



PAGE 6A  
**SALT VS.  
SAND ON  
OUR ICY  
ROADS**

VOL. 25 NO. III

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018

2016 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

\$1.00

# 2018 AUTO SHOW

■ **Event provides peek into the ever-changing auto industry**

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

**Detroit** — A tide of journalists followed Gov. Rick Snyder and Lt. Gov. Brian Calley as they toured the new GM offerings on Monday, Jan. 15 during the press preview.

Bomb-sniffing dogs excitedly patrolled the entrances, or sat at their handler's feet, eager to move around and meet people.

**WATCH THE  
VIDEO**



See  
**2018 AUTO  
SHOW**  
on 17A

AT TCTIMES.COM  
WITH THIS STORY



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

A new Chevrolet Corvette ZR1 graces the stage at the 2018 North American International Auto Show press preview on Jan. 15. The newest American supercar delivers 755 horsepower. Other highlights include the new 2018 Jeep Wrangler (upper right), the Ford Ranger (upper left) and the GAC Enverge (upper middle).

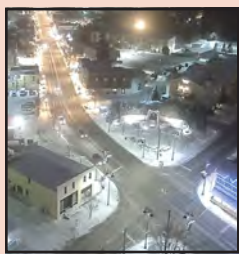
## Many locals lucky enough to witness rare meteor event

■ Times' video post goes viral with more than 240,000 views

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

Lightning in mid-January? That's what many people suspected when the sky lit up on Tuesday night at about 8:10 p.m. But it wasn't just a random

See **METEOR** on 13A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES  
FRED MOSES, CTO

A tower camera filmed the sky lighting up over Frankenmuth from the meteor on Tuesday.



## Dad escaped inferno, but ran back in to rescue family

■ Funeral being planned for family of four

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

Brittani Rodden, 25, Jonathan (Jon) Taulbee, 24, and their two children, Carter, 5, and Wesley, 2, were killed

See **FUNERAL** on 14A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES  
FILE PHOTO

NOCFA Fire Chief Jeremy Lintz holds a news conference at the scene of the fire on Monday.



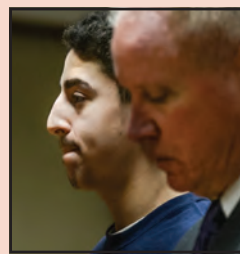
## Akl murder case delayed by missing autopsy report

■ Lawyer says 'there is a question of whether or not there was a potential accident'

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

**Flint** — Abdurrahman (Abdu) Ahmed Akl, 17, was in court again on Thursday, Jan. 18 for a probable cause conference in 67th District Court Judge G. David Guinn's courtroom.

See **AUTOPSY** on 12A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES  
TIM JAGIELO

Abdurrahman "Abdu" Akl was in court Thursday morning for a probable cause conference.



**TEXT  
YOUR  
HOT LINE**  
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“Fenton city plow drivers, please use common sense and stop driving your truck on my lawn when plowing. You did it all of last year also. Your tires leave 6-inch deep grooves and destroy my grass. I appreciate what you do, but do it correctly. Thank you.”



“Sports teams draft players based on how the player will enhance the team's future. Immigration policy should attempt to find people who will enhance America's future. Democrats want immigrants who will be dependent on the government and so will vote for Democrats. It's party before country.”



“Can't help but point out that politics is a lot like being a football coach. You have to be smart enough to understand how to win the game and stupid enough to believe it actually matters.”



**COMMENT  
OF THE WEEK**

“Thank you Times for the video clip of the meteor lighting up the Fenton area. Don't know how you captured it so clearly but it was great to be able to see this once-in-a-lifetime event and show it to our kids.”



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# A day in the life, working at CRUST

■ Cakes, pies, breads and up to 2,000 cookies baked each night

By Tim Jagielo

tjagiolo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

**Fenton** — Terez Glenn can stand the heat in the kitchen, but he never gets used to it.

On Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 17, he runs the bread ovens, which bake Henry sandwich bread and wholesale ciabatta at 467 degrees Fahrenheit, while a separate oven runs at 350 degrees.

He slides the browned bread onto shelves with a huge spatula. "It definitely gets worse in the summer," he said.

CRUST is the popular downtown Fenton bakery with a retail space, bar, restaurant and near-global reach.

The bakery is alive 24/7. At any given time, there will be a flurry of dough, flour, butter and fillings depending on the product and season.

"When you bake at home, it's a lot different from working in an industry



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Tyler Beasley, p.m. bake manager, bakes pastries starting at 5 p.m. and continues through the night. The bakery runs 24/7 to meet the demands of the retail store and wholesale customers.

**“That’s really why we can’t do it the same day, we don’t skip steps.”**

**Whitney Nimmo**  
CRUST production manager

like this,” said Whitney Nimmo, production manager. They’re not dealing with a stick of butter, but 30 pounds of butter.

Between 500 and 2,000 cookies may be baked, and products are glazed by hand, and finishing touches are added.

Doughnuts are proofed and fried.

“Proofing” is the process of allowing products made with active yeasts to expand in a climate-controlled environment, and it takes hours.

Danishes, croissants and cinnamon rolls for example, have to proof in spe-

cial boxes until they can eventually be baked.

Table dough shaper Heidi Huerta cuts and measures dough for different breads. Her dough balls end up in the oven, and she said the process is very satisfying. “I’m seeing it in its not-baked

form and I get to go in the back room and see it all smell good and freshly baked, and I know I’m a part of that, and I made it happen,” shed said.

The daytime crew has a more hectic pace, with sun streaming in the windows and a busy restaurant operating behind them.

The night crew starts at 5 p.m., and takes over where the day crew leaves off.

Tyler Beasley, p.m. bake manager, said the pace at night is more relaxed than during the day. “It’s just a little bit of a different schedule to run on,” he said. He wakes at 1 p.m. to start his shift at 5 p.m.

Workers handle their various tasks, with their choice of music, like Cardi B, or Nirvana unplugged playing.

**See CRUST on 10A**



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Amy Calouri, p.m. baker, glazes sour cream doughnuts on Wednesday night, Jan. 17.



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DOES  
**GOOD WINE**  
HAVE TO BE  
EXPENSIVE  
AND OLD?

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

Wine is one of the world’s most popular drinks, but not everyone understands how to measure its quality.

When determining the quality of a wine, Matt Sherrow, who owns Fenton Winery and Brewery with his wife, Ginny, said many people consider how the wine looks, how it smells, then they swirl it and taste it.

**See WINE on 16A**

**“If you drink a wine and like the way it tastes, that’s good wine.”**

**Matt Sherrow**  
Fenton Winery and Brewery owner

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES

The Tri-County Times is published semi-weekly by Rockman Communications, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. We serve the communities of: Fenton, Linden, Lake Fenton, Holly, Hartland, Byron, Gaines, Davisburg, Swartz Creek and Grand Blanc and the townships of: Fenton, Holly, Rose, Tyrone and Argonne. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any content and/or advertising submissions.



**HOURS:**  
Monday-Thursday:  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday  
Closed

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## Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

# Come *Heller* high water...

"The Bachelor" is on again, which is wonderful. No, I don't "like" the show. I'm a guy. If I liked the show I'd have to turn in my man card. But I do really, really, really like messing



Andrew Heller  
FEATURED COLUMNIST

with the lovely yet formidable Marcia, a lifelong feminist who, oddly enough, positively loves the show.

"I can't believe you like this show," I said the other night. "It's so

anti-feminist. How could you?"

"Shhh," she hissed, flapping a hand in my direction.

Interpreting the flapping to mean "Continue, please, dear husband" I said, "I mean, you've got all these beautiful young women who ..."

"Quiet, I can't hear!"

"... who are in the prime of their life, who could get any guy they want ..."

"Zip it," she growled, using that low, back of the teeth growl dogs use when you try to take food away from them.

"... and yet they fight over this one stupid — and may I say not very handsome — guy, who is apparently such a catch that he's in his mid-30s and isn't married and doesn't have a girlfriend."

"He's been busy racing cars," she said. "Now please shut up and let me watch in peace."

"Not that I can blame him, of course. If someone paid me to have 25 women fight over me, I guess I'd be fine with that."

Glare from her.

"But why do they do it?"

"Because they're looking for love!" she blurted. "Don't you understand anything?"

I pondered that for a moment. "But

is a TV show the right place to find it? Seems to me that concentrating 25 women in one place all fighting for the attention of one guy makes the odds of finding love a lot harder than in the real world. In that sense, winning the show seems like winning the lottery, except the prize isn't a million bucks, it's some schmo they probably won't like once the TV cameras are gone, am I right?"

"I'm ignoring you now," she said.

"I mean, there are plenty of better places to find a guy."

"Still ignoring."

"I mean, there's the gym, the office, the grocery store, the bar, the bowling alley, the golf course ..."

"That's the stupidest thing I've ever heard," she said. Which is clearly not true. I've said far stupider things. "Now go away and let me watch in peace."

In retrospect, I should have taken her advice. But as a husband, I felt I had to say one more stupid thing: "I still don't get why you like this show, but ah well."

At that point she hit the pause on the remote and said, "At first I thought you

were just yanking my chain. But I'm beginning to think you really don't understand why women like 'The Bachelor.'"

Ruh-roh, I thought, as the music from "Jaws" began thumping in my brain. Run!

"Get back here, buster. I'll tell you why we like it. We like it because they go on romantic dates to romantic places, where he looks into her eyes and tells her she's beautiful, in other words all the stuff that married men forget to do for their wives. Maybe YOU ought to do that, too, and maybe if YOU ..."

Ten minutes later she was still going. I guess I had it coming. Next time the show's on I'll do the smart thing and keep my mouth shut.

Probably.

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

**“... and yet they fight over this one stupid — and may I say not very handsome — guy, who is apparently such a catch that he’s in his mid-30s and isn’t married and doesn’t have a girlfriend.”**

## Hotlines

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

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

**LISTENING TO THE** report, Dick Durbin is the only one who said Trump said anything. He hasn't been exactly the most honest person in White House meetings. Strange how we're running with this.

**EVERY WEEKEND TRUMP** is at Mar-A-Lago, it costs the taxpayers between \$3 and \$4 million.

**LET US SEE** what President Trump hasn't done. He hasn't hung out with a domestic terrorist. He didn't start his political career with a domestic terrorist. Oh wait, that was Obama. He didn't sexually assault an aid in his office, oh that was Clinton. He didn't rape a woman when he was in charge of the state. Again, that was Clinton.

**THE LIBERALS ARE** complaining that President Trump might have used slang to describe some countries. That is a questionable statement. If he did, so what? That's an accurate description of those countries. That's why people want to get the hell out of them.

**ARE OUR ELECTED** representatives all kindergarteners? Who cares that Trump called a spade a spade. It doesn't change the fact that America needs citizens that contribute, not more welfare families.

**I WORKED A** lifetime and paid into Social Security and Medicare all my life. Now there's a lot of people out there that haven't worked and yet want benefits. Why are you reducing mine to give it to people who haven't worked for it?

**I DID NOT** say that Mrs. Reagan was still alive. We supported her until she died. I did not say Jimmy Carter was dead. I said he was the only president who gave up the privilege of having Secret Service and being supported by the people of this country. Please quote people properly.

**IF THERE EXISTS** a more hypocritical collection of human waste than the Golden Globe crowd, I have never met them. I quit going to movies years ago because of their hypocrisy.

**OF COURSE I'D** rather take the word of a man well-versed in business, who probably never took a science class in his life, over a weatherman on climate change and what our weather's like. After all, what do scientists know about what's going on?

**AUSTRALIA IS 117** degrees. Snow in the Sahara Desert. It's colder in mid Michigan than it is on Mars. Probably no connection to climate change.

**YOU'RE SAYING YOU** don't like the hypocrisy in Hollywood where people knowing about sexual harassment did not do anything until now. What about people who elected a president who admitted on tape that he molested women and could grab them anywhere he wanted anytime he wanted?

**SENATOR STABENOW WAS** elected to represent the American people. The voters, citizens. Why is she so concerned about the illegals? She and the other Democrats are more concerned about getting illegals special privileges than they are the citizens.

**WITH MY TAX** savings, I'm going to Disneyland.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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## What is your dream car and why?

Compiled by Gracie Warda, intern

## streettalk



"I guess an SUV. I'm not really a car person."

**Sue Kearns**  
Fenton Township



"A Tesla, it's quite a car because it is new and different."

**Elizabeth Hohlock**  
Fenton Township



"Probably a Tesla. It's beautiful and luxurious, but it's better for the environment, too."

**Alyssa Deits**  
Fenton Township



"I wanted a Toyota Sienna because it is 75 percent American made."

**John Bell**  
Tyrone Township



"A Corvette Z06. I've wanted one since I was a little kid."

**David Bruce**  
Fenton Township





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Bridge Street in Linden will be repaved and rehabilitated from the bridge south to the city border beginning in May. The \$1.2-million project is expected to be done in October.

## Bridge Street to be repaved this spring

■ Linden City to pay 20 percent of \$1.2-million project

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

The city of Linden plans to rehabilitate Bridge Street this coming spring, along with installing new gutters, a bike lane and other improvements.

City Manager Paul Zelenak said Bridge Street will be repaved from the bridge over the Shiawassee River going south to the city border, which is approximately .57 miles of road.

“The expected start date is May,” Zelenak said. “We also are installing some new water main on Bridge Street with the project.”

This rehabilitation project includes new curb and gutter installation and replacement, the addition of a bike lane from the south city limits to Broad Street, and a new water main and hydrants from Lindenwood to the bridge.

The storm sewer system also will be replaced, repaired and added when needed for drainage improvements, new concrete driveway approaches, a sidewalk ramp, driveway culvert re-

placements and new updated signage and pavement markings are included in the project.

Patrons will be able to access all businesses during the project.

The project is expected to cost \$1.2 million.

“We don’t have exact figures yet, because the project hasn’t been bid out yet,” he said.

The city will incur 20 percent of the total cost. The rest of the funding is expected to come from the federal and state levels.

There are four stages to the project. In stage one from mid May to mid June, there will be a single lane closure and flag control, and traffic both ways will be open. For step two from mid June to mid August, southbound traffic will be maintained and northbound traffic will be detoured using Stan Eaton Drive, Hyatt Lane, and West Broad Street.

For stages three and four from mid August to early October, traffic will flow in both directions with single lane closures.

The expected project completion date is Oct. 5.

“The expected start date is May.”

Paul Zelenak  
Linden City manager

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## Police&Fire report

### SUSPECTED BANK ROBBER CAUGHT

On Tuesday, Jan. 16, the Livingston County Sheriff's Office apprehended a 35-year-old Howell man wanted for the armed robbery of the Bank of America located at 3400 E. Grand River in Genoa Township. The robbery occurred on Jan. 11 at approximately 2 p.m., when a white male entered the bank and presented a note to the teller. The suspect showed the teller

a handgun and asked for all the money. The sheriff's office worked with the FBI, the Michigan State Police and the Monroe County Sheriff's Office to locate the suspect in the Howell area. The suspect also is believed to have committed additional bank robberies. The suspect was taken into custody without incident after a traffic stop and is currently lodged at the Livingston County Jail. The suspect's name is being withheld pending his arraignment. The sheriff's office would like to thank the public for assistance in this investigation, which proved essential for the apprehension of the suspect.

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**HOT LINE** CONTINUED

DECADES AGO, I had to have my water well redrilled. Sixteen years ago, three wells were drilled on the property next to mine but not enough water could be found and the land is still vacant. Now there is a proposal for maybe as many as 90 private homes. It shouldn't happen.

THE LACK OF patience leads so many to frustration. We go to a busy restaurant and give bad reviews because we had to wait for our meal, drive ugly because we are in a hurry, and so on. Not everything comes instantly in life. Find your patience and relax.

THE ROADS ARE terrible. LeRoy, North, Torrey are terrible. Funny, if I let my sidewalk go I'll get a letter from the city, but they can let the streets go?

HOW DO YOU save \$2,000 in taxes because of Trump, and at the same time complain Obama didn't give you an increase in your Social Security, when you don't pay taxes on Social Security?

LAST SUNDAY'S OAKLAND Press had a guest column by Christine Greig, House Democratic Floor Leader, criticizing Bill Schuette for wanting to end Michigan's prevailing wage law. One of her main points was that higher wages support the local economy. Apparently she, like many, fail to realize that the money comes from our tax dollars.

AN ANONYMOUS PERSON recently posted a Hot line about an insurance issue. We've searched all calls and messages and have no outstanding requests for assistance in this area. Contact me at (855) 347-8032 or senkhorn@senate.michigan.gov and I'll gladly assist. Thanks, Senator Ken Horn.

THESE HOT LINE correspondents need to know the difference between weather and climate. Weather is right now. Climate is weather over time. Global warming is year after year. Didn't you learn this in school?

IF YOU'RE TOO uninformed to realize that somebody is going to make a turn without them telling you, stop driving please before someone gets hurt.

DON'T BELIEVE THESE oil companies when they tell you they raise the prices because of the tax cut. They raise the prices because they want to and they can and you will buy it no matter what. They are getting rich. We are getting poor.

PAY NO ATTENTION to future demographics of our country. A solid 20 percent with a majority of the wealth can control a nation and make it great again, especially for the wealthy.

HERE'S A TIP if you have an ATV, a snow blower, anything that needs gas, please try the 89 octane recreational fuel. My equipment starts easier, runs better. I even put some of it into my unleaded vehicle and it gets better miles per gallon. It's great.

HERE WE GO, the Democrats are blaming the Republicans if the government shuts down because the Republicans won't roll over and give them DACA amnesty and immigration amnesty. Hang in there, Republicans, hang in there.

I HAVEN'T HEARD much comment about the Michigan - Michigan State basketball game. What happened? Did Michigan cheat? Did the referees give it to them? It wasn't even that close of a loss. Michigan won, in case you missed it.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

The Fenton Department of Public Works loads salt during an early morning salting and plowing run in January 2016.

## Salt vs. sand on our icy roads

### Fenton uses salt, Genesee County Road Commission uses both

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

Weather conditions this winter have produced icy, slushy and dangerous roads.

Local department of public works trucks have been putting salt on the roads to break up the ice and cut down on sliding, and many residents are wondering — why not use sand?

Fenton Department of Public Works Director Dan Czarnecki said, “Typically, for our winters the temperatures do not dip below 15 degrees for any long periods so salt works just fine for us on most days. Unfortunately, this winter has not been typical when it comes to the temperatures.”

When salt mixes with ice, it causes the ice to dissolve. Using sand only provides traction.

Czarnecki said if they use sand, it will sit next to the curb in the winter and they would need to sweep and dispose of it, which is an added cost. With salt, that isn't an issue because it dissolves into the water.

“If we use sand it will get into the basins and then could get discharged into the waterways,” he said. “We would need to clean out the basins in the spring if we used sand during the winter. We want to avoid adding sand and silt to the river or any other waterways.”

Rock salt will work until the temperatures reach 15 degrees. When it dips lower, the DPW uses liquid de-icers, which is liquid calcium chloride, until it reaches 10 degrees.

“Once you go below that, the salt stops working. It's just too cold. There are other products that act differently and have

their own issues when using them, and they are all expensive to use,” he said.

There is a cost difference between buying salt and buying sand. Czarnecki said they are currently paying \$54.21 per ton for salt, and sand would cost approximately \$20 per ton.

“But if we use sand then we also will need to clean the sand from the curbs and

the catch basins in the spring and dispose of this material in a landfill,” he said.

Czarnecki said they would consider using sand if the temperatures stayed very cold for a much longer period of time.

At the Genesee County Road Commission, Director John Daly said “It's not a question of either or, but it's a question of when.”

The GCRC keeps both salt and sand at every garage. When the pavement on the roads reaches below 24

degrees Fahrenheit, the effectiveness of the salt decreases. That's when the trucks spread sand. Drivers prioritize intersections, bridges, exits and entrances to highways, and areas where the road may be hard to see.

He said there are significant costs associated with cleaning up the sand after the ice and snow are gone. Daly said the sand goes into the ditches, and many would have to be re-ditched. Sand will also get into the storm water drainage system and that will have to be cleaned.

### SUMMARY

Should local department of public works and the Genesee County Road Commission use salt or sand on icy roads?

“People wonder why we don't dump salt all the time,” he said. “When it dissolves, it goes into water. It's eventually going to wind up in Lake Huron. One of the reasons why we follow this just-right approach is because of the environmental impact.”

**“We would need to clean out the basins in the spring if we used sand during the winter. We want to avoid adding sand and silt to the river or any other waterways.”**

**Dan Czarnecki**  
Fenton Department of  
Public Works director

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# LOOKING BACK

at this week in

## NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

### JAN. 20

**1961:** Robert Frost, 87, recited his poem "The Gift Outright" at the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy. Although Frost had written a new poem for the occasion, titled "Dedication," faint ink in his typewriter made the words difficult to read, so he recited "The Gift Outright" from memory.

### JAN. 21

**1977:** U.S. President Jimmy Carter grants an unconditional pardon to hundreds of thousands of men who evaded the draft during the Vietnam War.

### JAN. 22

**1973:** Roe v Wade was a landmark 1973 Supreme Court decision that established a woman's legal right to an abortion.

### JAN. 23

**1991:** Darrell Lunsford, a county constable in Garrison, Texas, is killed after pulling over a traffic violator. His murder was remarkable because it was captured on a camera set up in Lunsford's patrol vehicle. The videotape evidence led to the conviction of the three men who beat, kicked, and stabbed the officer to death along the East Texas highway. The videotape has ushered in a new era. Video cameras have become ubiquitous in police cars, and have proven to be a potent law-enforcement tool.

### JAN. 24

**1967:** "Respect," "Chain of Fools," and "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" are the passionate, gospel-charged classics with which Aretha Franklin is most closely associated. They were enormous, career-defining hits that earned her universal and eternal acclaim as the Queen of Soul, among other, more formal honors.

### JAN. 25

**1905:** At the Premier Mine in Pretoria, South Africa, a 3,106-carat diamond is discovered during a routine inspection by the mine's superintendent. Weighing 1.33 pounds, and christened the "Cullinan," it was the largest diamond ever found.

### JAN. 26

**1934:** One of America's best-loved movie projects gets underway on this day in 1934, when the producer Samuel Goldwyn buys the film rights to the children's novel "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum.

Source: History.com

## Police&Fire report

### TWO MEN CRITICALLY INJURED IN HOLLY TOWNSHIP CRASH

Two men were critically injured in an automobile crash in Holly Township on Monday, Jan. 15 at 1:47 p.m. Jeremy Lintz, North Oakland County Fire Authority chief, said first responders were called to a single vehicle crash on North Holly Road near Elliot Road. The vehicle was traveling southbound on North Holly Road and lost control. The vehicle veered from the road and crashed head-on into a large tree. The driver, a 22-year-old Holly man, and his passenger, a 21-year-old man from Gaines, were not wearing their seatbelts, said Lintz. Both were entrapped in the vehicle and both sustained life-threatening injuries. NOCFA extricated them with Jaws of Life and transported them to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township. Both were listed in critical condition at press time. North Holly Road was closed for two hours while Michigan State Police investigated.

### HOT LINE CONTINUED

**IF OUR DPW** officials looked at streets other than in front of the city offices, they'd see the streets haven't been cleared from four snowfalls ago. Get your head out of your office and look around.

**SO THE DEMOCRATS** are threatening to shut the government down if we don't give them DACA amnesty. Well then shut it down. Why are we so concerned with them? They are illegals, which means they are criminals. Shut it down if we have to.

**TRUMP HAS BEEN** trying to fix chain migration, open borders and illegal immigration. All of this has got to be a drain on our tax dollars. If we're going to have a country we have to take care of those things. So who cares about what he did 15 years ago? He's doing more than all of our presidents combined. He's trying to fix a lot of things that are ruining our country.

**THERE'S A SCAM** going on. It's about Consumers Energy calling asking about discounts for your winter payments. Then they ask you a bunch of personal questions. I called Consumers myself and they said not to answer any personal questions.

**PRESIDENT TRUMP DOES** not speak politically correct. However, he does speak with common sense. Concerning immigration; in a crisis situation would you save your family first or strangers? His loyalty is to the American people as it should be.

**SINCE WHEN DOES** the character of the President not matter?

**PART TWO OF** my pothole farming season. It is going very well, they are getting large and healthy.

# I don't want a credit card

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

I am 24 years old and have never taken out a credit card. I don't see the point.

Using a debit card is more responsible.

The money is automatically taken out of your account, which means you can't spend money you don't have. That leaves less chance for debt and defaulting. It's one less bill I have to worry about paying. I don't worry about spending more than my limit, I don't have to pay interest on anything I buy with my debit card, and it's one less card in my wallet.

I often hear that you need a credit card to build credit. Such malarkey. I built my credit score by paying off my student loans, paying for my car, my phone, and various other adult bills.

I see why it's popular—it's small, fits in your wallet, and you can buy nearly everything with it. The universal credit card came out in 1950, and American Express came out with its card in 1958. Now, it's estimated that 248 million adults in the U.S., which is approximately 70 percent of the population, have at least one of these shiny pieces of plastic, according to creditcards.com.

Americans have amassed an estimated \$905 billion in credit card debt in 2017, according to nerdwallet.com. That number is staggering and I want no part of it. Credit cards are a great example of how normal it is to be in debt in America. I already have enough debt with my student

loans, thank you. Credit card companies charge you interest if you don't pay the full balance every month so they benefit if you can't pay your bill.

I reached out to The State Bank and asked why I should get one. Stacey Webb, senior vice president of retail banking, said, "Many people use a credit card as an emergency source of funds. Credit cards also come in handy to guarantee a hotel reservation or for renting a car."

"Proper handling of a credit card can help establish credit as one of the factors in credit scoring is the ability to demonstrate timely repayment. Charging one item per month and paying the balance in full is great way to demonstrate ability to repay. Paying the balance in full each month also avoids interest charges," she said.

She has valid points. A credit card would be handy in an emergency. I've never had an issue with booking a hotel room with my debit card, but I don't travel that often, so that could be an issue. I learned from one of Vera Hogan's columns that some car rental companies only take credit cards. That could also be problematic.

Ultimately, I'll probably get a credit card. I like the idea of earning points for flights and cash back. But I loathe the whole system. The idea of swiping a card, taking home the item you "paid" for, and then paying it off at the end of the month will never seem very efficient to me.

In the past, many people lived from paycheck to paycheck. Today, it seems many live from credit card payment to credit card payment.

Opinions offered in this column are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email Hannah at hball@tctimes.com.



Hannah Ball

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# YOUR BACK PAIN:

## Herniated Disc, Pinched Nerve, Bulging Disc, What is it?

**ARTICLE MISPRINT IN LAST WEEKENDS PAPER: Phone number is 810-771-0222**

There are many terms used to describe spinal disc pathology and associated pain, such as "herniated disc," "pinched nerve," and "bulging disc," and all are used differently and, at times, interchangeably.

Unfortunately, healthcare professionals do not agree on a precise definition of any of these terms, and patients may be frustrated when they hear their diagnosis referred to in different terms. The unusually wide range of terms used to describe spinal disc problems (such as ruptured disc, torn disc, slipped disc, collapsed disc, disc protrusion, disc disease, and black disc) can add to the confusion.

Regardless of what type of issue you are experiencing, there is one thing you need to know. You have options when it comes to being properly diagnosed and getting the appropriate care to heal from almost all back and neck dis-ease. Surgery should always be your last resort because it is the one option that can not be undone.

Lets first go through some of the Myths and Facts when it comes to disc and nerve issues in the spinal column and then we can go through some treatment options you have to choose from.

Herniated Discs, Bulging Discs and Pinched Nerves all affect the nervous system. Unfortunately, its not just about pain and other symptoms. To effectively resolve Disc issues and avoid future damage that may lead to inability to control the bowels, bladder, sexual potency, you must educate yourself on the Facts and Myths that are looming around the subject. Do not be fooled. There is help and hope, even without surgery.

**MYTH:** Back pain and discomfort stemming from Disc & Nerve Problems will just "go away" with some rest.

**FACT:** When dealing with back pain, buttock pain or leg pain, seek help from a Spinal Bone and DISC specialist immediately. Left untreated, misaligned spinal bones

and DISC problems can get worse.

**MYTH:** Pain is the Only problem associated with a Bulging DISC, Herniated DISC or Pinched Nerve.

**FACT:** In severe cases, this problem can lead to the inability to control the bowels, bladder and sexual potency along with a slew of other organ issues- leading to embarrassing situations and long term health concerns.

**MYTH:** Pain medications can help with problems associated with DISCs, Pinched Nerves and Bones that are shifting out of their proper position.

**FACT:** Drugs like muscle relaxants, pain killers, pain killing injections, narcotics, antidepressants, and anti-seizure medications can cover up and mask your symptoms but they will not cure bulging spinal DISCs, herniated spinal DISCs or pinched nerves.

**MYTH:** Stop exercising and get several weeks of bed rest to let the Bulging DISC recover...

**FACT:** Staying active can help to relieve the pain and prevent the pain from getting worse. Staying inactive in bed could be the worst advice - based on a recent study in the Netherlands.

**MYTH:** Surgery is required to fix a Bulging DISC, Herniated DISC or remove pressure from a nerve due to a spinal bone shift.

**FACT:** NO! There's been a huge breakthrough in the treatment of Bulging DISCs, Herniated DISCs, Pinched Nerves and Spinal Misalignments and Curvatures of the spine. It's a new corrective procedure called Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. Success rates are up to 88%.

**MYTH:** "There's nothing anyone can really do. I'm just stuck with this for the rest of my life."

**FACT:** With the correct treatment from a health-care professional who specializes in corrective care of the spine, you can find relief from the core cause - and the symptoms.

**MYTH:** Getting a Bulging DISC properly diagnosed is expensive.

**FACT:** Not true. Dr. James Ide of Painless Chiropractic of Fenton MI specializes in motion study x-rays to properly diagnose using X-Ray analysis, the root cause of your symptoms and utilizes a custom treatment protocol, referred to as Non-Surgical Reconstructive Spinal Care to treat and correct the underlying issue. They accept insurance and have many options to help people with special financial needs.

Dr. Ide described his office as "Not your average Chiropractic office", he said they focus on rapid corrective care and though they love having life time patients, "our goal is to set up a plan to correct the underlying issue so the same problem doesn't keep coming up, then we teach the patient proper spinal hygiene that they

can do at home with periodic visits to a chiropractic office for traditional chiropractic care". "It's like Spinal Care Boot Camp, you go all in and work hard and the efforts pay off, at that point they can do their traditional care at our office or someplace closer to their home".

When asked what options people have when it

comes to seeking relief from their back pain associated with a Bulging Disc, Herniated Disc, Pinched Nerve or Shifting of the Spinal Bones, Dr. Ide said "Well there are really only two options, you can fix the problem or you can mask it. Pain pills mask the pain. Injections are really just a pain pill, in an injectable form but longer lasting. The problem with masking the pain is that you can further injure yourself and you put off dealing with the problem, leading to further problems. Surgery doesn't always work and it limits your future options because it cannot be undone so it should always be a last resort. Physical therapy alone usually gets things moving and many times helps people feel better but a few weeks or months after their program is finished, may people experience the same problem again". He said at his office they work to correct the issue and the way that each patients program is set up, is based on their particular problem area but they see great success and have helped many local Genesee County residence avoid surgery and get their lives back.

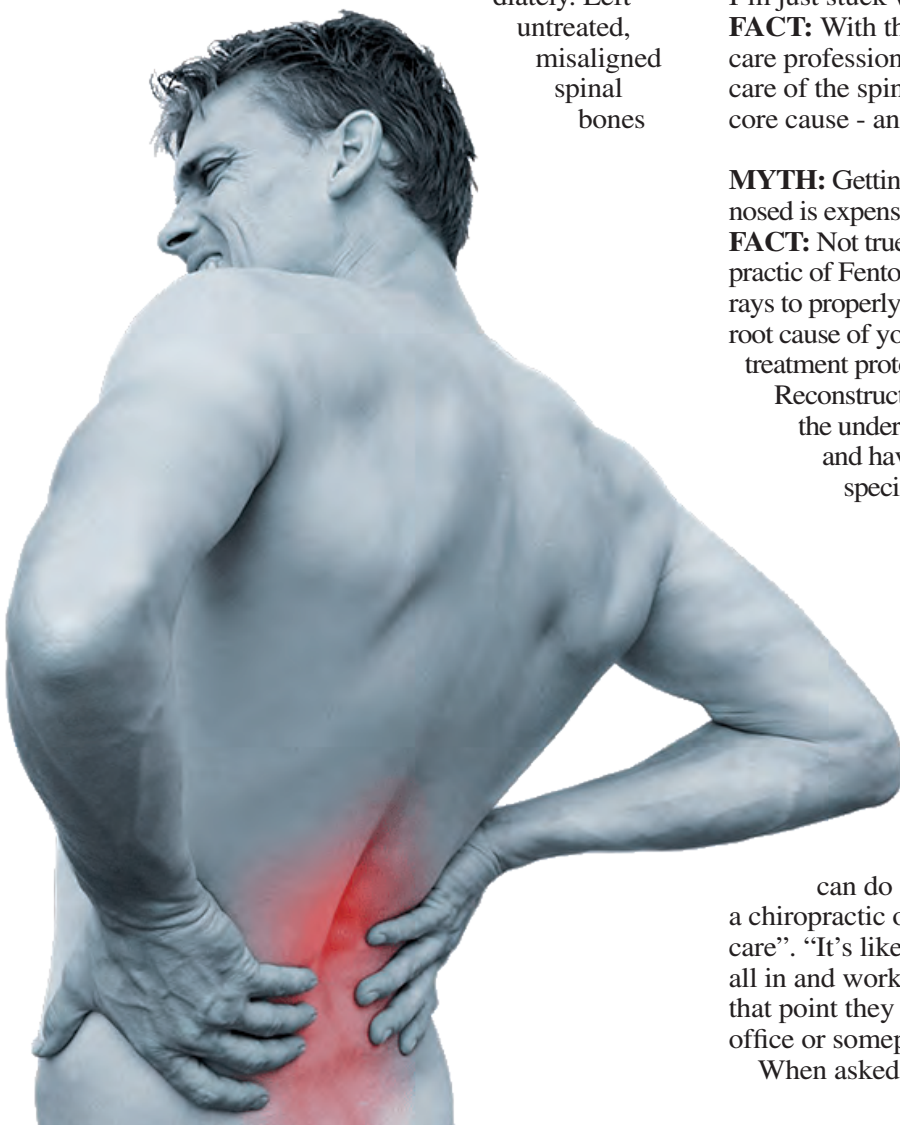
Catherine B. of Fenton said "My daughter has had back problems ever since she was 10 or 11 and I have taken her to specialists. I learned more at Painless Chiropractic, with the x-rays that they take and the one on one they do with you then I did in 4 years from the other specialists that I took her to. I too have signed up as well as my daughter and I'm getting great results. Thank you so much".

If you are interested in having your back or neck issues properly diagnosed and corrected Dr. James Ide's office is located in Fenton MI directly off of US-23 at 2803 W. Silver Lake Rd. at the light on Fenway in the Classic Corners Plaza, by Nutrition Works Vitamin Shop and the Mug and Brush Barber Shop.

**Their phone number is 810-771-0222.**

**Special Sponsored Times Reader Offer: Mention this article CODE: TIMES2018**

Dr. Ide has agreed to offer the Times readers a special offer to enable them to take action and live healthier and happier in 2018. **Call now and mention the above code and the office will reduce their normal fee of \$195 for a consultation and full exam to just \$27.** If they feel that your issue is something that can be helped they will move further into the process. Furthermore, they do accept insurance and at the time of your consultation and exam, if you are a candidate for care they have assured us they are happy to do a complete and complimentary benefit check to inform you of what options you have and what insurance coverage will do for you. Call them now and get a full and thorough examination and consultation and save \$168. For obvious reasons they can't help everyone so they have asked us to please share with you this, **if you are not serious about taking action and taking control of your health please reserve your call for a point in your life when you are. "We love helping people reach their health goals but unfortunately you can not want a better life for someone more than they want it for themselves"** Dr. Ide said. Don't hesitate a moment longer, **call now and don't forget to mention the code TIMES2018. 810-771-0222. The office is very busy so if you reach the answering machine, please feel free to leave a message to hold your space, this offer is limited to the first 18 people who call.**





# Read this before booking your next hotel room

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

These cold winter months offer many opportunities to “get away from it all.” What you won’t be able to escape from are higher hotel prices in 2018, slated to be up 3.7 percent this year, according to Global Travel Forecast.

That means it’s more important than ever to be a savvy hotel shopper to score your very best rate. Here are a few tips to save your wallet a few dollars on your overnight accommodations:

## TIP #1: Do your research

If you’re going to a tourist destination, for example Sarasota, Florida or Savannah, Georgia, contact your local travel agent before you do anything else.

“We probably have a package that goes there,” said Diane Roberts of Superior Travel in Fenton. “We can sometimes get ‘value added’ like upgrades, a free dinner or breakfast, that you couldn’t get on your own.”

Plus, a travel agent will have the most up-to-date information about seasonal rates, discounts, promotions, etc.

Check the websites of your favorite hotel chains; they’ll often run promotions exclusively for web bookings, as well as hotel discount reservation services like Hotels.com and general travel booking sites like Expedia and Travelocity. Your best strategy may be to shop around for the lowest rate, then call the hotel directly to see if they will match it.

## TIP #2: Call the hotel directly

Many times there are specials offered at a hotel site that can’t be submitted

PHOTO:MOPPEDUP.COM

Check out websites of hotels you are considering to stay at to read reviews by past guests. Any promotions and amenities also will be listed.



“We can sometimes get ‘value added,’ like upgrades, a free dinner or breakfast, that you couldn’t get on your own.”

Diane Roberts  
Superior Travel in Fenton

through their 1-800 central reservations system. The 800 agents have no direct access to room availability and are often not authorized to negotiate. Also, many chains assign only a select number of rooms to the central reservation system, so 800 agents may tell you a hotel is sold out, when, in fact, the hotel is discounting rooms because of low booking rates.

On-site hotel managers are generally more in touch with availability and specials and may be in a better position to negotiate.

See **HOTEL ROOM** on 15A

## SECRETS YOUR HOTEL MAY NOT WANT YOU TO KNOW

- **Hotel rooms are** infested with germs, so bring your own antibacterial wipes and plan to use them on the TV remote control, telephone and clock radio.
- **Ask for clean** blankets when you arrive, because linens and bedspreads are only cleaned once every few months.
- **Don’t plan to** luxuriate in your hotel bathtub. That could mean soaking in a stew of bacteria and cleaning chemicals, according to a study by TravelMath, a travel logistics website. Book a massage at the hotel spa instead.
- **Ask privately for** a free room upgrade, away from other guests. You just may be able to get a larger corner room or handicapped room.
- **Hotels are the** third most commonplace for bed bug infestation. They’re as common at five-star resorts as they are at seedy motels. Good rule of thumb? Put your luggage in the bathtub after you check in, rather than plopping it down on the bed, according to Conde Nast Traveler.

## Here’s what your hotel would like everyone to know:

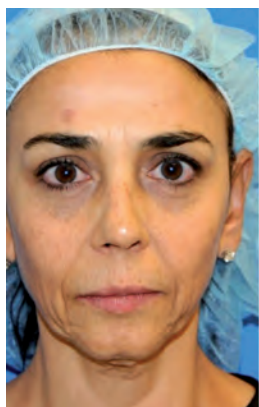
Did you ever wonder what happens to all the leftover soaps and toiletries that you don’t use after your hotel stay? Clean the World, which partners with the Global Soap Project, has been recycling those soaps to make new soap for those in need in developing countries and reduce waste here at home.

Recycling costs the hotels just 75 cents per room a month. The leftover soap, body wash, shampoo and conditioner is cleaned, sterilized and tested for purity before it is shipped to another part of the world. They are packaged into hygiene kits and people are taught how to use soap to reduce illness and disease.

SOURCE: Readers Digest



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## Snowmobile destroyed by fire on Lake Fenton



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

This 580 Arctic Cat snowmobile caught fire in the middle of Lake Fenton Wednesday, Jan. 17. At 5:15 p.m., the Fenton Township Fire Department responded to the burning and abandoned snowmobile, which was approximately 200 yards from Woodhull Landing. Firefighters used Dry Chem to extinguish what was left of the fire. Fenton Express Towing removed it from the ice. The fire department is trying to locate the owner or the person who was riding the snowmobile at the time of the fire. Anyone with information or photos should email Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz at [rvolz@fentontownship.org](mailto:rvolz@fentontownship.org).

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**WHY NOT ACCEPT** any tax increase? I would rather my \$50 a month go to low-income programs, not to the .01-percent wealthiest. You have no empathy.

**DON'T YOU THINK** it's strange that America is suddenly flooded with a chemical called fentanyl, which is killing Americans by the thousands at the same time they declare war on pain pills for the elderly and those in chronic pain? Open your eyes people, it goes hand in hand.

**THE NFL CONTINUES** its downward spiral. All four of the division play-off games hit new lows with viewership. They were down from anywhere between 5 and 9 percent, the lowest ratings in over 16 years. We will not allow our country, our flag or our veterans to be disrespected.

**THE GOLDEN GLOBE** Awards was anything but. It was mainly stars thinking we wanted to hear their sage opinions on what they've known for years. We want their movies, not their opinions.

**I AM NOT** a crook. I am not a racist. Both going to end up the same way.

**AS A SOLDIER**, Chelsea Manning leaked 750,000 documents, exposing our military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. That's why she was sentenced to 35 years in prison. Of course she was pardoned by Obama and then her sentence was commuted. Now she's running for the Senate. Sickening.

**OBAMA COULDN'T HAVE** gone bankrupt, he never had a job. He did something worse, he bankrupted the country.

## WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, Jan. 17, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

### Two adults, two children die in Holly area fire

A young couple and their two little boys were killed when fire destroyed their Rose Township home Tuesday morning, Jan. 16.

### Radon, the silent killer, found in Fenton home

Tests show a level three or four times higher than acceptable.

### Fenton police respond to 19 crashes

Icy roads and speeding motorists were all factors.

### Busiest day of the year so far at Mt. Holly

Ski patrol reports several Sunday evening accidents on busy slopes.



### A look back at 1968

This exclusive Midweek series was 'What's the number for 911?'

## CRUST

Continued from Page 3A

They cut cinnamon rolls, bake muffins, scones and biscuits and start proofing various products.

For croissants, day bakers create the all-important layers and infuse them with butter to give it the signature layered flaky consistency. Then the raw, folded dough is proofed and baked at night.

"It's a long process," said Nimmo. "That's really why we can't do it the same day, we don't skip steps."

Smaller bakeries could probably run a daytime-only operation, but CRUST works with wholesale and retail clients that need their orders as promised.

Things have to be done correctly, and in the right order. "We usually do it the same every night," she said. "We have to maintain focus and consistency throughout."

Because of this, bakers have to be alert and focused late at night, or early in the morning. "It takes a certain person to want to work those kinds of hours," Nimmo said.

Not only are there different shifts, there are different kitchens, and teams throughout. There are pastry teams, mixing teams and others just do "lamination," the process of folding layered sheets of dough into butter. Others will mix, scale and bake cakes during the day. Overall, CRUST employs 150 year round, and 180 during the holidays. There are 85 employees in their production areas.

This is technically the slower season. During busier holidays, the crews can almost double.

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## AUTOPSY

Continued from Front Page

The case, however, was adjourned again, this time for lack of an autopsy report of shooting victim Brady Alan Morris, from the medical examiner's office.

Attorney Frank Manley is representing Akl, with assistant prosecuting attorney Lia Perryman representing the people.

Perryman said she has made several inquiries to the medical examiner's office, but has not received a report.

Both parties need the report to proceed with the case, a sentiment Guinn echoed as a former prosecuting attorney himself.

Guinn added that these reports usually take 90 days, and Perryman might need to subpoena the doctor to get them to explain the delay.

Manley said he has contacted an independent forensic examiner, who said they need the report as well to proceed.

"It's very, very important that we have this particular autopsy report," said Manley, adding that it could help illustrate what happened. "There is a



Abdurrahman "Abdu" Ahmed Akl, 17, stands in the 67<sup>th</sup> District Court flanked by attorney Frank Manley and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Lia Perryman (left). His probable cause conference was adjourned due to a missing autopsy report.

question of whether or not there was a potential accident," he said. He said the report was a necessity for the case.

### BACKGROUND

According to investigative reports from the Genesee County Sheriff's Office, at approximately 11 p.m. on March 4, 2017, sheriff's deputies and the Fenton Police Department were dispatched to 14170 Moffett Dr. in Fenton Township in response to a 911 call regarding a male with a gunshot wound to the head.

Akl was immediately taken into custody and a semi-automatic pistol was found on the front porch and secured by police.

Akl and Morris, who were reportedly friends, were alone on the first floor of the residence when the shooting occurred. Other members of Akl's family and one other guest were on the second and third floors.

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.

With bond denied, Akl has remained in custody at the Genesee Valley Regional Center since his arrest.

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**METEOR**

Continued from Front Page

act of winter lightning; it has been confirmed to have been a meteoroid entering Earth's atmosphere, according to NASA. It lit the skies across Michigan and in six other states and Canada.

The flashing light and loud boom felt across Michigan was seen as far away as New York City and parts of Canada and was first spotted at 8:08 at Oberlin College in Ohio. Around the same time, the U.S. Geological Survey reported a 2.0 magnitude seismic reading.

"It was a meteor," said James Hickok of Fenton, on Facebook. "I saw a huge bright flash and caught it from the corner of my eye vaporizing over Rural King (in Hartland). It looked like a box of hot coals being thrown across the sky when I actually saw it. Because I love astronomy and watched many fireball videos including the Chelyabinsk meteor over Russia a few years ago, I immediately knew what it was. Fireballs like that happen about once a day on average somewhere around the world, but it is rare to actually see. What a treat."

**WATCH THE VIDEO**AT TCTIMES.COM  
WITH THIS STORY

**“I saw a huge bright flash and caught it from the corner of my eye . . . It looked like a box of hot coals being thrown across the sky when I actually saw it.”**

**James Hickok***Fenton resident, on Facebook*

This nighttime event was a huge event, astronomically speaking, and a rare sight in Michigan, according to Bill Cooke of NASA's meteoroid environment office in Alabama.

He estimated the meteoroid appeared to have been about one or two yards across, weighed more than a metric ton and traveled to 40,000 to 50,000 miles to earth.

The American Meteor Society says the reports suggest a space rock penetrated deep into the earth's atmosphere before it broke apart.

"Over Michigan, they're rare," Cooke said. "But elsewhere on the planet, they happen a few times every month."

Other states where people reported seeing a fireball included Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Missouri.

**Gone viral!**

The Jan. 16 light show was captured by a video cam on Thompson Road by Fred Moses, chief technology officer of the Times. It went viral within hours, spreading across Michigan almost as fast as the meteor itself. As of Friday morning, the video was shared 2,628 times and viewed by more than 240,000 people.

**10 meteor facts**

1. A meteor shower occurs when the Earth passes through the trail of debris left by a comet or asteroid.
2. Meteors are bits of rocks and ice ejected from comets as they move in their orbits about the sun.
3. A meteor that reaches the ground it is called a meteorite.
4. Meteor showers get their names from the constellation where their radiant is located. Perseids come from Perseus, hence the name Perseids.
5. Comets continuously eject material with each passage around the sun; this replenishes the shower meteoroids.
6. Approximately 30 meteor showers occur each year that are visible to observers on Earth. Some of these showers have been around longer than 100 years. For example, the Perseid meteor shower, which occurs each year in August, was first observed about 2000 years ago and recorded in the Chinese annals.
7. Meteors are sometimes observed with red, yellow or green trails. The colors are caused by the ionization of molecules - like oxygen which appears to be green.
8. A fireball is a meteor that is brighter than the planet Venus.
9. Radar indicates there are 12,000 meteors on a given night that are about the size of a piece of dust.
10. The International Space Station has shielding to protect it from meteors up to an inch wide.

Source: NASA



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## FUNERAL

**Continued from Front Page**  
when their mobile home in Rose Township caught fire Tuesday at 5:38 a.m.

Rodden and Taulbee are originally from Breathitt County, Kentucky and Taulbee recently moved to Michigan to be with Rodden and the boys.

The North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA), along with fire departments from the village of Holly, Groveland Township, Fenton City and Springfield Township responded to the mobile home on Wakewood Court, just south of the village of Holly.

"Our first unit arrived on scene at 5:45 a.m., and reported a fully involved structure with at least four persons believed to still be inside," said NOCFA Chief Jeremy Lintz. Two other occupants that were in the home managed to escape and were both transported by our ambulance to Genesys Hospital in Grand Blanc Township."

The two victims transported were a 35-year-old male who sustained minor injuries and a

49-year-old male who suffered severe burns to his body and smoke inhalation. The latest update on the 49-year-old was that he is in the ICU in critical condition.

### SUMMARY

Family members living in Kentucky are heartbroken and trying to bring home the bodies of Brittani Rodden, Jonathan Taulbee and their two young sons, Wesley and Carter, after they were killed in an early morning fire on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

### WATCH THE VIDEO



AT TCTIMES.COM  
WITH THIS STORY

Due to the extent of the fire throughout the entire home firefighters could only fight the blaze from the exterior. At 6:04 a.m., the fire was brought under control and fire crews were able to begin recovery efforts. During recovery operations, fire crews discovered the bodies of two adults and two children that were originally said to be in the home.

Reports from witnesses at the scene stated that Taulbee had initially escaped from the home with the other two males but then went back inside the burning building to try and rescue his family.

Michigan State Police (MSP) detectives and fire investigators were at the scene for more than five hours investigating the cause of the fire.

"At this time, the official cause is under investigation, however, we are looking into



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brittani Rodden, Jonathan Taulbee, and their two children, Carter and Wesley, died of smoke inhalation in their Rose Township home on Jan. 16.

the possibility that one of the occupants may have been using some type of flammable accelerant to stoke the fire in the wood burning stove that was being used to heat the home, causing the fire to flash out into the living area," Lintz said.

"As of Thursday morning, investigators are focusing on the wood-burning stove.

"The men and women of the North Oakland County Fire Authority, as well as all of the members of the assisting fire departments are devastated and deeply sad-

dened by this tragedy. House fire fatalities are not a common occurrence for our community and our deepest sympathy and prayers go out to the victims and their families.

"All of the firefighters performed their duties flawlessly this morning in very unfavorable conditions. We only wish that the outcome could have been different."

Lintz added that the two men who escaped the burning home are Glen Rodden, Brittani's father, and Frank Thomason, Brittani's cousin. Glen Rodden was critically injured but

is improving and still in ICU. Thomason was treated and released from the hospital later on the day of the fire.

F/Lt Michael Shaw of the MSP said they have no new updates on their investigation. Evidence was sent to the crime lab and they are awaiting those results, as well as awaiting medical examiner results.

Taulbee's mother, Ida Taulbee of Jackson, Kentucky told LEX18.com news station in Kentucky that it had been less than 48 hours since she spoke with her son, Jonathan and Brittani. She was quoted as saying, "That was his life, Carter and Wesley. He lived for them."

Ida Taulbee said Jon and Brittani attended Breathitt County High School, and Jon had only recently moved to Michigan to join his family. "He (Jon) could always brighten up the room and he did love his children," Ida said. "She (Brittani) was really a good mother to them, and I'm so proud to say that she was part of my family."

Elton Black & Son Funeral Home is handling arrangements in Michigan and the family is trying to raise money to bring the family back to Kentucky for burial. Those wishing to donate can go to [www.gofundme.com/taulbeerodden-family-funeral](http://www.gofundme.com/taulbeerodden-family-funeral).

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## HOTEL ROOM

Continued from Page 9A

### TIP #3: Call a hotel after 6 p.m.

This is when hotels wipe out all the no-show reservations that were unsecured by a credit card. They then offer those rooms at bargain rates, according to Bottomlineinc.com. The most expensive time of day to make a reservation is in the morning.

### TIP #4 You don't get, if you don't ask

This may sound like a "duh," but it's often all you need to do to get a better rate. Ask for any current promotions or packages and see if you qualify for any special rates: AAA, senior, family, hotel membership, weekend, government discount, frequent flier, convention, shareholder or corporate. You may even be lucky to get a "fallback" rate, usually given to travelers who resist a quoted rate.

Hint: Don't carry in all your luggage to the front desk while trying to negotiate a better rate. They know they've got you, because you look like you wouldn't want to schlep all that luggage anywhere else.

### TIP #5: Book by price, not property

If you care more about getting the cheapest deal than reserving a specific hotel, consider choosing your own price on Priceline or shopping the anonymous hotel inventory on Hot-Wire. You won't know which hotel you're staying at until you've booked it, but you can request the general location and quality.

### TIP #6: Be flexible with your dates

Hotel rates can vary widely, based on the time of year and day of the week. Know when the peak season is to visit your destination, and try to schedule your visit for a less popular travel time.

If your travel plans are flexible, you could get a great rate by waiting to book your hotel until the last minute. Hotel managers are often willing to lower their rates to fill their last remaining rooms.

### TIP #7: Consider a package deal

If you're looking for both airfare and hotels, it might be worth booking the two together as a package deal.

### TIP #8: Look beyond the "chain" hotels

Consider alternatives like vacation rentals, bed and breakfasts, hostels or independently owned small hotels.

### TIP #9 Know the full cost

Keep in mind that the base rate of the hotel isn't the only thing that will determine your total bill. Be sure to ask about taxes, resort fees, parking costs, energy surcharges and other odds and ends that will apply to the final tally.

### TIP #10: Use hotel loyalty points

If you belong to a hotel's loyalty program and have accumulated enough points, you can often use them to pay for your room, or for a room upgrade.

Sources: Smarttraveler.com, Bottomlineinc.com

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**TO THE PERSON** saying Nancy Reagan still has Secret Service that we are paying for. Does that mean that they have plots next to her in the cemetery as she died in March of 2016. Keep up with the correct information or maybe don't post.

**ALL THE DOUBLE-**chinned sports fans out there running at the limits need to remember that snow removal personnel on foot are pedestrians and have the right-of-way. Next, we start swinging back.

**I WOULD LIKE** to thank my angel on Tuesday at Walmart for taking the bill for my groceries. She doesn't know how much that means. God bless you.

**BARACK OBAMA IS** not responsible for not giving you a Social Security cost of living increase. Richard M. Nixon is.

**THAT MARIJUANA EXPERT** in Wednesday's paper doesn't know what he's talking about. There's nothing more addictive than nicotine in a cigarette but we still don't outlaw those.

**THE LIBERALS ARE** calling President Trump a racist every time he says anything. Look at yourself Democrats, you're the racists and bigots.

**MARCH 27 AND 28** of 2011. It was in the high 80s to the high 90 degrees. Please check your facts.

**PAY RAISES ARE** the result of companies not paying their fair share of taxes, passing that burden onto your children.

**COMMON SENSE. THEY** say five people a week die from opioids. So you change things. Now you have 1,000 people dying from opioids. Don't you think common sense would tell you to go back to what you were doing before?

**AN ILLEGAL ALIEN** in California, after having killed two policemen, said he wished he would have killed more. Although he was deported five times he found his way back to California. He is representative of the types of people that Gov. Brown and the Democrats want to protect.



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**THE COUNTY  
Times**



## Business briefs

### CHANGE FOR KIDS

The State Bank announced it had another successful year for its Change for Kids program. Since the bank's expansion into the Great Lakes Bay Region earlier this year, the program now supports the low- and moderate-income children and families in 12 local school districts, including Linden, Fenton, Holly and Lake Fenton. Each year, funds are collected through a variety of fundraising events organized by bank staff. Successful fundraisers, generous donations by bank customers and a donation made by The State Bank supported this cause. For the 2017-2018 school year, The State Bank presented each of the 12 districts with \$2,500. Since the program's inception in 2011, The State Bank has given \$110,518. The schools are free to use these funds as they see fit for children in need, and are always very appreciative. "The Change for Kids program has provided us with a much needed resource for our students and families," said Superintendent Julie Williams of Lake Fenton Community Schools. "We have been able to help families with items many of us take for granted. Each year we provide food baskets and gifts to our families in need during the holidays, but many families have needs well beyond the holiday season. Change for Kids allows us to help families throughout the school year. Thank you to everyone who has donated to this cause and thank you, State Bank for sponsoring the program." Change for Kids began in response to a need to assist low- and moderate-income families. "We especially want to provide the funding to meet the physical and educational needs of those children," said The State Bank Senior Vice President Stacy Webb.

## Police&Fire report

### SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP MAN DISCHARGES HANDGUN IN HOME, BULLET HITS NEIGHBOR'S HOME

A 24-year-old Springfield Township man could face a reckless discharge of a firearm charge following an incident at 4:37 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 16 in Springfield Township. According to the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, deputies responded to the 17000 block of Louise Drive in the Springgrove subdivision for an individual who had discharged a handgun in his home striking the front door of the home across the street. Deputies met with the caller who said that he was removing items from a dresser drawer where he keeps his loaded 9mm handgun when he accidentally knocked the gun from the drawer causing it to fall to the ground. He picked up the gun and inspected it for damage at which time he discharged the firearm. The bullet went through several walls in the home before striking the front door of the home across the street. No one was injured inside the man's home and the residents across the street, whose home was struck by the bullet, were not home at the time of the incident. The man's firearm was collected as evidence and he was released pending a review by the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office.

## WINE

Continued from Page 3A

"Is it 'oaky'? Do you taste maybe a tobacco flavor? Is it fruity, sweet, dry?" he said.

If you don't know how to order wine, tell the bartender if you prefer sweet or dry wine. You can request samples. Sherrow said the best way to discover what you like is to try numerous wines.

If you're in a store and don't know what wine to buy, Sherrow said read the back label because it will give you a brief description.

"You don't want to get caught up on worrying about what other people think. If you drink a wine and like the way it tastes, that's good wine. We just want you to enjoy the experience," he said.

Argentine Township resident Chris Marks, a wine distributor who works at the Republic National Distributing Company, said the industry has made wine difficult and confusing for the consumer to understand.

"Wine should not be snooty, sophisticated stuff. There's great wine out there in just about every price point," he said, adding that nobody is making bad wine anymore because they would go out of business.

If you don't know what wine to buy, his suggestion is to go into a store and tell the wine expert your price range and if you want a red or a white, or a dry or a fruity wine.

"If you are new to wine drinking, why would you spend \$60 when you can barely tell the difference between a \$60 and a \$7 bottle?" he said.

Here are five ways to spot a good wine, from Men's Fitness magazine:

### SUMMARY

■ Good wine is subjective. Here are a few tips for identifying flavors in your favorite glass of wine.

#### 1. Look at the back of the bottle

Front labels are supposed to draw your attention, but the back labels have all the important information. They should include information about the aging process, where it was made, the grapes, and the flavors that you should taste. Google anything you don't know.

Keep your eyes open for awards or finalist awards. Good wine wins competitions.

#### 2. Use your nose

You've poured the glass of wine and now you're ready to drink. Before you do, sniff the liquid. The more you smell, the more complex the wine. If the smell is bad, it's probably a bad wine.

Swirl the wine as well and keep your eyes out for the "legs," which are those lines of wine that run down the side of the glass. The thicker and slower the legs disappear, the higher the alcohol content.

#### 3. Measure durability

When you sip wine, the flavor should linger on your tongue and around your taste buds. When the flavors stay on your tongue longer, that's an indicator that you found a good wine. With dark reds, you should be able to taste some of the cherry, raspberry or other berries infused.

#### 4. How old is it?

Check the year it was made. You can Google that year to find out if it was a good season for the grapes, if it was a particularly good harvest, or if the weather helped or hurt the wine. Look



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Fenton Winery and Brewery in Fenton Township makes and stores its own wine.

up the region and pursue some expert wine websites.

#### 5. Buy what you like

If you really like a wine, even if it's cheap and experts say it's not good, then keep buying it. Older wines aren't always better, and many wines that cost less than \$15 are meant to be enjoyed young.

Don't be picky when it comes to screw tops, either. Approximately 8 percent of wine with a cork becomes tainted by the cork and is undrinkable. The screw top ensures the wine is clean.

#### WINE APP VIVINO

Vivino, a wine-finding app, encourages you to take a picture of the wine label you're thinking about buying, gives you the price that it's usually sold for and how others have rated it. Users can enter in a specific price range and order the wine with free shipping.

Source: vivino.com

### MOST POPULAR WHITE WINE VARIETIES

Chardonnay  
Riesling  
Sauvignon Blanc  
Pinot Grigio  
Moscato

Source: wines.com

### MOST POPULAR RED WINE VARIETIES

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Merlot  
Pinot Noir  
Shiraz  
Zinfandel

Source: wines.com

### WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE WINE EVER AUCTIONED

The world's most expensive wine, a bottle of 2015 The Setting Cabernet Sauvignon, sold for \$350,000 at a charity auction for the Emeril Lagasse Foundation's Carnivale du Vin in 2015.

Source: people.com

## MT. HOLLY EVENTS



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## 2018 AUTO SHOW

### Continued from Front Page

Everything converges at the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS), hosted annually at Cobo Center in Detroit. According to Crain's Detroit Business, 806,554 attended the 2017 event.

Heads of government, analysts, journalists, and engineers attended the press preview to see a hint of the future, and the dreams of automakers that actually came true.

"It's pretty exciting, even if I'm not a big fan of cars, it's very interesting to be here," said Valerio Ciriaci, an Italian filmmaker living in New York, shooting for Sky News, Italy.

As always, vehicles new and old were placed side by side to show how far we've come, like a 1968 Ford Mustang beside a 2019 Bullitt model, both painted gun metal grey.

Highlights for 2018 include some brand new vehicles, like the 2018 Jeep Wrangler and brand new Ford Ranger.

Ford also brought its self-driving vehicles, and GAC from China brought its space-pod-like "Enverge" vehicle.

In 2018, there's an air of optimism and the recovering economy evidenced by the new offerings, and riskier vehicles.

So how does the industry feel today, from the inside?

"I think it feels great," said Scott Tallon, director of the Jeep brand for Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA).

He attended the press preview on Monday. "...times have been tough, those aren't fun, but we all get a little smarter and work a little harder."

Through the slower times in the economy, they can prepare their releases for better times — like today. Their revamped Wrangler brings about new technology, like a mild hybrid engine, which runs a gas engine with battery assistance.

Tallon said themes for 2018 and beyond include technology, connectivity and efficiency.

Anson Dixon and Craig Silva, Ford Canada social community managers, said people were talking about new releases across social media. In the Ford side, the Bullitt Mustang and Ranger were getting attention.

"It's exciting times," said Dixon. "They're commenting on the mobility aspect, and the future city we're building."

Sam Salzinger is a senior analyst for ALG, a company that tests residual values. During the press event, he said he's interested in what vehicle features will still be worthwhile in four years. "Everyone's here to make improvements," he said.

The public show runs from Saturday, Jan. 20 to Sunday, Jan. 28.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder and Lt. Gov. Brian Calley tour the North American International Auto Show on Monday, Jan. 15. This is Governor Snyder's last time touring the auto show as governor, due to his final term ending in January 2019.

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#### Clarification

In the article "Liquor license violations 2017," published earlier this month, it said Guillermo Valadez spent two days in jail for a DWI that occurred in October of 2016. He was arraigned on Jan. 9, 2017. According to Genesee County Court records Valadez was sentenced to two days in jail. He did not spend two days in jail.

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# Bronchos continue winning ways, crush Notre Dame Prep, 42-31

■ JV girls also win thriller vs. Fighting Irish on late free throws

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Life has been good on the Holly varsity girls basketball team in recent weeks.

The Bronchos (9-3) have won four straight games with one of those contests being a victory against area rival Fenton.

Holly kept up the good times on Tues-

day, earning a non-league 42-31 victory against Notre Dame Prep.

The contest was close throughout with Holly eventually extending the gap late in the game. Holly led 12-8 after one quarter and 26-20 at halftime. The lead was still just 34-27 entering the final quarter, but Holly's defense held the Irish to just four fourth-quarter points, leading the squad to the win.

Rebecca Fugate continued her out-

standing play, netting a game-high 24 points. She also had three rebounds, three steals and two assists. Sami Hild netted seven points, five rebounds and two steals while Payton Price had nine rebounds and nine steals to go with her four points and

three assists. Taylor Vines collected four points and two rebounds while Emma Tooley had nine rebounds to go with her three points.

The Holly JV team is also off to a nice run lately, earning its fourth straight win in a 38-36 victory against the Irish.

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Photo by Mark Bolen

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018

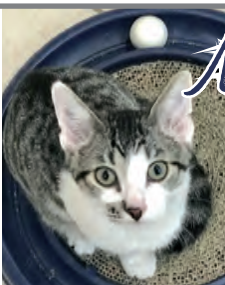
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## Sports

Holly's Rebecca Fugate scored 24 points in a 42-31 victory against Notre Dame Prep on Tuesday.

## Blue Devils taking wins when they can get them

■ Julian's OT win leads Lake Fenton to victory vs. Montrose

By David Troppens

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Lake Fenton — Wins haven't come as easily for the Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team this season.

With its voids and young squad, rebuilding has been the name of the game this season. But when the wins do come, you can bet the Blue Devils enjoy them.

On Wednesday, no one enjoyed the Blue Devils' victory more than junior Logan Julian. That's because the 171-pounder entered the final match against Montrose needing a victory to assure Lake Fenton the win. He earned that victory by the narrowest of margins — by getting a takedown in overtime — earning the Blue Devils a 36-343 win. Lake Fenton also wrestled traditional state power New Lothrop and Lake Fenton gave them a strong showing despite losing the match 57-18.

Lake Fenton trailed Montrose 30-12, but bounced back. Three-time defending individual state wrestling champion Jarrett Trombley (140) earned a pinfall win in his bout and a match later, Hunter Hypio (145) earned a decision victory, cutting the Montrose lead to 34-27. A void victory cut the Lake Fenton deficit to just 34-33 entering Julian's match. He led 1-0 going into the third period, but an escape in the third period tied the match up at 1-all and forced overtime. During it, Julian earned a takedown, capturing

his individual win while also earning the Blue Devils at Genesee Area Conference victory.

"It felt pretty good," Julian said about winning the match. "I had to wrestle pretty hard. I had to stay clean and have no sloppy stuff. I was nervous in the overtime, but I got through it and took him down."

Lake Fenton varsity wrestling coach Vance Corcoran was impressed by his team's competitiveness on Wednesday.

"The kids had way more effort today," Corcoran said. "They showed way more heart and way more everything. We have five or six hammers and a bunch of new kids and today was the first day I saw improvement as a team, but we still have a way to go. All we can do at this time is keep working hard. All we are going to do is improve."

"Montrose is solid. They have low numbers like us, but I didn't expect it to get to the last match. I was hoping we'd compete with them and keep it halfway close. That would've been OK, but our kids came out to wrestle today on our new mat."

"No one likes to lose, so whenever we can win we are going to be proud and be happy about it," Trombley said.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Two wrestlers who won matches against Montrose, helping earn the Blue Devils a win were Jarrett Trombley (top photo) and Logan Julian (immediately above).



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Fenton's Zac Jump won two individual events against Brandon on Tuesday.

## Tigers looking strong in quest for seventh straight title

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — The Fenton varsity boys swimming and diving team entered the Metro League season as the clear favorite to defend its conference title for a seventh consecutive season.

Two meets into the season, the Tigers have done nothing to change that educated opinion by most who follow the sport.

The Tigers crushed Brandon 140-29 in a dual meet held at Fenton High School on Tuesday. That victory came five days after beating the Holly Bronchos 141-38 in the Tigers first Metro dual of the season.

The Tigers won 11 of the 12 events against the out-manned Blackhawks on Tuesday, with Zac Jump taking part in the most firsts.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



## Eagles soar with the help of its defense, 63-41

By Dale M. Smith

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Linden — It is an old axiom in baseball that you win with pitching and defense.

Same story in football where the teams who play great defense most often win it all. Well, the same can be said for high school basketball as the Linden Eagles sputtered a bit on the offensive end but dominated on defense as the Eagles defended their way

to a win at home Tuesday night over Clio, 63-41.

Linden's fab frosh, Blake Lund, drained a 3-pointer only 10 seconds into the game and it looked like the Linden offense would be off and running. But, a few forced Linden long shots later, the visitors led 9-8 in the first quarter before a late Eagles' 10-0 run gave Linden an 18-9 lead after eight minutes. The Eagles Travis Kloczek hit a three to help Linden get started on that run.

Clio went more than four minutes without a point from late in first quarter to several minutes into the second.

Linden (5-2 in the Metro and 5-3 overall) held serve by scoring only three points in the first four minutes of the quarter. Then consecutive steals and baskets by Lund got the Eagles off the snide to put Linden up 27-13 at the 2:50 mark. While the offense did not run on all cylinders in the first half, the Eagles' defense was outstanding as the home team had a whopping 15 steals at the break and helped move Linden margin to a 31-17 going into the final 16 minutes.

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## Holly swimmers capture first Metro win

By David Troppens

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The Holly varsity boys swim team had a tight battle with first-year Metro League foe Owosso on Tuesday night.

However, the Bronchos won the final relay of the night and ended up winning a 95-84 dual against the Trojans.

Logan Molzahn, Bryce Nichols and Tanner Graverette had huge nights for the Bronchos, each taking part in four firsts.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



# Tigers struggle in second half, fall to Flushing

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Fenton** — It's been a tough stretch for the Fenton varsity girls basketball team.

Before the winter break, the Tigers were on a five-game winning streak and looking like a true Metro League contender, winning most of the contests by sizeable margins.

But in recent weeks things have changed.

It started with a 57-31 loss to DeWitt, and continued with a 40-36 loss to area rival Holly. After earning a 52-38 win against Owosso, the Tigers dropped their third game in four contests, losing a 51-40 verdict to Flushing at Fenton High School on Tuesday night.

Losing games to state-ranked DeWitt, a strong Holly squad on the road and a defending Class B state champion isn't a tremendous reason to worry on the surface. The Tigers have lost three games against three quality opponents. But it's becoming apparent that the Tigers aren't clicking on all eight cylinders right now through the losses.

"I have to figure out how to put us in a position to win games," Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Rebecca Moore said. "I have to find a way to put us in positions to be successful and this isn't it right now."

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Fenton's Alyson Lenz (left) drives to the basket in a recent contest. She scored nine points against Flushing.

# LFLF gymnasts continue winning ways, beat Cass City, Vassar

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

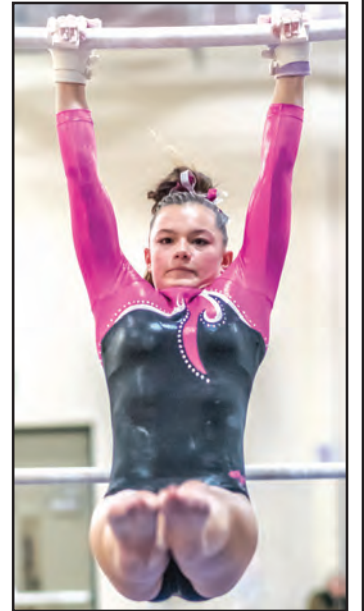
The LFLF gymnastics team keeps competing and keeps getting outstanding results.

The co-op team involving athletes from Lake Fenton, Linden and Fenton won another meet on Tuesday, posting a team score of 141.6 in a first-place finish against Cass City and Vassar.

The victory comes just days after taking first place at the East Lansing Invitational. The LFLF squad has won or taken first place at five of its events this season.

Blake Hutchings and Sabrina Robinson were two of the team's top performers.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES  
MARK BOLEN

LFLF's Lauren Hayden competes on the bars in a recent meet.

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### Fenton wrestlers remain perfect in Metro League

If a team wants to compete and win a Metro League title, doing so usually involves earning a few key victories in tight matches.

### Linden wrestlers split recent conference duals

Wins are great, but losses can be valuable as well for the long term success of a program. Losses can teach programs important lessons that may allow the program to perform better in the future.

### Holly wrestlers record another Metro sweep

Halfway through the Metro League's dual season, the Holly Bronchos remain undefeated. Holly earned two impressive wins on Wednesday.

### Fenton basketball working in new players

It's been a time of change for the Fenton varsity boys basketball team. With A.J. LePage's injury the quest for a new point guard has started and has created another transition within the season.

## PREP REPORT

### COMPETITIVE CHEER

► **Lake Fenton at GAC jamboree:** The Blue Devils posted a 276.40 in round three, earning the victory in the GAC's second meet with a total teamscore of 659.96. Montrose was second with a 654.08.

The Blue Devils led after round one with a score of 198.40, and also had the best score in round two with a 187.16.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

► **Linden JV 56, Clio JV 50:** The Eagles trailed 15-8 after one quarter, but used a 20-6 advantage in the second quarter to eventually earn the victory. Eli Beil and Chad Williams had 16 points each while Isiah Vorheis had eight points. Ben Coburn and Mike Cemazar had five points each.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

► **Clio 52, Linden 38:** The Eagles' offense got progressively better as the game continued, but a three-point first period killed the squad. Linden trailed 11-3 after one quarter, but then scored seven points in the second quarter, 10 in the third and 18 in the fourth.

"The first quarter was a killer tonight," Linden varsity girls basketball coach Ben Varner said. "The fourth quarter was good with 18 points, but the defense let us down."

Sam Whaling led the Eagles with 13 points while Erin Gillespie had 11 points. Eva Darling netted six points while Taylor Acox had five.

### HOCKEY

► **Fenton/Linden 2, Oxford 1:** Josh Appleberg and Ethan Hutchings scored goals, leading the Griffins to the victory. JJ

Lainesse made 22 saves.

### GIRLS BOWLING

► **Holly 22, Fenton 8:** Kaitlyn Meier led the Bronchos with a 180-174-354 series while Terrin Cooley bowled a 189 game. Holly also won both baker games. Fenton was led by Laura Albrant who bowled a 206-192-398 series.

► **Owosso 27, Fenton 3:** Laura Albrant won two points while Angela Hanners scored one. They each bowled a two-game 286 series.

► **Swartz Creek 29, Linden 1:** Meghan Hitt led the Eagles with a 165-125-290 series.

### BOYS BOWLING

► **Holly 30, Fenton 0:** Braden Wilson led Holly with a 183-238-421 series while Jack Warner had a 247-158-405 series. Zach Miller bowled a 200 game. Fenton was led by Nick Hall's 123-140-263 series.

► **Owosso 30, Fenton 0:** Ethan Gutzeit led the Tigers with a 282 series, which included a 177 high game. Tate Temrowski bowled a 150 while Jackson Racette bowled a 149.

► **Clio 29, Linden 1:** Hunter Moses led the Eagles with a 154-188-344 series.

► **Brandon 24, Holly 6:** Braden Wilson led the Bronchos with a 194 game, while Ben Leonard had his best game of the year, bowling a 164.

► **Swartz Creek 28, Linden 2:** Ian McAlindon had a 187-259-446 series to lead the Eagles, while Hunter Moses had a 228-193-421 series.



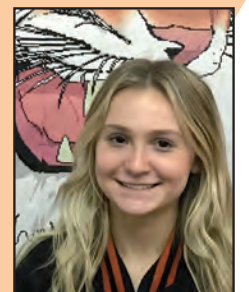
BRANDON HARRISON  
Boys Basketball

**HARTLAND**



HUNTER MOSES  
Boys Bowling

**LINDEN**



RACHAEL ROMAN  
Competitive Cheer

**FENTON**



PAYTON PRICE  
Girls Basketball

**HOLLY**



ETHAN HUTCHINGS  
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