Linden teen charged with producing child porn

■Video made in Flint hotel room involved 15-year-old male and 13-year-old female

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Flint — Ryan Stevens, 18, of Linden is facing five more felony charges. Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton announced the charges from his office Monday morning.

Leyton said these new charges against Stevens are based on a "very disturbing incident" involving pornography and minors that was uncovered when

See CHILD PORN on 16A

are very disturbing charges on a very disturbing incident. 77

David Leyton Genesee County prosecutor



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I TIM JAGIELO

Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton holds a news conference with local media Monday morning in his office. Joining Leyton are Argentine Township Police Chief Dan Allen (left) and Det. Doug Fulton.

NEW CHARGES AGAINST RYAN STEVENS

Count 1: Criminal Sexual Conduct – third degree (person 13-15) – 15-year felony

Count 2: Child Sexually Abusive Activity – 20-year felony

Count 3: Computers – using to commit a crime – 10- to 20-year felony

Count 4: Child sexually abusive activity – distributing or promoting – seven-year felony

Count 5: Child sexually abusive material – possession – four-year felony



EXCLUSIVE TIMES VIDEO

Go to www.tctimes.com to watch the construction of the Cornerstone building in under five minutes.

Weekend T MES

2012 - 2013 - 2014 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2015

Newsworthy crimes

From vehicle break-ins to murder, area police agencies had a busy 2015

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

The Times stays in constant contact with all area police agencies. This information enables readers to learn what crimes are happening near their homes or workplaces. Oftentimes, arrests lead to criminal cases and prison sentences. Below are summaries of some crimes reported during 2015.

Lewis Smith and Keshia Spaulding-Smith

A Rose Township couple charged with multiple drug offenses in August are due back in Oakland County Circuit Court on Jan. 28, 2016 for their trial.

Lewis Lee Smith, 61, and his wife, Keshia Spaulding-Smith, 34, were arrested Aug. 20 at their

See CRIMES on 10A

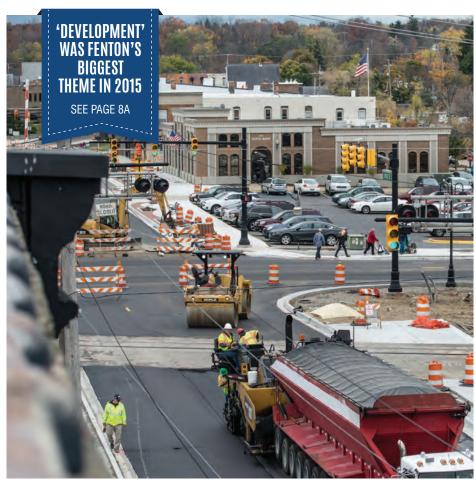


Lewis Smith



Keshia Spaulding-Smith





Never to be forgotten

■ Family and friends remember loved ones they lost this year

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Whether it was due to illness, an accident, a crime or because it was just their time to go, the tri-county area once again lost too many of its citizens in 2015.

This, of course, is not the entire list of people who left us in 2015, who are just as important as everyone else, but rather those whose deaths resulted in a news story.

They are in date order of their deaths:

Isabella "Bella" Ward March 9, 2015

Isabella "Bella" Ward, 3, passed away on Monday, March 9, 2015 in the arms of her parents, Scott and Andrea (Starrs) Ward, at the Linden home they've shared with Bella's maternal grandparents since Bella's cancer

was diagnosed 2½ years ago. Her family brought her homeaweekbefore herdeath from C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor with no medical options





Isabella "Bella" Ward

TEXT YOUR HOT LINE 810-771-TEXT

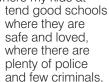


LE I would like to thank the Tri-County Times for



this fine publication. Merry Christmas to all."

LEI am thankful to live in this area where my kids at-



where I can buy anything I need without leaving Fenton. We are truly blessed."

LEThe majority of Americans cannot name a single branch of



government, or explain what the Bill of Rights is. Twenty-four percent could not name the country America fought in the Revolutionary War.

Two-thirds don't know what the Food and Drug Administration does. These are the people voting."



COMMENT OF THE WEEK

turn the volume down when commercials come on TV. They are so loud they woke up my 2-year-old who was sleeping on the couch. I thought a law was passed a few years ago to stop that. How incredibly annoying.

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WWW.TCTIMES.COM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2015









The first year at Cornerstone

■Four businesses talk about their first year in an exclusive video at tctimes.com

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

One year has gone by since four business tenants moved into the street level of Fenton's four-story Cornerstone building, offering a new shopping, dining and pampering experience for residents and visitors downtown.

These four tenants — Sawyer Jewelers, Sagano Bistro & Japanese Steakhouse, Salon 416 and The Rough Draught, also are starring in a new ReelTimes Video created and produced by Times Videographer Tim Jagielo. You can view this new video at tetimes.com, and click on Featured Video.

Chip and Mary Ann Beltinck of Sawyer Jewelers were the first to sign in on the \$4.7-million project featuring retail businesses on the first floor. They were the last to move in on Jan. 15 of this year, committing to customers that they would stay in their former location on Adelaide Street



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

The \$4.7-million, 47,000-square-foot project was first unveiled in 2011. At four stories, the building is the tallest in the city. The first floor is comprised of businesses, and the top three floors are condominiums. All four businesses report that the move to the Cornerstone building has been expensive, but worth it, joining the excitement of a developing city.

From vacant lot to finished, occupied structure, see every step of the process in the Times' exclusive, 4-minute, time-

> to complete the entire 2014 Christmas shopping

season in one place.

"It has been a fantastic move for us," said Chip. "If someone would have told me that moving two blocks would offer such a magnitude of change in our business, I wouldn't have believed it."

The amount of walk-by traffic is one of the biggest changes. "There have been a lot of new faces in our store," he said. "People are coming downtown for the new dining and shopping experiences. All of us together as one are better than each of us as an individual."

Even in the midst of Fenton's Streetscape Project, business was still good at Sawyer's, according to Chip. "This next year will tell us how things are going to go."

His customers and business peers have welcomed "the new" Sawyer Jewelers with open arms, he said. "People are happy and excited for us. We outgrew our other store years ago."

See CORNERSTONE on 20A

365 days of graditude

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES



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CONTACT INFORMATION

General Office810-629-8282 Advertising810-629-8281 Classifieds..... 810-629-8194 .. 810-433-6797 Circulation

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Let's all go to the movies

By Foster Childs

You're sitting in a large, dimly lit room with friends or family. An air

of anticipation is palpable throughout the packed room. You're chatting with your spouse or friend when suddenly the lights dim and booming music reverberates throughout the room. You turn to face the big screen with a satisfied smile across your face and prepare for a journey. For the next few hours you will be absent from your own life and present in another's.

Welcome to the movie theater. If nothing else, movies are resilient. The experience has basically been the same for four generations, yet TV didn't kill them, cable didn't kill them, videos

didn't kill them and the Internet didn't kill them. They truly are the most durable

form of entertainment ever conceived.

Never mind the petty annoyances from the inevitable idiots around you (cell phone users, talkers, hat-wearers), the experience of watching a story unfold on the big screen transports us to other worlds - cops, criminals, the past, the future, bygone eras and even outer space — worlds most of would never visit, much less inhabit, and they're

all available to us at the movies.

So why do we go to the movies anyway? If we simply waited a couple months, we could watch the same movie in our living room for six dollars, instead of \$35-\$40.

I think the secret sauce is simply the theater experience. The moment you enter the theater all outside problems and distractions are blocked out. No phones. No knocks on the door. No

cell phones. No letting the dog out. It's an escape for two hours into a world different from the one we inhabit daily. There is a camaraderie factor also. Comedies are funnier when all outside 150 people are laughing with you. Scary movies are scarier when the entire audience gasps and screams and tear-jerkers are more emotional when you are

trying not to let your friends see that you got misty-eyed when the hero died after saving a puppy, or all of mankind. When else do we ever have the opportunity to block out reality — and its accompanying distractions — and sit quietly for two full hours?

Never. Except at a theater. In the theater you block out all the outside distractions and simply sit. Watching a movie uninterrupted allows

44 The moment

you enter

the theater

problems and

distractions are

blocked out. 77

you to be more fully transported into its world. That's what movies are all about escaping from reality for two hours. It only makes sense to give yourself the freedom of forgetting about all the other stuff for a while. Heck, you've earned it.

So the next time you're left wondering what to do, or are in need of way to let

off some steam, take a trip to a theater and catch a movie on the big screen.

I promise you won't regret it.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the King at king@ctimes.com. Some content adapted from the internet.

approved for publication, must be 50 v necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-C the right to edit for clarity, length and liab

I JUST WANTED to report a Secret Santa in the Fenton area. I was wondering how I was going to get my layaway out for Christmas. I recently lost two aunts and I am struggling with bills, buying gifts and needing a car. Today, I am truly blessed. Someone went to Kmart of Fenton and paid it off. They have placed so much joy upon my family. Thank you Secret

I GOT A bang out of watching the NFL on Thursday night with Tampa and their Heisman trophy winner. Tampa made an awfully bad choice when they picked this kid.

I AM SADDENED that my church is giving money to help Syrian refugees relocate to the U.S. I can no longer in good conscience give money to an organization that subverts the desire of the U.S. and undermines the security of our people.

AS THE YEAR comes to a close, I'd like to say that I'm thankful and appreciative of the Tri-County Times and especially Foster Childs. Week after week, I find myself in agreement with him and I'm amazed at his wisdom, knowledge and insight.

YES, OTHER PRESIDENTS also took vacations. But the level of extrava-

gance and arrogance by the Obamas, inviting their extended family and friends, and all the cost is paid for by us, is ridiculous.

I JUST LOVE waking up to snow. That's why I'm still sleeping.

LINDEN, THANK YOU very much for a wonderful Christmas parade. The parade at night was absolutely wonderful. I hope they

MORE GUN CONTROL, more gun control. How's that working out for Chicago?

I AGREE WITH the Hot line writer on the evaluation of Mr. Trump's experience as far as presidential capability. However, I think he misspelled the last word describing Hillary's experience. It should be I-i-a-r.

I WONDERED WHY it was so important to pass my history class in school. Guess what? Anyone remember the Trojan horse? Trump is right.

IT LOOKS LIKE Bush is acting like a Harvard frat boy who thinks anyone who didn't go to Harvard is lower than he is. He doesn't even know what the common person is.

WHAT TRUMP IS suggesting with keeping Muslim refugees from being admitted to the country is totally legal under the constitution. Passed by a Democratic congress in 1952, signed by a Democratic president, and used by Jimmy Carter when he kept Iranians from coming over here.

IS IT JUST me, or is it that everything we do to protect ourselves against terrorists, the Democrats tell us is a recruiting tool for ISIS.

I ALWAYS TRY to remember how much better the country would be if people running for president had to serve their country first in the military.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY four million refugees in the Middle East, thousands of Christians being killed, terrorists in the U.S. and immigrants coming across our borders. Yet despite it all, our president said that climate control and gun control are at the top of this list.

THE PRESIDENT IS disconnected from the presidency and is going to cruise through the last year of his presidency using executive power to pass controversial legislation, such as gun control, against the will of Congress and the citizenry. That is a dictator, not a president.

THE NEW PAVEMENT downtown was very slick with ice last Friday night. Was that just because it is new and smooth? I saw a vehicle take out one of the new benches, then he ended up on the lawn of the police station.

I WILL BE voting for Hillary Clinton but only because of party loyalty. What have we become when she and Donald Trump are the candidates for the highest office in the land? Sad, sad, sad,

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

streettalk

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Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What was the highlight of your 2015?



"My highlight was probably my son's first birthday party. We just had a party with our family, having everyone together in one place. Lots of presents and fun stuff for him."

— Katie Stone, Holly



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"My husband moved me out here to the country. I got married at 51. His name is John Clark."

> — Carey Clark Holly



"Getting my house this past weekend. My boyfriend and me buying a house together was my highlight. We just moved to Fenton. He grew up here."



"I'd say my house that I just moved into at Lobdell Lake. Love it. Just moved here from Westland."



"Getting engaged on March 8. We went to Cedar Point and I proposed to her on the top of the Ferris Wheel."

— Jeff Granger Deerfield Township



— Thea Bacon, Fenton



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I FILE PHOTO
The Nelson quadruplets celebrate
16 years of being a unique local
family. The 16-year-old quads have
a bright future, much academic
success and are part of a tight-knit
family. From left are Karly, Alan,
Kayla and Kylie

The lighter side of 2015

■ News features about interesting people

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

People are what make the news interesting to read about in the tricounty area. That continues to be true in 2015, when local people made headlines by living, working and accomplishing big and small things, making them newsworthy over the past year.

Here are a few stories and people who made the news in 2015:

Lake Fenton grads just minutes from Paris terrorist attacks: Caitlin Nelson and Evan Korchnak were just four miles away from the bombing of the Charlie Hebdo building (published Jan. 11).

Children from Ukraine and Tanzania making their way to families in tri-county area: Pat and Theresa Brady of Argentine Township, Jim and Heather Idoni of Deerfield Township and Ben and Kim Green of Rose Township were all welcoming new adopted kids this year from across the world (published Sunday, Jan. 18).

'Boy next door' moving to NYC: Jacques Pougnet, 17, of Tyrone Township, lands job with Ford Models; is face of American Eagle clothing store (published Feb. 8).

See LIGHTER SIDE on 22A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I FILE PHOTO Kimberly Eustache, M.D. was the first Cornerstone resident, buying her condo at age 28. She moved to Michigan for her medical residency.





HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE PERSON who talked about the white pit bull. He is in the house all night. In hot weather, he is in the house. He is loved and goes for rides in the van daily and plays with his ball in the back daily. You do not know what goes on with my dog so mind your own business please.

ISIS VS. ISIL. Islamic State of Iraq and Syria vs. Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (a large area in the Middle East). Maybe the proper name should be 'Daesh.'

FELLOW CITIZENS, AMERICA is our home, our country. We must come together to love our country — black, white, all colors — to keep our freedom and most importantly, our safety. Until we are able to vet those wishing to enter our country, it shouldn't matter who has to wait or be inconvenienced.







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'Riverview' final site plans unanimously approved

SUMMARY

■ The proposed

new "Riverview"

development on

the property at 225

West Caroline St. in

Fenton has gained

unanimous final site

plan approval from

the Fenton Planning

Ground breaking

on the project is

expected to take

March of 2016.

place in February or

Commission.

■ Groundbreaking scheduled for February

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

The "Riverview" project is one step closer to becoming a reality now that the Fenton Planning Commission has unanimously approved final site plans.

The project will be built at 225 West Caroline St. in Fenton. The property once housed the Topps produce market and Wash King Laundromat. It was purchased by Michael and Ashleigh LaJoice, owners of Chassé Ballroom and Latin Dance Studio, in June. The building, considered a blight in the city, came down in August.

Although LaJoice said during a press conference in late October that he won't be at liberty to reveal the actual names of businesses until the

end of this year, he did explain what kind of businesses they are.

Chassé Ballroom & Latin Dance Studio will be one of the main businesses on the Riverview development.

Chassé will occupy 14,421 square feet for the dance studio and 16,266 for office space on two floors. New will be the addition of a daycare center for customers and employees, as well as showers and locker rooms for students and staff.

A second main business will be a food market, designed after the Whole Foods and Fresh Thyme concept. The second floor of the market will feature a café, serving organic and fresh foods and salads. These will occupy 18,000 square feet of the building.

The third main business will also occupy two floors, with the first floor featuring a steak, seafood and Italian food restaurant. Over the restaurant on the second floor will be a dueling piano bar for music and dancing entertainment.

These will occupy 12,200 square feet of the Riverview building.

Riverview will also feature space for four to six retail units. On the top floors of the tiered building will be 53 condominium units, featuring studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom units.

LaJoice has said parking was always his main concern, so a 101 space-surface

parking lot and 284-space parking structure will also be built. The top two decks will be dedicated for employees and residents.

Riverview is expected to bring 200 new jobs to the city. The building is designed with "cut throughs," leading from one section to another to promote walkability.

LaJoice said pending approvals, he plans to break ground on the project in February or March of 2016. He anticipates it will take 18 months to complete.

The total cost of the project is not yet known.

According to Carmine Avantini, the city's planning consultant, there are several conditions tied to the final site

"There is a list of about 10 items but they consist of follow-up detail, nothing I would consider major," said Avantini. "Most site plans are approved with conditions like this."

Those conditions, highlighted in Avantini's site plan review and recommendations involve parking lot lane width, creating access easement along the south property line, the developer relocating a storm sewer along the north property line, verification of utility lines and removal and capping of any unused utility lines.

Other conditions include buffering and landscaping matters, and that review and approval by the appropriate city departments, consultants and agencies are completed.

The Riverview development has been designed by NORR Architects and will be built by Schonsheck, Inc. of Wixom.

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▶The UPS Store sends e-mail and text alerts to mailbox customers

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The UPS Store can receive packages from any carrier and hold them in a secure location for pick-up at your convenience. As an additional advantage, mailbox holders have the option to receive notifications, via e-mail or text, alerting them that their packages have been received, eliminating unnecessary trips to the center. For small-business owners. The UPS Store provides an actual street address for their businesses, which conveys a more professional touch, and if they're running a business out of their home, they don't have to give out their home address.

"Our 24-hour access mailbox services are a convenience that more general and small-business consumers are discovering," said Les Beare, The UPS Store owner. "They like the fact that we provide them with a street address, not a P.O. box number, as well as the option to receive an e-mail or a text alert when they have a package waiting," he added.

The UPS Store also provides a package only option for customers. "Package only is a great service. We can receive most packages a customer is expecting one-time or on a regular basis, without the need to purchase a mailbox," says Beare.

Other mailbox service options include mail holding and forwarding for snow birds or travelers—The UPS Store will hold your packages in a secure location for pick-up at your convenience or forward them to you, wherever you are.

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News briefs

Fenton City Council approves \$74,710 for two new pickup trucks

The Fenton City Council voted 4-3 on Monday, Dec. 14, to award bids for two new Chevrolet Silverado pickup trucks to Vic Canever Chevrolet for a total of \$74,710.60. Mayor Sue Osborn, Councilwoman Pat Lockwood and councilmen Brad Jacob and Scott Grossmeyer voted in favor of giving Canever the business. Councilman Dave McDermott and councilwomen Cherie Smith and Nancy Draves voted for the low bidder. At the Dec. 7 council work session, officials were divided on which dealership they would choose. Mayor Sue Osborn said she favored Canever because they are city taxpayers. The low bidder, a Fenton Township dealership, came in at \$4,500 less for the two trucks.

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'Development' was Fenton's biggest theme in 2015

Many projects started and compléted in 2015, from Streetscape to the expansion of the Fenton Community Center

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The biggest news in Fenton for 2015 has been the huge growth and development of major projects — from Streetscape downtown to large land purchases by the Hagerman and LaJoice families for upscale retail and lifestyle projects.

The \$4.7-million Streetscape project began in April and was completed by Nov. 20, bringing new roads, infrastructure, sidewalk, parking, lighting, benches and trees to the downtown area. The cost was handled through federal and state grants, as well as monies from the Fenton Downtown Development Authority. Final plantings and accessories will be installed in Spring

Phil and Joyce Hagerman purchased



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

The Red Fox Outfitters building greets visitors driving into Fenton. Before the granary renovation, the building sat unused for years.

three parcels of land on Silver Lake Road last spring through Sky Point Ventures: one is the former Fenton Bean Company, which was renovated with historic detail into Red Fox Outfitters. This upscale outdoor apparel and equipment retailer opened Nov. 27 in time for the busy Christmas shopping season.

The second site, 102 West Silver Lake

Rd., is the former Fenton Collision location, now waiting for just the right development opportunity, according to Phil Hagerman.

The third site is at 132 Caroline St., where the road will be extended toward the Jack R. Winegarden Library. The building south of that, closest to the Fenton United Methodist Church, will be the site of Phase II of the Cornerstone project, a mixed-use building tentatively planned to be built in 2016, according to Michael Burns, assistant city manager for the city of Fenton.

The Jack R. Winegarden Library, which was closed for three months last winter for renovations, re-opened March 2 with brand new interior updates and re-furnishings totaling \$340,000.

As part of Fenton's Master Plan, the Fenton Community & Cultural Center underwent a major expansion and renovation project totaling more than \$2 million, with donor and public open houses held in May.

Michael and Ashleigh LaJoice of LaJoice Properties announced one of the largest development projects in the city to-date, Riverview — a multi-use complex of offices, retailers, condos and parking.

Last June, LaJoice Properties purchased the 3.3-acre parcel of land that once housed the former Topps fruit market along the Shiawassee River, and made the announcement of development plans in October. The project is expected to begin in 2016 and take approximately 18 months to complete.

Local developer Wilson Lahoud has announced plans to build a brick, two-story commercial building for mixed use with offices, retail and possible restaurants on a 1.23-acre parcel of land on Silver Lake Road, adjacent to Silver Arbor Apartments. He has also purchased the former 6-acre Nagy Excavation site on Silver Lake Road and two other adjacent properties for future development.

FENTON

OPENED IN 2015

• ABC Supply Co.

in the last 12 months.

Advanced iPhone Repair

2015 saw 34 new

businesses open

■ During the same period,

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The business landscape in every

community is always changing,

with new businesses opening their

doors and others closing. It's the

same story in the tri-county area, as

we look back at 2015 and see which

businesses have opened and closed

21 closed their doors

in our area

By Sally Rummel

- Corner Bar & Grill
- Divine Yoga
- Farmers Insurance John Gatz, agent
- Fenton Oil Exchange
- Fun With Frosting
- Golden Buffet
- Lauren Marie Photography
- Lovely Lashes by Dana
- Mirror Image Consignment
- Painting With a TwistPhoenix Hair Studio
- Primary Care Medicine
- Red Fox Outfitters
- Rust to Roses Florist & Home Décor
- RX Care Pharmacy
- VAE Life Coaching WellBridge of Fenton
- The Yoga Retreat & Boutique CLOSED IN 2015

- 14K Pawn
- Charlie Kae Formals
- Cobblestone Old & New
- Elle Marie Hair Studio
- Howard's Hidden Treasures
- lacobelli Medical Center
- Oil Experts
- Raymo's Dining & Entertainment
- Rex Todd Rodgers Design Studio
- The Steak & Hoagie Factory
- Village Cleaners
- Vintage Row
- The Well Yoga

LINDEN/ARGENTINE **OPENED IN 2015**

- 1-2-3 Resale
- Art is In
- Broad Street Insurance
- Legacy Coin ShopMaid4You
- Quality Tax Service **CLOSED IN 2015**

Planks on the Lake Bar & Grill

HOLLY

OPENED IN 2015

- 14K Exchange
- Cupcakes & Kisses
- Good Wood
- Jacq-N-Diane's Juice Box
- N. Reding & Sons
- Northern Oak Brewery
- RePurpose
- Strongrich & Associates

CLOSED IN 2015

- Earthly Origins
- Fabulous Finds
- Great Lakes Market Place
- Holly Candle Shoppe
- Holly Tree
- Star Struck Dance Studio
- Water Tower Antiques



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Two additional locations in Swartz Creek and Flint/Grand Blanc Township

Times' most popular online stories

School shooting threat, million-dollar project and baby Isabella are most-viewed stories

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

While residents of townships, villages, and cities remember news as it happens, news sources act as scribes to record these events in history.

The Times has reported on many subjects this year from car crashes, runaway dogs, new million-dollar projects, and many other topics.

Some stories traveled across the web, throughout Facebook and Twitter nationwide to an audience reaching hundreds of thousands.

Here are the Times' most-viewed stories of 2015.

Our most popular story of 2015 was "Police likely prevented school shooting in Linden," published on Nov. 6, with 110,092 page views, 96,233 unique page views, and has the second longest average view time as of Dec. 22.

A story receives unique page views when someone only visits that one story on a website.

Three teens were arrested following a FBI and police investigation in Argentine Township, after a school resource officer intercepted a plan to carry out an alleged school shooting.

"Wow!" about Michael and Ashleigh LaJoice's plans for the property of 225 West Caroline St, wowed the community with 35,726 page views and 31,333 unique page views.

According to the article, published on Oct. 29, the building is said to include a new Chassé Ballroom and Latin Dance Studio, as well as a food market, condominiums, a cafe, and various restaurants.

"We are heartbroken" is the story of 3-year-old Isabelle "Bella" Ward, born to Scott and Andrea (Starrs) Ward, who passed away March 9 from a rare cancer, bilateral retinoblastoma.

Published on March 10, the story had 22,717 page views, and 20,786 unique page views as of Dec. 22.

The fourth most-viewed story is "Police identify woman found in stairwell," published Sept. 9.

The story of 28-year-old Kellie Riggs, who was found dead in a stairwell at the 1600 building of Georgetown Apartments, received 18,855 page views and 17,498 page views.

The story about police searching for teenage runaways, published on May 18, is the fifth most viewed story of this year. Sage Nicole Richardson, 13 and Jonathan Lee Kempton, 14, ran away together at 2 a.m. on Saturday, May 16 and were found the next day around 9 p.m. at Grange Hall Road and the railroad tracks.

The story received 18,551 views and 16,797 unique views.

"Hagermans buy Fenton Bean Company" received 11,272 page views and 10,423 unique page views. Published on March 6, the Times revealed that SkyPoint Ventures, LLC, a company owned by Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman, bought the property located at 234 North LeRoy St. in downtown Fenton.

The article revealing the plan of the old beanery building, published on May 27, received 11,108 page views and 9,729 unique page views.

The Times revealed the Hagerman's plans to turn the old beanery building into a Red Fox Outfitters, to the excitement of outdoor enthusiasts.

Roof of Fenton Fire Hall catches fire" received 10,918 page views and 10,122 unique page views as of Dec. 22.

When it was published on Feb. 19, the Times reported that Fenton, Fenton Township, and Linden firefighters responded to a fire at the Fenton Fire Hall restaurant when a fire erupted in the ventilation ducts between the cooking area and the roof, and a buildup of heat ignited ventilation materials.

"Search ends for Argentine Township man" received 9,499 page views and 8,728 unique page views in 2015.

The Times revealed on Aug. 3 that Thomas Kelley, 47, was found in 17½ feet of water in the east side of Lobdell Lake after he dove into the water the day before to save two small children who had been thrown from a tube.

"Linden couple charged with felony child abuse," published on April 10, received 9,468 page views and 8,230 unique page views.

Eric and Angela Corcoran, both 43, were charged with second-degree felony child abuse of their 16-year-old adopted son.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

LINDEN SCHOOL BOARD voted 4-3 to put athletics above academics. Paying a new AD \$5,000 more than the exiting AD, when they claim they're going broke.

IT'S AMAZING HOW extremely naive Muslim apologists are. They fail to realize the simple fact that a radical Muslim wants to cut your head off, but a moderate Muslim will sharpen his blade.

JOE LOUIS LIVED in the big home on the left side just outside of town as you're headed to Holly, which was torn down to build the new church.

'PAYING FORWARD' A lottery ticket is a nice thought but nonsensical gesture since 99.9 percent of the time the recipient is left with a piece of paper. Pay forward your time, treasure or talent and you will be immensely rewarded, not just during Christmas but also throughout the year.

THE QURAN DOES not tell Muslims to kill non-believers or infidels. For the facts, go to www.justaskislam.com.

TO THE PEOPLE who want Hillary Clinton elected because of her proven experience and leadership quality against Donald Trump's no experience, are you the ones who elected Obama? Do you think I'm going to listen to you now?



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CRIMES

Continued from Front Page

North Hill Drive home. They were arraigned on multiple felonies, including manufacturing and delivering marijuana and possession of controlled substances.

During the search of their home, detectives discovered and seized a number of items as evidence, including 520 grams of marijuana, 800 OxyContin, Hydrocodone and Xanax pills, a digital scale, drug packaging and documents.

Keshia is already serving four to 20 years on a drunk driving offense, which took place on June. She was convicted of fleeing the scene of a crash and causing injuries to two passengers in her truck. She pleaded no contest on July 31 and was sentenced in September.

Damien Lee Henry, 31, of Holly Township, is on probation until 2020. He was responsible for a hit-and-run accident

> in Holly Village that killed 54-year-

> old Valarie Owen

in October 2014.

Owen had recently

moved from Lake

Orion to Holly and was out on a walk.

Mary Bigford, 52,

the woman accused

of shooting her

granddaughter's

father, Lawrence

Howard, Jr., 39, of

Fenton, six times

while he sat in his

car in Mt. Pleasant

on April 18, has been

postponed until Jan.

11, 2016. She has

The trial for



Damien Lee Henry



Mary Bigford

been charged with one count of open murder, one count of first-degree murder, one count of carrying a dangerous weapon with unlawful intent, felonious assault, and felony firearm violation. Her case is being heard in the Isabella County courts. She remains jailed without bond.

Erich Wilfinger, 66, the man accused of killing his wife, Marsha (Sargent) Wilfinger, formerly of Argentine Township, will see the beginning of his



Erich Wilfinger

jury trial between Jan. 12 and 15, 2016. He has been charged with open murder-homicide, possession of weapons a n d firearms by a felon, and trying to escape from jail where he

Marsha Wilfinger was found in the back seat of a burning car on June 20 in Montmorency County. When Michigan State Police troopers arrived, they found the car burning in a ditch. When the fire was put out, investigators discovered Marsha Wilfinger's burned remains in the back seat.

continues to remain without bond.

Gregory Johnson, 47, of Fenton is serving 19 months to 10 years in prison for



Gregory Johnson

assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and felony firearms.

Johnson was found guilty of shootinghis 43-yearold neighbor over a lawn mowing dispute in May 2014. He was sentenced in



Eric Corcoran



Angela Corcoran

child abuse after being accused

Eric and Angela

Corcoran, both 43,

have been charged

with second-degree

May 2015.

of mentally and emotionally abusing their adopted son, who has since been placed in foster care. The alleged abuse started in 2012 and continued through February of this year. A trial date has been scheduled for Jan. 11, 2016.

Brian Lamar Jackson, 33, of

Holly was arraigned on one count of assault and battery because of a domestic violence situation at an apartment in Holly in April. Jackson pleaded guilty on April 23 in Oakland County District Court and was sentenced to 60 days in the county jail.

Mark Evans Landback, 51, of Holly was charged with one count of aggravated felonious assault with a gun — a four-year felony, possession of a



Mark Evans Landback

controlled substance (marijuana) with intent to deliver a four-year felony, manufacturing of marijuana, and two counts of possession of a firearm in commission of a felony — a two-year felony.

Charges came after he barricaded himself inside his Holly mobile home in May for several hours. Police recovered the weapon used for the alleged assault, a loaded 12-gage shotgun. Additionally, a loaded AR15 rifle, a .22 rifle and a 20-gauge shotgun were taken from the scene, along with a large amount of ammunition for those firearms. On Oct. 20, he was sentenced to two years in state prison for felony firearms.

After serving 111 days in the Oakland County Jail, James Dill, 29, of Holly



James Dill

is on probation for five years, stemming from an incident on March 28 in Holly.

Holly Police Chief Michael Story said officers were dispatched to a home on Grange Hall Road to investigate a

complaint. The 29-year-old female victim who had called police was a victim of an attempted criminal sexual conduct (CSC).

When the officers tried to make contact with Dill, he emerged from his bedroom with a machete. Dill allegedly raised the machete to the officers despite being ordered to stop and drop it.

Norman Guy, 45, of Flint pleaded guilty to attempted fourth-degree arson on



Norman Guy

Sept. 15 in Genesee County. Fenton police had arrested him on Aug. 26 for setting a car owned by his estranged wife on fire. Police located Guy in his

Continued on next page

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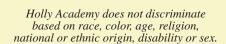
NOTICE OF OPEN ENROLLMENT

Holly Academy, a Public School Academy, will be holding open student enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year beginning January 4, 2016 through March 1, 2016. Applications may be picked up at any time from the office during regular school hours 8:00am to 4:00pm weekdays or you may access forms online at (www.hollyacademy.org.) A New Parent Information Meeting will be held at the Academy on Monday, February 22, 2016 from 6:30pm until 8:00pm. If there are more applicants to enroll in a specific grade than there are spaces available, pupils shall be selected using a random public lottery process.

The lottery, if necessary, is scheduled to occur on Friday, March 11, 2016 at 9:00am.

Holly Academy

820 Academy Road, Holly, MI 48442 **248-634-5554** 248-634-5564-fax





car and during a search they recovered a one-gallon can of gasoline and a lighter. He was also intoxicated.

Guy pleaded guilty to attempted fourth-degree arson and received a sentence of 24 months probation. He also pleaded guilty to drunk driving, third offense and received a sentence on Dec. 21 of 60 days in jail and five years probation.

Melissa Marquez, 36, of Linden pleaded no contest in March to reduced charges related to an animal cruelty incident on June 26, 2014 in Argentine Township. In May, she was sentenced to 90 days in the county jail, fines and two years probation.

Matthew Hibbard, 34, and his girlfriend, Jamie Leach, 37, both of



Matthew Hibbard

Jamie Leach

Argentine Township were charged with multiple offenses related to nine reported car break-ins during the summer. One of the break-ins resulted in the theft of an Arizona state trooper's firearm.

Hibbard was originally arraigned on three counts of larceny from an automobile (LFA), larceny of property, larceny of firearms, breaking and entering of a vehicle to steal property and larceny from a

building. He pleaded no contest to three counts of LFA and the other charges were dismissed. He was sentenced to

365 days in the county jail and 36 months probation.

Leach was arraigned Oct. 1 on charges of receiving and concealing firearms, and breaking and entering of a vehicle. On Nov. 18, she was sentenced to 12 months probation and restitution.

Charles Raymond Warren, Jr., 69, of Waterford has been charged with reckless driving resulting in death and leaving the scene of an accident when



Charles Raymond Warren, Jr.

at fault – resulting in death. He is suspected of causing the traffic crash that killed Michigan State Police Trooper Chad Wolf of Fenton on Aug. 28. If convicted as charged, Warren faces a maximum of 15 years on each count. Out on bond,

Warren is due back in Oakland County District Court on Jan. 13, 2016 for his next hearing.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

OBAMA HAS FINALLY turned his attention to Trump. Trump is saying what 80 percent of the country is thinking. Half of them don't say what they think but they're thinking it.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY Administration has a list of recognized religions exempt from the A.C.A., aka Obamacare. It includes the Amish, Mennonite and Hutterite's. Muslims are not exempt. So please keep your bigoted opinions to yourself.

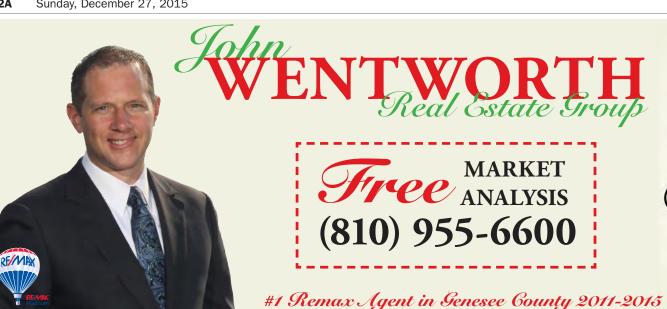


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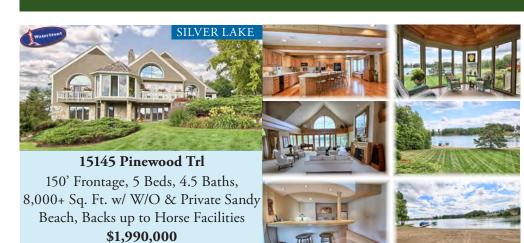
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LOVED ONES

Continued from Front Page

left to fight the cancer that had metastasized to her brain and spine, but to hold onto her peacefully at home under hospice care.

George Davis Pellett March 16, 2015

George Davis Pellett, age 91, of Fenton

and Naples, Florida, died March 16, 2015. George was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. He was an owner of Pellett's Department



Store, a store his father built in downtown Fenton in 1921. He also served as director of The State Bank for many years.

Lawrence Howard, Jr. April 18, 2015

Lawrence Howard, Jr., 39, of Fenton, was shot to death on April 18, while he was sitting in his car at the Chase

Run Apartments in Mt. Pleasant. He was waiting to exercise his parental right to visit his daughter, who lived in the apartment community with her mother, when he was shot six times. His



daughter's grandmother, Mary Lou Bigford remains in jail until her trial begins in January 2016. She is charged with pre-meditated, first-degree murder.

Ricky Hughes April 29, 2015

A former Fenton postal employee was found dead in his home the afternoon of Wednesday, April 29, following a police situation that lasted several hours. Det. Mike Neering of the Mundy Township Police Department said Ricky Hughes, 65, was found dead with a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Just after noon on April 29, Mundy Township police officers responded to Hughes' home on Hill Road, between Linden and Jennings roads. A postal inspector asked the police department to check on Hughes, as they had not heard from him as scheduled. While the officers were on Hughes' front porch and knocking on the front door, they heard a single gunshot.

Gerald Durocher May 21, 2015

Gerald Durocher, owner of Formspec, Inc.andGDBuilders, Inc. in Fenton, died suddenly on Thursday, May 21 at the age of 67. He and



his wife, Nancy, were very involved with the Silver Lake Ski Club for 25 years. He had served as the club's president, boat driver and show director.

Shirley Campbell June 6, 2015

Former Holly Village Councilwoman Shirley Campbell died Saturday, June 6 at the age of 80. She was a 20-year



member of the Holly Village Council. In that role, she worked tirelessly on matters that protected the health and safety of community residents. Often described as "tenacious," if Campbell didn't know something, she went searching for it until she got it right. She fought for what she believed in. Campbell also was a longstanding member of Holly Area Youth Assistance, serving many years as treasurer.

Marsha (Sargent) Wilfinger June 20, 2015

The burned remains of Marsha Wilfinger, 54, of Mundy Township (formerly Marsha Sargent of Linden) were found in the back seat of a car



in Montmorency County the night of Friday, June 20. Her husband Erich Wilfinger has been charged with open murder-homicide and remains jailed until his trial begins in January 2016.

Thomas Kelley August 3, 2015

Atabout3:15 p.m. Monday, Aug. 3, the county dive team located the body of Thomas Kelley, 47, of Argentine Township i n



Lobdell Lake. Kelley had gone missing at approximately 7 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 2 after he dove in to help two small children who had been thrown from a tube that he was pulling behind his boat. A police investigation revealed that Kelley was driving an older ski boat and pulling a tube carrying a 6- and 7-yearold. Accompanying Kelley in the boat was a female friend, who dove into the water when one of the children fell in. He then also dove in. Witnesses helped pull the woman and two children from the water. Kelley, in the meantime, had gone underwater and had not resurfaced.

Delbert (Bert) Arthur Loomis August 14, 2015

Delbert (Bert) Arthur Loomis of Gaines, who was involved in a hit and run crash in Hartland Township on Wednesday, Aug. 12 died from



his injuries on Friday, Aug. 14 at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was the operator of the 2014 Harley Davidson motorcycle involved in a two-vehicle crash at 3:30 p.m. on northbound U.S. 23 near Clyde Road.

Trooper Chad Wolf August 28, 2015

Chad Wolf, 38, of Fenton, the state trooper who was dragged several miles on I-75 after his motorcycle was struck by a car and trailer Friday morning died Aug. 28 from injuries he sustained in the crash. He was taken to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township and died during the evening hours. Wolf was on patrol on a motorcycle that Friday morning

when a 72-year-old motoristwaschanging lanes and hit Wolf on northbound I-75 near Dixie Highway, trapping him beneath the car or trailer sometime before 6:30 a.m.



Kellie Riggs September 8, 2015 (discovered) Kellie Riggs,



a Georgetown Apartments maintenance worker on Tuesday, Sept. 8. There were no obvious signs of what caused her death. The results of an autopsy were inconclusive. Fenton police said there were no signs of foul play. They said Riggs at one time lived in the apartment complex, but did not reside there at the time of her death.

Michael and Carolyn Wyatt September 13, 2015 (discovered)

A Springfield Township couple found

shot to death in their home Sept. 13 has been ruled a murdersuicide, according to the Oakland County Sheriff's Office. Killed were Carolyn Wyatt, 64, and her husband,



Michael Wyatt, 66. Deputies with the sheriff's Office went to the couple's home on Shaffer Road for a welfare check on Carolyn. When they arrived, deputies saw two vehicles parked in the driveway blocking access to the home. Deputies looked through a window and saw the two deceased individuals lying on the floor.

Douglas "Dewey" Johnson September 20, 2015

Douglas Leonard Johnson, better known to the Fenton community as "Dewey,"

owner of Dewey's Automotive Center died on Sept. 20. He was 85 years old. Dewey, a Fenton resident since 1953, was born on June 17, 1930 in Flint. He was a 1948 graduate of



Holly High School, and a veteran of the Korean War, serving in the U.S. Army. In the 1950s, he realized his dream of owning successful gas stations and auto repair businesses in Fenton.

Mack Fuller October 4, 2015

of Holly was killed when the car he was driving struck a tree in Holly Township early Sunday



morning, Oct. 4. The investigation revealed that the driver, identified as Fuller, in a 2006 Buick Allure, was travelling north on Holly Road when he lost control in a curve and the

left the roadway, striking a tree and rolling over. Fuller, who was alone in the car was trapped inside. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Joshua Francis and Amy Gil October 11, 2015

Joshua Francis, 25, and his girlfriend

of seven years, Amy Gil, 31, died early Sunday morning, Oct. 11 as a result of a vehicle accident. According to Michigan State Police, the couple's vehicle struck a tree on Hill Road in Gaines. Francis, a Lennon resident and 2008 graduate of Linden High School was pronounced dead at the scene. Gil, also of Lennon, who attended Linden



15A



and Fenton schools, was taken to the hospital where she later died from her injuries.

Gary Richard Buys October 16, 2015 (discovered)

The remains of 69-year-old Gary Richard Buys were discovered in his Tyrone Township home on Friday, Oct. 15, after a concerned neighbor called the Livingston County Sheriff's Department to conduct a welfare check on Buys. It is believed Buys died more than a year earlier, but because he was somewhat of a recluse, living alone with no family nearby, and all of his bills were being paid, no one suspected anything was wrong. There were no signs of foul play.

Claude M. Cranston **December 11, 2015**

Claude M. Cranston, age 95, of Linden, died Friday, December 11, 2015. Claude was the Salutatorian of the

Linden High School Class of 1937. He graduated from Kalamazoo College and the University of Michigan. He retired from Linden Schools in 1979 with 38 years of service.



Claude was one of four that were the initial inductees into the Linden High School Athletic Hall of Fame. He was also a member of the Genesee County Coaches and Officials Association. He was very active in local and state athletics. Claude was a founding member of the Linden Sportsmens Club. He was a charter member of the Linden Kiwanis and Linden Mills Historical Society. Claude was a life member of the American Trap Shooting Association.

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BREAKING AND ENTERING

At 8:30 a.m. on Dec. 18, a Fenton police officer on patrol noticed that the front door of a business in the 3100 block of Silver Lake Road had been smashed with an unknown object. The officer could see that someone gained entry into the business, however, nothing was reported missing. Police believe that the business alarm scared off the culprit.

LINDEN WOMAN ARRESTED FOR OWI

At 12:27 a.m. on Dec. 18, Fenton police responded to the area of Owen Road and a fast-food restaurant after a caller reported a black Dodge Ram pickup truck weaving all over the road. The responding officer located the suspect truck and noticed that the driver pulled out of the restaurant parking lot onto to Owen without stopping first. The officer then followed the truck to observe the driver's skill at driving. After seeing the truck swerve, the officer initiated a traffic stop on Alloy Drive and made contact with the 21-year-old driver from Linden. There was also a passenger from Texas in the truck. The driver blew a .207 on the preliminary breath test and was arrested for OWI. While impounding the truck, police found marijuana during a search and the driver was also arrested for possession of marijuana. The driver was lodged overnight. The passenger, also intoxicated, was released.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ONCE AGAIN, THE press rants about Republicans hating minorities, immigrants, women and gays. Where are your facts for this nonsense? Trump never branded all Muslims as terrorists. How does what Trump proposes disqualify him from being president? Certain people were also banned during WWII, if you care to remember.

A HUGE THANK you to the four employees at The State Bank, Silver Parkway branch, for all of your assistance with Lake Fenton Middle School's penny war to raise money for families in need. You ladies are awesome.

WHEN YOUR CAR'S base price is six figures and you have family living within five minutes of you who are starving, shame on you.

TRUMP IS NOT stirring up things that need to be stirred up. He is stirring up fear, hate and racism. Those are things we need less of. Please don't elect Archie Bunker as our president and make us the laughing stock of the world.

JUST LOST ALL respect for Barbara Walters. She has named Bruce (Caitlyn) Jenner as the most fascinating person of the year. Have we all gone stark raving mad? I would have been more impressed had he been named most demented person of the year. That would have made more sense. It's time to take our civilized country back before she is gone.

I WOULD LIKE to thank the Republicans for allowing oil to be exported. What was once thought to be a national security issue is now just another example of who runs the country.

CHILD PORN **Continued from Front Page**

Argentine Township police and FBI agents were investigating an alleged plot by Stevens and two others to carry out a shooting at Linden schools in October.

Investigators believe Stevens produced and directed a sexual scene between a 15-year-old male and a 13-year-old female.

These are very disturbing charges on a very disturbing incident," said Leyton. "He had to be charged, in addition to the shooting plot."

According to the felony warrant, Stevens allegedly videotaped the 15-yearold male and 13-year-old female having sex at the Red Roof Inn in Flint Township Oct. 10 using the female's phone. Stevens then sent the video to his own phone and that of the 15-year-old male, at his request, who was part of video.

Leyton said an older woman, who Stevens had been living with in Linden City, rented the hotel room for him. She could face charges and that part of the investigation is ongoing.

The 15-year-old male in the video is being charged in connection with this in the juvenile court system. Leyton said the 13-year-old female is not being charged as she did not request the video be sent to her.

The pornographic video has been linked to the alleged shooting plot in

Following this alleged video incident, Leyton said the 13-year-old girl made derogatory comments on Instagram about Stevens, at which time he made threats out of revenge against her, and Linden High School and Linden Middle School.

Police became aware of the threats

during the last week of October and were able to apprehend Stevens and two of his friends, neither of whom were involved with the incident at the Red Roof Inn, before anyone was harmed.

During their investigation, Leyton said detectives looked on Stevens' phone with his permission and found disturbing images.

Stevens is on probation in Livingston County after a 2014 guilty plea to fourthdegree criminal sexual conduct for having sex with a girl under the age of 16.

Stevens, along with co-defendants, Kody Brewer, 15, of Wolverine Lake and Lamarr Dukes, 15, of West Bloomfield, were charged in October with 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 Stevens were to undergo a psychological evaluation to see if they are competent to stand trial. Brewer's attorney did not request this action. The three teens are due back in court after the first of the year.

Leyton said he did not believe Stevens' new charges would have any impact on the trio's existing court dates.

When asked if he believed Stevens, Dukes and Brewer would have actually carried out the alleged shooting plot, Leyton said, "You can't sit around and wait for it to happen. We have to take it

"We believe they were going to get weapons.

"We did what we had to do."

Associate Editor Tim Jagielo contributed to this story.







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Fenton girls soccer team's run to state finals is top story of 2015

■Holly's boys basketball tourney trip finishes No. 2

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Every season if we wanted to, the sports staff could list 50 things that were great highlights from the past year.

But what fun is there in listing everything? So, the sports staff would rather be a bit daring and select what we consider the elite eight things that happened in 2015. Some great moments were left off.

Maybe you thought we "forgot" them. Chances are, we didn't. We just didn't want to make this column three pages long. So here we go.

No. 8 - The creation of new varsity teams: Lake Fenton, Linden and Fenton combined to create a varsity gymnastics team. Linden and Fenton combined to

create a boys and a girls lacrosse team. And, from all accounts both teams were successful. We'll see more lacrosse teams this spring as it's almost a lock that in 10 years lacrosse will be a major sport during the spring sports season in the state of Michigan.

No. 7 - Linden boys basketball up-



basketball team beat Fenton was on Dec. 19, 2003. That was until Feb. 27 of this year came around. Linden shocked the Tigers 62-52 in Fenton's own gym, capping the Metro League season.

Linden had lost 22 straight to the Tigers prior to the victory.

No. 6 - Fenton football finishes undefeated in Metro: The Tigers were selected the preseason favorites by the Metro coaches, and they didn't disappoint posting a second straight Metro League perfect season. The

See 2015 on 18A



FENTON CELEBRATES

The Tigers' run to the state championship game is our top story of 2015.

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

Follow Friday night's prep basketball action, visit tctimes.com.

Holly girls pull away in fourth, defeat Linden

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Linden — Leading at halftime by seven points, the Holly varsity girls basketball team saw the Linden Eagles tie the game up at 39-all late in the third quarter.

Instead of faltering, the Bronchos used their transition game off of steals and made effective use of their offensive possessions during

See HOLLY on 19A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES

Holly's Paige Reid (middle) tries to dribble through

three Linden defenders.

Bronchos declaw Eagles

■Holly improves to 4-0 with victory

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden — When the season started, the Holly varsity boys basketball team didn't look like a squad prepared to take on the lofty goals the Bronchos had established for themselves during the 2015-16 season.

Two weeks later, those early season worries have faded.

The Bronchos played what was probably their most complete game of the season, defeating the Linden Eagles 65-46 on Linden's home court.

Ian Hodges had his second straight big offensive game, netting a game-high 31 points. Complimenting Hodges, Kyle Woodruff, who was playing with the thoughts of his grandmother's recent death embedded in his mind, played his most controlled offensive contest of the season netting 23 points in the Bronchos' victory.

"It's been an emotional

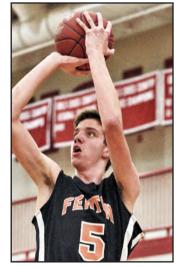


TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN

Linden's Garrett Strang (right) tries to dribble by Holly's Steven Redmond in the Bronchos' 65-46 victory against the Eagles.

week," Woodruff said. "She had cancer for two years and it's really hard. I'm happy she finally got a chance to watch me play again."

See **BRONCHOS** on 19A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN Fenton's Nick Wyrick scored 16 points in the Tigers' win against Swartz Creek on Friday.

Tigers edge Dragons

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Fenton varsity boys basketball coach John Gilbert is feeling pretty good about his squad entering the winter break.

The Tigers improved their record to 2-1 entering the win-

See TIGERS on 19A





PREP REPORT

HOCKEY

► Metro League Griffins

3, Mid-Michigan Storm
0: Collin LaVoie made 19 saves to lead the Griffins to the non-league victory. Brendan Buerkel began the scoring with the game's first goal. Bobby Temple scored the other two. Jake Thompson had two assists, while Temple, Mitch O'Lewin, Buerkel and Ian Compton had an assist each.

▶ Alpena 5, Metro League Griffins 1: Manny Vomvolakis made 52 saves, but it wasn't enough to keep the Wildcats from earning the victory. The Griffins' sole goal was provided by Bobby Temple on a Brendan Buerkel assist.

BOYS BOWLING

▶ Brandon 16, Fenton

14: Austin Mercord was Fenton's top bowler of the day, recording a two-game series of 156-191-347.

▶ Flushing def. Fenton: John Cryderman led the Tigers with a high series of 195-193-388.

GIRLS BOWLING

▶ Brandon 23, Fenton 7: Molly Beck posted the high series, recording a 262 twogame total. Angela Hanners bowled a high game of 146.

▶ Flushing 18, Fenton 12: Kylayha Tieteman led the Tigers with a two-game series of 269. Molly Beck recorded a high game of 167

Blue Devils take second at Genesee county meet

Area programs record three individual champs

By David Troppens dtroppens@tctimes.com

varsity wrestling team.

Things couldn't have gone any better for the Lake Fenton

After taking their share of bruises in earlier matches, the second-ranked Division 3 team in the state proved why they deserve that lofty ranking by taking second at the Genesee County Wrestling Championships on Saturday.

The Blue Devils had two champions — A.J. Geyer (103) and Trent Hillger (285). Hillger competed in what could possibly be the best match-up for the young season when two defending state champions battled in the 285 title match. Hillger earned the first points against Lapeer's Dan Perry, and it ended up being key. The two wrestlers went into a fourth overtime period where Hillger started on the bottom. That meant all he needed was to earn an escape during the 30-second period. He earned it and won the match.

"They made it the feature match of the night," Lake Fenton wrestling coach Vance Corcoran said. "They are ranked 1-2 in the state in all divisions and It was an outstanding match."

The second Lake Fenton champion was Geiger, who captured his first county title in the championship match.

The Linden Eagles also left the meet with a county champion. Dawson Blank won his weight class title. He beat a state placer to win his title.

The Blue Devils had five wrestlers who made it to the finals. Those who had to settle for runner-up championships included Saben Spangler (130), Devan Melick (135) and Jackson Nevadomski (140). Spangler was tied 1-1 with 10 seconds remaining when he was taken down, resulting in the second-place finish in the title match. Nevadomski lost his title match in overtime.

"Five guys in the finals — that's comparable to the 2010 team," Corcoran said. "That's the last time we took second. We gave Davison a good run."

Other Lake Fenton wrestlers to place were Hunter Corcoran (125) in third, Hunter Hypio (112) in fifth, Shawn Trombley (135) in fifth, Keinan Hagenstein (152) in fifth, Logan Julian (160) in fifth, Leo Shustock (189) in sixth and Brenden Carr in seventh (140).

For Linden, Koleton Strauss



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team celebrates its secondplace team finish at the Genesee County meet moments after the tournament is completed.

made it to the finals, but had to settle for a strong runner-up finish in his final match. Other placers for Linden were Bryce Davis in third, Luke Zimmerman in fifth, Patrick Kerr in fifth, Jaylin Steedman in fifth and Adam Glazar in sixth. Steedman's only loss in the tourney was to Hillger.

"We lost some matches we shouldn't have lost," Linden coach Todd Skinner said. "But the purpose of the county meet is to see tough competition and it shows us what we have to work on to get ready for the Metro League tournament."

Fenton competed as well and had four placers. Tommy

Adams (145) led the Tigers with a fifth-place performance, while Mario Ramirez (112) and Christian Frazier (171) each placed seventh. David Foster (189) took eighth.

Holly at Oakland County Meet

The Bronchos placed ninth at the Oakland County meet, recording five placers.

Jimmy Gray (285) and Cade Dallwitz (171) were the team's top performers, each earning fourth-place finishes. Meanwhile, Colton Cleaver (152) and Collin Dallwitz (215) placed sixth. The final Broncho to place was Dan Stallard (140), who placed seventh.





2015

Continued from Page 17A

league season ended with a mighty entertaining and controversial victory against rivals Linden, 30-27. However, as has been the case in most seasons, none of the area football teams went terribly far into the playoffs, with no one winning a district crown.

No. 5 - Lake Fenton baseball beats Goodrich in 16-inning game: Anyone who went to the contest, will never forget it. The Blue Devils travelled to Goodrich for a pivotal GAC Red doubleheader. However, the second game never started. Why? The first game went 16 innings! The Blue Devils won 5-4 when Jared Smith hit the game-winning single in the top of the 16th. Trevor Wright, who tossed the final 10 innings, recorded the victory, holding Goodrich scoreless in the bottom of the 16th.

No. 4 - Area cross country teams at the state meet: The Fenton boys cross country team had three all-state runners and finished ninth at the state meet. The boys also won a regional crown. Meanwhile, the Linden girls won a league title, a regional title and finished fourth at the state meet. Alia Frederick finished third at the state event, breaking a school record.

No. 3 - Trent Hillger wins a state wrestling title: It was only his sophomore season, but Lake Fenton's Trent Hillger captured his first Division 3 individual state wrestling title, capturing his crown at 215 — a weight usually reserved for juniors and seniors. If he remains healthy, Hillger has a chance to become a three-time state champion before his career is over. It'll be interesting

to follow his pursuit to accomplish the goal.

No. 2 - Holly boys basketball's state tourney series: The Holly varsity boys basketball team made some history in the late winter of 2015. The Bronchos captured the school's first-ever Class A district crown.

Holly (22-3) opened the district by defeating Brandon and Fenton. Holly defeated Grand Blanc in the title game 57-55 to capture their crown.

Playing at home in the regional tourney, Holly also defeated Plymouth 68-64 in the regional semifinals, however, lost to Walled Lake Central in the regional championship game by a tight 73-71 score.

No. 1 - Fenton girls soccer's road to the D2 state championship game: Unified by a common bond, and willing to play for each other, the Fenton varsity girls soccer team accomplished history during the spring of 2015. The Tigers advanced to the D2 state championship game, coming within a shoot-out of winning a state championship.

while, the Linden girls won a league title, a regional title and finished fourth at the state meet. Alia Frederick finished third at the state event, breaking a school record.

No. 3 - Trent Hillger wins a state wrestling title: It was only his sopho-

In the state semifinals, the Tigers dominated play against Trenton earning another 1-0 victory. Finally, in the finals, facing state-power Richland Gull Lake, Fenton's defense was magnificent, resulting in a 0-0 tie after a second overtime. However, the Tigers' magic ended in the shoot out as Fenton lost it 4-1.

HOLLY

Continued from Page 17A

the final quarter, resulting in a 63-50 victory at Linden High School.

The Holly run started late in the third after Linden post player Bridget Adams continued her outstanding 15-point third quarter with a putback hoop and a foul. She converted the free throw, tying the game at 39-all with 1:22 left in the period. Holly's standout senior guard Kaitlyn Smith took over on the next possession. She converted a free throw and then scored on a 12-foot runner, putting Holly up 42-39. The Bronchos led 44-41 entering the final period.

Linden was still within 46-43 with 6:31 left after a Madison Maxheimer putback jumper, but that's as close as the Eagles got the rest of the way. Holly's Sami Hild hit a six-footer after collecting a rebound and Smith followed a Linden time out with a steal and a fastbreak assist on Paige Reid's transition layup. Holly led 50-43 with 5:30 remaining. After Linden cut the gap to 50-45 with two free throws by Adams, Holly iced the game with the contest's next eight points. The first two came on a putback hoop by Smith. The next two were set up by steals. The first was a Jenna Pepper steal resulting in two converted Smith free throws when she was fouled on a layup attempt. The next was set up by Smith's steal and Pepper's layup. Finally, Becca Fugate hit a layup, raising the gap to 60-48 with 2:23 remaining.

"We got the ball toward the rim. That was the key," Holly coach David Hall said. Their turnovers sometimes led to baskets for us.

"I thought Kaitlyn made some plays in the fourth quarter to help us build a lead. ... I thought we did a great job. We had quality over quantity."

Adams' play was outstanding. She netted a game-high 24 points and also added nine rebounds. She was unstoppable in the third quarter.

"We haven't played like that all year where we rebounded and had a chance to get on the boards like that and that's what she did," Linden coach Ben Varner said. "She just killed it. That's what we were hoping she'd be able to do and she brought it tonight."

Smith led the Bronchos with 23 points, eight rebounds and seven assists while Reid added 16 points. Pepper finished with eight points, seven rebounds and a team-best seven steals, while Sami Hild had eight rebounds. Sterling DeGayner spent a good chunk of the game on the bench due to foul problems, but she still finished with 13 points for Linden. Adams had nine rebounds, while Audrey Steiert netted 13 points.

Fenton 50, Swartz Creek 46

Chloe Idoni had a big game, collecting 19 points, 14 rebounds, four steals, four assists and four blocks. Sarah Cummings followed with 10 points and seven boards. Ally Lenz also had 13 points, while Chloee Foor had five rebounds and four steals. Jacara Thompson kept the Dragons in the contest by netting a game-high 27 points.

BRONCHOS

Continued from Page 17A

"I was getting in the right positions and getting the shots I work on during practice and after practice, so I took them and they were going in," Hodges said.

The Bronchos (2-0, 4-0) took no mercy on the winless Eagles early on. With Hodges scoring 12 first-quarter points, and Woodruff netting seven in the opening eight minutes, the Bronchos took a 22-8 lead into the second quarter. The Holly lead grew to as many as 30-10 on a Hodges' trey with just under seven minutes left until halftime before the Eagles (0-4) made a comeback.

Sparked by Cole Sarkon's four three-pointers, the Eagles trimmed the lead to as little as 32-28 after Sarkon's final trey of the period, but the Bronchos scored the final four points of the half, taking a 36-28 lead into the break. All of Linden's offensive mojo was used up in the first half. Meanwhile, the Bronchos were just getting started. Holly outscored Linden 29-18 in the second half, earning the reasonably easy Metro League victory.

"We are starting to get on a run here, get on a roll," Holly coach Lance Bayis said. "We are faster than last year. Between Kyle and Ian we have two guys we can play with. If one guy isn't making them then we can go to the other guy. (Ian) pushed it all the way to the limit. Not a bad game. He's an incredible player. We have two really good scoring guards and we have a great supporting cast."

The Eagles, who were short three players — Trent Strang, Nick Rossow and Josh Beil — due to injuries, had to be encouraged with the comeback and with other elements of their play. The Eagles proved they can nail the trey. The Eagles netted nine three-pointers. Following Sarkon's lead, Tyler Hoeberling had two treys, while Gavin Lund and Logan Steiert had one each.

"We definitely have kids capable of making shots," Linden coach Anthony Wright said. "We have a young group and to see them play like that out there in the first half was huge. We are a young team and Holly played very fast. I think that really got to us in the first quarter. We got down but then the guys came in and hit some shots. Usually things look a lot better when you it shots. We got it down to four."

The Bronchos hit 23-of-51 shots from the field. Linden hit 7-of-15 shots in the second quarter, but made just 10 field goals the rest of the game. Sarkon led Linden with 15 points, while Hoeberling had 12 points.

19A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN Linden's Tyler Hoeberling (right) tries to drive into the lane against Holly's Paris Partee (left) and Kyle Woodruff (behind). The Bronchos won the game, 65-46.

TIGERS

Continued from Page 17A

ter break by earning a solid 63-54 victory against the Swartz Creek Dragons on Friday night.

"We played really well again," Gilbert said. "The guys hung in there and battled again. They are playing hard and they are playing unselfish. They are learning they can play a little bit and are starting to believe in themselves."

One player that may have learned that lesson more than anyone was 6-foot-9 post player Nick Wyrick. He had his best game of his varsity career, collecting 16 points and a team-high 15 rebounds.

"Nick had a great game," Gilbert said. "He owned the boards and owned the paint. He played really well. If we can get double-doubles out of him, that helps."

The Tigers trailed 11-10 after one quarter, but scored 19 points in the second period and took a 29-23 lead into the half. The Tigers (1-1 in the Metro) never blew the game open, but had the lead throughout the second half.

Chris Gilbert had his third straight strong game, netting a team-high 17 points while collecting six rebound and six assists. Peyton Coffman chipped in 11 points.

Lake Fenton 69, Corunna 47

The Blue Devils erased the visions the recent loss to Holly well and rebounded with an impressive victory against Corunna

Lake Fenton (2-1) led only 29-25 at the half, but blew the game open with 40 second-half points using a balanced scoring effort. Jalen Miller, who was strangled with foul troubles against Holly, was able to play on Friday and led the Blue Devils with 18 points and nine rebounds. Chris Bell finished with a tripledouble, collecting 16 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds. Isaac Golson netted 13 points, while Andrew Foerster had eight points and 10 rebounds.

"Chris Bell and Jalen Miller were the best players on the floor tonight and did a ton of great things for us," Lake Fenton coach Jacob Erway said. "It was nice to see Chris Bell get a triple-double. He's been close before and it's nice to see him finally get it.

"Andrew Foerster did a great job battling down low with Corunna's bigs and shut down their post game. He does a lot of special things for us defensively. The other guys that stepped up for us were Isaac Golson and Jon Sanders."

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home."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I FILE PHOTO Pat King and Steve Whitehead install an aluminum window frame 30 feet in the air in the Cornerstone building last September.



He and Mary Ann still own their former Adelaide Street store. "I have a sentimental attachment to that corner," he said. "We're in no hurry. It will make a nice business for someone else some day."

Anchoring the busy business corridor of Silver Lake Parkway and LeRoy Street is the newest Sagano Japanese Bistro & Steakhouse, now with four locations in Fenton, Brighton, Clarkston and Flint Township.

"It's been very good," said owner Shiro Inoue. "We have lots of support here."

Jim Teuber, business manager for Sagano Properties, said that from their perspective, things are going very well at Sagano's of Fenton. "It has exceeded our expectations," he said. "It was more expensive going into the project than we had originally planned, so we are pleased with where things are now. Even with Streetscape, our summer was very good."

One of the reasons he feels Sagano has done well is because of the popularity of the restaurant with kids. "We're one of the few 'fine dining' places that kids love as much as their parents do," said Teuber. "They can always find something to eat that they enjoy and they love the table chef experience. We generate a lot of (family dining) frequency through this."

He said that Sagano will pursue outdoor seating in 2016.

Toni Widing of Salon 416 never owned a salon until she opened the doors of this new upscale salon at Cornerstone on Dec. 2. "I'm just glad I waited for the building and didn't give up," she said.

"It's been wonderful. I haven't had an empty chair since I opened. Everyone tells me how happy they are with the salon."

With the salon."

The only thing Widing says she would change is to have more square footage. "We're really using every bit of our space," she said. "We've got 15 chairs and 29 employees."

SUMMARY

■ After their first year of business in the Cornerstone building, four retail tenants speak out about their experience here in the Times and on a new video presented on totimes.com.

Salon416is also becoming a destination for meetings and continuing education. "We're hosting a four-day Goldwell Master Colorist class for metro Detroit area salons, as well as a motivational class in February."

"We knew we wanted to make the Cornerstone our new home as soon as we saw the sign that it was being built," said Stephanie Evans, owner of The Rough Draught Coffee and Barroom and formerly Café Aroma. Referring to the concept of the building, Evans said, "We knew it would be great for the downtown district. I believe it's something that Fenton needs, and that we can support as a community."

Evans added that they have received a lot of great feedback about the building. "A lot of people enjoy the comfort and the coziness."

de People are coming downtown for the new dining and shopping experiences. All of us together as one are better than each of us as an individual. 77

Chip BeltinckOwner of Sawyer Jewelers



44 We are very

happy that

it's moving

forward. 77

Ken Seger

A.J. Phillips

Museum curator

A.J. Phillips Museum to get needed attention

■ Officials agree to update historical downtown icon

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

After 115 years, the building that houses the Fenton Historical Society's most priceless, irreplaceable historical documents, photographs and artifacts, will be getting a new lease on life.

Ken Seger, curator of the museum since 1979, and his wife, Donna, said they are very pleased that the Fenton City Council will proceed with the process of dealing with the museum's issues.

"We are very happy that it's moving forward," said Ken.

Now that the city has completed its multi-million dollar Streetscape project, the Segers are happy that the A.J. Phillips Museum will get the attention it deserves.

Outside, the building needs a new paint job. Because it bears the original, lead-based paint, it can't be scraped off, but rather needs to be removed in accordance with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality regulations.

The building also needs a new furnace. "The furnace has already gone out twice this year," said Donna.

In addition to a few other incidentals, the electrical system in the building needs work as well, said the Segers.

At the Monday, Dec. 14 City Council meeting, several people were in attendance and expressed their interest in serving on the city's Museum Board, which has been inactive for a couple

Additionally, Building and Zoning Administrator Mike Reilly will, after the first of the year, do a "walk through" of the building with three members of the Fenton Historical Society, and note the items that need attention.

Built in 1900 by Fenton businessman A.J. Phillips, the building served as his private offices. He had a factory on the next block that made wooden snow shovels, ironing boards, screen windows and doors. His intent was to have the building become home to a permanent public library for the thenvillage of Fenton, according to "A Time to Remember."

His intention was carried out in full in his bequest before his death in June 1904. There were, however, certain conditions that had to be met.

First, the premises were to be kept in good repair and painted, the grounds and lawn to be well taken care of and the grass kept cut.

The building was to be used for library purposes and no meetings allowed in the building unless such meetings were held directly in the interest of the library. This excluded the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU).

The third condition was that the library was to be under the supervision and control of a board of trustees appointed by the village council. When choosing books for the library, there were to be no political or religious prejudices to influence the selection. Phillips also bequeathed \$500 to be used to purchase books for the new library.

According to the Dave Manuel (DaveManuel.com) inflation calculator,

\$500 would be worth \$13,513.51 today.

The village accepted the bequest, but in order to maintain the conditions and to give a public library proper support, an election was scheduled for a half-mill library tax to be voted on.

When they voted in March 1905, 683 citizens turned out and of that number, 442 favored the tax while only 70 opposed it. This vote was the first attempt by the people of Fenton to maintain a library with public funds.

Previous to this, there had been library associations,

but they were mainly "membership" affairs, such as the first Ladies' Library Association.

Crowded conditions and the constant use of the library facilities were realized

as early as 1939 and a building fund was started later. With the accumulation of years of saving, an addition was built in 1962 at the rear of the library to house most of the books.

> Other improvements, such as carpeting, additional shelving, improved lighting, and air-conditioning also were added.

The building, located at 310 South LeRoy St. is across from the Fenton Police Department and City Hall.

In 1987 when the library needed a bigger building, they moved over to the old Post Office building on Caroline Street, and the museum then moved in and was renamed the A.J. Phillips Fenton Museum.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

CAN THE CITY do anything to clean up the unsightly not used storefront in our downtown? Just seems so intentional to have it look that ridiculous.

HAD TO LAUGH at the comment calling Mr. Trump a loud-mouthed braggart inexperienced in foreign and political affairs. This would fit Obama to a tee back in 2008, yet you voted for him. All Hillary has proven is she is incompetent and dishonest. Trump 2016.

WHY IS IT that 'Black Lives Matter' only have protests when a white police officer or white person kills a black person? When a black person is killed by another black person or like the 15-year-old who was killed by a gang, where were they then? Do black lives not matter then? To me this is a form of being racist.

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LIGHTER SIDE

Continued from Page 5A

Linden grad shares Nepal quake experience: Morgan Frost, 23, a Linden High School graduate, was traveling in Nepal and was directly next to the epicenter of the first quake. She became a first responder, searching for bodies in the debris (published May 17).

Wooden kayaks: Linden man building 'floating art': Lou Farhood of Linden used to design, build and fly his own airplanes, but had to downsize his dreams when the recession hit. Now he designs and builds wooden kayaks as a hobby (published May 22).

Fenton couple delivers their child in car: Ted Nagy, a registered nurse by profession, got an unexpected chance to mix his work and personal life when his fiancée, Sarah Morello, gave birth to the couple's second child en route to the hospital. (published May 24).

HGTV celebrity buys in Holly: Cari Cucksey, a 1993 graduate of Fenton High School and star of HGTV's popular TV show "Cash & Cari," moved her RePurpose Estate Services and RePurpose Shop into the former Village of Holly offices downtown (published June 21).

Piece of cake: Fenton couple enjoy sweet proposal at St. John Applefest Cake Walk: Matthew Brothers proposed to girlfriend Caitlyn Corrine Carr at the Cake Walk, because that's where they had met three years ago. (published Sept. 27).

Living and loving Cornerstone lifestyle: Dr. Kimberly Eustache, 28, a physician in residence at Genesys Regional Medical Center's Emergency Room, was the first resident of the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Lou Farhood of Linden spends approximately 400 hours crafting his kayaks. He switched to making kayaks instead of airplanes.

Cornerstone building, moving in on June 28 (published Oct. 18).

Sweet 16 (x 4): Nelson quadruplets of Argentine Township, three daughters and son of Jeff and Kimberly Nelson, celebrated their milestone 16th birthday (published Oct. 26).

Seminary demolished

Demolition of one of Fenton's oldest structures began in September. The 147-year-old seminary building, also known as the Baptist Minister's Home, was severely damaged during a storm in November2013. Subsequentharshwinters caused further destruction rendering the building unsafe, necessitating the need to tear it down. It is unknown what the city of Fenton will do with the now-vacant parcel at 309 High St.

"Why all the household dust?"

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

April and Keith Meadows help keep

indoor air clean with their local

business, Power Vac.

For years, Power Vac, Inc. has been improving the community's health one household at a time. "Did you know that half of all illnesses come directly from dirty indoor air? In fact, our indoor air is up to 90 times more polluted than the air outdoors," explained Keith Meadows, Power Vac Owner and Operator. "More

than 90% of the phone calls I receive are from distraught people complaining about dust in their homes. They tell me they will dust the house Friday, but by Sunday it needs to be done again, and they're not sure where these dust piles are coming from. Let me tell you, you're not a bad housekeeper. All you need to do is have your ducts cleaned. This simple step will drastically reduce the dust in your household. The reason for the dust is your cold air returns. You see, cold air returns suck in dirty air. Over time it builds up in your ducts until the debris

resembles what you would find in your vacuum bag."

See for yourself! For an actual photo of the debris that is pulled from a typical home's ducts, visit our website www.callpowervac.com.

"Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners experience excessive dust. While work was being done in the home, your cold air returns sucked all the dust through the system. It settled on the bottom of the duct lines and little by little, that debris is being blown back into your home," Keith continued.

"Here's a test. Take a walk down into your basement, and look up at the ceiling for thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. Do you see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges? That, my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems, and this debris cannot be removed without the help of a professional.

"This brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are essentially like a Shop-Vac that you would vacuum your car with. Then there are companies who claim they have a truck-mounted

system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van. We have the equipment powerful enough to get the job done right, and that equipment is a Power Vac truck."

Want to see the difference between our equipment and portable or truck-mounted equipment?

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"The Power Vac truck is the most powerful equipment in the industry," Keith explained. "Simply put, the entire truck is the vacuum, and the truck motor powers the equipment. You'll know it's a Power Vac truck because it's the size of an ambulance and when engaged, 12 large air bags come out of the roof.

"What makes the difference in equipment? Power! To put things into perspective, your furnace moves 2,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is what you

feel coming out of your register. Truck-mounted equipment moves 4,000 CFMs. Well, Power Vac moves over 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is four times the power of most competitors.

"You need to beware of companies using cheap equipment and advertising cheap prices. Most of these companies are unlicensed, or they may advertise that they are licensed, but are not. Avoid scams by not falling for cheap, get-you-in-the-door prices. What sets us apart from our competitors is our honest service, and, of course, our equipment. I know the importance of being on time, working with a smile and respecting people's homes and their belongings. There are a lot of duct cleaners around, but rest assured you'll receive the same quality of service I expect in my home."

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Senate Bill 638: Revise campaign finance law

To establish a new type of campaign finance committee called an "independent expenditure committee," and more clearly define "independent expenditures" and the rules that prohibit committees like these from coordinating with a candidate (which wouldn't be independent). These committees could contribute to ballot initiatives but not to candidates; contributions would not be subject to limits and could come from corporations and unions.

Passed 25 to 13 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)

X YES X YES X YES X NO

Senate Bill 187: Accommodate and regulate the "millionaire party" business

To revise the law governing charitable "millionaire party" gambling events that include casino games, to accommodate charities contracting out operation of these gambling events to services that operate them for multiple charities at a single location, one event after another. The bill would establish a licensing regime covering both the charities and the companies that provide the service, which would recognize a system that that evolved in which a person can gamble on casino-like games at a single location, with the proceeds going to different charities at different times.

Passed 34 to 4 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) X YES Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) X YES Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) X YES Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32)

Senate Bill 151: Repeal deadline on prisoner DNA evidence appeals

To repeal a Jan. 1, 2016 deadline for a prisoner to appeal his or her conviction on the basis evidence generated by new DNA testing technology.

Passed 106 to 0 in the House

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

House Bill 4686: Revise city sidewalk liability

To establish that a municipality being sued for an injury related to a sidewalk "discontinuity" may use any common

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law defense available to regular people, not just that the condition was "open and obvious." Current law limits local government defenses in these suits.

Passed 55 to 51 in the House Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.)

X YES X NO

House Bill 4990: Expand local government "energy efficiency" financing schemes

To expand the things cities can spend money on under a scheme that lets them contract with vendors for energy efficiency projects and pay for them with money the projects are supposed to save (or from regular tax revenue if savings don't appear). The bill would allow locals to spend on information technology and utility projects they assert are related to the energy saving scheme, and would also expand the types of deals they can make with vendors to include "leasepurchase" agreements described in the

Passed 102 to 4 in the House

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

Senate Bill 552: Increase groundwater discharge permit fees

To increase groundwater discharge permit fees, and revise some details of this regulatory regime on enterprises that discharge wastewater onto the ground

or into groundwater. The bill would authorize a different fee category for car washes, laundromats, seasonal RV parks and camps, and certain other small commercial facilities.

Passed 59 to 47 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47)

X YES

X YES

House Bill 4724: Allow no-reason absentee voting

To eliminate the requirement that a person give a specific reason for requesting an absentee ballot, and require an individual who applies in person for an absentee ballot to show a picture ID

Passed 59 to 46 in the House

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

Senate Bill 13: Eliminate straight ticket ballot option

To eliminate the straight party ticket option from election ballots. The bill also contains a modest appropriation that exempts it from the possibility of opponents petitioning for a referendum on whether it should go into law if enacted.

Passed 54 to 51 in the House

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

X YES

X YES

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