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We believe the Times is the **best newspaper in the state**. So does the Michigan Press Association, which awarded the Times **“Michigan Newspaper of the Year”** again for 2016. We also believe that once you read the Times, as more than 45,000 of your neighbors currently do, you will realize that at just .42¢ per issue the Times is the primary provider of everything you need to know about your schools, your neighborhood, your politics, your emergency services, your community and your way of life in small-town Michigan. Both our Midweek and Weekend editions are packed with interesting, entertaining and informative content that saves you time and money, while keeping you closely connected to your community.

**SUPPORT YOUR
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NEWSPAPER.**

THE COUNTY
Times

Newspapers are necessary for economically healthy communities

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

Have you ever asked yourself what life would be like without your hometown newspaper?

It's true that technology has advanced beyond some of our wildest imaginations, making it possible to get news and information from a variety of electronic sources.

But it's not the same. It's not the same as grabbing that newspaper out of your mailbox when you get home from work Wednesday afternoon, or fetching it from your front porch Saturday afternoon, and spending some precious time keeping up on the in-depth news and events in your community.

And there's so much more. Newspapers are necessary to maintain economically healthy and civically active communities.

Rowland Thompson, executive director for Washington's Allied Daily Newspapers, told a story last year that best explains the critical importance of small town newspapers.

He could have been talking about the Tri-



Men and women share similar newspaper readership patterns. Three out of four men and women read a newspaper in the last week. However, women read more frequently, but for shorter periods due to having less discretionary time.

County times or any other small, hometown newspaper across the United States.

Thompson told the story of a family friend who passed away and he traveled to his hometown to attend the memorial service. His parents once owned the town's weekly newspaper.

As is the case with the Tri-County Times today, the Thompson family newspaper served a steady and varied diet of public notices, news, sports, police reports, large ads, classified ads, weddings, meetings, births, deaths, graduations, military enlistments, fires, accidents, civic improvements, awards, elections and much more.

"Clippings of great events both large and small were saved in scrapbooks, Bibles and wallets," said Thompson. "Our newspaper went to subscribers all over the county and to our town's sons and daughters all over the world."

"Now, it no longer does." While attending the funeral in his hometown, Thompson said he had an experience similar to the one at the heart of the popular Christmas film, "It's a Wonderful Life."

Much like Jimmy Stewart's character in the film, he got a chance to see what his little "Bedford Falls" would be like if the little newspaper wasn't there for the community.

“One of the fingers in the dike protecting the life of small communities is the newspaper.”

Rowland Thompson
*Allied Daily Newspapers
executive director*

His first clue was that people he thought would be in attendance at the funeral service were not there. It was harder to get the word out about funerals and other local events without a local newspaper.

After the service, Thompson said he continued to get an earful from his old friends about the decline of community institutions because of a lack of publicity, reporting and interest.

School events and board of education meetings are poorly attended, and bond elections are more difficult to pass. City council meetings are more sparsely attended and vacancies on the council and other public boards and commissions are more difficult to fill.

Attendance at school sporting events has thinned. The organization of fundraisers and volunteer activities is hampered by the inability to publicize. The most important, however, is the steady decline in the small town's business community because of the lack of inexpensive local advertising to promote local trade.

Giant retailers have the resources to buy expensive TV ads and mail out fancy, colorful flyers. Most "Mom and Pop" operations do not.

"One of the fingers in the dike protecting the life of small communities is the newspaper," said Thompson. The paper connects people to each other and their community. It shows them they and their families are important, not just to themselves, but to their neighbors and friends.

Small hometown newspapers, like the Tri-County Times, praise good judgment. They vent complaints and voice opinions through its columnists and allows readers to do so through Letters to the Editor and anonymously via the Hot lines.

See **NEWSPAPERS** on 14A



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1030 Silver Lake Rd.
Fenton

Fire chief bags 400-pound runaway ostrich

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Holly/Groveland Fire Chief Steve McGee's department has saved dogs and horses, but never anything as exotic as an ostrich.

This was exactly what they did on Wednesday, Feb. 9, however. At approximately 5 p.m. McGee's department was called to the gravel pits behind the 400-pound bird's home farm on Buckle Lake Road in Groveland Township.

The female ostrich had escaped her enclosure and was approximately 600 feet into the water-filled gravel pits, where she stopped, because she couldn't get any traction on the ice.

“We're definitely not normal here!”

Steve McGee
Holly/Groveland Fire Chief

The department tried several different ways to get the stranded bird back to safety, including the use of ropes and a mega mover, which is a durable, flexible carrying system for moving people — and apparently ostriches — to safety.

By suggestion of the owner, McGee said the ostrich's head was covered to calm her down.

While ostriches are native to Africa, McGee said on his Facebook page that the bird came from an ostrich farm nearby. His post drew dozens of bemused comments from friends and relatives. “We're definitely not normal here!” he wrote to one commenter, who asked why they don't just have dogs and cats in Groveland Township.



HOLLY GROVELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Steve McGee credits Captain Williams, Russ Aderholt and Jeremy Watson for the rescue.

PAGE 1B

**BEWARE
THE PITFALLS
OF ONLINE
SHOPPING**

Weekend Times SUNDAY EDITION

\$1.00

VOL. 24 NO. VII

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2017

2016 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Polar Plunge making a splash

■ Raises more than \$75,000 and still counting

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton Twp. — Jumping into very cold water in freezing temperatures wearing tutus or a super hero costume doesn't make sense, but hundreds of sane adults do it every year.

Of course, they do it for a good cause — the Polar Plunge raises money for the Special Olympics in Genesee and Lapeer counties, which comprises District 13 of the Special Olympics.

On Saturday, Feb. 4, 230 jumped off the dock at the Fenton Moose Lodge, into Lake Fenton before a crowd of hundreds. As always, the

See POLAR PLUNGE on 15A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
For the 2017 Polar Plunge, 230 jumpers participated in 33 teams. The event brought in \$75,000 for Special Olympics in Genesee and Lapeer counties, and that number is likely to increase as donations continue.



County sees increase in norovirus

■ Schools struggling with spreading flu and other illnesses

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Norovirus is a highly contagious virus that infects millions of people in the United States every year. It is more prevalent during the winter and currently raging it way through Genesee County.

See NOROVIRUS on 17A



NEWSTARGET.COM

Norovirus causes diarrhea, vomiting, nausea and stomach pain. It typically lasts about one to three days.

Teens using 'ghost apps' to hide, share inappropriate photos

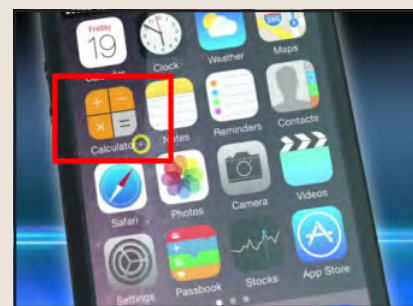
■ Parents — here's how to monitor your kids phones

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Smartphones aren't only called “smart” because they connect to the internet — they can also disguise inappropriate apps to look like harmless apps.

See GHOST APPS on 14A



**TEXT
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HOT LINE**
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“Hey conservatives, give Hollywood a taste of their own medicine and choose not to go to any movies for 90 days. Also, let's go to the theaters with silly signs and physically threaten the people that do go. In other words let's act like spoiled, bratty children that didn't get their way.”



“I wonder if Mr. Trump has already hired the construction company to put his face on Mt. Rushmore?”



“I would like to thank all the late-night talk show hosts, the Hollywood 'celebrities,' SNL, the television networks and the liberal politicians for helping get Donald Trump elected by giving him 24/7 publicity for a full year. You fools are responsible for him becoming president.”



**COMMENT
OF THE WEEK**

“If you are stupid enough to risk your life going north to buy gas for a couple cents cheaper, then go. Nearly all carjackings take place at gas stations. Be my guest.”

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THIS WEEK'S OPEN HOUSES!



GRAND BLANC

12010 Murray

This condo in popular Sleep Hollow is the perfect location near retail, restaurants and the expressway. No worries about stairs as everything you need is on the first floor. 2 bedroom and 2 bath. Also has a 2 car attached garage. Basement with daylight windows is just waiting for your finishing touches.

\$131,900

Call Kelsey Kerr 810-210-4155



MUNDY TOWNSHIP

7162 Britwood

Charming and move-in ready.

Located in quiet neighborhood, yet close to expressways. Gorgeous hickory cabinets in the kitchen. Natural stone shower in the master. Brand new concrete driveway. Landscape is low maintenance perennials with tons of curb appeal. Large fenced in back yard with a new pool and huge deck.

\$169,000

Call Alicia Faille 810-247-2293



LINDEN

222 Chestnut Way

Affordable, move-in ready,

three bedroom bilevel in high demand Chestnut Grove. Open floor plan with large vaulted family room. Kitchen appliances included. Two bedrooms and full bath on main level with a 3rd bedroom and full bath on the ground floor. New carpet, paint and updates throughout!

\$168,900

Call Shelia Rhoades 810-348-7357



FENTON

9170 Bennett Lake Rd.

Spacious home on just over an acre.

Gorgeous updated kitchen with granite, double oven, stainless appliances & breakfast nook. Master suite has its own balcony & huge master bath. Great home for a large family; 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, finished walkout with fireplace and kitchenette. 2 car attached garage plus pole barn!

\$349,900

Call Diana Beckemeyer 810-877-2167



LENOX TOWNSHIP

59314 New Haven

Looking To Build Your Dream Home

Or Property To Develop Check Out This Beautiful 70 Acre Parcel. This Property Offers Woods Great For Hunting And A 20 Acre Lake That Has Great Fishing. You Could Even Look In To Developing The Property, Which Has 3 Separate Tax I.D's.

\$385,000

Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971



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.

\$360,000

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



WHITE LAKE

8586 Pontiac 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 26x24 att. 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



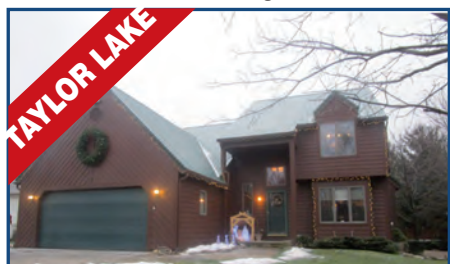
OTISVILLE

9480 E. Mount Morris

Almost 1800 square 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



HOLLY

2012 Bone

Beautiful rustic contemporary situated on one acre. Not only is this home located in Fenton schools but it is one of 13 homes that share a private 5 acre park on pristine Taylor Lake! Almost 2000 sf w/4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths plus a partially finished basement, deck and above ground pool. What more could you ask for??

\$244,900

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



FENTON

Carole Ln

16+ acres, mostly wooded, 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. Great for commuting as it's just a hop, skip, and a jump from US 23.

\$124,900

Call Frank Cramer 810-869-5701



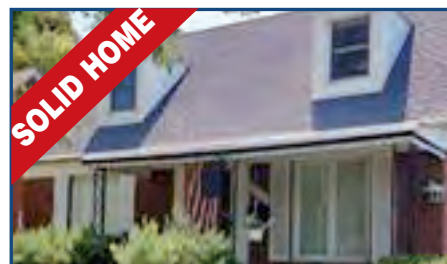
LINDEN

15042 Longfield

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. Roomy living room with great views or sit outside on your large deck and soak in the tranquility of living on the water.

\$199,000

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



DEARBORN

22732 Outer Drive

3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home w/Basement on Oversized Lot. Basement Is Partially Finished w/Fireplace. HW Floors in Living Room And Bedrooms. New Roof in 2015 w/30 Year Warranty. New Pella Crank Out Easy Clean Windows w/Shades. Kitchen Updated In 1990s. Nice Fenced Yard w/2 Car Garage.

\$119,000

Call Laura Pennington 248-245-5351



FLUSHING

N. Nichols - VACANT LAND

Over 16 acres of great wooded parcel in located in Flushing schools. Property is ready for building your dream home or used as your hunting get away! Blind, food plot space, and water source all available! Slope near front of property would be great for a walk-out site for your news home. Make an offer now!

\$69,900

Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



HOLLY

507 N. Saginaw Street

Prime commercial location

in the village of Holly. Building is right on the main drag across from the new Dollar General. Excellent visibility with high traffic count. Free span building offers many possibilities.

\$269,900

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



FLINT

3409 N Jennings

Great opportunity! Come see this wonderful commercial property. Currently used for lumber processing, this 4 acre property with large parking lot and new office add-on is perfect for any business. Plenty of room for machinery on the lot. Spacious facility includes two separate workshops and a loft!

\$150,000

Call Kelsey Kerr 810-210-4155



FENTON

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 Shiawassee River. And there is plenty of parking space.

\$299,900

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300

Give in and sign up — it's OK

■ Unsolicited advice on dating sites, especially for guys because you need it



Tim Jagielo

Despite my 'mug' shot, I actually smile a lot around people.

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com;
810-433-6795

So, I'm single. If you're like me, being single as a status is a mixture of choice and also opportunity.

If you want to be single, great; if you don't want to be single, but haven't met the right person, you may need to expand your social circle.

To accomplish this, I would suggest lots of real world experiences (like start a rock band). But a dating site could help a busy person index and meet people out of their area and routine.

For me, a dating site is totally normal. For some, it's a weird or even pathetic way to meet people. But I suggest that it's OK — give in and sign up.

For one thing, it's safer for everyone, as you can control the way you meet, if you even want to meet.

In my experience, you get things like politics, pet ownership, musical interests and career information out of the way quickly to see if you even have enough in common to send a message.

I, for example, need to know if you have cats, because I'd like to know how much I'll be allowed to breathe around you at home. Also, everyone has a cat.

Some advice to men

I'm 35, and I've used these sites off and on for nearly nine years. I've had dates and actual successful relationships from them. But like life itself, my experience

See **SIGN UP** on 18A

LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES

■ Online dating sites are now the mainstream meeting venue for singles

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

When Lauren Studt of Fenton was separated and going through

a divorce, she visited Plenty of Fish, a free online dating site for singles, to find casual dates.

"I wasn't looking for anything serious," said Studt, whose daughter, Claire, was 3 at the time. "Just someone to go out to dinner with."

Studt found much more than

that online; she met her husband, Jeremy. They've been together three and a half years, married for two years and have added a 6-month-old daughter, Alexandria, to their

See **ONLINE DATING** on 19A

SUMMARY

■ Many local couples have found love on online dating sites, and the experience can bring out a number of emotions, especially for women.



Shelby Rohen and Eric Badal met on Match.com and had their first date on Jan. 13, 2015. They've been married for five months.



Lauren and Jeremy Studt met on Plenty of Fish and were married March 14, 2015.

Kristine Kundrick met Bobby Black on Plenty of Fish and are engaged to be married on April 13.



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES



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Come *Heller* high water

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Dr. Marriage says ...

It's time for another edition of Dr. Marriage – the advice column for people mystified by the people with whom they cohabitate ...

Dear Dr. Marriage:
My wife and I get along great and yet she always seems slightly annoyed with me. What's up with that? Am I doing something wrong?

— Puzzled in Pittsburgh

Dear Puzzled:

First off, of course you're doing something wrong. You're a guy. Married to a woman. And women are – and Dr. Marriage is not even kidding when he says this – superior in every way to men. Therefore, by definition, everything you are doing is wrong. I'm surprised you don't know that by now.

How long did you say you've been married?

But perhaps Dr. Marriage is judging you too harshly. After all, the light of his utter wrongness about all things marital didn't go on in Dr. Marriage's head until about year 25 of his union with Mrs. Dr. Marriage.

Dr. Marriage remembers the moment all too clearly. He was lying in bed next to her when she said, 'I can't believe you did that.' To which Dr. Marriage – who was puzzled since he didn't remember doing anything especially dumb that day – replied 'Did what?' To which she replied, 'When you tried to use that rusty X-Acto blade to get that sliver out of Henry's foot.'

Henry is our son.

'That wasn't rust, it was dirt.'

'It was rust. He could have gotten tetanus.'

'Oh, c'mon, he'd have been fine. He's a boy. Besides, it was eight years ago. Doesn't the statute of limitations ever run out with you?'

That's when Dr. Marriage got 'the look.' The look means Dr. Marriage has immediately lost the discussion for being hopelessly stupid. It also means another notation has gone into the permanent record on him that Mrs. Dr. Marriage keeps in her brain.

Dr. Marriage was about to object to the look and defend his statute of limitations argument. But at that moment, a little voice in his head said, 'Resistance is futile. Be a reed in the river, a willow in the wind. Go with the flow and all will be well.'

So he apologized for his stupidity. She seemed satisfied. And capitulation with honor eventually became Dr. Marriage's marital philosophy. Now when Mrs. Dr. Marriage confronts him with his stupidity, instead of digging the hole deeper he simply says 'You're right, what was I thinking?' Then he goes and takes out the trash.

Mrs. Dr. Marriage usually eyes him suspiciously when he gives in that easily and says, 'Yeah, right. You're not fooling anybody, buddy.' Dr. Marriage, of course, has no idea what she means by that.

But it has saved a lot of squabbling. So much so, that lately Dr. Marriage has been experimenting with a similar, pre-emptive version of this philosophy. What he does, every morning before getting out of bed, is roll over to Mrs. Dr. Marriage and whisper 'I'm sorry for every dumb thing I'm about to do or say today.' Usually she just elbows him in the sternum. But he thinks it's eventually going to work. Or not.

Whatever the case, Dr. Marriage strongly suggests you try this philosophy, Puzzled in Pittsburgh. Although if it doesn't achieve the desired results, don't expect Dr. Marriage to apologize.

He's not married to you, after all.

Opinions offered in Come Heller High Water are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the Andrew at andrewheller@tctimes.com.

Hotlines

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

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

AMERICA WILL NEVER be truly great until our politicians learn that our real enemies are not Republicans or Democrats, but other countries who wish to do us harm.

I LIKE THE idea of boycotting the Oscars because you know it will be over-the-top political.

YOU PEOPLE COMPLAINING about missing the King need only to subscribe to both editions to get his column. My week is not complete with some 'royal' advice, admonitions or illumination. Long live the King.

YOU LOST, GO buy yourselves a couple of pacifiers and stop crying. That's what stops babies from crying.

YOU MUST IDENTIFY your enemies if you are going to defeat them. Obama refused to use the term "Radical Islamic Extremist." Republicans wrongly call rioters and looters, left wing or anarchists. They know that the rioters are Communist-inspired. Let's identify all of our enemies in order to defeat them.

THE MONDAY OAKLAND Press had a story about an Oxford School Board resolution opposing the DeVos confirmation that may have identified the problem with our education system, when they said that "as a school board, our job is to protect public education." They oppose DeVos because her objective is to edu-

cate our children.

NOT ONLY IS California irrelevant, but based on the confirmation of Betsy DeVos so are the Democrats and unions.

ADMIT IT, YOU are not mad about Trump's constant lying. You're just mad someone else is successfully using your liberal tactics against you.

LIBERALS ARE FOR America? Wrong.

I AM EXCITED about the changes in our government to bring us back to a nation in which we were founded, not what the minority expects our country to represent.

HANDICAP STICKERS DO not give you the right to cut people off, use no turn signals, scream, yell and get aggressive in a public place. By the way, smoking inside the car while you are driving around a bilateral lung transplant patient is someone who is concerned only with themselves.

WHEN READING THE crime stats article from Sunday's paper, I was startled to learn that charming little Argentine Township had more assaults last year than Fenton Township, the village of Holly and Linden combined.

DRIVING WITHOUT USING signals, parking in a handicap spot straddling the line, and getting out with a lit cigarette hanging out of your mouth is criminal. I'm sure the person who gave their life so your daughter could have healthy lungs would not appreciate her sucking in your second hand smoke.

DEPORT MELANIA. SHE is an illegal alien. Sorry Donald for your poor choice in wives.

LOVED THE ARTICLE about Jim (Grateful Jim) Sjostrom. Jim sounds like a exceptional good man with a big heart.

I WAITED A whole week to read the gospel that is 'If I Were King.' Sunday arrives, straight to page four it is. Immediately, I clench my fist in frustration. This isn't my hero, it's just Andrew Heller with another drab dose of mediocrity. I have one question – why in the HELLer are you still publishing this guy?

I BET THE same people complaining that Heller is in the Times are the same people who preach free speech, and listening to other perspectives than your own.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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How did you meet your spouse?

*Fenton High School staff members
Compiled by Tess DeGayner, intern

streettalk



"At his cousin's 21st birthday party almost 30 years ago."

Kim Stapp



"In high school. She sat in front of me in psychology class."

Shawn Lawrence



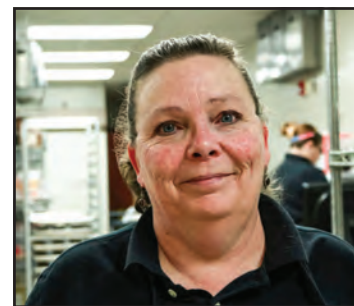
"I first met Gretchen in high school. We never really looked twice at each other then. We had mutual friends and we started spending more and more time together in college. It was more like love at second sight."

Brett Mead



"He was dating my friend when we met. He was in a band as a drummer and we went to watch him. Now we are happily married."

Donna Fletcher



"We met at work, GM Photographic. He worked on level two and I was on level one. We have been married for 31 years."

Irene Garza



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DEER LAKE WATERFRONT

NEW LISTING



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LAKE FENTON WATERFRONT



14189 Swannee Beach Dr. • Fenton
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LAKE FENTON WATERFRONT



13185 Torrey Rd. • Fenton
3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 1758 Sq Ft. Beautiful views of Lake Fenton's Crane's Cove.
\$400,000

FENTON



9331 Foley Crossing • Fenton
5 Bedrooms, 4 Baths, 3,000 Sq Ft.
Private setting with elevated view of nature. Finished Walk Out!
\$366,000

PINNACLE SHORES - FENTON



4360 Oak Tree Ct. • Fenton
4 Bedrooms, 3(2,1) Baths, 2429 Sq Ft.
Gorgeous Home with Lower-Level Walk Out!
\$349,000

GRAND BLANC



4331 Meadowbrook Ct • Grand Blanc
4 Bedrooms, 3(2,1) Baths, 3,100 Sq Ft. Gorgeous, well-maintained
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\$269,900

LINDEN



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3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 1720 Sq Ft.
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LINDEN



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PENDING!

11420 Olde Wood Trl. • Fenton
\$440,000



PENDING

12755 Meadow View Cir. • Holly
\$390,000



PENDING

2330 Cherry Tree Ln. • Grand Blanc
\$259,000



PENDING

12435 Hoisington Rd. • Gaines
\$200,000



SOLD

8523 Pineview Lake Dr. • Holly
\$227,000



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**SOLD
IN 16 DAYS!**

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\$150,000



SOLD

12253 St. Andrews Way • Fenton
\$75,000



JohnTremaine.com





YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

WISDOM TEETH

The third molar teeth are last teeth to develop and erupt into the mouth. This usually occurs when a person is around 18 or 19 years of age. They are called Wisdom Teeth because these teeth appear in the mouth once the person has reached the "age of wisdom." I think most would agree that this is a misnomer as I personally can't think of any 18 year olds exhibiting much wisdom. Few people have adequate room in their mouth for their third molars to erupt into full position. For those that do, my philosophy, in their case, is if they can keep their wisdom teeth healthy then they can keep them. Most wisdom teeth, however, are problem teeth. Few people have enough space for their developing third molars. This lack of adequate room causes most wisdom teeth to become impacted. An impacted tooth is trouble. Impacted Wisdom Teeth create pressure which can cause damage to the other teeth and can cause crowding of the other teeth. Impacted third molars can become infected and can sometimes develop cysts or develop periodontal disease which can spread throughout the mouth. It is best to have impacted wisdom teeth removed before any serious trouble develops which involves surgery. It's best to have wisdom teeth surgery at ages 18-20. At this stage in their life the person is young and healthy, the third molar teeth and bone are not fully developed, and there is no active infection in the area. Third molar surgery in this situation is usually considered minor surgery and recovery is fast and easy. Conversely, the impacted third molar surgery on a 50+ year old is often considered a more major surgery with a much prolonged and difficult recovery with a great chance of post-operative complications. Because of this, I recommend removal of Wisdom Teeth for my young adult patients.

I welcome your questions and comments.
Feel free to e-mail me drsulfaro@comcast.net



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Spotlight on:

SUNRY'S BOOTS

• Archery business opens boot store next door for work, hunting and hiking

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Ryan Payton and Jeff Neill opened Sunry's Archery in 2013 at 1442 Torrey Rd. in Fenton. Just over three years later, they expanded their business in November 2016 by adding Sunry's Boots next door. **How did you get into the boot business?**

We were selling hunting boots in the archery store and it just went from there. Sunry's Boots is a totally separate business, but you can shop between both stores with easy access inside.

What brands do you carry?

We specialize in fitting people with the proper boots for their work, sport or leisure activities.

We've got boots by Timberland Pro, Keen Utility, Carhartt, Danner, Thorogood, Chippewa, Iowa, Oboz, Wood & Stream and more. Coming soon are Irish Setter boots. Some of our boots are made in the USA. That's pretty important to people. We do have in-stock sizes up to size 14. We also have safety toe work boots and waterproof styles.

Do you carry boots for women?

Ninety-five percent of our boots are



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

SunRy's Boots co-owners Ryan Payton (left) and Jeff Neill carry a full line of boots for working, hunting and playing. They carry brands such as Thorogood, Keen Utility, Danner, Iowa, Timberland Pro and Carhartt.

for men, but we are getting in more for women, too.

What else do you carry?

We've got high-end socks, Superfeet Insoles, boot care and accessories.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

There are also several safety toe work boot options at SunRy's Boots.

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State Superintendent visits Lake Fenton

■ Says district is 'high performing'

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton Twp. — Lake Fenton schools brought their A game Tuesday, Feb. 7 when the state superintendent visited to tour the schools.

Brian Whiston, who has been the Michigan State Superintendent since July 2015, visited with Lake Fenton Superintendent Wayne Wright, the entire Lake Fenton Board of Education, school principals, and members of the student council.

Whiston said the visit was "outstanding. The students led the tour and I was joined by the superintendent, other administrators and school board members. I had the opportunity to hear from them what was working, and how they are aligning to our plans to make Michigan a Top 10 performing state and answered questions on state testing."

Wright gave a presentation focusing on enrollment numbers, fund equity, rewards and recognitions, and various school programs.

While students led the tour, Whiston heard a piece from the high school band and was interviewed by media students for their school announcements.

With school cameras rolling, aimed at Whiston and senior Allison von Daggenhausen, 17, she asked him about his responsibilities as state superintendent.

"I make sure the schools are performing at a high level, make sure that they're spending all their funds in an appropriate way. We oversee state and federal programs, testing and those kinds of things," he said.

She then asked why he chose to visit Lake Fenton schools.

"Lake Fenton is a high performing school district when you compare yourselves to the other 30-some districts in the county. You're performing in the top 1,2,3 of most categories. I want to learn why you're doing so well and how we can take that and share it with other school districts. Certainly the taxpayers, parents and students should be very proud of the school district," he said.

Whiston has toured about 16 districts this year, he said, and 50 last year.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Michigan State Superintendent Brian Whiston talks with students in advanced courses at Lake Fenton High School Tuesday, Feb. 7.

Wright said, "He was impressed with everything he observed at Lake Fenton. I believe it was a great privilege to have the state superintendent of schools visit our district. I have been working for schools for 43 years and this is the first time I have ever had the state superintendent visit

SUMMARY

■ Michigan State Superintendent Brian Whiston visited Lake Fenton schools Tuesday, Feb. 7.

a school where I was employed. There are over 800 districts and academies in the state and he only has time to visit a few districts each year and we were fortunate to be selected."

After touring Lake Fenton schools, Whiston said, "I was impressed with their test scores, their financial stability, the students, the teachers and options that students can choose from."

We go to the meetings so you don't have to.

The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you are doing, someone else does.



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Valentine's Day



...through the lens of three area couples at different stages in their relationships

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

With Valentine's Day coming up, couples at every stage in their relationship are talking about how to celebrate.

Here are three examples.

Relationship/Dating

Linden graduates Bobby Cronk, 23, and Audriana Janee, 22, have been dating for approximately six years.

"When we first started dating, we definitely began to celebrate Valentine's Day and view the day differently than we do now," she said. "The first two years we dated, we would plan a special little date together like say, the generic dinner and a movie. We would spend it together, just the two of us and just be all lovey dovey, of course."

For the last three years, they've hosted Anti-Valentine's Day parties with their



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Audriana Janee, 22, and Bobby Cronk, 23, have been together for approximately six years.



EMILY GOODEMOOT PHOTOGRAPHY
Ryann and Ben McKinney are high school sweethearts and have been together for 11 years.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Ron and Pat Lockwood are pictured together on their wedding day approximately 50 years ago.



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roommates where they simply hang out with friends, having a good time.

"In our opinions, we don't need a holiday to show we care about each other even though it is a good excuse," she said.

She said you can celebrate love and your relationship any or every day, and they prefer to do special things throughout the year.

"But I prefer to do it with the people who don't have that opportunity to do so, and who support my relationship wholeheartedly.

"Plus," she said. "It's a fun excuse to have a party."

Married for less than five years

Ryann and Ben McKinney, Mundy Township residents, were high school sweethearts who have been together for 11 years. They will celebrate their fourth wedding anniversary this June.

"We usually don't make a huge deal out of Valentine's Day, but it is always a good excuse to go out on a date and buy each other a gift," Ryann said. Every year has been different. The first year they were married, they went to a comedy show in Grand Rapids.

"This year we are planning on doing a progressive dinner date, which is where you go to a different place for an appetizer/drink, dinner, and dessert. It may be a little ambitious with the crowds, but we'll see," she said.

SUMMARY

■ Couples celebrate Valentine's Day differently based on where they are in their relationship.

Ryann said the way they view the holiday has definitely changed because they've been together since they were young.

"It used to be like this pressured thing where Ben felt like he had to get me flowers and chocolate and make a show out of it,

but over the years we decided not to really make such a big deal out of it. Recently we've gotten back into making a point of going out or doing something. Even when you're married, taking time to 'date' is still important," she said.

Married 50 years

Ron and Pat Lockwood, a Fenton City councilwoman, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

When they first started dating, Pat said Ron used to always get her a rose and a box of candy, and they would go out. Now, instead of focusing on their relationship, they try to make sure their 10

See **VALENTINE'S DAY** on 9A

“When you have that large of a family, I think parents and grandparents just focus on the kids. We get our enjoyment and happiness out of doing that with them.”

Pat Lockwood
Fenton City councilwoman

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

I'M APPALLED AT the number of times Trump and his officials claim 'it's complicated.' That is a dodge I use on my kids.

AS A LIFE-long Democrat, I am embarrassed and disgusted by what our Democrats are doing in Congress. We have to put the country together or we won't have one.

ERIC HOLDER AND Loretta Lynch are two of the most corrupt attorney generals we've ever had in our country. Thank God Jeff Sessions was approved last night, he is the most qualified attorney general in over 50 years.

IT'S PRETTY DISGUSTING nowadays, you won't even answer your phone if it's a number you don't recognize because it's probably a telemarketer trying to scam you out of your money. It should be illegal.

REPUBLICANS SEEM TO think nothing is worth doing unless there is a profit motive. No one makes a profit from public schools. You can bet some Republicans will find a way to profit from private schools at the expense of taxpayers.

JUDY IS MY barber. She was in a three-car accident. Not her fault. Something happened to her heart. I am praying for a full recovery and I hope she will be back.

IT'S NOT JOBS, stupid. It's wages. While blindsiding borders with wedge issues like immigration and jobs, this administration is busy with deregulation and union roadblocks, which by historical standards result in lower and lower wages.

THANK YOU SO much to the nice lady who turned my purse in when I left it in VG's parking lot last Wednesday. God bless you, thank you.

I CAN'T EXPRESS how grateful I am to the Desert Angels people, who send care packages to troops overseas. My cousin got one and said it was a great reminder of home, and really made his and his friends' day.

HANNAH BALL, DO your homework on disabled parking. It requires a valid disability permit. Those that truly need a disabled parking spot can't have one due to all those using them illegally with no visible permit. Law enforcement need to enforce the laws on the books instead of looking the other way.

I'D LIKE TO thank President Trump for doing everything he can to protect our borders. If the liberals had their way, we would all have to be speaking Arabic and living under Sharia Law.

THERE ARE ALMOST two million illegal aliens living in the United States with

criminal records of robberies, rapes, and murders. But these statistics don't seem to bother liberals and Democrats.

LIBERALS SAY THEY want the truth, but I don't know if they can handle the truth. In 2016, black violence in Chicago was up over 90 percent.

I JUST READ the article about Johnny Irvin in the Wednesday Times. What a great, great article. Hope to see more of this type of article and wouldn't mind a few less of the post election articles. Thanks so much, love the paper.

AFTER READING THE Feb. 8 edition of the Tri-County Times and the Hot lines, I'm convinced that many readers don't have any access to newspapers or TV or anything that would convey a particle of truth.

I WOULD LIKE to just thank the Fenton High School IB theatre arts for 'To Kill a Mockingbird.' That was such a wonderful play. Everyone played their part so perfect, it didn't even seem like a play. It was just awesome. If you put it on again, I would come again.

A NATIONAL READING scale found that U.S. high school students dropped 11 points in the last eight years. We also are failing our students in science and math and our standing in the world. Betsy DeVos is going to go in there and shake up the department.

ISIS HAS STATED that they are going to use refugee programs to infiltrate any country in the world with terrorists. The liberal Democrats in congress are trying to gamble with American lives.

YESTERDAY INTEL MADE the decision to add 3,000 jobs to their Arizona factory in agreement with the Trump administration. We now have over 20,000 new jobs created and Trump has only been in office for a little over two weeks.

I AM A Republican who loves this country and I applaud our president who wants to stand beside her and guide her and not allow Democrats and terrorists to ruin what we've created over the last 200 years.

GERMANY NOW HAS over 1 million Syrian refugees living in their country and France has become a terrible place because of the Islamic terrorism.

I AM EXCITED about the changes in our government to bring us back to a nation in which we were founded, not what the Democrats expect our country to represent.

VALENTINE'S DAY

Continued from Page 8A

grandkids have a good holiday by putting little boxes of candy on their doorstep before they go to school.

"Mostly we just surprise the kids with something," she said. "When you have that large of a family, I think parents and grandparents just focus on the kids. We get our enjoyment and happiness out of doing that with them."

However, they still do something special once a month, like get away for a day or two.

Snowstorm wedding

Lockwood also shared the story of their wedding day in 1967, when Ron was six hours late because of a snowstorm. He was stationed at the Great Lakes Naval Station outside of Chicago at the time, and they were getting married in Dearborn.

Lockwood said a snowstorm was raging through the area, and 23 inches of snow fell in total.

"It started snowing on Thursday. We were getting married on Saturday. He had all of the liquor from Chicago in the car for our wedding. It took him three days, all day Thursday, Friday, and he didn't get home until Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m.

He got stuck on the causeway and other areas. He had to have guys lift the Volkswagen out of the ruts. He didn't sleep from Thursday on.

He was stuck on this huge hill, and cars are sliding all over so he pulled over and he got into a phone booth to call to say 'look, this is really looking bad.' My mom answered the phone...she said 'we know you can make it' and she hung up on him.

"So he got there at 3 o'clock and we were supposed to get married at 9 in the morning. We ended up getting married at 6 o'clock," she said. "The next day we got right back in the car and had to drive back to Chicago because he had to go back to the base. I drove. Ron's best man was in the back seat and those two slept all the way."

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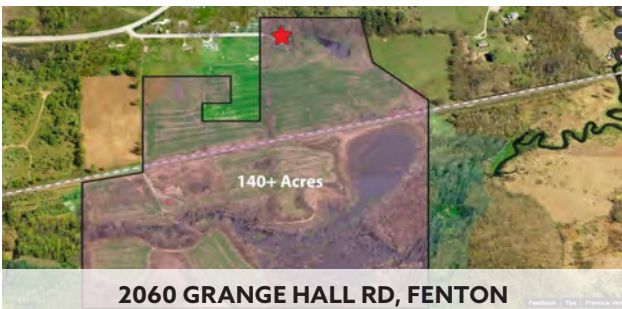
9519 WOODMONT DR, GRAND BLANC

WARWICK HILLS \$299,999
3348 SF, 3 BDR and 4 BA. Crown molding, hardwood floor and soaring 10' ceilings. Large open kitchen, fire-lit family room and formal dining room with built-in buffet. Finished basement and 3 car garage all on half acre lot with mature trees. This is a must see home!



1274 S HOLLY RD, FENTON

ACREAGE \$575,000
Charming Farmhouse in Fenton Schools on 69+ Acres. 2685 SF spacious home, 5 BDR, 2 BA, 1 car garage, barn, and shed. Fire-lit living room, large kitchen, wood burning stove and 1st floor laundry. 23 farmed acres, 2 parcels and 2 ponds on the property.



2060 GRANGE HALL RD, FENTON

ACREAGE \$750,000
Gorgeous property 140+ acres w/limitless potential. Great for fishing, hunting or horses. Superb water fowl hunting habitat, Boone & Crockett hunting potential for deer. Farming & development potential. Farmhouse has 3 BDR, 2 BA & 1871 SF.



1465 PETTS RD, FENTON

ACREAGE \$250,000
3.36 Acres with water frontage on Parker Lake. Great location close to downtown and expressways. Beautiful lot with lots of potential to build your dream home or possible commercial building opportunities.



12452 MARGARET DR, FENTON

LAKE FENTON SCHOOLS \$229,900
2352 SF, 3 BDR and 2 BA. Lake Fenton views. Granite kitchen, fire-lit family room and finished basement. 28' pool with multi-level deck. Oversized 2 car garage. Great yard with mature trees.



4130 WATERLAND DR, METAMORA

LAKE LAPEER \$744,999
179+ frontage on all sports Lake Lapeer w/2.87 acres. 6072 SF of finished living space, 4 BDR & 4.5 BA. Private setting, open floor plan, soaring ceilings, great natural light, crown molding. Finished walkout basement w/ kitchenette, workout room, sauna & pole barn.



13353 HADDON ST, FENTON

LAKE FENTON \$559,900
100' frontage on all sports Lake Fenton. Great opportunity to build your dream home. 2 car garage with storage already there, across the street. Gorgeous views!



4331 REDDING CIRCLE, GRAND BLANC

HOLLY HILLS \$218,999
2069 SF, 4 BDR and 3 BA. Open kitchen with island, dining area and slider to the deck. 1st floor handicap accessible bathroom, fire-lit family room and 1st floor laundry. Corner lot in popular sub close to schools, Genesys Hospital and I-75!



2393 DAVIS RD, FENTON

LAKE FENTON \$765,000
72' frontage on all sports Lake Fenton, 5400 SF, 4 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. Crown molding, exposed beams, finished walkout and so much more.



1048 GRANGE HALL RD, FENTON

HOLLY SCHOOLS \$69,900
Potential, potential, potential!! 1000 SF, 2 BDR, 1 BA and 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!



3496 PONEMAH DR, FENTON

LAKE PONEMAH \$100,000
Beautiful buildable lot in Cottage Cove development. Deeded dock on All Sports Lake Ponemah. Great fishing, boating and ice skating in the winter. Close to shopping and expressways. Land contract available-buy now, enjoy the lake, build later!



6263 CANTER CREEK, GRAND BLANC

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES \$1,750,000
Over 10,000 SF of Luxury Living! 5 BDR, 8 BA, 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 drive way.



1500 TRIPLE OAK DR, FENTON

DOLLAR LAKE \$249,999
120' frontage on Dollar Lake (connects to Little Long Lake) 2718 SF of finished living space, 4 BDR and 3 BA. Finished walkout basement w/ large rec room, full bath + sauna, fireplace, office. 1 acre lot with 2 oversized 2.5 car attached garages, plus 3rd garage.



2095 WIGGINS RD, FENTON

BARNUM LAKE \$99,999
Wonderful opportunity to build your dream lake home on these 3 gorgeous waterfront lots in Barnum Lake Woods Subdivision. Well and electrical ready to go. Don't miss out! Bring your offer.



80 CHATEAUX DU LAC, FENTON

SILVER LAKE \$225,000
370' frontage w/ private peninsula & sandbar on this exclusive Silver Lake waterfront lot. Chateaux Du Lac is a prestigious gated community where you can enjoy the private clubhouse, in ground pool and tennis courts. All that's left to do is start building!



9850 BURNING TREE DR, GRAND BLANC

WARWICK HILLS \$1,199,999
This custom home is nothing less than spectacular. Offering 13,000+ SF of living space. 5 BDR, 9 BA including 2 master suites, 6 fireplaces, marble flooring, gold leaf ceilings and wine cellar. Custom in ground pool and 4 car garage.



16207 HILLTOP DR, LINDEN

ACREAGE \$207,499
2+ acres, 1900 SF, 3 BDR and 2 BA. Great room features natural light, brick fireplace & soaring ceilings. Bonus room can be used as a family, game room or office. 2 car attached garage and whole house generator included!



7450 MCGUIRE RD, FENTON

LAKE SHANNON \$57,500
Over an acre of beautiful buildable lot with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Active association and sportsman club which sponsors many events throughout the year. Backs up to a permanent open space wooded wildlife ravine for added privacy.



7410 MCGUIRE RD, FENTON

LAKE SHANNON \$47,500
Beautiful build-able lot, almost 1 acre with access to private Lake Shannon. Private all sports lake community located west of US-23 and North of M-59 between Ann Arbor and Flint.



6239 CANTER CREEK, GRAND BLANC

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES \$1,199,000
Stunning Pine Hollow Manor 7900+ SF w/ finished walkout. Built 2002 at a cost of 2.5+ million, 5 BDR and 7 BA, home boasts luxury! Nestled on lavish grounds providing pure privacy. Marble floors, granite, cherry, Swarovski Crystal, Enkeboll trim, 24k Gold fixtures.



8383 HENDERSON, GOODRICH

ACREAGE \$374,999
Beautiful home in Goodrich Schools. 2577 SF, 4 BDR, 2.5 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.

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Anthony M. Strozier Sr
Customer Service Manager

Favorite Song: **I Will Bless Thee O Lord**
Favorite Restaurant: **Outback Steakhouse**
Favorite Sports Team: **Detroit Lions**
Favorite Thing About Michigan: **Great summer weather and so much to do across the State**
Fun Fact: **I have a twin and I don't like styrofoam!**

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THIS WEEK'S ANSWER:
Anthony is afraid of: THE NOISE STYROFOAM MAKES

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WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following is what you missed in the **Wednesday, Feb. 8, Midweek Edition** of the Tri-County Times. To subscribe and receive both the Sunday Weekend and Wednesday Midweek editions, please call (810) 629-8282

Mott campus closed Monday due to active shooter threat

All branches of Mott Community College were closed Monday, Feb. 6 while police investigated a threat made online about a possible active shooter.



Fenton police chief resigns

Fenton Police chief Rick Aro resigned his position in order to become the chief airport law enforcement officer for the Gerald Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids.

Plan to raise tobacco buying age to 21 goes 'up in smoke'

Attorney General Bill Schuette ruled on Friday, Feb. 3 that prohibiting 18- to 20-year-olds from purchasing tobacco products violates their rights as adults.

our town

Meet MICHAEL HART

- Fenton's assistant city manager and DDA director
- Martial artist
- Pinball wizard

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-629-6823

Please tell us about your education.

I am 53 years old and attended college in California for both my undergraduate and graduate degrees. They were earned at California State University at Long Beach. It was one of the larger universities in the state and the mascot was a 49er with black and gold colors. Like many universities, sports were important and there were exceptional NCAA baseball and volleyball programs there.

Tell us about your family.

I have been married going on 15 years to my wife, Sanda, and we raised two children together. My stepson just graduated from college and my daughter is still



"Having such a good selection of places to eat has been great."

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
TIM JAGIELO

Michael Hart joined the city of Fenton staff as assistant city manager and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director on Dec. 12, 2016.

attending college in N.Y. studying music theatre. As a household, we like pets and currently have two cats.

How long have you been Fenton's assistant city manager and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director?

My official start date for the city of Fenton, including the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) was Monday, Dec. 12, 2016.

How has it been working with the city of Fenton so far?

It has been going well getting to know everyone, understanding the more recently completed projects, and quickly approaching new projects for 2017.

What are some of the things you enjoy here?

Everyone I have met has been very friendly. Having such a good selection of places to eat has been great. I enjoy looking at all of the public art downtown.

What are some of the challenges you are facing?

I do not think there really have been any large challenges upfront, but due to the number of upcoming projects this year, there is some urgency in under-

standing where we are at in the process. **What are your current and long-term goals for the immediate future of Fenton?**

Both my short- and longer-term goals for the city is to support the council, the DDA Board and public with the best customer service and to keep the improvement of downtown on the fast track.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to cook and I teach/coach martial arts.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I think people would be surprised to know that I've liked playing pinball since I was a kid and have been teaching myself to fix them. Right now I have three Bally machines from the 1970s and would like to add several more. But I do not have the time for any additional machines right now.

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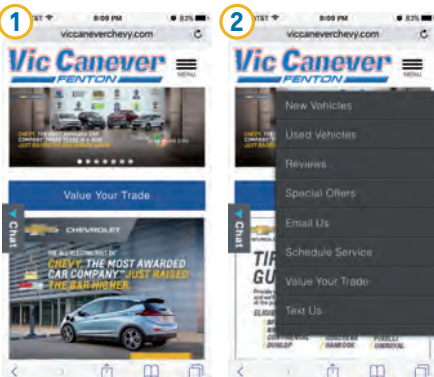


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ASK THE MECHANIC

Chris Wilkinson,
Certified Mechanic

Q: How do you bleed a clutch on a 1984 Chevy S-10?

- Michael

A: This procedure can be used anytime air is introduced into the hydraulic system. Following this procedure may also reduce the number of unnecessary parts replaced for low clutch pedal reserve and high shift effort.

- Verify that all the lines and fittings are dry and secure.
- Clean the dirt and grease from the reservoir cap in order to ensure that no foreign substances enter the system.
- Remove the reservoir cap.
- Fill the reservoir to the proper level with the required fluid.
- Attach the J 43485 (Adapter) to the J 35555 (Mity Vac), or equivalent.
- Brake fluid will deteriorate the rubber on J 43485. Use a clean shop cloth to wipe away the fluid after each use.
- Place and hold the adapter on the reservoir filler neck to ensure a tight fit. In some cases, the adapter will fit into the reservoir opening.
- Apply a vacuum of 51-68 kPa (15-20 hg) and remove the adapter.
- Refill the reservoir to the proper level.
- Repeat Steps 6 and 7.
- If needed, refill the reservoir and continue to pull a vacuum until no more bubbles can be seen in the reservoir or until the fluid level no longer drops. The vehicle will move if started in gear before the Actuator Cylinder is refilled and operational. Start the vehicle the first time in neutral to help prevent personal injury from vehicle movement and see if the transmission will shift easily into gear.
- Pump the clutch pedal until firm (to refill actuator cylinder).
- Add additional fluid if needed.
- Test drive vehicle to ensure proper operation.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

■ ■ ■
I WOULD LOVE if just one Democrat would point to the text in the Constitution that says the president is unconstitutional in banning certain people from certain countries from entering this country.

■ ■ ■
SO LET ME get this straight, if we have an American and an illegal alien standing in front of an employer, he would choose the illegal alien because they would work for less?

■ ■ ■
WHY ARE BUSINESSES (especially on side streets) not getting ticketed for not shoveling their sidewalks in the allotted amount of time per village ordinance?

■ ■ ■
OUR SOCIAL SECURITY and Medicare are in jeopardy. Clinton and Obama took the money allocated for these things and spent them elsewhere. Can someone explain to me why we are giving millions and billions of dollars to other countries all the time?

■ ■ ■
WHAT PLANET CAN be easily seen soon after dark high in the southwest sky?

■ ■ ■
SURPRISE, ACCORDING TO Channel 5 news, the state of Michigan received 24,000 refugees from Iraq. We better fill up the food bank.

■ ■ ■
DUE TO TRUMP'S infatuation with Putin and Russia, he must have been terribly distraught when the Berlin wall came down.

■ ■ ■
TODAY WE FOUND out the price of getting on Trump's cabinet. It's \$9.5 million. Qualified people need not apply.

GHOST APPS

Continued from Front Page

In this day and age, when technology is this advanced, it's important to keep an eye on your teenagers' phones and what they're using it for.

According to TV news reports, on Jan. 23, Davison Community Schools issued a statement about a 17-year-old who shared more than 100 inappropriate pictures of high school age girls on a website. Many were his classmates.

Thirty-five students were identified in the photos, and the website has been taken down.

Looking through the gallery on your child's camera app may not contain inappropriate materials, but your child could be using hidden apps, called "ghost apps," to store and hide photos.

One such app is Audio Manager, which appears to be a helpful app for managing audio on your phone. A simple Google search of "Audio Manager" reveals its true nature. Certain sites call the app "Hide it Pro" and describe it as a place to hide pictures.

According to Huffington Post, this app is a favorite when it comes to hiding inappropriate pictures, messages, and videos.

Some of these apps make national headlines, especially when it facilitates a sexting ring among high school students. Calculator% is an app disguised to look like a calculator and serves as a medium to hide inappropriate pictures and messages.

It works like a normal calculator until you enter your secret passcode.

According to The Washington Post, this scandal involved at least 100 students and hundreds of nude photos.

Another app goes one step further and takes a picture of the person trying to access the hidden app. Vaulty hides

messages and photos from prying eyes, and also snaps a photo of anyone who incorrectly enters the passcode.

Other apps that serve similar purposes include Snapchat and Burn Notice. Snapchat deletes photos and videos after a certain amount of time, and Burn Notice is a messaging app that only displays one word at a time, which adds a sense of secrecy.

Apps like Burn Notice can encourage cyberbullying, because the app sends a "Burn Alter" to someone when they have a message waiting, even if they don't have the app. KiK Messenger and Yik Yak are other apps to be aware of.

These kinds of apps are very popular. According to the New York Times, Private Photo Vault is the 28th most downloaded photo and video app on the app store. This is another site where users enter a passcode to hide inappropriate photos, videos, and messages.

HOW TO SPY ON YOUR CHILDREN

While there are ghost apps, there are also apps that help parents see what their child is doing on their phone, often called "spy apps."

Spy is the top tracking app for cell phones, according to top-trackingapps.com. It monitors who their children call, text, which apps they use, the number of contacts, GPS location, and collects other data.

The Spy Bubble and The Phone Sheriff are other useful spy apps.

Use an iCloud account to monitor your teen's cell phone usage, according to The Huffington Post. When your teen downloads a new app, it will be downloaded on the parent's phone as well.

Some of these
apps make
national
headlines,
especially when
one facilitates
a sexting ring
among high
school students.

NEWSPAPERS

Continued from Front Page

The newspaper is the place where calls for action are published. It draws volunteers and it brings donations. It interests voters and it informs the electorate.

The Tri-County Times, like Thompson's former family hometown newspaper, encourages commerce and it creates markets. It exposes misdeeds and it validates effort. It focuses on grief and it applauds achievement, but most importantly, it breathes life into a community.

The Tri-County Times is a family affair

The late Richard "Rick" Rockman, Sr. has been providing the tri-county area with weekly news for the past 62 years. During that time, this third-generation newspaper has published through the terms of 11 U.S. presidents, starting with Dwight D. Eisenhower and with the new term of current President Donald J. Trump.

The newspaper has published through more than 13 wars and conflicts involving the United States, other countries and our local troops, and Rockman's newspapers have published through nine economic recessions.

The Tri-County News/Times has survived when other publications have long gone, including the Fenton Independent, which after publishing for more than 130 years as a weekly newspaper, met its demise in mid-2009, only a few short years after being purchased and subsequently dissolved by the Flint daily newspaper.

That's not going to happen to the Tri-County Times, your hometown newspaper. The Rockman family and their family of employees, some of whom have been with the company for more than 30 years, will continue publishing two weekly editions for as long as our readers and advertisers continue to support us.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

POLAR PLUNGE

Continued from Front Page

Genesee County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) Dive Team were in the water in case the jumpers needed assistance. There were 33 teams, which is up from last year.

"It was a success," said District Director Pat Peters. The event grew in every way this year, from participation, number of teams and money raised. The event raised \$75,000 up to the day of the event, with 1,087 donors.

"It keeps growing on us," she said. "Our communities keep supporting us."

This time last year, \$65,000 of a \$75,000 goal was raised, and Peters promised to get a tattoo if the extra \$10,000 was raised. Now, Peters is sporting a new tattoo, which she unveiled at the Saturday event. "It's awesome, as far as I'm concerned," she said.

There are 1,300 Special Olympic athletes in the district, and the funds

help them compete in winter and summer games, along with other sports like basketball, for free. "We believe in what it does for the athletes," said Peters. "It teaches self confidence, self esteem, and about winning and losing and working as a team. It teaches them about life."

The money goes to equipment, training, registration fees and transporting the athletes to events.

The Special Olympics is staffed by volunteer and financed by donations only. Peters said it takes the entire community to pull off such an event. Peters thanks the Moose Lodge, and the GCSO for making it possible.

"We believe in what it does for the athletes. It teaches self-confidence, self esteem, and about winning and losing and working as a team. It teaches them about life."

Pat Peters

Special Olympics District 13 director



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Members of a Grand Blanc Community Schools baseball team react after plunging into the frigid Lake Fenton water on Saturday.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS STARTED IN CHICAGO

The first International **Special Olympics** Summer Games were held in July 1968 at Soldier Field in Chicago. About 15,00 athletes from the U.S. and Canada took part in the one-day event, which was a joint venture by the Kennedy Foundation and the Chicago Park District. Special Olympics really began in the 1950s and early 1960s, when Eunice Kennedy Shriver saw how unjustly and unfairly people with intellectual disabilities were treated. She also saw that many children with intellectual disabilities didn't even have a place to play. She decided to take action and the rest is history.

Specialolympics.org

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News briefs

HOLLY STUDENTS RAISE THOUSANDS FOR HEART HEALTH

Second and third graders at Patterson Elementary and Holly Academy raised nearly \$5,000 for Jump Rope for Heart, a campaign that promotes awareness and fundraises for cardiovascular health, Feb. 1 and Feb. 6 by jumping rope during gym class. Jason McLaughlin, physical education teacher, said Holly Elementary raised \$1,675 and Patterson Elementary raised approximately \$3,105. Students asked people to donate and sponsor their jump roping. McLaughlin said heart disease is the number one killer of men and women in the United States, and it's important for students to develop healthy eating, drinking and exercising habits when they're young.

Upcoming Meetings

The following are meetings scheduled for the week starting Feb. 13.

Holly Township Board of Trustees

The Holly Township Board of Trustees will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 15, in the Township Hall.

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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

FEB. 12

2008: In an attempt to cut costs, struggling auto giant General Motors (GM) offers buyouts to all 74,000 of its hourly employees in the U.S. represented by the United Auto Workers (UAW) union. The move came after GM lost \$38.7 billion in 2007, which at the time was the largest loss ever experienced by any car maker. Two weeks later, on February 26, the loss was adjusted by \$4.6 billion, to \$43.3 billion.

FEB. 13

1991: On this day, Sotheby's announced the discovery of a long-lost manuscript of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain. The manuscript was the first half of Twain's original version, heavily corrected in his own handwriting, which had been missing for more than a century.

FEB. 14

1938: Former silent film actress Hedda Hopper pens the first installment of what would become her tremendously influential gossip column in the Los Angeles Times.

FEB. 15

1933: Giuseppe Zangara shoots Anton Cermak, the mayor of Chicago, in Miami, Florida. Zangara's shots missed President-elect Franklin Roosevelt, who was with Cermak at the time. Cermak was seriously wounded and died on March 6. Immediately after Mayor Cermak died from the gunshot wounds, Zangara was indicted and arraigned for murder. He pled guilty and died in the electric chair on March 20, only two weeks after Cermak died. Today such a swift outcome would be practically unheard of, particularly where the death penalty is concerned.

FEB. 16

1959: Fidel Castro is sworn in as prime minister of Cuba after leading a guerrilla campaign that forced right-wing dictator Fulgencio Batista into exile. Castro, who became commander in chief of Cuba's armed forces after Batista was ousted on Jan. 1, replaced the more moderate Miro Cardona as head of the country's new provisional government.

FEB. 17

1966: From the very beginning, the Beach Boys had a sound that was unmistakably their own, but without resident genius Brian Wilson pushing them into deeper waters with his songwriting and production talents, songs like "Surfin' Safari" and "Surfin' U.S.A." might have been their greatest legacy. While the rest of the band toured during their mid-60s heyday, Wilson lost himself in the recording studio, creating the music for an album — Pet Sounds — that is widely regarded as one of the all-time best, and a single — "Good Vibrations."

FEB. 18

2001: Dale Earnhardt Sr., considered one of the greatest drivers in National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) history, dies at the age of 49 in a last-lap crash at the 43rd Daytona 500 in Daytona Beach, Florida. Earnhardt was driving his famous black No. 3 Chevrolet and vying for third place when he collided with another car, then crashed into a wall. After being cut from his car, Earnhardt, whose tough, aggressive driving style earned him the nickname "The Intimidator," was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead of head injuries.

NOROVIRUS

Continued from Front Page

"We would like to remind everyone that Genesee County normally experiences an increase in gastroenteritis illnesses this time of year, but we continue to watch this closely," said Mark Valacak, Genesee County Health Department health officer, in a health alert for norovirus.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, norovirus causes 19-21 million cases of acute gastroenteritis, which is inflammation in the stomach or intestines, or both. It leads to 1.7 - 1.9 million outpatient visits and 400,000 emergency department visits nationwide.

The virus causes 56,000-71,000 hospitalizations and 570-800 deaths per year, which mostly involve younger children and the elderly.

Transmission

Norovirus is transmitted by eating contaminated food or drink, touching surfaces with the virus, and having contact with someone who's infected. Leafy greens, fresh fruits and shellfish are foods most commonly involved in norovirus outbreaks.

People are most contagious when they actively have symptoms and during the first few days after they recover, according to the CDC. The virus often spreads quickly in closed places, like a small workspace, daycare centers, schools, and cruise ships.

Symptoms

Also known as the "winter vomiting bug" in the United Kingdom, this virus causes diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, stomach pain, fever, headache, and body aches. Because people tend to lose a lot of bodily fluids with norovirus, they often become dehydrated and can experience

dry mouth and throat, and feeling dizzy when standing up.

SUMMARY

■ Norovirus, which is associated with the inflammation of the stomach or intestines or both, causes diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, stomach pain, and other symptoms. It typically lasts about one to three days, but you can be contagious for five days.

People usually develop symptoms 12 to 48 hours after being exposed to the virus. The recovery period is between one and three days.

Genesee County Health Department Epidemiologist Danielle Steplowski said the best way to prevent getting sick is by completely cleaning your hands for at least 20 seconds and preventing any contamination of food and drinks, especially for people who are showing symptoms that are norovirus-like.

"We always push for people who are showing symptoms to stay home," she said. Seeing your medical provider and disinfecting household surfaces is important as well.

Preventing infection

In order to not contract the virus, it's important to always wash your hands after using the bathroom and before eating and preparing food. Since the virus can survive in temperature as high as 140 degrees, you should also wash your produce. Food that might be contaminated should be thrown out.

If you're sick, you should not prepare food for others until at least two days after symptoms stop. After throwing up or having diarrhea, the CDC recommends

Sickness at school

Fenton, Lake Fenton, Linden, and Holly schools all experience outbreaks of sickness every year due to the closed environments.

Holly schools Superintendent Dave Nuss said while he can't confirm if his students are suffering from norovirus, they started experiencing a rash of flu-like illness at the schools recently.

"At its peak, approximately 10 percent of our elementary students have had the flu. We're attempting to combat the spread of the flu virus by encouraging extra hand washing, no sharing of water bottles, pencils, lunches, diligent use of hand-sanitizers and having ill students remain home until they are no longer contagious," he said.

He said the staff is also taking extra precautions by cleaning surfaces like door handles and desk tops.

immediately cleaning contaminated surfaces with a bleach solution with a concentration of 1,000-5,000 ppm, which is 5-25 tablespoons of household bleach per gallon of water.

It's also important to immediately remove and wash clothes or linens contaminated with the virus either through vomit or feces. Wear rubber gloves when handling contaminated items, as well as when you're cleaning.

Make sure to clean other surfaces people regularly touch, like table tops, kitchen counters, door handles, the toilet handle, sink counters, the tops of dressers, the TV remote, and any other popular surface.

Treatment

Because norovirus is a viral infection, not a bacterial infection, it cannot be treated with antibiotics. The CDC recommends drinking plenty of water to avoid dehydration, or consume oral rehydration fluids that can be purchased over the counter.

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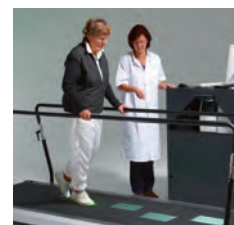
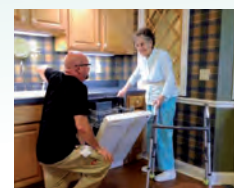
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SIGN UP

Continued from Page 3A

as a man is vastly different from that of a woman.

Send short, thoughtful messages.

A woman friend of mine, who lives in Arizona, only uses the sites to share on Facebook, the absurd messages she gets from men. She should probably write this column, not me.

So guys, please listen.

Most women will run out of inbox space in a week if they didn't weed through them. This means they are inundated with messages each day. Many are shallow, offensive, or just a lazy 'hey how r u' messages.

It happens enough, that women have to ask men not to do it on their profiles.

Write a good introduction. Introduce yourself, and find something in their profile that is interesting. Do they travel? Play an instrument? Are they in school for a degree?

If you compliment their looks, you're not providing an epiphany; you're adding yourself to the 'delete' pile.

Women can tell if you're sending bulk no-effort messages, so don't do it.

Admittedly, I have trouble connecting with what I read on a lot of profiles, so I don't send a lot of messages.

If you compliment their looks, you're not providing an epiphany; you're adding yourself to the 'delete' pile.

Write a fun, and concise profile.

I don't think my profiles are 'fun,' but yours should provide insight into you as a person, and leave plenty to relate to. I would suggest breaking up the paragraphs and even letting a friend proofread it for grammar and tone.

Consider your photos.

It may be worth it to have a friend with a camera take some decent photos of you. They should be honest, but contain a variety.

Also keep it recent — I'm super bald and have been for at least four years. I don't hide it, and I wouldn't hide anything that would only become apparent on a first coffee date.

Respect age and distance preferences.

Sites allow users to outline the person they're looking for. They'll express their acceptable age range, and how far away someone should live. If you don't fit the

basic parameters, save yourself some time and find someone you fit better to message.

I personally am on OkCupid, and Match.com. I don't really recommend Match.com because of the subscription fee, though there appear to be more people using

that site. You just can't message or get responses from everyone due to subscription policies.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
I, TOO, RECALL the Bowling Green Massacre. It occurred when people stopped educating themselves and relied on Fox News for their information. Quite the massacre indeed! Intellectually speaking.

■■■
DEMOCRATS SHOULD GIVE Neil Gorsuch the same treatment Republicans gave Merrick Garland. Republicans don't get to oppose everything a Democrat does while in office then expect to be treated differently. You reap what you sow. A reckoning is coming. It starts when you liars repeal but don't replace Obamacare.

■■■
TO COLUMNIST OF 'Come Heller high Water,' stop with the fake/alternative opinions/news. There are 50 Muslim countries. Taking his cue from the Obama administration a

travel ban were put on seven, certainly not a "Muslim ban." Get your info right.

■■■
WHAT LIBERAL LEFT-wingers like Meryl Streep and Madonna fail to realize is that putting illegal aliens ahead of American citizens' well being and safety is offensive to the half of the country that voted for Trump. We can express our opinion and stop buying their music and movies.

■■■
JOGGERS OF LINDEN: If there's a sidewalk, use it. It's a civil infraction if you don't.

■■■
HATE WILL BREED more hate and I do have kids. Both are hard-working young men in their 30s. One voted Trump one voted for Hillary, and they never take hand-outs. They pay taxes and their insurance. They don't complain or blame the last president.

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ONLINE DATING

Continued from Page 3A

blended family, which already included Claire, 8 and Liley, 7.

“I thought he was full of himself,” said Studt, laughing at the memory of their first date. That meeting extended into a full, day-long event, and they started walking and talking. “When he reached for my hand, I got that butterfly feeling. We even ran into his family on that first date, and I felt an immediate connection to them.”

The couple was married on March 14, 2015. “I don’t usually tell people that we met online because it’s kind of embarrassing,” she said. “But we’ll tell our kids someday.”

Today, the online dating stigma has all but disappeared. According to a 2015 Pew Research Center study, 15 percent of American adults have used online dating sites and/or dating apps and 44 percent of respondents who have tried online dating said the experience led to a serious long-term relationship or marriage.

But Consumer Reports has found that online dating sites also have some of the lowest customer satisfaction rates compared to other service industries.

For one thing, online dating is a lot of work, and it can be emotionally exhausting, because you’re dealing with a whole range of human emotions – insecurity, disappointment and rejection. Those feelings can be multiplied, especially if you’re juggling several sites.

“I was nervous,” admitted Kristine Kundrick, 46, who met her fiancé, Bobby Black, 50, two years ago on Plenty of Fish.

“You hear horror stories,” she added. “It doesn’t matter what you put on a profile, there are a bunch of weirdos out there. Let people know where you are and when you expect to be home. I had a safety net of friends who were waiting for my call when our date was done.”

Obviously, the date with Black went well, as the couple is getting married on April 13.

Kundrick still feels that a paid site like Match.com is better than a free site, because she’s more confident that background checks are made and the site is monitored.

Eric and Shelby Badal of Mundy Township met on Match.com and had their first date on Jan. 13, 2015, Eric’s birthday. They’ve now been married for five months.

She had tried one other site, eHarmony, before joining Match.com, but didn’t like how they matched people and that she could not look at everyone on the site. “Match allowed me to scroll through and look at each person individually, including those that may not have been a match

●

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WORST → BETTER

DATING SITES

DATING SITE	COST	READER SCORE	Quantity of Matches	Quality of Matches	Amount of Information Provided About Potential Dates	Value	Ease of Sign-up / Profile Set-up	Ease of Making Changes	Search Features	Filter Features	Privacy Settings	Appearance	Messaging Features
OkCupid	Free	56	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tinder	Free	52	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Grindr	Free	52	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Plenty of Fish	Free	50	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
JDate	\$19	49	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Match.com	\$21	49	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
AdultFriendFinder	\$20	47	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
SeniorPeopleMeet	\$15	46	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
eHarmony	\$20	46	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
OurTime.com	N/A	46	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Christian Mingle	\$39	44	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Zoosk	\$30	40	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Chemistry	\$13	38	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Ashley Madison	\$49/Free	37	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

RATINGS: Ratings are based on 9,636 Consumer Reports subscribers who completed the 2016 Online Dating Survey.
SOURCE: CONSUMER REPORTS

– like Eric,” said Shelby, 32.

She said she was nervous and scared while dating online. “You never know who is on the other end of the line, or if someone is playing a joke,” said Shelby. “I always made sure I was meeting someone in a public place and that someone always knew where and when. I would also have my mom call or text me to check in. You cannot be too safe.”

She would recommend online dating to anyone who asked how she met her husband, and wondered if it works. “I was in the process of deleting my profile on Match the day I messaged Eric,” she said. “It is what you make of it. If you can be yourself, keep an open mind and just be safe while doing so, it can be great.”

“You never know who is on the other end of the line, or if someone is playing a joke.”

Shelby Badal
Who met her husband,
Eric, on Match.com

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Times

DeGayner, Whaling lead Eagles to win vs. Mt. Morris

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Ben Varner has always been pleased with the effort he's gotten from his Linden varsity girls basketball team.

The Eagles' mentor says



Linden's
Samantha
Whaling

practices have always remained upbeat and productive. Witnessing them it is hard to recognize the squad has won just one game.

That's not true after Tuesday. The Eagles work ethic has apparent-

ly paid off as Linden captured its second victory of the season in a 47-44 victory against Mt. Morris at Linden High School.

"It was nice to get those girls a win," Varner said. "They were excited as heck. They've been trying so hard, and practices have been great. The at-

titudes have been great, so to finally get over the top and win a game was huge for them. We are hoping to keep it going for awhile. It gives you a good feeling going into Friday."

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2017 | PAGE 20A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

Times Sports

Make it seven straight titles for the Devils

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Lake Fenton — The beat apparently goes on for the Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team.

Sometimes they've been a powerhouse. Other years they were in a semi-rebuilding stage. But no matter where they seemed to be within their own program, one thing can be said about each of the last seven Lake Fenton wrestling squads — they've all been team district champions.

The Blue Devils made it seven in a row on Thursday, defeating Perry 57-15 at Lake Fenton High School.

Lake Fenton has had its

share of adversity this season due to the fact the squad been forced to give up 18 points in most matches due to the fact they can't fill three weight classes. At the start of the season that looked like a concern, but as the year has progressed it hasn't.

Lake Fenton has won its share of big duals, recently captured its second straight Genesee Area Conference championship and now has won another team district title.

"I'm really surprised," senior wrestler A.J. Geyer said.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPESS

Lake Fenton's Hunter Corcoran (top) defeated Perry's Jacob Spiess in the Blue Devils district championship victory on Thursday.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES
DAVID TROPPESS

Fenton's Kyle Banner prepares for the start of a race. Banner won the 200 freestyle against Pinckney on Tuesday.

Tigers win a thriller vs. Pinckney, 92-91

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Fenton took firsts in just four events against Pinckney in a dual meet on Tuesday.

But firsts aren't the only thing that decide varsity boys swim duals. Depth plays a key role as well.

Fenton had more depth, earning more second- through fifth-place finishes, earning a tight 92-91 victory against the Pirates.

"It was a great team effort," Fenton varsity swim coach Brad Jones said. "Our depth saved us in the end. It was a great swim by Andrew Gabler in the 500 free. His touch out for second place behind teammate Evan Bartow won the meet for us."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Linden Eagles keep on improving, soar to a team district championship

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

Holly — All season long Linden varsity wrestling coach Todd Skinner has said his squad would be a strong one once it got healthy.

The Eagles proved him right on Wednesday night at Holly High School.

Linden captured a Division 2 team district title by defeating Fenton 36-26 and then defeating Holly 34-24 en route to a district team district crown.

"It was great," Linden senior wrestler Patrick Kerr said. "Coming in here it was looking a little rough because we knew we

lost to Holly earlier in the season, so we weren't sure if we would be able to win. And we ended up winning by 10 this time after we lost to them by 10 last time which is wild."

"We've been working hard all year and it's something we've been climbing to, like coach says," Linden wrestler Koleton Strauss said. "We are starting to come together. We still have a lot of injuries, but we were able to do what we needed to do to win."

The Eagles had to avenge a

previous 10-point loss to Holly to capture the district final victory. Linden earned it by capturing wins in eight matches against the Bronchos.

Linden earned the title by winning five of the last seven matches.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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Dawson Blank (top) competes against Fenton's Jake Church in a 13-10 decision victory for Blank. The Linden Eagles captured a team district wrestling title on Wednesday.



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Warda giving curling a chance

■ The Barn's owner satisfying his own interest for sport at his local business

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Jason Warda has always been intrigued by curling.

But it was the sport that seemingly eluded him most of his life.

"I've been a big fan of curling but living in Grand Blanc I couldn't find a place to do it," said the owner of The Barn, located at 715 Torrey Road. "We went to Ferndale and rented the place out a couple of times, and I loved it. I thought it would be cool to have a curling rink in the bar."

His thought has become reality. Warda has made his own version of three sheets of ice for curling at The Barn. Warda has proven himself to be pretty resourceful to make his rink possible. The outdoor facility has refrigerated ice, which means the sheets should last through the end of March.

"We are able to keep ice up to 60 degrees," Warda said. "That's what they tell me."

Similarities/differences between Warda's curling and regular curling

A curling rink (or sheet) is

Actual curling facilities

While Jason Warda has brought his own version of curling to the tri-county area, here are two places located within 90 minutes where you can try real curling.

Midland Curling Club

Located just over an hour away, sports editor David Troppens curls at the facility twice a week and runs one of the leagues. There are four sheets and rentals are available. Call (898) 832-7973 for more information.

Detroit Curling Club

Located in Ferndale, it is closer distance-wise than Midland, but travel times can vary. Call (248) 544-0635 about rentals.

a rectangular area of ice about 150 feet long and about 16 feet wide. Each team has eight curling stones — made of granite and weighing up to 44 pounds — which are thrown down the ice by competitors by pushing themselves out of what is called the hack, eventually releasing the stone to travel down the ice.

Teams also have two sweepers. They are teammates who may sweep in front of the traveling stone to either encourage the

stone to travel farther or straighter. The team with the stone(s) closest to the target's center (called the house) scores points based on how many stones they have closer to the center versus their opponent.

Warda had to adjust the sport to make it work at The Barn.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

(Immediately above) Judd Knauff, 8, of Swartz Creek throws the stone down the sheet at The Barn in Fenton on Feb. 4. Judd and mother Tracy enjoyed a lively, albeit modified game of curling before heading in to get warmed up. (Top) Alicia Warda, left, of Fenton and Lindsay Mitchell of Clarkston try out a modified game of curling at The Barn on Feb. 4.

Fenton wrestlers make positive steps toward a brighter future

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Holly — Fenton's first wrestling season under head coach Brad Beverly came to an end on Wednesday.

It ended with a 34-24 loss to area rivals Linden in the opening round of the team district tournament. But at the end of the match, the team tried not to dwell on that point for too long.

There was celebrating, hugs, team photos and a lot of smiles. There were good reasons why those things were happening. While Wednesday's loss was the end of the team portion of the season,

it also represented a very fine first year under new head coach Brad Beverly.

The Tigers made some major strides this season, starting with their record. Fenton finished 14-10 overall, earning the first winning record in at least a decade. They also went 3-4 in the Metro League, which was a big improvement over recent seasons as well. And while the Tigers may have lost on Wednesday, even their 10-point deficit against Linden served as a tremendous improvement since the last time the team teams wrestled. Linden defeated Fenton 48-25 during that Jan. 25 match.

PREP REPORT

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► **Goodrich 43, Holly 42 OT:** Rebecca Fugate scored 26 points and also had five rebounds, two assists and two steals, but it wasn't enough to earn the Bronchos the win. Paige Reid netted 14 points and had two assists and two steals while Payton Price had six assists, five steals and three rebounds.

Holly trailed 21-12 at the half, but had a 30-27 lead after three quarters.

► **Fenton 35, Durand 19:** Erin Carter led the Tigers with 11 points while Hannah Chapin netted seven.

SKIING

► **Fenton/Linden at Don Thomas JV Championships:** The Fenton varsity girls team has had a great season, and now the JV team has earned some credentials as well. The Fenton JV team

won the Don Thomas JV championships. Fenton won the event with 19 points. The Fenton/Linden boys had a solid outing as well, taking second.

Camilla Graglia led Fenton with a first-place time of 53.64 seconds in the giant slalom and a first-place time of 23.85 seconds in the Super G event. Kelly Kemp placed second in the super G (24.21) followed by Jessica Lynch in fourth (24.36) and Madeine Hiscock in fifth (24.46). In the giant slalom Lynch placed fourth (55.30), followed by Kemp in sixth (56.17) and Hiscock in eighth (56.49).

Boys finishing in the top 10 in the giant slalom was Devon Cherney in seventh (51.79), Nathan Klump in eighth (52.08) and Nathan Rumbles in 10th (52.27). In the super G, Rumbles placed eighth (23.42).

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