmas songs, and cookies during Linden's annual Holiday Happening on Friday.

Led by a bagpiper, the 42-unit parade marched down Linden, with participants handing out candy to the approximately 1,000 attendees.

"It was the most people we've seen in town for a long time. The town looked great," said Sue Turpen, president of the Linden Arts Council. She co-chaired the event with her sister, Betty Ciesielski.

"It's usually been just the carriage ride. Now we put the parade in. That enhanced the whole event," she said.

Organizers decided to move the parade from Saturday morning to Friday night, and featured entries from many Linden businesses, a few from Fenton, the Linden Marching Band, the VFW, and many others.

The Gramer family had a popular float, celebrating years of farming in the area.

Cathy North, athletic director at Linden Community Schools, was named grand marshal of the parade, and waved to people as her car drove by.

Doug Morgan, past commander of the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Instead of a sleigh, Santa rides in a carriage in the Holiday Happening parade throughout downtown Linden to the delight of the hundreds of kids who attended.

Linden VFW and Linden's Citizen of the Year, also rode in the parade.

"We thought it was a great success," Turpen said. "Everyone benefited from it. We're anxious for next year," she said. She thanked the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce for their help.

Attendees enjoyed the ice sculpturist, the carriage rides, and the singing by choirs from the Linden Presbyterian Church, Hope Lutheran Church, and the Free Linden Methodist Church.

Stacey Smith of Linden brought her two

See **HAPPENING on 8**

"It's so good to see the community come together like this and have fun."

Jeanine Sapelka
Linden Holiday
Happening organizer,
The State Bank employee



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Abigail Strzelecki, 10 (right), along with her class, taught by Scott Smith (top right), decorate a Christmas tree at the Union Block property in downtown Linden on Thursday, as part of a competition between classes at Linden schools.

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

HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday Closed



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Circulation 810-433-6797	Website tctimes.com



FROM THE LEFT
NATIONALLY SYNDICATED
Bill Press

Prayers aren't enough for gun victims

November 19, less than a week after the terrorist attacks in Paris, my wife Carol and I were scheduled to leave for a Thanksgiving vacation in Madrid. 'No, no, don't go,' advised friends and family. Europe isn't safe. It's too dangerous.

Are they kidding? The most dangerous place in the world today is the United States. Think about it: A first-grade classroom. A college campus. A navy office building. A movie theater. A shopping center. A church. A women's health clinic. And now a center for the developmentally disabled. All sites of mass shootings.

So once again, we have to ask: What will it take? How many innocent people have to be killed? How many families destroyed? How many communities shattered before politicians have the guts to stand up to the NRA and adopt some tough, but common-sense, gun safety measures?

Every one of those shootings was different: different motives, targets and gunmen. But they all had one thing in common: guns, most often multiple guns, in the hands of people who should never have been able to buy a gun in the first place.

In a perfect world, what would follow news of the San Bernardino shooting would be a determination on the part of Congress to adopt new, commonsense gun safety measures. Instead, we got the usual dribble of pious political pronouncements. Countless members of Congress tweeted out how they were keeping victims and families of San Bernardino in their 'thoughts and prayers.'

Sure, prayers are fine. But prayers aren't enough. And prayers are no substitute for action. When news broke of a shooting on the campus of a community college in Roseburg, Oregon, then-Speaker John Boehner asked the House to observe a moment of silence — at the end of which Schakowsky shouted out: 'Now, let's do something!'

May that cry again echo through the Capitol building, this time with better results. We don't need more moments of silence, more thoughts and prayers. What we really need is action.

Until we end the easy access to guns, no place in the United States is safe.

WE ALL WISH there were fewer abortions and more well cared for children, but those who would deny birth control and safe legal abortions are turning the issues into a political fight. That makes cooperation impossible.

TWO FREE SLIGHTLY used garbage barrels. Small. To anyone who wants to pick them up. Big blue will only go out once a month, weather permitting. One person, one barrel. I'm not going to put it out every week.

PRESIDENT OBAMA IS gambling with American lives by bringing refugees into the U.S.

I SEE THE benches and the new garbage cans downtown. They're probably going to rust during the winter. There are big potholes on Trealout Drive and a couple other streets in Fenton, but at least downtown looks nice.

IT SEEMS TO me that the reason normal, peaceful Muslims don't speak out is that if they did the radical Muslims would exterminate them the same way they exterminate Christians. I don't blame them for keeping quiet.

TIME TO WAKE up. Some religious groups are intent upon destroying us because they don't like our culture.

THIS IS MERRY Christmas, not happy holidays. Remember, it's Jesus' birthday.

THE MUSLIM RELIGION says everyone who isn't a Muslim is an infidel. Muslim religion requires that

Hot lines

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they can make infidels revert and submit to Islam or they can kill them. That is their religion.

THE MONEY THAT pays for the uninsured under Obamacare comes from the pool money that has been paid in by the working class. You'll see that our copayments have gone way up to cover the uninsured who never worked.

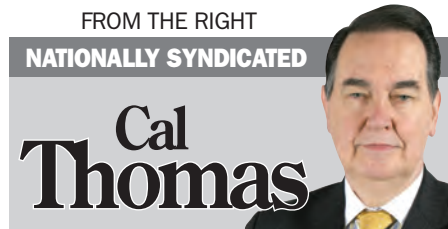
THE APOLOGISTS FOR the Muslims keep claiming this is only the first terrorist attack by a Muslim and how unfair it is to blame them. Let's talk about Fort Hood, let's talk about Charleston, let's talk about the stabbings in California. This is the first where Obama was willing to admit it was a terrorist attack by a Muslim.

LINCOLN SAID THAT if America is to die it will be by suicide. America has been ingesting a poison for the last seven years. Fortunately, there is an antidote being developed. The antidote is called GOP16. Let's hope that we can survive until it starts working.

WHEN A TERRORIST is labeled Muslim/Islamic, it is because their attack against non-Muslim people (infidels) was motivated by their religion. Many Muslims refer to the terrorists as radical Islamists and denounce them and their actions.

PEOPLE, STOP THANKING people who you are complaining about. Sarcasm does not translate well from the spoken word to the written word. Leave the 'thank you's' for the people who earned and deserve it.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times



FROM THE RIGHT
NATIONALLY SYNDICATED
Cal Thomas

A Churchill-like moment

Wisdom can often be found in unexpected places. During debate in the House of Commons on whether Britain should join the U.S. and Russia in bombing ISIS targets in Syria, Hilary Benn, the shadow foreign secretary of the liberal Labour Party, delivered a speech that approached Winston Churchill in its vision:

'And we are here faced by fascists. Not just their calculated brutality, but their belief that they are superior to every single one of us in this chamber tonight, and all of the people that we represent. They hold us in contempt. And my view, Mr. Speaker, is that we must now confront this evil. It is now time for us to do our bit in Syria. And that is why I ask my colleagues to vote for the motion tonight.'

Members of both parties cheered and the motion passed.

In the U.S., we get moronic statements claiming that climate change is 'directly related' to terrorism (Sanders), endure calls for more gun laws when current gun laws are disobeyed, and stand bewildered as our president, in the face of attacks by radical Islamists, says, 'We cannot turn against one another by letting this fight be defined as a war between America and Islam.'

In his brief address Sunday, President Obama offered no new strategy for defeating Islamic terrorism. He disingenuously claimed his policies are working. If this is success, what does failure look like?

What will our leaders say if these murderers succeed in acquiring weapons of mass destruction? What happens if one of these weapons wipes out London, New York or Washington? Should we take decisive action now, or wring our hands later?

On Nov. 16, 1934, Winston Churchill, who stood virtually alone in his early warnings about the growing rearmament of Germany, said, 'As we go to and fro in this peaceful country with its decent, orderly people going about their business under free institutions and with so much tolerance and fair play in their laws and customs, it is startling and fearful to realize that we are no longer safe in our island home.'

Eighty-one years later, we are again unsafe.

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Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What's the most outrageous thing you've ever done?

streettalk



"Skydiving. It was awesome. I'd do it again if my family would let me. We got to do spins. My next thing would be to swim with the sharks."

— Vicky Yinger
Fenton Township



"Bungee jumping. It was back in college in Florida during spring break. You have to walk up a tower. I froze when I got up there. Eventually I just tipped over the edge."

— Jennifer Williams, Holly



"Probably moving to Texas. That was two years ago. I loved it down there. I just decided one day that it would be fun. People were really friendly."

— Trisha Townsend, Flint



"I asked my wife to marry me with a half-mile long sign. Mowed it into the grass, 'Ann, will you marry me?' We flew over top of it."

— Steve Rollier
Fenton Township



"Ziplining at Camp Copneconic. It was pretty fun. It was really warm that day and when we went out, there was mist, almost."

— Lydia Jacques
Linden

CPL**Continued from Front Page**

December, which is more than the usual amount. It might be because of the San Bernardino, California shooting that left 14 people dead and many others injured on Dec. 2.

"This is unusual to have that many in a week's time," said Genesee County Clerk John Gleason. "But every time there's a national shooting event, there's a noticeable difference at the county for CPLs."

Genesee County has a hard time processing the surplus of applications, partly because the office is understaffed. "We are becoming very well attentive to when we have an international or national event, preparing for a substantial increase," he said. "If there's a shooting incident that's what happens."

An increase in CPL requests and gun sales is a national trend.

While Genesee County receives anywhere from 500 to 600 requests for Concealed Pistol Licenses a month, the county experiences a spike in CPL application requests after mass tragedies.

For example, the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting happened in December 2012. After that elementary shooting, 821 people were approved for CPLs between Jan. 9 and 30 of 2013, hundreds more than the usual amount, according to the clerk's office.

On July 20, 2012, a gunman killed 12 people at a premiere of "The Dark Night Rises" in Aurora, Colorado. CPL-approved applications in Genesee County spiked from 74 by July 7 and to 219 by July 25. An ad-

ditional 420 were approved the next month.

With 352 shootings in the U.S. in 2015 as of Dec. 2, this year has seen a record amount of background checks from people wanting to own guns, according to The Guardian.

In October more than 1.9 million background checks were processed, and stocks for two major gun manufacturers, Smith & Wesson's and Sturm, Ruger & Co, spiked after the mass shooting at Umpqua Community College in Oregon by 7.29 percent and 2.75 percent respectively.

However, these are only numbers from people legally buying guns.

Genesee County Commissioner Tony Brown is glad people are taking measures to stay safe.

"County residents see the threats that today's society has brought them, and I applaud and encourage them to execute their rights," he said.

People may want to feel safe after a tragedy, but another reason for the spike in gun sales and requests for CPLs is politicians declaring stricter gun laws, suggests csmonitor.com, making it harder for people to obtain a CPL and gun.

After the San Bernardino shooting, several Democratic presidential nominees spoke in favor of stricter gun laws, as did President Barack Obama.

The National Rifle Association has even called Obama the "most anti-gun president in American history."

Gleason urges people to fill out the CPL application during their CPL class to avoid creating long lines at the clerk's office.

“County residents see the threats that today’s society has brought them, and I applaud and encourage them to execute their rights.”

Tony Brown

Genesee County commissioner

Council divided on pick-up truck purchases

■ Mayor insists on choosing higher bid to stay with business within city limits

By Vera Hogan

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What would normally be a routine discussion on the purchase of two pick-up trucks for the Department of Public Works, resulted in the taking of two straw polls to see how council members will vote next week.

Dan Czarnecki, director of Fenton's Department of Public Works, presented to the City Council two bids he received for the purchase of two, new pick-up trucks for the DPW.

The new trucks are needed for daily operations of hauling materials and people to job sites, and one for snow plowing, Czarnecki said.

The bids are \$37,355.30 and \$35,076 for equivalent new trucks.

The low bidder is a dealership located immediately outside the city in Fenton Township and the other is within the city limits.

Even though there was a more than \$4,500 difference in price for the two trucks, Mayor Sue Osborn said she would only vote for the dealership located inside the city limits.

"They don't pay taxes to the city of Fenton," Osborn said of the Fenton Township dealership.

The bid requests were hand-deliv-

ered to all of the dealerships.

Osborn said she believes in shopping local and will not vote for the Fenton Township bid at the Monday, Dec. 14 meeting.

Councilwoman Cherie Smith disagreed, saying Fenton Township dealership is just over the border. Some of the employees working there probably pay taxes to the city of Fenton. "They eat in our restaurants and shop in our stores," she added.

Councilman Dave McDermott said the dealership outside of the city does "a lot" for the city.

City Manager Lynn Markland said the council has for the past several years chosen the lowest bidder, but reminded them there is the option of going through the state purchasing program to buy vehicles. That would save money, but also result in dealing with businesses that don't pay taxes in Fenton.

The Fenton City Council is not required to accept the lowest bid if choosing a higher bid if the best interest of the public is served, according to Schultz.

Each council member had a chance to express their views, and two straw polls show that so far, the majority of the council will vote 4-3 Monday to accept the lower bid offered by the Fenton Township dealership.

"I totally disagree with going outside the city," Osborn said.

“They eat in our restaurants and shop in our stores.”

Cherie Smith
City of Fenton councilwoman

CONCEALED PISTOL LICENSE APPLICATION PROCESS

- A CPL applicant must file their application with the county clerk in the county in which he or she resides. The application must be signed under oath by the applicant. The oath shall be administered by the county clerk or his or her representative.
- Include a certificate stating that the applicant has completed the required pistol safety training course.
- If an applicant does not have a digitized photograph on file with the Michigan Secretary of State, include a passport-quality photograph.
- Pay all applicable fees. For all applications, there is a \$100 application and licensing fee payable to the county clerk. The county clerk will provide a receipt for payment of fees.
- Upon paying all applicable fees and filing the application, the applicant must have classifiable fingerprints taken by the county clerk, state police, sheriff's office, local police agency, or other entity that provides fingerprinting services.
- The entity providing fingerprint services will fingerprint the applicant and immediately forward the fingerprints to the MSP for processing.
- The county clerk shall issue a license or notice of statutory disqualification within 45 days after the date the applicant has classifiable fingerprints taken.

Source: Michigan State Police

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WE HAVE THEFT protection from Discover card. We received an urgent call saying our account was compromised. My card is in my purse but had two fraudulent transactions from Texas and New York, for large amounts. Check your statements monthly. We haven't traveled.

■■■■
HEY, HOW ABOUT everyone out there buy a bit of groceries for the one in front or back of you in line. The feeling you get from this act is tremendous. Pay it forward. Merry Christmas!

■■■■
I WOULD LIKE to thank the wonderful lady ahead of me at the checkout counter, who used her card of some sort to save me \$5 on my purchase at a store on Silver Parkway on the morning of Dec. 5. I wish her and family a Merry Christmas.

■■■■
WHAT WE NEED is another new law, ban or restriction because we all know that we will be safe after that.

■■■■
SHAME ON YOU to the person on Beers Road at Ray Road who cooked their turkey in a deep fryer and decided to throw it in the ditch. Shame on you.

■■■■
IF THESE PEOPLE on terrorist watch list are here, why haven't they been deported? If they are not here, how can they buy guns from gun stores here? Online gun stores must ship to Federal Firearms Holder (FFL) to do background checks before delivery.

■■■■
WHAT MAKES US think we can verify backgrounds of people from war torn nations with questionable governments?

■■■

HOT LINE CONTINUED

EVERYONE NEEDS TO read the how and why Exxon Mobile purposely deceived the public and paid millions to steer public opinion to bring doubt that burning fossil fuels is the leading cause of climate change. They voluntarily admitted this and are being sued by stockholders.

BOTH CRIMINALS AND terrorists can buy guns at gun shows without background checks. What is criminal is how Republicans continue to block changing this one thing just about everyone agrees on.

GUN LAWS WILL never be perfect and prevent every crime. In the terrorist act in California, gun registration allowed the guns to be traced back to the purchaser and dealer and that helps

investigators find conspirators.

GUN CONTROL IN France is stricter than California. Note how gun control works. The French populace is asking to soften the French gun control laws. Also, soft targets are easily identified, in this country, by posts that say, 'Gun Free Zone.'

REPUBLICAN NERD: ONE who gives multi-million dollar tax breaks to the Board of Directors and CEOs. Yet turns to heavily taxed Michigan citizens who struggle from paycheck to paycheck with a 45 percent increase at the pump and a 20 percent registration fee hike. Give to the wealthy and take from struggling families.

THE 'MAINSTREAM MEDIA' did mention that politicians included an exemption for themselves from Obamacare.

TRAFFIC

Continued from Front Page

Markland. "Even with detours, still some make their way through."

In order to protect the \$4.7 million investment into the just completed Streetscape project, city officials are planning the ordinance to prevent truck traffic from using the downtown as a thoroughfare.

Such an ordinance would not prevent truck deliveries to businesses and residences in and around the downtown.

"With the completion of the Streetscape project, the traffic that travels through the downtown area will have an impact on pedestrians," said Markland previously.

"I understand the need for deliveries in the downtown and to residents close to the downtown area," he added. "Most of the truck traffic that comes through the downtown area is destined for other places and is just using the downtown streets for a thoroughfare."

Markland said having truck traffic go through the industrial park would be safer and make turns easier for the trucks. He also said the roads in the industrial park are better to handle truck traffic.

Officials agreed Monday that routing trucks down Fenway Drive in the Industrial Park to Silver Lake Road would be the best and safest course of action.

Councilwoman Cherie Smith brought



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

up South Holly Road and the numerous trucks that use it to get through Fenton. With signage placed near Fish Lake Road, truck traffic may be rerouted from South Holly Road to Fish Lake to Grange Hall Road.

Former City Councilman Les Bland spoke from the audience saying, "South Holly Road and LeRoy are very busy. It's like a freeway when you get south of town. There are no sidewalks and a lot of pedestrians."

He also suggested the council check to see if federal grant monies would still be available if truck traffic is prevented on certain roads.

Police Chief Rick Aro said the city is required to give "reasonable access" to truck traffic.

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INCOME

Continued from Front Page

And while salaries have decreased over the years, the cost of living has not, particularly as it relates to health care and insurance costs.

Linden City is among the communities in the tri-county area that saw a decrease in the median income from \$67,016 in 2009 to \$60,250 in 2014. The city's poverty rate decreased, however, from 8.4 percent in 2009 to 4.7 percent in 2014.

Linden's figures are mid-range compared to other communities.

According to Linden Mayor David Lossing, that time frame was during the national recession and the bankruptcies that were filed by GM and Chrysler.

"We saw tremendous loss of property values in every city in the state, home foreclosures by the banking industries, unemployment levels higher than the country as a whole," Lossing said. "So that could contribute to loss of incomes, and the loss of population as well in which those who lost homes, cars, and jobs, moved out of the area and possibly relocated to other states."

As an example, Lossing said his next door neighbors and best friends lost their home due to a foreclosure and personal bankruptcy.

"They let the house go back to the bank, the husband moved to Arizona for work, and eventually California, while his wife worked downstate for a while," he said. "It took a year before they were reconnected in California. We miss them dearly but stay in touch over social media."

"And that's probably just one of literally thousands of stories of Michigan residents," added Lossing.

The village of Holly was the only community in the tri-county area to see an increase in median income. In 2009, the income was \$51,789, and in 2014, it was \$56,800, representing a nearly 10 percent increase. Further, Holly's poverty rate increased slightly from 12.5 percent in 2009 to 13.1 percent in 2014.

According to Holly Village President Ryan Bladzick, median income is measured individually and by household.

"Since Holly doesn't have a very large job economy, individual median income is really the product of everywhere else Holly-ites work, so they're likely buoyed by Oakland County's prosperity, new union contracts — things that really have nothing to do with Holly itself," Bladzick said. "The only way Holly factors into that is that this is a place where people making those higher incomes want to live in terms of quality of life, which I think is plausible given the exceptional progress we've made in the last five or so years."

Bladzick said the drop in the economy forced many people, who were on the lower to middle tiers of the socio-economic ladder, to relocate because both skilled and unskilled labor was not in high demand in the area.

"The village's population from 2000-2010 remained relatively flat while Holly Township grew, but the real estate market has remained active," Bladzick said. "That says to me that new people with higher incomes are coming into the village, even if only temporarily until they 'move up' further."

"While Flint and Genesee County haven't seen huge economic gains, Oakland County has, so many of the people, who emigrated out are probably being replaced by people with higher earning jobs heading south to work, especially with the auto industry rebound and a diversifying economic base in the northern and western suburbs (Novi, Wixom, Auburn Hills), which are only a 20-30 minute commute," said Bladzick.

"Proof of that can be seen in the enrollment numbers at Holly Area Schools stabilizing as well after a decade of significant declines, though that extends well beyond the village."

For more information on local income, poverty and population statistics, see the Wednesday, Dec. 16 Midweek edition of the Times.



Mark McCabe 67th District Court Ask the judge

Judge Learned Hand

It is a fact of legal life that if one were to walk up to a random man or woman on the street and asked them to name the nine current members of The United States Supreme Court, they would be unable to do so. This is very understandable as Justices simply aren't in the everyday news.

It also doesn't mean that historically there haven't been well known Supreme Court Justices, with the names of Justices John Marshall, Louis Brandeis or Oliver Wendell Holmes, being but three possible examples in legal circles.

Another name that lawyers will recognize is that of Judge Learned Hand.

Although he was never a Supreme Court Justice, he most certainly had the credentials and ability to be one.

I thought for today's column I would talk a little bit about Judge Hand and have this be the first of a series of occasional columns about famous legal figures. So here goes.

Judge Billings Learned Hand was born on Jan. 27, 1872 in Albany, New York.

He graduated from Harvard Law School and was a federal judge for the Southern District of New York from 1909 to 1924 and then elevated to the federal Second Circuit in 1924 where he served until his death in 1961.

During his time on the bench, he was widely considered to be the most influential judge who never sat on The United States Supreme Court. He was also one of this country's most significant judicial philosophers and strongly believed in judicial restraint and not 'legislating from the bench.'

He authored approximately 4,000 opinions on a wide variety of topics including negligence, criminal law, tax law, and free speech. He was also considered to be one of the most gifted legal writers in the history of American jurisprudence.

He is often quoted by Justices and Judges and one of my favorite of his quotes is from a 1951 speech when he said 'If we are to keep our democracy, there must be one commandment: thou shalt not ration justice.'

Judge Learned Hand was truly a distinguished jurist. A veritable wealth of information about him is available on the Internet.

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, Dec. 4.

House Bill 4059: Extend sunset on school retiree pension "double dipping"

To extend until 2018 the sunset on a law that allows a "retired" teacher to work in schools with shortages in certain subjects and collect pension checks alongside his or her current pay.

Passed 35 to 0 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)	☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)	☒ YES

House Bill 4747: Exempt governments from adverse possession

To exempt local governments from adverse possession actions. Adverse possession is the doctrine that allows a person who is in open possession of property for a certain period of time to claim title to it.

Passed 90 to 14 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)	☒ YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.)	☒ YES

House Bill 4095: Authorize \$51 million for college and university building projects

To authorize \$51.3 million in new government spending for several state college and university construction projects. The bill would cause the state to increase its own debt burden by \$33.1 million.

Passed 103 to 1 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)	☒ YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.)	☒ YES

House Bill 4598: Impose licensure on midwives

To impose a state licensure mandate on midwives, including regulations and a \$200 annual license fee.

Passed 79 to 25 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)	☒ YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.)	☒ NO

News briefs

Fenton Township honors former commissioner and former employee

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees honored a former Planning Commissioner, David Franz, and a former employee, Julie Wendland, at its board meeting on Monday. Franz is moving and is no longer eligible to serve on the Fenton Township boards. Franz served on the Planning Commission from 2004-2015, and on the Zoning Board of Appeals from 2008 to 2015. Clerk Bob Krug said while working for the township, Franz "consistently (exhibited) the qualities of efficient leadership throughout his year of public service." The township recognized his value and expressed its appreciation to Franz and his dedication to the township. Julie Wendland, who is seeking other employment, worked for the township for more than 20 years in accounting. "Wendland served loyally and thankfully as a member of the Fenton Township staff from 1995 to 2015, exhibiting the qualities of dedication and efficiency throughout her term of employment," Krug said. Township Supervisor Bonnie Mathis said they both will be missed.

Fenton Film Series presents 'Holiday Inn' tonight

After a couple of months at Loose Senior Center, the Fenton Film Series returns to the Fenton Community & Cultural Center. The



Fenton Film Series is excited to present the 1942 classic for the free December film. "Holiday Inn" features Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire. The duo decides to escape the rat race

of nightly performances in clubs by opening an inn in the country that is only open on holidays. A White Christmas is featured. The film will be shown, free of charge, at the Fenton Community and Cultural Center tonight, **Wednesday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.** Doors open at 6:30 p.m. so come early for free refreshments and popcorn. Open to the public.

Appointment to Fenton Township Planning Commission

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees appointed Zoning Board of Appeals member Andy Marko to the Planning Commission on Monday, due to a vacancy by David Franz who is leaving the commission. "I believe Mr. Marko will do a fine job serving on both boards and I recommend his appointment," said Supervisor Bonnie Mathis. The township unanimously voted to appoint Marko to the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Adding to the holiday atmosphere were small open fires for warmth. (Below) The Jinglefest parade in downtown Fenton always draws thousands of guests, who watch the 60-minute lighted parade along the entire route.

JINGLEFEST
Continued from
Front Page

a heated entertainment tent with live music and snacks.

The Saturday evening events tied off a day full of activities in downtown, with shopping, live music, the Jingle Jog, Dibbleville Music and horse drawn carriage rides. There were also sponsored ice sculptures, but most didn't survive the balmy weather.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Shelby Smith, 7, and Callie Smith, 4, of Linden pose with Santa for a picture. Their mother, Stacey, said her daughters enjoyed the entire event, especially meeting Santa.

HAPPENING
Continued from Page 3

daughters, Shelby, 7, and Callie, 4, who were excited to meet Santa. Smith said she loved the event.

"I wish more people would come and support it," she said. They watched the parade, rode in the carriage, met Santa, and had cookies at the VFW Hall.

This was her fifth year attending and she said the event has become more family oriented.

"This was our first time to the parade and we didn't realize how fun it was," she said.

City Councilor Brad Dick, said it was the first nighttime parade they've held in Linden in the 11 years he's

been a resident. He said the kids had a great time getting their picture taken with Santa, and telling him what they want for Christmas. He didn't hear any complaints from any residents or participants.

"At this time of the year, it gives them a sense of community, brings everyone all together to have sense of pride in the season," he said.

One organizer, Jeanine Sapelka, from The State Bank, said everyone was in good spirits at the event, and that it's exciting for the bank to help sponsor the event.

"It's such a good community event. We love the little kids. It's so good to see the community come together like this and have fun," she said.

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THE ROCK CHURCH

Cross country teams earn top spots in TC's Fall Top 10 poll

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

We had some pretty good teams in the first half of our 2015 Tri-County Fall Top 10, but now we are to the top of the heap. We are to the cream of the crop. These are best of the best.

While there can always be some controversy where some teams lie in the poll, the sports staff feels the teams that are in

the top five separated themselves a little bit from the sixth through 10th teams. Time to finish the list.

No. 5 - Fenton girls swim: The Tigers were a young team and then lost their senior leader when Bri Costigan suffered a serious cut injury on one of her hands.

Still, the Tigers dominated the Flint Metro League earning another crown. They not only won it but posted one of their most

decisive league championship victories in the meet's history. The squad also easily dominated each team during the Metro season.

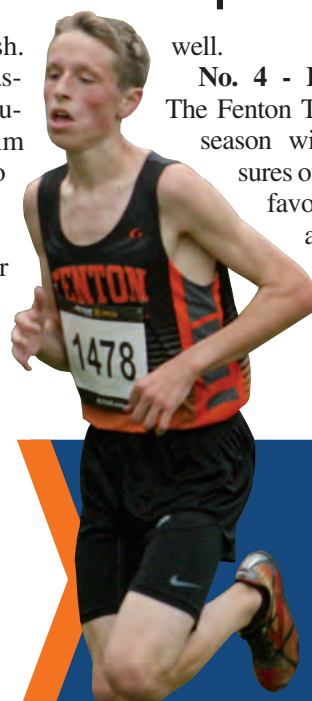
The squad had only five competitors qualify for the state meet, but all five of those competitors found a way to compete at the second day of the meet as well. Diver Taylor Shegos earned All-State honors, earn-

ing a fifth-place finish. Meanwhile, Elise Cassidy earned an individual second-day swim in an event, and also teamed up with Cameron Mathews, Costigan and Grace Siefker to earn a second-day swim in the 400 free-style relay. The future looks pretty bright as

well.

No. 4 - Fenton football: The Fenton Tigers entered the season with all the pressures of being the league favorites once again, and they dealt with those pressures with high grades.

See **TOP 10** on Page 10



ANDREW BOND

Bond was one of the Fenton runners, helping lead the Tigers to a ninth-place finish at the state meet.

Tri-County
Times

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DECEMBER 9, 2015
PAGE 9

Sports

INSIDE THIS EDITION

► The tri-county area varsity boys basketball teams are previewed on page 11.

METRO LEAGUE GRIFFINS CRUISE TO 6-2 VICTORY

Bobby Temple scored a three-goal hat trick to lead the Metro League Griffins, a co-op hockey squad consisting of Fenton and Linden high school students, to an easy 6-2 victory against the Mid-Michigan Storm on Saturday.

The Griffins (3-1) took a 4-1 lead into the first intermission, actually scoring three short-handed goals during the period. Temple had two of them, while Jake Thompson had the third. Thompson finished with two goals, while Blake Smiecinski had one.

In net, Manny Vomvolakis had 23 saves, earning the victory.

LAPEER EARNS 56-49 VICTORY VS. BRONCHOS

The Holly varsity girls basketball team (2-1) trailed 40-28 entering the fourth quarter and were unable to overcome the hole, losing to Lapeer 56-49 on Monday.

Kaitlyn Smith led the Bronchos with 24 points, nine rebounds, three assists, two steals and two blocked shots. Paige Reid netted seven points and eight rebounds, while Becca Fugate scored five points.

Can Holly repeat its success?

■Bronchos, Blue Devils have high goals for 2015-16 boys hoops season

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

It was tough way for two basketball seasons to end last year.

In the Class A regional championship game, the Holly Bronchos battled with Walled Lake Central all night long. The Holly varsity boys basketball team had a potential game-winning shot in front of a capacity-filled Holly High School gymnasium with Adam Tooley taking the shot. However, the shot fell short and the Bronchos' dream season ended with a 73-71 Class A regional title loss. It was still one that included the team's first-ever Class A district crown and an undefeated Metro League record. Finally, the 22 wins also set a school record.

About a week earlier at Lake Fenton High School, the Blue Devils had their similar contest of despair. Battling with the fourth-ranked Goodrich Martians all night long, the Blue Devils fell just short in the Class B district title contest by losing



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Two of the area's top returning boys varsity basketball players are Lake Fenton's Chris Bell (left) and Holly's Ian Hodges.

a 62-58 verdict.

Both teams have a reason to be excited as the 2015-16 prep boys basketball season begins. Both squads return enough pieces to possibly continue their dream season from a year ago (Holly) or possibly build upon

what was created last year and maybe have their own dream season this year (Lake Fenton). For both, the goals for the hoops season remain as high as they ever have in recent decades.

"Basketball, skill-wise, my
See **SUCCESS** on 10

Eagles come close to victory vs. Lake Orion

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

With an enrollment of well over 2,000 students, the Linden varsity boys basketball team found itself playing one of the biggest schools in the state of Michigan in the Eagles' season-opener against Lake Orion High School on Monday.

The Eagles came out of the game with a chance to win, but fell a bit short down the stretch, dropping a tight 66-62 non-league verdict.

"We were up by six and there was a turn in the game where we didn't handle adversity the way we should have, and that's on me," Linden varsity boys basketball coach Anthony Wright said. "We have to be better when things are not going our way, whether we are getting calls against us or we get hit and they don't call it. We can't be fixated on it. We have to be focused on the next play."

The Eagles have a mix of veterans and first-year play-
See **EAGLES** on 10

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PREP REPORT

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► **Holly 48, Lakeland 27:** The Bronchos outscored Lakeland 23-8 in the opening half and cruised to the victory from there.

Paige Reid led all Holly scorers with 14 points. She also had four steals and two blocked shots. Kaitlyn Smith followed with 13 points, five rebounds, three steals and three assists. Taylor Vines also chipped in eight points and five rebounds, while Journee Kerner dished off three assists.

► **Hartland 48, Fenton 30:** The Tigers held a 10-9 lead after one quarter, but Hartland's defense held the Tigers to no more than seven points in any of the final three quarters, resulting in the loss.

Taylor Mowery led the Tigers with 11 points and five rebounds, while Sarah Cummings had seven points, eight rebounds and two blocks. Grayson Cockerham led Hartland and all scorers with 18 points.

► **Lake Fenton JV 30, Mt. Morris 8:** The Blue Devils (2-0) were led by Sophia Clements and Megan Lynch, who each had eight points. Hannah Hellebuyck chipped in four points.

BOYS BASKETBALL

► **Lake Orion freshmen 42, Linden freshmen 22:** The Eagles trailed 21-5 at halftime and were unable to dig out of the hole in the second half. Linden got as close as six in the second half. Travis Klocek led Linden with seven points each, while Jeff Metzger and Hayden Mahakian had four points each.

BOYS BOWLING

► **Holly def. Clio:** The Bronchos were led by Braden Wilson's 181-205-386 two-game series in the victory against the Mustangs. Vladi Craycraft bowled a 202 game.

TOP 10

Continued from Page 9

The Tigers completed another Flint Metro League season with another league crown, but also did it with another unbeaten record. There were some close games this season, including one against area rival Linden, but the Tigers figured a way to come up on the winning side each time.

Fenton's only loss during the regular season came in a defeat against Davison during the opening week of the year. After that, the Tigers rattled off nine straight wins, which included an opening playoff victory against Holly. However, the Tigers' run ended in the district title game, losing to a strong Midland Dow squad.

No. 3 - Holly boys tennis: The Holly varsity boys team is one of the tri-county's most consistently impressive squads around. This season ended up being no exception to that rule as history repeated itself despite the fact the team lost a huge chunk of last year's squad to graduation.

Holly went undefeated during the Metro League dual season and followed that with a first-place performance at the Metro League meet. The Bronchos found themselves in a more challenging regional than usual due to the fact Midland Dow was in it, but the Bronchos still easily qualified for the state meet by earning runner-up honors. Once at the state meet, the Bronchos earned a tie for 11th place. No. 1 singles player Evan Vergith also earned All-State honors.

No. 2 - Fenton boys cross country: The Tigers had a new coach this season with ex-runner Jesse Anderson taking



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden's varsity girls cross country team begins a race during the fall. The Lady Eagles finished the fall as our No. 1 tri-county squad.

over at the helm. Anderson ended up doing an outstanding job with a squad that had a nice amount of talent. Led by Jacob Lee, Dominic Dimambro and Andrew Bond, the Tigers competed for the Metro League championship in a race that featured four very strong squads. The Tigers won one of the jamborees, but ended up finishing second place in the final standings.

At regionals, the Tigers showed just how good they can be by capturing a Division 1 regional title, earning the team a trip to the state meet. While there, Fenton capped the season with a strong ninth-place performance with Lee, Dimambro and Bond earning All-State honors.

No. 1 - Linden girls cross country: It

was another magnificent season for the Linden Lady Eagles. The squad dominated the Metro League, winning each of the three jamborees and easily cruising to the league championship. After that, Linden cruised to a Division 2 regional championship, earning another trip to state. While there, the Eagles placed fourth in the Division 2 event held at Michigan International Speedway.

The Linden girls cross country team ended up on No. 1 on our final list for the 2013-14 season. And right now, the Eagles appear to have the credentials to be considered the early favorites to end up No. 1 for the 2015-16 school year. Only time will tell if they are able to hold that spot.

SUCCESS

Continued from Page 9

starting five will be better than last year," Holly varsity boys basketball coach Lance Baylis said. "We don't have the same depth. The intangibles with last year's seven seniors was special. That's what we are looking for this year. I can't say we have it yet, but we're working on it."

"Our goals are big and simple this year — win the GAC Red, win a district championship," Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Jake Erway said. "Our guys have thought about the district championship loss to Goodrich so much over the last eight months. ... They realize close isn't good enough and that is why they are as focused as they are."

Two other area teams want to make their imprint on the tri-county basketball landscape this season. The Fenton Tigers have a new mentor as John Gilbert takes over. The Tigers have a lot of returning players, but a

good chunk of those players will be getting their first serious varsity time this year.

"They key is how quickly we can gel," Gilbert said. "It is hard enough learning the new system, but we have very few players who earned major minutes last year. We are still trying to figure who our team leaders will be, who our main scorers will be and who is willing to play unselfishly for the betterment of the team."

The Linden Eagles won just three games a year ago, but two of those wins came at the end of the regular season, so the program was showing signs of progress toward the end of the season. This year the Eagles will mix in plenty of new players within the five that return from last year.

"Our goal is to get better every single day and just continue to make big strides in the program," Linden varsity boys basketball coach Anthony Wright said. "We've gotten better every year and the goal this year is to continue to make more strides."

EAGLES

Continued from Page 9

ers, creating an interesting dynamic at the start of the season. Wright was encouraged by how the players worked together in the first game of the season.

"The biggest thing for us right now is gelling," Wright said. "Last year's JV team, which was pretty good, is mixed in with last year's varsity players. The biggest thing and the biggest concern I have is having all of those players play together. ... I have nine starters right now. I have to be able to find the right guys who can play together

during certain periods."

The Eagles had Garrett Strang and Gavin Lund lead the squad with 16 points each. Tyler Hoeberling added 10 points. Chipping in six points each were Cole Sarkon and Logan Steiert. Hunter Michael had 10 rebounds.

"His improvement from last year to this year has been great," Wright said about Michael. "He's matured so much and has emerged as one of the leaders on the team."

Linden returns to action on Friday when the Eagles open Metro League action at Clio at approximately 7:30 p.m.

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Tri-County's 2015-16 Boys Basketball Previews

HOLLY BRONCHOS

Coach: Lance Baylis

2014-15 Record: 14-0 Metro League champions, 22-3 overall. Class A district champions. Lost to Walled Lake Central in regional final.

Graduated All-TCT players: Jake Daniels, Player of the Year; Joshua Simms, Parker Rowse.

Returning All-TCT players: Ian Hodges.

Team summary: The Bronchos had a historically outstanding season a year ago, capturing a perfect Metro league record and the school's first-ever boys Class A district title. Now it's time for an encore. Ian Hodges joined the lineup during the second half of last season and quickly became one of the Bronchos' best players. He joined about the time Kyle Woodruff fell victim to a broken collarbone and missed the rest of the season, helping soothe some of the issues created by Woodruff's health. Adam Tooley's grinding workmanlike attitude returns as does post player Paris Partee. Partee broke the starting lineup during the tourney and quickly became

a force in the paint. Steven Redmond was the backup point guard last year, but this season will be the starter.

Other players who may play key roles this season include Trevor Bland, Blake Staffne, Austin Harless, Andrew Spak, Devon Williams, Parker Mundy and Connor Spencer.

Coach Baylis says:

"Our practices are very intense. Our philosophy is to make practice five times worse than the game's intensity is. That's not easy to do. We have some very hungry young guys who are not happy sitting and we have seniors and returners saying it to themselves we owe it to us to maintain the high standards we've created. The culture is here in full bloom."

Prediction: It should be another exciting season at the Horseshoe. The Bronchos are overwhelming favorites to win a third straight Metro crown and could win over 20 games again this season.



**Holly's
Kyle Woodruff**

LINDEN EAGLES

Coach: Anthony Wright

2014-15 Record: 2-12 eighth in Metro League. 3-17 overall. Lost to Holly in districts.

Returning All-TCT players: Tyler Hoeberling.

Team summary: The Eagles struggled for most of the 2014-15 season, but at the end of the year put together some important steps toward progress. First, they ended a 22-game losing streak to the Fenton Tigers, defeating them 62-52 at Fenton High School. They capped the regular season by winning two consecutive contests. However, the Eagles only have two starters back this season. One of them is guard Tyler Hoeberling, who can score and distribute the ball. The other is Logan Steiert who will also play at guard. Three others with varsity experience return. They are guard Trent Strang and forwards Hunter Michael and Nick Rossow. Garrett Strang is just a sophomore but will be a key player at guard. The team's biggest player is post player Conor Faught. Others making up the roster include Gavin Lund, Cole Sarkon and Jack Shore.

Coach Wright says: "We don't have starters set in stone right now. We are going to compete every day in practice and we'll see. We have about eight or nine guys who can start right now."

Prediction: Expecting gradual progress is probably the best thought process. Doubling the win total to six victories would probably please a lot of Eagles' fans.

LAKE FENTON BLUE DEVILS

Coach: Jake Erway

2014-15 Record: 7-5 in GAC Red. 13-10 overall. Lost to Goodrich in district final.

Returning All-TCT players: Chris Bell, Jalen Miller.

Team summary: The Blue Devils are slowly climbing up the Genesee Area Conference Red Division standings, and this is the season they are hoping they can consider themselves true contenders for a division crown. There is some quality experience on the squad, including Chris Bell and Jalen Miller. Both have the ability to take over a game and have done so in the past. Surrounding them are strong workers Jake Zielinski and Isaac Golson. Andrew Foerster and Tony Hathaway are two bigs with strong varsity experience as well.

There are some newbies who can make an impact as well, starting with Cameron Jackson and Parker Mitchell.

Others on the team include Jon Sanders, Liam King, Luke Willoughby and Gannon Welch.

Coach Erway says:

"They understand the expectations and know what is on the line. They know what's asked of them is much more than any other team that has went through Lake Fenton. They are the most focused and engaged in what they are doing than at any other time of their careers. Our goals are big and simple this year — win the GAC Red, win a district championship."

Prediction: Lake Fenton is going to be a scary team for the rest of the GAC Red. Last year's tight 62-58 district title loss to Goodrich showed the Blue Devils they can play with anyone the conference throws at them. Now, they need to prove they can do it throughout a season. The Blue Devils will be a fun team to watch this year, and will be contenders in the GAC Red.

FENTON TIGERS

Coach: John Gilbert

2014-15: 9-5 third place in Metro. 10-11 overall. Lost to Holly in districts

Graduated All-TCT players: Beau LePage, Dillon Gardner.

Team summary: The biggest change to the Tigers is at the head coaching position where John Gilbert is eager to lead the team he once played for, and coached for a brief stint over a decade ago. A lot of the players who helped lead the Tigers to a third-place finish in the Metro remain. That list includes guard Jacob Cairnduff, forwards Peyton Coffman, Ben Hajciar and Chris Gilbert and one of the tallest players in the league center Nick Wyrick. Cairnduff, Coffman and Miller are Fenton's energy guys, while

Gilbert provides great court vision and other offensive guard skills. Hajciar is working on getting healthy after football season, but will be expected to contribute in a variety of ways. Gilbert says Wyrick has improved tremendously and is more aggressive.

Coach Gilbert says: "I love how they come to play every day. They work hard. There is a lot going on in practice with all of the new ideas and that makes every day a challenge, but they work together and are improving every day."

Prediction: The Tigers are generally one of the contenders or at least an upper-division Metro League team, and there's no reason to think that won't be the case this season. Finishing above .500 in the Metro would be a nice start for Gilbert's second tenure with the Tigers.

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Times

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015

PAGE 13

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VILLAGE OF HOLLY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with Articles 2400 of the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance the Village of Holly Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on a request by the Zoning Administrator for a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance on December 16, 2015 at 7:00 PM (or as soon thereafter as possible) in the Village Council Chambers located at 920 E. Baird Street, Holly, Michigan.

A Text Amendment to the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance was initiated by the Zoning Administrator. The Text Amendment of Article 12 of the Village of Holly Zoning Ordinance, if approved, would add recreational facilities as a use allowed in the M Industrial District under the Special Land Use approval, Section 12.02. Written comments may be submitted to the Village Clerk/Treasurer, 300 East Street, Karl Richter Center, Holly, Michigan 48442 prior to the review and may also be submitted at the meeting. All documents pertinent to the application are available for inspection in the Village Offices at the above address during regular business hours.

Interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting. Handicapped persons needing assistance to attend are asked to contact the village offices at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (248) 634-9571 during regular business hours.

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WEDNESDAY SUDOKU

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		7			9		5	
	3			4			7	
		2			7			3
8			1			9		5

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)

Although taking advice isn't always easy for the headstrong Sheep, you might want to consider what someone you respect says about an upcoming decision.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

A new offer is tempting, but don't be bullied into a quick decision. Rely on your keen Bovine business sense to alert you to anything that might be questionable.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

Your Gemini Twin nature rallies to help you deal with this week's hectic schedules, both in your personal and professional lives. One caution: Watch your diet.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

Avoid rushing to make up for time lost on a stalled workplace operation. Best to set up a schedule and pace yourself. Welcome the help of colleagues.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)

Despite those glittering holiday distractions you love so well, be sure to keep your feline senses set on high to alert you to anything that might require fast action.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)

Making an effort to restore fraying relationships proves to be more successful than you dared hope. The holidays also bring new friends into your life.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)

Private and professional matters compete for your attention. Be honest in your assessment of which should get more of it, and for how long.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)

A seemingly endless list of must-do tasks is best handled by tackling them one by one, and taking energy-restoring timeouts between each job.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)

A vexing relationship seems destined to deteriorate no matter what each side tries to do. A third party's advice just might prove helpful.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)

Reach out to ease any tensions caused by home or workplace pressures before they threaten the relationship-building progress you've made.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)

You often go out of your way to show kindness to others. So, don't be surprised if other people want to do something nice for you this week.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)

People in your life respect your Piscean wisdom, so don't hesitate to speak up about a matter that you feel isn't being handled quite the way it should be.

WEDNESDAY JUMBLE

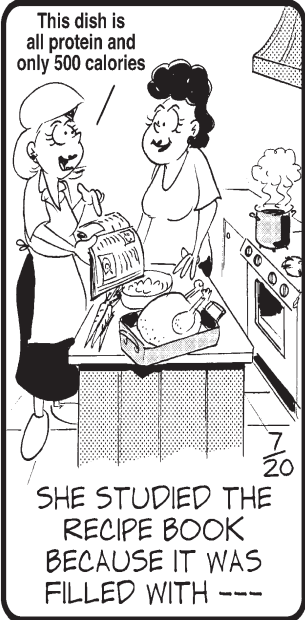
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DOFOL

GUBOH

TOBUNT

CHOUTY



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

A: FOR

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

KING FEATURES

ACROSS

- 1 Too
- 5 Legislation
- 8 Use scissors
- 12 Picnic hamperer
- 13 Raw rock
- 14 Mexican entree
- 15 Water
- 17 Microwave
- 18 Classify
- 19 Mock
- 21 Med. research org.
- 22 Unescorted
- 23 \$ dispenser
- 26 Calendar abbr.

- 28 Once more
- 31 Child of the streets
- 33 Name
- 35 Sicilian spouter
- 36 Praise highly
- 38 Conger or moray
- 40 Early bird?
- 41 Eye part
- 43 Deteriorate
- 45 Official emissary
- 47 Puts on a pedestal
- 51 Vacationing
- 52 Go to court
- 54 Apportion (out)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18							19	20				
				21			22					
23	24	25		26		27		28			29	30
31			32		33		34		35			
36				37		38		39		40		
			41		42		43		44			
45	46						47			48	49	50
51					52	53						
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

- 55 One of the Stooges
- 56 Chills and fever
- 57 Raised
- 58 Moreover
- 59 Put into words

- 7 Mary-Louise Parker series on Showtime
- 8 Warehouse's purpose
- 9 Steer
- 10 On the rocks
- 11 Corn recipe
- 16 Puzzle diagram
- 20 Greek H
- 23 Shock and —
- 24 Tariff
- 25 Ease
- 27 Prompt
- 29 Gerund suffix
- 30 Complain constantly

- 32 Made an incursion
- 34 Scolded
- 37 Eng. class
- 39 California city
- 42 Alabama city
- 44 Frat party garb
- 45 Mary's follower
- 46 Basin accessory
- 48 Indian style of music
- 49 Needle case
- 50 Origin
- 53 Electrical particle

DOWN

- 1 Met melody
- 2 Rock drummer Ulrich
- 3 Letter starter of yore
- 4 Whopper topper
- 5 Couldn't stand
- 6 Illustrations

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

DVD RELEASES

ANT-MAN

Armed with the astonishing ability to shrink in scale but increase in strength, master thief Scott Lang must embrace his inner-hero and help his mentor, Dr. Hank Pym, protect the secret behind his spectacular Ant-Man suit from a new generation of towering threats. They must plan and pull off a heist that will save the world

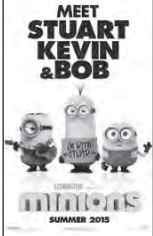
PG-13, 1 hr. 55 min.



MINIONS

One Minion named Kevin has a plan, and he-alongside teenage rebel Stuart and lovable little Bob-ventures out into the world to find a new evil boss for his brethren to follow. The trio embarks upon a thrilling journey that ultimately leads them to their next potential master where they must face their biggest challenge to date: saving all of Minionkind...from annihilation.

PG, 1 hr. 31 min.





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