‘Flint water crisis is an opportunity to turn this city around’

**Hagermans of Fenton Township committed to resurgence of Flint**

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

The Flint water crisis may be among the worst catastrophes to ever hit the city, but it will also provide opportunities never available before to turn Flint around.

That’s the view of Fenton Township residents Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman, who have substantial business and real estate investments in Flint — from Diplomat Pharmacy to the Dryden building downtown.

The Dryden building, formerly the Flint post office, is being renovated as Hagerman Foundation headquarters and the offices of their investment and real estate company, SkyPoint Ventures. The Hagermans also own the Ferris building next door and a building located at 120 First St.

See HAGERMAN on 11A

** Commentary of the Week**

**I’m glad the King column moved to the Wednesday edition of the Times. His ideas and opinions promote everything from good parenting to responsible government at all levels. Even my kids read it. His column alone is worth the price of a subscription. Long live the King.”**

**I’m glad the**

**Clinton wins Oakland and Genesee counties, Trump takes Livingston**

Area election results don’t mirror statewide outcome.

Page 23A

**Most know Duane J. Walden, 75, as “Fuzzy,” the bartender at Walden’s Lounge in Fenton for the past 57 years. He said St. Patrick’s Day is a lot like others, only busier. Tri-county area bartenders are getting ready for a ‘spirited’ Thursday night.**

**See story on Page 9A**

**Tyrone Township home destroyed by fire**

Residents were away, three pets perished.

Page 22A

**Fuzzy’s ready for his 57th St. Paddy’s Day behind the bar**

**Fenton police, please stop people from parking on South LeRoy at South Holly Road. LeRoy becomes less wide with each block. Two-way traffic has to stop when they park there. The same for the traffic on Elizabeth and Adelaide. Enforce the damn parking laws.”**

**Andy Heller is the best thing that ever happened to your newspaper. I have followed his columns for 20 years in The Flint Journal. His entertaining and humorous outlook on life is a breath of fresh air. Welcome to Fenton Andy, we love you!”**

**Here we go again. TV commercials are once again becoming much louder than the programs. Didn’t they pass a law against that a few years ago? This is just one of the many reasons network TV will not exist in a few years. Good riddance.”**
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Mission trip to Haiti changes family’s life

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

Matt Mlinarich is a man with a mission, and a machine.

By day, he works behind the wheels of big machinery as owner of CMS Landscaping Company in Linden. By night, his equipment is a sewing machine. He uses his large, burly hands to sew ribbons, lace and hems on pillowcases, making them into dresses for young girls in Dine, Haiti.

Matt and his wife, Jamie, visited Haiti in January on a mission trip through their church, The Rock. They were moved to action by the poverty, the lack of clothing and shoes worn by young children in the villages. “God gave us a passion to do this,” said Jamie. “This is what God has called us to do.”

Every Saturday, the Mlinarich family, which includes Fischer, 7, Olivia, 9, and Carson, 12, gather with friends for a sew-a-thon, from morning until early afternoon, turning pillowcases into frilly dresses for girls, and shorts for boys.

Matt, who had never sewn a seam in his life, took to the project with all the enthusiasm he brings to his landscape and construction work. “He started out using Olivia’s pink and purple child-size sewing machine,” said Jamie. “Now he’s better at this than I am. It’s just another tool for him.”

It was Matt’s idea to add frill and lace to the pillowcases, to make each dress something special. “There’s no reason each little girl shouldn’t feel like a princess,” said Matt.

Every evening, the Mlinarich family takes turns at their sewing machine in their Byron home, working toward their goal of making 100 dresses by April.

“We’ve made about 40 ourselves, as a family,” said Jamie. “We try to make a dress a night. We also add a tag with a Bible verse on each dress or shorts, so that the child receiving it knows the meaning behind the gift and God’s love for them.”

“The Pillowcase Project” has become more than just a family affair. The community has also gotten involved, with school classes and Girl Scout troops helping. The Mlinarichs plan to keep their mission mindset, with other projects to help children in need all around the globe, including the U.S.

Realtor Wade Pyles of Berkshire Hathaway Michigan Home Services in Fenton has also set up a donation box for clean new or gently used pillowcases.

The Rock is planning more mission trips to Haiti in March, April and August, and the Mlinarich family hopes to join them one day soon. “We’ll go back as soon as we raise enough money,” said Jamie. “Once our kids are old enough, we’ll take them with us.”

Haiti Statistics

- 59% of the population lives on less than $US1.25 per day
- 24.7% of people in Haiti live in extreme poverty.

“There’s no reason each little girl shouldn’t feel like a princess.”

Matt Mlinarich

 Byron resident, Pillowcase Project founder.
Daylight Saving Time — what's the point!

I'm big on traditions, and one annual tradition I have is grousing about Daylight Saving Time. I hate it. There's really no other way to put it. I profoundly, passionately, palpably, gutturally, gratuitously, viscerally and verbosely hate it.

I'm sorry to unleash such a torrent of adverbs upon you, but it simply makes no sense to me to monkey with the clock twice a year for no good reason. We "fall back" in November and "spring forward" in March — this tradition I have is grousing about Daylight Saving Time. I'd want it to if that would work, but I don't know. I'd have more patience. It might help. "Falling for lies. If you don't believe in the disease that I have, I'm already behind an hour on a week that hasn't even started yet."

The idea stick. Daylight Saving Time was actually a help. "I'm already behind an hour on a week that hasn't even started yet."

The coming of spring and the renewal of life, headlights, and I get all excited for the sunrise. And then the time changes and I plunge back into darkness, once more to seek out the living and dine on their blood. That's depressing enough. But Daylight Saving Time isn't done with me yet. It not only steals spring from me for another month (that's about how long it'll take before I'm driving in the light once again), it makes me groggy and irritable for a week because my body doesn't know what time it is.

Monday this will be me — I'll go to bed at 10, expecting to get up at 5:30, as usual. But it'll really be 6:30 — unless I set the alarm for 4:30, which, I'm sorry, just ain't happening — meaning — ack! — I'm already behind an hour on a week that hasn't even started yet! Thanks a lot, William Willett.

Willet, I recently learned, is the British twit considered to be the godfather of the Daylight Saving Time idea. He was an early riser who enjoyed dawn horseback rides and figured everyone else should, too.

So he wrote a pamphlet called "The Waste of Daylight" and began pestering Parliament to authorize a time change. They eventually did but Willett died of influenza before it was enacted. A death has seldom been so deserved. Told you it made me grouchy.

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He has just learned, is the British twit considered to be the godfather of the Daylight Saving Time idea. He was an early riser who enjoyed dawn horseback rides and figured everyone else should, too.

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"I wish the already wealthy?" Donald Trump and Dennis the menace. Is a dictator. Do you really want to have a dictatorship as President?

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"I'm already behind an hour on a week that hasn't even started yet."

"I'm already behind an hour on a week that hasn't even started yet."
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Linden voters say ‘yes’ to mosquito control

Mundy Township voters overwhelmingly reject rezoning

Unseasonably warm days mean potholes
After more than 100 years, The State Bank is still on top

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Not too many businesses or individuals were unaffected by the recession eight years ago. That includes local financial institutions.

There is one, however, that continues to maintain its stronghold on the community, and there are many reasons why.

The State Bank President Ron Justice explains in the following Q & A:

Q: Eight years ago, many industries took a big hit when the economy tanked. How was The State Bank affected?
A: The recession hit the banking industry hard, and like many other local businesses, The State Bank’s financial performance suffered due to the effects of the economy. The most significant impact on the bank was within our commercial loan portfolio.

The primary focus of our commercial loan portfolio was and remains supporting local residents and businesses.

Leading up to the recession, there was a great deal of local land development for both residential and commercial construction. As many industries in the area suffered and significantly reduced their workforce, the demand for new homes and new commercial real estate dried up.

The impact was catastrophic to many local developers and other area businesses as they were unable to pay their obligations. Accordingly, the bank incurred significant losses on these existing commercial loans.

Q: Were there any major changes The State Bank had to make in order to remain a viable financial institution?
A: Weathering this economic storm required the bank control expenses and to closely strategize with many borrowers as they worked to honor their loan obligations to the bank.

Q: What were some of the biggest problems/challenges, and how did bank leadership overcome them?
A: During the period when the bank was experiencing losses, our biggest challenge was to work with our borrowers to create plans that allowed their businesses to continue to be viable and allow them to meet their obligations.

Another challenge was finding creative and cost effective ways to communicate to the community that even though we were affected and experienced years with losses that we would weather the storm and that customer deposits were safe.

Once the recession was over, the bank wanted to maintain its stronghold on the community.

Q: Is everything back on track now?
A: The State Bank has been ahead of the curve relating to financial recovery and stability compared to both Michigan and national peers. We have reported strong and continually improving core operating results for the last four years.

Based on the 2015 performance, an independent company ranked The State Bank in the top 5 for overall financial performance for banks headquartered in Michigan.

We are proud of our performance, especially because of the financial challenges we faced just a few years prior. Our strong performance is fueled by loyal existing and new customers, who believe in us, and have continued to grow their deposit, loan, trust and investment relationships with us.

Additionally, our company’s stock trades on the OTCQX market along with approximately 400 other companies representing all industries across the nation.

In February, we were notified that we received the Best 50 recognition from the OTCQX — meaning our 2015 performance was in the top of all these companies trading on the OTCQX market. Actually we were ranked, 16th.

The ranking is calculated based on an equal weighting of one-year total return to our shareholders (dividends and price appreciation) and the average daily dollar volume growth.

Q: What does the future look like for The State Bank?
A: I am excited about our future and it looks bright. The bank is located in great local communities, with many positive economic trends, and has supportive and loyal clients.

Our growth has outpaced the industry and represents opportunities for us to expand the relationships we have with local residents and businesses.

Q: Have you seen an increase in young business people choosing The State Bank for their businesses?
A: Much of our marketing focus is on attracting and retaining Millennials, and the younger generations. We recognize that this generation especially will demand, in addition to our physical locations, delivery of transactions and information through technology.

We have a mobile banking application, online banking, 24/7 person-to-person phone support and continue to add channels to allow immediate access to our clients’ banking needs whether they are at home, work, or traveling thousands of miles out of the area.

We look forward to continuing to serve and support commerce in Genesee, Livingston and Oakland counties.”

In conclusion, Justice said, The State Bank has been rated (by Bauer Financial) a “Superior 5-star bank” for its past five quarterly reports. Beginning with the Sept. 30, 2014 report. This ranking is viewed by municipalities, investors, and more to ensure the strength of the bank.
Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick’s Day

Tri-county area rich in Irish heritage and traditions

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

There’s an old saying that goes, “If you’re lucky enough to be Irish, you’re lucky enough.”

On Thursday, March 17, everyone gets to be Irish for a day and celebrate by wearing green, eating traditional Irish food (see sidebar), and perhaps imbibe in some adult Irish beverages before singing and dancing the night away.

The tri-county area is rich in Irish heritage, legend, culture and traditions. The Irish are among the original settlers of Tyrone and Deerfield townships in the hills just south of Fenton.

Tyrone was named for County Tyrone in Ireland because this area reminded those settlers of the “old sod.” According to research conducted by the late Tri-County Times Features Editor Jan Rynearsen, the settlers came here shortly after the Irish Potato Famine in the 1840s. Many of the Irish immigrants in this area also hailed from County Cork, Ireland’s largest county.

Many descendants of these settlers, who founded both St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church of Fenton and St. Augustine Catholic Church, south of Fenton in Deerfield, remain in the tri-county area.

Many descendents of these settlers, who founded both St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church of Fenton and St. Augustine Catholic Church, south of Fenton in Deerfield, remain in the tri-county area. Familiar names are Hogan, Murphy, McKeon, Lyons, Conklin, Kelleher, O’Connell, Callaghan, Carmody, Foley, Sweeney, Gallagher, Delehanty, Kean and McGuire.

Many of these names originally began with “O,” which was dropped when they came to America. Descendants of the area’s Irish tell about wakes (traditional celebrations held the night before the burial) held in the farm homes. The dearly departed was sometimes propped up in a corner of a room and toasted by his friends and family.

It was also traditional to leave a brand new pair of shoes near the deceased so that he would be well shod when he arrived in heaven.

The late James Lyons Murphy of Tyrone, Lake Shannon, who died at the age 96 and was buried two days before St. Patrick’s Day of 1990, used to tell how his mother always saw that he and his four brothers and two sisters always wore something green on St. Patrick’s Day.

He said everyone had to show up for school wearing at least a green ribbon or a shamrock. Some kids learned that not wearing green could result in a painful pinch or two.

In Irish households, St. Patrick’s Day is both a protestant and Catholic holiday, and almost as festive as Christmas.

The late John Grier, who for years operated South Side Grocery on South LeRoy Street in the Dibbleville area of Fenton, loved to tell stories about his homeland. He was a native of County Longford, Ireland and came to this country at the age of 17.

Grier once said, “When one is celebrating with a few too many Irish whiskies it is common to say ‘he is drowning the shamrock.’"

Irish lore is filled with tales about shillelaghs (walking sticks), leprechauns (shoemakers), fairies, banshees, witches, the devil, saints, priests and angels.

Shamrock plants have been handed down from generation to generation. St. Patrick taught the Holy Trinity with the famous plant. He said the leaves are three: they represent the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost, just as they are unified, the blessed three-in-one.

The Irish custom of wearing the claddagh, an emblem ring featuring two hands clasping each other, is traditional. In the old days, both an engaged man and woman would wear a claddagh ring made of gold with the hands pointing outward. When they married, they would use the same rings, but turned them around so the hands pointed to the heart.

Irish songs, sayings and prayers are recited the world over.

Some favorites include, “May the good Lord take a liking to you, but not too soon,” and “May you be in heaven a half an hour before the devil knows you’re dead.”

Everyone knows about the “lack of the Irish.” But all people should consider themselves lucky that the Irish immigrants brought their patron saint, traditions and customs to this country so that we may all celebrate St. Patrick’s Day.

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**HOT LINE CONTINUED**

I’m voting for Donald Trump. The actions of the Republican Party to conspire against one of their own candidates, to control the outcome of this election, is why we’re all disgusted with Washington. We’re tired of self-serving politicians. Go Trump.

The King reminds me of Rush Limbaugh and many Fox News personalities. Lots of conservative misinformation, lots of conservative propaganda. I would think an otherwise quality paper like the TCT would not associate with such terrible garbage. The man is neither funny nor informative.

Once again, all the services you listed are examples of public goods, not Democratic Socialism. After telling everyone to ‘educate yourself,’ you demoralize your own ignorance by citing Google as your source of knowledge. Googling does not equal education. You are the one who needs to educate yourself. Try reading a book.

King needs to get off the throne and do some research. Historically, Democratic administrations have performed better for the economy. The estate tax was ‘scheduled’ to return to 45 percent and it affects millionaires with an exemption of $7 million per couple. Calm down, not even you will feel it.

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**Easy, traditional corned beef and cabbage recipe**

Since St. Patrick’s Day is on a Thursday this year, and a work day for many people, here is an easy recipe for a delicious, traditional corned beef and cabbage meal.

**Ingredients:**

One medium onion cut into wedges; four large red potatoes, quartered; one pound of baby carrots; three cups of water; three garlic cloves, minced; one bay leaf; 2 tablespoons sugar; 2 tablespoons cider vinegar; ½ teaspoon pepper; one 1-1/2 to 3-pound corned beef brisket with spice packet; cut in half; one small head of cabbage, cut into wedges.

**Preparation:**

Place the onion, potatoes and carrots in a 5-quart slow cooker. Combine the water, bay leaf, sugar, vinegar, pepper and contents of spice packet — pour over vegetables. Top with brisket and cabbage.

Cover and cook on low for eight to nine hours or until meat and vegetables are tender. Remove bay leaf before serving. This recipe yields six to eight servings.

Secret: substitute one cup of the water with a 12-ounce can of any beer for added flavor and tenderness.

On your way home from work, stop for a loaf of Irish soda bread from your favorite bread store.
Local bars prepare for St. Patrick’s Day

Bartenders expect to be busy on one of the biggest drinking holidays of the year

By Hannah Ball
hballe@ctcmedia.com, 810-433-6792

In anticipation of St. Patrick’s Day, an annual celebration of everything Irish and alcohol, local restaurants are expecting to be busy the entire day.

St. Patrick’s Day at The Holly Hotel is a battle of the heritages, celebrating the owner’s wedding anniversary. Owners George and Chrissy Kutlenios were married on St. Patrick’s Day in Ireland 16 years ago.

The annual celebration at their restaurant playfully pits their heritages against each other, Chriswy with her Irish heritage, and George with his Greek heritage. The menu is Irish-inspired, but they also sell Greek meals and keep track of how many people order each dinner. “A lot of people know we’re driven by the Irish spirit,” she said.

The bar staff employees, order more Guinness, Jameson, and Bailey’s, put green dye in the beer, import cheese from Ireland, and have more fun, she said. “We’re not as formal on that weekend,” she said. “We get that whole feeling of the Irish going on.”

While Irish music plays, the bartenders will make specialty drinks, like a Celtick Kiss, which is a “served-up” cocktail with Baileys, and an Emerald, which is a Manhattan with Irish whiskey, and a few others.

“People come for those,” she said.

Ashley Hanna, bartender at The Corner Bar and Grill, said, “It’s a really busy day of the year. We’re hoping to be pretty busy.”

Hannah said the bar will have themed items like glasses, necklaces and decorations. “We’re planning to have a big party,” she said.

Instead of their usual menu, The Corner Bar and Grill will offer an Irish-themed menu with traditional Irish food, like corned beef and cabbage, and other options.

She’s preparing green dye for the beer as well as specialty cocktails. “With preparing for bartending, you just put up a bunch of backups (supplies) and hope for the best,” she said, adding that she makes sure to keep the bar stocked with alcohol and food.

The band “Rook” will be playing. While restaurants and taverns will make specialty drinks, like corned beef and cabbage, shepherd’s pie, and lamb stew.

The bar will be serving specialty drinks, and patrons can enjoy listening to Bobby Standal sing Irish songs.

“It’s a good day, it’s better than an average day for us,” he said.

While restaurants and taverns are preparing for St. Patrick’s Day celebrations, police are anticipating extra work.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said this time of year is not only recognized for St. Patrick’s Day, but also NCAA March Madness, and student spring breaks. “Crash data indicates alcohol use plays a significant role in fatal and serious injury crashes during this period,” he said.

Because of this, the Michigan Office of Highway Safety and Planning and Michigan police departments are partnering to kick off an Impaired Driving Campaign, “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” March 16th-April 4.

“We will be participating in this effort, using directed patrols and other resources to address impaired driving and other alcohol related offenses,” Aro said. “We are hopeful these efforts will save lives and reduce injuries during this busy time.”
Don’t forget to set your clocks ahead one hour for Daylight Saving Time, beginning Sunday

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

March is the month of college basketball, leprechauns, the first day of spring and another rite of this season — Daylight Saving Time.

“Spring forward, fall back” is the saying that reminds everyone to move their clocks forward one hour, beginning this Sunday, March 13 at 2 a.m.

Daylight Saving Time (DST) will provide more light in the evening hours and a later start to sunrise in the morning.

Clocks will be turned back one hour to standard time from 2 a.m. to 1 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 6.

The original idea actually came from Benjamin Franklin, who published “An Economical Project for Diminishing the Cost of Light” in 1874, after noticing that people burned candles at night but slept past dawn.

But it wasn’t until World War I that the U.S. first implemented Daylight Saving Time as a way to conserve fuel. In 1916, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Uniform Time Act into Law.

DST is observed in all states and territories except most of Arizona, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

One group of people directly affected by the time change are those who get up Sunday morning to attend church.

Melanie French, parish secretary at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton, said that many people have a hard time remembering the time change in time for Sunday morning Mass. “People will come in 15 minutes late for every mass,” she said.

“It happened to me once, too,” she said. “When we used to attend St. Pat’s in Union Lake, we set our clock back an hour instead of forward an hour, which meant we were two hours off. We ended up at 12 noon Mass and looked around and couldn’t figure out why we didn’t recognize anybody.”

Since most of our computers, phones and DVRs do it automatically, it’s not as much of a chore as it used to be, but many businesses still have to make adjustments for the time change.

“The biggest impact from Daylight Saving Time used to be that employees would be late. Now with the time automatically changing on phones, it’s not as big a problem as it used to be.”

Jason Warda
The Barn owner

Jason Warda of Uncle Ray’s Dairyland in Fenton said that despite the fact he’ll lose an hour of sleep on Saturday night, he’s happy to see DST arrive. “Daylight is perfect for ice cream. When it’s dark out, people feel like sleeping. The more sunlight we have, the more energy people have to be out and about.”

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HAGERMAN
Continued from Front Page
with development plans uncertain at this time.

MORE NATIONAL ATTENTION THAN EVER BEFORE
“The water crisis has brought more publicity and national attention to Flint than we’ve ever received,” said Phil. “It’s an opportunity to turn this city around. We have to take this visibility and turn it into a positive movement.”

According to Phil, the resilience of the people in Flint is what will move this city forward. “Red Cross volunteers tell us they’ve never seen people come together in a tragedy like they have in Flint.”

Jocelyn sees it firsthand in her work with the Hagerman Foundation, which works with many non-profit groups, including the new momentum of FlintFwd.org.

“One of the issues in Flint have been around for years, and people are now hearing about it because of the national platform of the water crisis,” she said. “FlintFwd.org is full of stories about people moving their city forward. This positive focus is the foundation of Flint’s comeback as a city, through a grassroots movement of residents.”

HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE IS FIRST PRIORITY
The Hagermans see the first focus of the turnaround being the health of the people of Flint and the city as a whole. “As resources continue to be donated, our first goal is to protect people’s health,” said Phil. “Then we have to build a strong community to support the city for the long term. That means jobs, places to live and economic viability. This (Flint water crisis) can’t be a catalyst for people to leave Flint.”

SUBURBAN RESIDENTS NEED TO SUPPORT FLINT
That’s where the Hagermans see a role for the suburbs of Flint, including Fenton. “Our goal is to have a vibrant Flint. We need to bring suburban residents back to Flint for entertainment, theater, sports, restaurants, etc., instead of going to Detroit and Brighton. Flint used to be the city in our ‘backyard’ where we did all our shopping and entertainment. Now we need to start bringing the suburbs back into Flint.”

CAPITOL THEATRE RENOVATION IS JUST THE BEGINNING
One example that the Hagermans are very excited about is the $25 million renovation of the Capitol Theatre downtown. Another is the Dryden building. “We’re just finishing the renovations,” said Phil. “It looks like Silicon Valley here in downtown Flint. We’re looking at these buildings as a ‘business incubator’ for growing and developing new businesses. Flint has also become a college town, with many projects heavily involving UM-Flint, Kettering and MSU.”

Restaurants continue to be a huge draw to Flint’s resurgence downtown. “All the restaurants on Saginaw Street have healthy water,” said Phil. “It’s continually being tested.”

WATCH FLINT UNFOLD FIVE YEARS FROM NOW
The Hagermans are committed to helping Flint through this crisis and taking it to its next level. “It’s happening now,” said Phil. “Flint’s resurgence is an ongoing story. Over the next two to three years, the Flint downtown area will show tremendous growth and development. In addition to the Capitol Theatre, a hotel, an expanded UM-Flint and Kettering University, a re-built Flint River for wading and kayaking, semi-pro sports teams and other projects will give the downtown a unique urban feel.”

“There are also many projects on-going now to remove blighted buildings and add green space that I believe will expand with the resources the water crisis has brought to the community. The city recently redeveloped its overall Master Plan, updating a plan that was 50 years old. The new plan encompasses all areas of the city. Watch it unfold five years from now.”

TOM SHADE, CPA, CGMA

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Supe’s Exotic Jungle owners to seek proper approvals

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Family will go before Tyrone Township Planning Commission within two months

According to Tyrone Township Supervisor Mike Cunningham, because no permits were ever requested or granted for this business, an enforcement letter was sent last week to Brent and David Barrick, owners of the property and Supe’s Exotic Jungle.

The owners met with Cunningham Monday morning. He said they were unaware that a permit was required.

According to Cunningham, the owners were instructed to complete an application and pay the fees needed to conduct a review and schedule an appointment before the Tyrone Township Planning Commission.

Because the township has never faced a situation like this and there is nothing on the books to address it, Cunningham said a subcommittee will be convened to determine what needs to be done to either allow or prohibit an exotic zoo from operating in Tyrone Township.

The entire process could take up a couple of months, Cunningham said.

“We are not going to have them cease operations since they responded right away,” he said. “As long as they show they intend to be compliant …”

Brent Barrick said, “We carefully chose all our animals based on the Tyrone Township ordinances regarding animal ownership, and simply did not realize that we needed a special land use permit to operate our tours and shows.

“We do not own or plan to own any dangerous animals and our animals receive the best possible care, including having an exotic animal vet on call 24/7.

“The vast majority of our animals were raised by us and we chose the species based on their temperament and ability to be safely displayed to the public and children,” said Barrick.

Barrick said Supe’s Exotic Jungle is focused completely on education and safe, fun interactions with animals from around the world.

“Photos of our animals are available online and I hope we are able to put anyone’s concerns at ease when we meet with the Planning Commission,” he said.

Supe’s Exotic Jungle offers traveling presentations for classrooms, summer camps, parties and special events.

The Tyrone Township “jungle” is home to a shark, stingray and starfish, which people can touch in the new 1,000-gallon touch pool. There also is a live coral reef.

Supe’s is home to the world’s largest porcupine,” Oliver the wallaby, and “the emu gang.” They also have a lemur, parrot, many reptiles, including very large snakes and amphibians. These are in addition to farm animals in the barnyard.

According to supesj.com, “Our shows are an up-close, hands-on experience your students or guests will never forget.

Our discussion focuses on adaptations and the diversity of life, and our diverse collection allows for endless learning possibilities.”

Not only will Supe’s Exotic Jungle come to you, they have on-site parties on the Hartland Road property. For $300, they will accommodate up to 15 guests.

Owners have shown they are USDA-licensed and fully insured.

Regarding any state of Michigan regulations, owner Brent Barrick said, the Michigan Department of Agriculture verified for him that Supe’s Exotic Jungle does not need a state license for the type of animals and business they have. Any future animals they bring into the state would need a veterinarian’s certificate but there is nothing required unless they add to their collection from out of state in the future.

Because Supe’s is reported to be in good standing with the USDA, they are going above and beyond the state requirements for proper care as the USDA has higher standards for that than the state does.

Barrick has a USDA Class C Exhibitor License, and insurance that covers up to $1 million for each occurrence, if there was an issue with someone being injured by an animal.

“This insurance is separate from our homeowner insurance and covers us when we do traveling shows as well as on-site activities,” he said.

Supe’s is a completely family owned and operated business. Barrick, his wife and son are the only people who work with animals and customers at this time.

Barrick has five years experience working for the Detroit Zoo in the Education Department, which has allowed him to set things up in a manner that rather bridges the gap between a petting farm and a zoo.
The Cleaning Authority celebrates 15 years

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

George W. Bush was President. Destiny’s Child topped the Billboard pop charts and “Gladiator” won an Oscar for Best Picture.

The year was 2001, the year that Sherri McArthur opened The Cleaning Authority, the first professional housecleaning franchise in the Fenton area.

“I can’t believe it’s been 15 years,” said McArthur. “We’ve grown every year since we first started. Our mission continues to be to offer the best residential cleaning in the area, with professionally trained employees.”

Serving more than 520 regular accounts, plus a number of one-time and occasional cleaning jobs, The Cleaning Authority boasts a team of 36 professional housecleaners, three office staff and McArthur herself. “We run 12 to 13 teams every day, cleaning three to five houses a day in Fenton, Linden, Holly, Swartz Creek, Grand Blanc, Highland, Milford, New Hudson, Howell and Brighton,” she said.

Pleased with her company’s growth, McArthur has outgrown her current offices at 133 North River St. in Fenton, and is looking for a new location. She appreciates the trust that homeowners, judges, police officers and attorneys place in her staff. “It’s because of our emphasis on integrity, honesty, training and procedures,” said McArthur.

The Cleaning Authority is pleased to give back to the community, by offering “Clean for a Reason,” free cleanings for clients fighting cancer, plus supporting schools, churches, the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, and Christmas in Action, to name a few.

“We watch for our open house late this summer or early fall,” said McArthur. To reach The Cleaning Authority, call (810) 629-9251.

*May be able to work with other organizations to waive this qualification

TO QUALIFY FOR AN APPOINTMENT:

- 60 years old and older
- Own single family home
- Reside in Fenton, Linden, Argentine Twp. or Tyrone Twp.
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- Property taxes to be current
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The Funeral of Justice Scalia

PRESIDENT OBAMA ATTENDED the funeral because his presence at the visitation for Justice Scalia rather than the King's funeral would have been a distraction.

The funeral was at the home of Justice Scalia's daughter in Northern Virginia.

IS THIS IRONY? Chelsea Clinton's father-in-law is Ed Mezvinsky. He was a Democratic congressman from 1973 to 1981 and on the Committee that indicted Nixon. In 2001, Ed was convicted of bank fraud and did time and still owes $9 million. Will he attend Hillary's funeral because his presence at the funeral would have been a distraction.

THE KING ISN'T gone, he is his same old pompous-ass self in the Midweek edition of the Times. Subscribe and you will get it. Don't subscribe and soon Fenton, Holly and Linden will have no newspaper. I am a proud supporter, reader and subscriber to my hometown newspaper.

NO ONE WANTS to take your stuff. What we want is a system that enables the middle class to grow and the people living in poverty to shrink. This benefits everyone, even the rich, because the middle class needs, and buys, stuff. Everyone needs to contribute their fair share, and people need to be paid a living wage.

DEAR MITT, I’VE found someone new. I’m breaking up with you. I want a fight-er, not a loser. So please stop calling, I’m not interested anymore. Sincerely, Upset Voter.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS ARE needed on Owen Road: one at Alloy Drive and one at Goodwill. You can’t turn left onto Owen Road many times of the day. I waited 15 minutes today to turn left and finally turned right and turned around. I also watched a close call when someone came out of Goodwill and turned left in front of an oncoming car.
David A. Sunday, March 13, 2016

LOOKING BACK IN NATIONAL HISTORY

MARCH 13

1942: The Quartermaster Corps (QMC) of the United States Army begins training dogs for the newly established War Dog Program, or “K-9 Corps.” Well over a million dogs served on both sides during World War II, carrying messages along the complex network of trenches and providing some measure of psychological comfort to the soldiers. The most famous dog to emerge from the war was Rin Tin Tin, an abandoned puppy of German war dogs found in France in 1918 and taken to the United States, where he made his film debut in the 1922 silent film.

MARCH 14

1879: Albert Einstein is born, the son of a Jewish electrical engineer in Ulm, Germany. Einstein’s theories of special and general relativity drastically altered man’s view of the universe, and his work in particle and energy theory helped make possible quantum mechanics and, ultimately, the atomic bomb.

MARCH 15

1965: President Lyndon B. Johnson addresses a joint session of Congress to urge the passage of legislation guaranteeing voting rights for all. Using the phrase “we shall overcome,” borrowed from African-American leaders struggling for equal rights, Johnson declared that “every American citizen must have an equal right to vote.”

MARCH 16

2005: After a three-month-long criminal trial in Los Angeles Superior Court, a jury acquits Robert Blake, star of the 1970s television detective show “Baretta,” of the murder of his 44-year-old wife, Bonnie Lee Bakley. During his criminal trial, On May 4, 2001, Bakley was shot to death as she sat in a car outside a Los Angeles restaurant. Blake was arrested for the murder. The jury concluded that the prosecution had failed to place the murderer weapon in Blake’s hands.

MARCH 17

2000: With the movie “Erin Brockovich,” released on this day, Julia Roberts becomes the first actress ever to command $20 million per movie. The film is based on the true story of a single mother who takes her way into an administrative job at a law firm. She soon discovers that a California energy company had poisoned the ground water around one of its plants, causing hundreds of people to contract cancer. The case ends in a record $333 million settlement. By that time, $20 million had become the standard paycheck for Hollywood’s A-list male movie stars, including Mel Gibson, Tom Hanks, Tom Cruise and Sylvester Stallone, among others.

MARCH 18

1999: The bodies of Carole Sund and Silvina Pelosso are found in a charred rental car in a remote wooded area of Long Barn, California. The women, along with Sund’s daughter, Jul, who had been missing since February when they were last seen alive at the Cedar Lodge near Yosemite National Park. Jul Sund’s body was found 30 miles away a week after the car was found. Compounding the mystery, Carole Sund’s wallet had been found on a street in downtown Modesto, California, three days after they had disappeared.

MARCH 19

2003: The United States, along with coalition forces primarily from the United Kingdom, initiates wars on Iraq. Just after explosions began to rock Baghdad, Iraq’s capital, U.S. President George W. Bush announced in a televised address, “At this hour, American and coalition forces are in the early stages of military operations to disarm Iraq, to free its people and to defend the world from grave danger.”

Social News

BIRTHDAY

Marian Lewis celebrates 90th birthday

Marian Lewis of Bradenton, Florida celebrated her 90th birthday on March 9, 2016. Mrs. Lewis was born in Yuma, Michigan and attended Mesick Schools. She was married to the late Daniel Lewis for 65 years and the two raised four children together, Denise (Ned) Barton of Mission, Texas, Debra Iben of Palmetto, Florida, Kathy (Robert) Burgess of Fenton and the late Michael Lewis; six grandchildren; six great grandchildren; and two on the way. She was an avid bridge player and enjoyed playing golf. The family celebrated her birthday with flowers and cake with some residents of the memorial unit where she resides. Please feel free to send Marian birthday wishes to: Retirement/Auxiliary Living Facility, Memory Unit 3409 26th St. W., Bradenton, FL 34205.
Lady Tigers’ state tournament run ends in regional finals

Fenton’s run for first-ever Class A regional title falls one bucket short vs. Port Huron Northern

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

Grand Blanc — The Lady Tigers had their chances to come out of Grand Blanc High School as a Class A girls basketball regional champion. The Tigers led for most of the contest. They held Port Huron Northern to just 13 points in the opening half. And as late as with 1:37 left in the contest, the Tigers were tied with the Huskies at 38-all.

However, the Fenton Tigers strong postseason run fell just a tiny bit short of the regional championship, losing in the finals by a tight 40-38 verdict against Port Huron Northern on Thursday.

The loss means the Lady Tigers ended their strong season with an 18-7 overall record. This marked the first time in school history the Tigers played in a Class A regional title game.

“The season was amazing,” senior Madison Shegos said. “We came this far. You may have relapses (during the season) but then you pick it up. Overall, I think it was a wonderful season. I didn’t notice (we could have a strong postseason run) until the middle of the year. Chloe Idoni and Sarah Cummings and everyone was meshing together well and that’s when I realized we really did have a good team.”

“It means a lot going as far as we did and making history my senior year,” Cummings said. “It’s something we’ve never done before and I’m just lucky to be a part of it.

“From the beginning we knew we had talent. We just had to find a way to put it together and we ended up doing that during the regular season. We came into the playoffs pretty strong. We did all we could. I felt like we could’ve won this game, but we put it all on the floor, and at the end of the day, that’s all that counts.”

“We talk to the girls about how do you want to be remembered as a basketball player in the program … and the seniors this year and the team led by the seniors took the program to the next level,” Fenton coach Becki Moore said. “Getting that regional (semifinal) win and being a basket away from a regional title — that’s the next step.”

“We talk about our senior Madison Shegos said. “We came this far. You may have relapses (during the season) but then you pick it up. Overall, I think it was a wonderful season.

“We all contributed to the team and that’s the only way I could’ve gotten that many points,” Idoni said. “It was because of the team effort. We had to be patient with the ball. We can’t rush things. Things will get open, and we’ll eventually score if we don’t hurry it.”

The Tigers worked for smart shots all game long, resulting in a sizzling 20-for-39

See CLASS A on 20A

Idoni’s 32 points leads Fenton past Stoney Creek in semis

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

Grand Blanc — The Fenton Lady Tigers knew they couldn’t get into a full-court pressing battle with Stoney Creek in their Class A girls basketball regional semifinal contest at Grand Blanc High School on Tuesday.

So, they did just the opposite.

The Tigers figured out a way to force Stoney Creek to play a more deliberate halfcourt game, while Fenton’s offense was patient with the ball on their offensive side of the court. The Tigers worked for good shots, and frequently got them, sparking a 58-46 Fenton victory.

Nobody benefited from the game plan on the offensive side of the court more than Fenton’s freshman Chloe Idoni. The post player worked for good inside position all game long. And while she did that, her teammates were able to work the ball to her with quality entry passes to her, enabling Idoni to end the contest with a career-high 32 points. There was no stopping Idoni all night long, particularly in the second half when she netted 21 of her points.

“We all contributed to the team and that’s the only way I could’ve gotten that many points,” Idoni said. “It was because of the team effort. We had to be patient with the ball. We can’t rush things. Things will get open, and we’ll eventually score if we don’t hurry it.”

The Tigers worked for smart shots all game long, resulting in a sizzling 20-for-39

See IDONI’S on 20A

See CLASS A on 20A

Call 810-433-6822 to get your video started today.
LFLF gymnastics team enjoying second-season success

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

Linden — Sometimes it’s hard to remember the Linden/Lake Fenton/Fenton co-op gymnastics team is only a second-year program.

That’s because they are getting results one would expect out of a well established squad. When the regular season of gymnastics meet begins on Saturday, the second-year program will have its share of representation at the event, with four girls earning event state invites and two earning all-around state tourney bids.

And how close did the second-year program get from qualifying for the state meet as a complete team? They missed it by .025 points. It took a team score of 140.00 to earn an automatic bid to the state meet this season, but the LFLF squad scored a 139.975. The team is pleased with how quickly they’ve become a quality program, but really wished they made up that tiny difference.

“We got our highest score ever at regionals, and we were .025 away from qualifying (as a team),” regional all-around champion gymnast Blake Hutchings said. “It was really irritating not to get it, but we’ll get it next year.”

“I think we are all proud because we almost made a 140 and we got our record for our team,” said all-around state qualifier Miranda Stephens. “We are all See LFLF on 20A

Lake Fenton’s A.J. Geyer (left) battles with Perry’s Anthony Gallagher during the Division 3, 103-pound state championship match. Geyer lost the match 2-0 and finished second in the state.

Many other tri-county wrestlers place at state meet

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

Grand Blanc — During his freshman season, Lake Fenton’s A.J. Geyer’s state tournament trip wasn’t terribly long. He was done on the second day and didn’t place.

His sophomore season’s trip was a bit more eventful.

The Lake Fenton 103-pounder advanced to the Division 3 individual wrestling state championship match in his weight class, facing Perry’s Anthony Gallagher. The pair had wrestled three other times, all won by Gallagher in tight decisions. The pattern continued on Saturday as Geyer lost a 2-0 decision at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

There wasn’t much separating the pair on Saturday. All Gallagher recorded was an escape point and another point on a Geyer violation. However, Geyer wasn’t ever able to record a point, enabling Gallagher to earn the title.

Geyer is excited about his future.

“I am going to spend more time wrestling over the summer,” Geyer said. “I want to get in a lot more training and, hopefully, I’m going to get a lot better next year.”

The Blue Devils had four other wrestlers who placed who didn’t compete in the state championship match in Division 3. In Division 2, Holly had three placers and Linden had one.

Two area wrestlers finished with third-place results. Lake Fenton’s Devon Melick (135) defeated Dundee’s Tyler Orrison 3-1 in his third-place match. All Gallagher recorders were third-place results. Lake Fenton’s Devan Melick (135) defeated Dundee’s Tyler Orrison 14-4 to earn third place. During his run, he had to defeat teammate Scan Trombley (135) in order to get to the third-place match. Trombley finished fifth.

Linden’s Dawson Blank was the area’s top D2 competitor, placing third at 145 pounds. He defeated Comstock Park’s Tyler Brewer 3-1 in his third-place match.

Other Division 2 placers were Holly’s Jimmy Gray (215) in fifth, Colton Cleaver (152) in seventh and Mitch Nelson (125) in eighth.

Lake Fenton’s other placers were Hunter Corcoran (125) in fourth, and Jackson Nevadomski (140) in fifth.

Holly suffers third loss of season vs. Blackhawks

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

One has to wonder if the Holly varsity boys basketball team played the Brandon Blackhawks 100 times this season if there would be 100 similar games. After three contests, the trend never changed.

In each game the Holly Bronchos fell behind early, made a great run to get back into the game during the second half, but ultimately would fall short as the Blackhawks celebrated a victory.

The third time the pattern followed itself was Wednesday in the Class A district held at Grand Blanc High School. Brandon ousted Holly 25-9 in the second quarter and took a 45-28 lead into halftime and left Grand Blanc with a 73-68 victory.

Holly (14-7) cut the gap to within four late, but Brandon’s DeShawn Jackson hit two free throws, putting Brandon

See HOLLY on 19A
Blue Devils headed to Class B district final, beat Goodrich

By David Troppens

droppens@tctimes.com

Durand — No buzzer-beating shots were needed against Goodrich on Wednesday.

Instead, the Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team handed the Martians a pretty good beat down when the squads faced for the third time this season in the Class B district semifinals at Durand High School on Wednesday.

The Blue Devils avenged last season’s district loss to Goodrich by handily defeating the Martians 64-49 in what was Lake Fenton’s second straight impressive district tourney victory in three days.

Lake Fenton played Powers in the district title game on Friday.

The last two times the Blue Devils played Goodrich this season, Lake Fenton (19-3) came out on top as well, but each time they had to overcome double-digit deficits in the second half before earning thrilling buzzer-beating victories.

This time, a buzzer-beating win was never going to happen based on how impressively the Blue Devils discarded of Goodrich.

“It feels great,” Lake Fenton senior Jon Sanders said. “They beat us last year in the district championship and it feels good to come back and blow them out.

“We played four quarters. The first time we played Goodrich the first three quarters were not so good, but (Jake Zielinski) hit a buzzer-beater. The second game we came out strong but the second quarter killed us. But then we out-scored them in the third and fourth quarter. This time we played four quarters.”

“This team competes hard every single practice,” Lake Fenton’s Isaac Golson said. “We get here and it’s the championship game. It’s in our blood and we know it’s time to win. We know it is win or go home. We have to play hard.”

The Blue Devils were an impressive unit. Goodrich held a slight 13-11 lead after one quarter and had the lead up to 15-11 early in the second quarter after a putback hoop by Landin Mitchell with 6:49 left in the half. However, from that point on, the Blue Devils took over. About 20 seconds later, Golson assisted a Sanders post hoop, and only about 40 seconds later, Sanders assisted a Jalen Miller layup, tying the contest at 15-all. Lake Fenton was starting to take over. The last time Goodrich led was at 19-18 with 4:00 left in the half on a Mitchell layup, but a Golson putback hoop started a 9-3 run, assuring the Blue Devils led 27-22 at halftime.

Goodrich closed the Lake Fenton gap to 27-25 with a Carrington Wiggins’ three-pointer, but an Andrew Foerster putback hoop sparked a string of nine straight points. The first two came on a layup and the other four came on layups off assists by Cameron Jackson and Golson. The Blue Devils led 51-31 with 6:32 left and cruised the rest of the way.

“You can tell the difference, it’s the second straight impressive district victory,” Lake Fenton coach Jake Erway said. “They were focused for 32 minutes.”

Miller led a balanced Lake Fenton scoring attack with 15 points and five rebounds while Foerster had 14 points and nine rebounds. Golson finished with 13 points and seven rebounds while Sanders had 12 points. Chris Bell finished with eight points and eight rebounds. Lake Fenton hit 26-of-56 from the floor.

Lake Fenton’s Chris Bell (right) attempts to swipe at the ball during the Blue Devils’ 64-49 win against the Goodrich Martians in Lake Fenton’s Class B regional semifinal game at Durand High School.

Lake Fenton points, blowing the game open. Miller earned a steal and a breaking layup to cap the run, putting Lake Fenton up 36-25 with 5:18 left in the half. From that point, the Martians never cut Lake Fenton’s lead back into single-digits.

With Lake Fenton leading 45-31 entering the final quarter, Sanders pretty much assured Goodrich wasn’t going to make any charge by scoring the period’s first six points. The first two came on a layup and the other four came on layups off assists by Cameron Jackson and Golson. The Blue Devils led 51-31 with 6:32 left and cruised the rest of the way.

“You can tell the difference, it’s 32 minutes now as opposed to two minutes now, not focused for four minutes and then focus again for four minutes,” Lake Fenton coach Jake Erway said. “They were focused for 32 minutes.”

HOLLY

Continued from Page 18A

up 69-63 with 38.9 seconds left. If those free throws didn’t ice the victory, then a layup by Luke Rekuta did.

“It was identical to the first two Brandon games,” Holly coach Lance Baylis said. “The first game we were down 13 in the first half, made a mad rush to cut it to two and lost by seven. The second game we were down 15 but cut it to three points with three minutes left. This time we were down 17 at half and cut it to four, but couldn’t get over the hump.

“Like a lot of games this year, we had a hard time in the first half. We had no effort in the first half. Our feet were on the floor. In the second half we had tremendous effort. That was pretty much the story of the season.”

Kyle Woodruff capped his Holly career with a game-high 26 points, giving him 1,171 points for his career. He also had six rebounds. Adam Tooley also saw his varsity career end, netting 14 points, five rebounds and four steals. Fellow senior Ian Hodges was limited to just two points. The other seniors who saw their careers end on Wednesday were Steven Redmond and Blake Stafline.

“We have five seniors graduating and they are all outstanding citizens,” Baylis said. “They were fun guys to coach and provided some of the great moments at the school.”

One key returning player to next season’s squad will be Paris Partee. The junior had 12 points and nine rebounds.

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Times
IDONI’S
Continued from Page 17A
shooting performance from the floor. Idoni scored the bulk of the points, but when asked others made shots as well. Sarahay Cummings finished with 12 points, including eight in the first half. Maddie Carr had only five points, but she had one of the game’s biggest buckets. Off an Aly Lenz pass, she hit a three-pointer at the buzzer, increasing what was a 30-22 lead to 33-22 entering halftime.

“I think the kids stuck with the game plan,” Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Becki Moore said. “Maddie Carr really controlled the tempo out front. Sarah took care of the ball bringing it up to help keep that press. Idoni had it in the middle. They just stuck with the game plan and didn’t panic. We tried to control the tempo. We knew we couldn’t play their tempo so the kids stuck with the game plan, and that’s the bottom line.”

Fenton had control of the game throughout and never trailed. The Tigers jumped out to an 11-3 lead, making it that margin on an Idoni assist of a mid-range jumper converted by Chloee Foor with 2:56 left in the quarter with a 6-3 run, closing Fenton’s lead to single-digits.

The Tigers opened the second half with a conventional three-point play by Idoni and a six-foot bucket by Cummings, establishing a 38-22 Fenton lead. Stoney Creek wasn’t able to come back, never getting Fenton’s lead to single-digits.

Cummings had 10 rebounds, two steals and a block to go with her 12 points, while Idoni had eight rebounds. Madison Shegos collected six rebounds and Mowery had five. Foor had three assists.

Creek broke the Fenton lead to single-digits frequently, mainly due to some strong perimeter shooting. The closest Stoney Creek got in the rest of the first half was at 28-22 on a three-pointer by Emma Eckhout with 45 seconds left in the half, but Fenton responded when Idoni converted two free throws and then with Carr’s three-pointer at the halftime buzzer. What looked like was becoming a close game suddenly became a 33-22 halftime lead for Fenton.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Fenton’s Chloe Idoni dives to the floor for a loose ball in the Tigers’ 58-46 victory against Stoney Creek on Tuesday.

Creek opened the fourth quarter with an 11-2 run, giving the Huskies a 39-37 lead with 4:38 left in the contest. From there, the Tigers never saw the lead again. They did tie it at 38-all after a Maddie Carr three-pointer with 1:37 left in the contest, but Klink responded with a hoop, giving Northern a 40-38 lead with 1:10 left.

Fenton had a couple of attempts to either tie the contest or take the lead. One came on a three-pointer by Cummings with 13 seconds, but the shot didn’t fall. Then with one more possession left, the Tigers lost control of the ball and ended up having an inbound pass from about two-thirds down the court. There was no shot at the buzzer and Northern won 40-38.

“We had our chances,” Moore said. “We fought like crazy tonight. A couple of bounces here and there and who knows. We fought, fought and fought. They never quit. They didn’t give up.”

Chloee Foor finished with 12 points, six rebounds and three blocks, while Lenz had nine points, all from behind the three-point arc. Cummings had her career with four points, six rebounds, three blocks and two steals.

The team’s other senior was Alexis Brissette. Shegos had two points, five rebounds and a steal, while fellow senior Chloee Foor had four points.

The Tigers defense was strong for the first three quarters of the game. Port Huron Northern hit on just 5-of-21 shots and turned the ball over 11 times during the opening half. Fenton held its foes to just 13 halftime points. The Tigers’ offense wasn’t setting the world on fire either, but it was getting some additional production enabling the Tigers to muster out a decent lead. At one time the Tigers’ lead grew to 15-6 with 5:55 left in the opening half after a post lay in by Idoni. However, Port Huron Northern capped the half with a 7-2 run with the final three coming on a Sami Klink three-pointer late in the half, cutting Fenton’s lead to 17-13 at the break.

Whatever troubles Port Huron Northern had in the opening half seemingly ended in the third quarter, as the Huskies netted six field goals, including three treys. Fenton still led 28-23 after an Aly Lenz three-pointer, but Northern capped the quarter with a 6-3 run, closing the Fenton lead to 31-29 entering the fourth.

The fourth quarter started with a 7-0 Port Huron Northern run, giving the Huskies a 38-31 lead with 4:38 left in the contest. From there, the Tigers never saw the lead again. They did tie it at 38-all after a Maddie Carr three-pointer with 1:37 left in the contest, but Klink responded with a hoop, giving Northern a 40-38 lead with 1:10 left.

Fenton had a couple of attempts to either tie the contest or take the lead. One came on a three-pointer by Cummings with 13 seconds, but the shot didn’t fall. Then with one more possession left, the Tigers lost control of the ball and ended up having an inbound pass from about two-thirds down the court. There was no shot at the buzzer and Northern won 40-38.

“We had our chances,” Moore said. “We fought like crazy tonight. A couple of bounces here and there and who knows. We fought, fought and fought. They never quit. They didn’t give up.”

Chloee Foor finished with 12 points, six rebounds and three blocks, while Lenz had nine points, all from behind the three-point arc. Cummings had her career with four points, six rebounds, three blocks and two steals. Shegos had two points, five rebounds and a steal, while fellow senior Chloee Foor had four points.

The team’s other senior was Alexis Brissette.
FUNNY HOW DEMOCRATIC Socialists only point to Europe when listing socialist countries. Here are more examples of Democratic Socialist countries: Cuba, Zimbabwe, Venezuela, North Korea, Syria, Burundi, Somalia, Sudan, Libya, Cambodia, etc. Democratic Socialism is just a precursor to Communist enslavement of the people.

TO THE PERSON who was so happy with their socialist lifestyle — why didn’t you just stay there?

EVEN IF YOU are not a Trump fan, you have to acknowledge all the commotion among the politicians. Like a fox entering a hen house, the feathers are flying and tremendous squawking is being heard through the land. Foul mouth because he is not a polished politician — good or bad?

MY DAUGHTER LIVES in Flint. They pay $18 for water, $50 for sewer and $50 for capped sewers (not in use) for $118 per month total. Any discount rate the state is going to help on the water bill will be on the $18. The people will still pay the $100.

WE WOULD LIKE to thank whoever picked up our tab at Big Boy’s restaurant in Fenton, on Tuesday. What a nice surprise. We will pass it on so that someone else will have a special day too. Thank you so much.

SORRY ANDREW HELLER, you aren’t cutting it with me. Hail to the King.

HAS ANYONE ELSE been getting charged late fees from Argentine Township when you mail your bill in at least a week early?

WHAT GENIUS CAME up with the ballot for yesterday’s election? Why couldn’t they put both parties on the same ballot? I had to declare my party in front of all of my neighbors yesterday. Whatever happened to casting your ballot privately?

The 1322 The G.R.A.Y.T. Leviathons robotics team shows off its Chairman’s Award banner last weekend during a competition at Kettering University in Flint. The team will now compete in the state championship in April.

Local robotics team heads to state tourney

Four area teams have strong showing at Kettering University competition

Four local robotic teams competed last weekend at Kettering University in Flint. Teams 1322 The G.R.A.Y.T. Leviathons, 3568 The Linden RoboEagles, 5114 The Fenton Titanium Tigers and 5641 The Byron Eagles came ready to compete and did very well.

This year’s game was called Stronghold. The object of the game was to capture your opponent’s castle by breaking down their defenses. Teams can also score points by delivering boulders through goals on the tower.

 Teams 1322, 3568 and 5114 all made it into the playoffs as each of them were selected by another team to aid them during the final rounds. Following the playoffs, team 5114 was awarded both the Safety Award and the Entrepreneur Award for their business plan. Team 3568 was a runner up for the Safety Award.

Team 1322 was awarded the highest honor of all 40 teams with the Chairman’s Award. They also won this honor last year as well. The award is dedicated to a team that FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) calls, “The most prestigious award at FIRST, it honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST. This award also comes with a trip to the State Championship in April.

The 1322 The G.R.A.Y.T. Leviathons team consists of 21 high school age students plus 13 mentors.

FIRST is designed for all students. Students don’t have to just build a robot, they may also program the robot, market teams, create business plans, art, CADD, write essays and take photos.

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HOURS: Mon- Sat 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Tyrone Township home destroyed by fire Friday

No residents home, but two dogs and one cat perish in fire

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

Tyrone Twp. — A home on Lee Jones Road, west of Nymphie Street in Tyrone Township was destroyed by fire Friday morning.

Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz said the fire department responded to the structure fire at 9:44 a.m. In addition, Fenton City and Hartland Township fire departments responded with tanker trucks and manpower.

Volz said by the time they got word of the fire, the home was fully engulfed in flames. He was not sure who called 911 to report the fire. No one was home at the time.

Crews were still on scene at 12 p.m. knocking down the rest of charred areas. The insurance company will be heading out to investigate the cause and origin. Volz said two dogs, one of which was a puppy, as well as a cat were lost in the fire.

The homeowner reacts to her home on Lee Jones Road in Tyrone Township burning down, with three pets inside. She and her cousin watched as Fenton Township and Fenton City firefighters contained the blaze on Friday morning. The fire started inside the home at approximately 9:30 a.m., though the cause is not yet known. No one was home when the fire started. See more photos at tctimes.com.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGELO

Health of killer whale deteriorating

Tilikum, the 12,000-pound orca whale that fatally injured Dawn Brancheau on Feb. 24, 2010, is currently being treated for what is believed to be a bacterial infection in his lungs, according to SeaWorldCares.com.

Trainers report that the killer whale has become increasingly lethargic, and the SeaWorld veterinary and animal care teams are concerned that his health is beginning to deteriorate.

Brancheau, the 40-year-old veteran trainer who worked at SeaWorld in Orlando drowned when Tilikum pulled her into the training pool by her long ponytail.

Brancheau’s husband, Scott, is the son of John and Terry Brancheau of Fenton Township.

Brancheau’s in-laws said after the accident that their daughter-in-law loved what she did and working with the creatures was a life-long dream of hers.

She had wanted to work at SeaWorld ever since visiting the theme park when she was just 9 years old.

Tilikum was one of the largest orca whales kept in captivity, weighing in at approximately 12,000 pounds. He came to Sea World Orlando from Canada in 1983. Based on his size at that time, veterinarians estimated he was approximately 35 years old, which is near the high end of the average life expectancy for male killer whales. He is approximately 68 years old now.

According to SeaWorldCares.com, despite the best care available, like all aging animals, he battles chronic health issues that are taking a greater toll as he ages.

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited SeaWorld for multiple safety violations, including one classified as “willful,” a $75,000 fine in August 2010.

Tilikum was also involved in the death of an animal trainer in 1991, at a park in Canada.
Area election results don’t mirror statewide outcome

By Vera Hogan
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Republican Presidential Candidate Donald Trump may have walked away Tuesday with a win in Michigan. He did not, however, garner that win from voters in Genesee and Oakland counties.

In Oakland County, Democrat Hillary Clinton was the top vote-getter with 92,296, followed by Democrat Bernie Sanders with 84,158. Trump received 69,399 of the Oakland County votes, followed closely by John Kasich with 61,053. Ted Cruz received 33,634 of the Oakland County votes. Marco Rubio trailed the Republican front-runners with 18,536 votes in Oakland County.

Clinton and Sanders’ votes soared over the Republicans too, in Genesee County. Clinton received a total of 31,284 votes, followed closely by Sanders with 28,117. Trump received 16,756 votes in Genesee County, followed by Cruz with 9,824, Kasich with 7,730 and Rubio, with 3,630.

Trump was the clear winner in Livingston County, getting 15,359 votes. He was trailed by Kasich with 9,383 votes. Cruz came in a very close third with 9,324 votes. Rubio trailed with 3,340 votes.

Sanders zoomed past Clinton in Livingston County, garnering 10,435 votes while Clinton received 6,705.

(See sidebar/graph for total votes in local communities.)
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