Local retailers ready for last-minute shoppers

■ Expect to be very busy due to Christmas Eve being a Saturday

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

Chip Beltinck of Sawyer Jewelers in Fenton is already expecting Saturday, Dec. 24, to be one of the busiest days of this holiday season, because it’s Christmas Eve, and a Saturday.

“Saturday is always a shopping day, so we expect to be busy,” said Beltinck. “Technically, we’ll be open til 4, but we’ll play it by ear because it’s Christmas Eve.”

He said that the last two weeks before See RETAILERS on 21A

LOCAL RETAILERS

By Hannah Ball
hball@cttimes.com; 810-433-6792

Local retailers expect to be very busy this last week before Christmas, even on Christmas Eve because it falls on Saturday, a busy shopping day.

Help!

■ The Salvation Army is only at 36 percent of its $800,000 goal to help area families

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

The weather outside is frightful, but the unseasonably warm weather of November may be a factor in fewer donations in The Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign so far this Christmas season.

“We’re at 36 percent of our goal,” said Joy Martinbianco, development director for The Salvation Army serving Genesee County. “Our goal for all of Genesee County is $800,000 to help families throughout the 2016-2017 year.”

See HELP! on 21A

The recent closing of Kmart has impacted this community’s donations. People who shopped there were very generous.
HOLLY
2292 House
Must see Cape Cod nestled on almost an acre with private wooded view and 40x62 two story barn with 10 ft ceilings. Everything you need is on the main level including laundry and bedroom. Updated waterproof vinyl flooring throughout the first level. Upstairs are 3 bedrooms & a full bath with 4th bedroom in lower level walkout.
$210,000
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

FENTON
11237 Tipico Lake
One of a kind Historic Chestnut Farm 1 mile south of downtown Fenton. Renovated home, Barn 36x126, 2 story and 10x20 guest cottage with fireplace. Farm is homey & livestock ready. Minutes from county, state and metropark horse trails. Agent is owner. $399,900 with 10 acres. 10 additional acres available.
$399,900
Call Kim Schumaker 810-730-2070

WHITE LAKE
8596 Portiac Lake
A great opportunity for income property on Pontiac Lake. A 4 unit apartment bldg. at 8565, a separate 1028 sq ft 3 bedroom ranch with 26x40 attic garage at 8563 and a wonderful 70’ lot on Pontiac Lake with paved boat launch at water and dock. Breathtaking views across the lake.
$259,900
Call Diana Beckemeyer 810-877-21567

FENTON
19107 Hickory Ridge
Contemporary home on 10 heavily wooded acres. Home has gorgeous wood floors throughout the living area. Open floor plan is great for entertaining. 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths on main level with an additional bedroom in the walkout basement. 16x6 Pole barn and 2 car attached garage.
$360,000
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

OTISVILLE
9490 L Mount Morris
Almost 1800 square foot ranch close to fairgrounds (but not TOO close), Buttercup Beach and Wolverine Campground. Pretty property almost totally surrounded by trees gives great privacy. 2 car detached garage has large usable storage space above. Home is well cared for with a brand new furnace.
$107,900
Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552

LINDEN
15962 Colleg Road
$219,900
Call Tina Grant 810-441-0297

OXFORD
435 N. Leroy
Great opportunity for your business to have high visibility on the N. Leroy corridor. This building is just a couple of blocks from the Cornerstone Building and charming downtown Fenton. Beautiful setting as the property backs up to the Shiozawase River. And there is plenty of parking space.
$299,900
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

FLINT TOWNSHIP
4283 Carmanwood
Same owner since the 1960’s giving this property pride of ownership. An extensive list of updates including roof 2012, AC in 2010 as well as full update of home’s electrical system. 4 bedrooms make this an incredible deal on a whole house generator!
$74,900
Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552

HISTORIC HOME
615 N. Mill
Fabulous opportunity to renovate this historic home!!! Enclosed porch, hardwood floors, huge kitchen, attached wooden garage and additional outbuilding plus a very large almost city lot with an almost fully fenced back yard! House needs TLC but roof is new in the last 2 years!
$24,900
Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552

BANCROFT
4246 Newburg - BANK OWNED
Roomy 3 bedroom Cape Cod located on over 6 acres. You have the privacy of the country but not too far from town. New carpet and paint throughout. Walk-out lower level could be easily finished for extra living space. 1 car detached garage and you still have plenty of room to build a pole barn.
$155,000
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

DEARBORN
27332 Outer Drive
$119,000
Call Laura Pennington 248-245-5351

CORUNNA
4602 Hibbard - BANK OWNED
Solid ranch in rural setting with a lovely yard and stunning views. This home has 3 bedrooms, kitchen, dining, and 4th bedroom on the main level plus a second kitchen, family room and 4th bedroom in the finished lower level walk-out.
$124,900
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

 sloppyvisiblity
Small town bookstores, big time service

Social media helping to grow a loyal customer base

By Hannah Ball

Hometown Store on N. Fenton Rd.

Lizz Henderson has owned a bookstore since 2001. Lizz’s Used Books is located in the shopping plaza across from Sears Hometown Store on N. Fenton Rd.

Time for a new fridge?

Here’s what you should know before shopping for your hardest working appliance

By Sally Rummel

News@tctimes.com; 810-629-8232

Your refrigerator is your family’s hardest working kitchen appliance, on duty 24 hours every day.

You might not even notice a need for a new refrigerator, unless yours suddenly stops working.

“IT’S ESSENTIAL TO KEEP THE FOOD IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR. YOU’RE TALKING ABOUT A FOODсс　SPECIAL PROFESSIONAL REPAIR PERSON WILL BE THE ONE TO WORK ON." said Jeff Stone, co-owner of Sears Hometown Stores in Fenton and Howell.

You may also be in the market for a new refrigerator if yours is getting older or you’re undergoing a kitchen renovation that requires all new appliances.

“Today’s models are so much more energy efficient, you might want to consider buying a new one if yours is 10 years old or more,” said Stone.

Here’s what to ask yourself before you go refrigerator shopping:

See FRIDGE on 19A

Local bookstores

Fenton’s Open Book
105 W. Shiawassee Ave., Fenton

Lizz’s Books
14280 N. Fenton Rd., Fenton

Beloved Books
208 N. Bridge St., Linden

Past Tense Books
109 S. Saginaw St., Holly

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When you are a columnist, sometimes you have to take a stand on the ‘big issues,’ no matter how controversial. So, here’s today’s bold stance: ‘Wonderful Christmastime’ is the worst Christmas song of all time.

There. I said it. Actually, I’ve said it before — in columns and to anyone who is in earshot when the damn thing comes on. The lovely yet formulaic Marcia is so sick of me saying it that before the second note plays she’s jabbing a pointer finger at me and saying, ‘Don’t!’

I wouldn’t bring it up now if it weren’t for a column in Salon.com that people forwarded to me because they knew it would annoy me. The piece was titled ‘In defense of Paul McCartney’s ‘Wonderful Christmastime.’” In it, writer Annie Zaleski says, basically, yes, the song sucks, but it’s really not that bad.

‘Sure, the song’s certainly not as emotional or epic as ‘Hey Jude,’ ‘Yesterday’ and ‘Live and Let Die.’ (But it sounds like a 1979 single, from the slightly foggy production to the soft-glow keyboards. Those are hardly fatal flaws.)

She then blurbles on in music critic-speak about how the song ‘takes its cues from … the minimalist synthpop bubbling up from the U.K. underground at the time’ and how its vocals are ‘malleable instrumental color to enhance overall sonic expression and convey feelings such as alienation or fear of modernity’ before concluding with this: ‘But it’s perhaps more precise to say that ‘Wonderful Christmastime’ represents one of McCartney’s biggest post-Beatles pivot points — a low-pressure song where he reasserted his independence and started a metamorphosis that would linger for years.’

Clearly, I cannot let this dangerous nonsense go unchallenged. What if impressionable people believe her? What if several of those impressionable people are radio DJs, who then play the song even more than it already is? Think of the children.

So, let me counter Ms. Zaleski’s critique with one of my own: ‘Wonderful Christmastime’ is not only the worst Christmas tune of all-time, it’s the worst song of any kind ever made, with the possible exception of ‘Ebony and Ivory,’ also by Sir Paul, which was so bad and so truly that, according to a medical study I just made up, any time it plays on the radio 1,500 people go into insulin shock. (To be fair, I could also go for ‘Muskrat Love’ as the worst ever, which, if you’re too young to have heard it yet, let me just say you are in for a treat. Here’s just one line: ‘Muskrat Suzie, Muskrat Sam, do the jitterbug out in Muskrat Land.’ Had enough? I thought so.)

To understand why ‘Wonderful Christmastime’ surpasses them all in terms of wretchedness, however, all you have to do is read the pivotal lyrics, which are, and I quote:

The choir of children sing their song
They practiced all year long
Ding dong, ding dong
Ding dong, ding dong
Ding dong, ding dong, dong, dong, dong
My God, people, what else do you need?

And by the way, those must have been really stupid children in that choir.

So COMRADE PUTIN worked with comrade Trump to rig the U.S. election and have his puppet installed in the White House. Sounds like treason. Impeach Trump.

TO THE PERSON rating presidents. I agree that Obama and Carter were the worst ever, though they won Nobel prizes. But, the more I read about Kennedy, he should be a close third.

ONCE AGAIN, Trump people around Silver Ridge are walking to the mailbox with a flashlight. What is going on?

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TO music are going again on Wyndham Place. Thanks for doing that. It’s really cool and our family really enjoys seeing this.

SOME NEW FACTS. Trump won 2,626 counties in the U.S. compared to Clinton’s 487. He won more of the U.S.’s geography.

I’D LIKE TO propose to the United States Congress to build a wall around liberals and we’ll make them pay for it. Or, we could get the money by deducting it from the welfare we’ve paid to illegal aliens.

REST IN PEACE, Jimmy Spees. You were my friend.

I FINALLY FIGURED out what the Green Party is all about. Green as in spending my green tax dollars on frivolous recounts.

MAKE IT A habit of reading a chapter a day from your Bible. It’s the best thing you could ever do for you and your family.

WHY IS IT when someone says something you don’t agree with, you call it hateful rhetoric? When the King says ‘left-wing nuts’ that’s not hateful rhetoric, he’s merely giving his opinion, as do most people, including yourself.

I AGREE WITH Hillary Clinton that fake news needs to be discouraged. This is news that is fixed, biased or twisted to fit a certain narrative.

HONORING SENATOR HARRY Reid is almost like giving Ted Bundy the medal of freedom. Reid has done more to block job-creating bills, and has hurt our country than any single person in modern history.

TRUMP IS PROVIDING me with so much Hot line material, that I might need a Midweek Times subscription.

See HOT LINE throughout Times
Thank You!

For supporting a local business to beautify the downtown!

A special thank you to Mayor Sue Osborn; Pat Lockwood, City Council; Dawn Overmyer and the Fenton Beautification Committee.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
with gratitude from...

Gerych’s

713 Silver Lake Road • Fenton • 810.629.5995 • www.gerychsflowers.com
**Is a House on your list?**

**NEW PRICE**

**CRANE'S GROVE LAKE FENTON WATERFRONT**

13185 Torrey Rd. | Fenton
$430,000

**NEW PRICE**

**LOON LAKE WATERFRONT**

3456 Coseyburn Rd. | Oakland
$299,000

**NEW PRICE**

**FENTON**

12253 St. Andrews Way | Fenton
$80,000

**NEW PRICE**

**MUNDY TWP**

5225 Orchard Grove Dr. | Mundy Twp
$45,000

**NEW PRICE**

**LINDEN**

3456 Breeze Point Ct. | Linden
$240,000

**NEW PRICE**

**ORCHARD HILLS - FENTON**

944 Peach Tree Trl. | Fenton
$264,400

**NEW PRICE**

**LINDEN - 16 ACRES**

15329 Silver Ridge Rd. | Linden
$300,000

**NEW PRICE**

**PINECONE HILLS - FENTON**

4360 Oak Tree Ct. | Fenton
$379,000

**NEW PRICE**

**FENTON**

3313 Foley Crossing | Fenton
$264,400

**NEW PRICE**

**HOLLY**

12755 Meadow View Cir. | Holly
$400,000

**NEW PRICE**

**FLUSHING**

711 Shady Brook Ln. | Flushing
$717,000

**NEW PRICE**

**LAKE FENTON**

14189 Swanee Beach | Lake Fenton
$479,000

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**PENDING AND SOLD HOMES**

**PENDING**

8503 Pineview Lake Dr. | Linden
$320,000

14340 Swanee Beach | Fenton
$400,000

11450 Moffett Ct. | Fenton
$275,000

**SOLD**

1402 Eastview Dr. | Fenton
$250,000

3167 Autumn View | Metamora
$275,000

2560 Pero Lake Rd. | Lapeer
$185,000
**About Drew Shapiro**

Drew Shapiro, who will be sworn in as the new Genesee County Commissioner for the 6th district on Jan. 3, 2017, is 28 years old. He most recently served as the president of the Fenton Area Public Schools Board of Education (2012 to 2016). He presided over his last meeting on Dec. 5.

Shapiro’s family moved to Fenton when he was 4 years old. He grew up in a home off White Lake Road. He attended State Road Elementary School through fifth grade.

“I loved all my elementary school teachers, especially Mrs. (Toxale) Middleton, Mrs. (Lois) Sporer, Mrs. (Maggie) Miller and Mrs. (Kathy) Anderson,” he said. “They were the greatest, phenomenal teachers.”

Melody Strang, who is now the director of Instructional Technology & Curriculum, was Shapiro’s fifth-grade teacher, he said.

“She was Mr. Strang’s ‘stock market game’ that got me seriously interested in finances,” he said.

Today, Shapiro works as a managing associate for Mass Mutual Financial Group.

After State Road, Shapiro attended sixth and seventh grade at Valley School in Flint, a private school housed in the old Michigan School for the Deaf building. His parents thought he may have better opportunities there.

He returned, however, to attend school in Fenton — eighth grade at AGS Middle School, and graduating from Fenton High School in 2006. Shapiro graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Central Michigan University. He minored in entrepreneurship.

Shapiro’s father, Dr. Steven Shapiro, is a family practice physician. His mother, Dawn, is an X-ray technician. He has three older sisters and a brother, all of whom work in professional positions.

In his spare time, Shapiro enjoys hunting and fishing and building. He has a dog named “Midas” that he rescued from the Genesee County Humane Society.

He also loves football, Tigers baseball and golf, although he admits he’s not very good at the latter.

“I also read a lot,” he said. “I’m a big history buff, especially presidential history.”

At the age of 25, Shapiro ran for a seat on the Fenton school board and won. “I felt the school system needed to do a better job preparing students for the real world,” he said.

“We were always taught that if we go to school and get good grades, the world’s gonna knock down our doors,” Shapiro said. “That’s not how it worked out.”

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**28-year-old is new county commissioner**

Fenton’s Drew Shapiro vows to improve communication with county residents

By Vera Hogan

Drew Shapiro of Fenton is going places... and the next place he’s going is the Genesee County administration building.

Shapiro, 28, a Republican, was elected to serve on the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, for the 6th district. District 6 serves the townships of Argentino, Fenton, Grand Blanc and Mundy, as well as the cities of Fenton, Grand Blanc and Flushing.

He unseated incumbent Republican Tony Brown in the Aug. 2 Primary Election, and he defeated Democrat Pete Ponzetti in the Nov. 8 General Elections.

Upon winning the election, Shapiro said, “Southern Genesee County deserves a strong voice and I won’t let them down. I plan to give the constituents the representation they deserve, and I will pride myself on always being accessible to residents. People recognized that we deserved better, and I wouldn’t dream of letting them down.”

One of the first things Shapiro said he would like to work on as a new county commissioner is to improve transparency and communication. He said Board of Commissioner meetings are held on Monday mornings — when most people are at work.

“So, there are two ways to find out what happens at those meetings,” said Shapiro. “Either attend, or drive to downtown Flint, pay to park, enter the clerk’s office and wait in line for a copy of the minutes. There is no way it should be this difficult for people to find out what their elected officials are doing.”

Shapiro said again this week that the fix is very simple. “Post the minutes online. Right now, only the agendas are posted online,” he said.

“My number one priority is constituent service,” he said. “I want people to know I’m available, an issue that has been lacking in the past.”

Another thing important to Shapiro is attracting new, talented people into the community. “New business will increase our tax base and keep our community vibrant,” he said.

“It used to be that people would get a new job and then look for a place in that community,” Shapiro said. “Now people are looking for a great place to live and then look for a job. It’s called place-making, something supported by Gov. Rick Snyder.”

“The LAFF Pathway is one example of place-making,” Shapiro said.

Although he won’t be officially sworn in until Jan. 3, 2017, Shapiro has already hit the ground running. He has spoken with all of the other commissioners on the board. “The hope is that we will all work well together,” he said. “Even though we have differences as Democrats and Republicans, we have similar goals, but different ideas on how best to get there.”

Shapiro has also met with leadership in all county offices.

“I’m in the process of forming a Public Safety Advisory Committee for Genesee County,” said Shapiro. “The committee would be charged with addressing response times and safety concerns unique to this (6th) district.”

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**NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

**ບໍ່ມີພາສາ**

This committee will be made up of 10 people, seven of whom have already committed to the task.

“I want a mix of people in leadership positions, people who are out there every day,” he said. “I want to be able to announce the full roster right after I’m sworn in.”

Shapiro said he will provide quarterly updates to every municipality in the 6th district. They will be in elected officials’ packets. He will also provide regular updates on his Facebook page.

When asked if the county commissioner position was a stepping stone for him, Shapiro said, “I get asked that a lot. No one ever became governor or president by thinking they couldn’t do it.”

For now, Shapiro said he is 100 percent committed to being the best commissioner he can be. “One thing that is frustrating to me is people want to get involved in politics because they like the idea of being involved in politics — not because they are passionate about an issue or are passionate about helping.”
Gerald Laskey’s love of learning led to life of service in education

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

Former Lake Fenton Superintendent Gerald R. Laskey died on Sunday, Dec. 11, at home with his family. He was 76 years old.

Laskey wrote something in a letter announcing his retirement in 2000 that may be comforting to friends and family today. He said, “I prefer to embrace the belief that every exit is an entry somewhere else.”

Born in Grosse Pointe Farms, Laskey grew up attending Holy Rosary School, then graduated from Glen Lake High School. He continued his education with degrees from Northwestern Michigan College, Ferris State University and Eastern Michigan University.

According to his obituary, “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 30 years of service to Lake Fenton Community Schools as principal and retired as superintendent of schools... Laskey also was active in his community. He served as president of the Genesee County Superintendent’s Association, was a member of the Three District Southern Lakes Co-op Organization, the Fenton Moose Lodge, Lake Fenton PTO, Lake Fenton Booster Club, Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce, and Fenton Businessman’s Golf League, to name a few.

“Gerry’s family will always remember that he truly loved and appreciated life,” according to his obituary. “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.”

Laskey is survived by his wife of 51 years, Ginny, three children and three grandchildren. Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. with the Rosary to be prayed at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15, at the Holy Rosary Parish of Isadore. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 16, 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. Arrangements are with the Martinson Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Leelanau.

Former LF schools superintendent dies at 76
Little dog has big impact

Adopt-A-Pet receiving new driveway and concrete pad because of one poodle

By Hannah Ball
hbball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

“The story of one little poodle has touched the lives of a Fenton family, and all the lives at Adopt-A-Pet.”

When Dana Beagle agreed to foster Gloria the poodle, no one expected her to live very long.

Gloria was picked up on the side of the street in Pennsylvania last August. Beagle said the first veterinarian that saw the dog recommended she be put down, but the woman who found her saw the dog and recommended she be put up.

“I just made a comment about how they needed a new driveway,” Beagle said. “What are the chances that some little dog picked up on the side of the road can have the ability to make such a difference?”

Dana Beagle
Fenton resident

Gloria lived 11 more months, dying in early July. Beagle said it’s miraculous that she lived that long.

“An amazing person stepped forward to care for Gloria knowing her heart would soon be broken,” she said.

That person was Dana Beagle, along with her husband, Duncan.

“Actually, the first 24 or 48 hours I just held her. She was just shaking and scared,” Beagle said. “Gloria was a tough case. She was one of the more gut wrenching ones because you knew what the outcome was going to be.”

After some time, Gloria started to get better and warmed up to the family. “She ended up being a part of the family. Everyone loved her,” she said.

Gloria loved to go for walks, be outside, run and play. Beagle said she had an excellent quality of life, and touched her own life as much as her own dogs have. She was glad the vets and Adopt-A-Pet let her be a part of the decision making even though she was only fostering Gloria.

Gloria lived 11 more months, dying in early July. Beagle said it’s miraculous that she lived that long.

“Toward the end of her life, Gloria was so comfortable at their house, Beagle didn’t want to upset her by placing her with another family.”

In memory of Gloria, Beagles’ mother and father donated money to have the asphalt on the Adopt-A-Pet driveway redone because they loved Gloria so much.

What are the chances that some little dog picked up on the side of the road can have the ability to make such a difference?

Maddock said every animal comes to them for a reason, and that they were honored to spend those last 11 months with Gloria.

“Through all of this, this little poodle touched the lives of so many people and showed that what someone else discarded became someone else’s joy,” Maddock said. “All along, we thought we were giving Gloria a gift and in the end, with all her love and fight she taught us a lesson of compassion and gave all the animals, our customers and volunteers an amazing gift.”

HUMAN TRAFFICKERS
Continued from Front Page

In his presentation, Kramer said in 2012, there was an average of 20.9 million human trafficking victims worldwide. Of that 20.9 million, 5.5 million were children around the ages of 12 and 13.

In the United States, more than 100,000 children are forced into prostitution every year. Kramer said, and many are young boys. Many girls are taken at the age of 13, and many boys are taken when they’re 12.

He said 20 to 25 percent of those children victims are boys. “It could be anybody’s daughter, sister, classmate, neighbor, mother, best friend, doesn’t matter. It could also be you. Don’t think it doesn’t happen to you. As soon as that’s what you start to believe, you make yourself open up to become a victim.”

Kramer said the most common situation is pimps acting like older boyfriends to young girls. They use false promises like lying about creating a better life, preying on the victims’ desperation and naivity, and will buy the victims expensive clothing as gifts.

“The reality is, nobody would choose this lifestyle,” he said. “In order to understand the issue, you have to understand the victims.”

Kramer said boys are often trapped into this lifestyle because they’ll start talking to someone whom they believe to be a girl online, when in reality it’s a 60-year-old man. He said these people will trick boys into sending indecent photos to use as blackmail.

At this, the audience of boys laughed. “I wish I could make this up. I wish it was funny, guys,” he said. “The shame of it alone will be enough for you guys to continue doing whatever he wants, just so he can’t out you. That’s the fact of it. It does happen to you.”

“Once the person is forced into prostitution, Kramer said these people use blackmail to keep someone there.

Many pimps record their victims performing sexual acts or working in a strip club, and threaten to show their school or family if the person ever tries to leave.

They’ll use physical violence and threats against their family to get people to stay.

“The reality is you all, including me, we treat our dogs better than these girls are treated. Our dogs are eating better, our dogs are better cared for.”

He urged the boys to look out for themselves and their girl classmates, and look for warning signs. He said not to use the app Kick, a free text messaging application, because they were more likely to be stalked, abused or turned into a victim on Kick than any other web application.

“Be the protectors,” he said, adding that they can’t forget that human trafficking happens to boys, too.
Meet
PRESTON
ENGLISH

• Fenton High School senior
• Local history buff
• Antique typewriter collector/repairman

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-629-6823

Preston D.T. English grew up in the township of Redford for about 14 years until moving to Fenton in 2013. He’s currently 17, and a senior at Fenton High School.

Tell us about your family.
My parents are Mark and Alana English. I have one dog named Morgan.

Are you involved with any community or civic groups?
I work closely with the Fenton Historical Society to organize exhibits and progress forward our general endeavors.

Why are you so passionate about Fenton history?
I’ve been passionate about saving what is left of the past in general. We have so little left today because of situations like Urban Renewal, so it is in our best interest to save what we have. That’s why I didn’t take kindly to the (Fenton) Downtown Development Authority’s plan to demolish 106 W. Shiawassee, and likewise started a movement with other supporters trying to save the house.

Is it just Fenton history, or all history?
All history in general, but certainly I have a passion for ours the most.

We understand that you are an expert with typewriters. Tell us about your collection, how old, where you acquire them.
I currently have six machines myself. My oldest is from 1901 and my newest is from 1977. I’ve gotten the majority of them from antique stores in the area, but was given the 1977 by my grandparents and the 1901 by Mrs. Wheeler at the Historical Society. I found my 1948 Royal KMM at the flea market on Silver Lake Road in August of 2014.

How do you get parts to repair older models?
Interestingly, I really haven’t had any major issues yet. This is, perhaps, because I only purchase working or semi-working models. The only parts I’ve had to replace are, so far, drawbands which I make out of string.

Do you do this as a hobby, or do people pay you to repair their old ones?
I do this as a hobby. I wish I could get paid to do this, but that’s why I fix Apple devices on the side.

What else do you like to do in your spare time?
Writing, photography — the real photography with film — and, of course, listening to records.

Where in the world would you like to travel that you haven’t been to?
Atlanta (Georgia) and England. I always wanted to go to the Coca-Cola Museum in Atlanta, and love the atmosphere of the U.K. Otherwise, I’d want to attend an WWDC (Worldwide Developers Conference) at the Apple Campus in California.

Why is history important?
Not only do we learn from history but it provides insight to our posterity, the future inhabitants of the world.

Correction:
In the article “Walking the dogs,” published on Sunday, Dec. 11, English Setter Millie’s accomplishments were incorrectly stated. It should have said that in 2014, Millie and her owner, Lynda Chase, were the #1 English Setter & Sporting Dog Owner/Handler/Breeder in the American Kennel Club. The same year, Chase received an Award of Merit at Westminster Kennel Club.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Preston English is not only a local history buff, but a collector of vintage typewriters that are on display at the A.J. Phillips Museum in downtown Fenton.
HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE CHRISTMAS TREE on Silver Lake Road and Silver Parkway is the most beautiful piece of art in Fenton. Wish it could stay there all year.

I’VE LIVED in three of the largest cities in this country with unbelievably bad traffic but I’ve never experienced the rudeness of drivers that I’ve seen in the small town of Fenton. And there’s a lady driving a newer model red pick-up truck that really needs to lose her license.

LOVE THESE NEW trashcans that don’t empties everything. Mine is still half-full. Way to go city council.

LAKE VALLEY DRIVE residents had to buy their new street. Now it looks like they want us to pay for our plowing too. Must not be paying enough property taxes.

TO THE PERSON explaining that too large a roll of toilet paper won’t work — compare this to a government getting too big.

TO THE PERSON supporting ‘scumbag lawyers,’ saying that they’re doing some good. Are you suggesting that large money awards will bring someone back from the dead or did you mean that while lawyers collect the large contingency fees, the fact that everyone else insurance rates are going up is beneficial?

TO THE IDIOT who thinks Trump and Castro think the same. First, Castro thinks all government control whereas Trump thinks minimal federal government control. Also, your great hero, Michael Moore is in love with Castro but hates Trump.

A BOY AT Linden schools got in trouble for wearing a confederate battle flag coat to school. But its OK to wear Black Lives Matters shirts and rainbow flag shirts? If you want to cry about a confederate flag coat, OK. But, be fair across the board, don’t pick and choose.

TRUMP SAID THE election was rigged. Now, the U.S. intelligence community is saying Russia interfered with the U.S. election. Guess Trump was right.

PRESIDENT OBAMA WAS accused of eight years of antagonistic, divisive, and anti-American rhetoric. What really occurred was eight years of the conservatives being antagonistic, divisive, and anti-American in an attempt to win at any cost.
12A Sunday, December 18, 2016

**WEEKEND TIMES**

"The best time to sell is when you are ready!" — John Wentworth III

---

**FOX CHASE FARMS**

$249,999

Fantastic new construction ranch home. 1.66 acres, 3 BD, 2 BA and full basement with daylight windows ready to be finished. 3 car attached garage, maintenance free exterior and more. Close to shopping, schools and expressways.

---

**THE HILLS OF TYRONE SUB**

$399,999

10465 SF, 4 BD and 3.5 BA. Great room features fireplace, lots of natural light and soaring ceilings. Beautiful kitchen with granite counter tops, wood floors, pantry and breakfast nook. 3 car attached garage, close to shopping and expressways.

---

**LAKE PONEMAH**

$675,000

All brick ranch w/ 10’’ frontage on all sports Lake Ponemah. 4680 SF of living space. 4, 2.5 BA, 2 car garage. Open floor plan w/ new kitchen, hardwood floors, granite, built in double oven. Finished walkout basement w/ full kitchen & rec room.

---

**LAKE SHINANGUAG**

$549,999

17’’ frontage on all sports Lake Shinanguag. 5499SF of finished living space. 4, 2.5 BA, 2 car garage. Open floor plan, great natural light, hardwood floors, beautiful stone fireplace, gorgeous kitchen features granite, prep area, & wine fridge. Large deck & patio!

---

**LAKE LAPEER**

$744,900

Boasting over 7000 SF of finished living space. 4, 6.5 BA. Quality at every turn - beautiful hardwood floors, beautiful natural light, attention to detail & excellent craftsmanship. Chef's dream kitchen, formal dining room w/ butler's pantry, & great room. Finished walkout basement w/ rec room, exercise room, & 2nd full bath.

---

**SILVER LAKE**

$494,900

Beautiful home w/ 50’’ frontage on private all sports Silver Lake. 2040 SF, 2 BD and 2 BA. Open floor plan, beautiful hardwood floors, eat in kitchen with granite counter tops, pantry and stainless steel appliances. Great sandy shore line for swimming.

---

**PINE HOLLOW ESTATES**

$1,199,000

Stunning Pine Hollow Manor 7900+ SF w/Finished Walkout. Built 2002 @ a cost of 2.5+ Million, 5 BDR, 7 BA Home Boasts Luxury! Nestled On Lavish Grounds Providing Pure Privacy. Marble Floors, Granite, Cherry, Swarovski Crystal, Bilkiss® Trim, 24k Gold Fixtures. Captures a piece of Paradise.

---

**ACREAGE**

$349,999

17’’ frontage on all sports Silver Lake on private point of finished living space. 4, 4 BA. Open floor plan with large kitchen featuring hardwood floors, breakfast room, snack bar and pantry. Family room with fireplace, exposed beams and great natural light.

---

**SILVER LAKE**

$1,050,000

Boasting over 10,000 SF of living space. 5, 5.5. BA Home Boasts Luxury! Nestled On Lavish Grounds Providing Pure Privacy. Marble Floors, Granite, Cherry, Swarovski Crystal, Bilkiss® Trim, 24k Gold Fixtures. Captures a piece of Paradise.

---

**LAKE PONEMAH**

$1,990,000


---

**SILVER LAKE**

$74,999

Potomac, potential, potential! 1000 SF 7L, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, garage, all on almost 2 acres. Great location close to I-75 and US 23. Enjoy all Fenton and Holly have to offer. close to schools, shopping and more. Don't miss this opportunity!

---

**ACREAGE**

$209,900

Boasting over 9000 SF, 3 BD & 2 BA. Great room features natural light, brick fireplace & soaring ceilings. Bonus room can be used as family room, game room or office. 2 car attached garage & whole house generator included!

---

**PINE HOLLOW ESTATES**

$299,900

150’ frontage on all sports Silver Lake in private gated isle of Boardeau's community. 4700 SF of living space w/stone external. 4 BD & 5 BA. Maintenance free brick exterior. 4 car attached garage and generator. Finished walkout lower level with full kitchen.

---

**ACREAGE**

$250,000

Boasting on All Sports Silver Lake. Beautiful wooded, peaceful and last lot on Mail Dr. Great Opportunity to Build Your Dream Home.

---

**LAKE LAPEER**

$1,750,000

Over 10,000 SF of luxury Living. 5 BD, 7 BD, nestled on 2.25 acres w/large pond and beautiful water views. 2 gourmet kitchens, 3 spiral staircases, theater room, wine cellar, 2 laundry rooms, 2 master suites, dog bath, heated floors, heated driveway.

---

**SILVER LAKE**

$1,199,000

Gorgeous property 140+ acres w/waterfront potential. Great for fishing, hunting or horses. Superb waterfront hunting habitat. Boone & Crockett hunting potential for deer. Farming & development potential. Farmhouse has 3 BD, 2 & 1871 SF.

---

**PINE HOLLOW ESTATES**

$225,000

210’ frontage on All Sports Silver Lake. Beautiful lot on Pine Hollow Estates w/ premium lot. Beautiful lake view. 3 car attached garage, private driveway, beautiful landscaping and more. Don’t miss this opportunity!
TIPS FROM THE MICHIGAN STATE POLICE ON STAYING FOCUSED WHILE DRIVING

• Be familiar with vehicle features and equipment before pulling out into traffic.
• Preset radio stations, MP3 devices, and climate control.
• Secure items that may move around when the car is in motion. Do not reach down or behind the seat to pick up items.
• Do not text, access the Internet, watch videos, play video games, search MP3 devices, or use any other distracting technology while driving.
• Avoid smoking, eating, drinking, and reading while driving.
• Pull safely off the road and out of traffic to deal with children.
• Do personal grooming at home, not in the vehicle.
• Review maps and driving directions before hitting the road.
• Monitor traffic conditions before engaging in activities that could divert attention.
• Ask a passenger to help with activities that may be distracting.
• Schedule regular stops if driving long distances, every 100 miles or two hours.
• Travel at times when you are normally awake and stay overnight rather than driving straight through.
• Avoid alcohol and medications that may make you drowsy.

DISTRACTED

Continued from Front Page

other studies show that men and women are both distracted at about the same rate. It’s a toss up, depending on which study you read.

According to Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro, there are three main types of distraction: visual, like taking your eyes off the road; manual, taking your hands off the wheel; and cognitive, which is when a driver isn’t paying attention to what they’re doing.

Distracted driving includes using a cell phone, eating or drinking, talking to passengers, grooming, reading, which includes maps, using any devices or navigation system, watching a video, or changing the radio station, CD, or MP3 player.

Distracted driving includes using a cell phone, eating or drinking, talking to passengers, grooming, reading, which includes maps, using any devices or navigation system, watching a video, or changing the radio station, CD or MP3 player.

The percentage of drivers text-messaging or visibly manipulating handheld devices increased from 1.7 percent in 2013 to 2.2 percent in 2014, according to the NHTSA.

It’s been proven that young drivers (age 16-24) are more likely to use electronic devices than older drivers, but who’s more distracted—men or women?

According to hallenlawfirm.com, a study conducted in Pennsylvania found that men are more likely to disregard or downplay the risks associated with texting and driving than women.

The Pew Research Center found that male drivers are more likely to report reading or sending texts while at the wheel, and they’re also more likely to talk on the phone.

According to Fenlon Police Chief Scott Sutter said the first offense for distracted driving is a civil fine of $100 and the second and subsequent fine is $200. Being distracted while driving causes thousands of deaths yearly.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA) found that 3,179 people were killed and 421,000 were injured in traffic crashes in 2014 involving distracted drivers. Shaw said in Michigan in 2014, 14 people died and 2,429 were injured in more than 5,000 crashes involving a distracted driver or a driver using a cell phone.

A 2015 Erie Insurance report on distracted driving found that drivers will do many dangerous things while driving, like change clothes or brush their teeth.

Because texting involves all three types of distraction, it’s considered the most alarming distraction, according to distraction.gov, the official U.S. government website for distracted driving.

Linden Police Chief Scott Sutter said that men are more likely to disregard or downplay the risks associated with texting and driving than women.

Another survey done by Saga Car Insurance in Britain, found that in a pool of 11,211 drivers aged 50 and older, one fourth (25 percent) of the drivers who admitted engaging in distracted behaviors more than women.

However, in a 2011 survey by the General Motors Acceptance Corporation (GMAC) Insurance National Drivers Test, it was found that 52 percent of women drivers said they eat while driving, as opposed to 44 percent of male drivers. The survey found that 83 percent of female drivers admit to texting while stopped at a red light, as opposed to 71 percent of male drivers.

In the study, male drivers admitted to engaging in more distracted driving behaviors more than women.

A 20-minute walk through the events that foretold and preceded Christ’s birth.

Warm up with music and refreshments inside after your walk!
BOOKSTORES
Continued from Page 3A
Shoppers buy books go out of print, and secondhand bookstores help people find these books.

“They throwing a book in the trash, it just seems like sacrilegious. It allows people to recycle. If you like the book, you’re passing it on to somebody else,” she said.

Henderson said she’s making an effort to post more about the store on Facebook because people are always on their phones.

“If you want to communicate with people you sort of have to,” Henderson said, adding, “I’ll promote certain books online, like a pile of Civil War books that would make good presents for fathers and grandfathers who are history buffs.

Karen Placentini, owner of Fenton’s Open Book, said communicating with Amazon and big booksellers like Barnes & Noble can be tough, but people come into her store for the experience and feel of a small-town bookstore.

She also said that because they’re an independent store, they aren’t bound by corporation rules to not carry certain books or certain authors. “We can do whatever we want—we’re independent,” she said.

People also shop at local bookstores because they’re more personal and customers receive better help.

“You get in-store help. We give out recommendations,” she said. “It’s fun to talk about books with the people.”

“For years, Power Vac, Inc. has been improving the community’s health one household at a time. ‘Did you know that half of all illnesses come directly from dirty indoor air? In fact, our indoor air is 90 times more polluted than the atmosphere outside?’ explained Keith Meadows, Power Vac Owner and Operator. ‘More than 90% of the phone calls we receive are from distraught people complaining about dust in their homes. They tell me they will dust the house Friday, but by Sunday the entire house is covered again, and they’re not sure where these dust piles are coming from. Let me tell you, you’ve got a bad housekeeper. All you need to do is have your ducts cleaned. This simple step will drastically reduce the dust in your household. The reason for the dust is your cold air returns. You see, cold air returns suck in dirty air. Over time it builds up in your ducts until the debris resembles what you would find in your vacuum bag.’

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

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

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

‘This brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are essentially like a Shop-Vac that you would vacuum your car with. Then there are companies who claim they have a truck-mounted system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van. We have the equipment powerful enough to get the job done right, and that equipment is a Power Vac truck.’

‘Want to see the difference between our equipment and portable or truck-mounted equipment? Visit our website at www.callpowervac.com.’

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

‘What makes the difference in equipment? Power! To put things into perspective, your furnace moves 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is what you feel coming out of your register. Truck-mounted equipment moves 4,000 CFM! Well, Power Vac moves over 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is four times the power of most competitors.

‘You need to beware of companies using cheap equipment and advertising cheap prices. Most of these companies are unlicensed, or they may advertise that they are licensed, but are not. Avoid scams by not falling for cheap, get-you-in-the-door scams by not falling for cheap, get-you-in-the-door

‘Do you have a question that you would like to have answered? E-mail it to me at askthemechanic@wilkinsonautorepair.com.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES / SUBMITTED PHOTO
April and Keith Meadows help keep indoor air clean with their local business, Power Vac.
ST. RITA HOSTS CHRISTMAS CONCERT
The St. Rita Choir invites the public for a peaceful hour of uplifting, inspirational Christmas music at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18. St. Rita’s is at 309 E. Maple St. in Holly. Any donation will be appreciated.

LIBERAL LOGIC, you can’t cut down trees because a rare yellow bellied sapsucker bird might live in them, but you can kill near-term babies because it is inconvenient to the mother.

DOES ANYBODY ELSE wonder how many Hot lines calls the Times receives every week, and is one time of year busier than any other?

WE HEAR BETSY DeVos, now that she’s going to be education secretary, is going to require all high school students to take Russian with our new Secretary of State who seems to be buddy-buddy with Mr. Putin.
I’D JUST LIKE to say God bless you neighbor for doing my driveway after this storm. Thank you so much.

THANK YOU TO the house on Lobdell Road, right after Hilltop, with the beautiful Christmas tree on their lawn. It always puts me into the Christmas spirit when I drive by. Thank you.

CHARTER’S ONLINE TV guide is ridiculous. Everything I tried to watch this weekend was not on the channel listed in the guide. Totally unreliable.

THANKS FENTON DPW for once again having our streets cleared during and after the Sunday/Monday snowstorm that dumped several inches on us. Great job. It’s nice to know we can always count on you.

IF EVER I feel the need for grandchildren, a quick trip to one of the big stores in Fenton is the cure for that. Why do people bring all of their crying, screaming kids to the store? And then ignore them when they’re acting up.

I JUST WANT to thank the wonderful person who cleared the sidewalk on Forest Drive Monday. So thank you very much and I hope you have a very blessed holiday season.

THE KING NOW gets offended at ‘Happy Holidays?’ You must be fun at parties. Also, I thought it was the liberals who got offended at everything, not the right, but the King surprises us all.

WITH ALL THESE black squirrels around here, the next thing you know the righty-tighties are going to want to build a wall around them or have them exported out of the country.

HOORAY FOR THE King. Tell it like it is about the liberal left. I wish all a very Merry Christmas and God bless us all.

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HOORAY FOR THE King. Tell it like it is about the liberal left. I wish all a very Merry Christmas and God bless us all.
HEMOCODE SYSTEM may be the answer!

HEMOCODE is a blood test for 250 common foods and additives that indicate food intolerances/sensitivities which may potentially inhibit personal wellness. So, if you think you’re eating healthy, you probably aren’t. Find out for certain!

HEMOCODE is a part of nutrition therapy at:

THE CALLARD CLINIC
873 Silver Lake Rd. • Fenton
(810) 629-5566

Get Your Vehicle ready for Winter

Tires
Batteries
Coolant Flush

“went for my 1st oil change on my lease. Very fast and polite. Took great care of me and my vehicle.”
— Gail L. of Fenton

“Scott Metcalf did an excellent job as a Service Advisor.”
— Jeffrey D. of Grand Blanc

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I LOVED VERA Hogan’s thoughtful article on spousal abuse. I worked for years at the Safe House Shelter for Women and Children at the YWCA in Flint. If you need a safe place to stay, call (810) 238-7621. They will do all they can to help you stay safe and help you get on your feet again.

I LOVE HOW the Republicans in this town make up their false facts and false news and they swallow it.

WHEN YOU GET all done taking out the people who weren’t going to be going down to Mexico with Carrier, Donald Trump only saved about 300 jobs. More lies from the right wing.
FRIDGE
Continued from Page 3A
What size space do we have?

Once you’ve decided to buy a new refrigerator, you need to know the space you have available in your kitchen.

“Most people come in without having an idea how much actual space they have for a new refrigerator,” said Jessica Hebdab, sales associate at Sears Hometown Store. Because some people have custom-built kitchens from 20 years ago, they are limited on space and choices. “Refrigerators no longer come in standard sizes,” she added.

Stone suggests you measure the opening accurately from the floor up to the cupboard. “They can go in snug,” he said.

Consumer Reports also advises consumers to check that a refrigerator can fit through doorways. Allow room for the refrigerator’s doors to swing open, and for enough clearance around the sides and back for adequate airflow.

For capacity, if you have a family, you may want a 25-cubic-foot refrigerator or larger, depending on whether you also have a separate freezer or an extra refrigerator in your basement or garage. If you buy many of your groceries in bulk, you may want to go larger.

What style will fit our kitchen and our lifestyle?

There’s a configuration to suit every home — from the very fancy French door style to top freezer, bottom freezer, side-by-side and built-ins. Many consumers like the convenience of bottom freezers, but top freezers and side-by-sides can be more efficient in a smaller kitchen, according to Consumer Reports.

For a custom look, consider a counter-depth refrigerator, which will be flush to your cabinets. “You lose a little space, but it’s a nice clean look,” said Stone. “It also gives you more room to navigate around an island.”

You can buy custom panels that will match your refrigerator to your cabinetry for the ultimate custom look.

“Today’s models are so much more energy efficient, you might want to consider buying a new one if yours is 10 years old or more.”

Jeff Stone
Owner of Sears
HomeTown Store in Fenton

Sears of Fenton Sales Associate Jessica Hebdab said that black stainless steel is the latest hot color in refrigerators.

What features are we looking for?

Today’s refrigerator options go way beyond a water and ice dispenser on the front door, although that is the most requested feature, according to Stone.

New models may include door-in-door storage access, for grabbing snacks and beverages without opening the entire refrigerator.

Other features include freshness technology to keep foods fresh longer, temperature controls and better shelves and drawers to re-configure the interior.

For high-end luxury, you can also buy a “smart” refrigerator with a built-in wi-fi-enabled touchscreen as its focal point, allowing you to leave messages for family, coordinate schedules, look up recipes, watch TV, even order groceries. Built-in cameras take photos of the refrigerator’s interior every time the door closes so you can monitor what you need and access these photos from your smartphone when you’re grocery shopping. The refrigerator can also notify you when food is about to expire.

How much can we afford to spend?

Generally, top freezers are the most affordable, priced between $450 and $1,100, according to Stone. Bottom freezers are priced between $750 and $1,700. Expect to pay $800 to $2,300 for side-by-sides and $1,100 to $3,400 for French-style doors.

How energy-efficient is it?

Start with the EPA Energy Star rating on the label; it means that a product is in the top 25 percent in the market. Efficiency does vary by model, i.e., an unlabeled top freezer might be more efficient than an Energy Star-approved French door model.

For an apples-to-apples comparison of efficiency, check out the EnergyGuide labels of your favorite operating costs and kilowatt-hours used per year.

Editor’s note: this is the beginning of a series by Features Writer Sally Rummel on what consumers need to know and ask to buy the best appliance for their needs.
JOIN US FOR OUR
HOLIDAY WORSHIP

A SAVIOR IS BORN!
Please join us as we proclaim
the wonderful news!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE
December 24th, 4 p.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m.
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
December 25th, 10 a.m.

NEW YEARS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE
December 31st, 7 p.m.
NEW YEARS DAY SERVICE
January 1st, 10 a.m.

Hope Lutheran Church
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CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
5:00PM & 7:00PM
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
10:00AM
Pastor Jim Rolf
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7355 W. Silver Lake Rd. • Linden

Join us for our
Christmas Eve Service
Saturday, December 24th at 6:00 pm

Join us as We Celebrate the Coming of the Christ Child

TYRONE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
- Pastor James Mascow -
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
December 24th
6:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship Service
December 25th
10:15 a.m.

10235 White Lake Rd. Fenton, MI 48430 • 810-629-1261
www.tyronepca.org

Christmas Eve Gatherings

5:00pm Casual-style service in the Family Life Center
7:00pm Traditional-style service in the Sanctuary
9:00pm All music service in the Sanctuary
11:00pm Traditional-style service in the Sanctuary

Childcare available at the 5:00 & 7:00pm services

Fenton United Methodist Church
119 S. Leroy Street • Fenton • 810-629-2132
www.fentonUMC.com

Join with us for Christmas Eve

PASTORS:
Lindsey & Robbie Carnes

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
503 S. LEROY • FENTON, MICHIGAN
810-629-7801
www.ffpc.org • Visit us on Facebook
Candlelight Family Service..................................................7:00 p.m.
Service of Lessons and Carols.............................................11:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service
@ 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Day: “Service of Lessons & Carols” @ 10:30 a.m.

Central Church of the Nazarene
1261 W. Bristol Rd. Flint, MI 48507
centralnazarene.com
facebook.com/flintcentralchurch

COME SHARE HIS LIGHT!

Christmas Eve Service
@ 7:00 P.M.

14176 Fenton Rd.
Fenton
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www.fentonTLC.org

Transfiguration Lutheran Church
HELP! 
Continued from Front Page

The traditional red kettles are the most visual work of The Salvation Army Christmas season, which began Nov. 9 and continues through Dec. 24. Volunteer ringers are still being sought for some locations, according to Martinbianco.

Red kettles are at both VG’s Grocery locations on North LeRoy Street and Silver Parkway and Walmart on Owen Road. “The recent closing of Kmart has impacted this town,” she added. “People who shopped there were very generous.”

Even though donations are behind last year’s numbers, Martinbianco is confident that donations will increase as it gets closer to Christmas.

“Super Saturday” on Dec. 17 will provide matching opportunities for donations given that day at Walmart and Kroger stores, according to Martinbianco.

Thanks to The Jennings Memorial Foundation, all donations at Walmart and Sam’s Club locations will be matched up to $10,000 on Saturday only. The Flint Independent Automobile Dealers Association will match donations up to $10,000 at area Kroger stores, also on Saturday.

For donors who can’t be at one of those red kettle locations on Saturday, they can use their mobile device and text SEASON to 91999. “This is our second year to offer giving through our Mobile app,” said Martinbianco. “Many people don’t carry cash anymore.”

Donors can also drop cash or checks into red kettles or can donate online to www.salarmygenesee.org. The Salvation Army continues to be one of the most trusted human service organizations, with 87 cents of every dollar going directly to programming and services. The Salvation Army feeds, shelters, clothes and rehabilitates people in need all year long.

Last year, the Salvation Army provided basic needs and emergency financial assistance for more than 4,247 residents. Funds helped families keep utilities on, and provided financial support to avoid homelessness by helping them remain in their homes without the worry of eviction or foreclosure.

Their food distribution program provided 10,300 food orders and 2,400 meals to children through their Kids’ Café and Picnics in The Park.

For more information about donations or to volunteer, call Martinbianco at (810) 231-1684.

RETAILERS
Continued from Front Page

Christmas are the busiest for jewelers, because shoppers know they can come in and find what they’re looking for.

“This year, we have really focused on carrying one-of-a-kind pieces that you won’t find at any other store,” said Beltinck. “We have the best selection of jewelry in the history of Sawyer Jewelers.”

Beltinck is grateful for every last one of those Christmas Eve customers and all who have shopped locally in their store this holiday.

Last minute shoppers are the “icing on the cake” for local retailers, who depend on their hometown residents for a successful holiday season.

“We’ve already sold a lot of women’s apparel, home décor, gifts and floral, and have had a great year for home entertaining and corporate events,” said Jon Gerych of Gerych Flowers & Distinctive Gifts in Fenton.

Gerych is wrapping up the best year his store has had in 10 years, attributing much of this year’s success to more confident consumers. “Everyone’s upbeat,” he said.

This coming week, he’s expecting to be busy with last minute shoppers. “If you order a holiday basket or gourmet basket, we’ll get it there the same day or the next day,” said Gerych.

“So far, so good,” is how Kevin Begola of Bridge Street Exchange in Linden characterizes the 2016 holiday shopping season.

“We’ve been really busy, especially last Saturday during our special Stormy Kromer event,” said Begola.

He expects this last week before Christmas to be busy because shoppers still have a few things to get. “I think this weekend will be crazy,” he said. “A lot of people tell me they don’t want to go to malls; they want to shop local if they can.”

At The Iron Grate in downtown Fenton, co-owner Tara Wakeham was so busy on Thursday afternoon that she hardly had a moment between customers. Local shoppers are coming in for gift items for others (and often a little something for themselves), and their homes, with accessories and décor, clothing, bedding and linens, jewelry and more.

While many shoppers did shop online this year, traditional stores have continued to be in their shopping mix. Many people in the tri-county area enjoy shopping in their hometowns for the convenience and loyalty to their communities.

They know there are many benefits to keeping their dollars at home, where they benefit their local economy. Hometown retailers recirculate 51.1 percent of revenue back into their communities, while national chains recirculate less than 14 percent.

Shopping in local stores also creates jobs in your community. Local businesses employ residents who live in your same hometown. You’ll also find a more unique selection of gifts at local stores than you will on the shelves of national retailers. Business owners hand-select their own items to sell and they are often one-of-a-kind.

Shoppers will find a local shopping experience to be far more enjoyable — connecting with business owners whom you know and getting unparalleled customer service, from wish lists, to gift wrapping and returns.

SUMMARY

The bright red kettles of the Salvation Army need your help more than ever this year, to meet Genesee County’s goal of raising $800,000. Their campaign runs through Christmas Eve, Dec. 24.

Donors can also drop cash or checks into red kettles or can donate online to www.salarmygenesee.org. The Salvation Army continues to be one of the most trusted human service organizations, with 87 cents of every dollar going directly to programming and services. The Salvation Army feeds, shelters, clothes and rehabilitates people in need all year long.

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For more information about donations or to volunteer, call Martinbianco at (810) 231-1684.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Sunday, December 18, 2016

21A

21A

21A

21A
The Linden, Fenton and Lake Fenton co-op gymnastics team (LFLF) is off to an outstanding start.

The team won its first invitational and quad meet earlier this season. 

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

The squad has plenty of time to perfect their performances considering regionals aren’t until March 4, and that’s a good thing because two girls on the 12-player squad are hurt.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM

Fenton swimmers gunning for another big season

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

Fenton — Justin Beemer is just one swimmer on a large Fenton varsity boys swim team roster.

It’s a roster which includes many seniors, but also many strong performers from just about every class.

It can be argued that Beemer is one of the better swimmers on the team. After all, his name is on the school record board for the better swimmers on the team. After all, it’s not like he’s a one of the relay events. However, that said, it’s not like he’s a flat out superstar in the pool either.

Beemer is a pretty good representation of the type of athlete that Fenton’s boys swim team seems to have in abundance every year in recent seasons. And it’s the reason why the Tigers are the Metro League’s top power, winning every conference crown since 2012. It’s a team full of many quality swimmers, giving the squad the strength up top and the strength with the depth points to capture victories.

However, outside the league the squad School.

“So far we have had three meets and we are 3-0,” LFLF gymnastics coach Nancy Holden said. “Our scores are coming in quite high for this early in the season, and I am pleased with the solid performances we have had. Right now my goal is to get consistency with the skills we are performing so we can be flawless going into regional competition.”

The Linden varsity girls basketball team.

But that start got a little better on Tuesday night. The Eagles captured their first win of the season, defeating Rochester 42-28.

“We played really well,” Linden varsity girls basketball coach Ben Varner said. “We had more than just one person score, and I’m telling you, what a difference that makes. We rebounded in the second half really well and that was huge also.”

The Eagles (1-4) had strong offensive quarters in the first and fourth periods. They played strong defense all four quarters.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM

Linden girls basketball captures first win of season vs. Rochester

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

It’s been a tough start to the season for the Linden varsity girls basketball team.

The Eagles (1-4) had strong offensive quarters in the first and fourth periods. They played strong defense all four quarters.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM

LF wrestlers narrowly edged by D1 state-ranked Brighton Bulldogs

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

Lake Fenton — It’s a scenario the Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team is already getting used to this season.

The Blue Devils have a mighty impressive roster of wrestlers, starting with past state champions Jarrett Trombley and Trent Hillger. However, the departures are costing Lake Fenton in one area, collecting quality team wins. Due to having voids at 103 and 112 and inexperienced wrestlers another weight class, the Blue Devils are basically giving other state-ranked teams 18 free points before their matches begin.

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**TRI-COUNTY SPORTS**

**Sunday, December 18, 2016**

**23A**

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**Fenton teams finish 1-2-3 in our Tri-County Top 12 poll**

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

**CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM**

Holly boys basketball falls to Groves, 86-70

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

Holly varsity boys basketball coach Lance Baylis knows that Birmingham Groves has a talented team.

After Tuesday night’s game against the squad, he knows why.

“Groves has one of the longest teams I’ve ever seen,” Baylis said. “They have four guys with wingspans of 6-6 to 10. I’ve never seen that in my 12 years. They are just long and very athletic.”

Groves’ length bothered the Bronchos all night, eventually resulting in an 86-70 loss at Groves High School.

“We started off great. We led 16-10 in the first quarter and only trailed 21-18 at the end of the first quarter,” Baylis said. “It was the wrong game to be missing Paris Partee. They pounded the ball and played patio cake on the boards. They had a lot of second-chance points.”

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**Eagles’ offense struggles vs. Rochester, falls 57-37 in non-league contest**

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

The Linden varsity boys basketball program had a nice start to the season last week when the squad defeated Holly.

The offense sparked the victory as the program had a nice start to the season.

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**PREP REPORT**

**WRESTLING**

- **Fenton at Carman-Ainsworth quad:** The Tigers lost to Grand Blanc 45-31, but defeated Carman-Ainsworth 55-29.
  - Jayden (125), Tommy Adams (145)
  - Connor Pulman (160) and Will Galvin (177) each went 2-0 at the event.

**GIRLS BOWLING**

- **Detroit Country Day 73, Fenton 35:** The Tigers were outscored 25-7 in the opening quarter, eventually resulting in the non-league loss.
  - Chloe Idon led the Tigers with eight points while Aly Lenz had six points.
  - Keegan Miller had eight rebounds while Emma Charick had five points. Ms. Baseketball candidate Destiny Pitts led Country Day with 26 points.

**BOYS BOWLING**

- **Flushing 28, Fenton 2:** Alex Keith bowled a strong 243-232-475 series to earn both of his points and lead the Tigers.

**GIRLS BOWLING**

- **Flushing 30, Fenton 0:** Angela Hart led the Tigers with a strong 155-157-312 series. Laura Albrant had a 145-154-299 series.

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

- **Lake Fenton JV 52, Beecher 50:** The Blue Devils’ Parker Brady hit the game-winning layup at the final buzzer in overtime, giving the Blue Devils (3-0) the win. Cody Schramm led Lake Fenton with 17 points, while Brady had 15 points. Ethan Dunckle had 13 points.

- **Rochester JV 39, Linden JV 28:** Rochester was led by Seeger deGayner with 15 points while Max James scored four.

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A New Year’s Eve Celebration at The Laundry

Dinner Service until 11:00 p.m.
Craft Cocktails and Punch Service until 1:00 a.m.

Our New Year’s Eve celebration will feature
Live Jazz from the Jack McDonald Trio and a Champagne Toast.

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