Gone too soon...

But will always be remembered

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

As 2017 comes to a close, many families will look back on the year with sorrow as they remember loved ones who have died. Although there were numerous deaths in the area, here are just some of the individuals who made the news pages of the Times with their passing.

Donald Winglemire

Donald Winglemire, patriarch of the Winglemire family that has owned Winglemire Furniture in Holly for more than 100 years, was a proud veteran and served on the Holly Village Council. He died on Jan. 17 of natural causes.

Kevin Haas

Kevin Haas, 63, of Linden, died in a car crash near Lansing on Feb. 18. Three others lost their lives in the same accident.

Steven Dale Brown

Steven Dale Brown, 60, of Fenton Township, took his own life in his garage on Feb. 20. He was facing federal charges of child porn at the time of his death.

See REMEMBERED on 4B

Newsworthy court cases

From fraud, to animal abuse, assault and homicide, tri-county area sees variety of crimes in 2017

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

Eric and Angela Corcoran of Deerfield Township were sentenced to three years probation in February after being convicted of second-degree child abuse for isolating their adopted son.

See CRIMES on 10B

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Community loves its dogs

Two in particular found themselves on the front pages

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

The only thing he did wrong was grow old and become confused about his whereabouts.

R.I.P. Capone

The story of the 16-year-old dog named Capone being euthanized at Genesee County Animal Control made its rounds on the internet in June.

Todd MacDonnell, a Linden resident, found Capone around noon wandering the streets by Sagebrush Cantina. "He was walking across the street. He had on an orange harness and obviously he was owned," he said. "I didn’t know how long he had been roaming around. He was whining on the way up, could have been thirsty or scared. He was getting up and down on the seat in my work truck. He obviously wasn’t that bad, he was moving around." On Love for Louie, a lost and found online page for pets, MacDonell posted a photo of Capone in his car, asking if anyone could identify him or if they knew the owners.

MacDonell dropped Capone off at 1:15 p.m. at Genesee County Animal Control. While at work, he got a message from someone who knew the owners of the dog. MacDonell called GCAC and gave them the owner’s information.

When Marissa Mayberry, the ex-girlfriend of the owner, who had lived with Capone for years, called less than an hour later, she was told by the GCAC that Capone was unstable and they were worried he wouldn’t make it around the other dogs. "They were worried his heart would give out. But it was 70-something degrees out and he was wandering along for who knows how long. Any dog would be scared to death," she said.

When MacDonell found out, he said, "It was obviously upsetting. It was a very friendly, a very loving dog," he said. MacDonell private messaged the GCAC as well to express his displeasure. A manager called him on Wednesday, he said, and explained that the dog was old and in a lot of agony.

"That was what swayed them to put him down," MacDonell said. He hopes this situation would encourage pet owners to get their animals micro-chipped and make sure they wear up-to-date tags.

Genesee County Commissioner Drew Shapiro said the dog had a degenerative spinal disease, couldn’t move his back legs, and was in terrible condition. "If I would have left that animal in a cage for 12 hours — he couldn’t move, couldn’t turn around, couldn’t get comfortable — that would have been animal cruelty," he said.

If they put him under anesthesia, he might not wake up due to his old age.

Happy ending for Harvey Dent

Harvey Dent, the approximately 9-month-old blind puppy whose previous owner burned, tortured and abused, found a loving new home with Megan and Jacob Pawloski of Fenton.

On Love for Louie, a lost and found online page for pets, MacDonell posted a photo of Capone in his car, asking if anyone could identify him or if they knew the owners. MacDonell dropped Capone off at 1:15 p.m. at Genesee County Animal Control. While at work, he got a message from someone who knew the owners of the dog. MacDonell called GCAC and gave them the owner’s information.

When Marissa Mayberry, the ex-girlfriend of the owner, who had lived with Capone for years, called less than three hours later, at 4 p.m., Capone had already been euthanized. Mayberry was told by the GCAC that Capone was unstable and they were worried he wouldn’t make it around the other dogs. "They were worried his heart would give out. But it was 70-something degrees out and he was wandering along for who knows how long. Any dog would be scared to death," she said.

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The lighter side of the Times...

People make news every day, with heart-warming, human interest stories that bring hope, inspiration and laughter

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

The news happening around us isn’t all bad news — there’s actually a lot of good news and uplifting stories about people who are doing interesting things in their lives.

In fact, there’s a story inside everyone, as you’ll see when you read about these local folks who made news of their own in 2017.

Jan. 3 — Holly resident enjoys ‘Pickers’ experience

Holly’s own John Lauve was featured in the Times after his appearance on the popular History Channel reality show, “American Pickers.”

His segment was filmed in June 2016 and aired on Monday, Dec. 26, 2016. His episode was titled “Risks and Rewards.”

Feb. 15 — Playing dodgeball can save a firefighter’s life

Firefighters were in full gear for a few hours on Feb. 8, wearing oxygen masks as they whipped playground balls at each other. These training exercises helped them
REMEMBERED
Continued from Page 1B

Brady Morris
Brady Morris, 18, was shot to death in the back of the head on March 4. He was staying at a friend’s house in Fenton Township. That friend is accused of killing him and is currently moving through the court system for this crime.

Troy Stillwell
Troy Stillwell, 20, of Holly, suffered a fatal heart attack while playing basketball at The River Church in Holly.

Andy Greene
Capt. Andy Greene, 30, a 12-year veteran of the Village of Holly Fire Department lost his battle with Merkle Cell Carcinoma, a rare skin cancer that he was diagnosed with in 2015.

Jim Hall
Jim Hall, 52, well-known local businessman, died unexpectedly on April 14 at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

Jerome Tortomasia
Jerome Tortomasia, 73, of Macomb County, died in a car crash (see above) on May 9 that killed five people.

Linda K. Hurley
Linda K. Hurley, 69, of Macomb County, died in the car crash (see above) on May 9 that killed five people.

Joseph Kosik, Sr.
Joseph Kosik, Sr. of Lake Angelus, became a beloved member of the community when he was euthanized by Genesee Animal Control on June 6, less than three hours after his arrival.

Leslie P. Bland
Leslie “Les” P. Bland, 70, died of a sudden illness on June 18. He was a 40-plus year veteran of the Fenton Department of Public Works, most recently as director. He also served on the Fenton City Council.

Frankie Messina
Frankie Messina, 27, of Fenton Township, died on June 21 as a result of injuries he sustained in a truck crash on I-96 near Novi.

Dennis Schaefter
Dennis Schaefter, 56, of Fenton Township, lost his battle with cancer on July 7. Schaefter was founder and owner of Creative Wood Products, and a well-known community activist.

Mary Ann Barnes
Mary Ann Barnes, 65, was stabbed to death in her home on Aug. 22. Her death was at the hand of her grandson, Steven Wilkerson, 15, who committed suicide by train later in the day.

Steve Calvin Wilkerson
Steve Calvin Wilkerson, 15, of Holly, committed suicide in front of a train on Aug. 22. This was after stabbing his grandmother, Mary Ann Barnes, 65 in her home.

Edward A. Krezeminski
Edward A. Krezeminski, 81, of Fenton died on Aug. 23 of natural causes. He was a former Fenton City Councilman and a lieutenant with the Genesee County Sheriff Reserves.

Eric French
Eric French, 24, of Holly, died after being electrocuted while doing some work in the rafters at Spirit Life Christian Church in Oceola Township, on Aug. 27.

Julie Persons
Julie Persons, 47, was found on Sept. 21 after overdosing on heroin. It is believed she died about 10 days earlier in a trailer at Lake Ponemah Mobile Home Park. Her ex-live-in-boyfriend was charged with failing to transport a dead body.

Dale Hagerman
Dale Hagerman, 90, of Fenton Township, died of natural causes on Oct. 9. He was a veteran and founder (1975) of Diplomat Pharmacy.

Mark Harvey Elmer
Mark Harvey Elmer, 57, of Fenton Township, died as a result of a boating accident on Lake Fenton on Oct. 10.

Justine McCluskey and unborn daughter “Justice Jenna”
Justine McCluskey, 32, of Holly, and her unborn daughter “Justice Jenna” died as a result of Justine’s injuries in a car accident that happened on Oct. 26.

Michael Joseph Martus
Michael Joseph Martus, Michael Joseph Martus, 67, of South Lyon, died after his tractor trailer collided with another vehicle on U.S. 23 in Tyrone Township.

Tyler Sadler
Tyler Sadler, 20, of Fenton Township, died suddenly on Nov. 19 of what authorities suspect was a drug overdose.

Ryoji Aoki
Ryoji Aoki, 33, of Detroit, was found deceased on Dec. 16 in Hartland Township. It is believed he may have been dead since Dec. 6 of yet-to-be determined causes.

Scott Graham
Scott Graham, 32, of Groveland Township, died on Dec. 19 as a result of a truck crash on Dixie Highway in Groveland Township.

Christopher Anthony Stone
Christopher Anthony Stone, 29, of New Jersey, died in a Hartland Township house fire on Dec. 19.

Dwight Fitzgerald
Dwight Fitzgerald, 65, of Fenton died on Saturday, Dec. 23, of natural causes. He was a long-time teacher at Fenton High School and local driver’s education teacher.

Jim Hall, 52, well-known local businessman, died unexpectedly on April 14 at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Harold and June Rupright, 82, and June Rupright, 70, of Clio were involved in a fatal car crash in Tyrone Township on April 25. Harold died on the 23rd and June died two days later, on April 25.

Justin Andrew Humberto Henderson
Justin Andrew Humberto Henderson, 18, of Fenton, died from injuries he sustained in a car crash that claimed the lives of five people on May 9 in Livingston County. Matthew Carrier, 21, of Fenton, who allegedly caused the crash, is currently moving through the court system.

Preston Wetzel
Preston Wetzel, 24, of Fenton, died in the car crash (see above) on May 9 that killed five people.

Candice Dunn
Candice Dunn, 26, of Oakland County, died in the car crash (see above) on May 9 that killed five people.

Leslie “Les” P. Bland
Leslie “Les” P. Bland, 70, died of a sudden illness on June 18. He was a 40-plus year veteran of the Fenton Department of Public Works, most recently as director. He also served on the Fenton City Council.

Andrew Nicholson
Andrew Nicholson, 19, of Holly, died as a result of a work accident on May 23.

Elmer Metras
Elmer Metras, 73, of Fenton Township drowned in Lake Fenton on May 30. Police believe a health issue may have caused his collapse into the water.

Capone
Capone, 16, was not a human, but became a beloved member of the community when he was euthanized by Genesee Animal Control on June 6, less than three hours after his arrival.

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Preston Wetzel, 24, of Fenton, died in the car crash (see above) on May 9 that killed five people.

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Andrew Nicholson
Andrew Nicholson, 19, of Holly, died as a result of a work accident on May 23.
Fenton man faces life in prison

Charged with killing five people, injuring three in May crash — alcohol suspected

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

In a blink of an eye, five people were killed and three others were injured in a “horrific” car crash at 10:40 p.m. on May 9.

Matthew Carrier, 22, of Fenton, will soon be going to trial in Livingston County Circuit Court facing 19 felonies connected to that car crash.

He has been charged with five counts of second-degree murder, five counts of operating a vehicle while intoxicated (OWI) causing death, two counts of OWI causing serious injury, five counts of driving with a suspended license causing death and two counts of driving with a suspended license causing serious injury.

Bond was denied and he remains lodged in the Livingston County Jail. Second-degree murder is punishable by imprisonment for life, or any term of years, at the discretion of the court.

Carrier’s next court date is Jan. 5, 2018 where the defense will present its case.

The Michigan State Police-Brighton Post responded to the crash, which happened at the intersection of M-59 and Argentine Road. Responders described the crash scene as “horrible.”

Investigators allege that Carrier was speeding and ran the stop sign on southbound Argentine Road at the M-59 intersection and crashed into the other car traveling east on M-59. Carrier’s license was suspended at the time of the crash, according to the Secretary of State.

Investigators have said that Carrier was traveling in excess of 100 miles per hour and his blood alcohol level was well over the legal limit at the time of the crash.

Those killed include Justin Andrew Humberto Henderson, 18, and Preston Wetzel, 24, both of Fenton, Candice Dunn, 36, of Oakland County, along with her mother, Linda Hurley, 69, of Macomb County and Hurley’s boyfriend, Jerome Tortomasia, 73, of Macomb County.

Those injured include Kyle Lixie, 23, of Fenton, and Albert Boswell, 39, of Oakland County, who was driving the second car.

MATTHEW CARRIER’S MOTHER

UPDATE FROM

Carrier’s mother, Stephanie Allen of Fenton, said that her son has been “putting up with a lot of crap in there. He’s going to church, and alcohol and drug meetings.”

“He’s dealing with all kinds of other things as well but he’s trying to make the best of this and stay strong. He’s trying to become a trustee in the department where when they have people who are suicidal, he stands outside the door and sits out there, and tries to help them and comfort them. He’s trying to be a drug and alcohol counselor.

“He plans on making use of his time while in jail and in prison, getting degrees and helping others. He did get arrested in jail for going off on the officers and the doctors when he was told that he wasn’t allowed to get any more surgeries and that his leg will never be the same and his body will never be the same because of his injuries.

“It’s very sad that this happened. He’s still very upset about it. He still has days where he can’t believe it’s really happening. Sometimes I just can’t believe it’s really happening either.”

HOT LINE CONTINUED

PEOPLE, PLEASE SHOVEL your sidewalks. Whether you’re a business owner or not, you can be fined for not doing it. Just clear them.

IN THE MOST recent Times, a caller was upset about voters being bused into Alabama. Where is that person coming up with this? Come up with facts if you’re going to make comments like that.

I’M GOING TO start watching football again. First off, it’s a salute of the warrior. Secondly, it’s passive resistance. Third, it is the power of the people, just as in the book of the same name.

SO GLAD THAT our financial advisor told us that we are going to be very pleased when we see how much we’re going to save with Trump’s tax cut. For those who side with the Democrats, feel free to keep paying more.

THE REASON WE have snow days is because it’s too dangerous for our children to be out there on the roads.

So whoever is complaining about the unions, it’s not them who make that decision. Get your facts straight before you call.

IT IS A new day in America due to the passing of the tax reform package. Already, AT&T has announced that 200,000 of its employees are going to get $1,000 Christmas bonus. Many other companies are promising new investments well into the billions. The do-nothing Democrats stood on the sidelines and did nothing.

THE STOCK MARKET is at an all-time high. House purchasing levels are at the biggest level in 11 years. Unemployment is at the lowest in 17 years. Consumer confidence, corporate confidence is at a 30-year high. This is all due to the winning attitude of Donald Trump.

WHY ARE YOU blaming the Demo-crats for high taxes on businesses that are leaving the state? There’s been a Republican in the governor’s office and in Congress for the last three or four years. You’d think they would have done something about it by now if it were a problem.

SUMMARY

The court case of Matthew Carrier, 22, of Fenton, will continue on Jan. 5, 2018 in Livingston County. He’s been charged with killing five people and injuring three others in a crash in May.

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Times
2017 MEMORABLE PHOTOS
PUBLISHED IN THE TRI-COUNTY TIMES

News and feature photos should “show” the viewer the events, news, color and emotions of their own community. This year was full of events, new and familiar, and a fair share of tragedy. Mostly, the photos display small town, Midwest living while longtime residents grapple with sometimes uncomfortable growth.
Most read stories of 2017

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

This year, the Times editorial staff wrote about murder, train accidents, meth labs, dead bodies found after 10 days, and tortured animals. The Times website, tctimes.com, amassed 3,529,699 page views over the year. Here are the 10 most read stories of 2017.

1. Man dies after severing leg on boat prop
Views — 13,891
On Oct. 12, Mark Harvey Elmer, 57, of Fenton died after severing his leg on a boat propeller while helping a friend get the boat out of the water.

Reach: 8,200
Reactions: 1,100
Comments: 279
Shares: 214

2. Fenton officials choose to “do nothing”
On May 1, the Fenton City Council chose not to allow medical marijuana facilities by not creating an ordinance to allow them.

Reach: 46,300
Reactions: 380
Comments: 387
Shares: 97

3. Fenton Township man arrested for child porn
On Feb. 17, Steven Dale Brown, 60, was arrested for having hundreds of child pornographic images on his work computer.

Reach: 44,800
Reactions: 483
Comments: 244
Shares: 270

4. Linden’s Taco Bell final site plan approved
At the May 1 meeting, the Linden Planning Commission approved the final site plan for the 2,169-square-foot building, which is now up and running.

Reach: 37,700
Reactions: 190
Comments: 162
Shares: 137

5. Akl’s attorney requests new competency exam
On Aug. 9, defense attorney Frank Manley requested a third competency exam be completed for teen murder suspect Abdurrahman (Abdu) Ahmed Akl, 17, over the first two exams were contradictory.

Reach: 36,600
Reactions: 112
Comments: 95
Shares: 37

6. Two facing felonies for stabbing of Fenton man
On July 28, Justin Ryan Winslow, 22, of Caro, and Kathryn Marie Serra, 32, of Fenton Township, were involved in a stabbing incident that left a 28-year-old Fenton Township man seriously injured.

Reach: 36,200
Reactions: 114
Comments: 57
Shares: 58

7. Parolee assaults couple at local hotel
On Aug. 5, Michael Fisk, 41, formerly of Flint, was involved in a felonious assault after allegedly attacking and choking a man and woman in a Comfort Inn hotel room on Silver Parkway.

Reach: 35,400
Reactions: 136
Comments: 52
Shares: 59

8. Victim pulled from Lake Fenton Hot View — 16,086
On May 9, then 21-year-old Matthew Carrier was allegedly drunk driving and caused a crash that killed five people in Livingston County. On July 12, he was arraigned on five counts of second-degree murder, five counts of operating a vehicle while intoxicated (OWI) causing death, two counts of OWI causing serious injury, five counts of driving with a suspended license causing death and two counts of driving with a suspended license causing serious injury.

9. Victim pulled from Lake Fenton Views — 14,543
On May 30, the Fenton Township Fire Department pulled a deceased individual from the DNR public launch site on Lake Fenton. He was later identified as Elmer Metras, 73, of Fenton Township.

10. Man dies after severing leg on boat prop
Views — 16,086
On Oct. 12, Mark Harvey Elmer, 57, of Fenton slipped when he was helping remove a boat from the water, and fell on the boat propeller. His leg was severed and Elmer was in full cardiac arrest when paramedics arrived. He died that day.

Reach: 387
Reactions: 97
Comments: 57
Shares: 58

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Holly area news in 2017

Progress, lawsuits, contentious issues define the news coverage of 2017

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

Holly, Holly Township and Rose Township make up the quiet northern border of Oakland County, but are never short of events — whether its dormant projects coming to life, or hard-hitting news. Here are some highlights from Holly area events in 2017.

HOLLY VILLAGE

The Holly community was saddened to learn of the death of Donald Winglemire on Jan. 11 at the age of 91. He was the patriarch of the Winglemire family, who have owned and operated Winglemire Furniture for more than 100 years. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, having served during World War II, he was also a longtime member of the Holly Village Council. Recently, the village won a legal victory as defendant in a class action lawsuit led by two village residents, contending that the water usage fees were illegal.

Village residents pay more than $30 each month for each piece of property, despite usage, for municipal water. An Oakland County Judge dismissed the case, stating that it was “lacking merit.”

Medical marijuana came to a council vote twice this year — once to postpone a decision on allowing medical marijuana facilities inside the village, and again in December, to re-open discussions on allowing a facility in the village. That vote failed, and as it stands, the matter will not be voted on again until the fall of 2018.

The crumbling and unsafe Holly Waterworks Park Building was slated for demolition, following a council vote in August. Oakland County commissioner and resident Bob Hoffman successfully argued to postpone the demolition as he sought other options to save the site. The facility contains the first public water distribution equipment in Oakland County. The grassroots effort has pulled in more than $30,000. They have until April 2018 to form a plan.

A tragedy on the train tracks occurred in August. The 15-year-old suspect in the stabbing death of his friend, a few hours later by a train. The body of Steven Kelvin Wilkerson, 15, was found near the train tracks near the intersection of South Saginaw and Railroad Streets.

Business development has continued in Holly. Highlights include Dawson Tire & Wheel opening on Grange Hall Road, new storefront downtown and the nursing and rehab center, Mission Point of Holly, opening in January.

HOLLY TOWNSHIP

The township initiated long-stagnant projects, and made some important changes to save money.

In May, the township followed suit with the village, and moved board meetings to the Karl Richter Campus. Now village, township, and school board meetings are held in the same place.

Supervisor George Kullis said the move was prompted by the updated video streaming and public address systems, as well as ample parking and wheelchair accessibility at Karl Richter Campus.

The township has followed through with plans to rehabilitate the Holly Heritage Farmstead. The first phase is to restructure the foundation. The 80-ton structure was lifted off its foundation in September. An informal committee must come up with a master plan to determine funding needed, and chart a direction for the site.

The nine-year Smith family property dispute with the township essentially ended in February. The court battle cost the township thousands in legal fees, and in Timm Smith’s words, “It’s destroyed my life, my children’s life. It took their childhood away.”

The township executed several public works projects, including improving the drainage under the road at North Holly Road, which flooded frequently in heavy rain.

ROSE AND GROVELAND TOWNSHIPS

If you want to do goat yoga, the only place around is a converted barn in Rose Township, run by Ethis Yoga in Holly.

The Holly/Groveland Fire Department had an interesting case in February, when they had to wrangle an adult female ostrich that escaped into a frozen-over gravel pit in Groveland Township.

Speaking of gravel pits, the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission voted to create a plan to turn a set of gravel pits into an ORV park, in the next development of a long-awaited project.

Linden keeps taking steps for progress

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

In 2017, Linden has seen increased talks about developing the Union Block property, cleaning up the gasoline spill, and it passed a controversial front-yard parking ordinance.

Union Block

The Union Block property in downtown has been vacant since a fire destroyed the building in 2007, but Nicole Wax of Dr. Wax Orthodontics bought the property and has presented plans to the Linden City Council for a new building. In December, Wax said she wants to build a three-story, “amazing” building with an historic look. Conceptual plans include a restaurant on the first floor, Dr. Wax Orthodontics on the second, and condos on the third.

River walk talks begin

In August, the council started talks about developing property near the Department of Public Works site at 132 E. Broad St. and turn it into a river walk. City Manager Paul Zeleenak said the city could add more commercial and residential development and build a boardwalk along the river. The council discussed moving the current DPW site. There are no official plans yet. Development is in the conceptual stage.

Front-yard parking ordinance

In November, the council passed an ordinance prohibiting parking in front yards. Exceptions include special events, like graduations and holiday parties. This controversial ordinance is aimed at preventing people from driving mud into the streets.

See Linden on 16B
Biggest Fenton Township news of 2017

— Stories include road work, medical marijuana, and more —

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

From dogs parks to chickens and marijuana, here are the biggest stories that came out of Fenton Township in 2017.

Dog park opening

The dog park on Thompson Road, just east of Wiggins Road, officially opened Monday, Nov. 27. For approximately three years, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees were discussing the park, and now it’s open for dogs of all sizes. It was originally referred to as the Fenton Township Dog Park, but the name was changed to the Thompson Road Regional Dog Park when the cities of Fenton and Linden joined organizing and fundraising efforts approximately a year and a half ago.

The 2.2-acre area is part of a larger 26-acre park that the township hopes to turn into sports fields in the future.

Chickens

Fenton Township came under fire in April after Michael Krause was told he had to find a new home for the chickens on his property. Krause’s Hogan Road property in Fenton Township is not properly zoned for farm animals. The next court hearing is scheduled for Feb. 2, 2018.

A similar case is ongoing with township resident Andrew Charlesworth, who was cited for having illegal chickens on his Grove Park property. The case is currently going through the Genesee County District Court and a pre-trial is scheduled for Jan. 5, 2018.

These stories sparked debate in the tri-county area about the keeping of farm animals, zoning laws, and the township Master Plan.

Marijuana

In April, the Board of Trustees decided not to create an ordinance allowing medical marijuana facilities in the township. The Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act allows municipalities to license five types of facilities, including growers, processors, transporters, provisioning centers and safety compliance facilities.

By not creating an ordinance allowing them, these facilities are not allowed in the township. In August, the board voted 7-0 to create an ordinance prohibiting the possession of marijuana. The ordinance does not apply to lawful medical marijuana card carriers.

Thompson Road widening

Thompson Road, between U.S. 23 and Torrey Road, was widened to three lanes to allow for a center turn lane. Construction was finished in November. The entire project cost $1.42 million. The Michigan Department of Transportation paid $800,000, the Genesee County Road Commission paid $284,000 and Fenton Township paid $240,000.

Lahring Road bridge

While the Lahring Road bridge was damaged in 2016 after a truck struck the bottom of the bridge while traveling southbound, much of the repair work took place in 2017. Motorists had to find alternate routes, and the Michigan Department of Transportation closed U.S. 23 in the area when needed. MDOT invested $535,000 for repairs.

City of Fenton continues on path to prosperity

Big changes in 2017, and more coming in 2018

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

If the card players at Fenton’s newest sculpture could talk, they would likely say how proud they are of the city’s accomplishments in 2017.

Those card players, including Robert LeRoy and William Fenton, are seated at a sculpture called, “The Game.” The game depicts this infamous card game played by Fenton’s founding fathers, which resulted in the naming of the town. The sculpture, a gift from Phil and Jocelyn Hagerman, joins a number of other art pieces dotted throughout the downtown, courtesy of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Continued growth

The city of Fenton has continued growing and prospering in 2017. A number of new restaurants and retailers have opened their doors, while others have renovated and, in one case, did a complete do-over. That would be McDonald’s on Owenton Road. Owner Mark Pfau removed the old structure in August and a brand new one was in place and open for business by early December.

Fenton residents and visitors have been watching with anticipation as The Horizon Building goes up at the corner of Silver Lake Road and LeRoy Street. The three-story building being constructed by Rhoads & Johnson of Fenton, will be open in the summer of 2018. The third floor will be occupied by Serra Automotive and the second floor, The Horizon Group of Raymond James Financial Advisors. The first floor is open to future possibilities, retail or restaurant.

The start of construction on the second Cornerstone building, which will be built adjacent to Fenton United Methodist Church, is expected to begin this year. The CRUST expansion project was completed this year and the city is now looking forward to new developments in 2018.

See FENTON on 14B

YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By Dr. Steven Sulfaro

INSURANCE YEAR END

Many of our patients have some form of dental insurance and my team and I take great care to ensure that they take full advantage of and maximize their benefits to help them afford the dentistry they need. Most dental insurance policies allow for a certain dollar amount of coverage each year. If you do not use your benefit coverage during the year, you lose those benefits (unused benefits do not carry over to the year).

Our diagnosis and treatment for our patients is never dictated by the amount or type of dental insurance they may have but our experience has shown that careful planning can help our patients maximize their benefits.

My goal is to help our patients enjoy the benefits of good oral health, to look good, to feel good, to have strong healthy teeth and gums, and maintain a healthy and attractive smile that lasts a lifetime. Planning necessary treatment to maximize insurance benefits helps this goal to become reality. If you are considering treatment or are simply concerned about any aspect of your oral health, it would benefit you to schedule an appointment before the end of the year, before this year’s insurance benefits are lost.

If you have questions or concerns, or would like to schedule an appointment, please phone 248-634-4671 and talk to Cathy or Bonnie. They would be glad to help.

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

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CRIMES
Continued from Page 1B
in their basement in June 2016. The Livingston County judge had said in court that the 32 days the couple spent in jail was punishment enough.

Mark Diaz of Holly was charged in February with reckless driving and causing damage to Holly Academy property. Diaz was the president of the Detroit Police Officer’s Association at the time of the incident. In October, an Oakland County Circuit Court jury found him guilty of reckless driving for taking his police issued pickup truck and driving off-road on the school property. The jury acquitted him of the malicious destruction of a building charge. He served time and has been released from the Oakland County Jail.

Abdurrahman (Abdu) Ahmed Akl, 17, was found competent to stand trial for the March 4, 2017 shooting death of his friend, Brady Alan Morris, 18, who had been living at the Akl’s Fenton Township home on Lake Fenton. According to the autopsy report, it appears that Morris was shot from behind at point blank range on the top left side of his head. Akl is to appear in court on Jan. 18, 2018 for a probable cause conference. In May, along with an 11-year federal sentence, Michael LaJoice, 38, formerly of Tyrone Township, learned he will spend seven to 20 years in federal prison on embezzlement charges. Over the course of 12 years, LaJoice embezzled $18.6 million from the credit union he worked at in Brandon Township. He turned himself in to the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office on Jan. 6, 2016.

Matthew Dues, 36, Jennifer Young, 34 and Joshua Forsythe, 35, were arraigned on multiple 20-year felony counts of breaking and entering a motor vehicle involving his 3-year-old daughter and the child’s mother, which occurred in April.

Robert Dennis, 41, is currently serving a 30-50 year sentence each for four counts of criminal sexual conduct (CSC) with a minor under the age of 13. His earliest release date is February 2076. The charges stem from crimes committed in Oakland County in October 2010. Dennis was also convicted of CSC-first degree with a defendant under the age of 13 in Genesee County. His sentence is 25 to 50 years in prison. According to court records, Dennis assaulted someone he knew, a person under the age of 13, over a three-year period in Fenton.

John Tomlinson, 65, of Flint, is a hypnotherapist with an office in Grand Blanc Township. He has been accused of sexually assaulting three women patients undergoing hypnotherapy. A nurse testified in court earlier this month that a female victim said Tomlinson was “going up her pant leg and forcing her legs apart.” The nurse testified that the victim had signs of strangulation. The case was adjourned until Jan. 18, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

A second case against Tomlinson involves two additional victims and four counts of criminal sexual conduct second-degree. The case was bound over to Circuit Court. Tomlinson’s medical license has not been revoked and practice.

David Norris, 34, of Flint, was sentenced to three to 15 years in state prison after being convicted of second-degree home invasion at a home in Fenton Township on April 28. The Genesee County Sheriff’s Office said Norris’ accomplice was Michelle Ann Scott, 34, of Flint. Norris and Scott were arraigned in May.

Scott was charged with two counts of first-degree home invasion, two counts of breaking and entering a motor vehicle causing damage. Scott is currently being held in the Genesee County Jail on a $25,000 cash/surety bond. A jury acquitted Charles Raymond Warren, 70, of Waterford in May after he was charged with killing Michigan State Police Trooper Chad Wolf in October 2015. Warren faced two felony charges in Wolf’s death — reckless driving causing death and failure to stop at the scene of an accident causing death. He was acquitted of both in Oakland County Circuit Court. Wolf left behind a wife and four children.

Kody Brewer, 17, one of the defendants in the Linden school shooting plot, violated his probation a second time and could now go to prison. He is scheduled to be back in court on Jan. 17, 2018 for a show cause hearing. 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. Co-defendants Ryan Stevens, 20, spent nearly a year in the county jail before being sentenced to five years probation, and Lamarr Dukes, 17, was sent to a yearlong rehabilitation program in Pennsylvania.

Predrick Hurt, 45, of Flint, is serving two years of probation after a plea deal for torturing a puppy in April. Probation will be complete in July 2019. The mixed-breed puppy, named Harvey Dent by the Genesee County Animal Control (GCAC) based on the Batman character, sustained severe burns all over his head and the left side of his body. The GCAC turned the puppy over to Adopt-A-Pet in May and the Fenton organization tended to his medical needs and sought a family to rescue him. Read more about Harvey Dent on page 3B.

Justin Winslow, 23, of Caro, and Kathryn Serra, 32, of Fenton Township, were arrested following a stabbing of a 28-year-old Flint Township man in Fenton Township on July 28. Winslow was charged with assault with intent to commit murder. A cash surety bond of $500,000 was ordered. He was also charged with mayhem and false report of a felony. He has a review hearing in Genesee County 67th District Court in Fenton Township on Dec. 27. If convicted as charged, he faces up to life in prison. Winslow’s co-defendant, Serra, was sentenced to 12 months probation. The Genesee County Sheriff’s Office reported that Winslow, Serra and the victim met when they were all patients in a psychiatric unit at a Flint hospital in April. The two men became romantically involved with Serra. The men had a falling out because of their relationships with Serra, and Winslow moved to Caro.

Continued on Next Page
CONTINUED
From Previous Page

Michael Fisk, 38, formerly of Flint, was charged with felonious assault after allegedly attacking and choking a man and woman in a Comfort Inn hotel room on Silver Parkway in Fenton on Aug. 5. A 55-year-old woman and her 50-year-old boyfriend, both formerly of Flint, were the victims. Police said alcohol was a factor with all three individuals. Fisk’s case was bound over to Circuit Court for a jury trial, which is set to begin on Jan. 30, 2018.

Levi Frederick, 26, of St. Clair Shores, was sentenced on Nov. 11 to 137 days in prison at the Jackson Correctional Center after pleading no contest to assaulting a 30-year-old man, his 30-year-old girlfriend and their 7-year-old daughter, all of Garden City. Frederick’s case was dismissed after the defendant was sentenced. Frederick was ordered to undergo three months of treatment at Odyssey House, a substance abuse treatment facility.

The three victims were that an assault had just occurred on the pedestrian trail. The three victims were that an assault had just occurred on the pedestrian trail. The three victims were that an assault had just occurred on the pedestrian trail.

John Osborne, 46, of Fenton Township, was ordered to undergo three months of treatment at Odyssey House, a drug and alcohol treatment center in Flint. Osborne used钨기 to report a dead body of Osborne’s girlfriend, Julie Persons, 47, had been dead in the trailer for as many as 10 days before being discovered on Oct. 1 by another friend.

Douglas Walsh, 60, of Linden is facing six counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct (CSC) involving alleged victims under the age of 13. Walsh’s wife owns an in-home daycare center in Linden City. She is not facing any charges, however, the daycare was shut down pending this criminal case. Walsh’s case was bound over to Genesee County Circuit Court for a jury trial.

Ray Matthew Moore II, 46, of Fenton, was arrested Nov. 6 for attempting production and actual production of child pornography, and possession of child pornography. According to the federal complaint, Moore used multiple Facebook accounts to solicit juvenile females for photos of themselves constituting child pornography. A search warrant was executed on Nov. 6 at the residence where he was living in Fenton. A preliminary hearing was scheduled at the U.S. District Court – Eastern District of Michigan for Jan. 2, 2018.

Lawrence Adell Sefa, 54, of Tyrone Township, is facing 15 felony charges, including conducting a criminal enterprise, and 15 misdemeanors. Investigators allege Sefa stole tens of thousands of dollars from Michigan residents who were facing mortgage foreclosures. Sefa operated his alleged scam through his company, LAS Loan Assistance Centers. Attorney General Bill Schuette filed the charges against Sefa on Nov. 9 in Livingston County. Sefa was arraigned Nov. 14. Sefa posted bond. He is prohibited from conducting business relating to credit services or mortgage services and cannot contact victims while the criminal proceedings are ongoing. His case is pending in Livingston County.

Josh Waldrop, 24, of Burton, is facing federal charges related to attempting to buy a 7- to 10-year-old girl for $100 for sex, and to later marry and have his children. He faces up to 100 years in prison. He pleaded not guilty to the charges. On Nov. 20, the court ordered Waldrop to undergo hospitalization and examination for up to 30 days to determine if he is competent to stand trial.
2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Thank you to our loyal clients, we appreciate you!

SOLD IN

2017

John Tremaine.com
810-444-0495
FENTON
Continued from Page 9B
to opening its newest downtown res-
taurant, Ciao Italian Bistro. Fenton
House has also been renovated and
now includes a bar.
In the Owen Road corridor, people
were saddened to see the leveling of
the long-time Big Boy Restaurant
and Pizza Hut. They will, however,
be replaced with a strip-mall that
will feature a Starbuck’s. Pizza Hut
is coming back.
Road improvements
At least two street improvements
took place in the city during 2017.
Work to realign and resurface Pop-
lar Street from Silver Lake Road to
North Road was completed. The
project involved some upgrades to
the storm water system, realigning
the Poplar Street intersection with
Silver Lake Road to be more of a per-
nicular connection. New signals
were installed and the entire street
was resurfaced.
The Caroline Street Extension
Project was completed in 2017. The
street is now connected to LeRoy
and Walnut Street, adding 250 feet
of road, and taking the street to the
pre-urban renewal layout. Sidewalks
are expected to be installed in the
spring of 2018.
Two friends gone
The city of Fenton lost two long-
time friends and employees in 2017.
In June, Leslie “Les” P. Bland died
suddenly at the age of 70. He was a
40-plus year veteran of the Depart-
ment of Public Works, with the more
recent years serving as director. He
was also a one-time member of the
Fenton City Council.
On his birthday, a month before he
died, Bland was honored by having
the Department of Public Works facil-
ity named after him. A new sign, “Leslie
P. Bland Public Works Facility” is now
placed on the Alley Drive facility.
In February of 2017, Police Chief
Rick Aro resigned after 14 years of
service. He left for a new career at
the Gerald R. Ford International Airport
in Grand Rapids.
Lt. Jason Slater, a 22-year veteran
of the police department, was named
chief of police in July.
November elections
The November 2017 elections gave
Fenton a new city council member,
Tracy Bottecelli. Mayor Sue Osborn
was re-elected for another two-year
term.
Although roads were named by all
council candidates as a major prob-
lem to tackle in the city, a proposal
to pave the way for a road millage
in May of 2018 failed in the November
election. The proposal asked voters
to approve a change in the city charter
that would allow for the collection of
millage tax dollars for up to 10 years
instead of three. The proposal failed.
A new plan has not yet been revealed.

The most popular Times videos of 2017

■ They drew thousands of views in 2017, cover
spectrum of topics

By Tim Jagielo
sjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795
Would you rather read about it, or see
it and hear it? Why not both?
The Times covers topics with written
stories, photos and videos.
Through video, viewers are placed in
the courtroom for murder proceedings,
inside the gate of a newly opened dog
park, roadside during a car crash or fire,
or at a widely popular local event without
leaving your home.
Video topics include fun feature videos
on events, and serious court proceedings
such as Michael LaJoiose’s state sentenc-
ing hearing last year. They’re usually shot,
edited and sometimes narrated by yours
true. Staff Reporter Hannah Ball also
records footage for videos.
These videos have won awards in the
Michigan Press Association annual com-
petition, and are shared in two different
ways — on YouTube and Facebook.

Videos with the most
YouTube views in 2017

Overwhelmingly, the court coverage of
Abdurrahman “Abdu” Akl nabbed the
most views as a topic on YouTube. The
four videos combined were viewed 7,973
times. The video “Abdu Akl in court for
open murder” was viewed 5,099 times
alone.
The single most viewed video in 2017
reflected the viewership’s darkly curious
side. “A look inside a crematorium” was
viewed 5,676 times.
The second single video with the most
views was “West Shore Tornado drill a
success,” drawing 5,159.
The next closest was “Baffling Bill En-
tertains 325 at Lake Fenton High School”
with 914 views.
Many of the same videos are also up-
loaded directly to Facebook to introduce
the audience with the story.
Facebook videos
This includes the same video re-upload-
ed onto Facebook, and simple Facebook
live videos, which are sometimes shot and
broadcast before a more formal video is
made. Overall, videos receive more plays
than the direct, immediate nature of the
newsfeed. For example, the video about Fenton High School playing
at Michigan stadium received modest
views on YouTube, but more than 5,000
on Facebook directly.
The first video about Abdu Akl in court
was shared on both YouTube and Face-
b ook. It drew 23,000 views on Facebook
along with 95 shares and 37 comments.
Another fairly new option for video is
Facebook Live, which allows anyone
with a smartphone to broadcast live video
directly to their timeline, or to a Facebook
page they manage. These videos are free
of editing and are recorded as a continuous
shot, mistakes included.
One simple Facebook Live video drew
34,000 views, due to the popular topic
— the Owen Road McDonald’s being
demolished.
Another popular live video was
“Blackhawk Helicopter lands at Linden
High School.” It drew 17,000 views and
54 comments. This video was a piece of
a larger story about Vietnam veterans
receiving pins for their service.
Live video “Funeral Procession for
Andy Greene” drew 15,000 views, 211
shares and 31 comments weighing in on
the tragedy of longtime Holly firefighter
Andy Greene losing his battle with cancer.
This was also the first official live video
the Times recorded.
Meet
SHARON STONE

• Editor of the Times
• Artist
• Spartan fan

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

Sharon Stone, 56, is a familiar name in the area, as her bylines are read twice a week as editor of the Tri-County Times. A Fenton Township resident, Sharon and her husband, Jeff, have two adult kids, Laura, 28, and Jake, 22. Their oldest son, Brad, died in 2000 when he was 12. She is also the “silent” co-owner of Sears Home Improvement Store in Fenton, along with Jeff and his brother, Tim Stone.

You’re the person behind all the news at the Times. How did you move up to this position?

I started as a graphic artist in the Comp Department in the early ’90s, and then was hired as a freelance reporter in 2003. I became a full-time reporter in 2004, assistant editor in 2011 and then was named editor in 2012. I love news and my competitive streak compels me to try my hardest.

What do you like best about being editor?

That would have to be meeting and talking to people, to hear their stories and how they’ve been affected by events in their lives.

What event in your life has been the most meaningful?

Probably the day I met Pamela Powell. She is the double lung recipient of Brad’s lungs. We met at a donor family luncheon in East Lansing in the fall of 2000. Knowing that Brad’s lungs have extended her life for more than 17 years is truly amazing. Pam and her husband, David, are like family to us.

What story has affected you the most since you’ve been the editor?

Brad’s death. It was the first teenager I had known to die and it was truly preventable, and I feel the parents’ pain when we cover these stories. I wish I could make this problem go away, but the only thing we can really do is make people more aware of the problem.

If you could interview anyone famous, who would it be and what would you ask?

I might as well go right to the top and interview President Trump. Why not? Can you imagine how many people would read this. I’d ask him if he has ever heard of Fenton, Michigan. I’d ask him how long he thinks about a topic before he posts a comment on Twitter. And I’d ask when will my outrageous health care premiums ever come down.

Who’s the most famous person you’ve ever interviewed?

I did interview Bill Cosby on the phone twice, and maybe a phone conversation was the best kind of interview with him, knowing what I know now. We spoke about the importance of community colleges and the murder of his son.

When you’re not at work, what is your favorite thing to do?

My favorite thing to do is just spend time with my family and friends. Jeff and I eat out often and really enjoy it after a long day at work. We’re always finding ways to cheer on our Spartans, too. Jeff and I were college sweethearts there and our kids followed in our footsteps.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go and whom would you take with you?

I’d definitely be going with Jeff, our family and hopefully, our close friends. Aside from Ireland, I would be up for going to any tropical destination where I could kick back on a lounge chair with my toes in the warm sand and cool drink at my side. I’m a beach girl at heart.

Have you ever met Sharon Stone, the actress?

No, but if I could guess, I’d imagine she has a few years on me, and I’m guessing a much bigger bank account. She’s got a few years on me, and I’m guessing a much bigger bank account.

What’s something people may not know about you?

After so many years of being a busy mom, I’m finally finding time to paint again. I studied art at MSU and absolutely love that I’ve got my paint brushes back out. It’s such a sense of accomplishment when I finish a painting.

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LIGHTER SIDE
Continued from Page 3B

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An underground gasoline leak was confirmed at the Beacon & Bridge gas station in Linden in November 2014. Remediation efforts were underway in 2017.

LINDEN
Continued from Page 8B

Mill Building upgrades

The council has been making plans to rehabilitate the Linden Mill Building. In December, the council voted to accept bids to make improvements to the Linden Mill Building as a precursor to larger rehabilitation projects the city is planning for the building. These current improvements include upgrading the electrical system, the HVAC system, and repairing the outside stairs.

Southern Lakes Park and Recreation and Loose Center

In February, members of the Loose Center were worried about losing nearly $75,000 per year due to Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation adopting a new grant process for organizations to apply for funding. For years, Loose had received that funding from an SLPR resolution allocating 19 percent of the organization’s budget to the center. SLPR received backlash following the announcement, but the two organizations are currently working on an agreement.

Gasoline spill reaches conclusion

In September, Quick-Sav took over the management of the groundwater treatment system put in place by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in downtown Linden. The system was installed in response to an underground gasoline leak that came from Beacon and Bridge. The leak was detected over three and half years ago, and Quick-Sav, which owns Beacon and Bridge, is required to turn in the final assessment report to the DEQ by Jan. 31, 2018.

DOGS
Continued from Page 3B

abandoned him, found his “furever” home and his compelling story now has a happy ending.

Fenton residents Megan and Jacob Pawloski officially adopted Harvey on Tuesday, July 18, at Adopt-A-Pet, three months after he came to the shelter with severe burns on the left side of his body and face, and a wound on his hip.

Megan, 23, said, “How can you not want to adopt Harvey? I didn’t have the greatest mother, honestly, so I kind of relate to Harvey in a way. He was one of the top for me. I was going to adopt a new dog anyway. It happened to be when he was here.”

Megan and her husband, have another dog, Bailey, 2, who they adopted from Adopt-A-Pet two years ago, so Harvey will have someone to play with. Megan is currently training to be a firefighter and hopes to work for the fire department in Fenton.

Named “Harvey Dent” by Genesee County Animal Control, based on the Batman character, the mixed-breed puppy sustained severe burns all over his head and the left side of his body. The GCAC handled Harvey over to Adopt-A-Pet in May, and then the veterinarian technician, Alyssa Harvey over to Adopt-A-Pet in May, and then the veterinarian technician, Alyssa Hagerman, in honor of his hometown Fenton roots as a gift to the city of Fenton.

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Continued from Page 3B

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Fenton residents John and Gail Strayer spend many of their weekends on one of the most famous islands in the world, Mackinac Island, where John’s family built a home in 2002.

Sept. 10 — Butterfly lands permanently in city of Fenton

Local businessman Gerry Willey admired the butterfly sculpture at Gazebo Park in Fenton so much that he and his wife, Kay, donated $17,000 so the city could acquire the piece for permanent display. The sculpture, called Stainless Steel Butterfly, was created by Ohio artist James Havens, a retired steel union worker.

Oct. 29 — Community embraces iconic sculpture

There’s an empty seat at the table in downtown Fenton and everyone in town seems to be taking a turn to sit in it. A bronze sculpture entitled “The Game,” was commissioned by Fenton Township resident Phil and Jocelyn Hageman, in honor of his hometown Fenton roots as a gift to the city of Fenton.

Nov. 5 — Two Fenton Township residents read names on ‘The Wall’ in D.C.

Pam (Conway) Tenis and Hewitt Judson were selected to read names of fallen soldiers at the national Vietnam Memorial observance in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 8. Tenis’ brother, Corky Conway, was killed in Vietnam and his name was one of the names Tenis was going to read aloud.

Dec. 6 — Local father of six a $1 million Lotto winner

Edmond Nica’s life got a little easier on Friday, Dec. 1. The Tyrone Township father of six played the right numbers to win a $1 million Powerball game. He bought his winning ticket at Great Lakes Family Restaurant in Fowlerville.

HARVEST
Continued from Page 7B

In December, the council voted to accept bids to make improvements to the Linden Mill Building as a precursor to larger rehabilitation projects the city is planning for the building. These current improvements include upgrading the electrical system, the HVAC system, and repairing the outside stairs.

Southern Lakes Park and Recreation and Loose Center

In February, members of the Loose Center were worried about losing nearly $75,000 per year due to Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation adopting a new grant process for organizations to apply for funding. For years, Loose had received that funding from an SLPR resolution allocating 19 percent of the organization’s budget to the center. SLPR received backlash following the announcement, but the two organizations are currently working on an agreement.

Gasoline spill reaches conclusion

In September, Quick-Sav took over the management of the groundwater treatment system put in place by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in downtown Linden. The system was installed in response to an underground gasoline leak that came from Beacon and Bridge. The leak was detected over three and half years ago, and Quick-Sav, which owns Beacon and Bridge, is required to turn in the final assessment report to the DEQ by Jan. 31, 2018.

DOGS
Continued from Page 3B

abandoned him, found his “furever” home and his compelling story now has a happy ending.

Fenton residents Megan and Jacob Pawloski officially adopted Harvey on Tuesday, July 18, at Adopt-A-Pet, three months after he came to the shelter with severe burns on the left side of his body and face, and a wound on his hip.

Megan, 23, said, “How can you not want to adopt Harvey? I didn’t have the greatest mother, honestly, so I kind of relate to Harvey in a way. He was one of the top for me. I was going to adopt a new dog anyway. It happened to be when he was here.”

Megan and her husband, have another dog, Bailey, 2, who they adopted from Adopt-A-Pet two years ago, so Harvey will have someone to play with. Megan is currently training to be a firefighter and hopes to work for the fire department in Fenton.

Named “Harvey Dent” by Genesee County Animal Control, based on the Batman character, the mixed-breed puppy sustained severe burns all over his head and the left side of his body. The GCAC handled Harvey over to Adopt-A-Pet in May, and then the veterinarian technician, Alyssa Hagerman, in honor of his hometown Fenton roots as a gift to the city of Fenton.

Fenton residents John and Gail Strayer spend many of their weekends on one of the most famous islands in the world, Mackinac Island, where John’s family built a home in 2002.

Sept. 10 — Butterfly lands permanently in city of Fenton

Local businessman Gerry Willey admired the butterfly sculpture at Gazebo Park in Fenton so much that he and his wife, Kay, donated $17,000 so the city could acquire the piece for permanent display. The sculpture, called Stainless Steel Butterfly, was created by Ohio artist James Havens, a retired steel union worker.

Oct. 29 — Community embraces iconic sculpture

There’s an empty seat at the table in downtown Fenton and everyone in town seems to be taking a turn to sit in it. A bronze sculpture entitled “The Game,” was commissioned by Fenton Township resident Phil and Jocelyn Hageman, in honor of his hometown Fenton roots as a gift to the city of Fenton.

Nov. 5 — Two Fenton Township residents read names on ‘The Wall’ in D.C.

Pam (Conway) Tenis and Hewitt Judson were selected to read names of fallen soldiers at the national Vietnam Memorial observance in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 8. Tenis’ brother, Corky Conway, was killed in Vietnam and his name was one of the names Tenis was going to read aloud.

Dec. 6 — Local father of six a $1 million Lotto winner

Edmond Nica’s life got a little easier on Friday, Dec. 1. The Tyrone Township father of six played the right numbers to win a $1 million Powerball game. He bought his winning ticket at Great Lakes Family Restaurant in Fowlerville.

HARVEST
Continued from Page 7B

In December, the council voted to accept bids to make improvements to the Linden Mill Building. In December, the council voted to accept bids to make improvements to the Linden Mill Building. In December, the council voted to accept bids to make improvements to the Linden Mill Building. In December, the council voted to accept bids to make improvements to the Linden Mill Building. In December, the council voted to accept bids to make improvements to the Linden Mill Building.

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Abdurrahman (Abdu) Ahmed Akl, 17, allegedly shot his 18-year-old friend Brady Alan Morris in the back of the head on the top left side. Akl met police on the front porch and he was detained without incident. Police recovered a semiautomatic pistol on the front porch.

An unresponsive Morris was found on the first floor bedroom. He was transported to Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc Township and was pronounced dead at 1:18 a.m. on March 5.

At the time of the shooting, Morris and Akl were alone on the first floor of the home. Nine people were in the house at the time of the shooting. The mother and father of the then-16-year-old and his four siblings were on the second floor of the three-story house on Lake Fenton, and a friend was on the third floor.

During a press conference on March 6, Genesee County Sheriff Robert Pickell said Morris and Akl would play video games together, Roulettelike together, and they found at least four bullet holes in each piece of furniture in the bedroom. Pickell said Akl was familiar with the gun, a 45-Glock, which can hold 10 rounds in a magazine. Akl reportedly loaded the gun in the bathroom then went into the bedroom and shot Morris.

Pickell said in the 911 call, Akl told the dispatcher “he killed his friend and that there’s matter all over the wall.”

Police found a crawl space near the bedroom where they recovered hundreds of rounds of shell casings. They also found a bong, used to smoke marijuana, with blood on it.

The Genesee County Prosecutor’s Office has charged Akl with open murder, receiving and concealing a stolen firearm and two counts of felony firearm in Morris’ death. He is being charged as an adult.

When Akl first appeared in court on March 24, his attorney, Frank Manley, requested he undergo a competency examination. Akl had a second competency examination, which received different results than the first. Both were completed by the Center for Forensic Psychiatry in Saline. When he was in court on Aug. 9, Manley requested a third exam be done by Maxwell Taylor, PhD, an independent party.

By Oct. 18, Akl was found competent to stand trial. A pretrial conference was scheduled for Nov. 1, and the probable cause conference has been adjourned until Jan. 18, 2018. Manley said the adjournment was due to continued discovery of evidence. Akl has not yet stood for any pretrial hearings. He remains in custody at the Genesee Valley Regional Center in Flint.

Can we start over fresh?

New Year’s Day, much like the first day of a school year, is a chance to start over fresh. I loved the first day of school because I could start over with fresh pencils, notebooks, folders and other cool stuff.

On New Year’s Day, I have always treated myself to some fresh, new things. It might be something as simple as a new hairbrush and makeup, new socks, a new pillow, a new set of yellow legal pads and pens, and of course, a new calendar — just something new to get my personal new year off the ground.

Starting over fresh has been practiced by my family since our boys were little. We did not have too many disagreements that could not be resolved quickly and amicably, but there were times when one or all of us would come to a complete standstill, holding fast to our individual opinions.

We were the parents and could have forced them to do what we asked regardless of whether they understand the reason or not. But we chose to wait and see if they would come to any reasonable conclusions on their own, or offer any alternative solutions. And they usually did. The rule was, however, if you ask the question, “Can we start over fresh,” the answer was always “yes.” That meant the matter, even though it may still be unresolved, would be closed, not be discussed again until a later date, if needed. No apologies were necessary. No one got into trouble. We moved on with life. Our boys were always relieved, we could see it in their faces and felt it in their hugs.

If and when the issue or problem ever came up again, we were able to handle the situation much better because we were calmed down and no one was angry. Asking to start over fresh was pretty big because it usually meant admitting you were wrong without actually having to say it. But no one ever blamed anyone. That was the rule and to this day we have never violated it.

So as 2018 begins, we already have some exciting events and activities to look forward to. My oldest stepson is visiting from China with his wife and almost 4-month-old baby until the end of February. After that, we’ll be preparing for our oldest son’s wedding in September.

My biggest fear with this virus and upcoming event is that I’ll “accidentally” interfere and stick my nose in where it’s not needed or wanted. I am the mother-in-law after all, I’ve heard it comes with the territory.

So, just in case we get into any irresolvable situations, I am asking the children in advance, “Can we start over fresh?”

Happy New Year everyone!
Times in response to Times story reporting Salvation Army donations are short of goal by Hannah Ball hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

After hearing that the Salvation Army was approximately 40 percent below its $800,000 goal, Tyrone Township resident and Tri-County Times carrier Jack Zeffero, 13, donated all the money he had been saving for a Florida trip to the bell ringing charity on Saturday, Dec. 23.

His mom, Amanda Zeffero, said, “I almost cried. It was big of him. It shows how big his heart is. Florida is the most important thing on earth to Jack. He spends all year doing odd jobs to save for it.”

The family usually goes to Florida for spring break, but this year Zeffero told her kids they didn’t think they would be able to go this year. Jack started saving spring break, but this year Zeffero told the family they already booked the trip on Christmas. “Part of me is hoping that maybe this will inspire others to continue to give,” she said.

Jill Breiting, circulation director at the Times, said, “When I first met Jack, my first impression was that he was mature beyond his years. His confidence just filled the room. Jack’s act of kindness just demonstrates what kind of individual he is and I’m so proud of him. He fully understands the true meaning of Christmas.”

The man died the next day.

On March 4, 16-year-old Abdurrahman Abdur (Abdu) Ahmed Akli allegedly shot his friend, 18-year-old Brady Alan Morris, after fatally stabbing grandma Harding’s ex-husband, Jeff Gillooly, devised a plan to eliminate Kerrigan from the competition, meeting with Derrick Smith and Shane Stant, who agreed to injure Kerrigan for a fee.

1. More than $58 million in Bridge card refunds issued Views — 44,671

5. 15-year-old killed by train hours after fatally stabbing grandma Views — 19,673

Steven Calvin Wilkerson, 15, stabbed his grandmother to death on Aug. 22 and then stood in front of an oncoming train a few hours later in Holly.

4. Driver critical after truck jackknifes on U.S. 23 Views — 21,735

On Nov. 13, one person was critically injured in a crash on U.S. 23 involving a semitractor-trailer and Chevy Trailblazer. The man died the next day.

3. Teen sister saves 4-year-old from abduction Views — 21,790

Fenton police responded to an attempted abduction on Ellen Street on March 8, where a teenage girl said a man tried to abduct her 4-year-old sister. There are no leads.

2. Shooting in Fenton Township Views — 44,671

On March 4, 16-year-old Abdurrahman (Abdu) Ahmed Akli allegedly shot his friend, 18-year-old Brady Alan Morris, in the back of the head with a 14,000-block of Moffett Drive. Akli is currently going through the Michigan court system.

1. More than $58 million in Bridge card refunds issued Views — 103,533

Approximately 18,700 people who were denied cash, food or childcare benefits from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services because they served jail time received a lump sum of $3,120 in food assistance because of a U.S. Federal District Court order.
**Sunday Living**

**Sunday Crossword**

**KING FEATURES**

**Crossword #1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Possess</td>
<td>51. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Hourglass fill</td>
<td>52. 51. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Frizzy hair style</td>
<td>53. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Witness</td>
<td>54. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Bassoonist</td>
<td>55. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Applaud</td>
<td>56. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Meadow</td>
<td>57. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Supreme</td>
<td>58. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Longtime talk-show legend</td>
<td>59. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Supporting</td>
<td>60. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Apprehensive feeling</td>
<td>61. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Sunshades</td>
<td>62. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Unmatched</td>
<td>63. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Historic time</td>
<td>64. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Sum</td>
<td>65. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Tavern</td>
<td>66. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. Teen's facial woe</td>
<td>67. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. Archetype</td>
<td>68. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Top</td>
<td>69. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. Take the bus</td>
<td>70. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44. Knightly address</td>
<td>71. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46. Interior design</td>
<td>72. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50. Skydiver's need</td>
<td>73. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55. Hearty brew</td>
<td>74. 10th month</td>
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<td>58. Lemon</td>
<td>77. 10th month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. Slogan</td>
<td>78. 10th month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times**

**Sudoku #1**

```
4 5 7 9 1 2 3 6 8
5 6 8 1 3 9 4 7 2
7 9 2 6 5 4 8 1 3
6 8 3 7 4 1 5 2 9
8 3 6 2 9 7 1 5 4
9 5 4 1 8 2 3 6 7
1 7 9 4 6 3 2 8 5
3 1 5 8 2 6 7 9 4
2 4 7 5 1 8 9 3 6
```

**Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times**

**Sunday Scrambler**

```
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!
```

**Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times**

**Fenton Karate**

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Rosemary (Butler) Huston - 1927-2017

Rosemary (Butler) Huston, age 90, of Fenton, died peacefully in her sleep Friday, December 22, 2017 at Her Caring Arms Assisted Living and after 36 years will finally join her beloved husband Joseph in Heaven. She had a strong faith that carried her through each day until the very end. Please join her family to pay tribute to and celebrate the amazing woman she was. Funeral Mass was celebrated 11 AM Thursday, December 28, 2017 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide Street, Fenton. Graveside service took place at Oakwood Cemetery, Fenton. Visitation was held 4-7 PM Wednesday, December 27, 2017 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton where a rosary was held at 7 PM and 10-11 AM Thursday at the church. Donations may be made in lieu of flowers to the Father Harvey Legacy Society or St. John Restoration Fund. Rosemary was born February 16, 1927 in Columbus, OH to Emil and Ruth Butler. Rosemary lived in the Columbus area until she and her husband Joseph moved the family to Fenton in 1967. She graduated from Mt. Carmel Hospital Nursing School in 1950. Rosemary spent much of her professional life as a registered nurse working at Fenton Extended Care and Crestmont Nursing Home. She was also a Hospice volunteer for many years, she was happiest when she was serving others. Rosemary was a devout Catholic and member of St. John’s Church, Fenton for 50 years. Rosemary is survived by her large, loving family including daughters, Priscilla Huston of CO, Christina Bruce and husband, Randy Baum of CA, Melinda McGraw and husband, Jeff of Hubbard Lake, Celia Emmerton and husband, Ken of Linden, Sue Seguin and husband, Todd of Traverse City, and Juli Rough and husband. Bill of Bloomfield Hills as well as her son, John Huston and wife, Laura of Fenton. She will be deeply missed by her 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, two surviving sisters, her brother and many friends. She was particularly close to her nieces: Madeline Hicks, Dorothy Hughes, Donna Braskett (deceased) as well as her brother John Butler who still reside in the Columbus area. Tributes may be shared on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Irene Christine Doan - 1929-2017

Irene Christine Doan - age 88, passed away December 20, 2017 peacefully in her beloved city of New Orleans, LA. She was a former longtime bus driver for Lake Fenton schools. She was preceded in death by her son, Tim Toler and the love of her life, husband, John Doan. She leaves behind two daughters, Rebecca Bird and Deidre Doan-Carruoe; three grandchildren, Jessica Bird, Sebastien Carruoe and Simone Golden as well as two great-grandchildren, Jenna Canella and Frank Canella. She always lived life on her terms and she will be greatly missed.

Connelius “Neal” Rodgers


Gary Augé - age 74, died December 27, 2017.


Irene Christine Doan - age 88, passed away December 20, 2017 peacefully in her beloved city of New Orleans, LA. She was a former longtime bus driver for Lake Fenton schools. She was preceded in death by her son, Tim Toler and the love of her life, husband, John Doan. She leaves behind two daughters, Rebecca Bird and Deidre Doan-Carruoe; three grandchildren, Jessica Bird, Sebastien Carruoe and Simone Golden as well as two great-grandchildren, Jenna Canella and Frank Canella. She always lived life on her terms and she will be greatly missed.

Robert James “Bob” Barclay - 1941-2017

Robert James “Bob” Barclay - age 76, died December 24, 2017. Funeral services were held 1 PM Thursday, December 28, 2017 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Those desiring may make contributions to Adopt-A-Pet of Fenton. Bob was born on July 15, 1941 to Duogald and Esther (Ray) Barclay. Bob attended Fenton High School and was a 1959 graduate. He married his “high school sweetheart,” Ella “Penny” Mae Applebee on October 17, 1959 and they were married for 56 years. He was employed at General Motors in the parts department and retired after 32 years of service. He was also employed at the Willow Run Plant in Ypsilanti. He enjoyed garage sales, antiques, visits to the casino, riding his Honda motorcycle and oldies music. He especially loved his beloved dog, Rocky and spending time with family. Surviving are wife, Ella “Penny”, children, Bob Barclay and Barb Barclay; grandchildren, Brady and Brenan Barclay; mother, Esther Reed; sister, Joanne (Ron) Jaeger; nephews, Joe, Pat and Wes Neely; niece, Sarah; nephew, Joe; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his step-father, Lavern Reed; nephews, Joe, Pat and Wes Neely; niece, Sarah; nephew, Joe; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his step-father, Lavern Reed; nephews, Joe, Pat and Wes Neely; niece, Sarah; nephew, Joe; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his step-father, Lavern Reed; nephews, Joe, Pat and Wes Neely; niece, Sarah; nephew, Joe; and many dear friends.

Dwight David Fitzgerald - 1952-2017

Dwight David Fitzgerald - age 65, of Fenton, died Saturday, December 23, 2017. Funeral services were held 1 PM Friday, December 29, 2017 at Andrew G. Schmidt Middle School, 3255 Donaldson Dr. Fenton. Pastor Wes Morris officiating. Interment followed in Oakwood Cemetery, Fenton. Visitation was 1-8 PM Thursday, December 28, 2017 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Those desiring may make contributions to the Dwight D. Fitzgerald Memorial Fund c/o Rosemary Fitzgerald. Dwight was born January 18, 1952 in Flint, the son of Leo and Iris Fitzgerald. He was a 1970 graduate of Adrian High School. Dwight received his Bachelor Degree in Education from Central Michigan University and also received his Master Degree in Administration. He married Rosemary Neely on February 13, 1999 in Las Vegas, NV. Mr. Fitzgerald retired from Fenton Community Schools after 33 years. He then was a substitute teacher for Lake Fenton High School. Mr. Fitzgerald coached many sports. He taught Driver’s Training School for Fenton Community Schools and Aces Driving School. Surviving are: his beloved wife, Rosemary; four children, Alexander David Fitzgerald and Casey Wilson of Swartz Creek, Tyler Adam Fitzgerald, Victoria Marais “Tori” Fitzgerald, and Ashtynn Marais Fitzgerald all of Fenton; two grandchildren, Roland Sawyer and Silas Finn Fitzgerald; mother-in-law, Betty Neely of Grand Blanc; brothers-in-law, Ralph (Debbie) Neely of Grand Blanc and Ronald Neely of Grand Blanc; niece, Sarah; nephew, Joe; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by: his parents and many dear friends.

John Click - age 87, died December 26, 2017.


Jerald Carb - age 79, died December 26, 2017.


Chad Gipson - age 48, died December 25, 2017.


**Obituaries**

**David Sullivan**

**Howard Boillat**

**John Case**

**Juddell Payne**

**Robert Strain**

**Marcella Moorman**

**Howard Boillat**

**Richard Carver**

**Vicki Michelson**

**Judell Payne**

**Robert Thomas**

**Robert Strain**

**Marcella Moorman**

**Howard Boillat**

**Richard Carver**

**Vicki Michelson**

**David Sullivan**

**Judell Payne**

**Robert Strain**

**Marcella Moorman**

**Howard Boillat**

**Richard Carver**

**Vicki Michelson**

**John Case**

**Juddell Payne**

**Robert Strain**

**Marcella Moorman**

**Howard Boillat**

**Richard Carver**

**Vicki Michelson**
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