Behind the scenes at your community newspaper

Never a dull moment in the news business
By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

The staff at the Tri-County Times has written stories about nearly every business and entity in our community over the course of 61 years. What we rarely write about is our own product, even though we are the most high-profile business in the community.

What we do, and how we do it, has an effect on every aspect of every business and every resident in the communities we serve.

Spend a day answering the phones at the Times reception desk and it will quickly become obvious that many, if not most, people are not aware of the cost, in both dollars and manpower, it takes to produce two editions of See NEWSPAPER on 2A

Comically, the cause of a missing newspaper is almost always theft by a neighbor that is not a subscriber.

To the police, you don’t have to see a woman texting, just pull over any woman in Fenton and check her cell. I guarantee she is texting. To all moms, one of you reading this is going to hurt your child, or worse. It is inevitable.

There are so many Hot lines about Trump because the media is trying, and failing, to do anything to discredit him because he made fools of them. I did not vote for him but he is now our president. Stop acting like spoiled children and act like an American.

My high-schoolers read the Tri-County Times every week. It not only educates them, it improves their reading and comprehension skills and keeps them in the loop of what is going on in our community.

‘All we could do was try to comfort them’
Fenton man does his part to help stranded whales in New Zealand
By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Fenton Township resident Kyle McCollm has experienced the most amazing yet tragic event of his lifetime, all in one weekend. He and hundreds of other volunteers were part of the stranded whale rescue in New Zealand last weekend, making headlines all over the world.

Hundreds of whales swam aground along a remote New Zealand beach, in one of the worst whale strandings in New Zealand’s history.

“The last count was 700,” said McCollm, on his Facebook page on Saturday, Feb. 11. McCollm, a 2013 graduate of Linden High School, is in New Zealand on a 12-month work visa. See WHALES on 16A

‘McDonald’s coming to Fenton was a big deal’
Former workers recall what it was like working there in 1976
By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

McDonald’s had just opened on Owen Road in Fenton in 1976 and Beth Benson needed a job. It was right before her senior year at Fenton High School, and she needed money to help pay for college.

“McDonald’s coming to Fenton was a big deal,” said Benson, now 57, living in Beverly Hills near Detroit. “When they put the sign up, everyone freaked out. There weren’t any restaurants on Owen Road in 1976. The layout and look of McDonald’s restaurants have changed several times over the years. The above photo was taken in 1976.

The staff at the Tri-County Times has written stories about nearly every business and entity in our community over the course of 61 years. What we rarely write about is our own product, even though we are the most high-profile business in the community.

What we do, and how we do it, has an effect on every aspect of every business and every resident in the communities we serve.

Spend a day answering the phones at the Times reception desk and it will quickly become obvious that many, if not most, people are not aware of the cost, in both dollars and manpower, it takes to produce two editions of See NEWSPAPER on 2A

Comically, the cause of a missing newspaper is almost always theft by a neighbor that is not a subscriber.

To the police, you don’t have to see a woman texting, just pull over any woman in Fenton and check her cell. I guarantee she is texting. To all moms, one of you reading this is going to hurt your child, or worse. It is inevitable.

There are so many Hot lines about Trump because the media is trying, and failing, to do anything to discredit him because he made fools of them. I did not vote for him but he is now our president. Stop acting like spoiled children and act like an American.

My high-schoolers read the Tri-County Times every week. It not only educates them, it improves their reading and comprehension skills and keeps them in the loop of what is going on in our community.
NEWSPAPER
Continued from Front Page
a newspaper each week. So, with that be-
ing said…
Here’s what we do:
It begins every week on Monday morning. That’s when the editorial staff spends two to three hours going over the potential news and feature story ideas that will need to be written and published in the next few editions.
Even though we are usually interrupted by “breaking news,” such as a tragic accident on the highway or train tracks, or other on-the-spot news events, we at least know going into the week that we have plenty of interesting, entertaining and informative news and information. These are accompanied by a variety of professional photos to provide our readers with a visual of the event. Each employee in the editorial department is required to bring several story ideas to the table each week. Each story idea must possess a minimum of two legs of the “interesting, entertaining or informative” three-legged stool that all conceptual stories are measured by.
At the same time, in another conference room down the hall, the Times advertising staff is brainstorming to determine the best ways to assist their valued business clients and how best to help them promote their goods and services in our newspaper.
The composition department staff, in the meantime, is preparing for the onslaught of articles, photographs and advertisements they will need to design and place on pages with utmost precision.
After their meetings, the editorial and advertising staffs go back to their normal work, keeping in mind that tight deadlines loom large twice a week, 52 weeks a year.
Reporters make and receive constant phone calls, send and receive countless emails, research facts, then attend municipal, governmental and school board meetings, sporting events and other community or school functions and then, finally, write their articles.
Once the reporters have filed their stories to be edited and the advertising staff have worked with their clients and graphic designers to create the ads (each of which must be “different”), the whole “shootin’ match” goes to the composition department, which then lays out the Midweek edition on Tuesdays and the Weekend edition on Friday. After all the pages are checked and double-checked for accuracy, it is all transmitted electronically to the plate room and printing press.
Once it gets to the press, the amazing process of rolling out tens of thousands of copies occurs — using state-of-the-art equipment, nearly two tons of newsprint and who knows how many barrels of ink — every week.
The Midweek edition is mailed to subscribers every Wednesday. The task of getting thousands of newspapers printed, folded, labeled, stamped and then delivered to the post office for Wednesday delivery is a very detailed, and deadline process. Show up 10 minutes late and your paper will not be delivered until Thursday, which will mean that the Times front desk staff will field endless calls from irate subscribers demanding to know where their newspaper is. To our credit, that has only happened three times in 10 years.
The Midweek paper is, by the way, the less-difficult edition. Our Weekend edition is even larger, more complex and more deadline oriented.
Imagine, if you will, the same process as above but with twice the number of pages, twice the number of sections, as well as 10 to 16 advertising supplements included, as well as special Featured Sections 26 weeks per year.
After all the newspapers are folded, collated and bundled, they leave the printing facility and are delivered to the Fenway Drive warehouse where a staff of Inserters and Bundlers expertly handle the complex task of inserting hundreds of thousands of advertising supplements that are meticulously numbered and documented, to be directed to the correct location, carrier and/or driver.
One question we are often asked is, “why don’t you mail the weekend edition also?”
The answer is two-fold. One, we know that many of our drivers depend on the income they earn delivering the Times. Many of Times Midweek editions are rerouted via the USPS to their winter homes. If for some reason a subscriber does not receive their Sunday Weekend edition on time, it will often be delivered to their homes on Monday morning. Comically, the cause of a missing newspaper is almost always theft by a neighbor that is not a subscriber. Subscribers can also request a complimentary Times newspaper tube and mounting bracket.
We do all of this, like clockwork, every week, for a subscription rate of 42¢ per edition.
Although the Times is perceived by many to be a ‘free’ newspaper, that is not the case, according to Business Manager John Evans. “We actually are a subscription-based publication. That’s why the Times costs $1 at newsstands, and $44 per year for home delivery.”
Evans said that in the past Mr. Rockman wanted everyone to receive the newspaper, even if they couldn’t afford it, but that is no longer feasible. “Many community newspapers have traded quality for total market coverage. We won’t do that. We have a great product that pays for itself over and over.”
Evans added that advertising supplement will continue to be delivered to every home by drivers and carriers.
The Times presently employs 23 full-time staff members at its Fenway Drive location, as well as 14 part-time inserters and bundlers and other part-time employees. In total, the Times employs 51 individuals.
In addition to payroll, the Times, like any other business, pays for its facilities, taxes, utilities, phones, insurance, computer equipment, photo and video equipment, printing and printing materials trucks and truck maintenance, and much more.
When you subscribe to the Tri-County Times, you don’t get a “snippet” of news and information like you would on the TV or radio news. You get the “whole” story. If a building burns down, for example, we can tell you what it was originally, how long it’s been there, what family owned it and the entire history of the building.
You can’t get that anywhere else.
Anyway, this is our home and our community. We’ll be there for you, we trust you’ll be there for us.

We are all about local!

Even if aliens invade, we won’t run a story about them.

We will, however, run a story on how our local residents feel about little green men.

“We actually are a subscription-based publication. That’s why the Times costs $1 at newsstands, and $44 per year for home delivery.”

John Evans
Times business manager

“We actually are a subscription-based publication. That’s why the Times costs $1 at newsstands, and $44 per year for home delivery.”

By breaking news, such as a tragic accident on the highway or train tracks, or other on-the-spot news events, we at least know going into the week that we have plenty of interesting, entertaining and informative news and information. These are accompanied by a variety of professional photos to provide our readers with a visual of the event. Each employee in the editorial department is required to bring several story ideas to the table each week. Each story idea must possess a minimum of two legs of the “interesting, entertaining or informative” three-legged stool that all conceptual stories are measured by.

At the same time, in another conference room down the hall, the Times advertising staff is brainstorming to determine the best ways to assist their valued business clients and how best to help them promote their goods and services in our newspaper.

The composition department staff, in the meantime, is preparing for the onslaught of articles, photographs and advertisements they will need to design and place on pages with utmost precision.

After their meetings, the editorial and advertising staffs go back to their normal work, keeping in mind that tight deadlines loom large twice a week, 52 weeks a year.

Reporters make and receive constant phone calls, send and receive countless emails, research facts, then attend municipal, governmental and school board meetings, sporting events and other community or school functions and then, finally, write their articles.

Once the reporters have filed their stories to be edited and the advertising staff have worked with their clients and graphic designers to create the ads (each of which must be “different”), the whole “shootin’ match” goes to the composition department, which then lays out the Midweek edition on Tuesdays and the Weekend edition on Friday. After all the pages are checked and double-checked for accuracy, it is all transmitted electronically to the plate room and printing press.

Once it gets to the press, the amazing process of rolling out tens of thousands of copies occurs — using state-of-the-art equipment, nearly two tons of newsprint and who knows how many barrels of ink — every week.

The Midweek edition is mailed to subscribers every Wednesday. The task of getting thousands of newspapers printed, folded, labeled, stamped and then delivered to the post office for Wednesday delivery is a very detailed, and deadline process. Show up 10 minutes late and your paper will not be delivered until Thursday, which will mean that the Times front desk staff will field endless calls from irate subscribers demanding to know where their newspaper is. To our credit, that has only happened three times in 10 years.

The Midweek paper is, by the way, the less-difficult edition. Our Weekend edition is even larger, more complex and more deadline oriented.

Imagine, if you will, the same process as above but with twice the number of pages, twice the number of sections, as well as 10 to 16 advertising supplements included, as well as special Featured Sections 26 weeks per year.

After all the newspapers are folded, collated and bundled, they leave the printing facility and are delivered to the Fenway Drive warehouse where a staff of Inserters and Bundlers expertly handle the complex task of inserting hundreds of thousands of advertising supplements that are meticulously numbered and documented, to be directed to the correct location, carrier and/or driver.

One question we are often asked is, “why don’t you mail the weekend edition also?”

The answer is two-fold. One, we know that many of our drivers depend on the income they earn delivering the Times. Many of Times Midweek editions are rerouted via the USPS to their winter homes. If for some reason a subscriber does not receive their Sunday Weekend edition on time, it will often be delivered to their homes on Monday morning. Comically, the cause of a missing newspaper is almost always theft by a neighbor that is not a subscriber. Subscribers can also request a complimentary Times newspaper tube and mounting bracket.

We do all of this, like clockwork, every week, for a subscription rate of 42¢ per edition.

Although the Times is perceived by many to be a ‘free’ newspaper, that is not the case, according to Business Manager John Evans. “We actually are a subscription-based publication. That’s why the Times costs $1 at newsstands, and $44 per year for home delivery.”

Evans said that in the past Mr. Rockman wanted everyone to receive the newspaper, even if they couldn’t afford it, but that is no longer feasible. “Many community newspapers have traded quality for total market coverage. We won’t do that. We have a great product that pays for itself over and over.”

Evans added that advertising supplements will continue to be delivered to every home by drivers and carriers.

The Times presently employs 23 full-time staff members at its Fenway Drive location, as well as 14 part-time inserters and bundlers and other part-time employees. In total, the Times employs 51 individuals.

In addition to payroll, the Times, like any other business, pays for its facilities, taxes, utilities, phones, insurance, computer equipment, photo and video equipment, printing and printing materials trucks and truck maintenance, and much more.

When you subscribe to the Tri-County Times, you don’t get a “snippet” of news and information like you would on the TV or radio news. You get the “whole” story. If a building burns down, for example, we can tell you what it was originally, how long it’s been there, what family owned it and the entire history of the building.

You can’t get that anywhere else.

Anyway, this is our home and our community. We’ll be there for you, we trust you’ll be there for us.
A day in the life of a caretaker

Taking care of the disabled includes trouble finding parking and opening doors

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

This is part one of a story about Kristyn Stillman, 36, of Holly and her 25-year-old sister Ashley Wright. Stillman is primary caretaker for Wright, who has cerebral palsy, along with severe mental and physical retardation.

Most moms in their 30s wait for their children, who are around the ages of 5 or 6, to get off the bus from school every day. One Holly resident collects her 25-year-old, wheelchair-bound sister from the bus after she gets home from school.

“It’s become part of Kristyn Stillman’s daily routine.

For about four years, Stillman, 36, of Holly, has been the caretaker for her sister, Ashley Wright, who’s been in a wheelchair since she was 3.

Wright experienced a severe lack of oxygen to her brain when she was born. She was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, along with severe mental and physical retardation. She has seizures, but medication controls them.

Stillman said her sister is at the level of an 8-month-old. She can’t walk, feed herself, or use the bathroom.

“She’s literally reliant on everybody else for her daily needs,” she said. “She’s completely dependent on someone to feed her and change her and do everything for her.”

“I get her up around 8:20. I feed her breakfast, give her medication, get her on the bus,” Stillman said.

Wright goes to school at Karl Richter Campus in Holly, where they do occupational therapy, speech therapy, and physical therapy, like helping her to stand and ride a bike.

She comes home from school around 3:15, and then she’ll play with her toys and watch TV. The family feeds her dinner, and then Wright plays more in her room. She’ll go to bed around 8:30, 9 p.m.

Stillman also has two boys, ages 2 and 3.

“That’s really hard. Having a 2- and (almost) 4-year-old make life as complicated as it is,” she said. “We just can’t go out to a random family dinner. We just can’t get up and go to any place we want because we’ve got to deal with parking for her, and places that are actually handicap accessible.”

Traveling with someone who’s disabled is not easy.

The custom wheelchair Wright uses costs the price of a small car, Stillman said, and they had help through a disability clinic. However, she said that company no longer has enough funding through Medicare to provide wheelchair services so they’ll have to switch companies when she’s due for a new one this August.

Stillman drives a $67,000 specialty, handicap-accessible van. She said getting into big stores like Target, Walmart, and Sam’s Club isn’t a problem, but only if she can find a parking spot that’s handicap-van accessible.

Tool Box Tip #3

Sitting for extended periods can contribute to health problems later in life.

Research suggests that two minute walks each hour can help reverse the negative impact of sitting for long periods of time.

Learning to speak a second language

Those with different writing styles are hardest to learn

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

Parlez-vous francais? Hablas espanol?

If you can speak a second language, you’re included in the approximate 17 percent of Americans who can speak more than one language, according to Forbes.com.

Jessica Hunter, foreign language coordinator and Spanish instructor at Mott Community College, said, “Most Americans aren’t bilingual. It’s gotten lower and lower. We’re one of the few countries in the world that don’t celebrate bilingualism.”

She said one reason is because America is spread out compared to Europe, where it’s easy to travel from country to country. This creates a need for Europeans to learn more languages.

“Even if that need was present, it’s the language of business right now,” Hunter said.
Random thoughts (or rants)...

Trump says he’s super smart. But is he? Is he really? I mean, c’mom, he keeps insulting the intelligence community. How smart is that? I’m not the sharpest tool in the shed but even I know you don’t taunt people with access to spy satellites, listening devices and poison darts, OK? • But seriously, you don’t mess with spies. They can take you down. Trump’s a fool. He even tweeted this: ‘The real scandal here is that classified information is illegally given out but didn’t tell the nation? So what’s up with Disney with my family. We lowed like they were in office before they were in office.

• The Morning Joe show on MSNBC has bailed Kellyanne Conway, saying her fibs render her no longer credible. I’m standing and applauding. That’s what all journalists should do. You lie, you don’t get on, including the president. Alternative facts, my patoot.

• All of this said, I think it’s a bit early to be talking around words like treason and Watergate about the Flynn episode. But it’s not too early to ask why Trump, Flynn and the rest of them were acting like they were in office before they were in office.

• Kim Jong Un’s half-brother died after being sprayed in the face with an unknown liquid at an airport. My guess is it was Axe body spray. That stuff is toxic at 20 yards. • Can you imagine anything worse than being one of Kim Jong’s relatives? I’m telling you, at Thanksgiving, I’m making sure that guy gets the mashed potatoes first. • Trump is expected to sign a repeal of an Obama-era regulation created following the Sandy Hook massacre that would have prevented mentally ill people from buying guns. Thank goodness, too. Because if there’s one thing the second amendment guarantees, it’s the right for crazy people to conveniently and affordably buy combat weaponry to slaughter dozens of little kids. God bless, America. Thank you, NRA. Ain’t you proud.

• About TV news reporters talking about the latest Trump scandal, the lovely yet formidable Marcia observed the following on Facebook the other day: ‘It’s sounding like they’ve moved from ubiquitous use of ‘doubling down’ to ‘let’s not get out over our skins.’ Please people, can we stop speaking in cliché? Naturally, all of her smart aleck friends then responded using clichés like ‘down in the weeds,’ ‘stay in your lane’ and ‘boots on the ground.’ Because that’s what friends do.

• Spring training has begun down in Lakeland, Florida. Winter can kiss my sweet behind. Spring is here. But only down there right now. Here it’s just not here yet. But soon! • Wow, reviewing this, this was an angry and political column today. Apologies. But these are angry, political times.

• No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar. — Abraham Lincoln

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

We Make Sure you get it All Back! Dina D. DiNatale, EA

Located in the Glass Building on Fenton Road

Albert D. DiNatale, EA
810.714.4330

$25 Discount for new clients only! expires April 14, 2017

Over 35 Years Experience Free Consultation
Electronic Filing
Pick-Up and Drop-Off Service
Affordable Rates
Personal and Small Business Tax Returns
Special Emphasis on Construction & Real Estate Activities

Hotlines
Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8396

ALL OF THE DOWNTOWN development has helped to increase property values in the community. When you add diversity (business types, income levels, education, age) good things tend to happen. Fenton has nearly 13,000 residents, and is not small town America. It is small city America and is a great place to live.

I UNDERSTAND your concern about over politickizing shows like the Oscars, but by boycotting it doesn’t that make you more over-political than them?

WE ALSO HAD a meeting with that inspector from the city of Fenton. When he’s in the area, investigating a complaint, he looks around and notices things. I mentioned that I own another home in Long Island. They have weekly garbage inspections and far fewer taxes a year. They also shovel my sidewalk.

THE MEDIA DOESN’T really need to say anything about Trump. Just telecast him saying outrageous things.

WHEN PRESIDENT OBAMA took his well-deserved golf vacations, I’m sure the players wanted him to be playing golf. When Trump plays, since he probably owns the whole course, wouldn’t it be a lot cheaper for him to play 18 holes there if he owns the place?

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION is loading in some of the most brilliant business people known. This is being called one of the best cabinets since Ronald Reagan’s in the early 80’s. Thank you Mr. Trump for bringing in brilliant successful people and not emulating the communist slugs that Obama put into place eight years ago.

I STUMBLED ACROSS a find here in Fenton. I’ve studied it, looked at it, photographed it, and I think it’s true. It’s a real dinosaur footprint. Please pave my roads.

I LIKE to think I’m technologically savvy. I like automobiles, I own quite a few, but to spend $50,000 for a self-driving robotically controlled car kind of defeats the purpose of driving. I enjoy driving my cars, trucks, and SUV’s. When the day comes that I’m too old to drive, I’ll put away my license.

THANK GOD we have a president who has the full support of our law enforcement and military. We forget that Obama was anti police and anti military and is responsible for many of the problems we are now facing.

YOU’RE WRONG, LIBERALS are not the ones who lost. American people are the ones who lost. It’s just that people who voted for him aren’t bright enough to realize that yet.

BETSY DEVOS isn’t interested in educating children. She paid $9.5 million (to get that job). You think she’s not going to recuperate and make some?

I DIDN’T REALIZE until I read the Times Hot lines this past Sunday that world chaos didn’t start until President Trump took office. I’m sure it was peaceful prior to that.

TRUMP IS a disgrace to this country. Factcheck.com reported he lies 85 percent of the time. Resign, Trump, if you think I’m peech.<<<

COULD THE GROUNDHOG be wrong? It’s Valentine’s Day and there is a robin in my yard.

TRUMP PROMISED to ‘drain the swamp’ but all he has done is restock it with his Wall Street big-wigs. The swamp remains to the detriment of us all.

SO TRUMP is a fascist? Part of the definition of fascism is a forcible suppression of opposition. Any fool can see who the real fascists are, just turn on the news and you’ll see numerous examples of the left opposing everything and everyone involved with Trump, including using violence. The left is the major problem in this country.

THAT FAMILY SHOULD be ashamed of themselves and deserve prison time. Three years of neglect and abuse to an adopted child with mental illness?

See HOT LINE throughout Times

What was the best vacation you ever had?

“In high school when I went to Disney with my family. We are going back this weekend.”

Julie Wendell
Fenton

“I went to Italy and Switzerland in the same trip about two summers ago.”

Chelsea Barnett
Fenton Township

“Probably to Chicago. My wife and I went last year by train.”

Bill Sullivan
Fenton

“Silver Lake Sand Dunes. I did not wear shoes for a whole week.”

Sue Brady
Linden

“Cooperstown, New York to play baseball.”

Connor Warner
Linden

Compiled by Tess DeGayner, intern
OPEN SUNDAY 1-3
Pinnacle Shores - Fenton

4360 Oak Tree Ct. • Fenton
4 Bedrooms, 3 Bath, 2,428 sq ft.
Gorgeous Home with Lower Level Walk Out!
$349,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3
Orchard Hills - Fenton

944 Peach Tree Trl • Fenton
4 Bedrooms, 3 Bath, 2,649 sq ft.
Immaculate Home, With lots of updates
$254,900

Westminster- Grand Blanc

7333 Westminster Circle • Grand Blanc
4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 3,000 sq ft.
Fantastic Home with Creating Cooling Lots of updates
$245,000

Columbiaville - 1.5 Acres

1207 E Coldwater Road • Columbiaville
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bath, 1,600 sq ft. Beautiful Cape Cod with open floor plan. 3rd bedroom on 1.5 acres
$212,000

DEER LAKE WATERFRONT

Deer Lake • Clarkston
Prime Waterfront Property in Desirable Deer Lake Farms!
$255,000

Lake Fenton Waterfront

14188 Swanee Beach Dr. • Fenton
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bath, 1,588 sq ft. Amazing lot on the Open Water!
$450,000

Lake Fenton Waterfront

13185 Torrey Rd. • Fenton
3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 1,750 sq ft. Beautiful views of Lake Fenton’s Crane’s Cove.
$400,000

Fenton

9331 Foley Crossing • Fenton
5 Bedroom, 4 Bath, 3,000 sq ft.
Private setting with elevated view of nature. Finished Walkout!
$366,000

Grand Blanc

4331 Meadowbrook Ct • Grand Blanc
4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2,100 sq ft. Gorgeous, well-maintained home in the desirable Sherwood Hills Subdivision.
$295,000

Linden

6388 Oak Leaf Trail • Linden
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,700 sq ft. Beautiful Ranch!
$259,900

PENDING & SOLD PROPERTIES

11420 Olde Wood Trl. • Fenton
$440,000

1328 Whispering Wind Ct • Grand Blanc
$275,000

5300 Meadowview Dr • Grand Blanc
$260,000

13435 Centerline Rd • Goodrich
$210,000

6379 N. Long Lake Rd • Fenton
$675,000

Skilled Negotiator, Trusted Advisor, Expert Facilitator

John Tremaine
Owner/Broker
Fenton woman among winners in annual Miss Hibernia contest

Francine Staudacher, 18, of Fenton, was named second runner-up in the 35th annual Miss Hibernia competition on Feb. 11, representing her family and their Irish heritage. Staudacher and two other young women will serve at Flint St. Patrick’s Day festivities as they receive their college scholarships. Jenna Holt of Northwood University was overall winner and the first runner-up was Madelene Rasberry of the University of Michigan-Flint. Holt and Rasberry are Davison High School graduates and Staudacher is a senior at Powers High School. Staudacher is the daughter of Thomas and Regina Staudacher of Fenton. Contestants had to be women of Irish descent, between the ages of 16 and 22 and never married.

Part of Holly Township could become part of Holly Village

A possible agreement could extend village into Grange Hall Road corridor

By Tim Jagielo

Holly — The plan is still in the proposal stages, but if it passes, Holly Village will pick up more territory west of Patterson Elementary along Grange Hall Road.

A committee presented the idea to the Holly Township Board of Trustees during its meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 15.

Committee members and former village president Ryan Bladzik and Village Manager Jerry Walker outlined the plan, which would extend village services to all parcels within the new area.

Bladzik said there are 320 parcels affected, and more than 100 voting residents. The area covers approximately 290 acres, and contains the partially developed Pulte subdivision approximately 290 acres, and contains 100 voting residents. The area covers approximately 290 acres, and contains the partially developed Pulte subdivision approximately 290 acres, and contains 100 voting residents. The area covers approximately 290 acres, and contains the partially developed Pulte subdivision.

The board did not vote on the topic — the next step is to seek feedback from the residents affected. Bladzik said that if they don’t like the plan, the idea will be dropped.

The ball is in the hands of the Holly Township Board, which will schedule meetings with affected residents. None have yet been scheduled.

This “425 Agreement” is a 25-year contract between the village and township, which signs jurisdiction over to the village of the agreed upon area. Either side can opt out with 60 days notice. If the agreement isn’t canceled, it becomes permanent after 25 years.

If the proposal passes, all parcels will be under the Village jurisdiction, and receive all the services, and pay all the taxes of a village resident, which according to Treasurer Mark Freeman, is 14.1 mills, compared to the 4 mills of the outer township.

The online discussion and the feedback from residents at the meeting have been mixed. While some have expressed concerns about joining the village water system, the plan doesn’t call for adding any new tap-ins. In the proposed area, the village has already extended its water service into that part of the township, and resident are already on the system.

Bladzik said the benefit to the residents is the increased services and potentially home values as well. He said that the business corridor on Grange Hall Road will be able to benefit from access to Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and community development resources.

“We also feel that having these services will accelerate growth in those areas, which will have a positive benefit on the current residents’ property values as well,” Bladzik said. Proposal committee member

We also feel that having these services will accelerate growth in those areas, which will have a positive benefit on the current residents’ property values as well.”

We also feel that having these services will accelerate growth in those areas, which will have a positive benefit on the current residents’ property values as well.”

Former Holly Village President Ryan Bladzik outlines a proposed plan which would make part of Holly Township become part of Holly Village.

Terms of the Proposed 425 Agreement

We also feel that having these services will accelerate growth in those areas, which will have a positive benefit on the current residents’ property values as well.”
Larceny from Auto in Holly
On Feb. 15, Holly police were dispatched to a residence in the 4200 block of Grange Hall Road to investigate a larceny from automobile (LFA) complaint. The 25-year-old female resident said her Ford Focus was parked in her driveway the previous night. In the morning, she noticed the driver’s side door was partially open. Someone had rummaged through the car but nothing appeared to be missing. The woman thought she had locked her car, however, there were no signs of forced entry.

Domestic Disturbance
The Holly Police Department is investigating a domestic disturbance, which occurred on Feb. 12 at a home on Emily Street. The victim, a 42-year-old Holly resident said she had the 43-year-old mother of her child lived together. Dispatch advised responding deputies that the woman had assaulted the 42-year-old and left the scene in her car. The case remains under investigation.

Hit and Run in Holly
Holly police responded to a hit-and-run crash on East Maple Street at 5 p.m. on Jan. 25. The 54-year-old victim from Holly told police that he was driving east on East Maple. A minivan backed out of a private drive and struck the passenger side of his vehicle. The minivan fled eastbound on East Maple. A witness to the crash followed the suspect van and took several photos with their cell phone. The registered owner of the van has not been identified. The case remains under investigation.

Fight on North Road
On Feb. 9, the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office responded to an assault complaint in the 1500 block of North Road in Fenton Township. Two people were fighting. No charges were filed.

Heroin Overdose
Deputies with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office responded to a home in the 4100 block of Farnum Drive in Fenton Township on a report of a 41-year-old man who had overdosed on heroin. Emergency personnel administered Narcan to the man and he was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Looking Back at This Week in National History

FEB. 19
1847: The first rescuers from Sutter’s Fort reach the surviving remnants of the Donner emigrant group at their snowbound camp in the high Sierra Nevada Mountains. A series of events, including a shortcut that turned out not to be short at all, led the Donner Party being trapped by an early winter storm that killed most of their party in the mountains the previous October. The panicked emigrants constructed makeshift tents out of trees, and much of the food was from their own herd. Hoping a thaw might still save them, warmer weather never came, and by mid-December their food supplies were running low. Fifteen of the strongest emigrants set out to seek help in December. Three weeks later, having endured violent storms and been reduced to cannibalism to stay alive, seven survivors reached an Indian village. Other news of the disaster was quickly dispatched to Sutter’s Fort near San Francisco.

FEB. 20
1974: Meg Murphy, an editor of The Atlantic Constitution, is kidnapped after being lured from his home near the city. William Williams told the newspaperman that he had 300,000 gallons of heating oil to donate to the poor. The 33-year-old Williams abducted Murphy at gunpoint. For the next 49 hours, Williams drove Murphy around the city, stopping to phone in ransom demands to the newspaper. Williams claimed to represent a right-wing militia group and insisted on receiving $700,000. Finally, managing editor G. James Minter delivered the money to Williams and Murphy was released.

FEB. 21
1965: In New York City, Malcolm X, an African American nationalist and religious leader, is assassinated by rival Black Muslims while addressing his Organization of Afro-American Unity at the Audubon Ballroom in Washington Heights.

FEB. 22
1980: In one of the most dramatic upsets in Olympic history, the underdog U.S. hockey team, made up of college players, defeats the four-time defending gold-medal winning Soviet team at the XIII Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York.

FEB. 23
1885: A 19-year-old man named John Lee is sent to the gallows in Exeter, England, for the murder of Ellen Keyse, a rich older woman for whom he had worked. Although he insisted he was innocent, Lee had been convicted and sentenced to death by hanging. However, after the noose was put around his neck and the lever that would release the floor beneath his feet was pulled, something malfunctioned and Lee was not dropped. Strangely, the equipment had been tested prior to the hanging attempt.

Feb. 24
1988: The U.S. Supreme Court votes 8-0 to overturn the $200,000 settlement awarded to the Reverend Jerry Falwell for his emotional distress as being parodied in Hustler, a pornographic magazine. The Supreme Court unanimously overturned a lower court’s decision, ruling that, although in poor taste, Hustler’s parody fell within the First Amendment’s protection of freedom of speech and the press.

1949: Actor Robert Mitchum is released from a Los Angeles County prison farm after spending the final week of his two-month sentence for marijuana possession there. In the fall of 1948, Mitchum, was smoking a joint at a small party in the Laurel Canyon area of Los Angeles when detectives bust in and arrested him. Mitchum died in July 1997.

Source: History.com

Hot Line Continued
I THINK THE Times should reserve a section in the Hot lines for driving tips. Here’s mine. If you are entering southbound U.S 23 and if your speed is only 35 mph, you are a hazard. If you don’t have the skill to enter the freeway safely at the ambient speed, you should stay on the surface streets.

A Democrat from New Jersey said if you tell a lie long enough it becomes the truth. That can’t be true. Lyndon Johnson said if you enter the freeway safely at the ambient speed, you should stay on the surface streets.

New Location! New Location!
NOW LOCATED AT
605 N. SAGINAW
HOLLY, MI
(616) 574-3023
www.mypainlessdentalcare.com

Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm, Sat: 9am-3pm
Check our website and coupon ads for specials.

Painless Dental Care
Everyone is welcome at Painless Dental Care. We strive to give everyone a personalized experience and would like to help you with the dental care you must want to you about your dental care.

Best value in the area!

New Patient Special
$89
EXAM, NECESSARY X-RAYS AND CLEANING
Expires 3/31/17, must be presented at time of service.

Traditional or Invisalign
Dentures: $799
In-Office Whitening
Crowns: $4,500
$249
$599
(porcelain fused to metal bridge)
Expires 3/31/17, must be presented at time of service.

Source: History.com

Q: What causes a loud and sometimes a pulsating sound when I brake? It is an intermittent happening, but it has happened to me twice. I took it to the dealer and they found nothing wrong with the brakes. I know there is. How can I sound intelligent about this when I take it back? Thank you.

A: Mary, I would need to know a little more about the type of car you drive. How many miles on the car and does it have four wheel drive? Some vehicles with anti-lock brakes will activate on dry pavement when they are not supposed to because of bad wheel speed sensors or tone rings cracked on the axle shaft. Some have a problem with rust jacking of the wheel speed sensors and just needs to be cleaned. This will cause the brake pedal to pulsate or vibrate and is usually accompanied by a moaning sound from the abs pump. If this is not the correct symptom, then try to make a note of when it does this. Such as first thing in the morning, after driving several miles, wet or dry roads and whether it is hot or cold outside.

248-634-5730
Healthy
NEVER TASTED SO GOOD

DINE-IN | CARRY-OUT | CATERING | PARTIES

10% OFF TOTAL BILL
(any day)
Valid at Fenton location only. Dine-in or Carry-Out. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Not valid for buffet.

DINNER BUFFET!
The Last Monday & Tuesday of the Month
Monday, Feb. 27th • 5-8pm
Tuesday, Feb. 28th • 5-8pm
14 Items; 4 Soups; Plus Dessert with Hot Pita & Garlic – Of Course!

Adults: $1399
Ages 5-12: $500
Under 5: Free

La Marsa
Mediterranean Cuisine
810-714-2400
17055 Silver Parkway | Fenton
Next to Michigan Ortho in the Silver Pointe Plaza with The UPS Store, Dunham’s & VG’s.
Order online at: www.LaMarsaCuisine.com

OPEN 7 DAYS 10AM-10PM

FENTON HOTEL
Tavern & Grille
FRESH FISH • SAVORY STEAKS
COMFORT FOOD • FENTON’S ONLY PIANO BAR
302 N Leroy Street. Fenton | (810) 750-9463 | FENTONHOTEL.COM
MONDAY - THURSDAY 4-10 PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 4-11 PM • SUNDAY 3-8 PM

FEBRUARY SPECIAL
WET BURRITO WITH RICE
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FISH & CHIPS
$95 EVERYDAY!

www.LindenHotel.com
(810) 735-5780

THE LINDEN HOTEL
122 E. Broad St. Downtown Linden

Thursday night is family night | We sponsor fundraisers
15010 Silver Parkway Fenton • 810-620-8400
OPEN DAILY AT 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM

La Marsa
Mediterranean Cuisine
17055 Silver Parkway | Fenton
Next to Michigan Ortho in the Silver Pointe Plaza with The UPS Store, Dunham’s & VG’s.
Order online at: www.LaMarsaCuisine.com

OPEN 7 DAYS 10AM-10PM
Meet KATHY MERRY

• State lobbyist
• Advocate for education
• Wife, mom and grandmother

By Sally Rummel news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8228

Kathy Merry lives in Tyrone Township and has been in education for 40 years, but not always in the classroom. She’s a lobbyist for Wayne County’s 33 school superintendents through Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA), similar to the Genesee Intermediate School District. She is married to Joe Merry and has two sons, two step-daughters and seven grandchildren.

What is your job like as a state lobbyist?

I take issues to Lansing and Washington, D.C. that are important to Wayne County’s 33 school superintendents. I focus on school policy and funding.

Has your job changed education in Michigan?

I would like to think I help legislators understand the ramifications, good or bad, of legislation they are looking to support or oppose. Teachers and administrators take a minimum of four years of college to learn how to teach and lead, then go on to advanced degrees. I bring that perspective to our representatives and senators. Sometimes they listen, sometimes they don’t. What’s a typical day of work for you?

There really is no typical day, but here is one day I spent last week in Lansing: meeting with school management lobbyists, at the Capitol for a hearing on school appropriations, meeting with two representatives, lunch with a senator, a hearing in Senate Education Committee, meeting with Senate Policy analyst, delivered Wayne directories to a senator, a hearing in Senate Education Appropriations. What is something most people don’t know about you? I am a-political — I have no political office?

I go to Lansing two to three days a week while Legislature is in session, visit Washington, D.C. once or twice a year, and attend state conferences for Michigan superintendents three or four times a year.

How has your job changed since President Trump came into office?

It’s a little too early to tell. Betsy DeVos is a great advocate for charter schools. In my world of public education, unlimited charter for-profit schools have caused death by a thousand cuts to our public schools. I absolutely support parental choice, but when there are no controls over the number of charters that can limit the students they admit, the playing field has been skewed. Our public schools must accept every student who walks through their doors. Not true for charters and that’s where I have concerns.

Who is the most famous political figure you have ever met?

I’ve met governors, our U.S. senators, the Wayne County Congressional Delegation, mayors, and of course, our Michigan state representatives and senators. I have yet to meet a president. Maybe one day?

If you could change anything about our educational system in Michigan, what would it be?

I would reinstate a cap on charter schools. I would prohibit the Legislature from making any state testing changes for five years. What’s the most interesting thing that has ever happened to you?

Probably the story of how I became a lobbyist. Having no interest in politics whatsoever, 15 years ago a new superintendent came to the Wayne RESA and was so surprised that the largest ISD in the state didn’t have a lobbyist. I thought she was going to ask me if I knew someone who would be good at that, and she said she wanted me to do it. She wouldn’t take no for an answer, so I became the Wayne RESA lobbyist and I love it.

What is something most people don’t know about you?

I married a rodeo bullfighter, who I was trying to set up with my girlfriend at a bar. Too funny!
**TACO BELL**

Continued from Front Page

on Dec. 5, 2016 according to the meeting minutes. Councilor Brad Dick abstained from voting.

According to the minutes of that meeting, WT Development Corp for Taco Bell of America and property owner Richard L. Jacobs requested special land use approval to build the popular fast-food restaurant at 605 W. Broad St., near McDonald’s.

Taco Bell, which serves a variety of tacos, nachos, burritos, and other food, is proposed to be 2,169 square feet, with 40 indoor seats and a drive-through service window. Proposed site improvements would include driveways from both West Broad Street and Hyatt Lane, as well as a 23-space parking lot, drive-through lane, stormwater detention basin, sidewalks, trash enclosure, lighting, and other improvements.

The preliminary site plan was approved with conditions:

- The driveways will accommodate right-turn egress movement only, builders will provide a plan to accommodate off-street loading, and the proposed hours of operation will be specified. Other conditions specify that builders must incorporate masonry materials into exterior design of the building, build a buffer along the southern property boundary consisting of existing vegetation or proposed buffer devices, and build an escape lane for the drive-through facility, unless a variance is granted by the Linden Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Per Section 4.4.5 (2) of the city zoning ordinance, the city allows a fast-food/drive-through restaurant as special land use after a public hearing and approval by the planning commission.
- The commission opened the public hearing that meeting to hear concerns from citizens. Residents of Linden asked questions about a potential privacy wall, if the lighting from the restaurant’s sign would be shaded, if it would impede traffic, and how it would affect property taxes. Final plans for the building could be submitted within the next few months.

The Linden Planning Commission still has to approve the plans for the Taco Bell at 605 W. Broad St, near McDonald’s.

More than 30 cats found in condemned house
A Gaines Township house was condemned Monday night after police found dozens of cats roaming the property.

**WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES**

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following is what you missed in the Wednesday, Feb 15, Midweek Edition of the Tri-County Times. To subscribe and receive both the Sunday Weekend and Wednesday Midweek editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Genesee County commissioners pass ‘Tobacco 21’
Despite a recent ruling by Michigan’s attorney general, the Genesee County Board of Commissioners voted 7 to 2 on Tuesday, Feb. 14, to prevent 18- to 20-year-olds from buying tobacco products in the county.

Area couple gets three years probation for child abuse
Judge says 32 days spent in jail was punishment enough for Deerfield Township couple convicted of second-degree child abuse.

**BREAK-IN ON MAIN ROAD**

Genesee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a home in the 11000 block of Main Road in Fenton Township on Feb. 10 on a report of a breaking and entering. A man was taken into custody and lodged at the Genesee County Jail, pending charges.

**PHONE SCAM**

A fraud complaint is under investigation with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office. A resident in the 16000 block of Silverwood Drive in Fenton Township reported a phone scam on Feb. 11.

**CREDIT CARD SCAM**

A fraud complaint is under investigation with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office. A resident in the 15000 block of S. Linden Road in Fenton Township reported a credit card scam on Feb. 11.

**INTOXICATED MAN JAILED**

On Saturday, Feb. 11, deputies with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office responded to a disorderly person complaint in the 1400 block of Wiggins Road. An intoxicated male was taken into custody and later lodged at the Genesee County Jail, pending charges.
Local auto dealer earns prestigious award

Green Dealer Program Award recognizes Vic Canever’s eco-friendly activities

Vic Canever Chevrolet has earned the Green Dealer Program Award from General Motors for the second consecutive year.

The award is given to dealerships to recognize their eco-friendly activities. To qualify for the award, dealerships must undergo a self-assessment process and then implement a wide range of environmental and sustainable initiatives at their dealership.

Vic Canever Chevrolet was just one of 74 dealerships in the country to receive this prestigious award from General Motors.

Vic Canever Chevrolet has been evaluated by General Motors based on multiple items across a range of 10 categories including energy reduction, waste management, recycle and reuse, nature habitat, workplace and environment, community outreach and management practices.

The dealership implemented green activities in accordance with standards set forth. Adhering to these eco-friendly practices will reduce energy and water usage at the dealership and will reduce waste going to landfills.

Vic Canever exceeded expectations for creating a sustainable environment, and has been acknowledged by John Fitzpatrick, General Motors zone manager and Stacy Summers, Chevrolet district manager.

A recent study shows that 87% of us are satisfied with our community’s quality of life...
Brighton Lake Village $299,999
2043 1/2 St. 3 Bedroom, 2.5 BA. 2 story entryway with hardwood floors. Fire-fit family room with floor to ceiling windows and a gorgeous view of Brighton Lake. Crown molding, office and 1st floor laundry. Walk out basement and 2 story TREX deck.

Holly Hills $218,199
2009 6th, 4 bedroom and 3 BA. Open kitchen with island, dining area and slider to the deck. 1st floor handicap accessible bathroom, fire fit family room and 1st floor laundry. Corner lot in popular sub close to schools, Genesee Hospital and I-75.

Westchester $74,999
1001 S. 3 Bedroom and 1 BA. CUTE ALL BRICK RANCH HOME. Kitchen features all appliances, breakfast nook, lots of cabinet and counter space. Beautiful hardwood floors, partially finished basement, covered patio, 2 car attached garage, large fenced yard and much more.

ACREAGE $374,999
2720 SF of finished living space, 4 bedroom, and 3.5 BA. Open floor plan, soothing colors, crown molding, hardwood floors and large windows with beautiful views of your own gorgeous wooded back yard. Great layout. Featuring hardwood floors, private breakfast room, lots of cabinet and counter space.

LAKE LAPERRE $744,999
1777 sq ft of finished lake home with 2.74 acres. 6012SF of finished living space, 4590SF & 4.5BA. Private setting, open floor plan, soaring ceilings, great natural light, crown molding. Finished walkout basement w/ kitchenette, workout room, sauna & 2 party rooms. Beautiful lot to relax and enjoy the lake and all it has to offer.

LAKE PONTENAH $100,000

LAKE SHANNON $57,500
7230 sq ft of finished lake home with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Active association and spacious club which sponsors many events throughout the year. Bikes up to a permanent open space wooded wildlife refuge for added privacy.

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES $1,699,900
67.6 acres with water frontage on a 120’ frontage on Dollar Lake. Great location close to downtown and expressways. Beautiful lot with lots of potential to build your dream home or possible commercial building opportunities.

DOLLAR LAKE $249,999
107 Frontage on Dollar Lake (connects to Old Lake) 2718SF of finished living space, 4 Bedroom 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.

LAKE PONTENAH $150,000

FENTONWOOD ESTATES $314,999
2702 SF of finished living space, 4 bedroom and 3.5BA. Open floor plan, soaring ceiling, crown molding, hardwood floors and large windows with beautiful views of your own gorgeous wooded back yard. Great layout. Featuring hardwood floors, private breakfast room, lots of cabinet and counter space.

LAKE SHANNON $375,000
5523 sq ft of finished lake home with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Private well and electrical. Full bath + sauna, fireplace, office. 1 acre lot with 2 oversized 2.5 car attached garages, plus 3rd garage.

LAKE SHANNON $57,500
7230 sq ft of finished lake home with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Active association and spacious club which sponsors many events throughout the year. Bikes up to a permanent open space wooded wildlife refuge for added privacy.

LAKE PONTENAH $150,000

LAKE SHANNON $57,500
7230 sq ft of finished lake home with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Private well and electrical. Full bath + sauna, fireplace, office. 1 acre lot with 2 oversized 2.5 car attached garages, plus 3rd garage.

LAKE SHANNON $57,500
7230 sq ft of finished lake home with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Private well and electrical. Full bath + sauna, fireplace, office. 1 acre lot with 2 oversized 2.5 car attached garages, plus 3rd garage.

LAKE SHANNON $57,500
7230 sq ft of finished lake home with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Private well and electrical. Full bath + sauna, fireplace, office. 1 acre lot with 2 oversized 2.5 car attached garages, plus 3rd garage.

LAKE SHANNON $57,500
7230 sq ft of finished lake home with access to all sports Lake Shannon. Private well and electrical. Full bath + sauna, fireplace, office. 1 acre lot with 2 oversized 2.5 car attached garages, plus 3rd garage.
More than 120 participate in new Linden ice fishing tournament, chili cook-off

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton Twp. — The sun was shining, the ice was slippery, and the fish were biting. At least for some.

While not everyone caught something at the inaugural Linden Community Ice Fishing Tournament and Chili Cook Off last Sunday, Feb. 12, everyone seemed to be having fun.

Organizer Steve James said approximately 125 anglers fished on Byram Lake in Fenton Township, and Lobdell Lake in Argentine Township. They fished for bluegill, crappie and pike.

More than 200 people were there for the weigh-in and chili tasting afterward. The chili tasting was provided by mostly Linden-area restaurants.

The prizes were provided by local businesses as well. These included an ice auger for drilling holes through ice, a Weber grill and an ice shanty, along with several door prizes.

James had the idea for the event a few years ago. He had to cancel in 2016 due to weather, and while the warmer temperatures seemed once again to threaten the tournament, things went off without a hitch last weekend.

At its core, the tournament was a reason to get people, especially kids, outside during the gloomy winter. “We’ve got all these resources in our backyard with hunting and fishing and lakes, and it pains me not to see them used,” he said.

James plans to bring the tournament back next year, and hopes to see it grow.

The fishing tournament was divided into three categories. There were awards for the pike, bluegill, crappie, and kids divisions.

Adults
Pike: Mark Hopson of Fenton with a 33-inch pike
Bluegill: Chris Carwile of Grand Blanc with a 9.25-inch bluegill
Crappie: Jason Brown of Linden with a 10.75-inch crappie

Kids 14 and under
Pike: Anthony Barnett of Linden with a 30-inch pike
Bluegill: Landen Thompson of Linden with an 8.5-inch bluegill

Business Sponsors
The Stain Shop, North Shore Market, Sloan Sales, Josephson Construction, ACE Hardware and Grow Linden

Inaugural ice fishing event off to fun start

- More than 120 participate in new Linden ice fishing tournament, chili cook-off

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton Twp. — The sun was shining, the ice was slippery, and the fish were biting. At least for some.

While not everyone caught something at the inaugural Linden Community Ice Fishing Tournament and Chili Cook Off last Sunday, Feb. 12, everyone seemed to be having fun.

Organizer Steve James said approximately 125 anglers fished on Byram Lake in Fenton Township, and Lobdell Lake in Argentine Township. They fished for bluegill, crappie and pike.

More than 200 people were there for the weigh-in and chili tasting afterward. The chili tasting was provided by mostly Linden-area restaurants.

The prizes were provided by local businesses as well. These included an ice auger for drilling holes through ice, a Weber grill and an ice shanty, along with several door prizes.

James had the idea for the event a few years ago. He had to cancel in 2016 due to weather, and while the warmer temperatures seemed once again to threaten the tournament, things went off without a hitch last weekend.

At its core, the tournament was a reason to get people, especially kids, outside during the gloomy winter. “We’ve got all these resources in our backyard with hunting and fishing and lakes, and it pains me not to see them used,” he said.

James plans to bring the tournament back next year, and hopes to see it grow.

The fishing tournament was divided into three categories. There were awards for the pike, bluegill, crappie, and kids divisions.

Adults
Pike: Mark Hopson of Fenton with a 33-inch pike
Bluegill: Chris Carwile of Grand Blanc with a 9.25-inch bluegill
Crappie: Jason Brown of Linden with a 10.75-inch crappie

Kids 14 and under
Pike: Anthony Barnett of Linden with a 30-inch pike
Bluegill: Landen Thompson of Linden with an 8.5-inch bluegill

Business Sponsors
The Stain Shop, North Shore Market, Sloan Sales, Josephson Construction, ACE Hardware and Grow Linden
SLPR Board to discuss funding for Loose Senior Center
The Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation Board of Commissioners will be holding a meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 23 at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center. The Board, which represents the cities of Fenton and Linden and Fenton Township, will be discussing the 4-millage for recreation purposes that has been in existence since 1999. Monies collected from this millage benefit the recreation program and Loose Senior Center in Linden. In 2001, a resolution was passed requiring that SLPR budget 19 percent of the millage and send it to Loose Center. The SLPR Board is considering a proposal that would remove the dedicated resolution of regular funding to Loose Center and replace it with grant, which would require application requests. The Fenton Township Board of Trustees is also expected to discuss this topic at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 20. The SLPR Board of Commissioners includes Ray Culbert and Brad Dick for the city of Linden, Patricia Lockwood and David McDermott for the city of Fenton and Bob Krug and Shaun Shumaker for Fenton Township.

NOTICE
ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS
MARCH 2017 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING DATES
The Argentine Township Board of Review for 2017 will be held at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden MI 48451 on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. - Organizational Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY CALL (810) 735-5050 TO SCHEDULE

By Board Resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 15, 2017.

The 2016 tentative equalization ratio is 50% and the estimated multiplier is 1.0000 for all property classifications.

Protest at the Board of Review is necessary to protect your right to further your appeals to the Michigan Tax Tribunal for valuation and exemption appeals and/or State Tax Commission for classification appeals.

Homestead affidavit Information is required by P.A. 237 of 1994 if you purchased your homestead after May 1, 2016. To claim the homestead exemption, if you have not already done so, you must file an affidavit before June 1, 2017 to affect the summer taxes and before November 1, 2017 to affect the winter taxes.

Brian J Saad, Supervisor
Argentine Township

Notice to residents:

Hot line continued
So you can't like Donald Trump because of his personality and racism? How about loving the guy for his love of America and all its citizens, and wanting the best for our country. We just got rid of the two biggest racists, Barack and Michelle, there was no love of country there. How about loving the guy for his love of whales in New Zealand and the Trump administration have in common? Lack of leadership, mass confusion and a very dire situation with very little chance of recovery.

Thank you for this service you are providing. Facts matter, liberals. Pay attention.

Thank you to the conservatives who week after week submit Hot lines trying to judge for the national competition. The art will go on to the state level to be completed. Application and art to the local VFW is March 31. After the local judging, the best for our country. We just got rid of the two biggest racists, Barack and Michelle, there was no love of country there. How about loving the guy for his love of whales in New Zealand and the Trump administration have in common? Lack of leadership, mass confusion and a very dire situation with very little chance of recovery.

If you have a passion for patriotism and art, enter the 2016-2017 VFW Auxiliary's Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest and compete with other student artists from across the nation for your chance at winning one of eight national scholarships, with the first-place winner receiving a $10,000 scholarship. The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades nine through 12. Students must be a U.S. citizen. No digital art or photography will be accepted, and artwork must be on canvas or paper. It will be judged on your patriotic theme and technique. Find out how you can enter by contacting local VFW Auxiliary Chairman Bonnie Pray or the local VFW 3243 Post at 1148 N. LeRoy St. in Fenton. Applications and information is available at the local VFW post and online at www.vfwauxmi.org under Programs-Scholarships. Deadline to turn in completed application and art to the local VFW is March 31. After the local judging, the art will go on to the state level to be judged for the national competition.

Paczkki Day at crust
Tuesday, February 28
opening at 6:00 a.m.
Live music from 7:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Pre-order your Paczki by 11 a.m. on February 26.

our fillings
• Apricot
• Prune
• Cream
• Lemon
• Raspberry
• Strawberry
• Rosehip Jelly

All are dusted with confectioner's sugar, or choose Raspberry Glazed.

Paczki Day

104 W. Caroline at River, Fenton, Michigan 48430
810-629-8882 crustandbeyond.com

Wish all those ing. Facts matter, liberals. Pay attention.
Kyle McColm, second from right, tries to help flip a grounded whale stranded on a remote beach in New Zealand last weekend.

WHALES
Continued from Front Page

“I was driving down the mountains to do some hiking with my girlfriend when we heard about the whales, just two miles north of us,” said McColm, via a phone interview from New Zealand.

The couple was hardly prepared for the extent of the heartbreak and carnage in front of them. Adult and baby whale carcasses were strewn three or four deep in places for hundreds of yards, often rolled over on the sand with their tail fins still aloft, according to Associated Press news reports on ABC News.

“A 30-minute walk from dry land out to sea with great white sharks feasting on dead carcasses and deadly stingray hiding in the sand, authorities warned us that we were putting our own lives at risk,” said McColm on his Facebook page. “A few people were taken by helicopter to the hospital.”

McColm said he was able to help six whales out of the entire day, and out of the six, he and other volunteers flipped four over to keep them from drowning. “Unfortunately, many drowned due to the weight and how close they were together. All we could do is try to comfort them.”

When high tide came, volunteers were able to refloat some of the surviving whales, while 80 or 90 remained beached. Volunteers continued to keep the stranded survivors damp and cool by placing blankets over them and dousing them with buckets of water.

“We tried to keep them cool during the day,” said McColm. “The sun is so intense that it cooks them. We tried to keep them cool and wet.”

Why the whales get stranded in this remote beach area of Farewell Spit is uncertain, but happens most years in this area, just not at this scale.

The largest was in 1918, when about 1,000 pilot whales came ashore on the Chatham Islands. In 1985, about 450 whales were stranded in Auckland.

McColm, grandson of Bruce and Karen Walker of Fenton Township, has been traveling throughout New Zealand, working with the people to see how they live. “I’ve always been curious to see how other people live, build homes and eat,” he said. “The world is my classroom.”

He plans to return home in June, after first traveling to the Cook Islands, Fiji and Australia. He hopes to begin a career back home in the building trades and real estate.

The carnage of whales on the beach was tragic and heartbreak for volunteers like Kyle McColm, 21, who did all they could to rescue them.

Schedule service right from your phone
1. Just go to Canever.com
2. Click the menu in the top right and then “Schedule Service”

Great service. Went for an oil change and to ask about recalls. They brought up the open recalls before I could get to it! Glad to see this is important to them.
— Gilberto G.
My 42 cents worth

Every year, if we’re able, a friend of mine and I volunteer our time at the St. John Applefest “Information Booth.” This booth is the “go to” place for everything. There is always a steady stream of visitors wanting to know things like, “where are the bathrooms … where do we buy ride tickets … where is the chicken dinner tent … where is the bingo hall … where are the ATM machines … where can I sign up for the 5K run … what time does the band start … what’s the score of the Michigan/Michigan State game … have you seen my mom (there are only 3,000 of them walking around)’?”

Our front desk at the Tri-County Times is a lot like that information booth. While the questions and answers are obviously different, and our employees are not volunteers, there is a steady stream of people who walk through our front doors, seeking assistance and information.

The two ladies that work our front desk, Annette and Jill, are the nicest, most efficient and professional ladies you’ll ever meet. The majority of people who seek their assistance are pleasant and friendly and have their business tended to with ease … but then there are a few others.

One day I heard a man at the front desk. He was so loud I could hear him from my desk halfway back into the building. He was carrying on about something. I had to go to my car for a notebook so when I approached the front door I could hear that he was yelling about Andy Heiler’s column ‘Come Heller high water.’

I went out to my car for a few minutes, and when I came back in, he was still yelling at them about Andy’s opinions. I interrupted and said, ‘Sir, if you will give me your name and phone number, I will have Andy call you. I’m sure he’ll be happy to talk with you and hear what you have to say.’

The man turned to me and said, ‘He doesn’t want to hear what I have to say, but you can tell him for me that he should go be the press secretary for Michael Moore.’ Then he cancelled his subscription and stormed out.

He cancelled his subscription, which only costs 42 cents per edition, because he disagrees with one columnist’s opinions? I will venture a guess that this man will continue reading the Times, but is now paying the $1 newstand price for the paper. Sad!

Jill and Annette say they often get complaints about columnists’ opinions. Here’s a thought — don’t read them. Why punish the rest of us.

Another person complained that we have too many advertisements in our newspaper. Surely, people realize that it is the revenue from these advertisements, along with subscriptions, that pay for providing readers with an award-winning publication twice weekly.

For some odd reason, when I heard that, a scene from the movie ‘Back to the Future’ came to mind. The scene where Marty (Michael J. Fox) is holding a family photo and members of his family start fading away. They would be non-existent if he didn’t do something to change the future. Great Scott! I need this job!

Another complaint they received is that we’re lying when we say each edition is only 42 cents. Pointing to the upper right corner of the newspaper, a man said it’s clearly $1 as printed. Sir, it’s 42 cents per edition if you are a subscriber. The $1 is the newstand price.

Think about it — 42 cents per edition! That’s less than the price of one postage stamp (49 cents), less than the price of one McDonald’s hamburger, less than the candy bar you bought in the vending machine yesterday, and the list goes on.

What are you waiting for? Give Annette or Jill a call at (810) 629-8282 and get your 42 cents worth. Unlike a few unhappy people, who are always going to be unhappy no matter what, you won’t be sorry you did.

Opinions offered in Just Sayin’ are the author’s alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the Vera at vhogan@tctimes.com.

C&L WARD

• New service can update your home’s look in four hours or less

By Sally Rummet

C&L Ward, headquartered in Davison, is now installing new doors and closets in your home in four hours or less.

This new service includes interior doors and closet doors. It’s a one-of-a-kind door replacement process, featuring 3D digital measuring, robotically cut to fit existing frames, with absolutely no mess. This door and closet sale costs just $159 per installed door, with free installation on closet organizers.

Located at 9284 Lapeer Rd. in Davison, C&L Ward has been family owned and operated since 1972. 

C&L Ward, headquartered in Davison, is now installing new doors and closets in your home in four hours or less.

This new service includes interior doors and closet doors. It’s a one-of-a-kind door replacement process, featuring 3D digital measuring, robotically cut to fit existing frames, with absolutely no mess. This door and closet sale costs just $159 per installed door, with free installation on closet organizers.

Located at 9284 Lapeer Rd. in Davison, C&L Ward has been family owned and operated since 1972.

By Sally Rummet

news@tctimes.com, 810-629-8282

C&L Ward, headquartered in Davison, is now installing new doors and closets in your home in four hours or less.

This new service includes interior doors and closet doors. It’s a one-of-a-kind door replacement process, featuring 3D digital measuring, robotically cut to fit existing frames, with absolutely no mess. This door and closet sale costs just $159 per installed door, with free installation on closet organizers.

Located at 9284 Lapeer Rd. in Davison, C&L Ward has been family owned and operated since 1972.

By Sally Rummet

news@tctimes.com, 810-629-8282

C&L Ward, headquartered in Davison, is now installing new doors and closets in your home in four hours or less.

This new service includes interior doors and closet doors. It’s a one-of-a-kind door replacement process, featuring 3D digital measuring, robotically cut to fit existing frames, with absolutely no mess. This door and closet sale costs just $159 per installed door, with free installation on closet organizers.

Located at 9284 Lapeer Rd. in Davison, C&L Ward has been family owned and operated since 1972.

By Sally Rummet

news@tctimes.com, 810-629-8282

C&L Ward, headquartered in Davison, is now installing new doors and closets in your home in four hours or less.

This new service includes interior doors and closet doors. It’s a one-of-a-kind door replacement process, featuring 3D digital measuring, robotically cut to fit existing frames, with absolutely no mess. This door and closet sale costs just $159 per installed door, with free installation on closet organizers.

Located at 9284 Lapeer Rd. in Davison, C&L Ward has been family owned and operated since 1972.

By Sally Rummet

news@tctimes.com, 810-629-8282

C&L Ward, headquartered in Davison, is now installing new doors and closets in your home in four hours or less.

This new service includes interior doors and closet doors. It’s a one-of-a-kind door replacement process, featuring 3D digital measuring, robotically cut to fit existing frames, with absolutely no mess. This door and closet sale costs just $159 per installed door, with free installation on closet organizers.

Located at 9284 Lapeer Rd. in Davison, C&L Ward has been family owned and operated since 1972.
Middle school debaters win $2,000 in college scholarships

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

The Fenton Area Debate Club hosted its annual Individual War of Words (IWOW) last Saturday in the Lake Fenton High School auditorium.

The league, formerly called Tri-County League of Debate, is a not-for-profit organization and it awards college scholarships and trophies for its winners. Participants also receive a medal for their year-long efforts.

Four local schools participated in this most recent debate contest. Students in fourth- through eighth-grade started in September 2016 and debated monthly in order to qualify for the finals on Feb. 11. Twelve students participated in the finals in hopes of winning college scholarship monies up to $2,000, provided by the Fenton Rotary Club.

Now in its twelfth year, graduates of this debate program have gone on to debate at the college level at schools such as Yale, Hillsdale, University of Michigan and West Point.

Winners of the debate contest are:

First place - $1,000 – Jacob Barta, St. Patrick School in Brighton

Second place - $500 – Andrea Elsholz, AGS Middle School in Fenton

Third place - $250 – Brendan Poirier, St. John School in Fenton

Fourth place - $250 – Emilee Poirier, St. John School in Fenton

Four come out on top

HOT LINE CONTINUED

Could one of you crybaby-washrag Trump complainers please explain to me how anything he has done so far has affected you in a bad way. No? Didn’t think so. Please shut up and let him work, making America great again.

The Republicans who call the Hot lines seem so mean and heartless. Can’t we stick to the issues? Why all the hatefulness?

Pollsters and the media repeatedly told us Trump could not win the election. Put into complacency, many Democrats did not bother to vote. That is probably why they are so angry now. Ignore the polls and vote.

The couple in green want to thank the person who paid for their wonderful dinner at an area restaurant last Sunday evening.

To the person who also recalled the Bowling Green Massacre, Fox News is precisely where you need to go to be educated instead of listening to those slanted, so-called news organizations.
**RUSSIAN was extremely popular back in the ’70s. You can imagine with all the politics going on, it became popular. Arabic became popular 15 years ago.**

Jessica Hunter
Mott Community College foreign language coordinator and Spanish instructor

The hardest languages to learn are ones with different writing styles, like Arabic, Russian, and Japanese.

“You’re not only learning different words and pronunciations but a new writing form as well,” Hunter said. “Chinese tends to be very difficult because of all the different tones that you have to learn,” she said.

Languages easiest to learn are those closely related to the native language. For English speakers, German can be easy, according to Hunter.

“Approximately 13 percent of English words come from Latin. It makes it easier to learn the romance languages, like French, Spanish, and Portuguese. That’s why we have cognates, words that look very similar, it’s that Latin influence,” she said.

The most studied language in America is currently Spanish.

“They tend to come in waves,” Hunter said. “Russian was extremely popular back in the ’70s. You can imagine with all the politics going on, it became popular. Arabic became popular 15 years ago.”

Hunter found that her students choose to take Spanish because they want to be able to use their second language.

When people learn a new language, reading comprehension comes first, then writing, and then listening and speaking.

“The biggest challenge that people face, especially adult language learners, is being willing to make mistakes,” she said. “It’s really important to allow yourself the freedom of making mistakes because that’s where you’re going to do a lot of learning.”

Schools focus on grammar-based teaching, according to Forbes, but this leaves students able to conjugate verbs but not hold a conversation.

One of the most effective ways to learn a new language is curriculum with classes where teachers use foreign languages to teach non-language subjects. In 2006, U.S. Customs and Border Protection adopted this approach, and their workers learned Spanish easier and faster.

This isn’t the only way to learn a new language, however. You could enroll at a local college or take online classes. Rosetta Stone, an education program, is a popular choice for those wishing to expand their vocabulary beyond English.

There are also apps for smartphones, like Duolingo, that can teach you a second language.

Hunter said there’s a second language out there for everyone.

“You just have to find it,” she said. “It all comes down to motivation. Even if you tackle what seems to be the most difficult language, if you’re motivated, it’s not difficult. If you really want to learn the language, there will be challenges, but it makes it a lot easier.”

**America’s monolingualism**

Approximately 25 percent of American adults report being able to speak another language other than English, according to the Pew Research Center. Of that 25 percent, approximately 43 percent said they can speak the language “very well.”

Compared to Europe and other continents with many countries and dialects, the American education system is lax when it comes to learning languages.

Approximately 54 percent of Europeans are bilingual.

Approximately 73 percent of primary students in Europe were learning English at school in 2009-2010, according to Pew Research Center.

Most of these students study their first foreign language by age 9 and a second foreign language later.

Many countries mandate that their students learn English, and the U.S. does not have a nationwide mandate on learning a second language.

**SOURCE:** Pew Research Center, Forbes

---

**I’M SITTING HERE in my kitchen on this beautiful Valentine’s Day morning. The sun is shining and I live in Fenton. I always remember when I moved here and I loved the place because of the people, the fire and police departments, and public works. To our Police Chief Aro, much luck in his new job in Grand Rapids.***

---

**TOWNSHIP OF ROSE, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE TO ROSE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**

That the Rose Township Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 7:30 pm in the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan 48442.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider and receive comments on the following application:

Mr. Tim Meade, owner of vacant lot on Cogshall Street (06-03-202-008), is requesting a variance from the Rose Township Zoning Ordinance. The request is for a total side yard setback variance to locate a manufactured structure within 8 feet of the west side yard setback and 5 feet of the north side yard setback. Rose Township Zoning Ordinance, Table 38-232 Schedule of Regulations, requires that the total side yard setback be a minimum of 15 feet.

Comments in writing will be accepted until the date and time of the hearing and should be submitted to the Office of the Rose Township Clerk, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan 48442.

A copy of the aforementioned variance application is available for inspection during regular business hours, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan 48442. Comments are due at the time of the hearing and should be submitted to the Office of the Rose Township Clerk, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan 48442.

Handicapped persons needing assistance to attend the meeting should contact the Rose Township Clerk at (248) 834-8701 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

---

**DOCUMENT SHREDDING**

**Don’t Expose Yourself!**

Shred your important documents

$1 per pound

The UPS Store
17195 Silver Parkway
810-750-2920

---

**Re: Morgan Family Trust dated November 6, 2013 TO ALL CREDITORS:**

The Grantor, Shirley A. Morgan, (date of birth: March 22, 1946), who lived at 14114 Torrey Road, Fenton, Michigan 48430, died November 25, 2016. There is no personal representative of the decedent’s estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Morgan Family Trust dated November 6, 2013, will be forever barred unless presented to the Trustee, within four (4) months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

DATED: February 13, 2017

**ATTORNEY:**

Pamela J. Cross (PS6089)
55 Campau Ave NW, Suite 300
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 235-3500

**TRUSTEE:**

Montgomery Morgan
c/o Pamela J. Cross
55 Campau Ave NW, Ste. 300
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Fenton resident Payton Michelle, 17, recently started modeling, walked in New York Fashion Week on Feb. 10 to 12.

**Fenton resident walks in New York Fashion Week**

- The 17-year-old models in four shows for various designers

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

The sights on stage wore a little different in New York City compared to Fenton when one Fenton resident walked in New York Fashion Week Friday, Feb. 10 to 12.

Payton Michelle, 17, started modeling in November 2016 and has already participated in one of the biggest fashion events in America.

After three delayed flights, Michelle, her mom, and her friend, ended up driving the 12 hours to New York City to walk in four fashion shows throughout the weekend. The entire fashion week runs from Feb. 8 to 16.

“It was so crazy busy. Everything was so back to back to back,” she said.

On Friday, Feb. 10, she had one show at Gotham Hall, where she modeled for Neiman Marcus. Michelle said that was the fanciest and most professional show, as well as the longest runway she’s ever been on.

“That show was really cool because she let me design and pick out the fabric for my dress and I got to keep my dress after,” she said. “I wanted to do something that was older and more sophisticated.” She was able to keep both dresses Neiman made for her.

Michelle networked backstage at the show, talking to photographers and models, and ended up booking another show. “I like networking. It’s always best after shows. They’ve seen you walk, they’ve seen what you can offer,” she said.

On Saturday, she modeled for a few designers in two events. Designers pick the models, and she made both shows.

On Sunday, she walked in the FCM Showcase for four designers, which wasn’t a typical runway. It included formations where models had to hit poses at certain points in certain patterns.

She was able to keep another black dress a designer made for her. “The three dresses I got are one of a kind. There are no others like them,” she said.

Michelle started modeling after a casting call for Walk Fashion Show Detroit last fall. She said she wore uncomfortable shoes and her walk wasn’t the best, so she was surprised she was chosen.

Michelle came to model at NYFW because her mom was in the audience at Walk Fashion Show Detroit, sitting next to one of Marcus’ models. They were talking and the model said the designer had one more spot for a show in New York.

“My mom didn’t even know it was for fashion week,” she said. “She said this with the straightest face I’ve ever seen in my life.

Yeah, you’re walking in New York Fashion Week or something. You know when you get so shocked, you can’t breathe? That was me.”

Michelle said he had a great experience in New York, even though she didn’t get a chance to explore the city.

“I did all the research on the Walk shows to be able to go there and do it. My mom mingled and I thank her every day for that,” she said. “I just think it’s so cool that I don’t have a manager, I don’t have an agency, I do everything on my own.”
McDONALD’S
Continued from Front Page

Road other than The Dutch Pantry; there was just the high school, gas stations and car dealerships, and a Hardees and A&W in town.”

“It was my first real job,” added Benson, now vice president of the office for customer service at Blue Cross Blue Shield in Detroit. “It was a lot of fun, but we hustled, we really did. When I got my first paycheck, I went to Hudson’s and bought myself an outfit.”

With all of today’s talk about a $15 minimum wage, Benson recalls earning about $2.35 an hour. She continued to work at the Fenton McDonald’s on Owen Road the summer after her freshman year of college, and then worked at the Hartland McDonald’s and in Shelby Township.

She recalls one day when she was scheduled to work, her mom wasn’t home to take her. “My younger brother put me on the back of his motor bike, and he dropped me off. I went to work on time, but it took me 10 minutes to calm down and stop shaking.”

McDonald’s was the place that many local teens wanted to work, including Stephanie (Wood) Larson, now of Farmers Branch, Texas, northeast of Dallas.

She got the job through her Fenton High School co-op program in Food Technology. She chose McDonald’s because “it was the newest, coolest place in Fenton.”

For Larson, it was a job she took very seriously. “It was very scary because it was my first job with the public. Girls worked mostly in the front as cashiers and guys in the back on the grills.”

Larson worked her way up the McDonald’s ladder, eventually becoming a general manager, spending 12 years with the company. “Working at McDonald’s taught me how to multi-task.” She is now semi-retired, working parttime at a local deli.

THE FUTURE OF MCDONALD’S IN FENTON

McDonald’s on Owen Road has been at the same location for 41 years, since the days of 30-cent hamburgers and 45-cent milkshakes.

But it will get an entirely new look and setup for the “experience of the future” this summer, when a new McDonald’s will be built. Demolition is set for mid-August.

“We’ll be closed for a week before demolition, then construction will take about 90 days,” said Mark Pfau, 58, who owns both Fenton McDonald’s on Owen Road and North LeRoy and the McDonald’s in Linden, which he also plans to remodel this year.

Pfau has owned the Fenton and Linden restaurants since 1999 and opened the Linden location in 2000. He also owns five restaurants in Oakland County — two in White Lake and one each in Waterford, Milford and New Hudson.

“I saw Fenton as a great community to do business in,” said Pfau. “I knew this would be a growth area.”

This new build is part of McDonald’s corporate plans to modernize 85 percent of its locations by 2019.

Customers will notice a new tableside service, which was one of only four test stores in the region when it was launched in December 2015.

Watch for the April rollout of Signature Crafted Sandwiches, with 18 different customized choices, including pico de gallo, guacamole and Canadian maple bacon.

“By the end of the year, we’ll offer mobile ordering and payment,” said Pfau. “Within 18 months, customers can choose to self-order at kiosks or at the counter. We won’t be losing any jobs; in fact it will bring more jobs. This has always been a people business and it will always be a people business.”

Pfau employs 70 at the Owen Road McDonald’s, 45 in Linden and 35 at North LeRoy. “In all my stores, I employ 400-some employees. I know most of them by name.”

McDonald’s on Owen Road Swing Manager Tyrone Bundy double checks an order during the Friday morning rush on Friday, Feb. 17.
Heading to state meet one more time

Hypio clinches team regional title; LF’s senior class headed to third state trip

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

Goodrich — In a lot of ways how Jaylin Steedman described his senior season with the Linden varsity wrestling team summarized the Eagles’ season for the entire squad pretty well.

“It was a season of ups and downs, injuries and overcoming a lot,” Steedman said. “I learned a lot. It sucks that it is over, but now I have to be ready to move on.”

The Eagles’ season was all of those things. Finishing their season at 14-16, the Eagles certainly had higher expectations entering the season. However, with all the injuries the squad experienced during the year, the Eagles knew their best performances would come at the end of the season. The squad persevered and proved to itself how solid they could be despite their youth. The Eagles ended up winning a team district title. However, illness struck the squad at the team regional held at Goodrich High School, meaning the Eagles would face even more adversity. The illnesses didn’t stop Linden from advancing to the regional championship match before seeing their season finally come to a close.

Linden opened Wednesday

Fenton’s Weinberg, Holly/Oxford boys ski team headed to D2 state meet

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

One area team and one are skier are headed to the Division 1 state meet at Nub’s Nob on Feb. 27.

The Holly/Oxford boys ski team qualified as a squad and Fenton’s Zoe Weinberg qualified as an individual for the event.

The Holly/Oxford boys ski team placed second at the Mt. Holly regional, earning itself a squad-qualifying spot while Weinberg placed second in the slalom and fifth in the giant slalom, earning individual spots. The top three teams qualify as the top four individual placers not on a state-qualifying team. The Fenton/Linden co-op girls ski squad finished sixth while the boys took eighth. The Holly/Oxford girls team placed eighth.

Weinberg was the top performer of area competitors. She placed second with a combined time of 57.05 seconds on her two runs in the slalom. Marion’s Olivia Weymouth won the event with a time of 56.15, almost a second ahead of the field.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM

State meet details

Here is some information concerning the D3 team state wrestling meet.
When: The event starts Friday, with the D3 quarterfinal matches happening at 4:30 p.m. The semifinals will be Saturday at 11:30 a.m. and the finals will be on Saturday at 6 p.m.
Where: At Central Michigan University’s McGuirk Arena.
Pairings: The pairings will be released today on the MHSAA’s web site at 6 p.m.

The Blue Devils are ranked team in the state, but due to holding three empty weight classes all season, it was going to be hard for the Blue Devils to earn a state trip once again this season due to giving so many team points just on voids alone. However, the Blue Devils have steadily improved and are now just two weight classes short of a full line up. Considering the Blue Devils have so many strong wrestlers throughout their lineup, Lake Fenton entered the regional tournament with more of a fighting chance than maybe thought upon earlier in the season. The Blue Devils are pleased with their accomplishment.

“It shows how much we’ve accomplished throughout the season and how hard we’ve been working is really paying off,” Lake Fenton senior wrestler Hunter Corcoran said.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT TCTIMES.COM

Fenton’s Luigi Milani in Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Luigi Milani in the Eagles’ regional semifinal victory.
Fenton Tigers complete season sweep of Clio Mustangs

The Fenton varsity boys basketball team became the first squad to accomplish one task on Tuesday night.

The Fenton Tigers became the first team to beat the Clio Mustangs twice this season.

The Tigers earned their second victory against the Mustangs with a hard-earned 40-38 road victory. Fenton defeated second-place Clio 42-30 at Fenton High School on January 24.

“It was a nice win. They’ve been playing pretty good in the league and had only three losses going in,” Fenton varsity boys basketball coach John Gilbert said. “They’ve beaten a lot of teams in the league. They’ve lost to Flushing, us and Creek if my memory is right. They’ve beaten some teams we haven’t beat, but we’ve beat them twice.”

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SCOTT SCHUPBACH

Fenton varsity boys basketball coach John Gilbert talks to his team during a time out.

Fenton girls basketball defeats Lady Mustangs

The Fenton varsity girls basketball team locked up a no worse than second-place finish in the Metro League after defeating Clio 68-49 on Tuesday night.

The Clio Lady Mustangs trailed just 17-13 after one quarter, but Fenton’s offense erupted for 27 second-quarter points, establishing a 44-18 Tigers’ lead at the half. The lead grew to 60-26 after three quarters. Clio scored 23 points during the final period, making the final score look more respectable.

With the victory, the Tigers improved to 10-2 in Metro League action, four games ahead of any squad behind them in the standings with two contests remaining.

—by David Troppens
dttroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Lake Fenton’s defense shuts down Atherton in second half, 74-12

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

The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team dominated the Atherton Wolverines on Senior Night, earning an impressive 74-12 victory on Tuesday night.

“We came out aggressively and the Atherton team doesn’t have a lot of strong ball handlers,” Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. “We were able to mix up our defenses and get out in front.”

The Blue Devils’ defense was impressive throughout, but was a bit more impressive in the second half, shutting out Atherton.

—by David Troppens
dttroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Holly Bronchos continue to improve, defeat Kearsley, 71-65

At one time the Holly varsity boys basketball team held a 1-6 record.

It was fair to say the 2016-17 season was off to a rotten start, made even worse considering the team lost its only senior starter, Paris Partee, right before the season began.

Life with the Bronchos has been considerably better since that point. The Bronchos now find themselves 8-8 overall and 6-6 in Metro League action after defeating the Kearsley Hornets 71-65 on Tuesday night.

“Our practices have gotten way better,” Holly varsity boys basketball coach Lance Baylis said.
**NEW DEMO LEASES!! SAVE BIG!!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Stk#</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 CRUZE LT</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$73/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 MALIBU LT</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$46/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 VOLT LT</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$249/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Traverse</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$57/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DEMO SALE**

6 LEFT IN STOCK!

**SPECIAL DEALS ON 2016’s! MUST GO!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Stk#</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 CHEVROLET CAMARO 2LT CONVERTIBLE</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$46/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 CHEVROLET MALIBU LT</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$46/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 CHEVROLET CRUZE LT</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$46/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 SONIC LT HATCH</td>
<td>ST41465691</td>
<td>$46/ MONTH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHAT A DEAL!**

2012 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT                     | ST41465691  | $24,143      |
2013 FORD FLEX LIMITED                      | ST41465691  | $14,091      |
2008 GMC ACADIA SLT-T                       | ST41465691  | $9,900       |
2008 SATURN OUTLOOK XR                      | ST41465691  | $5,408       |

**REDUCED!**

2005 CHEVROLET COLORADO BASE                | ST41465691  | $2,900       |
2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL                      | ST41465691  | $7,900       |
2010 DODGE DAKOTA BIG HORN                  | ST41465691  | $12,900      |
2012 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT                   | ST41465691  | $8,042       |
2007 SATURN ION Z                            | ST41465691  | $2,900       |

**GREAT DEAL!**

2009 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT            | ST41465691  | $6,900       |
2013 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT                   | ST41465691  | $6,900       |
2012 CHEVROLET CRUZE 2LT                    | ST41465691  | $6,900       |
2005 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT                  | ST41465691  | $4,200       |
2014 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LT                  | ST41465691  | $20,491      |

**SALES HOURS**

Mon & Thurs: 8:30am - 8:00pm  
Tues, Wed & Fri: 8:30am - 6:00pm  
Saturday: 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Sunday: CLOSED

**SERVICE HOURS**

Monday: 7:00am - 8:00pm  
Tuesday - Fri: 7:00am - 6:00pm  
Saturday: 8:00am - 2:00pm  
Sunday: CLOSED