Kody Brewer violates probation a second time
By Hannah Ball
hbball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792
Kody Brewer, 17, one of the defendants in the alleged Linden
school shooting plot, violated his probation a second time and could
now go to prison.
Brewer had been serving a five-year probation sentence for his role
in an alleged plot with two other boys to shoot up Linden schools in
October 2015. He was charged with attempted false report of terrorism,
a five-year felony.
Genesee County Deputy Chief Assistant Prosecutor John Potbury
said, “We would be asking the
See SUSPECT on 10

Local father of six a $1 million Lotto winner

Powerball ticket purchased in Fowlerville

Edmond Nicaj’s life got a little easier on Friday, Dec. 1.
The Tyrone Township father of six played the right num-
bers to win a $1 million Powerball game, ac-
cording to Michigan Lotto.
Nicaj, 41, matched the five white balls drawn — 24-26-
28-59-63 — to win the big prize. He bought his winning ticket at the Great Lakes Fam-
ily Restaurant, at 963 S. Grand Ave. in Fowlerville.
“I buy a Powerball ticket every once in a while, and it
really paid off this time,” Nicaj
said. “I checked my ticket the
morning after the drawing, and
couldn’t stop jumping around.
See LOTTO on 10

Linden Holiday Happening keeps growing

Getting a photo taken with Santa Claus was one of the highlights of the Linden Holiday Happening on Friday, Dec. 1 in downtown
Linden. Attendees of the festival could watch the parade, take a museum tour, watch the fireworks, do arts and crafts and meet Santa.
Linden City Manager Paul Zelenak estimates 4,000 to 5,000 people attended. See story on 6.

Shapiro sentenced to 11 months probation

He was sentenced to 11 months pro-
bation after pleading guilty to one mis-
demeanor count of indecent language.
The court dismissed a second count of
indecent language and one count
of reckless operation of a vessel
as part of a plea agreement. The
terms of his probation are yet to
be determined.
“I’ve been very frustrated with
other media sources that have tried
to paint what I did as a racial reac-
tion,” said Shapiro. “It absolutely
was not.
See SHAPIRO on 10

Couple robbed, beaten, doused with gasoline during home invasion

Four gunmen
steal $7,200; area man injured

A 63-year-old Holly Town-
ship man was injured during a home invasion in Independ-
ence Township at 1 a.m. on
Nov. 30.
According to the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office, See GUNMEN on 10

Comment of the week

“Winter is approaching.
Time to hibernate. Can anyone
recommend some good books to read?
I want the ones that
you can’t wait to turn
the page on. I am a
fan of good fiction
with complex plots. I would love
some recommendations. Thank
you.”

“Fenton residents are
losing parking spots at an alarming rate
as more and more
businesses open up
in the greater downt-
town area. So, why are
we allowing another
gigantic residential
building to be built right in the
middle of downtown?”

“There is an old saying that
goes, ‘No one has ever be-
come poor by giving.’ Please
remember to drop a buck or
two into the Salvation Army
bucket. They are the most
hands-on, efficient charity in
the world.”

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Limited to In Stock Items. Available in store or online.

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WE ARE EXTENDING THE SALES FOR ONE WEEK!
Sales are extended until January 7th, 2018

PLAYING IN LITTLE LEAGUE?
As of JANUARY 1st, 2018 Little League is adopting a new bat standard for
Baseball (Softball is not affected). The bats must have the USA Baseball
Stamp (to the right). NO bats with the USSSA 1.15 BPF stamp will be
allowed in play. We have flyers with more information available in the store.
If you do need a new USA Baseball bat we have them in stock.

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Parade crowd tops 10,000; hosts largest road race participation in history of event

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

Fenton — Bolstered by ideal weather and its own popularity, the 16th annual Jinglefest drew more than 10,000 visitors to downtown Fenton for a lighted parade, photos with Santa and an overall fun downtown experience. It took 44 lighted floats approximately 35 minutes to wind through the route. It ended in the raucous performance by the impressively lit Lake Fenton Blue Devils marching band, and the Fenton City and Fenton Township fire departments.

After the tree lighting ceremony, the entire day climaxed with a fireworks display, shot from behind the community center. The grand finale ripped the sky with blinding yellow light. The middle section of the display, however, sputtered, sending the fire department scrambling to contain any flare-ups by grounded fireworks.

After the fireworks, a line extended out the door to get a photo with Santa Claus, and of course a cookie or two.

It’s not feasible to get an actual festival head count, but Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater estimated there were more visitors than usual. Annual estimates put visitors at 10,000. He based this on traveling the parade route, and noting the density of visitors throughout.

Fenton City Councilwoman Pat Lockwood, who is also the festival chair, also believed that attendance climbed beyond the annual 10,000 in attendees. She said it was the largest crowd in the history of Jinglefest, topped off by 345 JingleJog runners, the most in race history.

She added that she’s very thankful that Jinglefest continues to receive the support of all the residents and businesses, donors and volunteers. "Small town hospitality at its best," she said.

Warming stations with crackling wood and flickering flames added to the holiday atmosphere, although it was warmer this year. This warmer weather was not kind to the ice sculptures that lined the sidewalk, several had started to collapse by the end of the night.
What’s not to like?

Maybe it’s just me but it seems that every year, as predict- able as an interview with a global-warming alarmist on NPR (National Public Radio), the media goes a bit too tired, tune-worn in criticism about the commercialization of Christmas. These professional kil- loyes love to point out that Jesus and all religious meaning have been taken out of Christmas. Their core substantiation is based on the fact that (gird your loins readers), Americans spend too much money on the Christmas gifts they give to the people they love the most. I have to vehemently disagree with this miserly point of view. If there is a better example of people complaining about something that is overwhelmingly based on good- ness, generosity and wholesomeness, I don’t know what it is. It’s also the time of year when the vast majority of us are extremely generous in giving to individuals and organizations that provide food, clothing and gifts to other Americans who, for whatever rea- son, cannot provide for themselves. This practice is considered to be a travesty by the tidy-mouth, alligator-armed, leftist crowd. Imagine that! What an awful thing! It must give nightmares to the many Ameri- cans who are far more akin to Scrooge, than Santa. My mom used to tell us that if we didn’t like something, simply imagine what the alternative would be. OK. Let’s imagine that when Christmas season comes around each year the stores put up no Christmas decorations, municipalities don’t decorate downtown light poles, no Christmas music blares from the sound system in the mall, and no one buys gifts for their loved ones. Little children would not stand in long lines to see the department store Santa, nervously await- ing their turn to spend a few precious moments with the mysterious, white- bearded man in the flamboyant red suit. Would this make us a better society? To me, and I suspect to most Americans, that question is rhetorical. Of course, it wouldn’t. Why on earth would we be a better society if the four or five weeks be- tween Thanksgiving and Christmas were no different from any other time of the year? Not having a special time of year like Christmas, a major part of which is gift buying, would be a tragic loss to all Americans, especially our children. Do many, maybe even most, people spend too much money? Of course. But that’s usu- ally a singular event. Going forward they learn to temper and manage their Christmas spirit, and their budget. Giving or receiving a gift should be encouraged, not discouraged. The people who discourage gift-giving are not extraordinarily noble or wise — they are extraordinarily cheap. Lastly, when you buy a Christmas gift, everyone is a winner. You have spent time thinking about what your loved ones would like, you help keep local businesses vibrant and successful, you bring joy to the recipient and, most importantly, you honor the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. What’s not to like? From my family to yours, very best wishes for a healthy, happy and holy Christmas season.

Would you like to love the most. If you don’t like something, simply imagine that (gird your loins). So, what’s not to like? What’s not to choose? What’s not to love? The people who discourage gift-giving are extraordinarily cheap. Lastly, when you buy a Christmas gift, everyone is a winner. You have spent time thinking about what your loved ones would like, you help keep local businesses vibrant and successful, you bring joy to the recipient and, most importantly, you honor the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. What’s not to like? From my family to yours, very best wishes for a healthy, happy and holy Christmas season.
Pearl Harbor bombed 76 years ago

Dec. 7, 1941 is the day the Japanese launched an unprovoked attack on the Hawaiian Islands.

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

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, affectionately known as FDR, called Dec. 7, 1941 “a date which will live in infamy…”. It was the day the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by the Empire of Japan — and World War II came home.

The number of local residents old enough to remember Pearl Harbor are dwindling. Many were small children at the time of the attack and don’t remember much other than the obvious sadness of the time of the attack and don’t remember much other than the obvious sadness of

The scene outside their home was terrifying, she recalls. Five of eight battle, and hearing a rumbling outside.

She distinctly remembers the terrifying events of that day. She recalls getting ready to teach Sunday School that morning, and hearing a rumbling outside.

The scene outside their home was terrifying, she recalls. Five of eight battleships, three destroyers and seven other ships were sunk or severely damaged, and more than 200 aircraft were destroyed. A total of 2,400 Americans were killed and 1,200 were wounded.

Seventy-five years later Kinsman said she can still smell and feel the scene. “One Japanese plane came so close to our house that the pilot looked at us standing on the porch of our house and smiled,” she said last year.

What happened

According to history.com, at 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time, a Japanese dive bomber bearing the red symbol of the Rising Sun of Japan on its wings appears out of the clouds above the island of Oahu. A swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes followed, descending on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in a ferocious assault.

See BOMBED on 8

Get in the holiday spirit with December concerts

Fenton Community Orchestra and Fenton High School Jazz Orchestra will perform Dec. 7-8

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

More than 100 local musicians will perform with the Fenton Community Orchestra and Fenton High School Jazz Orchestra in upcoming December concerts. Concert dates are Thursday, Dec. 7 and Friday, Dec. 8, both at 7:30 p.m. at the Ruby Zima Auditorium at Fenton High School. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated, said Jennifer Fleck, FCO executive director.

“We have had a fantastic start to our eighth season.” Jennifer Fleck
Fenton Community Orchestra executive director

The Fenton Community Orchestra is now in its eighth season, performing its December concerts on Dec. 7 and 8 at Fenton High School.

The Fenton Community Orchestra will perform a variety of classical, holiday and jazz standards under the baton of conductor Andrew Perkins.

“We have had a fantastic start to our eighth season,” Fleck said. “It kicked off with a Concert in the Park on July 3 with an orchestra from France. In September, we formed a new wind ensemble that will premiere on Friday, Dec. 8 under the direction of Timothy Martuch. We received our fourth grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.”

The Thursday concert will begin with Simply Strings, the intermediate string orchestra, under the direction of Jane Ball. Group reservations for that evening are now being taken by contacting Fentonorchestra.org.

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More info at fentontlc.org
Nearly 5,000 people attend annual Christmas event

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

Linden — With 4,000 to 5,000 people in attendance, this year’s Linden Holiday Happening on Friday, Dec. 1 was one of the biggest ever. “It was an amazing event,” said Linden Mayor Danielle Cusson.

“I have been working on Holiday Happening for over 10 years and each year it gets better. While the event continues to grow, we keep the basics that have been part of this tradition — the tree lighting, museum tours, carriage rides, community singing. I received many comments on how nice it was to see so many people in downtown Linden.”

Thousands of visitors lined the streets to watch the lighted parade. Downtown businesses and organizations like the Linden Boy Scouts and the VFW marched and showed off Christmas-themed floats. The Linden High School marching band lifted spirits with the Linden fight song, and the Keepers of the Shiawassee entertained the crowd with a small dance routine with paddles adorned with Christmas lights.

After the parade, attendees could go on a tour of the Linden museum or do arts and crafts at the VFW Hall, where people enjoyed warm refreshments. After the tree lighting ceremony, kids had the opportunity to meet Santa by the millpond and sit on his lap while parents took photos.

“My favorite part as mayor is picking a child to help light the tree and gazebo. It is great to see the excitement in the kid’s eyes as we finish our countdown” Cusson said.

Hundreds of people stood on or around the dam to watch the fireworks display.

“We have a great committee of volunteers that spend countless hours getting donations, planning the parade, advertising the event, coordinating the fireworks and setting it up the week of the event,” Cusson said. “One of my goals as mayor is to promote our city and the Holiday Happening is a great way for us to do that.”

Throughout the event, patrons could go into local stores and buy snacks or dinner from food trucks. Kids and parents fed and pet reindeer, which were in a pen by Linden City Hall.

Linden residents Tara and Josh Taylor brought their two children to the event. Tara said the fireworks were probably her kids’ favorite part.

“We love it,” she said. “It’s definitely a better turnout than last year. This year is warmer.”
Ciesielski to head new department

AGS principal takes on leadership role effective
July 1, 2018

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

“Putting them together would be a game changer!” That’s what Tim Scarberry believes will happen once his family gets together with the city of Fenton to develop properties they own on the south side of town.

Scarberry said he is very much in favor of collaborating with the city to market their vacant properties together.

The city owns the 1.41 acres of land at High and State roads, where the historic old Baptist Minister’s home, also known as the old seminary, once stood. The Scarberry Family Trust owns an adjacent 6.95 acres, around the corner on State Road.

“We have had some recent interest from developers and we plan to send out an RFP (request for proposal) for the property sometime early next year,” said Fenton City Manager Lynn Markland of the city-owned land.

“If the two properties merged, it would become a really nice project,” Scarberry said. “It would uplift that entire area.”

Scarberry said he is looking forward to sitting down with Markland, the planner and engineers, but so far that has not happened.

Since the demolition of the seminary building more than two years ago in September of 2015, there have been some complaints by neighbors about the existence of small wildlife, and the lack of maintenance. The city does, however, make sure it is mowed, at least the front part of the parcel.

The decision to tear down the 147-year-old historic structure was made because of its deteriorated condition.

In November 2013, the building sustained significant damage during a rainstorm with high winds. The subsequent harsh winters of 2013-2015 resulted in further destruction of the deteriorating building, which was near ruins when it was torn down. The structure had collapsed completely on the east side, with rooms and debris on all three floors exposed.

An engineering study in early 2015 resulted in a recommendation to demolish the building. The 10,000-square-foot mansion, built in 1868, had been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1983.

“We felt it was time to redesign what the Curriculum Department looked like and make changes to the overall organizational structure of the department,” a director’s position in the past, it is now an executive position to give the department more of a footprint in the areas of technology integration, instructional practices, and assessment, along with curriculum.

Ciesielski will oversee the K-12 principals’ instructional leadership initiatives and the director of Technology and Innovation.

“This will help us align our district improvement goals and school improvement goals with our strategic planning and long term goals,” Hartley said.

The executive director of Teaching and Learning will lead the efforts in improving our student academic growth, overseeing our curriculum, instruction and assessment initiatives.

“Heidie will lead our teacher professional development plan and be the bridge between our staff and the resources available in the district, county and state,” Hartley said.

“Heidie brings an enormous amount of experience to this position in the areas of supervision, curriculum development, instructional practices, and assessment alignment. She is a dynamic leader that cares for our students and understands where we are as a school district and what we must to do to grow.”

Ciesielski said, “I am very excited about this position and the opportunity it provides to make an impact in our district in the areas of teaching and learning. It is a wonderful chance to help augment the already wonderful things we have going on in the classroom, and to implement some new and exciting initiatives which will spotlight Fenton as a lighthouse district in the county and state.”
officers management in the state capital, David Ige, civil defense and emergency
played at a news conference by Governor
up hearing it on a regular basis — was
— familiar to older generations who grew
Honolulu prepares for another strike
effort spanned four long years and cost
United States and Japan. The American
recognizing the state of war between the
asked Congress to approve a resolution
tempting to repulse the attack.
2,400 Americans were killed and 1,200
sunk or severely damaged, and more than
destroyers, and seven other ships were
as a devastating surprise to the naval base.
alarm. Thus, the Japanese air assault came
at the time, they were told to sound no
of B-17s expected from the United States
flight
the island from the north, but, with a
flight
large groups of aircraft in
toward
7:02 a.m., two radar operators spotted
military personnel had been given passes
Continued from Page 5
BOMBED
The surprise attack struck a critical blow
against the U.S. Pacific fleet and drew the
United States irrevocably into World War II.
With diplomatic negotiations with Ja
breaking down, President Franklin D.
Roosevelt (FDR) and his advisers knew
that an imminent Japanese attack was
probable, but nothing had been done to
increase security at the important naval
base at Pearl Harbor.
It was Sunday morning, and many
military personnel had been given passes
to attend religious services off base. At
7:02 a.m., two radar operators spotted
large groups of aircraft in flight toward
the island from the north, but, with a flight
of B-17s expected from the United States
at the time, they were told to sound no
alarm. Thus, the Japanese air assault came
as a devastating surprise to the naval base.
Much of the Pacific fleet was rendered
useless. Five of eight battleships, three
destroyers, and seven other ships were
sunk or severely damaged, and more than
200 aircraft were destroyed. A total of
2,400 Americans were killed and 1,200
were wounded, many while valiantly at-
tempting to repulse the attack.
After a brief and forceful speech, FDR
asked Congress to approve a resolution
recognizing the state of war between the
United States and Japan. The American
contribution to the successful Allied war
effort spanned four long years and cost
more than 400,000 American lives.
Honolulu.
Ige said he believed Hawaii was the
first in the nation to reintroduce statewide
nuclear siren drills.
The announcement, though planned
weeks earlier, came hours after North
Korea’s latest test launch of an interconti-
nental ballistic missile, which flew about
1,000 kilometers (620 miles) before land-
ing in the Sea of Japan. The Pentagon said
the rocket posed no danger to the United
States, its territories or allies.
But state emergency management au-
thorities said they decided in recent months
to reactivate the state’s nuclear attack sirens
for the first time since the 1980s after experts
decided some of North Korea’s
missiles were capable of reaching Hawaii.
It did happen, a single 150-kiloton
weapon detonated over Pearl Harbor on
the main island of Oahu would be ex-
pected to kill 18,000 people outright and
leave 50,000 to 120,000 others injured
across a blast zone several miles wide,
state Emergency Management Agency
officials have said.
While casualties of that scale would
be unprecedented on U.S. soil, an agency
fact sheet stressed that 90 percent of Ha-
waii’s 1.4 million-plus residents would
survive “the direct effects of such an
explosion.”
Calling the North Korea threat a “new
normal,” Ige said, “Possibility of attack
today is very remote, but we do believe
that it’s important that we be proactive,
that we plan and are prepared for every
possibility moving forward.”
Sources: history.com; reuters.com

New principal at AGS Middle School

By Hannah Ball

Students at Fenton’s AGS
Middle School will have a
new principal starting this
summer.

Eric Rettenmund, the
current assistant principal,
will take the reins of the
school starting July 1, 2018.
This comes after current
principal, Heidie Ciesielski,
accepted the job of executive
director of the Department of Teaching and
Learning.

I am obviously very excited about
the opportunity. I am very honored
and humbled that Dr. Hartley and the Fenton
Board of Education have the confidence
in me to put me in that position,” Retten-
mund said. “I’m excited to continue to
work with Heidie in a different capacity.
I feel very fortunate to be able to con-
tinue my career, this journey, at GAS.

Eric Rettenmund

Eric Rettenmund accepts
top position at school

Sources: history.com; reuters.com
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**LOTTO**

Continued from Front Page

“My kids heard me and came running upstairs to check on me and then they started jumping around. My 6-year-old asked me how many zeros would be on my check.”

Nicaj visited Lottery headquarters to claim his prize last Friday. With his winnings, he plans to pay bills and set some money aside for each of his six children.

“Winning feels good because it helps. It takes away so much stress and pressure,” Nicaj said.

Powerball plays may be purchased for $2 each at Lottery retailers across the state and online at MichiganLottery.com.

“Winning feels good because it helps. It takes away so much stress and pressure.”

Edmond Nicaj, 41, of Tyrone Township

**SHAPIRO**

Continued from Front Page

“The judge even said this doesn’t sound like a typical criminal act, but more like someone who was deeply hurt by two people close to him,” he said.

Shapiro said anyone who says they have never been broken-hearted and done something uncharacteristic because of it is lying. “These types of emotions are not really characteristic of who you are,” he said.

Shapiro said he is very involved in the community, serving on boards and as a mentor. He said he also serves on the board for Elie’s Place which works with children experiencing losses.

“I do this because I want to, not because I have to,” said Shapiro.

“It’s unfortunate that a very personal emotion was played out publicly,” he said. “I regret my emotional reaction to the immoral actions of someone I once considered a close friend.”

Shapiro said he also suspects those who did it were just happy when he ousted their candidate of choice in the August 2016 primary election politically motivated the pursuance of this case.

“Always, I will not allow a politically motivated vendetta to prevent me from doing my job for my constituents,” Shapiro said.

Recap of events

It all began after the Memorial Day weekend. Shapiro, who was a Fenton Township resident at the time, was accused of blasting loud music and shouting outside the home of his fiancé’s new boyfriend on Silver Lake.

When the boyfriend came out to investigate, Shapiro, who was allegedly holding two bottles of what was believed to be liquor, and accompanied by a friend, started making rude gestures and swearing at the man.

The man told police the disturbances were an ongoing issue with Shapiro and that he did not want the situation to get worse.

Shapiro said this week that the man was a one-time good friend, who began a relationship with his ex-fiancée within days of their break-up. The accusations that this was “racially motivated” because of the ethnic differences between Shapiro and the other man are ridiculous, he said.

**GUNMEN**

Continued from Front Page

deputies responded to the home in the 7000 block of Chipmunk Hollow for a home invasion, which had just occurred.

Upon arrival, deputies made contact with the 63-year-old Holly Township man and a 65-year-old Independence Township woman. The man told deputies that he and his girlfriend were watching TV in the basement when four male suspects, wearing ski masks and brandishing firearms, ran down the basement stairs and held them at gunpoint.

The suspects tied up the victims using zip ties on their wrists and ankles and then demanded money. The man said he previously owned a marijuana dispensary and believed the home invasion was related to that business. He claims he is no longer in that business due to a male individual known to him who was pressuring him to sell him marijuana plants, which he refused.

During the home invasion, the Holly Township man was assaulted by the suspects who had kicked him repeatedly to his rib cage. The suspects also poured gasoline on the victims, threatening to set them and the house on fire if they did not give them money.

The suspects stole $7,200 in cash from the victim’s home.

Independence Fire Department paramedics transported the man to a local hospital for a non-life-threatening injury to his ribs. He was listed in stable condition. Deputies transported the woman to a friend’s home.

A sheriff’s K-9 Unit responded to the scene and established a track, which was later terminated when it was determined the suspects fled the area possibly in a white van. An evidence technician responded to process the scene. The incident has been turned over to detectives for further investigation.
LFLF gymnastics team captures first invitational of the season at Holt

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

The season has just begun and the Lake Fenton/Linden/Fenton co-op gymnastics team is already a champion.

The squad won its first invitational of the year at Holt with a team score of 139.9.

“Going into our first competition I didn’t have many expectations for the girls,” LFLF gymnastics coach Nancy Holden said. “We have only practiced for a short four weeks and that is not a lot of time to get competition ready. My plan was to just use this as a warm up meet and get the girls thinking through their routines and get in competition mode. We were up against a lot of great teams. ... When we totaled up our team score at the end we were all pumped to have almost hit our goal score of 140, at our very first meet of the season.”

The squad was paced by senior co-captain Blake Hutchings. Hutchings finished first in the all-around with a score of 36.2. She placed first on the vault (9.275) and the bars (9.05).

Lady Bronchos off to a quick 2-0 start

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

Rebecca Fugate has been a superstar for the first two seasons of her varsity girls basketball career.

But with each season, she had to share some of the offensive leadership roles with a strong senior.

While she’s still only a junior, there’s no question who teams will be watching out for this winter when Holly comes to town — Fugate.

While she’s a known performer, that didn’t keep Fugate from outscoring Lakeland in the team’s 31-20 opening-season victory against Lakeland on Friday. Fugate and the Bronchos also had a strong second game, defeating Lake Orion 39-29 on Monday.

“She’s scoring and getting people into their places and things,” Holly varsity girls basketball coach David Hall said. “She’s scoring but she’s not taking a ton of shots. She’s balancing her baskets from the perimeter to close to the basket. She’s getting assists to kids and finding the open people.”

The Bronchos took control against Lake Orion immediately, taking an 11-0 lead into the second quarter and a 15-3 lead into the half. Lake Orion battled back with a stronger second half, scoring 26 points in the final 16 minutes, but the Bronchos held on to collect the win.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Blue Devils victorious in season opener

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

As far as first games go, Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren had to be pleased with what he saw out of his Blue Devils during their first game of the season against Imlay City.

The Blue Devils’ offense was strong, scoring at least 12 points in every quarter, and the defense had its moments as well in a 63-39 road victory at Imlay City.

The Blue Devils started the game impressively, using a balanced offense among Hannah Garty (six points), Katelyn Siebert (five points) and Morgan Furey (three points), and scored 14 first-period points. However, the defense was probably better than the offense, holding Imlay City to just three points.

“Our team defense was consistent and we began very active,” VanBuren said. “We were solid defensively, only missing a couple tasks inside.”

Imlay City played its best portion of the game in the second quarter, outscoring the Blue Devils 14-13 during that eight-minute stanza. However, the Blue Devils entered the break leading 27-17.

Any thoughts Imlay City had about getting back into the contest ended quickly in the third quarter as Lake Fenton scored 24 third-quarter points.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM
Out-of-towners take top spots in JingleJog

**LF runners finish 2-3 overall in 5K event**

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

Saturday’s beautiful weather ended up making it a great day for the 2017 Fenton JingleJog, and runners took advantage.

Over 300 competed in either the 5K run or walk recording one of the best attended events in JingleJog history.

The two 5K winners were not from the tri-county area. Robbie Hohman, who runs cross country at Calvin College, took first overall in 16:38. Meanwhile, Lake Orion’s Jennifer Blindert was the women’s overall winner in 20:18, finishing fourth overall.

The male masters winner was Tony Ketchmark (20:49), who placed sixth overall while Ortonville’s Liz Hendershott took first for the female masters (23:31), placing 29th overall.

Lynette Heinlein was the top walker to finish the event, finishing in 31:58. The men’s winner was Bradley Foutch (45:39), who took ninth overall.

Finishing just right behind Hohman in the 5K men’s race were two Lake Fenton cross country runners. Tommy Hufnol placed second (16:48), while Eric Niestroy was third (17:19). The overall victor in the 5K race was Robbie Hohman (right). He finished the race in 16:38.

Canton’s Amber Dernymer (20:56) was Blindert’s top competition, finishing as the second female and in eighth overall.

Fenton’s Liz Minoxx (22:51) was the races third female finisher while Fenton’s Kristen Dean (23:14) was fourth.

Hendershott was the fifth woman finisher. Hendershott’s top competition for the female master’s title was Linden’s Meredith Ollis (24:05) while Fenton’s Tracey Sahouuri was third in the masters division (24:28).

**TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS**

(Above) Many runners in the Fenton JingleJog dressed up in appropriate holiday clothing. The overall victor in the 5K race was Robbie Hohman (right). He finished the race in 16:38.

**United edges out Griffins in overtime, 5-4**

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

The winter sports season may have just begun, but the tri-county area experienced its first critical area hockey contest last week.

The United co-op — consisting of players from Lake Fenton, Holly, Kearsley and Brandon — overcame an early 3-0 deficit against the Fenton/Linden Griffins, earning a 5-4 overtime victory at Hartland Sports Center.

Trailing by three, United scored four goals in the second period, taking a 4-3 lead. Fenton/Linden forced overtime with a third-period goal.

Dru Sweers led United with two goals and two assists. One of them was the game-winning goal in overtime.

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**Linden girls playing hard, but drop two games**

Looking at the record, it would be easy to think the Linden varsity girls basketball team is off to a slow start.

But Linden varsity girls basketball coach Ben Vaner wouldn’t agree. True, the Eagles have lost both of their first two contests, but they were to Class A power Hartland and a strong Powers Catholic squad. And, for the most part, Vaner has liked what he’s seen despite opening the season with a 61-12 loss at Hartland and a 46-20 loss at Powers.

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**LF drops contest vs. Northwest in OT, 60-56**

The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team suffered its first heartbreaking loss of the season in its first home contest of the year on Friday.

The Blue Devils suffered a loss to the Lutheran Northwest Crusaders in overtime 60-56.

Tied at 52 entering the overtime, the Blue Devils (1-1) scored the first two points of the overtime when Haley Wittetec assisted a Katelyn Siebert bucket.

**CONTINUED AT>** TCTIMES.COM

**PREP REPORT**

**BOYS BOWLING**
- Clio 26, Fenton 4: Fenton won the first Baker game by a point. Tate Temrowski led the Tigers with games of 160 and 138. Jackson Racette bowled a 159.
- Owosso 26, Holly 4: Eddie Sanner led the Bronchos with a 222 game while Zach Miller shot a 208 and Braden Wilson a 158.

**GIRLS BOWLING**
- Clio 27, Fenton 3: Fenton was paced by Angela Hanners who bowled a person-best 382 two-game series. She had a high game of 204. Ashlyn Bristol bowled a 193.

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**
- Lake Fenton JV 48, Imlay City 22: Christina Lamb led the Blue Devils with 18 points while Aubrey Fray and Macy Phillips netted 10 points each.
- Lake Fenton JV 46, Lutheran Northwest 20: The victory improved the Blue Devils to 2-0 overall.

**HOCKEY**
- United 8, Southgate Anderson 0: United made it three straight wins as Alec Copeland finished with three goals in the victory. Colby Polutanovich had two goals while Noah Bolton, A.J. Incammicia and Dru Sweers had a goal each. Sweers and Drew Hobson had two assists each while Bolton, MacGregor Hepburn, Incammicia and Polutanovich each had one assist each. Tyler Keller made 15 saves in net.
- United 7, Mid-Michigan 6: Dru Sweers scored two short-handed goals and had three assists in United’s victory. Alec Copeland and Colby Polutanovich (one assist) had two goals each while Drew Hobson had a goal and an assist. MacGregor Hepburn had two assists while Devin Smith had an assist. Tyler Keller made 26 saves in net.

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Horoscopes

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
An outburst of creativity may surprise those close to you, but this week you just may need an outlet. Channel this energy into a project you have been hoping to complete.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Your poker face is on this week, Taurus. Keep things close to the vest as you have a surprise to announce and don’t want to spill the beans prematurely.

GEMINI
May 22/Jun 21
You can’t seem to sit still this week, Gemini. Get outdoors and take a hike or engage in another form of physical activity. Enjoy getting outside for some fun and fresh air.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, a drastic shift in direction at work can catch you off guard at first, especially since you’ve been comfortable. But this challenge can provide greater opportunities.

Leo
Jul 23/Aug 23
Impatience will not serve you well this week, Leo. There is no room for shortcuts, so buckle down and devote yourself to the tasks at hand, even if they take a while.

Virgo
Aug 24/Sept 22
A partnership might hint at a rough patch this week, Virgo. But it isn’t anything serious. Commit to working things out and you will have benefited from this experience.

Libra
Sept 23/Oct 22
Libra, an unexpected turn of events spices things up in the coming days. Enjoy this change of pace but do your best to stay grounded throughout the tumult.

Scorpio
Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, controlled chaos is the source of your inspiration this week. Ruffle a few feathers, but make sure you do so in a productive and effective way.

Sagittarius
Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, the solution to a problem you have had for awhile will come to you this week. This immediately makes you more comfy allows you to focus on recreation.

Capricorn
Dec 22/Jan 20
Assignments at work take precedence this week, Capricorn. Do your best to navigate your way through a lengthy to-do list. Don’t let distractions get in your way.

Aquarius
Jan 21-Feb 18
Aquarius, living in your imagination helps you drum up creative ideas, but this week you have to periodically reconnect with reality. Shift the focus to work or family.

Pisces
Feb 19/Mar 20
The road to satisfaction can’t be found on a GPS device, Pisces. You have to do some soul-searching and figure out what you want.

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Wednesday Sudoku

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Answers in this Sunday’s edition of the Tri-County Times

This Sudoku Puzzle Sponsored By

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Wednesday Jumble

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

GUESS WHO?

Diane Ducat
248-882-3180

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KW KellerWilliams

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Wednesday Crossword

ACROSS
1 Use an old phone
5 Plastic user’s accumulation
9 Yon bloke
12 Resting
13 Neighborhood
14 Expert
15 Shipwreck site
16 Ancient
17 Say it’s OK
18 It’s right on the map
19 Shell game need
20 Took the bus
21 — Canto
23 Mainlander’s memento
25 Flower cluster
28 Huckle or
29 Bonfire residue
32 Baking potato
due
33 Any of four
ing the chase
35 Soft cheese
36 Last syllable of a word
37 Ultra- modernist

DOWN
48 Fond du lac — horse
49 Abrupt
50 Fed
51 Bonfire residue
53 Dryer collection
54 How come?
55 Celio
59 Body art, for short
10 On the rocks
11 Apportionment
12 Overact
20 90 degrees
21 Bocelli showstopper
22 American
24 Overcoat
30 Doctrine
31 Greek H
35 Dairy-section
36 Overcoat
39 Talon
40 Whip
41 Score
42 Peaked
43 Boca
44 Aware of
45 Eastern
46 Bigwig
47 Lettman’s employer
48 Neighbor-

Bennon

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GUESS WHO?

David Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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