Whale that killed Dawn Brancheau dies at SeaWorld

**World’s most famous killer whale linked to three deaths over 36-year career**

By Sally Rummel

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Tilikum, nicknamed Tilly, the most famous orca whale in the world, died Friday, Jan. 6 at SeaWorld in Orlando, Florida, following a lung infection that had plagued him since last spring.

Believed to be 36 years old, Tilikum’s death followed a quarter-century of controversy about killer whales in captivity, especially after the violence of three deaths associated with his public performances at marine parks.

The latest tragedy on Feb. 24, 2010 shook the Fenton community when SeaWorld-Orlando’s star trainer and spokesperson, Dawn Brancheau, 40, leaned over and was grabbed by Tilikum into his tank, causing her death.

Brancheau’s in-laws, John and Terry Brancheau, reside in Fenton. Dawn and her husband Scott, had met at SeaWorld, where he was a professional water skier, and the couple married in September 1986. Terry said at the time that her daughter-in-law loved what she was doing and it had been a lifelong dream for her to work at SeaWorld.

After her death, SeaWorld was fined by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and was required to provide adequate training to hydrogen peroxide handlers. After the death, SeaWorld fired two trainers involved in the incident.

Substitute teachers are disappearing

**Significant decrease in people pursuing teaching certificates**

By Hannah Ball

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Billboards with ads searching for substitute teachers have popped up in Michigan. Lake Fenton Superintendent Wayne Wright said, “If you ride down 1-69 you’ll see this on a regular basis.”

This is because Michigan is experiencing a substitute teacher shortage, which could be an indicator that fewer people are choosing education as a profession. See SUBSTITUTE on 15A

Ford GT wows crowds at Auto Show

**During a media day this week at the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS), the Ford GT supercar was a big hit. The GT is projected to have more than 600 horsepower from a 3.5-liter EcoBoost engine. To learn more about the auto show, go to page 3A.**

Record low U.S. birth rate

**Declining population has a definite negative financial impact**

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

With the U.S. birth rate hitting a record low, and a big drop in the number of immigrant women having babies — the question is how will this affect the economy.

According to usnews.com, if the trend persists, it could mean lower living standards for most Americans in the future.

It may seem obvious that a declining population is good for See BIRTH on 16A

The decreasing birth rate in the United States is projected to hurt many aspects of the economy, especially school districts.
LEGACY REALTY
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810-629-1511

NEW LISTING

FENTON
Carole Lane
16+ acres, mostly wooded, and with its own pond and gorgeous views. Space has been cleared for a build site, but you could choose your own spot as well. Property located on a private road on a cul-de-sac and in high demand Fenton school district. ½ mile from US 23 makes this location great for commuters.
$124,900
Call Frank Cramer 810-869-5701

HOLLY
2012 Bore Rd. Beautiful rustic contemporary on 1 acre in Fenton schools. Includes access to Taylor Lake with a 5 acre lakeshore park! 3 bedrooms 2.5 baths plus a partially finished basement, deck and above ground pool. Come see it Sunday. Only $244,900
Call Kelsey Kerr 810-210-4155

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. 16x24 Pole barn and 2 car attached garage.
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FENTON
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 Shiawassee River. And there is plenty of parking space.
$299,900
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

NEW LISTING

OXFORD
Brocker 40 rolling acres of vacant land with frontage off Brocker and easement off private Papadelis Ct. Down the street from Metamora’s famous Hunt Country. Back half is Oxford schools and mailing with front half prestigious Metamora. Property has been surveyed and splits approved by township.
$399,900
Call Tina Grant 810-441-0297.

FENTON
511 Beach Large parcel with many commercial and/or light industrial possibilities! Property is over 8 acres and in the city of Fenton. The building is actively being used for storage and boat maintenance; however it does need substantial repairs.
$449,900
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

WHITE LAKE
8566 Pontiac Lake A great opportunity for income property on Pontiac Lake. A 4 unit apartment bldg. at 8566, a separate 1028 sq.ft. 3 bedroom ranch with 26x24 att. garage at 8563 and a wonderful 70’ lot on Pontiac Lake w/paved boat launch at water and dock. Breathtaking views across lake.
$259,900
Call Diana Beckemeyer 810-877-21567

FENTON
010 Main Gorgeous all brick home on 1.7 acres. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout the kitchen, great room, and fireplace sitting room. 4 bedrooms including first floor master. Finished walkout basement with second fire place. 3 car garage with huge loft. Walking distance to all downtown Fenton has to offer.
$219,900
Call Lynn Rostano 810-625-7399

LINDEN
91524 Longfield FREEHOLD OPPORTUNITY 100 feet of sandy shoreline on peaceful McCaslin Lake. Contemporary 5 bedroom home offers lots of living space. Functional kitchen with plenty of cabinets and counter space. Roamy living room with great views or sit outside on your large dock and soak in the tranquility of living on the water.
$199,000
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

FENTON
1010 Main St. Large parcel with many potential uses! Property is over 4 acres and in the city of Fenton. The building is actively being used for storage and boat maintenance; however it does need substantial repairs.
$360,000
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

THANK YOU
TO ALL IN OUR COMMUNITY
who have helped us grow into one of the largest real estate companies in the area. We are grateful for the blessings of family and friends and looking forward to further growth in 2017.
From all of us at
LEGACY REALTY PROFESSIONALS...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Holly car revs up the crowds at MGM Grand exotic auto show in Detroit

By Tim Jagielo

Holly — On Thursday, Jan. 5, Falcon Motorsports CEO Jeff Lemke and Kevin McLaughlin wiped down the 620 horsepower V-8 engine of a Falcon F7.

This “millennium red” beast is headed for the MGM Grand exotic car show in Detroit this weekend, and then onto its owner in Lansing.

Lemke, 45, has in the past been open about the number of cars his boutique company has built each year since beginning in 2012. The cars in the past have cost $250,000 to nearly $400,000, and he projected building 12 in 2014.

But this year, anything about what’s coming in 2017, or how many his small team produced in 2016, remains a secret.

See FALCON on 20A

Lamborghini, Ferrari...and Falcon F7?

State rep trying to get rid of public notices

Proposing that notices be available only on government websites

Last week, the Michigan House of Representatives began its 99th session. A bill introduced by Representative Rob Verheulen (R-Walker) is a replica of the bill introduced in the last two sessions by former Representative Amanda Price (R-Clark Twp.) that would remove all public notices from newspapers.

These are notices that, by law, must be printed in a public newspaper in order to inform the public of changes being considered by their local government. When printed in a local newspaper they become available to all citizens, and are archived for historical purposes.

In this era of unscrupulous hacking by foreign entities it seems that depositing all the information about government activity including things like zoning, millage increases, and government takeover of personal property to the websites of the government themselves is risky at best and possibly unethical at worst.

See PUBLIC NOTICE on 10A

Piano Wars!

Join us for a night of song, comedy and dancing

FRIDAY • JANUARY 20, 2017
Doors open at 7:00 PM • Dueling piano show 8:30 - 10:30 • DJ & dancing 10:30 - 11:30
$20 per person • Cash bar & food menu will be available

Advanced reservations & payment required. Tickets available in the taproom or online at localwineevents.com

810.373.4194 | 1370 N. Long Lake | FentonBrewery.com @drinkfwb
Tues - Thurs 3-9 • Fri & Sat 12-11 • Sun 12-8
Random observations

Sorry, Trump doesn’t get to get away with the same slight-of-tongue tricks he did during the election. He’s going to be president in a few days. The bar is higher now.

That means he doesn’t get to call news he doesn’t like ‘fake news.’ (The truth is we don’t know yet whether the startling intelligence dossier on him regarding Russia is fake or real. But I do know this: If it was deemed credible enough by our intelligence services to share it with both Trump and Obama, that’s damn well news, unsubstantiated or not.) He also doesn’t get to compare our intelligence services to the propaganda efforts of Nazi Germany, and accuse them — without any evidence — of leaking the dossier. We have to rely on these people to keep the country safe, and he insults them at every turn. The Trump style, I think we’ve all noticed, is to say whatever pops into his head then walk it back if necessary. That’s fine for a candidate, dangerous when you’re President of the United States.

• Trump doesn’t take office for another week but it seems like we’ve already had four years’ worth of weirdness and controversy, doesn’t it? It’s like his administration is aging in dog years. I think I am, too.

• Well, this is a whole bunch of ‘Your State Government in Action’ fun. According to a Free Press report, a screwed up unemployment fraud detection computer program used by the state has falsely accused and fined as many as 50,000 Michiganders since 2007. And many of those people might not get their money back because of the statute of limitations. And it took Gov. Snyder a year to ‘reassign’ the head of the agency responsible for the error (that zippy, proactive pace will sound familiar to Flintoids). And this week he signed a law taking $10 million from a fund to repay the falsely accused to help balance the state budget. But they now say future ‘auto-adjudications’ will require human verification, which is nice. Unless, of course, you’re guilty, at which the computer sends a guy named Vinnie over to your house to auto-adjust your knee caps until you pay up. (I’m joking about that, of course. I think.)

• It is my contention that if you showed me photos of 100 U.S. senators or representatives, I could tell you with 75-percent accuracy which party they’re from. They just have a different look, you know? Maybe you don’t. Maybe it’s just me. But let me give you an example: Mike Pence. See what I mean? He just looks ... Republican, right? Here’s another: Nancy Pelosi. She simply looks like a Democrat. I can’t define either look, but I know them when I see them.

• Last Sunday was No Pants Subway Ride day across the globe. Honest. It was. So there’s at least one reason to be grateful Michigan doesn’t have a true mass transit system.

• ‘C’mon, you didn’t really think the Lions were going to win a playoff game, did you?’ That would upset the normal order of the universe.

• ‘Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change without thinking they can no longer care about us. Kennedy approved the election. Nixon neverdaid the winner’s outcome? One.’ — George Bernard Shaw

What is your dream car?

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

“A ’79 Chevelle. It was my papa’s car.”
— Kendall Kidwell, Holly

“McLaren F1. I like it because it’s fast. Any year, they’re all fast.”
— Nathan Franks, Linden

“Probably a Charger. I just like the way it looks.”
— Stella Cook, Holly

“A racecar. Blue. Because they’re super fast.”
— Aalyah Cook, Holly

“A ’65 Bonneville convertible. It’s a luxury car. My mom and dad had one.”
— Tom Neal, Linden
Real Estate Agency of the Year!

- Harris Poll 2016

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-3**

**OCEOLA**

5506 Kristin Dr., Oceola • $479,900
4 Bedrooms, 5(3,2) Baths, 3,866 Sq Ft.

**LINDEN**

6388 Oak Leaf Trl, Linden • $269,900
3 Bedrooms, 3 Bath, 1,700 Sq Ft plus finished basement.

**GRAND BLANC**

4443 Maplewood Meadows, Grand Blanc • $200,000
4 Bedrooms, 3(2,1) baths, 1,918 Sq Ft.

**LOBDELL LAKE WATERFRONT**

16455 Oak Hill Dr., Fenton • $475,000
4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 1,600 Sq Ft.

**HOLLY - OVER 86 ACRES**

5105 Lahrng Rd, Holly • $400,000

**FENTON**

3 bedrooms, over 3 acres, pool and massive pole barn, downtown Fenton, lots of deer.

**GRAND BLANC**

5423 Olde Saybrook Rd, Grand Blanc • $138,000
3 Bedrooms, 2(1,1) Baths, 1,543 Sq Ft

**ORCHARD HILLS - FENTON**

944 Peach Tree Trl, Fenton • $258,750
4 Bedrooms, 3(2,1) Bath, 2,048 Sq Ft.

**HOLLY**

12755 Meadow View Cir., Holly • $320,000
4 Bedrooms, 4(3,1) Baths, 2,583 Sq Ft.

**GRAND BLANC**

6393 Crossbow Ct., Grand Blanc • $349,900
4 Bedrooms, 3(2,1) Baths, 2,900 Sq Ft.

**CRANE’S COVE - LAKE FENTON WATERFRONT**

13185 Torrey Rd., Fenton • $400,000
3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 1,758 Sq Ft.

**FENTON - 3.5 ACRES**

9331 Foley Crossing, Fenton • $367,000
5 Bedrooms, 4 Baths, 3,000 Sq Ft.

**FLUSHING**

711 Shady Brook Ln, Flushing • $717,000
5 Bedrooms, 5(4,3) Bath, 3,738 Sq Ft.

**LAKE FENTON WATERFRONT**

14189 Swanee Beach Dr., Fenton • $470,000
3 Bedrooms, 2(1,1) Bath, 1,340 Sq Ft.

**PINNACLE SHORES - FENTON**

4360 Oak Tree Ct., Fenton • $379,000
3 bedrooms, 3(2,1) bath, 2,429 Sq Ft.

Tremaine Real Living - A Tradition of Success
School leaders anxious over budgets

Though stable, revenue, expenses, enrollment are always fluctuating

By Tim Jagiello
jtageleo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6765

Each year, school district administrators draft long, intricate budgets that represent their best estimate at the financial picture for the following year.

“I think the school district’s health has a lot to do with property values in the district,” said Lake Fenton Community Schools Superintendent Wayne Wright.

That budget determines staff levels, programs and building maintenance.

Between Fenton, Holly, Lake Fenton and Linden schools, the quality of the education offered locally reflects the quality of life over the entire tri-county area.

Declining births directly affect school district budgets, to the tune of at least $7,511 per student. Local districts will make cuts, or hires, based on their best projections. For every student they lose, or gain, they will lose, or receive $7,511 as a minimum, from the state.

Some districts receive slightly more from the state.

Fenton Area Public Schools Superintendent Adam Hartley said that per-pupil funding has increased in small increments, but does not keep up with rising costs.

While the charge to keep a balanced budget has been the same over the past decade, laws at state level affect how easy or difficult that is for administrators.

Mike Engelert, assistant superintendent for Linden Community Schools (LCS) said that retirement pension and healthcare caps have both changed in the past several years, making it easier to budget.

Here is a snapshot of each district in the tri-county area.

Holly Area Schools

2016 student count: 3,280

Holly Area Schools has the second largest student population, and by far the largest geographical spread, and therefore, the biggest budget. While the district lost 48 students in 2016, it gained students in 2015.

Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services Steve Lenar said that the district has struggled over the past five years to maintain an adequate fund balance.

“We hit a fund balance low of $2,000 after the 2013-2014 school year,” he said via email. He said they worked hard to build up to a $2 million fund balance this year.

Holly has managed to enhance its Young 5s programs through budget struggles, and Holly Middle School became the first Michigan middle school to receive the Lighthouse School designation as a “Leader In Me” school.

Projected 2016-2017 budget

Revenues: $36,573,268
Expenses: $36,112,159
Fund balance: $2,010,271

2015-2016

Revenues: $36,726,246
Expenses: $35,821,608
Fund balance: $1,549,162

2014-2015

Revenues: $35,854,519
Expenses: $35,440,103
Fund balance: $444,426

Fenton Area Public Schools

2016 Student Count: 3,397

Nestled in the center of the tri-county area, Fenton has the second largest budget and the most students. The October 2016 student count showed Fenton had gained 15 students. While the most populous district, Fenton has a slim fund balance of $951,107.

The fund balance represents the rainy day fund, or savings account for the district, and is another measure of a district’s health.

Hartley said the district has adjusted programs and staff to stay on-budget for the school year. He’s concerned about state funding, the only source of revenue for public schools.

“We are looking to Lansing for that sense of stability to keep the State School Aid fund specifically for what it was intended to do, fund Michigan K-12 public schools,” he said via email.

Projected as of June 30, 2017

Revenue: $32,093,062
Expenses: $31,242,807
Fund Balance: $895,157

2015-16

Revenue: $31,798,583
Expenses: $31,270,885
Fund Balance: $527,851

2014-15

Revenue: $31,468,858
Expenses: $31,917,270
Fund Balance: $272,965

Linden Community Schools

2016 student count: 2,829

Assistant Superintendent Mike Engelert said the district is doing well compared to other school districts. LCS receives a 9- to 10-percent fund balance, which they can feel comfortable in. LCS projected a loss of 253 students over a three-year period, which would have sapped $1.9 million from the district over that time.

In 2016, the district rearranged three schools, which led to cutting eight teacher positions, saving the district approximately $520,000 annually. LCS saw 21 fewer students this year, for a total of 2,128 students. This adds up to a $157,731 loss.

In May of 2016, the community voted to renew the sinking fund, which will generate $761,353 annually. The rate of 1.3107 will be assessed until 2026.

Projected 2016-2017 budget

Projected revenue: $25,185,073
Expenses: $24,733,839
Fund balance: $417,234

2015-2016

Revenue: $25,733,839
Expenses: $26,007,107
Fund Balance: $225,062

2014-2015

Revenue: $25,389,302
Expenses: $25,719,777
Fund balance: $2,523,400

Lake Fenton Community Schools

2016 student count: 2,983

Lake Fenton Community Schools (LFCS) has historically been the healthiest local district in terms of finances. This is made possible by gaining students every school year, with the exception of the 2014-2015 school year. Instead of cutting staff in the 2016-2017 school year, Wright said they added three teachers this year. “We’ve been fortunate to have a continuous increase in students,” he said.

LFCS consistently maintains the recommended fund balance of 15 percent each year, rarely having to dip into it.

Projected 2016-2017 budget

Revenues: $19,341,355
Expenses: $19,045,717

2015-2016

Revenues: $18,465,413
Expenses: $18,228,083
Fund balance: $3,171,255

2014-2015

Revenues: $18,056,980
Expenses: $18,093,086
Fund balance: $2,993,928
Don Winglemire dies at 91

Holly icon served village in many capacities

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

The village of Holly is mourning the loss of Donald “Don” Winglemire, who died on Wednesday, Jan. 11 at the age of 91.

Winglemire served on the Holly Village Council for 26 years and the Downtown Development Authority. He served on the Holly Township Board of Trustees, and was the township Zoning Board chairman for 20 years. He also served on the Holly Park Authority, the Holly Masons Lodge, Holly Community Fund, Military Order of the Cootie, Boys Scouts, where he achieved Eagle Scout status.

Upon leaving office in 2012, the Holly Village Council proclaimed Nov. 20, 2012 as Donald R. Winglemire Day in the Village.

A veteran of World War II in the U.S. Navy, he served on the cruiser USS Atlanta and was in the battle of Okinawa.

Winglemire’s claim to fame, according to his son, was that his dad was one of the first photographers in Nagasaki and took pictures following the atomic bomb devastation.

Former Holly Village President Pete Clemens remembers Winglemire with great fondness.

“Don was both a mentor and friend to me during my time in office,” said Clemens. “A wealth of information about people and places in Holly, Don could recount in detail the colorful history of our area. I will miss both his counsel and his wit. His passing is a great loss to our community.”

Peter Clemens
Former Holly Village president

Upon leaving office in 2012, the Holly Village Council proclaimed Nov. 20, 2012 as Donald R. Winglemire Day in the Village.

“We embrace Holly as the community has embraced us since 1858,” said Don Winglemire, in an August 2015 interview.

Until a recent illness, Winglemire still came into the store every day, but had since turned the reigns of management over to his sons and daughters, now the store’s fifth generation of leaders.


Visitation will be held on Sunday, Jan. 15 and Monday, Jan. 16, from 2 to 9 p.m. at Dryer Funeral Home, 101 First St., Holly. The funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17. Burial and military honors will be at Lakeside Cemetery in Holly.

“He was a great father and we are going to miss him very much,” said John.
A special Thank You...

to the following merchants for your support to the St. John’s Fenton Outreach

“THE GIVING TREE”

Due to your donations, we helped provide a Merry Christmas for over 100 families in our community.

Fenton Home Furnishings
Vic Caneve Chevrolet
Tri-County Times
The State Bank

Al Serra Auto Plaza
Randy Wise Buick GMC
Re/Max Platinum
Michigan Cardiology PC

Heavy Duty Engine

Pipsqueak Boutique
Sawyer Jewelers Inc.
The Laundry/ Crust
Twice New Consignment

Flagstar Bank

Salon 416
Coldwell Banker
GFM, LLC
Lockes Party Shoppe & Deli

TM Jones and Associates

Construction Solutions
Target
VG’s
Anytime Fitness

Fifth Third Bank

And a Special thanks to Mancino’s of Fenton, Pizza Hut and Costco for food donations for our volunteers.

Your generosity helped many families have a joyful Christmas Season - God Bless!
Meet Lillian ‘Mike’ Kateman

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

Lillian “Mike” Kateman, 85, is probably best known in the community for raising miniature horses. She has been seen year after year in the Fenton Freedom Festival Fourth of July parades with her little horses. Parade-goers know her as the tiny lady with the short white hair and snappy red hat.

Tell us about your family.

My husband Howard and I celebrated our 50th anniversary on Dec. 17, 2016. We’ve known each other for 56 years. We have two adult daughters, Paula and Jacalyn.

How long have you lived in Fenton?

We moved here in 1966 and lived on Lake Fenton. When Howard retired, we moved to North Carolina for eight years. We moved back in 1996 and have lived in the city of Fenton ever since.

Have you ever worked outside of the home?

Yes, I worked at AC Spark Plug, General Motors, for 19 years. I did inspections and worked in production. I also worked for McConnell Funeral Home (now Temrowski) for two years. Mary-Ann was just so nice to work for, she was a joy.

What is your secret to a long, happy marriage?

Working at it! Howard is more of an introvert and I’m an extrovert. I really like talking with people. We just try to get along.

Are you still working with miniature horses?

Yes. In addition to walking with my miniature horses in the Fenton parades, I also rode in the parades when I had my riding horses. I’m still showing miniature horses. I got my first horse in 1950. I was working at Bell Telephone at that time. There was a riding stable on Longway Boulevard. Hill Road was dirt. I got off the bus at 7:45 a.m. and there was a group that had horses. We used to go riding at night. From there I got involved with Arabians and Pasa Finos and rode in a lot of parades, including Hartland’s Fourth of July parade for three years. When we moved south I did a lot of parading and won lot of trophies. I’ve had a national champion driving horse. Last year I bought a halter horse and he’s been a champion.

How long do you think you’ll be working with horses?

As long as I can walk and stay healthy, I will never quit.

To what do you attribute your stamina and good health?

I’m 85 and Howard is 88. His heart is good. We have been so fortunate and blessed. I still don’t take any medicines. My mother was over-medicated and so was Howard’s dad. I’ve been really fortunate. I get a lot of exercise going to and working in the barn and working on our fish pond. We mow all this property and I like to work in my flower garden. I love to mow. I like to keep things neat.

Besides your horses, what do you like to do in your spare time?

You’ve gotta have a purpose in life, you can’t sit. I am now working on a quilt with big squares. I’m working on finishing that. I’m a self-taught sewer. I made my daughter’s wedding dress and the dresses for the three young ladies in her wedding, and decorated her hat. Do you think the foods you eat help with staying healthy?

I grew up on home cooking. There was no measuring. Always a pinch of this and pinch of that. I grew up on good food. Howard and I eat a lot of vegetables and try to eat healthy. I don’t know if it’s good genes or what. My siblings say I got the good genes. I never smoked.

Do you still wear hats?

Yes, I wear this blue one around Fenton and if a man or woman don’t stop me and compliment me on my hat, it’s unusual.

Do you have any pets?

Yes. In addition to walking with my miniature horses, we have a dog. All of our last four dogs have been Finos and rode in a lot of parades, including the Hartland’s Fourth of July parade for three years. When we moved south I did a lot of parading and won lot of trophies. I’ve had a national champion driving horse.

How did you get the nickname “Mike”?

When I was going to a religious class at St. Mary’s in Flint, the priest couldn’t pronounce my last name, which starts out sounding like Mike. He started calling me Mike and it stuck. I’ve had it longer than Lillian. I don’t want people to call me Lil or Lillian.

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Three days of treacherous winter weather shuts down schools

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

“Slip slidin’ Away” might be a cool tune by Simon & Garfunkel—but it’s not much fun when you’re literally trying to walk or drive a car.

The past week the tri-county area has been very treacherous when it comes to trying to plow through nature’s gifts. The inclement weather resulted in students having two days off from school.

It all started Tuesday, when we woke up to 3-1/2 to 4 inches of heavy, wet snow. To make matters worse, the temperatures warmed up causing the snow to melt. But when it cooled back down, the melted snow turned to ice … and that’s how it went for the next two days.

Shortly after 10 a.m. on Thursday, the freezing rain started falling in earnest, making roadways, sidewalks and parking lots very dangerous.

The Fenton Department of Public Works (DPW) has been working overtime to keep up with the effort to keep streets safe. On Thursday, DPW Director Dan Czarnecki said, “Between Monday and today, the eight guys I have available to maintain the streets have put in about 105 overtime hours.”

They spent about 52 hours plowing on Monday, he added. On Tuesday, they spent 47 hours of plowing and then hauling snow from the downtown. On Thursday, three of the guys came in early to salt putting in six hours of overtime.

“We have spread about 100 tons of road salt on the streets between Monday and mid-day today,” said Czarnecki on Thursday.

Fenton schools Superintendent Adam Hartley said the two school closings this week make three total for the school year. “We get six before we have to make up the days or hours,” he said.

“Many factors go into closing schools and it is never taken lightly,” Hartley said. “It is important for our students to be in school front of our quality teachers and learning. Weather, however, does play a role throughout the winter months.

“We determine whether or not to close based on the current conditions of the roads and the forecast for the remainder of the day,” Hartley said. “If snow has accumulated or ice has formed to the point where our buses and families may not be able to travel, we will close school.

“Living in Michigan is full of surprises and the weather can change within a blink of an eye,” said Hartley.

Lake Fenton Superintendent Wayne Wright and Linden Superintendent Ed Koleido agreed with Hartley and said, “We are looking at safety. If we can get a chance to see the ice at the last minute on Jan. 12, the conditions went from wet roads to roads with black ice is less than 15 minutes. We were very concerned with individuals getting to school safely.”

Area police report a few accidents this week. Holly Police Chief Mike Story said they had two accidents on private property.

The city of Linden had one accident on Tuesday. According to Police Chief Scott Sutter, “The driver was driving too fast for the road conditions and was issued a citation for careless driving.”

In the city of Fenton, there were seven accidents between Monday, Jan. 9 and Friday morning, Jan. 13. One was a “slide off” and the others were fender benders, no injuries.

On Thursday, there were three accidents on U.S. 23 in the same area. Lt. Jason Slater said it amazes him that even when drivers see three police cruisers in a row, obviously working accident scenes, they continue to fly by like nothing is happening. “People need to use a little common sense,” Slater said.

Story, Sutter and Slater offer the same tip: slow down, put more distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.

And when you see a problem on the road, “Don’t dynamite the brakes,” said Slater. “Brake easy, start easy and do everything more cautiously.”

Sutter added, “… stay home if possible.”

“We have had only four accidents during these last few days and I am grateful for that. The Fenton DPW and the Genesee County Road Commission have done a nice job keeping the roads and expressways clear and salted.

“Whenever someone is involved in an accident, regardless of the severity, use caution where you park, pull over or walk. Remember, if you just crashed or witnessed a crash, chances are others may also fall to victim to the same conditions and that’s how it went for the next two days.”

Police respond to an incident on the icy exit 80 ramp on U.S. 23 in Fenton at approximately 10 a.m. Thursday. Sleet, rain and freezing temperatures made many local roads dangerously slick, prompting earlier school closures at all four area districts.
WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following is what you missed in the Wednesday, Jan. 11, Midweek Edition of the Tri-County Times. To subscribe and receive both the Sunday Weekend and Wednesday Midweek editions, please call (810) 629-8282.
JUST LISTED!!!

**13A**

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3

12A

SWARTZ CREEK SCHOOLS $114,999

T2. Frontage on all sports Lake Fenton. 5400 SF, 3 BDR and 3.5 BA. Open floor plan w/ fantastic views. Kitchen features breakfast nook, granite counters, snack bar, lots of cabinet and counter space. Beautiful hardwood floors, partially finished basement, covered patio, 2 car attached garage, large fenced yard and much more.

LAKE FENTON $765,000

100' Frontage on all sports Lake Fenton. 5900 SF, 4 BDR, 3.5 BA and all on 10 acres. Open floor plan, nice kitchen w/ tile floors, dining and living room w/ hardwood floors, great storage and mud area. Beautiful patio, in ground pool, plus large pole barn.

WESTCHESTER $79,999

LAKE LEAPER $744,999

LAKE PINE $1,199,000

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES $1,199,000

Swarovski Crystal, Enkeboll trim, 24k Gold Fixtures. Butting over 7000 SF of finished living space, 4 BDR, & 4.5 BA. Quality at every turn - beautiful hardwood floors, fantastic natural light, attention to detail & excellent craftsmanship. Chef’s dream kitchen, formal dining room w/ butler’s pantry, & great-room

DOLLAR LAKE $259,999

 Millionen estates

DOLLAR LAKE $299,999

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES $1,750,000

Over 10,000 SF of Luxury Living! 5 BDR, 8 BA, nestled on 2.25 acres w/ wrap around beautiful water views. 2 gourmet kitchens, 3 spiral staircases, theater room, wine cellar, 2 laundry rooms, 2 master suites, dog bath, heated floors, heated drive way, finished walkout lower level w/full kitchen.

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES $74,999

HOLLY SCHOOLS $74,999

POtential, potential potential! 1000 SF, 2 BDR, 1 BA, and garage, all on almost 2 acres. Great location, close to 1-75 and US 23. Enjoy all Fenton and Holly have to offer. Close to schools, shopping and more. Don’t miss this opportunity!

Swarovski Crystal, Enkeboll trim, 24k Gold Fixtures. Butting over 7000 SF of finished living space, 4 BDR, & 4.5 BA. Quality at every turn - beautiful hardwood floors, fantastic natural light, attention to detail & excellent craftsmanship. Chef’s dream kitchen, formal dining room w/ butler’s pantry, & great-room

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES $899,999

See more stunning photos AT: www.JohnWentworthGroup.com

Schedule Your Private Showing with a Buyer Specialist
Call (810) 935-6600
Detroit Auto Show opens Saturday

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

The North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) is open to the public starting Saturday, Jan. 14, at the Cobo Center in Detroit.

The public has until Jan. 22 to buy tickets and gaze upon the new automobiles, features, and models that will grace the roads in the coming years.

In addition to all of the U.S. brands, big names like Aston Martin, Bentley, Ferrari, Lamborghini, Porsche, and Rolls Royce will be on display with representatives to answer questions by visitors.

The vehicles and technology will be available to see up close.

The doors open at 9 a.m. for the public and close at 10 p.m. from Saturday, Jan. 14 to Jan. 21. There will be no admittance after 9 p.m.

Doors will open on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 9 a.m. and be open until 7 p.m., with no admittance after 6 p.m.

Activities and themes change daily.

Military Day is Jan. 17. Military personnel and veterans will receive a discount on tickets after providing ID.

Children 6 and under receive free admission after 6 p.m. and close at 10 p.m. from Saturday, Jan. 14 to Jan. 22, from 3 to 7 p.m. every day, featuring ultra-luxury automobiles, local television, radio, and sports personalities, and a few clowns.

The entire event features six different shows: The gallery, which is described as the “ultra-luxury automotive event,” according to the NAIAS, AutoMobili-D, which offers an inside look at future mobility platforms; the nine-day public show, and then the three previews for press, industry professionals, and charity organizations.

Last year, the event featured 61 vehicle introductions.

Crowds explore the 2016 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS). The public show starts this weekend. Go to NAIAS.com for more information.

Source: naias.com

NOW ENROLLING!
K-8 and Young 5s

• 18 Years of Excellence
• MDE Reward School (top 5% ranking in the state)
• CMU School of Excellence
• Character education in all grades
• Daily science K-8 and Young 5s
• Music K-8 and Young 5s
• Sports and clubs for all students
• Tuition free
• Tours are available by appointment only during regular school hours

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

NOTICE OF OPEN ENROLLMENT

Holly Academy, a Public School Academy, will be holding open student enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year beginning January 4, 2017 through March 1, 2017. Applications may be picked up at any time from the office during regular school hours 8:00am to 4:00pm weekdays or you may access forms online at (www.hollyacademy.org.) A New Parent Information Meeting will be held at the Academy on Monday, February 27, 2017 from 6:30pm until 8:00pm. If there are more applicants to enroll in a specific grade than there are spaces available, pupils shall be selected using a random public lottery process.

The lottery, if necessary, is scheduled to occur on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 9:00am.

Holly Academy does not discriminate based on race, color, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability or sex.
COMES VISIT THESE PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

“Year I’ve seen more of a problem then we’ve had in past years,” Wright said. On Jan. 9 only, the district had five unfilled posts.

“Part of the problem is the economic conditions change. People get full-time jobs,” Wright said, adding that the schools are less likely to find substitute teachers because of it.

When they can’t find a substitute teacher, Lake Fenton uses teachers on their conference hours to fill in. According to freep.com, in excess of 40 billboards were put up by EDUStaff, an organization that provides staffing, substitute teachers, and more to nearly 300 school districts in Michigan.

According to EDUStaff, the fill rate has declined from 95 percent in 2012 to approximately 85 percent in 2016. This means 15 percent of classes with an unfilled position will not have a substitute teacher.

At Fenton AGS Middle School, Assistant Principal Eric Rettenmund said the shortage of substitute teachers is definitely a problem.

“We’re lucky at the middle school. We can use teachers on their planning hour to sub and they’re compensated,” he said.

While Michigan law requires substitute teachers to have completed 90 college credit hours, many districts take on people with a teaching certificate. However, the number of people pursuing teaching certificates is decreasing. According to the Michigan Department of Education, 6,058 people were going after a certificate in the 2009-2010 school year, but that has dropped to 4,559 in the 2016-2017 school year.

There are also fewer people pursuing education as a career in general. According to freep.com, there was a 38-percent decline in the number of people enrolled in teacher preparation programs from 2008-09 to 2012-13.

According to a 2014 New Teacher Center report, 40 to 50 percent of new teachers leave the profession in their first five years, and approximately 13 percent of the nation’s teachers leave every year.

Wright said while they don’t have any issues filling vacant teaching positions, he’s talked with other districts, and said they struggle to fill vacant positions because they are hardly getting any applications from qualified candidates.

He said fewer people are choosing to study education in college and anticipates it will be a problem in the future.

Rettenmund said fewer people might be choosing education as a profession because of the salary and benefits.

“That’s my biggest concern for education and the future of education is keeping new teachers in the profession, and then keeping quality people who have a passion for education. That’s a huge problem I see in the future,” he said.
Change your mind first with hypnosis

Your body, your life, your world will then follow

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

If you have a habit in your life that you want to change, whether it’s smoking or unhealthy eating, you need to go “head first” into making that change.

In other words, people have to make a commitment to change in their mind, before they can be successful in changing their behavior, according to John Tomlinson, Ph.D., CMHt, owner of Tomlinson Medical Hypnotherapy in Grand Blanc.

“They also have to choose a process that works, to determine the best results,” he added.

In the journal, “Psychotherapy: Theory and Practice,” an article entitled “Hypnotherapy, a Reappraisal,” Dr. Alfred Barrios, Jr. details his study titled “Hynotherapy, a Reappraisal,” published recovery rates of all different therapeutic modalities in use.

He found that hypnotherapy, with a 93-percent success rate after just six sessions, topped other therapies, including psychotherapy (38-percent success rate).

In the journal, “Psychotherapy: Theory and Practice,” an article entitled “Hypnotherapy, a Reappraisal,” Dr. Alfred Barrios, Jr. details his study titled “Hynotherapy, a Reappraisal,” published recovery rates of all different therapeutic modalities in use.

When you need help with your insurance coverage, where do you go? A website? An automated service center? Not if you have coverage from Central Insurance. Central partners exclusively with independent agents so you receive personal, knowledgeable service and advice from someone local you know and trust. That’s the value of a Central Insurance policy.

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BIRTH
Continued from Front Page

the economy, especially when you think about starving children in poor parts of the world where there’s not enough food for everybody.

In countries where resources are severely limited, and economic policies are dysfunctional, it may be true that a growing population is a bad thing.

That’s not the situation in America, which has a dynamic economy that creates wealth and more than enough resources for all of its citizens.

A growing population is good for the economy when rising productivity continually reduces the amount of resources required to produce a given amount of output.

Even when the U.S. economy was in a rut and too many people were out of work, productivity still rose, which meant a larger population would generate more wealth per person than a smaller one.

Birth rates also tend to rise and fall based on how optimistic or pessimistic people feel. The U.S. birth rate peaked in 1957 (the “baby boom” generation), when the economy was booming and the unemployment rate was about 4.5 percent.

It sagged in the 1970s, when inflation and other problems plagued U.S. workers. The birth rate stabilized in the 1980s and stayed more or less level, until starting to dip again in 2008.

Since then, younger Americans have been waiting longer to get married, often because of economic difficulties. Married couples may be waiting longer to have kids, or having fewer kids, for the same reason.

These types of demographic trends get the attention of economists when big changes might raise or lower the economy’s capacity to grow — which could be happening now. Fewer marriages and fewer children lower the rate of household formation, which means people spend less on everything from appliances to clothing.

Fewer births mean fewer children entering kindergarten. To school districts, a declining population has a definite negative financial impact.

That trend could reverse itself, however, if the economy continues to pick up for good and Americans become convinced that happier days lie ahead.

Source: cdc.gov

U.S. fertility rate at its lowest

The U.S. fertility rate fell to the lowest point since record keeping started more than a century ago, according to statistics released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In 1909, the government began keeping track of the fertility rate. The general fertility rate is the number of births out of 1,000 women between the ages of 15 to 44.

In the first three months of 2016, the fertility rate in the U.S. fell to the lowest level. The rate was 59.8 births per 1,000 women.

The first quarter of 2015 had seen similarly low rates at 60 births per 1,000 women.

The U.S. fertility rate has been in a steady decline since the post-World War II baby boom. Back at its height in 1957, the fertility rate was 122.9 births per 1,000 women.

The latest quarterly CDC data also indicate the larger pattern of women having babies later in life.

As birth rates increased among women in their 30s and 40s, the rate among teenagers and women in their 20s dropped.

Another report by the CDC found that the age of mothers rose in the United States. The average age when women had their first child increased from 24.9 in 2000 to 26.3 in 2014.

What this means for U.S. population

Although the fertility rate is decreasing, that doesn’t necessarily mean the U.S. population is going to shrink. The rate of growth may be slower, but the population is still expected to increase.

The U.S. Census Bureau took the falling fertility rate into account and still projected that the population would go from 319 million in 2014 to reach 400 million by 2051.

Source: cdc.gov
Local student reads essay at 38th MLK tribute dinner

**AGS eighth-grader answers the question, ‘Where do we go from here?’**

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

Ask middle school students how they feel about certain things and you might just get a few shrugs and a couple “I dunno’s.”

Ask those same students to share their thoughts and opinions in a written essay, and you could be surprised to read what’s on their minds.

Some of them are real winners. Jordyn Bommersbach, an eighth-grade student at AGS Middle School in Fenton, wrote a real winner when the call came out to enter an essay contest to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“I entered the contest because I love writing, and when I heard about this it immediately interested me. I knew instantly what I wanted to write about and spread awareness on. My essay wrote itself in a way,” said Bommersbach.

“I feel honored to be chosen to read my essay. I was really surprised and excited that I was able to share it with other people. It’s an amazing opportunity that not everyone receives so I’m also very grateful. I loved being able to share my views with the community.”

The theme of the essay was “Where do we go from here?” One first-place winner from each of grades six through 12 were invited to read their winning essays at the 38th MLK Tribute Dinner held at the Riverfront Banquet Center in Flint on Thursday, Jan. 12.

Jordyn was among them. She wrote a heartfelt, yet powerful essay addressing a number of current issues. She begins,

**HOT LINE CONTINUED**

YOU HAVE CONFUSED the classic and contemporary meanings of the term liberal. Classic liberal reflects the honorable values of freedom, open-mindedness and tolerance. Unfortunately, contemporary ‘liberal’ equates to the Democratic Party values of deception, intolerance, and elitism.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HANNAH Ball for the excellent column ‘Make America Great Again?’ in last weekend’s Times. It was terrific writing with remarkable insight, especially for someone so young. I agree by and large on her points and can see a great future career for her.

JUST TO SET the record straight, my mother lives with me. I take care of her. Who do you take care of, Mr. Responsible?

WHAT I SAID in the Hot lines about not having a job wasn’t meant toward any one person in general. If you were offended by it, there’s probably a reason for it.

WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED to the Kroger in Fenton, was they put a Walmart and a Target right next door. They took the little guy out.

WHETHER YOU LOVE or hate Obama, you have to admit we’re better off now than we were when George W. Bush left office.

THEY SHOULDN’T HAVE taken the sprinkler systems out of all the old buildings they tore down. They work just fine.

TO THE CONSUMERS Power Hot line. In 2014 Consumers started estimating

my monthly power bill. It went on for four months, and they over estimated so high I had a $0.00 bill due for the months of October, November and December. Make sure if it’s an estimated bill they revise those estimates.

I DIDN’T EVEN waste my time watching the award show because I know somebody would come up with something about Trump. I don’t go see their movies. If I want to see something, I’ll get it from the store.

TO THE GENTLEMAN who said he can’t keep his heat where he had it, I live alone and I live on a very limited budget. My heat is 60 daytime and nighttime. He ought to put on another sweater and keep his heat down.

IT’S KIND OF arrogant to say that a multimillion dollar building with a couple of burst pipes causing thousands of dollars worth of damage is inevitable because these things happen with new buildings. If doctors and nurses and teachers acted that way, none of us would be here.

THE JOB MARKET and economy have improved significantly under President Obama. That’s a fact. Hopefully, Trump will continue this upward trend.

REALLY? THE HOMEOWNERS next to the park are suing again? Claiming the fence doesn’t allow them access to the park? Enter the way all others do.

I TRAVEL OUTSIDE of Fenton and always find gas cheaper. It’s been that way for years.

**FENTON AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARTICIPATES IN THE STATE’S SCHOOL OF CHOICE PROGRAM**

For the second semester of the 2016-2017 school year, Fenton Area Public Schools will be accepting applications from non-resident students for the grade levels indicated below:

- North Road Elementary......... Grades 1, 2 and 5
- State Road Elementary .......... Grades 3, 4, and 5
- Tomek Eastern Elementary ... Grades 1 and 2
- Fenton High School............... Grades 9-12

Applications will be accepted January 16, 2017 through January 30, 2017 for enrollment no later than February 3, 2017.

A release from the student’s resident district is not required. There are no tuition fees to enroll in Fenton Area Public Schools; however, transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the student’s family.

Applications available by contacting the Fenton Area Public Schools at 810-591-4708 or on the district’s website: www.fentonschools.org
YOUR SMILE MATTERS!
By Dr. Steven Sulfaro

FOUR ALWAYS FOODS & FOUR TO AVOID
Dr. Michael Greger, a leading promoter of nutritional health states, “Most deaths in the United States are preventable, and they are related to what we eat. Our diet is the #1 cause of premature death and the #1 cause of disability.” Dr. Joel Fuhrman states that “death in America is a food born disease.” The Standard American Diet is most based on an over abundance of sugar and salt and is highly processed. Most Americans are lacking in the recommended daily allowance of nutrients and fiber because most of their dietary habits are lacking in fruits, vegetables and whole grains. As a result, the numbers for heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes are increasing every year in this country. For the most part early death and disability in our country is self inflicted. The healthier you eat, the healthier you are going to be.

FOUR ALWAYS FOODS
• 100% WHOLE WHEAT BREAD: Can be toasted in the morning and is a great way to start your day. They are cheap, full of antioxidants, vitamins, and fiber.
• FRUIT: Place in a bowl on the kitchen table for easy access.
• BEANS: These are cheap, high in protein, high in fiber, and low in fat. They also contain 10 teaspoons of sugar.
• NUTS: Studies show that nuts eaters out live those who don’t eat nuts. Be sure to keep them in a bowl on the kitchen table for easy access.

FOUR FOODS TO AVOID
• SUGAR-SWEETENED DESSERTS: One can of pie can contain 10 teaspoons of sugar + SALTY SNACKS: Almost all chips and crackers deliver high doses of salt, preservatives, and fat. • PROCESSED MEATS: Sausages, hot dogs, and cold cuts deliver high doses of salt, preservatives, and fat. • PACKAGED SWEETS: Cookies, chocolate bars, mints, and candy bars deliver high doses of sugar and salt.

SUMMARY
Tilikum, the orca at SeaWorld that took the life of Dawn Brancheau, daughter-in-law of Fenton resident, John and Terry Brancheau, died last week from a lung infection.

Dr. Partha Nandi is expanding his medical lifestyle TV show ‘Ask Dr. Nandi’ to a worldwide audience and will publish his first book this fall.

Dr. Partha Nandi spreads health message worldwide
In 2013, Tilikum was featured in the documentary “Blackfish,” which made the case against keeping orcas in captivity. In 2014, SeaWorld announced they would voluntarily stop the practice of captive whale breeding.

Since Brancheau’s death, the family has established The Dawn Brancheau Foundation in Orlando, with Scott serving as vice chair. Their goal is to continue Brancheau’s legacy by helping others, animals and the environment.

The Dawn Brancheau Foundation hosts the Dream Big 5K at SeaWorld Orlando in April; awards Dream Big Scholarships to Andream High School students in Merrillville, Indiana, her alma mater; the Dream Big Walk in northwest Indiana in September and supports Dawn’s Dream Big Runners in marathons every five years.

Dr. Partha Nandi stands out as the “Un-Diet Doctor.”

“Every diet is destined to fail,” said Nan-di, host of the international medical lifestyle show, ‘Ask Dr. Nandi’. “You have to change your mindset and want to adopt a healthy lifestyle.”

Nandi is the co-creator and host of the hour-long talk show dedicated to empowering viewers to #BeYourOwnHealthHero.

Married to the former Kali Koester, Nandi is the son-in-law of Craig and Beth Rockman of Fenton. He is also a practicing gastroenterologist with an office in Troy.

“The way people approach their health and personal systems of nearby family and friends is not working,” said Nandi.

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“Ask Dr. Nandi” teaches the latest in nutrition, fitness and disease prevention by incorporating the best of Eastern and Western medicine. Now broadcast in all 50 states, airing in almost 90 million homes, “Ask Dr. Nandi” has also expanded its reach to more than 80 countries worldwide.

“We’re now on the Discover-
Dollars and sense for 2017

This year can be a new start for your financial future

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

We all know we spend more money than we should—tempting lattes here, an irresistible clothing sale there. So instead of making New Year’s resolutions to stop wasting money, Susan Tompor, Detroit Free Press personal finance columnist, advises people to take very specific steps to tackle their financial challenges.

Here’s Tompor’s get-down-to-it list of 17 financial steps to take in 2017:

1. Find gifts that you’ve already hidden. In stashing items you’ve bought or received, you may have gifts with a different viewpoint than you but your true colors have been exposed. A lot of talk and no action.

2. Pass on that big sale. Unsubscribe from national retailer emails that you don’t really need, so you don’t get tempted.

3. Put more money in your 401(k) or a Roth IRA. Take full advantage of any 401(k) matches offered by your employer. A Roth IRA offers tax-free growth and withdrawals in retirement.

4. Save $1 on week one, $2 on week two, etc., until you’re saving $52 in the last week of December. By the end of the year, you’ll have $1,378 in savings.

5. Save every $1 or $5 bill you get. It’s the day-to-day realities of broken appliances, car repairs and medical deductibles that can really hurt your budget.

6. Pay off credit card bills, especially with short-term interest rates rising this year.

7. Look for a new job or a second job. Jobs are easy to find.

8. Find gifts that you’ve already hidden. In stashing items you’ve bought in a closet, you may find gifts that are perfectly good to give this year, or other items you forgot about that you could use.

9. Expect this year to be a year of significant change, with a new administration in Washington.

10. Boost your own credit score rather than chasing a quick fix. Pay bills on time, pay off your credit card debt, don’t borrow more money, don’t use more than 30 percent of your available credit line on your credit cards, don’t open a new credit card at every turn.

11. Don’t close all your credit cards. Such drastic action could drive down your credit score. Keep open your oldest cards, because the average age of your accounts is a significant part of your credit score.

12. Resist impulse shopping at the grocery store. Stick to the aisles that sell fruit, vegetables, lean meats and dairy.

13. Get a copy of your annual credit report. See annualcreditreport.com to make sure a fraudster didn’t open accounts in your name. You can get reports from TransUnion, Experian and Equifax.

14. Sign up for automatic payments on student loans.

15. Start saving for your child’s college education. Check out missaves.com for state income tax breaks on contributions for Michigan residents. See Savingforcollege.com for information on tax-favored 529 plans.

16. Give yourself some fun money. Create an emergency fund for “fun,” dollars that you can spend how you want to.

17. Accomplish something in 2017 that you wanted to get done in 2016, but didn’t. Maybe it’s a will, meeting with a financial planner or buying a home.

Save $1 on week one, $2 on week two, etc., until you’re saving $52 in the last week of December. By the end of the year, you’ll have $1,378 in savings.

Susan Tompor
Personal finance columnist
HYPNOSIS
Continued from Page 16A
success rate) and cognitive-behavioral therapy (72 percent success rate).
“We’ve known this for 46 years,” said Tomlinson. He said that these different results come about first, because of the source of funding. Through a tough economic decade, Tomlinson Medical Hypnotherapy has remained strong, despite not taking insurance.
“People tend to do much better when their money is on the line,” said Tomlinson. “It changes their level of commitment, and commitment to change is essential to success.”
Other reasons that account for the success of hypnotherapy, according to Tomlinson, is how one engages whether the person tries to go away from what they don’t want or goes toward what they do want.
“When you’re driving, you don’t go away from where you don’t want to be,” said Tomlinson. “You get where you’re going by targeting where you want to go and heading there. It’s the difference between being less mean or more loving.”
Since Barrio’s landmark study, more than 12,000 studies have been done on the results of hypnosis. “It is now the number one way to engage the mind in producing success, particularly in areas of habit control,” said Tomlinson. “The statistics are clear. We must first change our mind in order to change our body, our life, our world.”

Winter is here...is your car ready?

• Tires
• Batteries
• Coolant Flush

“Arrived a little early for my appointment and was taken right in. Was in and out in very little time.” — Ernie M. of Linden

“Thanks for the timely service.” — Kenny R. of Fenton

CEO Jeff Lemke (left) and engineer Kevin McLaughlin clean an F7 super car that was shipped to the MGM Grand Casino in Detroit last weekend. It will be on display with other exotic cars, such as Rolls Royce and Aston Martin.

FALCON
Continued on Page 3A
He said he’ll have to dodge the same questions from industry contacts and reporters all weekend during the car show.
“Exciting news is coming up,” he said. When asked on a scale of one to 10 on the impact of one company, he said “nine or 10.”

Lemke said the change, whatever it is, will take the small company to the next level.

But Falcon Motorsports has been in the same league as well-known exotic car manufacturers since 2012. This weekend, he’ll rub shoulders with representatives of world famous manufacturers, such as Lamborghini, Ferrari and Rolls Royce, as his car sits in the same space, fawned over by visitors paying $500 a ticket.

He said these exotic car builder representatives have been very supportive, interested and helpful in this Michigan-born small batch manufacturer.

Lemke said the change, whatever it is, will take the small company to the next level.

The F7 has also made it onto one of the most popular mobile racing games out there — Asphalt 8: Airborne.

It’s a fantasy racing game to play on an android phone. According to the Google play website, the game has been downloaded 2 million times, and was awarded the Mobile World Congress’ Best Mobile Game App.

On Friday Dec. 30, Falcon teammates worked on gated shifter plates, which will give these rods a classic look.

Lemke and his engineering team, which includes his father, Carl, are continually fine-tuning their cars. Upgrades to the current model are often available to be installed on vehicles sold in the past. This past weekend, the MGM Grand show went as well as always, said Lemke.

If anyone wants to see a Falcon F7, it will be on display across from Lexus at COBO Center for the first week of the North American International Auto Show, from Saturday, Jan. 14, to Friday, Jan. 20.

2017 North American International Auto Show
The North American International Auto Show is held at COBO Center in Detroit, at 1 Washington Blvd, in Detroit. Public days run from Saturday, Jan. 14 to 22.

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**WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS!**
Fenton wrestlers keep improving — sweep two Metro foes

By David Troppens
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There’s no doubt the Fenton varsity wrestling program is headed in the right direction. The Tigers provided more evidence to that statement on Wednesday when the Tigers swept two Metro League matches at Clio High School.

Fenton’s Brady Triola posted a pinfall victory in the final match against Flushing, earning the Tigers a 40-36 win against the Raiders. They followed up that victory by defeating Clio 40-28.

“It was a great day,” Fenton varsity wrestling coach Brad Beverly said. “I have known since the beginning that this is a good wrestling team, but the lack of success in the past has made it extremely difficult to for our wrestlers to believe in themselves and one another. They key to our success is credited to hard work and the fact that these kids believe in one another and that they have become one unit.”

CONTINUED ONLINE AT ➤ TCTIMES.COM

Blue Devils fall to Cavaliers

By David Troppens
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Lake Fenton — For a half the Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team had frustrated Carman-Ainsworth.

However, in the third quarter, it was the Blue Devils who were the frustrated team. Tied at 21-21 entering the second half, the Cavaliers pressured Lake Fenton (4-3) and used the quicker tempo to spark a 25-8 Carman-Ainsworth run. The Cavaliers made it a third-quarter advantage hold up, resulting in Lake Fenton’s 60-43 non-league home loss to Carman-Ainsworth on Tuesday night.

“We played well in the first half, but in the third quarter we totally got away from being patient,” Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Jake Erway said. “They did a good job of pressuring us, so give Carman credit for pressuring us and forcing us into quick shots. That led to run outs for them. That’s the pace they want to play and that’s one of the biggest parts of being able to win a basketball game — being able to dictate the pace of the game. We didn’t do that in the third quarter. We didn’t get back on defense. O’Mari Duncan had four layups in transition in the quarter. That’s not good enough. It’s not our style of basketball.”

“They were forcing us to take quick shots and we were getting tired because we had to keep going back-and-forth.” Lake Fenton senior Andrew Foerster said. “We weren’t being patient enough. And a lot of it is on the leaders — me, Jalen (Miller) and Isaac (Golson). We needed to come out in the second half with more energy. We are the ones that get the team going, so it’s on us. We have to do better than that.”

CONTINUED ONLINE AT ➤ TCTIMES.COM

It’s Miller time - senior goalie helps lead Griffins to OT win

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

Hartland — Natalie Miller doesn’t mind playing with the guys.

In fact, she prefers it.

And the Fenton-Linden Metro League Griffins co-op hockey squad is pretty happy she is competing with the guys. Miller made 29 saves in net and Dylan Miesch provided the game-winning goal in overtime, leading the Griffins to a 4-3 victory against the DeWitt/St. Johns co-op squad at Hartland Sports Arena Wednesday.

Miesch made several key saves, including a save on a breakaway opportunity late in regulation, helping the Fenton/Linden co-op team go into overtime tied at 3-3. Once the team got to OT, it was Miesch’s turn to be the hero, scoring on a breakaway attempt 1:56 into the overtime period.

“The guys varsity team is the only guys team I’ve ever played with,” Miller said. “I’ve only played with girls travel teams before (playing with the Griffins) and I like it. It’s a lot better. It’s a lot more physical and a lot higher pace than what I was used to.

You have to jump right in and see how you can do I am used to it now, so I can’t imagine playing anywhere else.”

“I jumped off the bench and I was on the opposite side of the ice,” Miesch said detailing his game-winning shot. “A captain of ours, Brendan Buerkel, threw it up to me and I was on a breakaway. I was just looking for an open net, really, not trying to miss.”

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Siebert’s shot sparks LF’s win vs. Northwest

By David Troppens

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Katelyn Siebert is only a freshman, but she already has her first varsity game-winning bucket in her Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball career.

Siebert hit the game-winning shot with about 1.5 seconds left, leading the Blue Devils to a 41-40 road victory against Lutheran Northwest on Wednesday.

“She hit it with maybe 1.5 seconds left, but by the time they were set to inbound, the clock had run out,” Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. “It was just about a free-throw jump shot on a kick out from Renee Shaw. There was a loose ball with several bodies on the floor. (Saige) Fuller ended up tossing it to Shaw who flipped it back to Siebert.”

It was a nice comeback win for the Blue Devils. Lake Fenton trailed 34-26 entering the final quarter. Northwest also helped the Blue Devils by hitting just 4-of-9 free throws during the fourth quarter. Northwest also helped the Blue Devils by hitting just 4-of-9 free throws during the fourth quarter.

“I am extremely proud of my girls,” VanBuren said. “We talked about the game, just the way we overcame a deficit several times, including during the last 30 seconds. The freshman hit the actual shot but there were big plays in the sequence by (Hannah) Garty, Saige and Renee.”

Lake Fenton’s Katelyn Siebert (left) scored the game-winning bucket in a 41-40 victory against Lutheran Northwest on Wednesday.

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Slow start costs Tigers vs. Blackhawks, 65-54

A slow start ended up being the Fenton varsity boys basketball team’s downfall against the Brandon Blackhawks on Wednesday.

Brandon scored 20 first-quarter points and nailed six first-half 3-pointers, leading the Blackhaws to a 65-54 road victory at Fenton High School.

Brandon’s Isaac DeJonge was the big culprit with the treys, netting four of his five 3-pointers during the contest in the opening half.

Holly wrestling splits dual; Linden wrestling swept

There was some good news and bad news for the Holly varsity wrestling team during Wednesday’s Metro League double-dual on Wednesday.

The Bronchos had some good news when they defeated Swartz Creek 34-31, but then struggled against first-place Kearsley by a 52-19 score in the night’s second match. Linden also competed in third place. The Tigers followed with a first 31, but then struggled against Swartz Creek. They were Nathan Young (112), Jared Callahan (119), Josh Gonzalez (135), Kaden Steele (189) and Collin Dallwitz (215). Cade Dallwitz (171) also earned a major decision victory.

Holly girls basketball falls to Flushing in battle for first

It was a battle of undefeateds in Metro League girls basketball on Wednesday.

Unfortunately for the Holly Bronchos, it was Flushing that remained perfect in league play after the night was over.

The two-time defending Metro League champion Flushing Raiders held the Bronchos to just 11 first-half points, eventually capturing a 44-28 Metro League victory at Holly High School. The game was moved to Wednesday due to Tuesday’s poor weather.

Strong start not enough for Holly boys basketball team

It was a good start for the Holly varsity boys basketball team in the squad’s contest with the Metro League’s only remaining undefeated squad on Wednesday.

Holly jumped to a strong offensive start, scoring 27 points in the opening quarter, leading the Raiders by a 27-13 score at Flushing High School.

However, the Raiders (4-0, 7-0) proved why they are unbeaten so far early into the season in the last three periods. Holly was able to score just 23 more points in the final three quarters.
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