

Who determines 'snow days' at area schools?

■ Factors include temperature, wind chill, conditions of roads

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

One snow day down, five to go.

On Sunday, Dec. 11, superintendents for Fenton, Linden, Lake Fenton and Holly schools called for a snow day on Monday, Dec. 12, to the delight of many students and teachers. Many counties received over 10 inches of snow on

Sunday and throughout Sunday night into early Monday morning, according to abc12.com.

This year, local school districts are allowed to have up to five more snow days without having to make up the time.

See 'SNOW DAYS' on 9



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

PAGE 3
**LINDEN FOLLIES
RAISES MORE
THAN \$7,200**

Midweek Times

\$1.00

Linden to save \$20,000 on health care

■ City opts out of 80/20 option for employees

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com

810-433-6792

Linden — The Linden City Council unanimously voted to opt out of an 80/20 health care plan for its employees after reducing health care costs by approximately \$20,000 this year.

Linden City Manager Paul Zelenak said a few years ago, the state claimed that municipal health care costs were too high, and that local governments were offering too expensive of plans to its employees. State legislators set a hard cap for how much they thought government should spend on health care under Public Act 152.

If the city does not comply with the hard cap or the 80/20 option, they must report it to the state — and the city could lose potential state funds. The city has chosen to opt out the past

See **HEALTH CARE** on 9



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELLO

All work and 'snow' play — Sales consultants from Randy Wise Buick GMC of Fenton are responsible for clearing the snow from the 700 vehicles on the lot Monday morning. They clear the cars, warm them up, move them so the area can be plowed, and then move them back. Center is Joe Soper. Back left is Charlie Burgess, and back right is Ron Miller.

Fatal accident on Torrey Rd. claims life of Flint woman

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Ashley Herriman, 34, was killed in a crash on Torrey Road, between Baldwin and Cook roads in Mundy Township Saturday night at about 11 p.m.

Police say Herriman's vehicle crossed the center-line, hitting head on a Jeep driven by a 53-year-old Holly woman.

Herriman died at the scene of the accident. The Holly woman was taken to Genesys Health Park and is expected to recover.

Police are still investigating the cause of the accident.

Torrey Road was closed for several hours following

See **FATAL ACCIDENT** on 9

Fenton eye doctor dies suddenly

■ Doran Kasper was DDA member and former Fenton City councilman

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Dr. E. Doran Kasper, died suddenly on Sunday, Dec. 11. He was 73 years old.

Kasper's Family Eye Care & Contact Lenses has been at the same Caroline Street location

in downtown Fenton since 1970.

A few years ago, he said, "Without a doubt, the most rewarding experience of being in practice in Fenton has been serving the many generations of wonderful families in the area. I have learned so much from my patients over the years that could never be taught in a classroom."

In addition to his optometry practice, See **FENTON EYE DOCTOR** on 9



Dr. E. Doran Kasper

TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE

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“To the Hot-liner who named the best and worst presidents of our 'lifetimes.' It is just your 'opinion,' not fact. You claim Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Polk were presidents during your lifetime therefore I will attribute your poor judgment to the fact that you are 250 years of age.”



“Funny how liberals want Obama to pardon Clinton while at the exact same time claiming she committed no crimes.”

“The Hillary haters are still at it in the Hot lines. I personally think Hillary is a much better person than Donald Trump. Give it a rest, folks. Hate is bad for the soul.”



COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“To the Sparty complaining Michigan's coach can't win the big one, I've got two numbers for you — 38 and zero. Don't choke on your humble pie like your team did last year.”



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PUPPIES & KITTENS

may not make great Christmas presents

■ It's better to get to know an animal before bringing it into your house

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

It may be the most wonderful time of the year — but it can quickly become the worst if you decide to surprise your family with a pet for Christmas.

Holiday movies, television programs and advertisements give the impression that the best time to give or get a new pet is under the tree on Christmas morning.

Who can resist little puppies and kittens, under the Christmas tree, decked out in big, colorful ribbons? But what we are really seeing is a very well orchestrated and edited best case scenario.

Not all Christmas pets live up to the hype, and bringing a new animal into the home during such an exciting holiday can be just the opposite of a positive beginning, according to petmd.com.

Many people feel that the happiest way to present a new pet is by surprise, but the last thing you want is a frightened, cowering little animal that is overwhelmed by the kids' squeals of excitement and fighting each other for a chance to hold it.

Christmas morning is an especially chaotic time, with everyone tearing into gifts, hazardous (to little animals) strings and wrappings all over, and the usual loud toys that can be disturbing to even the most seasoned holiday veteran.

The new pet can bite or seriously scratch someone, bringing a pall of gloom

See **PUPPIES & KITTENS** on 11



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Tim and Debby Early hold their dogs after getting them fixed at Fenton's Adopt-a-Pet in March 2015. They adopted the dogs from friends who could no longer care for them.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Families watch the silly, satirical and often clever performances at the Linden Follies last Thursday at Linden High School. Linden teachers and employees got on stage to make jokes, make fools of themselves and also to raise money for a good cause. There were two shows, and both were sold out, at 600 tickets each.

Linden Follies raises more than \$7,200

■ Teachers and staff perform silly skits to raise money for local charity

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Linden — The Linden High School auditorium was filled with laughter and Christmas cheer Thursday, as kids watched their favorite teachers and bus drivers sing, dance, and act out funny skits at the sold out 21st annual Linden Follies.

The event raised \$7,236 for Christmas Express, a local charity that helps area families in need.

Brett Smith, president of the Linden Education Association and master of ceremonies, said, "The show was a huge success. It is a great night for our Linden employees, and our community. The money raised stays in our community, so that makes it special. Linden is a wonderful community, and we know it."

Smith surprised everyone when his co-host, a goat named Freedom, joined him on stage.

Throughout the event, three debates took place between "Donald Trump" and "Hill-

ary Clinton" to see who would become the president of Linden schools. They were asked about the schools' budget, if they could spell words like "email" and "huge," and ended up lip syncing "I've Had the Time of My Life" together. Ultimately, Superintendent Ed Koledo was named president.

The audience loved the Linden High School staff "Drummer Boy" skit. A few teachers acted like bored students who forgot their musical instruments for class, and created their own music using a pen, three bells, a pair of keys, a water bottle, a book, and a microphone to perform the song.

Staff from Linden Elementary performed a Ghostbusters skit, by dressing up as Ghostbusters, dancing, and defeating the Stay Puft Marshmallow Man.

Central Elementary wowed everyone performing a light show with glow sticks. They dressed in all black and taped glow sticks to their clothes to look like stick figures, and danced to popular songs.

One of the most well-received acts was put on by Linden High School teacher Dan Schneider and Brian VanDeventer. Other

See **LINDEN FOLLIES** on 11

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If I Were King...

king@tctimes.com

I'm using the C-word

You may, or may not, have noticed that with each passing year less and less people use the term ‘Merry Christmas,’ opting instead for the generic ‘Happy Holidays.’

This change is a reflection of a very significant development in American life, the liberal agenda of neutering everything that is American under the premise of ‘not judging’ individuals and/or their actions. Unfortunately, due to the takeover of our education system at all levels by liberal teachers and university professors, this agenda is becoming more perceptible with each passing year.

Proponents of ‘Happy Holidays’ argue that it’s no big deal — that the ‘Merry Christmas’ crowd is making a mountain out of a molehill. No agenda here they say, it’s just the evolution of society that reflects changing social behavior.

Can’t argue with the ‘changing social behavior’ commentary. Our entire education system, from grade school through college, is now overwhelmingly populated by rabidly liberal teachers and professors that abuse their power by indoctrinating our kids with liberal doctrines. We actually had a teacher in Fenton sobbing hysterically in their classroom the day after Trump’s win, scaring the hell out of the students.

It’s also why Christmas has been eliminated from nearly all of our elementary schools, high schools and universities. It’s why they no longer have a ‘Christmas vacation,’ but a ‘winter vacation.’ No Christmas plays or concerts either. They are now Winter or Holiday events.

Hollywood is predictably on board. You may have noticed that very few modern Christmas movies have Christmas in the title? You’ve got Elf, The Santa Clause, Home Alone, Scrooged, Bad Santa and many others. Were the classic movie gem ‘Christmas Vacation’ made today, it would likely have been titled ‘Holiday Vacation.’

This agenda has been very effective due primarily to Americans’ natural sense of decency. Most of us don’t want to offend our fellow Americans, so the inclusiveness argument, in tiny bites, has been effective. It’s only when you look at the big picture that you truly realize what is happening.



But, I digress. Does it really matter if we say ‘Merry Christmas’ or ‘Happy Holidays?’

Hell yes it does. The left in America, like the left in Europe, wants to create a secular society unfettered by any religious or moral principles. ‘Merry Christmas’ is a reminder of just how religious Americans are, by any measurement. Religion, in any form, does not fit with their agenda of neutering America: no religion, no gender identification, promotion of homosexuality and abortion, diversity through immigration (both legal and illegal) and rampant welfare for all. That’s their version of a new America.

If this agenda is fulfilled, Americans, like the Europeans, will have their individuality destroyed — the very characteristic that made America the greatest nation on the planet. And then, like the Europeans, we will become sheep, weakened, and dependent upon our masters — the government.

If I were King I would encourage all Americans to ignore the insane agendas of the left and embrace the true spirit and the blessings of the Christmas season — love, joy, peace and hope.

From my family to your family, Merry Christmas.

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.

“...embrace the true spirit and the blessings of the Christmas season — love, joy, peace and hope.”

Hotlines

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.

THE SNOW ORDINANCE is already in effect in Holly. However, everyone is still parking in the streets overnight. Why? No one cares. It's the same every year. It contributes to the poorly plowed village streets we have every winter.

THIS IS ABOUT the bike paths on Saginaw St. in Holly. They are here due to a federal grant. The village money (\$10,000) used for re-stripping before, can be used elsewhere now. And the money for the bike path lines comes from the feds. I saw maybe five bicyclists using it all summer.

KARMA WILL COME to the gals who didn't know the person you were speaking of, their daughter, was right by you. Catholics? Not talking like that. This person would give their shirt off their back for you. Unprofessional.

I WAS SO proud to purchase some lens cleaning wipes, made in America, at a major department store off Owen Road. I went back to get more, and all I could find were ones made in China. Disheartening.

SOME PEOPLE WOULD rather have your presence than your presents at Christmas. I agree some don't appreciate that you spent your hard-earned money on them.

IT IS FITTING that the Time (magazine) cover of Fidel Castro is followed by the cover of Donald Trump. They both think alike.

THERE ARE THOUSANDS of jobs open now in our country that people won't do. They would rather complain. I'm an old guy, been around for a while and I've never seen so many lazy people in my life, both left and right.

TO THE PERSON complaining about the 'scumbag lawyers.' If you or a family member was injured or killed in an accident as a result of a semi truck running a red light would you just say 'I am just devastated.' Tell me you would not run to one of these 'scumbags' in order to receive just compensation for your loss.

NINETY-FOUR-YEAR old Josephine Regnier, a WWII veteran, was mugged. Man broke two ribs, gave her black eyes and a big knot on her head. This happened in Chicago. Man is 200 pounds, 6-feet tall. Prayers are asked for her by the family.

IN MY OPINION, Obama was an ineffective president. I believe the fact that the Republicans vowed to make him a one-term president contributed to his ineffectiveness. They opposed everything he proposed. I believe that had he asked for a tax cut they would have said no.

KUDOS TO THE person who pointed out that the Vietnam War was Eisenhower's war. American troops more than two years before Kennedy took office. Republicans like to blame Democrats for all of the bad things Republicans bring upon our nation and take credit for the good things Democrats do.

TO THE PERSON asking about the hotels and golf courses that Trump builds outside of this country as compared to Carrier moving its company to Mexico. What product exactly is Mr. Trump bringing back into the USA from these two endeavors? And who is losing jobs?

COUNTY ROADS (WHITE and Runyan Lake Roads plus) need enforcement of limits, which should be 30 from Carmer to Chriswood, Walnut Shores to Shiawassee, and a four-way stop at Old U.S. 23.

IT IS TIME for us to really look into what colleges are teaching. Professors seem to think they should help their students in the political ways rather than in the subjects, they are to be teaching. Our students must be educated to get jobs not be subjected to the liberal end of politics.

I'M ACTUALLY GLAD toilet paper rolls are smaller. The big ones get wedged between the spool and the wall and don't roll properly.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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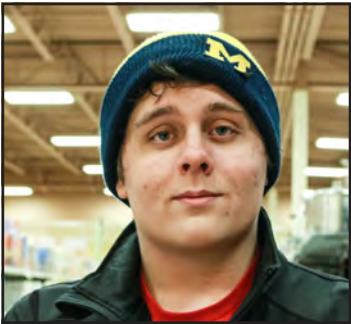
Compiled by Tess DeGayner, intern

What would you do if you had a snow day?



"I would just spend time with my kids at home."

-Kathleen Murray
Howell



"Sleep and play video games all day."

-Tobias Richmond
Fenton



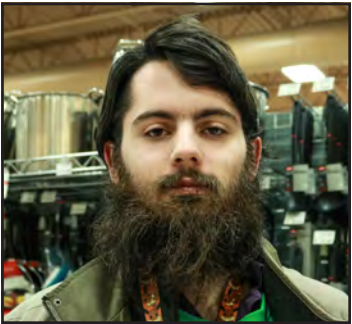
"Me and my mom would ride on the quad. Yesterday, we made trails in our yard with it so we could either walk or drive on them."

-Dalton Cilia
Fenton



"Watch Netflix, probably 'Gilmore Girls.'"

-Nichole Pearson
Fenton



"Just catch up on sleep."

-James Loviska
Fenton Township

street talk

Sightings of black squirrels increases



People often mistake black squirrels for rodents, like rats with fluffy tails.

■ More prevalent in urban and suburban areas as camouflage is not as vital

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

It's common to see brown and gray squirrels in the tri-county area, and now it's becoming more common to see black squirrels.

In the Hot lines, people are reporting more black squirrel sightings as their population appears to be increasing in Genesee County. People often mistake these animals for rodents like rats with fluffy tails if they see them on the side of the road in their backyard.

"Are there more black squirrels in Fenton? There might be," said Holly Vaughn, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wildlife outreach technician.

Black squirrels are not a separate breed from brown or gray squirrels.

Vaughn said both eastern gray squirrels and eastern fox squirrels have a black color phase, which is a form

of melanism or a genetic mutation that causes the dark pigment.

Fox squirrels, which have orange-colored bellies, are bigger than eastern gray squirrels, but gray squirrels are becoming more common.

With the black phase mutation, when gray phase and black phase squirrels breed with each other, more black phase offspring are born. Over time, an entire

population can become exclusively made up of black-phase squirrels.

"In some areas, nature may select for this dark trait — the darker squirrels tend to be more cold hardy and they also blend in better to the dark, northern forests," she said.

Many squirrel populations started out with lighter color pigmentations because grays and browns blend in more with forests.

Vaughn said the lighter gray phase became more prevalent as Europeans cleared the forests and human hunters gained in popularity. They were able to blend in more with the trees.

"Today, some scientists think that in urban areas, the squirrels are relatively safe

from predators as there's no human hunting and fewer foxes, coyotes, hawks, etc.," she said. "The black color phase is more prevalent in urban and suburban areas because camouflage is not as vital."

Black squirrels are more common the more north you travel, according to the Detroit Free Press, and they're becoming increasingly

common in states like Ohio, Pennsylvania and Indiana.

They're extremely rare in southern states like Florida, Alabama, and Georgia.

These animals are common at the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak, Belle Isle in Detroit, Battle Creek, and around Michigan State University's campus in East Lansing, according to freep.com.

“In some areas, nature may select for this dark trait – the darker squirrels tend to be more cold hardy and they also blend in better to the dark northern forests.”

Holly Vaughn

Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife outreach technician

Fenton officials pass new storm water ordinance

■ Intent is to provide more protections for community and natural resources

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

On Monday, the Fenton City Council unanimously approved a new storm water ordinance.

According to Public Works Director Dan Czarnecki in a memo to City Manager Lynn Markland, the city of Fenton is responsible for storm water discharge within the Fenton community.

"As part of our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit application through the state of Michigan, there are many informational items we need to provide to the MDEQ (Michigan Department of Environmental Quality) in order to receive our permit," said Czarnecki.

Those informational items include a Public Information and Involvement Program, Enforcement Response Procedure, Public Education Program, Illicit Discharge Elimination Program, Construction Storm water Runoff Control Program, Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping programs, including Best Management Practices.

"Several of these items have been developed with our Storm Water consortium through the Genesee County

Drain Commission Office," Czarnecki said in his memo. "However, there are specific items that directly relate to the city of Fenton that are our responsibility to develop.

"This includes written documentation for the protection of our community and our natural resources," he added.

Many of the items required for the permit need a mechanism for enforcement and implementation in the Fenton community, such as a city ordinance like the one proposed and passed.

An ordinance is currently in place, but does not address the necessary items for enforcement that the new permit requires.

A draft of the new ordinance was shared with the MDEQ and, according to Czarnecki, "...they indicated the ordinance looks good."

Czarnecki said he also met with the city's engineers and their storm water engineers and they, too, agree the ordinance will work for Fenton's application.

This expanded ordinance is a requirement of MDEQ through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting process.

"Many of our surrounding Genesee County communities are also in the process of developing similar ordinances," Czarnecki said.



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WE FEATURE
Valvoline

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
FILE PHOTO

Snow day superstitions

■ White crayons on the windowsill? A spoon under your pillow? Local families admit to some crazy snow day antics

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

They say you can't fool Mother Nature, but local mom Stacie Dean is sure trying.

This mother of three students at State Road Elementary in Fenton has been called "the queen of snow days" by other moms and teachers, and she earns her title well.

Every fall, she carefully lays out white crayons on the windowsills at their Fenton home, with the expectation of snow days and all the joy of having kids home unexpectedly under a white blanket of snow.

"I love having the kids home on a snow day," she said, as all the neighborhood kids gathered to go sledding in their backyard on Monday afternoon. "It's a magical time. It's unexpected. We'll bake cookies and make hot chocolate. We always do something special."

Dean said she keeps white crayons on the windowsill until the Fenton school district has run out of snow days. She has earned a legendary reputation for predicting snow days, but she knows the secret is in the white crayons on windowsill.

"I'm told my white crayons are magical," said Dean. "I swear by the white crayons."

She doesn't stop with just the white crayons, though. She also flushes ice cubes down the toilet for another snow day superstition. "That freezes the ground and the roadways for a snow day," she added with a smile.

Other snow day superstitions also have

a place in the arsenal of kids, moms and school employees, who love having that unexpected day off.

Jenny Sewell, a general education aide at Lake Fenton Schools, has had fun with snow day superstitions, with her 15-year-old son, Billy, a freshman at Lake Fenton High School.

"He pulled an icicle off the house and flushed it down the toilet, and a half hour later, school was cancelled," she said. "The kids at school also talk about sleeping with a spoon under their pillows and putting their pajamas on backwards."

It seems that just about everyone loves a good, old-fashioned snow day.

"My three children each spun in front of the toilet three times, and then flushed the toilet," said Maygen Sementilli

of Tyrone Township. Her three children, Alyssa, 10, Lia, 8 and David, attend St. John Catholic School in Fenton. "I have no idea where they heard this from, but it worked."

Dean said her husband, Miles, laughs at her snow day antics, but their three kids, Cameron, a fifth-grader and third-grade twins Cooper and Karson, love the traditions.

"We have to do everything we can to make it happen," said Dean. "Life is so short; I cherish this time. Everyone has to stop and slow down for the day."

"I love having the kids home on a snow day. It's a magical time. It's unexpected."

Stacie Dean
Mother of three

Have you ever heard of these snow day superstitions?

- Turn your pajamas inside out and wear them to sleep.
- Place an ice cube in the toilet and flush it (one for each inch of snow you want).
- Sleep with a spoon under your pillow.
- Eat ice cream for dinner.
- Do a snow dance on your front lawn (while wearing your pajamas inside out).
- Go to the freezer and open and door and dance, singing "Snow day, snow day, snow day!"
- Put a spoon in the freezer.

Source: stockpilingmoms.com



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Shovel snow safely!

■ A clear driveway is never worth your life

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

With more than 10 inches of snow having fallen in the tri-county area on Sunday, Dec. 11 into Monday, Dec. 12, those charged with snow removal should be aware of the dangers and risks to their health.

Nationwide, according to the National Safety Council, snow shoveling is responsible for thousands of injuries and as many as 100 deaths each year.

Picking up a shovel and moving hundreds of pounds of snow, particularly after doing nothing physical for several months, can put a big strain on the heart, according to experts. Pushing a heavy snow thrower also can cause injury.

There also is the cold factor. Cold weather can increase your heart rate and blood pressure. It can make blood clot more easily and constrict arteries, which decreases blood supply. This is true even in healthy people.

Individuals over the age of 40 or who are relatively inactive should be particularly careful.

The National Safety Council recommends the following tips to shovel safely.

- If you experience pain of any kind, stop immediately and seek assistance.
- Do not shovel after eating or while smoking.
- Push the snow, do not lift it. Pushing puts far less strain on the spine than lifting.

- Be sure your muscles are warm before you start shoveling. Cold, tight muscles are more likely to sprain or strain than warm, relaxed muscles.

- When you grip the shovel, make sure your hands are at least 12 inches apart. By creating distance between your hands, you increase your leverage and reduce the strain on your body.

Your shoveling technique is very important. The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons recommends that if you must lift the snow, lift it properly. Squat with your legs apart, knees bent and back straight. Lift with your legs. Do not bend at the waist. Scoop small amounts of snow into the shovel and walk to where you want to dump it. Holding a shovel of snow with your arms outstretched puts too much weight on your spine. Never remove deep snow all at once; do it piecemeal. Shovel an inch or two; then take another inch off. Rest and repeat if necessary. In addition to these comments, remember to move your feet rather than twisting.

- Never throw snow over your shoulder.
- Remember that wet snow can be very heavy. One full shovel load can weigh as much as 25 pounds.
- Pace yourself by taking frequent breaks to gently stretch your back, arms and legs.
- Consider buying a snow thrower. When used correctly, a snow thrower will put far less strain on your back than snow shoveling.
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion.
- Don't pick up a shovel without a doctor's permission if you have a history of heart disease. If you feel tightness in the chest or dizziness, stop immediately.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Ulvert Jackson clears the sidewalks near his home on North Road in Fenton Monday morning.

tor's permission if you have a history of heart disease. If you feel tightness in the chest or dizziness, stop immediately.

- A clear driveway is not worth your life.

For those of us who are able bodied, it is always worth remembering neighbors who might not be able to remove the snow from their sidewalks. A few minutes of help can make the world of difference to the well being of a less able bodied person as well as make you a good neighbor.

Snow thrower safety

Be safe with these tips from the American Society for Surgery of the Hand and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons:

- If the thrower jams, turn it off.

Keep your hands away from the moving parts.

Do not drink alcohol and use the snow thrower.

Be aware of the carbon monoxide risk of

running a snow thrower in an enclosed space.

Refuel your snow thrower when it is off, never when it is running.

Choose the shovel that is right for you

Be sure that your shovel has a curved handle, as this enables you to keep your back straighter when shoveling.

Obtain a shovel with an appropriate length handle. The length is correct when you can slightly bend your knees, flex your back 10 degrees or less, and hold the shovel comfortably in your hands at the start of the "shoveling stroke."

A plastic shovel blade will generally be lighter than a metal one, thus putting less strain on your spine.

Sometimes, a smaller blade is better than a larger blade. Although a small blade can't shovel as much, it avoids the risk of trying to pick up a too heavy pile of snow with a larger blade.

Sources: National Safety Council; coloradospineinstitute.com

30th Jesus Walk 2016



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'SNOW DAYS'

Continued from Front Page

"Schools are allowed six snow days this year with the potential for three additional days if we petition the state," said Holly Superintendent Dave Nuss. "There is no way of knowing how many snow days we'll experience this year. Usually, we average three to six, but, that's just an average. Holly called seven snow days last year."

Lake Fenton Superintendent Wayne Wright said if they go beyond the six days, the school needs to make them up in some fashion, which would be in agreement with teachers' union contracts.

Lake Fenton also had seven snow days last year.

The superintendents evaluate the weather conditions to determine if their school district will have a snow day. "We drive the roads and evaluate their conditions to determine if we are going to cancel. Last night the roads were bad," said Wright. "It was not scheduled to stop snowing until early in the morning and we knew the road commission had been out all day and would not touch our roads until early in the morning."

Wright said they aim to have a deter-

mination by 5:30 a.m. the day of school so parents can make a decision as early as possible in regards to child care.

Nuss said, "The timing of storms and late freezes causing roads to be highly dangerous don't always allow for advanced notice. Parents understand we're doing all we can while ensuring the safety of our students, which is our number one priority."

He said they begin to seriously consider closing when wind-chill reaches 18 degrees below zero.

"Many children walk up to 1.5 miles to reach a bus stop — a difficult task while dressed in heavy clothes and carrying a book bag," he said.

Fenton Superintendent Adam Hartley said they also consider if there's more snow coming, a temperature drop, and communication with the Genesee County Road Commission on plowing and salting.

Hartley said he's "not sure" how many snow days to expect this year. "Michigan is always exciting," he said.

Wright said he couldn't think of any financial setbacks with snow days, and that employees are paid for days off during snow days, and do not receive compensation for the days they make up.

FENTON EYE DOCTOR

Continued from Front Page

Kasper served on the Fenton City Council for two, four-year terms before being defeated in the 1999 election.

In 2008, Kasper was appointed to the council to replace another councilman, who resigned in order to take a job out of state. He served until the 2009 election.

Kasper also had served on the Fenton Planning Commission for many years. Earlier this month, he was re-appointed to his third, four-year term on the Fenton Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

Mayor Sue Osborn said, "Doran made considerable contributions to the community. He was also very active in community organizations such as Kiwanis and chaired the Fenton Community Center Board of Governors for years. He assisted with the new addition and loved that accomplishment."

"He was known for making people laugh and for making outstanding pastries that he frequently shared at the meetings he attended," Osborn added.

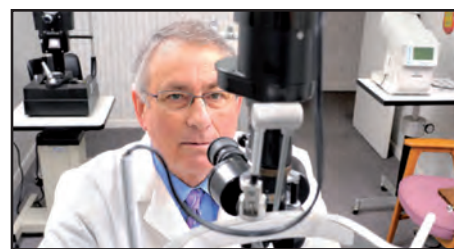
"I want to offer our heartfelt condolences to Lorraine, Eric and the rest of his family. He was an outstanding individual," she said. "His patients and many people in the community loved him dearly. He will be missed so much."

Kasper also was remembered by Fenton City Councilwoman Cherie Smith.

"I'll always remember Doran for his very dry sense of humor," Smith said. "I loved his silly little tree in the side yard. It's just a whip, skinny as can be, but without fail, he has a string of clear lights on it, maybe 50 tiny lights, with the top bulb always being red."

"I just looked at it Saturday and thought of the time Fenton Beautification Commission gave him an award for the most elaborately decorated tree," she added. "He, of course, accepted and quipped that it took him all day to decorate it. Not only a good optometrist, a good neighbor, but just a great guy to chat with — but only in person because he didn't use cell phones or computers. So typically Doran. I will miss him."

Funeral arrangements for Kasper were still pending at press time and are being handled by Temrowski Family Funeral Home in Fenton. Kasper is survived by Lorraine, his wife of many years, and his son, Eric. Visit tctimes.com for further updates.



Dr. E. Doran Kasper at work in his Caroline Street office in downtown Fenton.

HEALTH CARE

Continued from Front Page

four years.

"It's estimated the city will exceed a hard cap in the amount of \$22,827 for 2017," Zelenak said. These estimations are based on an increase in the rate from the Blue Cross due to Affordable Care Act.

"The Affordable Healthcare Act initiated a penalty or a tax on people who actually pay for their health care through employer sponsored plans to help pay for people who cannot pay for it. That increased the cost probably 10 percent for us as well," he said. "We've not been able to keep up with what they felt was an affordable amount of money that a municipality should pay for a single person, a couple or a family."

Linden City employees already contribute a certain percentage to

their health care, which varies by the employee.

Linden wants to keep good and affordable health care for its employees, Zelenak said, and the staff has been working with them every year, looking at different health care plans in order to save money. They adopted a new healthy living plan that allowed them to reduce costs.

Last year the exempted hard cap was over \$40,000.

"We've reduced health care costs by at least \$20,000 this year. Each year we've been trying to reduce health care costs. Hopefully each year we'll continue to reduce so we don't actually have to go through the opt out plan," he said.

Mayor Danielle Cusson said, "I'm glad we were able to get our costs down as much as we did."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TRUMP IS SO unpopular and despised, it took James Comey's historic FBI blunder, the vast majority of fake news sites and Russian interference supporting Trump, and he still lost by 2.5 million popular votes. And Trump voters will suffer right with the rest of us.

■■■■
TO MY NEIGHBOR who put her inside cat out in September hoping she would run away. I will continue to feed her and keep straw and blankets in my garage. I pray she survives life-threatening cold. I've called every rescue; they're full. You're cruel. Hope your furnace breaks down.

FATAL ACCIDENT

Continued from Front Page

the fatal accident. Speed and alcohol are not believed to have been factors in the crash.

An investigation into the cause of the crash continues at this time. Mundy Township police and fire were assisted at the scene by Genesee County Sheriff's Office paramedics and Michigan State Police.

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(excludes pure & simple,
protein blends, chef blends
and flavor full)

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Prices effective through Saturday, December 17, 2016

PUPPIES & KITTENS

Continued from Page 3

to an otherwise loving holiday.

Discuss how a new pet will change the family's life with your children, even older children. Some parents assume that the older a child is, the easier it will be to enlist them in the care of the pet. But older children tend to have more social engagements and may not have a lot of time to spend with the pet.

A pet can change a lot of the family's day to day arrangements, like schedules (walking, feeding, training), sleeping arrangements (who gets to keep the pet in their room?), clean-up chores (remember that what is left on the floor is fair game to a dog or cat).

Consider carefully how a pet will affect your family's daily lifestyle and do diligent research on which type and breed is best suited to your family and home.

Never ever choose your new pet based on cuteness or wishful thinking. It may be that the pet you think is most unlikely to be your perfect companion is the very one that is. Besides having family talks over the joys and responsibilities of pets, read books on the care and training of the breed you are hoping to bring into your family.

Also make some time to visit your local animal shelter. In the same way that you may have an image of what the perfect breed is for you when it could very well be another that is more suitable, an older, calmer and already trained cat or dog may be more practical than a baby animal that needs strict attention and training.

PREPARE THE HOME

With all the holiday decorations, foods, and bustling around, a busy holiday can be a dangerous

and scary time for a young puppy or kitten to be introduced. This is when bad habits can begin.

Frightened animals will bite, soil on the floors, or will hide in difficult to reach places. Your pet's first experience in your home with your family should be positive and calm. In addition, on Christmas day there are usually lots of ribbons and bows, candies and small toys littering the floor, all of which look to an animal like good things to chew on.

You don't want your first night, or any night, with your new pet to be in an animal emergency room with obstructed breathing or blocked intestines.

You will need to prepare your home in the same way that you would prepare it for a newborn baby. No dangling cords or curtain/blind pulls, no small toys on the floor, no candies or other foods within easy reach, toilet closed. There is a lot to do in preparation, and a lot you won't think of until after the fact.

Then there is all of the necessary equipment, including the food, crate, leash, bed, collar, etc. One of the most important preparations is to create a quiet place for your pet to sleep, eat and just get away from things when he is feeling overwhelmed.

AN ALTERNATIVE

Instead of gifting your family with a puppy or kitten, you might want to wrap up a stuffed animal or some other pet-related accessory — think of it as a pet promise. This will let your children know that you are prepared to go out and select a new pet, but now is not the time. In fact, you may find that many of your local shelters will not permit adoptions during the holiday season.

Source: petmd.com



News briefs

'Fill the Truck for local children' program to help children in need

The Fenton Fire Department, Fenton Walmart and the Salvation Army have partnered together for the "Fill the Truck" program to support local children. On **Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 9 p.m.**, toys donated will be taken to the Salvation Army and distributed to local children in need. "Knowing that a child who would otherwise not have a gift to open on Christmas morning is the best reason to support the 'Fill the Truck' toy drive," said Fenton Fire Chief Robert Cairnduff. "Thanks to our firefighters, the community involvement, and working with Walmart, we're able to make Christmas special for families and children who need help, especially this time of year." Fenton firefighters will be at the Fenton Walmart on Wednesday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 9 p.m. "We invite the community out to help us keep the spirit of Christmas alive," said Cairnduff. Donations for the "Fill the Truck" program can be made throughout the holiday season at Walmart.

LINDEN FOLLIES

Continued from Page 3

teachers sang "12 Days of Christmas" while Schneider and VanDeventer acted out every day for every verse, showing off their athleticism.

Approximately 1,200 tickets were sold, maxing out the schools' theatre. The Linden Follies have sold out every year for the past 18 of their 21 years. This event will help local children get presents for Christmas.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I WISH REPUBLIC'S drivers would set the bins back down without tipping them over and/or leaving the lid open. Rain inside the bins was bad enough, but snow will be harder for people to clean out. These were a bad idea, especially for the elderly.

I WONDERED WHY decent people would vote for Trump. I found my answer in 'Michael Moore in Trump land.' You can watch it on 'On demand' on your TV. By the way, he did not vote for Hillary.

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Times Sports

Linden establishes some new roots vs. Holly

■ Eagles post 59-55 upset victory during first game under new head coach Root

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Holly — The Linden varsity boys basketball team made a pretty big statement in what was the first game of the Chris Root head coaching era on Friday night.

The Eagles, who have had limited success over the last few seasons, opened their 2016-17 season with their first victory against the Holly Bronchos in many years, defeating Holly 59-55 at the Horseshoe.

The Eagles trailed 54-50 with 2:55 left after a three pointer by Holly's Austin Harless, but the Eagles fought back. A converted free throw by Garrett Strang cut the gap to 54-51, and moments later two converted free throws by Aaron Sarkon cut the margin to 54-53. Then with 1:21 remaining, senior Tyler Hoeberling nailed a three-pointer, giving the Eagles the lead for good at 56-54. Holly had a chance to take the lead again on another Harless trey, but it was missed. The ball was then stolen by Hoeberling after an offensive board by Holly's Devon Williams.

Moments later, Hoeberling helped ice the victory with two converted free throws with 39.6 seconds left, giving the Eagles a 58-54 lead.

Holly cut it back to 58-55 on a converted free throw by Luke Copley, but Sarkon raised the gap back to four with a free throw of his own with 13.9 seconds left.

"That's huge because over the past three years we have had eight wins," said Hoeberling, who had a team-high 21 points. "We have a new coach, and that's big for us. We have new plays. We are getting everybody involved, and that's good. It's good stuff."

"A lot of teams got their first win this



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Linden's Tyler Hoeberling (left) scored 21 points in Linden's 59-55 victory against Holly on Friday. Holly's Connor Spencer is defending the shot.

week and it probably wasn't that big of a deal, but I know for sure it was a big deal for these kids and this team," said Root, who took over Linden's varsity boys basketball position earlier this fall. "I'm absolutely proud of these guys. These guys have done everything I've asked them

to do, and have bought in. They push each other and are coachable. I can't say enough about them. Plus, we have seniors who have been through the battles."

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Linden's Sterling DeGayner tries to weave between Holly's Paige Reid (left) and Alexandra Karakuc in Holly's 43-29 victory on Friday.

Bronchos remain perfect, defeat Lady Eagles, 43-29

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Holly — Life is good for the Holly varsity girls basketball team.

The Bronchos lost some strong players to graduation with one possibly being the best player in school history in Kaitlyn Smith. However, Holly keeps pushing along.

The Bronchos improved their record to 3-0 with a 43-29 victory against Linden on Friday night.

"I think it's awesome," senior Paige Reid said. "We were a little worried (entering the season) because we lost some good players like Kaitlyn. Plus we have such a small team. Usually we have like 14 or 15 girls, but we don't this year. We are small, but we are mighty I guess."

The teams played a competitive first half, with Holly leading just 22-20 at the break. However, the third quarter ended up crushing Linden.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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Linden, LF wrestling teams post winning records at tourney

■ Blue Devils finish in second

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden — It was a winning weekend for two area teams at the Linden Wrestling Christmas Team Tournament on Saturday.

Lake Fenton advanced to the finals and finished with a 4-1 mark, while tournament hosts Linden finished with a 3-2 team mark.

Lake Fenton captured wins against Byron, Linden,

Saginaw Heritage and Monroe Jefferson. And despite not fielding a complete lineup, the Blue Devils still gave Gaylord a good battle, losing to the state-ranked squad 42-37. Linden had wins against Byron, Corunna and Saginaw Heritage. The Eagles lost to Jefferson as well as Lake Fenton.

"It was a pretty good weekend considering we are wrestling with 11 to 12 kids in our lineup," Lake Fenton varsity wrestling coach Vance Corcoran said. "We are competing very well with the

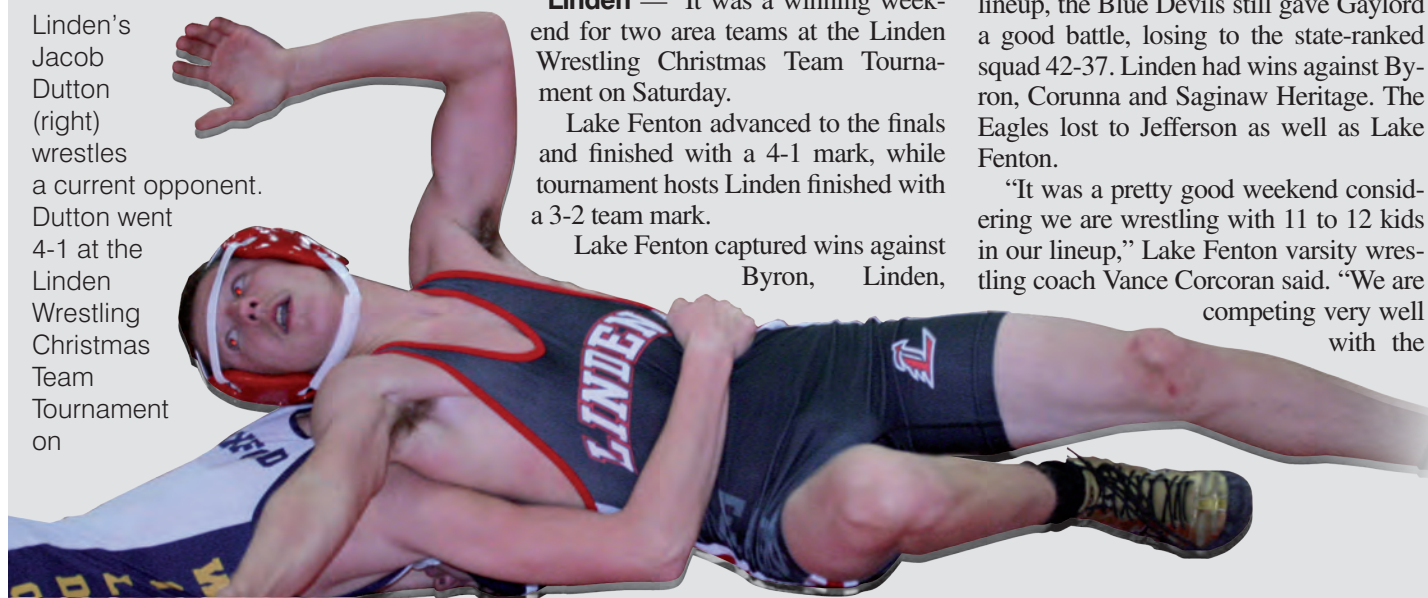
highly ranked bigger programs. At this point in time I couldn't be any happier with our progress."

The Blue Devils had four wrestlers finish with 5-0 marks. They were A. J. Geyer (119), Jarrett Trombley (135), Jackson Nevadomski (160) and Trent Hillger (285). Another three finished with 4-1 marks. They were Hunter Corcoran (130), Sean Trombley (152) and Zollen Marron (215). Another strong performance was put in by first-year starter Logan Julian (171) who went 3-2, earning a victory against a ranked wrestler from Montroe Jefferson.

"Things are looking bright and we just will keep on improving as the season continues on," Vance Corcoran said. "I'm very excited to watch the progress of this

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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Linden's Jacob Dutton (right) wrestles a current opponent. Dutton went 4-1 at the Linden Wrestling Christmas Team Tournament on



Fenton opens Metro season with strong win vs. Swartz Creek

By Dale M. Smith
dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — The Fenton Tigers opened the Flint Metro League boys' basketball season with a relatively easy, but physical win, over the Swartz Creek Dragons Friday night, 75-65

The Tigers had the height advantage over the Dragons and made good use of it. Fenton's dominance on the glass was a big factor in helping them to this fast start in league play.

Fenton led 10-2 early, keyed by two A. J. LePage 3-pointers. The Dragons battled back to lead 13-12 only to see the Tigers' junior David Pietryga drop in a long "bank shot" three to put the home team up 15-13.

It was tied at 20 midway through the second period after two free throws from Creek's JayIn Price-Rose but with the Tigers controlling the boards they moved ahead and took control. A lot of that was due to the yeomen work of seniors Greg Lukas and Drew Miller. Each had three steals for the game while Lukas led Fenton with eight rebounds and Miller had four.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SCOTT SCHUBBACH
Fenton's Andrew Bossenberger (left) attempts a shot in a recent game. Fenton defeated Swartz Creek on Friday, 75-65.

Fenton wrestlers capture team tourney title

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

The Fenton varsity wrestling team continues to impress.

Not only are the Tigers winning matches, but now they are winning tournaments.

The Fenton varsity wrestling team captured the title at the Harrison High School Team Tournament on Saturday, defeating five different foes at the event.

Fenton defeated Livonia Clarenceville 42-37, the All-Stars 58-18, Farmington Hills Harrison 54-18, Livonia Stevenson 45-27 and Armada 36-24.

The Tigers faced Armada in the tournament final and led just 27-24 enter-

ing the final two matches. However, Armada had a void in the final match of the night, meaning if Fenton's Chrstian Frazier won his match, the Tigers would earn the tournament title. Frazier (215) did just that, earning a 9-7 decision win

Four Fenton wrestlers finished the night with a 5-0 mark. They were Jayden Rittenbury (125), Brady Triola (130), Tommy Adams (145) and Jake Church (152). Meanwhile, Devin Fuller (285) also had a nice day, going 4-0.

Four others went 4-1. They were Will Galvin (171), David Foster (189) and Frazier (215). Meanwhile, Andrew Goodman (285) went 3-1. Mario Ramirez (135) ended the tourney 3-2.

Online Exclusives

STORIES ONLINE AT
TCTIMES.COM

■ Miller's 34 leads LF to road win vs. Hamady

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team continued its early season tour of tough road games on Friday, facing off against Hamady.

On Tuesday, the Blue Devils lost a competitive road game at Midland. On Friday, the Blue Devils reversed the results, winning a tight 80-76 road victory at Hamady.

Lake Fenton enjoyed a 24-14 lead after one quarter.



■ Holly wrestling posts strong 3-1 weekend outing

The Holly varsity wrestling team is off to a 5-1 start.

But what wrestling coach Don Pluta likes more than the 5-1 start, is the toughness the team is displaying. He felt the squad showed some of that while going 3-1 at the Greenville Team Tournament on Saturday.

Holly defeated Caledonia 37-30, Petoskey 54-23 and Sturgis 60-21. The loss came against tourney hosts Green-

ville, dropping a tight 33-27 match. The match was 27-all entering the final match.

"I am very pleased with how we competed on Saturday," Pluta said. "A 3-1 record is good, but our toughness throughout the lineup was awesome. We are wrestling with a lot of heart and grit. A 5-1 start is a great start, but we need to build on that and continue to work hard in the wrestling room."

■ Fenton's Lenz celebrates birthday with victory

Aly Lenz figured out a way to give herself a present on her birthday Friday.

The Fenton junior celebrated her 17th birthday with a victory she helped lead. She scored 12 points, grabbed four rebounds and collected two steals,

leading the Fenton varsity girls basketball team to a 44-36 home win against the Dragons.

Fenton was up 13-7 after one quarter, but foul troubles hurt the Tigers as the half continued.

PREP REPORT

GYMNASTICS

► **LFLF Gymnastics wins Fowler-ville-Byron Invitational:** The co-op gymnastics team, which includes competitors from Linden, Lake Fenton and Fenton, won the five-team tournament with a team score of 138.0.

Jessica Richert led the team with a 9.1 beam exercise, placing second. Blake Hutchings took first on the vault (9.15) and third on the bars. Miranda Stephens placed first on the bars and third in the all-around (35.025).

BOYS BOWLING

► **Holly 27, Fenton 3:** The Bronchos (1-2) won both baker games and cruised to the team win. Vlad Craycraft led the Bronchos with a 245 game while Glenn Rose rolled a 226-211-437 series. Hunter Bememan bowled his first varsity game ever, rolling a 206.

Fenton's Alex Keith had a 235-205-440 series, leading the Tigers. Cameron Cisol had a 192-163-355 series, earning wins in both of his matches.

► **Flushing 24, Holly 6:** Braden Wilson led the Bronchos with a 234-203-436 series while Glenn Rose rolled a 213. Vlad Craycraft had a 194 game.

► **Clio 30, Fenton 0:** Fenton's Alex Keith had a 207-214-421 two-game series to pace the Tigers.

GIRLS BOWLING

► **Holly 23, Fenton 7:** The Bronchos were paced by Kaitlyn Meir's 202-131-333 series. Jenna Royle also had a 176 game while Kailee Gallagher rolled a 146 game.

Fenton's Angela Hanners averaged a 167 and had a high game of 194, earning two points.

► **Clio 20, Fenton 10:** Angela Hanners paced the Tigers with a 159-158-317 two-game series.

► **Holly 18, Flushing 12:** Jenna Royle led the Bronchos with a 203-232-435 series while Terin Cooley had a 190-170-360 series. Kaitlyn Meier rolled a 157-171-328 series.

COMPETITIVE CHEER

► **Holly at CCAM Scholarship Invitational at Stoney Creek:** Holly placed fourth in the Division 2 competition, finishing with a team score of 363.90. Holly had a first-round score of 203.80, followed by a round two score of 160.10.

Welcome to Linden Presbyterian's
CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 7:00pm

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The children's Christmas program will be performed during
our only service at 10:00am on December 18th

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Obituaries

Times

Timothy Edward Golden

1938-2016

Timothy Edward Golden - age 78, of Hartland, died Sunday, December 11, 2016. Services will be held 11 AM Friday, December 16, 2016 at The



Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1041 W. Grand River Ave., Howell. Those desiring may make contributions to Wellbridge of Fenton. Timothy was born January 31, 1938 in Howell, the son of Thomas Francis and Mary Elizabeth (Jacquay) Golden. Timothy was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving as a Green Beret in the 82nd Airborne. He married Karen Nurmikko on December 31, 1963 in Howell. Timothy retired as a Quality Control Engineer from General Motors. He was an avid Detroit sports fan. Timothy is survived by his wife, Karen; children, Brian (Michelle) Golden of WA, John Michael (Janet) Golden of IN, Denise Golden Kirshman of Fenton, Thomas Golden II of Hartland; daughters-in-law, Melissa Golden and Tiffany Hyvonen; 22 grandchildren; one great-grandson; brother, Joseph Patrick (Debbie) Golden of Brighton; sister, Mary Anita Kalenick of New Boston; many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; infant son, Barry; and brother, John Terrance Golden. Tributes may be posted on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Warren Harding Andersen

1921-2016

Warren Harding Andersen - age 95, of Howell formerly of Fenton, died Monday, December 12, 2016. Funeral services will be held 2 PM Thursday, December 15, 2016 at Sharp



Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Burial in Fairview Cemetery, Linden. Visitation will be held at the funeral home Thursday from 1 PM until the time of the service. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make contributions to the Salvation Army. Warren was born July 19, 1921 in Howell, the son of Franklin and Blanche (Harford) Andersen. He married Sarah Elizabeth Crane October 4, 1941 in Howell and she preceded him in death November 11, 1992, he then married Florence Smith April 19, 1995. He had owned and operated Warren Andersen and Son Excavating and then was an auctioneer for over 30 years. He served on the Board of Directors of the Livingston County Road Commission. Warren was a former member of Fenton United Methodist Church and a member of the Fenton Kiwanis Club. He loved to fly and owned his own plane, and he also traveled around the world. Surviving are: his wife, Florence; three children, Ronald and wife Pamela Andersen of Fenton, Ruth and husband Patrick Harrison of Naperville, IL, and Beverly and husband Peter Bryk of Grand Blanc; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was also preceded in death by his parents; son, Jerry Andersen; and brothers, Franklin and Harold Andersen. Online tributes may be posted on the obituaries page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Vance Lee Huff

1949-2016

Vance Lee Huff - age 67, of Fenton, died Saturday, December 10, 2016. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Thursday, December 15, 2016 at Sharp



Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Rev. Dave Myers and Rev. Donald Neuville officiating. Burial in Tyrone Memory Gardens. Visitation was held at the funeral home Tuesday, December 13, 2016 from 5-8 PM and will be Wednesday, December 14, 2016 from 1-4 and 6-8 PM. Those desiring may make contributions to the family or Linden Presbyterian Church. Vance was born August 22, 1949 in Holly, the son of Harold and Doris (Hubert) Huff. He was a 1968 graduate of Fenton High School. He married Noreen Stehle December 20, 1980 in Linden. He was a resident of Fenton his entire life. Vance retired in 2010 from Consumers Energy after 42 years of service. He was a member of Linden Presbyterian Church and the Fenton Eagles. He donated his time and services to Fenton Community Schools, by changing the light bulbs on the football field. He was inducted into the Fenton High School Sports Hall of Fame for the 1967 and 1968 years that he played football. He enjoyed sports, camping, lighthouses, jigsaw puzzles, and his dogs. Surviving are: his wife, Noreen; children, Dawn Huff of Clarkston, Andrea (Drew) Stepp of Okeechobee, FL, Vance E. (Tiffany) Huff of Davison, and Bradlee (Melissa) Huff of Linden; grandchildren, Nathan, Joseph, Dominic, Carson, Aiden, and Mackenzie; great-grandchild, Trace; sisters, Diana Baker; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Harold "Powder" Huff. Online tributes may be posted on the obituaries page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Harold "Skip" Weaver

1944-2016

Harold "Skip" Weaver - age 71, went to spend eternity with the Lord on Friday, November 25, 2016 at Florida Hospital Orlando. His wife and their two sons



were at his side. Skip was born on December 17, 1944 in Flint, to Janet (Cairnduff) and Harold T. Weaver, Sr. He graduated from Mt. Morris High School in 1963 and served in the U.S. Navy for three years and in the National Guard for three years. He married Gloria Wardie in 1973, while he was a San Diego policeman. They had two sons, Benjamin and Daniel while living in California. The family moved to Alpena, MI in 1991 where Skip worked as an addiction counselor. He graduated from Spring Arbor University with a B.A. in Family Life Education when he was 50 years old. He worked as a mental health therapist with the Veteran's Administration until he retired in 2007. In retirement, Skip enjoyed traveling with his wife in an RV for several years, until they found a retirement community in Florida where they could spend the winters among many wonderful friends. Skip's favorite thing to do in Florida was to visit Walt Disney World where he enjoyed going often. He loved his family and was very proud of his sons and their families. Surviving are his wife, Gloria; his sons, Benjamin (Amy Parris) Weaver, Daniel (Monica Allen) Weaver; eight grandchildren, Clayton, Abbigale, Grace, Magdalyn, Cecelia, Emily, Claire and Kate. Also surviving are three sisters, Arlene (Grady) Harris, Maxine Landon, and Janeen (Allen) Turner as well as many nieces and nephews. A memorial graveside service will be held at Great Lakes National Cemetery in June of 2017 and will be announced by McWilliams Funeral Home - Alpena closer to that date. Memorial donations may be made to the DAV, PO Box 145550, Cincinnati, OH 45250, www.DAV.org On-line condolences may be registered at www.mwilliamsfh.com.



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Obituaries

Times

Gerald Robert Laskey

1940-2016

Gerald Robert Laskey - 76, of Cedar, passed away Sunday, December 11, 2016 at home with his loving family. Gerry was born April 16, 1940 in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI the son of Aloyze and Sophie (Peplinski) Laskey. On June 26, 1965, at the Holy Rosary Parish of Isadore, he married Virginia "Ginny" Ann Ojala, who survives. Gerry grew up attending Holy Rosary School and then graduated from Glen Lake High School. He furthered his education with degrees from Northwestern Michigan College, Ferris State University and Eastern Michigan University. His love of learning led to a fulfilling and lifelong career in education as a teacher and varsity coach of basketball, baseball and track. He continued more than thirty years of service to Lake Fenton Community Schools as Principal and retired as Superintendent of Schools. As a proud community member Gerry served as president of the Genesee County Superintendent's Association, a member of the Three District Southern Lakes Co-op Organization, the Fenton Moose Lodge, Lake Fenton PTO, Lake Fenton Booster Club, Fenton Chamber of Commerce, Fenton Businessman's Golf League, Cedar Hilltopper's Club, Cedar Chamber of Commerce, Centerville Township Planning Commission, Cedar Tavern Golf League and the Sugar Loaf Twilight Golf League. Gerry's family will always remember that he truly loved and appreciated life. Laughing with family and friends was a priority, as was singing loudly. He spent time with those he loved enjoying sports, hunting, fishing, and boating. He showed kindness and respect to everyone he knew and expressed gratitude for the blessings in his life. Gerry truly led by example to his students, athletes, children, and grandchildren. Gerry is survived by his loving wife of fifty one years, Ginny; his children, Heather (Kevin) Buckley, Shannon Laskey, Kevin GoodCourage; his siblings, Aloyze B. (Karen) Laskey, Donald G. (Patricia) Laskey, Linus T. (Betty) Laskey; sister-in-law, Christine (Thomas) Mallery; grandchildren, Emmet Buckley and Miles GoodCourage; and countless friends and extended family members. He was preceded in death by his parents. Visitation will be held from 4-8 PM with



the Rosary to be prayed at 7 PM on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at the Holy Rosary Parish of Isadore. The Mass will be celebrated at 11 AM on Friday, December 16, 2016 with the family greeting friends one hour prior to the Mass, also at the Holy Rosary Parish. Burial will be held in the Spring in Mount Calvary Cemetery. Father Donald Libby will serve as Celebrant. Memorials may be directed to Cedar Hilltopper's Club, 7949 S. Schomberg Rd., Cedar, MI 49621 and/or Holy Rosary Church, 6982 S. Schomberg Rd, Cedar, MI 49621. Please share condolences and memories with Gerry's family at www.martinson.info. Arrangements are with the Martinson Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Leelanau.

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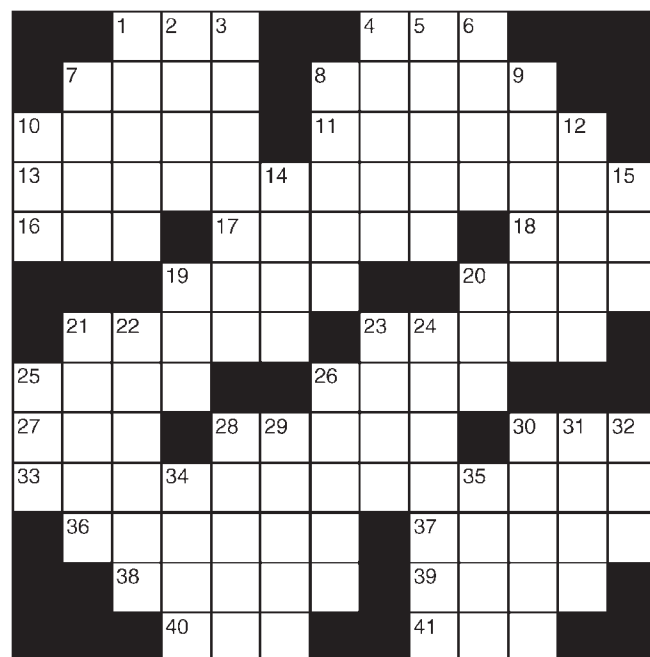
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ACROSS

- 1 More, to Manuel
- 4 Humorous one
- 7 St. consisting of two peninsulas
- 8 Infants
- 10 Raccoon relative
- 11 Expiated
- 13 Executive, often
- 16 Island garland
- 17 Mill input
- 18 Pair
- 19 Sorts
- 20 Huffed and puffed
- 21 Many Christmas trees
- 23 Portobello alternative
- 25 Actor Gregory
- 26 Volcanic outflow
- 27 Exist
- 28 Persistent attack
- 30 Bashful
- 33 Cabal member
- 36 Mexican entree
- 37 Neighborhoods
- 38 Rind-



- 23 removing tool
- 39 Talletter
- 40 Trawler need
- 41 Young fellow
- 7 Fashion
- 8 Foundation
- 9 Put down roots
- 10 Western st.
- 12 Wooden peg
- 14 Annoys
- 15 Ply oars
- 19 Squid squirt
- 20 Underwear with underwire
- 21 1990s presidential candidate
- 22 Polar feature
- 23 Creche trio
- 24 Generally
- 25 Campaign fundraising grp.
- 26 Shunned one
- 28 Trap
- 29 Archipelago component
- 30 Lieu
- 31 Frost
- 32 Decade parts (Abbr.)
- 34 Muscat's land
- 35 Met melody

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

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★ ★ ★
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ HOO BOY!

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

WEDNESDAY JUMBLE

JUMBLE

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

POUCE
O O O O

KANET
O O O O

TAPECK
O O O O O

LORMAN
O O O O O

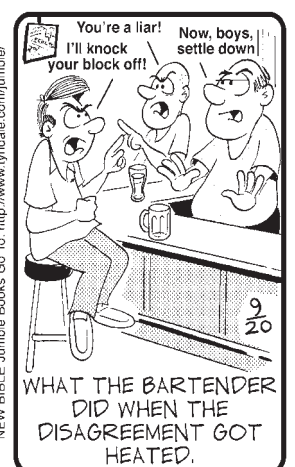
POUCE
O O O O

KANET
O O O O

TAPECK
O O O O O

LORMAN
O O O O O

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



WHAT THE BARTENDER DID WHEN THE DISAGREEMENT GOT HEATED.

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

Answer here: O O O O HIS O O O O

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

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