

Riverview project developer jailed

■ Developer Michael LaJoice jailed, expected to be charged with embezzling \$20 million from credit union

By Times Editorial Staff

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In what will likely be a shocking turn of events for the Fenton community, the massive Riverview project slated to go where the old Topps produce market was located could be a bust.

Michael LaJoice, 36, owner of Chassé Ballroom & Latin Dance Studio and the developer of one of the largest projects ever

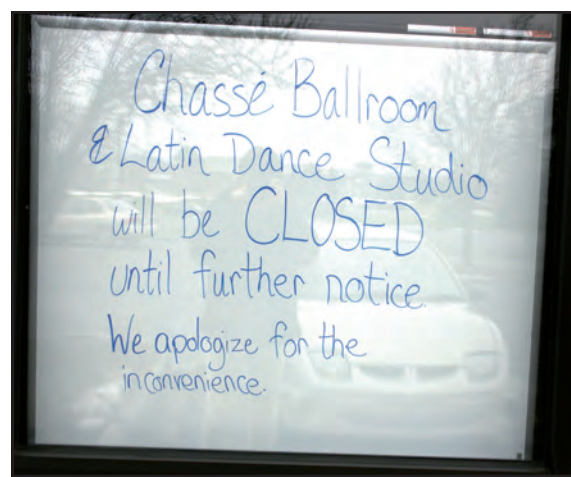
to hit Fenton, was expected to be charged with embezzlement on Friday, Jan. 8, at the Oakland County 52-2 District Court.

LaJoice, who lives in Tyrone Township, has been in the Oakland County Jail since Wednesday when he turned himself in, according to Oakland County Undersheriff Michael McCabe.

See **LAJOICE** on 5A



Michael LaJoice



PAGE 1B
**PAINT YOUR
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2012 - 2013 - 2014 **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

Weekend Times SUNDAY EDITION \$1.00

North American Int'l Auto Show starts Monday

■ Local dealerships looking forward to checking out the newest, innovative designs

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Area auto enthusiasts are gearing up for another exciting North American International Auto Show (NAIAS).

The 2016 public event will be held Jan. 16-24 at Cobo Conference /Exhibition Center in downtown Detroit.

Local dealership representatives are looking forward to the showcase.

Jeff Canever, new car sales manager for Vic Canever Chevrolet in Fenton, said, "I am looking forward to this year's auto show very much — I wouldn't miss it, especially this year."

Canever said he is very excited to see all the new technology that General Motors (GM) will have on display.

"I love technology and am so happy that GM continually strives to be leaders in its

See **AUTO SHOW** on 6A



**FALCON
SPORTS CAR**
MADE IN HOLLY
HEADED TO AUTO SHOW
SEE PAGE 20A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Falcon Motorsports founder Jeff Lemke (left) and Kevin McLaughlin try to troubleshoot an issue with the Falcon F7's wiring in Holly Friday morning. A last-minute scramble is part of the auto show experience. This year was better than others in the past — Lemke and his crew were able to actually sleep a few hours each night leading up to the North American International Auto Show this weekend.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Last year, the all-electric Chevy Bolt debuted at the North American International Auto Show.

Shooting plot suspect to be in court Wednesday

■ Experts to determine if teens are competent to stand trial

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Psychological exams for two of three teens charged in connection to an alleged plot to carry

out a shooting at Linden schools in October 2015 have been rescheduled for next Wednesday, Jan. 13, at the Genesee County District Court.

Ryan Stevens, 18, of Linden, along with co-defendants, Kody Brewer, 15, of Wolverine Lake and Lamarr Dukes, 15, of

West Bloomfield, have been charged 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.

See **COURT** on 9A



Ryan Stevens

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“If Democrats came out in favor of oxygen, the Republicans would suffocate. If Republicans supported abortion, Planned Parenthood would not exist. Our leaders are like children on the playground.”



“Thanks for the article on the Khans. I have known a Muslim family for over 30 years and because they appreciate so much what many 'long-term Americans' take for granted they are in many ways an inspirational reminder to me of what America is supposed to be about.”



“The Detroit Lions' ownership has many years of experience in the NFL but their efforts continue to fail. Hillary Clinton has many years of government experience but she also continues to be a failure. Being an experienced failure is not a qualification to be president.”



**COMMENT
OF THE WEEK**

“Can't help but notice that those who yell the loudest about gun control are surrounded by dozens of bodyguards with guns who protect them.”

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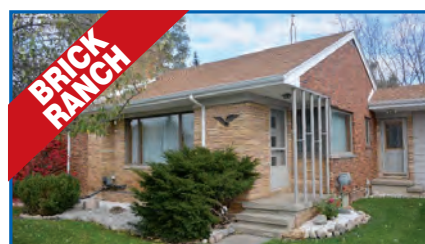
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Families connected forever through organ donation

■ Local family forms lifelong friendship with double lung recipient after their son's death

By Katrease Stafford

The Detroit Free Press

Confidence radiated from Pamela Powell as she walked into the packed room, gripped the microphone in her hand and gazed at the audience before her velvety, hearty voice filled the air.

When she glanced to her left and saw the familiar, encouraging face of Fenton Township resident Sharon Stone, with whom she's developed a bond after an unimaginable tragedy drew their families together, Powell beamed as a hush fell over

the room. Powell of Detroit sang only two Christmas songs, but the message behind the performance was far greater than any lyrics.

Powell is a survivor. A double lung transplant survivor, to be exact. And every

breath she takes is a gift, a gift from Brad Stone, a 12-year-old boy she never met. His legacy will forever be interwoven with hers even 15 years after she received both of his lungs in a double lung transplant procedure at the Henry Ford Transplant Institute.

Powell is quick to tell anyone who'll listen that she didn't just receive a gift of life. She received a remarkable gift of love and acceptance from Brad's family, who she says remained gracious and selfless in the midst of tragedy.

"Out of the tragedy of Brad being 12 and dying, he gave the gift of life to myself; a woman in Chapel Hill who has his pancreas and kidney and someone has the corneas of his eyes," Powell, 58, said. "That has enhanced the quality of their lives. Just imagine that. She (Sharon Stone) was so selfless enough to give the gift of life. Who



DETROIT FREE PRESS

Tri-County Times Editor Sharon Stone (left) of Fenton Township has a special bond with Pamela Powell of Detroit. Powell underwent a double lung transplant more than 15 years ago using the lungs of Stone's son, Brad, after he died from complications of an asthma attack in 2000 at the age of 12.

does that? To me that's just great."

Powell and Sharon Stone reunited on Dec. 16, 2015 at the Henry Ford Transplant Institute's annual holiday celebration luncheon for lung transplant survivors and those awaiting lung transplants. Stone said her relationship with Powell has helped her deal with the grief of losing her son.

"I hug her and I feel him breathing," Stone said, as she dabbed tears from her eyes. "He's still out there. He's there. I can feel him. I can feel his presence. It just...

It just makes our decision right, what we did. And we couldn't have asked for a better person than for it to be Pam."

The diagnosis

Powell's always been a singer, even when she was a young girl she sang in her church's choir.

So it was a blow when she was diagnosed in 1988 in her early 30s with sarcoidosis, an inflammation of the lungs, and pulmonary hypertension, a high blood pressure that attacks the lungs and portions of the heart. As time

"I hug her (Pam Powell) and I feel him breathing. He's still out there. I can feel him. I can feel his presence."

Sharon Stone
Mother of Brad Stone

passed, Powell's condition progressively worsened even though doctors were able to use a steroid for several years to help her.

"When it first impacted my ability to breathe is when I first noticed something wasn't right," she said. "I would carry things and I'd be all out of breath. I'd walk upstairs and I'd be out of breath. It got worse and worse and I had to be on oxygen for four years prior to the transplant."

Powell was placed on the organ transplant waiting list in July 1999, and as time passed, she never lost hope.

The donation

Miles away in Fenton Township, Jeff and Sharon Stone couldn't be more proud of their three children, Brad, Jake and Laura. Sharon Stone said Brad was a good big brother to his younger siblings and had a competitive streak that spanned several sports, including golf, soccer and his favorite, travel hockey.

Sharon Stone still remembers his "chipmunk laugh" and recalls that he never let his severe asthma get in the way.

"Soccer wasn't competitive enough for him," Stone said, laughing at the memory. "He was a really good athlete in spite of having asthma. He was a bubbly little kid."

But on July 1, 2000, Brad's active life was cut short when he collapsed from what doctors said was a severe asthma attack or a peanut allergy.

Stone recalls it was a bright, sunny June afternoon and Brad was out playing with friends.

"He had an asthma attack and his friend and mom who live at the end of our road drove him home in a rush," Stone said. "His lips were blue and none of his medicine worked. He collapsed in my arms and never came back to us."

He was rushed to the hospital and the Stones received the heartbreaking news that Brad would never recover.

"Every time they kept coming to us, it was a worse outlook," Stone said. "When there was finally no brain activity, our minister, Dale Swihart, was sitting there and he assured us that you don't need any of that stuff (organs) in heaven and that this could help countless other people."

See **FAMILY** on 15A



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Bill Cosby and Joe Paterno

Bill Cosby was not only a hero among blacks, but he was beloved by white Americans as well. His persona was so revered that it crossed all social, racial and generational lines.

Bill Cosby represented many humanitarian values, such as the value of education, family, and love of country. He stood for individual responsibility, no matter what your socioeconomic status. He advocated that young blacks should work for the greater good of themselves and society. His comedy was family focused and considered clean and wholesome in a generation that ushered in the vulgar filth that permeates all entertainment

today. We loved the Huxtable family and we were enlightened by the lessons this sitcom taught us, and our children, each week.



Alas, it all turned out to be a self-serving lie. Bill Cosby turned out to be the lowest life form on the planet — a celebrity who takes advantage of his status to prey on women. Over 50 have come forward so far, which means there are likely the same amount who are too ashamed to speak up. That makes him a serial rapist.

Make no mistake, Cosby is guilty. The evidence is far too overwhelming and compelling. These women were not groupies of the '70s and '80s variety, desperate girls who were willing to give

their bodies to famous entertainers just so they could say they did. Cosby's victims were young educated women who, while not star-struck, were honored by the presence and attention of a great man of integrity. It's very likely that Cosby represented a father figure to many of them. They trusted him when he suggested they take a pill to 'relax' or ease their angst. They did not know that the pill was going to render them semiconscious, and unable to fight back against what many are calling sexual assault, but should be calling rape.

The news of this betrayal, paired with news that Cosby was a serial rapist, blew everyone's mind. It was as if we suddenly discovered that Santa Claus was molesting our daughters each Christmas Eve while they lay 'snug in their beds.'

It is very likely that, despite his fame and money, Cosby will be given a prison sentence that will incarcerate him for the rest of his life. But, hopefully he will never serve a day.

In January 2012, I wrote a column predicting that Joe Paterno, the Penn State football coach who knew his assistant was molesting young boys for 14 years, would die of shame. When Paterno offered to retire at the end of the season in November 2011, the Penn State Board, instead, fired him on the spot.

The column I wrote never ran because Joe Paterno died on January 22, 2012, just two months from the day he was fired. He died of shame.

If Cosby has any remorse, which I don't believe he does, he should do the same.

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@tctimes.com. Some content adapted from the internet.

Hot lines

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

ENJOY THE LOW gas prices while they last. They are artificially low due to Middle East oil wanting to run the U.S. oil fields out of business. They will likely be over \$3 again once summer gets here. Anything under three bucks works for me.

WELL, AT LEAST now everyone who always asked, "where does he get his money" knows the answer.

WHY DOES ANYONE care what a washed-up, out of touch has-been like Barbara Walters declares to be 'most fascinating' for 2015? All those people live in a world that is not reality. My prayers go out to Mr. Jenner and his/her family.

PEOPLE COMPLAIN ABOUT school teachers who have the summer off but nothing is said about the 52-hour season, multi-million dollar American football players.

SECOND BILLING CYCLE for Fenton since the switch to the new trash system and bills are still not updated. What does code 'RR' mean? What are we paying for? I'm sure the city would not pay an unspecified bill. Stop asking residents to do so. Update the statement already.

TO THE HOT-liner complaining that the repeal of Michigan's straight-ticket ballot is undemocratic. A repeal in no way limits voting rights. Voters simply check a few additional boxes to vote party lines. However, repeal does impede voter ignorance and apathy. Thanks Joe Graves for protecting my vote.

FOR YEARS THE tax, spend and borrow Democrats have abused our Social Security and Medicare monies. It is the Republicans who are working hard to save these programs for future generations. Please read and get informed.

I'LL BET YOU that Bill Clinton can't wait to get back to the oval office where he can have access to all the pretty young ladies. He's been there once and he'd certainly like to get there again, even on his wife's shirttails.

WHY DON'T WE do away with political parties altogether and speak as individuals. This way voters will listen to the candidates opinions, rather than assuming it is political party rhetoric.

HOW MANY PAPERS can your readers name that provide the common man with a spot where he can vent his feelings and

see it in print and everyone else can read it.

THANK YOU TO the neighbors on South Long Lake Road for helping the older gentleman to his seat Monday evening when he slipped on the icy sidewalk. We appreciate all the help we can get.

OBAMA DOES EXECUTIVE action because he is unable to get along with Congress to get any consensus. Everyone in Congress hates everyone from the other party.

THE SECOND AMENDMENT clearly states a well-regulated militia be necessary to the security of a free state. The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

YESTERDAY OVER 7,000 people waited in cold weather in Iowa to see Donald Trump. This is the beginning of something big. Finally a candidate that's going to stand up for America and against a lawless president and do-nothing-right government.

NOW OBAMA IS concerned with gun safety for citizens. This is the same president who released violent offenders back into society.

HILLARY CLINTON IS a dishonest disaster. She perpetuated the lie about the Muslim video for weeks knowing that it was not the truth. She not only lied to the American families who lost people in Benghazi, but she lied to all of America.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times



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MIRROR IMAGE CONSIGNMENT

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What was your first vehicle like?

streettalk



"I believe it was a 4x4 red Jimmy with four-wheel drive. I had it years ago when I was in my 20s. It was old and used."

Cathy McQuarters
Fenton



"A '67 Plymouth GTX. It was cool. I got it in '68. It was a fantastic car. I wish I still had it."

John Blackburn
Fenton



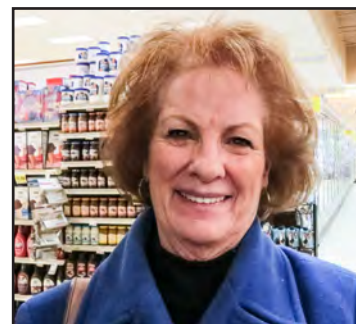
"It was a 1993 Lincoln Town Car. I paid \$500 for it. I had it for five years. Nothing except the engine worked. All of the luxury items were dead."

Paul Fulkerson
Fenton



"I had a '49 Mercury. That rode good. My first, with my wife, was a 1955 Ford. It was good. Cars rusted easily back then though."

Ed Stacy
Holly



"The first time I had a car was a '55 Ford. I liked it. It was spruced up so it was a nice car. They were really good cars."

Ardell Stacy
Holly

You can't make this stuff up



Vera Hogan

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com

Almost everyone who knows me is aware that I am a local history buff. Even though I grew up in the Chicago area, I am fascinated with the history of small towns. So, it should come as no surprise that I was overjoyed in 2015, to be able to copy 10 years of Fenton Independent newspapers onto flash drives, which are now among my treasured possessions.

These 10 years, represent the years 1952 to 1961. Every time I get a chance, I will look to these pages and let my mind wander and get a feel for what it was like back then.

This week, I took some time to look through some old January editions and came up with a few strange, sad and silly items.

This girl is on fire!

On January 17, 1952, the Fenton Independent published an article on the front page called 'Flaming Sweaters are Showing up in Fenton.' Holy cow! And we're worried about hover boards. Anyway, the article reads:

'Police Chief Robert Dode issues a warning against the combustible sweaters that have been creating a scare throughout the nation. These sweaters have shown up in Fenton, though fortunately no one has yet been injured. They were purchased from house-to-house salesmen, who charged anywhere from \$5 to \$25 for the two-piece outfits.

'(Chief) Dode took one of the sets to Flint Tuesday afternoon for inspection by Fire Marshall Harold Chirgwin. When a match was applied, flames leaped 4 feet into the air, and in exactly 50 seconds the garment was reduced to scrap. The previous record in similar tests was 64 seconds.

'The sweaters are sold under various trade names, such as Embassy, Esquire, Yorkshire, Berkshire, Camel Brand, Brookshire and Camelon. They are nice looking garments and resemble brushed wool or cashmere.

'There seems to be no state law under which these salesmen can be prosecuted, unless it was for selling without a license. (Chief) Dode cautions anyone who has purchased one of the sweaters that they are highly inflammable and burst into a fierce flame at the touch of a match. If anyone in Fenton is in possession of a sweater set bearing any one of the above trade names, they are urged to turn them into the local police at once, or if you are approached by a salesman offering such merchandise, contact the police department.'

Please, if there is any lady out there who owned one of these sweaters or sweater sets, I would love to talk with you about it and your experience.

Don't try this at home!

On January 8, 1953, the Independent reported on a freak accident on Lake Fenton. It reads:

'Delos E. Newcombe III, age 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Delos E. Newcombe, Jr. of Orr's Point, Lake Fenton, was killed Friday afternoon in a freak accident while skating with his three brothers.

See **VERA HOGAN** on 22A

LAJOICE

Continued from Front Page

Execution of search warrants took place this week at LaJoyce's dance studio in Fenton and at the LaJoyce's home.

The Chassé dance studio posted on its Facebook page Thursday night that it would be closed until further notice. A sign posted on the door of the dance studio also informed members that Chassé would be closed until further notice.

LaJoyce has been the chief financial officer for the Clarkston-Brandon Community Credit Union for the past 12 years, and has owned his dance studio since 2007. He also owns LaJoyce Properties, LLC.

In a February 2015 Times interview, LaJoyce described himself as "an accountant by day and a dance studio owner by night." He said his days are spent crunching numbers, and his evenings are spent running the dance studio and spending time with his wife and their three children. He is a 1997 graduate of Linden High School.

At an Oct. 29, 2015 press conference, LaJoyce "wow'ed" the Fenton community when he revealed his plans for the biggest project in Fenton's history, the Riverview retail and residential project.

The project was planned for property he purchased in June 2015 at 225 W. Caroline St., the site of the former Topps produce market and Wash King Laundromat.

LaJoyce had planned to break ground on the project in February or March of this year. He anticipated it would take 18 months to complete. The cost of the Riverview project was never revealed.

Go to tctimes.com for up-to-the-minute updates on this developing story.

CHARGES AGAINST MICHAEL LAJOICE

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Embezzlement of money or property valued at more than \$100,000 (felony): Jail time of up to 20 years and a fine of up to \$50,000 or three times the value of the money or property, whichever is greater.

LOCAL YOGA STUDIO WANTS TO HELP

Local owners Kristen Steele and Cortney Gwaltney of the Yoga Retreat & Boutique in downtown Fenton, would like to help members of Chassé who had purchased packages. For the next three months, the Yoga Retreat will honor packages the best they can and they are attempting to include some Zumba classes. For details, call (810) 208-7002.

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AUTO SHOW**Continued from Front Page**

adoption and integration of technology to make driving safer and let us stay more connected," Canever said.

"I am also very excited to see the new Malibu's new system called 'Teen Driving,' which alerts parents if their driver exceeds the speed limit, when the crash avoidance brake was engaged, and a number of other safety features," he added. "Also, if the seatbelts are not buckled when the teen driver mode is activated, they will not be able to use the radio."

Matt and Jay Lasco, both vice presidents for Lasco Ford in Fenton, will be attending the show.

"We are very excited about what Ford will be sharing with the public during the North American International Auto show," said Jay. "We expect to see more amazing innovations and technology from Ford, along with a showcase of its fresh lineup of vehicles."

"We have seen big technology news recently like the announcement of Siri Eyes Free for iPhone, and the Ford and AT&T partnership on the new Ford Escape for free mobile connection link for smartphones, which will allow drivers to unlock and start up the SUV, check

the gas level, or locate a parked vehicle all from a linked smartphone," he added.

Matt said, "We're looking forward to seeing one of our sales team members present the Ford transit van on display in the Ford booth."

"We are also very excited to see the new Ford Focus RS in person, as well as a few vehicles that will have updated exteriors in 2017," added Matt. "The Ford product line has many exciting platforms launching over the next few months."

Matt Williams, assistant new car manager for Randy Wise Chevrolet said, "Going to the auto show brings back some great memories of me, my father, one of my high school buddies and his father going to the auto show together."

"The four of us, and later my younger brother as well, made several trips to Chicago together as well to go to the auto show at McCormick Place," Williams added. "I always look forward to seeing what all of the manufacturers have in store for us. I am really looking forward to the public's reaction to the revamped 2016

Chevrolet Camaro."

Many of the staff at Hall, Chrysler, Jeep & Dodge of Fenton will be attending the North American International Auto Show, according to Jim Hall, general sales manager.

"Chrysler will have over 52,000 square feet of some of the most popular automobiles in the world on display," said Hall. "They will actually have a total of 50 vehicles from the Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, and Ram product line available for customers to see."

"Chrysler recently posted a sales increase for the 69th straight month in a row," Hall added. "This basically comes down to the fact that they have great incentives and world-class vehicles."

One of the brands that is experiencing tremendous success is the Jeep brand, Hall added. "With the all new Jeep Renegade entry in 2015 and the midsize Jeep Cherokee that premiered in 2014, Jeep sales have been soaring."

"My brother Tim and I forecast continuing increases in sales for 2016," Hall said. "It's a great time for customers

“I always look forward to seeing what all of the manufacturers have in store for us.”

Matt Williams
Randy Wise Buick GMC,
Fenton assistant new car
manager

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to get a great deal on a new vehicle."

Hall added that successes in new car sales has resulted in the opportunity to offer customers a great value on previously driven vehicles.

AUTO SHOW HISTORY

The Detroit Auto Show began in 1907, when it was managed by the Detroit Area Dealer Association. The first show was held in December 1907 at Riverview Park. Since then, it has gone from a regional event with 17 exhibitors to an international showcase featuring more than 60 exhibitors.

From 1941 to 1953, starting with the outbreak of World War II, the show was suspended because the United States government outlawed all sales or delivery of new passenger cars and trucks.

It was 1957 when international auto manufacturers first displayed their vehicles at the Detroit Auto Show. In 1965, the Detroit Auto Show moved to its present location at Cobo Conference Exhibition Center in downtown Detroit. In 1989, the name of the exhibition was changed to North American International Auto Show.

Modern technology made it possible for the world to see the show, at least through the eyes of the media. In 1990, NAIAS began offering uplinks for press conferences and also established more extensive video services to extend the media reach of the show globally.

For more information about the 2016 NAIAS, featured vehicles, exhibitions, contests, charitable events and more, visit naias.com.

Show dates and times

Early access for handicapped individuals is 8 a.m. each day at the Hall C Entrance only.

Show hours on Saturday, Jan. 16 and Saturday, Jan. 23 are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. (no admittance after 9 p.m.). Hours on Sunday, Jan. 24 are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (no admittance after 6 p.m.).

Ticket prices

- Adults: \$13 per person
 - Seniors: \$7 (65 and older)
 - Children: \$7 (7-12 years old; 6 and under free with a parent or guardian)
 - Every child in a school group must have a ticket to enter the show.
- Seniors' and childrens' tickets must be purchased at the door and are only valid the day of purchase.

eTickets

- Electronic tickets are available at naias.com. Print voucher to redeem tickets at the eTicket window, located outside the Hall C entrance. The ticket window is open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Jan. 16 – 23, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Jan. 24. Each order must be picked up in its entirety. A photo ID is required to pick up tickets. Tickets are non-refundable. Group tickets are also available

Source: naias.com

Some highlights this year**Military Day**

Tuesday, Jan. 19 will be Military Day. Members of the military and veterans providing ID will receive a ticket discount.

The Detroit Tigers Winter Caravan

Fans of the American League Central Division Champions Detroit Tigers will have the chance to see some of their favorite players and even Tigers mascot PAWS when the team stops by on Friday, Jan. 22.

Straight-ticket voting eliminated in Michigan

■ Voters must select individual candidates rather than one entire party at the polls

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

On Tuesday, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signed the bill eliminating straight ticket voting, an election ballot option to vote for all candidates of one party with a single selection.

Senate Bill 13 became law and Michigan voters will no longer be able to straight-ticket vote or split-ticket vote, which gives the option to vote for an entire party along with individual candidates.

"Michigan joins 40 other states that require voters to select an individual for each elective office, rather than simply selecting a political party," Snyder wrote in a press release. "I have strived to put people before politics and strongly encourage voters to do the same. Under this new law, voters will select an individual for each office, rather than simply marking Republican or Democrat."

Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc) and Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township) voted in favor of the bill.

"I supported the elimination of straight ticket voting because I believe it offers the opportunity for requiring citizens to actually look at the choices in front of them," said Robertson, adding that it's necessary election reform.

"The vast majority of states do not have straight-ticket voting. I think that's the proper way to go. I am pleased that the governor signed the bill and obviously supported it as senator."

The main concern with this bill is the possible longer wait times and longer lines at polls during election days, which could lead to frustration and "disenfranchised voters."

Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Flushing) voted against the bill.

In a statement released in November regarding a press conference with the Genesee County clerk, Flint mayor, members of the NAACP and others, Ananich said, "People in Genesee County, Saginaw County and counties all across Michigan like having more options when it comes to voting.

"Robbing voters of this choice will only make it harder to vote and lead to longer lines and other frustrations. Instead, we should be working to make voting easier — such as allowing early voting and 'no reason' absentee voting.

"The House should oppose this bill, but if they make the same mistake as the Senate, the governor should do the right thing and veto it," he said.

To address concerns of lengthy voting time, the bill originally included House Bill 4724, which would allow for no-reason absentee voting, but Senate Bill 13 was passed without House Bill 4724.

Snyder still aims to pass legislation allowing no-reason absentee voting.

"Michigan is one of only 13 states that does not allow for some form of early or no-reason absentee voting. Updating Michigan's archaic absentee voting law, and bringing Michigan in line with other

states regarding early, or easier, access to the polls is critical as we continue to reinvent Michigan," Snyder said.

House Bill 4742 is currently in the Senate after it was passed by the House. Snyder urges the Senate to pass the bill so he can sign it into law as soon as possible.

"This will not only provide greater access to the polls, it will also help alleviate long lines at the ballot box," Snyder said.

The bill that eliminated straight-ticket voting also included an appropriation of \$5 million to buy new voting equipment to ease Election Day administration. This appropriation also makes the item immune to referendum.

"These resources, along with a responsible no-reason absentee voting program, will allow Michigan to administer elections quickly and fairly, and will keep the state consistent with the majority of other states," Snyder said.

“Robbing voters of this choice will only make it harder to vote and lead to longer lines and other frustrations.”

Jim Ananich
State senator (D-Flushing)

News briefs

Holly Township hosts Master Plan open house, workshop

As Holly Township continues the process of updating its Master Plan, community members are asked to participate in an open house/workshop to help clarify and implement the vision for the township. The workshop will provide residents with the opportunity to make sure their voices are heard in the planning process. This is an opportunity for residents to share their ideas, concerns, questions, and opinions. "We want to have as many people participate in the workshop as possible, to make sure our Master Plan reflects the people who live, work, and play here," said Clerk Karin Winchester. A survey will include questions about many elements of life in Holly, including community character, natural feature preservation, trail ways,

and economic development. As the guide for the future of Holly, the newly updated Master Plan will influence future decision-making on development, infrastructure, budgeting, and conservation, among many other topics. Because of the importance of this document to so many facets of community life, public officials are urging residents to participate and voice their opinions. The workshop will be held on Feb. 2 at the North Oakland County Fire Authority (N.O.C.F.A.), 5051 Grange Hall Road. For more information, contact Winchester at (248) 634-9331, Ext. 301, or email clerk@hollytownship.org.

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tctimes.com



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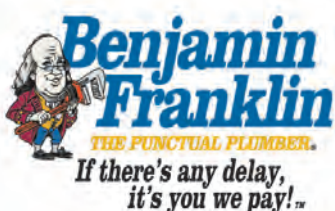
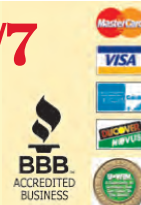
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COURT

Continued from Front Page

Since their arrest last October, Stevens remains lodged at the Genesee County Jail. Because of their ages, Brewer and Dukes remain lodged at the Genesee County Regional Detention Center.

The three teens are believed to be responsible for an alleged plot to carry out a shooting at Linden schools at the end of October 2015. Argentine Township police became aware of the plot on Oct. 28, 2015, when the police department's school resource officers received information that revealed a plan through social media to carry out a school shooting at Linden High School and Linden Middle School.

Prosecutors say the teens planned to kill a Linden student and shoot up the school after the student posted something "derogatory" about Stevens on her Instagram account. Texts and instant messages between Stevens, Dukes and Brewer on how to carry out the plot were later discovered by police on Stevens' phone.

Attorneys representing the teens have said they don't believe their clients intended to go through with the threats.

Argentine Township Det. Doug Fulton said the competency reports for Stevens and Dukes were not complete so the judge rescheduled the hearing for Wednesday, Jan. 13 at 9 a.m. Brewer's attorney did not request a competency exam.

Fulton said he expects Stevens to be in court Wednesday for this hearing but doubts that Dukes or Brewer will be there since they are juveniles.

While this hearing related to the shooting plot is scheduled for 9 a.m., Stevens is also scheduled to be in court at 11 a.m. on Jan. 13 for a preliminary exam on child porn charges.

Stevens also is facing additional sex-crime charges after prosecutors said they found a video, allegedly taken by Stevens,

of a 15-year-old boy having sex with a 13-year-old girl at the Red Roof Inn in Flint Township.

Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton said Stevens' additional charges are based on a "very disturbing incident" involving pornography and minors that was uncovered when Argentine Township police and FBI agents were investigating the alleged shooting plot by Stevens, Dukes and Brewer.

Investigators believe Stevens produced and directed a sexual scene between a 15-year-old male and a 13-year-old female. The 15-year-old male from Linden was arrested and remains lodged at the Genesee County Regional Detention Center. The 13-year-old female has not been charged. An older woman who reportedly booked the motel room for Stevens is not expected to be charged, as there is not sufficient evidence at this time to prove she knew what would happen in the room.

FELONY CHARGES AGAINST RYAN STEVENS, KODY BREWER AND LAMARR DUKES

COUNT 1: Conspiracy to commit first-degree premeditated murder, a felony punishable by up to life in prison

COUNT 2: False report or threat of terrorism, a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison

ADDITIONAL FELONY 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

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING

To the Residents of the Township of Argentine, Genesee County, Michigan:

The Township Board of the Township of Argentine, Genesee County, Michigan, intends to hold a Public Hearing on the following assessment district: **HAVILAND BEACH DRIVE PAVING PROJECT Tuesday January 26, 2016 at 7:00 at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden MI 48451.**

The purpose of the hearing is to consider a petition to increase scope of work to add the resurfacing of approximately 950 feet of Haviland Beach Drive between Kovacs Drive and Majestic Drive. It is anticipated this additional work will add a cost of approximately Two Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand (\$253,000) Dollars to the existing project. If the Board accepts the petition, they will consider a resolution to increase the scope of the existing project, and increase the special assessment roll to spread the costs equally among the 189 parcels in the district.

You are invited to provide input in favor or against increasing the scope and cost of the project. If you cannot attend, you are invited to offer your comments in writing to the Clerk's office prior to the hearing. Please write to the Board or appear at the hearings. Letters must be received prior to 7:00 pm January 26, 2016.

This Special Assessment Hearing is held in accordance with P.A. 188 of 1954, as amended, which prescribes the method of notice.

Be Further Notified that an appearance and protest at the Special Assessment Hearings are required in order to appeal the amount of the assessment to the State Tax Tribunal. Appearance and protest shall be made in person at the Special Assessment Hearings or by letter addressed to the Township Clerk at the Township Hall. Any appeal to the Tax Tribunal must be made within thirty (30) days after the approval of the proposed roll.

Denise Graves, Clerk Argentine Township

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Remember the Vega or Citroen SM?

■ Motor Trend Car of the Year spans decades of different makes and styles

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

With the North American International Auto Show right around the corner (Jan. 11-24), it's fun to take a look at how far we've come in the world of wheels.

Motor Trend Magazine is a great automotive resource. It was first published in 1949. The magazine's "Car of the Year Award" is the most coveted award among automobile manufacturers in the United States. Motor Trend offers exclusive first looks at new models of cars, reviews of news models along with extensive road testing, as well as news and award information related to the auto industry.

Motor Trend Magazine procures the rights to exclusive first looks at many new models of cars, according to motor-trend.com. The magazine has published first looks at cars, which are provided so that new car buyers will know what to expect in terms of pricing and features when the cars appear in showrooms.

The magazine is also known best for its reviews and extensive road testing of new models of cars. Detailed test results are extracted on things like speed, handling, and fuel efficiency.

Experts conduct tests between similar cars to find out which vehicles dominate in certain classes.

Each of the major car manufacturers are represented throughout the years.



HOTROD.COM
1971 Chevy Vega



LEGENDSAUTOMOTIVE.CO
1972 Citroen SM

Most people can go through the list (see sidebar) and honestly say, "Yeah, that was an awesome car," or "Oh, I remember we had one of those when I was a kid." Some of us even remember having some of these cars when we became of driving age.

A couple of examples of vehicles on the list bear a closer look.

One of those standouts is the 1972 Motor Trend Car of the Year, the Citroen SM. Has anyone ever heard of it?

According to Motor Trend Magazine, the "Car of the Year" program has evolved a lot since they had its first abbreviated ride and drive evaluation back in 1968. The CARS (Conference of Automotive Research Specialists) panel of experts has the final say in choosing the Car of the Year; and, the candidates are already winners in their own right, triumphing in each testing category, scoring above all others in a full, 12-month test program.

"Every passenger vehicle we can get our hands on to test is now automatically eligible for consideration. That the Car of the

Year is open to everything sold in the U.S. is a little like starting all over again at the beginning — in 1951. Perhaps that's why it is somehow fitting the Citroen SM won."

There was really nothing more specific said about what some may think is an odd, yet slick-looking car.

The 1971 Motor Trend Car of the Year, the Chevrolet Vega, is somewhat of a surprise because it so small and plain compared to the winners of previous and following years.

And people who owned a Chevy Vega either loved it or hated it. We asked some Facebook friends to share their "Vega" stories.

"An old boss bought one for one of his daughters," said Fenton City Councilwoman Cherie Smith. "She hated that thing."

Former Fenton Resident Bill Fults, now of Colorado, said, "My first car was a '76 Vega and it was great."

"My dad had one when I was learning to drive," said Eden-Barber Harrison of Byron. "It was a great car especially since his had the optional V-8 upgrade. That car

“...That car could really scoot.”

Eden Barber-Harrison
Former Chevrolet Vega owner

CARS OF THE YEARS

2016	Chevrolet Camaro
2015	Volkswagen Golf
2014	Cadillac CTS
2013	Tesla Model S
2012	Volkswagen Passat
2011	Chevrolet Volt
2010	Ford Fusion
2009	Nissan GT-R
2008	Cadillac CTS
2007	Toyota Camry
2006	Honda Civic
2005	Chrysler 300
2004	Toyota Prius
2003	Infiniti G35
2002	Ford Thunderbird
2001	Chrysler PT Cruiser
2000	Lincoln LS
1999	Chrysler 300M
1998	Chevrolet Corvette
1997	Chevrolet Malibu
1996	Dodge Caravan
1995	Chrysler Cirrus
1994	Ford Mustang
1993	Ford Probe GT
1992	Cadillac Seville (Touring Sedan)
1991	Chrysler Caprice (Classic LTZ)

See CARS on 14A

could really scoot."

George Kullis of Holly said, "I owned a '75 Vega GT hatchback. It was one of the best cars I ever owned, loved it. They built them with an aluminum engine and as long as you had a good battery, they were fine. The aluminum engine didn't like to start in the cold. When they took the aluminum engine out they changed the name to Cavalier."

The entire list of Motor Trend Car of the Year photos can be seen at motor-trend.com.

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CARS

Continued from Page 10A

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- 1989 Ford Thunderbird SC
- 1988 Pontiac Grand Prix
- 1987 Ford Thunderbird Turbo Coupe
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- 1985 Volkswagen GTI
- 1984 Chevrolet Corvette
- 1983 AMC/Renault Alliance
- 1982 Chevrolet Camaro Z28
- 1981 Chrysler K Cars, Dodge Aries and Plymouth Reliant
- 1980 Chevrolet Citation
- 1979 Buick Riviera S
- 1978 Chrysler Dodge Omni and Plymouth Horizon
- 1977 Chevrolet Caprice
- 1976 Chrysler Dodge Aspen and Plymouth Volare
- 1975 Chevrolet Monza 2+2
- 1974 Ford Mustang II
- 1973 Chevrolet Monte Carlo
- 1972 Citroen SM
- 1971 Chevrolet Vega
- 1970 Ford Torino
- 1969 Plymouth Road Runner
- 1968 Pontiac GTO
- 1967 Mercury Cougar
- 1966 Oldsmobile Toronado
- 1965 Pontiac Motor Division (all)
- 1964 Ford Motor Company (Fairlane, Falcon and Thunderbird)
- 1963 AMC Rambler
- 1962 Buick Special
- 1961 Pontiac Tempest
- 1960 Chevrolet Corvair
- 1959 Pontiac Motor Division (all)
- 1958 Ford Thunderbird
- 1957 Chrysler Corporation (all)
- 1956 Ford Motor Company (all)
- 1955 Chevrolet Motor Division
- 1954 (No results)
- 1953 (No results)
- 1952 Cadillac Motor Division (all)
- 1951 Chrysler Corporation (all)
- 1950 (No results)
- 1949 Cadillac Motor Division



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SALLY RUMMEL

Diners enjoy the bounty of Golden Buffet's extensive food choices, all fresh and abundant.

From salad to sushi...

■ Golden Buffet offers new ownership and fresh Asian dining experience

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

It's a whole new look, new ownership and brand new food experience at Golden Buffet, next to VG's Grocery north Fenton location.

"Our family has more than 30 years of experience with two buffet restaurants in Midland, Waterford and now Fenton," said Manager Yu Lin.

Dining patrons will notice a brand new interior from the moment they walk through the spacious front entryway. It's the portal into a new buffet experience, with fresh, bountiful foods attractively presented with many of the family's own special recipes.

"People love our salad bar, fruit/dessert bar, chocolate fountain and ice

cream machine," said Lin. "Our sushi station, with fresh rolls made daily, is very popular."

Snow crab legs are available daily after 4 p.m. and oysters on the half-shell are on the buffet every Friday and Saturday night.

Diners can order off the menu, enjoy the buffet or carry-out dozens of Chinese specialties. For special diets, you can custom order the amount of oil, salt or any other restrictions you may have.

"People try us once, now that we are new owners here, and they come back again and again," said Lin. "They really love the freshness of the food here."

Golden Buffet is located at 1386 North LeRoy St., telephone (810) 519-8333. Hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Sharon and Jeff Stone, along with Laura Constable, Jake Stone, Ed Constable and Paula Stone, quietly listen as Tim Stone welcomes golfers at last year's Brad Stone Summer Classic.

FAMILY

Continued from Page 3A

Stone said it was at that point they decided to donate their son's organs.

"It was our decision and we realized there was no turning back and we thought, 'I don't think Brad would be too mad,'" she said. "We thought it just felt right."

Tons of phone calls and a flurry of activity followed after the Stones began the process of donating Brad's organs through Gift of Life. Powell received both of Brad's lungs; a North Carolina woman received Brad's kidney and pancreas; and an older man from Pentwater received Brad's corneas.

"We got word that there was a match, a couple matches," Stone said, gripping a tissue in her hand. "We actually saw the helicopter come and we saw the helicopter go. It was a long, quiet ride home."

The unexpected meeting

A short time later, a Gift of Life representative told the Stones they could reach out to the recipients, identify themselves and let them know who Brad was. "We composed a letter and sent it to Gift of Life," Stone said.

Powell remembers receiving the letter in December of 2000 and she responded in February of 2001.

"We got a letter via the Gift of Life, signed 'Pam,'" Stone said. "All we knew was Pam was from Detroit, the double lung recipient. She included a printout of

the 'Wind Beneath My Wings' and that's what he was to her."

They would meet later in the fall of 2001, when the Stones traveled to East Lansing to attend a Gift of Life function to honor donor families. Stone remembers how neither she nor her husband Jeff, were really in the mood to go, but they decided to make the trek anyway.

"We took seats in the back and they gave us a program," Stone said. "Right at the very end it said a very special presentation from Pam Powell of Detroit, a double lung recipient. I looked at Laura (Stone's daughter) who was 10 at the time and I said, 'What are the odds?'"

Stone, who was sitting between her husband and their children, told her husband if it was "our Pam," she was going to lose it. Right at the end of the program, Powell was introduced.

"She said, 'Instead of talking, I'm just going to sing a song.' We looked at each other and said if she sings that song," Stone said, trailing off. "Sure enough, she started singing that song, 'Wind Beneath My Wings.' I don't think there was a dry eye in that entire room."

As the song was ending, Jeff Stone walked straight up the aisle to Powell, visibly overcome with emotion and said, "'I'm Jeff Stone, I'm Brad's dad.'"

"I grabbed him, hugged him and just started screaming," said Powell. "It was a tremendous, wonderful thing. We mistakenly met by divine order. They didn't know I was there and I didn't know they were there."

'We're part of the family'

Since that day, the Stones have stayed in touch with Powell, who sang "Wind Beneath My Wings" at what would have been Brad's graduation at Lake Fenton High School in 2006. Powell's husband, David Powell, a minister, said the prayer at the wedding reception for Brad's sister, Laura, a year and a half ago. Powell even visits every year for a golf fundraiser that benefits a scholarship in Brad's name that has given out more than \$200,000 to local students since his death.

"We're part of the family," Powell said. "We are connected. I have a picture of Brad on my desk at work. People say, 'Pam, you talk about him like he's your son, like he's still here.' And I tell them he is. He's still here with us."

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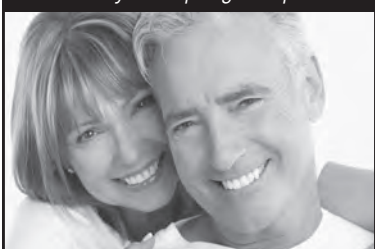
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Car made in Fenton could be driven on the sidewalk

■ Koppin car, built from 1913 to 1914, had a 96-inch wheelbase, sold for \$375

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

If the roads were as bad in the early 1900s as some are now, it's no wonder someone decided to build a car that could drive on the sidewalks of Fenton.

The "Koppin" car first made its appearance in Fenton in 1913. The car had a 96-inch wheelbase and sold for \$375. It was manufactured by the Fenton Cyclecar Co. and only a dozen or so of the little vehicles were actually produced before the company's shop was destroyed by fire.

Those were the days when it seemed everyone was trying to build a horseless carriage of some type. According to "A Time to Remember," a book on Fenton history written by Ruth Anne Silbar, there were more than 1,100 auto builders in the United States between 1900 and 1920.

Henry C. Koppin, a wealthy Detroit businessman, was one of them. In 1910, he announced that he would be building an automobile using various motorcycle components. Koppin's idea was not a new one. Vehicles known as cyclecars had been built as early as 1895.

In 1911, Koppin began searching for a factory in which to build his automobile, and that year came to Fenton. Here he met W.B. Phillips, president of the A.J. Phillips Co., a firm that manufactured a variety of wood products. By 1911, the demand for wood products had declined considerably.

Koppin checked out the Phillips factory amenities. There were five buildings with 3.5 acres of floor space on a 10-acre site. In December of 1912, Koppin made a deal with the owners of the Phillips Company. In exchange for the Fenton industrial property, Koppin gave them a sizable amount of Detroit real estate.

Koppin began manufacturing his vehicle in 1913. He employed 25 people and production was slow because the cars were built mostly by hand.

The car was small enough to be driven on a sidewalk. The Koppin was powered by a 12-horsepower, two-cylinder, air-cooled engine and traveled on 28 by 2.5-inch motorcycle tires. The car featured a metal body and weighed 675 pounds.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Maple Winglemire sits behind the wheel of the Koppin car, manufactured in Fenton from 1913 until the factory was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1914. The \$375 car had a 96-inch wheelbase, making it possible to drive on the sidewalk. Winglemire and her passenger, Henry (Harry) Koppin, are seated in the vehicle on a Rockwell Street sidewalk.

Production at the factory was steady until Sept. 17, 1914, when during the early morning hours an explosion ripped through one of the factory buildings and within minutes the building was in flames. Fanned by a brisk wind, the flames quickly spread to the other buildings and by the time Fenton volunteer firefighters arrived, the blaze was raging out of control.

Firemen wrapped themselves in wet blankets and sprayed a heavy stream of water on nearby homes and businesses. At the height of the fire, it was said the glow from the homes could be seen for miles.

Just over an hour later, the Flint Fire Department was summoned, but by the time they arrived, the fire had all but destroyed the factory. Despite the efforts of local firemen, several nearby homes and a barn were damaged.

After collecting on the insurance, Koppin eventually returned to Detroit, and Fenton's brief claim as an auto manufacturing town was over.

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TRIVIA BASEBALL

Q Who played in the longest scoreless tie in Major League Baseball history?

A The Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers played 19 innings of scoreless ball on Sept. 11, 1946 before the game was called due to darkness.

DAVID'S DABBLINGS

For those who have dropped the Detroit Pistons off their radar the last six seasons, I can completely understand why you did. For the most part, the Pistons have been a horrible team to watch.

However, for those who haven't been paying attention, the Pistons appear to be turning it around a bit this season. The Pistons have a fun squad, and they are winning some games. The squad has a chance to finish with a winning record since the 2007-08 season and have a chance to make the playoffs for the first time since 2008-09.

Andre Drummond has become a beast on the boards and has become nearly unstoppable on passes to him near the hoop, providing high-light slams pretty much every night. Starting point guard Reggie Jackson has dished many of those assists to Drummond. The squad typically plays with good energy and has proven to be a mentally tough squad.

I don't foresee the Pistons winning any NBA titles any time soon. I'm just hoping they make the playoffs. However, watching the Pistons is becoming fun again. At least that's a start.

Bronchos make a statement

Holly records sweep vs. Fenton Tigers, Clio Mustangs

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — Last season was a tough year for Holly wrestling. Numbers were down and many of the stronger wrestlers who were out, experienced injuries. Compounding matters, long-time Holly varsity wrestling coach Don Pluta also was battling health issues as well. Consequently, the team struggled most of the season and didn't qualify any wrestlers for the individual state meet.

Life has changed tremendously in a year.

Pluta is healthy and so are his wrestlers. He has a nice group of young wrestlers and many of the grapplers who had youth wrestling experience who didn't come out last year are wrestling this season. Numbers are back up as are the results.

The Bronchos began the Flint Metro League dual season by showing the rest of the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Holly's William Greer (top) works on trying to turn Fenton's Glenn Kroeger in Holly's 52-17 victory against the Tigers on Wednesday.

league that they are a solid squad once again by upsetting the defending co-Metro League champions Clio in a double-dual at Fenton High School on Wednesday night.

Holly defeated Clio 42-33 and also defeated area foe Fenton 52-17. The Tigers also battled Swartz Creek and lost

42-28.

"That's exactly it. It feels like Holly wrestling," Pluta said. "We are a very competitive team — win or lose. We are going to surprise some people like we did Clio tonight."

"Clio is the defending
See BRONCHOS on 19A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Lake Fenton's Chris Bell dribbles with the ball in the team's victory vs. Genesee Christian.

Blue Devils' offense plays well vs. Soldiers

Foerster scores 22 in LF's 69-49 win

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Lake Fenton — Andrew Foerster spent the winter break practicing on finishing shots.

Practicing worked.

Foerster scored a game-high 22 points, leading the Lake Fenton Blue Devils to a 69-49 home varsity boys basketball

win against Genesee Christian on Tuesday.

"Over the break we really worked on my finishing and it really paid off tonight," Foerster said. "The coaches kept telling me not to pump-fake as much and it really worked tonight."

"We give him a hard time because he likes to do a lot of double-clutching in there," Lake Fenton coach Jake Erway said. "He finally just made the decision of going up strong every

time, just catch it and go up. I think that helped a ton in terms of finishing."

Led by point guard Chris Bell, the Blue Devils played unselfish all night, looking for the quick open man. It worked constantly on the break. It also worked constantly in the halfcourt, particularly in the first half. The great passing resulted in sizzling 16-for-24 shooting from the field (66 percent) in the opening

See OFFENSE on 18A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS
Lake Fenton's Keinan Hagenstein (top) uses an opponent's leg to try to turn him on Wednesday.

Blue Devils record split vs. tough weekday opponents

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Lake Fenton — Vance Corcoran is happy things have changed in the Genesee Area Conference.

Because the conference is now split into two divisions, that leaves more room for him to schedule tough dual meets on dates that used to be reserved for league duals against teams that may field half a squad.

The second-ranked in Division 3 Blue Devils had one of those new duals at Lake Fenton High School Wednesday night.

The Blue Devils faced off against two quality Division 1

See DEVILS on 19A

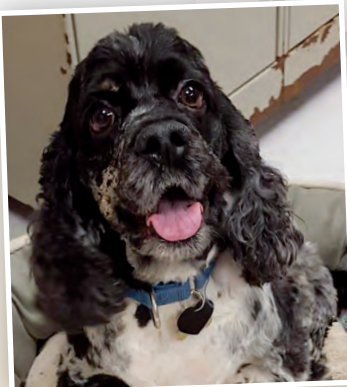
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OFFENSE

Continued from Page 17A
half for the Blue Devils.

"My guards gave me the ball in great positions tonight," Foerster said. "I just ran the floor and they gave me the ball. It was really all them. I just finished it."

"It's so assuring because (Chris Bell) is such a good guard. He's the best in the area. He'll give me the ball whenever."

"This was probably the best we've played all year from a distribution standpoint, especially in the first half toward the first quarter," Erway said.

With Foerster hitting five of the buckets, the Blue Devils netted 8-of-11 shots in the opening period, sneaking to a 21-17 lead after one quarter. Lake Fenton began blowing the game open with its first three possessions of the second quarter. Parker Mitchell assisted Bell's trey, opening the quarter. Foerster followed with a putback hoop after he earned a steal. Finally, Jalen Miller recorded a steal and dished an assist on Bell's breaking layup. A minute into the second quarter, the Blue Devils led 28-17. From there, the Blue Devils remained in control the rest of the game. The final highlight of the first half came after a Miller steal and slam, giving the Blue Devils a 41-27 halftime lead.

Genesee Christian scored the first three points of the second half, but Lake Fenton responded by going on an 18-4 run the rest of the third quarter, blowing the Blue Devils' lead to 59-32 entering the fourth quarter.

All 12 Lake Fenton players scored. The Blue Devils' offense hit on 25-of-45



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SCOTT SCHUPBACH
Lake Fenton's Jalen Miller records a bucket in the Blue Devils' 69-49 win against Genesee Christian.

shots. Bell helped lead the attack with his smart dishes and by chipping in 12 points himself. Miller came off the bench to score nine points, collect six rebounds and record three steals.

The Blue Devils' goal is to prove they are true Genesee Area Conference Red division championship contenders.

"I think we just have to get the monkey off our back and beat one of the teams perceived as one of the top teams in the league," Foerster said. "Once we can do that, the sky is the limit. Our goal this year is to try to win a league championship or win a district title."

Lake Fenton girls earn first victory of season vs. Richmond

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The 2015 portion of the varsity girls basketball season was tough on the Lake Fenton Blue Devils.

It appears the 2016 portion is going to be a bit kinder.

The Blue Devils opened the 2016 part of the season with their first win of the season, earning a non-league road victory against Richmond on Tuesday.

The contest was a defensive one in the opening quarter, with both teams netting just six points. However, from that point, the Blue Devils scored at least 12 points in every quarter, while holding Richmond to single-digits in three of the four periods.

Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren was pleased with the team's performance, the squad's first game since the end of the winter break.

"We track deflections and I am extremely proud to say we had a ton of them," VanBuren said. "We had about 10 a quarter, and we were reaching. I hope it is a sign that we are playing smarter, more team-oriented defense."

The Blue Devils charted 38 deflections with Hannah Garty leading the squad with nine. She also led the team with seven of the squad's 17 steals. Sydney Sheyachich had eight deflections while Autumn Beardsley had seven deflections. Saige Fuller and Madison Hobson contributed four steals each.

Lake Fenton (1-7) wore out Richmond.

What was still a competitive 18-14 contest at halftime became a 31-18 Blue Devils' lead after three quarters. Any chances of Richmond coming back ended when Lake Fenton scored 17 fourth-quarter points. Beardsley had a strong offensive game, netting a team-high 14 points. The team scoring was pretty balanced after Beardsley. Renee Shaw netted nine points, while Sheyachich had eight points. Garty finished with seven.

Eight Lake Fenton players scored at least two points. Sheyachich led the team with 10 rebounds, while Beardsley had six. Sierra Arroyo dished off six assists, while Garty had three assists and five rebounds. Haley Whittecar collected three blocked shots. Grace Daniel led Richmond with a game-high 16 points, but the Blue Devils kept everyone else in check.

**Hartland 65,
Holly 43**

The Broncos (3-4) got off to a good start, taking a 15-13 lead into the second quarter, but were outscored 52-28 the rest of the way, resulting in the loss.

The two middle quarters were particularly damaging for the Lady Broncos as they were held to just 14 points in those two periods.

Graysen Cockerham had a strong contest for the host Hartland Eagles (4-1), netting a game-high 24 points. Holly was paced by Paige Reid's 15 points. She also had six rebounds.

Meanwhile, Kaitlyn Smith netted 13 points, four steals and three rebounds.

Tigers fall behind early, never able to get the lead vs. Hartland

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Sometimes an early lead can decide a game. That was the case in Fenton's varsity boys basketball contest at home against the Hartland Eagles on Tuesday. Hartland hit some first-quarter three-pointers to establish the early lead against Fenton. From there, the Tigers were always competitive, and actually cut the deficit to two at one time, but Fenton never took the lead after trailing early, resulting in a tough 46-40 loss at Fenton High School.

Fenton trailed 13-8 after one quar-

ter and were down 26-16 at halftime. However, the Tigers outscored Hartland 14-10 in the third, keeping them within striking distance the entire second half. However, Fenton was never able to tie the game in the second half or take a lead.

Ben Hajciar scored a team-high 12 points for Fenton (2-2), while Peyton Coffman netted 10 points. Scoring distribution was pretty even for both teams. Konlan Paul led Hartland with just 11 points, while Nathan Huerta came off the bench to score 10 points. Carson Miller chipped in nine Hartland points.

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DEVILS

Continued from Page 17A

foes, defeating Southgate Anderson 50-18 but losing to ninth-ranked Anchor Bay 31-30 in the night's second match.

The Blue Devils are still awaiting the addition of some outstanding transfer talent who will be allowed to wrestle starting Jan. 18. The squad also had another wrestler who was sick on Wednesday. If Lake Fenton fielded a complete roster, there's no doubt the outcome would've been different against Anchor Bay. However, Corcoran understands that win or lose facing these demanding teams will serve his team well when the state tourney series starts later this season.

"They got tested today," Corcoran said. "That's why we scheduled these guys. These teams are battle-tested. It's all about getting us to the state meet and competing there. Whether we are down or at full strength, wrestling teams like this is what we need."

The Blue Devils had seven wrestlers finish with two victories. Only two finished with a pair of pinfall wins — A.J. Geyer (103) and Trent Hillger (285).

Others earning two victories were Hunter Hypio (112), Devan Melick (135), Jackson Nevadomski (145) Brenden Carr (152) and Keinan Hegenstein (160). Saben Spangler (130), Sean Trombley (140) and Ryan Franks (215) each earned victories in the match against Southgate Anderson.

In the loss, the Blue Devils had to make up for two voided weight classes, which should be filled once the transfer date of Jan. 18 arrives. However, not being able to fill those weights, and a couple of other unexpected losses for Corcoran, were too much to overcome on Wednesday.

"We are really good, but we have a lot of room for improvement, and we'll get there," Corcoran said. "You can walk around and act like you are the No. 2 team in the state, but we just got our butts kicked by a team that is No. 9 (in Division 2). We know until we get all of those kids in the lineup, we are not the No. 2 team in the state. But we'll wrestle everyone out there because we need to be battle-tested. You can't wrestle cream puffs all season long and expect to do well at state. As frustrated as I am with them, we'll take the losses. The big picture is it's all for the best."

BRONCHOS

Continued from Page 17A

league champions and they have quite a few guys back. ... We wrestled really well and knocked them off. ... This team reminds me of the teams we had in the early 1990s. They were young teams getting better every week. We had no superstars, but everyone was doing their part. This is a team with a lot of potential if they stick with it the next couple of years."

The Bronchos had seven wrestlers finish the night with perfect 2-0 marks. Jimmy Gray (285) had the biggest night posting pinfall victories in a combined 52 seconds. Others recording two victories were Carsen Cuthbert (130), Jon Accorsi (135/140), Josh Gonzales (145), Cad Dallwitz (171), Collin Dallwitz (215), and Jared Callahan (119). Mitchell Nelson (135) also won his only match of the night, while Jared Corcoran (119), William Greer and Bruce Burke (189) earned wins against Fenton.

The Fenton Tigers are still fighting the numbers game. The squad has about 16 wrestlers, but many are competing in similar weight classes, making it impossible for them to fill all of the weight classes. Consequently, team victories will be hard to come by.

"I think we could be competitive if we could fill in the weights," Fenton varsity wrestling coach Bruce Burwitz said. "We have four in three of those middle weights and there is nothing we can do about it."

"We are coming along. We have about 16 to 18 kids. We are down, but I can't find kids for those lower weights. We don't have anybody in them and it's



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPEMS

Fenton's Tommy Adams (far) works on pinning Holly's Dan Stallard in the Bronchos' 52-17 victory Wednesday night.

killing us. We are hoping to win the majority of matches that we do have wrestlers."

The Tigers had two wrestlers finish the day with two wins. Mario Ramirez (112) recorded two pinfall wins, while Connor Putnam (152) had a pair of victories including a pinfall win. Against Holly, Tommy Adams (145) also earned a technical fall victory, while Jake Church (140), Glenn Kroeger (160) and David Foster (189) earned wins against Swartz Creek.

Linden vs. Flushing, Brandon

The Eagles (2-0, 12-3) opened the Metro season with two victories, defeating Flushing 61-14 and defending

co-Metro League champions Brandon 38-29.

"This was a great way to open up conference play," Linden varsity coach Todd Skinner said. "We are still not at full strength, but we are getting there. The boys are really driven and determined to win a conference championship. We wrestled over Christmas break which gave us some momentum coming into tonight's dual meets. Brandon beat us by two points last year and knocked us out of team regionals, so getting revenge was nice."

Justin Cygnar, Dawson Blank, Bryce Davis, Cade Dickson, Stojan Prusac and Jaylin Steedman each had 2-0 nights. Aaron Steedman won his only match of the night.

Griffins crush Port Huron, 8-0

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The Metro League Griffins scored early and often against the Port Huron Big Reds on Tuesday, resulting in an 8-0 victory.

Jake Thompson scored a three-goal hat trick. Tyler Bourassa, Brendan Buerkel, Bobby Temple, Mitch O'Lewin and Ian Crampton also scored goals.

In net, Manny Vomvalkis had a strong contest, staving off all 29 shots he faced.

The Griffins face off against the Swartz Creek/Clio/Flushing co-op team at the Hartland Sports Center, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The latest Falcon F7 is loaded onto a trailer in Holly Friday morning. The woven carbon stripe was an additional \$20,000, as getting a perfect weave is costly and difficult. The Florida couple who bought it also designed the interior.

Holly's Falcon 7 on its way to auto show

■ This high-end super sports car will join other luxury brands at the MGM Grand on Saturday

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Holly — “An American muscle car has to be red,” said Carl Lemke, father of Falcon Motorsports owner Jeff Lemke. Specifically “Millennium Red,” a color they created themselves, and was named by the car’s owner.

Their ninth Falcon F7 was loaded onto the trailer bound for the MGM Grand, and North American International Auto Show in Detroit this

“We’ve been working 24/7 to get this car ready for the auto show.”

Jeff Lemke
Falcon Motorsports

weekend. This is the culmination of a year of on-and-off work, and the guaranteed last-minute scramble to get the brand new car ready.

There are always last minute problems when finishing a brand new car before a show. Sometimes they aren’t able to sleep leading up to a show — and then things still can go wrong. “There are times when it’s 24-7, no sleep,” said Jeff Lemke. “It can get really chaotic around here.” He compared the experience to a timed TV reality show. “A lot less sleep, it’s stressful, I hate it,” he said with a laugh.

Despite the struggle, everything turned out fine. It was loaded up at about 10:30 a.m., headed for Detroit,

stopping first at the MGM Grand Detroit, where the Falcon 7 will join other high-end luxury brands at “The Gallery” on Saturday.

“With tickets selling for \$500 a piece, this event is more of a private showing,” said Lemke. “During the public days of the auto show, the Falcon 7 will be set on the main concourse and twice a day will be on parade. This is our sixth Detroit auto show. We’re there for the branding.”

Each super car takes approximately four to six months to build from start to finish, and retails between \$295,000 and \$395,000. “We’ve been working 24/7 to get this car ready for the auto show,” said Lemke. “It’ll come back here after the show to get it finished for the customer.”

“We’re like the old-school cars Ferrari and Lamborghini,” said Lemke, in describing Falcon 7’s unique niche in the marketplace. “There are just a handful of cars out there in people’s garages and out on the road.”

Tim Jagielo contributed to this report.



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What is Restaurant Week?

Just about every major city from New York to L.A. has a restaurant week. In Michigan – Ann Arbor, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Traverse City, Troy, Birmingham and Plymouth all have restaurant weeks. It first started out as a way for restaurants to fill up their seats during one of the toughest months of the year - January. Today Restaurant Week helps

highlight the variety and quality of restaurant choices in our community. Every restaurant is offering a special price or fixed price menu to encourage you to try ALL the restaurants in our town. The restaurants in Fenton listed below are participating in this great event.

We hope to see you and your families there!

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News briefs

TLC HOLDS ‘WATER DRIVE’ FOR FLINT RESIDENTS

Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Fenton is sponsoring a “Water Drive” with its sister congregation, Salem Lutheran Church in Flint, to help alleviate the Flint water shortage. Donations are being accepted now through the month of January for either gallons or cases of bottled drinking water. Water may be brought to the church during regular hours, Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Transfiguration Lutheran Church is located at 14176 Fenton Rd., telephone (810) 629-7332.

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- READ • Alpine Marketplace
- CVS Pharmacy
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- READ • Holly Foods
- Rite Aid
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- Target
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To have your insert/flyer viewable online, call Gail Grove at 810-433-6822.

To see these restaurants January specials go to www.fentonchamber.com



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VERA HOGAN

Continued from Page 5A

'Delos had taken a hunting knife with a three-and-a-half-inch blade and stuck the blade through a piece of wood. He then concealed the wood beneath his jacket with the handle of the knife protruding from his chest. He then skated around, pointed to the knife and pretended to his companions that he had been stabbed. He slipped and fell face downward, and the knife entered his chest piercing his heart.

'He was brought to a physician in Fenton, then taken to Hurley Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival, although doctors and nurses worked frantically for two hours in a futile effort to revive him. Delos was a member of the freshman class of Fenton High School.'

I cringed when I read this story, remembering the 10,000 or so times I said to our four boys (now adults) when

they were that age — 'What were you thinking, you could have been killed!'

'Udderly' amazing!

Social news and society pages have always held their place in newspapers of the past. I just never saw one that had to do with the upscale bovines of the community.

In the January 21, 1954 edition of the Fenton Independent, it is reported that Hubert Hill of Fenton, Michigan has just purchased the young Guernsey sire, Floben E. Superboy, from F.B. and R.W. Etter of Milford Michigan.

'This richly bred young bull is out of the well-bred cow, Floben B. Fortunate, that has two production records of 12,391 pounds of milk, and 555 pounds of butter fat, made as a junior two-year-old in the Herd Improvement Register. He is sired by Floben J. Engsign.'

Next time I enjoy a glass of milk or a big juicy steak, I am going to show a little more respect for what's in front of me.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ATTENTION HOLLY VILLAGE residents: A New Year is upon us. We have four seats opening up for Village Council. A new year should equal four new council members. Thank you for your consideration.

■■■■
TO THE HOT liner who wrote, 'If you think Obama has the power to pass gun control against votes in Congress....' Well, it seems that he thinks he can with his executive order

■■■■
PRESIDENTS AND THEIR families pay for their own lodging, food, etc., while on vacation, not taxpayers. Taxpayers do cover what it takes to keep the Presi-

dent working while on vacation — White House staffers and Secret Service agents continue to work whether the President is home or on vacation.

■■■■
IT IS SAD to see the bakery close, but who can blame them with Streetscape construction taking its toll and no other retail businesses on that block in Dibbleville to attract customers.

■■■■
EXCUSE ME, OBAMA ruined our economy? He got us out of a recession ready to go into a depression, saved GM from bankruptcy and thousands from not losing jobs. More people are working today since 2007 when 180,000 jobs a day were lost when Bush was president.

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our town

Meet Kristen Schroeder

- Tri-County Times circulation manager
- Wife
- Mother of 17-month-old

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Kristen Schroeder is the circulation manager for the Tri-County Times.

How long have you been with the Tri-County Times?

I have been working with Tri-County Times for a year and three months.

What does your job entail?

It's funny when people ask what I do because I have such a multitude of jobs and duties it seems almost impossible to explain. But, I manage carriers, drivers, and inserters, who are the last people to put together and deliver the Tri-County Times to customers. I also try to ensure the happiness of our subscribers while coming up with tactical ways to gain new ones. I also have many office work duties such as billing and accounting, and I work for Tri-County Wireless Internet on top of all of that.

What do you like most about what you do?

What I enjoy most about my job is being a part of our local community and, of course, hearing about news before it breaks.

What are some of the challenges you face with this position?

I would have to say some of the customers' complaints about not receiving the paper on time. Sometimes people forget that the drivers and carriers have many customers to which they deliver the newspaper. They are faced with the battle of oncoming traffic, ditches that cause flat tires and weather conditions of all sorts.

Are you hiring right now for inserters or drivers?

I am not currently hiring inserters or drivers, but I am always accepting applications.

When you do hire, what are the qualifications required to do one or both?

To become a driver you obviously need a vehicle, up-to-date insurance, a clean driving record and the ability to deliver the paper before 2 p.m. every

"I love to spend time with my husband, working on our home and chasing around our 17-month-old son."

Kristen Schroeder



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Kristen Schroeder balances her busy life as the circulation manager for the Tri-County Times with being a wife and mom by following a schedule and using a great daycare.

Saturday. Inserter candidates must be able to stand for a long period of time and be fast with their hands. Inserters work Wednesdays and Thursdays starting in the morning, and then Friday nights to finish putting together our beloved newspaper.

Where did you go to school?

I graduated from Linden High School in 2003, then graduated with my bachelor's degree in Communications from Oakland University.

In which community do you reside?

My family and I live in Fenton.

What made you want to work for the Tri-County Times?

Well I have always loved the paper, but seeing where this company is going in the future with videos, it made me really excited. This job also allows me to use all aspects of my degree in marketing and business, which I love.

I've worked for many years in other cities and it is nice to be back to Fenton where my first job started at Michael's.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love to spend time with my husband, working on our home and chasing around our 17-month-old son. I also enjoy spending time with my family either out on the lake or on my in-laws' property, trailing around in the woods.

How do you balance a career with being a wife and a mother?

I balance being a wife and a mother by following a schedule. Well, I try to be scheduled. Having a great daycare, family members and friends really helps, too.



ASK THE MECHANIC

Chris Wilkinson,
Certified Mechanic

Q: I have a 1999 Lincoln Continental that will not start. I purchased it from a friend of mine and he said it just wouldn't start one day. I've talked with a mechanic on this and have tried several things, but I quit getting replies so I am asking here. Here is what I know: It will run with ether/gas in the intake, but will NOT run on its own fuel. It gets fuel to the fuel rail, but will not run. I've checked the following: PCM relay has power at 85 and 30, 86 and 87 are grounded. Pin 55 at the PCM plug is getting power. Injectors are getting power, but won't ground. No blown fuses in the under dash fuse box or the engine compartment fuse box. There is power to the diode for the PCM. The Security light flashes when key is off, but when it is cranking it goes away. The Check engine light does not come on at all, but was told by several people it may be a blown bulb in the dash. I've checked for good grounds near the fusebox and the battery. Also, the dash lights do not come on other than the battery/oil pressure light when the key is on. It will not light up the dash lights even if you adjust the dimmer switch. I'm not sure if this is related, if not I can tackle that problem at a later time. Any information that you can give me would be appreciated. - Andy

A: Andy, It sounds like you either have a bad PCM or a faulty signal going to the PCM. The first thing you need to do is to try and communicate with the PCM using a scan tool check for trouble codes. Then watch for cranking RPM on your scan tool. If you have the proper scan tool you can watch for injector pulse width as well. If you do not see any cranking RPM, then I suspect a bad crank sensor. There is a diagnostic test that you can do if you have the right tools. However, to be honest with you though this sounds like a job for a repair shop.

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SALES HOURS

Mon & Thurs: 8:30am - 8pm
Tues, Wed & Fri: 8:30am - 6pm
Saturday: 10am - 4pm • Sunday: CLOSED

SERVICE HOURS

Monday: 7:00am - 8pm
Tues - Fri: 7:00am - 6pm
Saturday: 8am - 2pm • Sunday: CLOSED

