

Lake Fenton grad featured in revealing Netflix series 'Flint Town'

■ Flint City administration denies permission to interview Flint officer from Fenton

By Vera Hogan

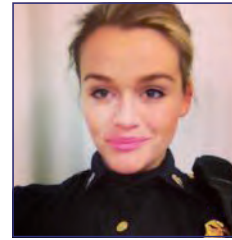
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Flint Police Officer Bridgette Balasko, 29, a 2007 graduate of Lake Fenton High School, is featured in an eight-part Netflix documentary called "Flint Town."

The series, which looks through the eyes of the Flint Police Department in the wake of the Flint Water Crisis, will be launched around the world on Friday, March 2. The trailer has been circling the globe via social media since it was released over a week ago.

According to the trailer introduction, "In the aftermath of the Flint water crisis, Flint Town takes an

See **NETFLIX** on 10



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
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Flint Police Officer Bridgette Balasko is a 2007 graduate of Lake Fenton High School. She is the daughter of Reeny Soval, long-time community activist for the Fenton and Lake Fenton areas.

PAGE 8

A HEART ATTACK CAN BE A 'SILENT KILLER'

VOL. 25 NO. IX

Midweek Times

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

2016 **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

\$1.00

Local man competent to stand trial

■ Facing seven felonies, including criminal sexual conduct with 12-year-old girl

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com

Derek Watson, 62, of Fenton Township was found competent to stand trial on Thursday, Feb. 22, following a psychological examination at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry in Saline.

Watson is facing seven felonies, including being in possession of child sexually abusive material, criminal sexual conduct with an individual under 13 years of age and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The charges, according to the Genesee County 67th District Court, date back to an alleged offense on Jan. 1, 2013.

Genesee County Under-sheriff Chris Swanson said a 15-year-old female recently

See **FELONIES** on 2

Weekly fish fry — a favorite Friday feast



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The Fenton VFW is a busy place on Friday, Feb. 16. Nancy Yarbrough (left) packs carry-out orders and Greg Schupbach (center) plates dine-in orders while Wayne Peterson empties a fresh basket of fries. On a busy Lenten Friday, they might serve 300 dinners. See story on Page 6.

Second suspicious walker near school identified

■ Both men deemed non-threatening

By Sharon Stone

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After further investigation on a suspicious situation on Feb. 22, Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater said a second individual was identified and also deemed to be of no threat to Fenton Area Public Schools.

See **SUSPICIOUS** on 10



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Fenton police search property near AGS Middle School and Fenton High School.

Genesee County receives eight school shooting threats in two weeks

By Hannah Ball

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Argentine Twp. — Genesee County has experienced eight school shooting threats since a shooter at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on Feb. 14 killed 17 people, said Argentine Township Police Chief Daniel Allen.

See **THREATS** on 10

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“To all you kids demanding new gun laws. You are just as deadly as the shooter when you text while driving. Did the no-text-and-drive law stop you?”



COMMENT
OF THE WEEK



“If you have to cheat to beat me, I already won.”

Fenton woman posts wild crash details on social media

■ Erratic driver speeds through Fenton, putting many in harms way

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

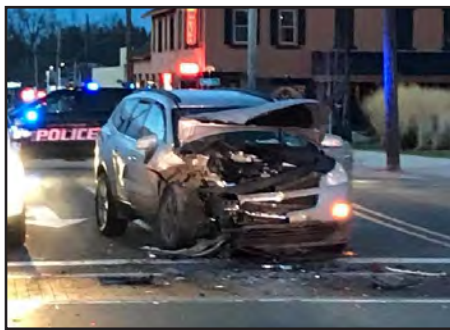
On Facebook, a Fenton mother is warning parents about the dangers of not putting children in car seats after she and her daughter were almost in a potentially terrible accident. The post has more than 400 shares.

On Thursday, Feb. 22, Stefanie Geilhart and her 9-year-old daughter, Teagan, were heading home from a hair salon and stopped at the light at South Long Lake Road and North LeRoy Street.

"When the light turned green I pulled up right to the white sidewalk line. I sat for what felt like 10 seconds after the light turned green, but for some odd reason I did not turn. I just sat there," she posted.

Her daughter told her she could go, but she stayed for a moment longer, joking about buying chocolate from the gas station.

"Next thing I know my daughter says



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The driver of this car was suspected of being off her medication. After driving erratically on Feb. 22, she is suspected of rear-ending another vehicle on North LeRoy Street. Police are seeking a charge of reckless driving.

"Oh my God, Mom" in a weird calm voice and I just happened to look to my left and a car was FLYING about 40-plus mph on the grass between the telephone poles going south heading straight for my van on LeRoy Street. It happened so fast.

"In a split second she was to my left on

the grass and the next thing I knew was right in front of me just missing me by inches," she posted.

Geilhart changed direction and followed the SUV, driven by a woman in her 50s, and calls 911.

"At this point she appears to be driving at least 80 mph through a red light by VG's and dodging cars in oncoming traffic," she wrote. "We quickly approach the intersection of E. Silver Lake and N Leroy Street and to my disbelief I find the Silver SUV smashed at the intersection."

Police were on scene at this point.

"I roll down my window and this lady is screaming in the middle of the intersection 'I am monster, f*** you!' She is jumping up and down pointing at her car as if she is excited and just kept repeating 'I am a Monster, I did it!'" she posted.

Geilhart talked to a couple who were

walking their dogs and they told her the woman tried to run them over.

In the post, Geilhart admits she let her daughter sit in the front seat when she should have made her sit in the back in a car seat. She is reminding parents always to put their children in car seats. "I know a few people who have had children die in preventable car accidents due to the absence of proper car seat," she posted.

Lt. Jeff Cross said they do not suspect alcohol or drugs were involved.

"From everything that we could gather, she was suffering from some kind of psychotic episode," he said. "Her husband confirmed that she usually takes medication and that she stopped taking her medication."

The call came in around 6:28 p.m. The woman, who's from the Gaylord area, was reportedly driving erratically on North LeRoy Street heading north at high speeds. She made a U-turn, drove on the sidewalks, then continued south on North LeRoy Street.

"Allegedly, she ran a couple red lights," he said. She continued south on LeRoy and rear-ended a vehicle at LeRoy Street and Silver Lake Road. The male whose car was rear-ended had neck pain and was transported to the hospital.

The woman was transported to Hurley Medical Center for a psychological evaluation.

"They were able to speak to her. She wasn't making much sense," he said.

Cross said he believes the officers who responded will seek a reckless driving charge. They will contact the Secretary of State's office to request a driver evaluation exam be conducted on the woman.

FELONIES

Continued from Front Page

came forward with allegations against Watson from when she was 12 years old.

Swanson said Watson was brought in to make a statement and subsequently a seven-count warrant was issued for his arrest. The sheriff's office executed a search warrant at his Hogan Road home on Dec. 5, 2017 and removed several undisclosed items.

At a previous court hearing, Watson's court-appointed attorney, Donald Shaw, requested that Watson be released on bail, to live with family in Fenton, however, assistant prosecuting attorney Mark Zelly informed the judge that there are people in Linden who would be fearful of his release.

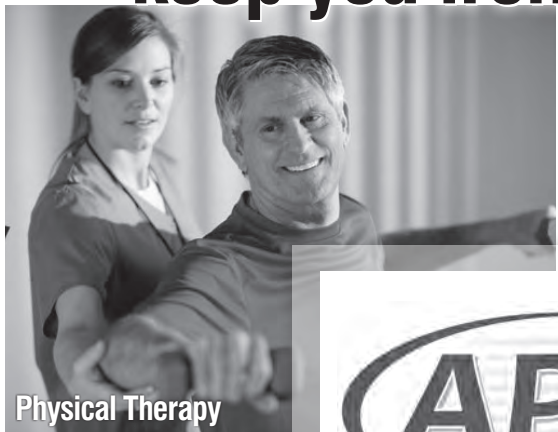
The judge denied bond for Watson, who remains lodged in county jail.

A probable cause conference before Judge William Crawford has been scheduled for March 8.

Charges

- Count one — child sexually abusive activity
- Count two — possession of child sexually abusive material
- Counts three, four and five — first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a person under 13 years of age
- Count six — felon in possession of a firearm
- Count seven — felon in possession of ammunition

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Shirley's Café — where everybody knows your name

■Linden café opened in the 1940s and remains a small-town gathering spot

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

A background of conversation and laughter amid the sizzle of eggs, fried potatoes and pancakes fill Shirley's Café & Grill in Linden.

It's a full house every weekend morning with "regulars" and visitors. Busy weekdays start with a morning coffee crew, followed by a lunch crowd that's hungry for daily specials and homemade soups and pies.

Ask any of the patrons why they come in and they'll tell you it is Shirley Café's small-town "diner" hospitality and her homemade American fries. One family that dined at lunch last Wednesday came from out of town and said they'd been here "yesterday, today and we'll be here again tomorrow."

Shirley Baldwin, 67, is the café owner and "Shirley's" namesake. She and her husband, Jim, have owned the café since 2004, carrying on a Linden tradition that

“I love the people. They're like family.”

Shirley Baldwin
Shirley's Café & Grill owner
and namesake



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Shirley Baldwin holds a coconut cream pie in her restaurant, Shirley's Diner, on Wednesday, Feb. 21. Baldwin makes 10 to 15 different type of pies.

has been in place since the mid-1940s.

"My husband seal-coated driveways, so we knew Mike Murphy (who owns the property)," Shirley said. "The restaurant had been closed for close to a year and he

said to Jim, 'Why don't you tell Shirley she should open the restaurant?'"

The rest is literally small town USA history.

Dining patrons helped decorate the place when Shirley bought it, starting with her son, who brought in a neon clock, straight from the 1950s. "We decided then and there to do an Elvis theme," Shirley said. "Customers have been bringing us Elvis stuff over the years."

This spring, Shirley's will update its decor with new windows, flooring, tables and chairs and color scheme. "I'm watching 'Happy Days' for inspiration," Shirley said. "Don't worry, it'll still look a lot the same. It's just time for an update."

The diner décor is one thing, but it's the food that keeps people coming back.

Breakfast is the busiest time, with potatoes the focal point of just about every entrée. "We do the potatoes the way everyone used to do them," Shirley said. "We wash them, peel them, slice them and fry them. We go through about six 50-pound boxes in a week."

See **SHIRLEY'S** on 10

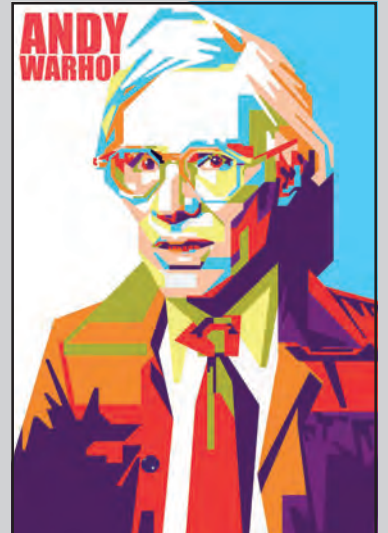


TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Becky VanDriessche delivers a breakfast order at Shirley's Diner in Linden on Saturday, Feb. 24.

A LOOK BACK at 1968

"A look back at 1968" is a series that will be published throughout this year in the Wednesday Midweek edition exclusively. To subscribe to the Midweek edition, please call (810) 629-8282.



Random weird and odd news from 50 years ago

Compiled By Vera Hogan

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In addition to a number of historic events that took place in 1968, there was quite a bit of random odd news. Here is a sampling:

- **John Lennon**, after taking a large amount of LSD, called an emergency meeting of The Beatles to inform them that he was in fact, Jesus Christ reincarnated.
- **Linda LeClair** was expelled from Barnard College amidst the great controversy of living with her boyfriend.
- **The FTC** issued a cease and desist order to Campbell's Soup company for using marbles in their soup ads. The marbles were placed in the bottom of the soup to push the solid ingredients to the top, which was considered deceptive.
- **Andy Warhol** was fortunate to survive the attempt on his life in

See **1968** on 8

Your defense lawyer shouldn't be your second mistake.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES

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If I Were King...

king@tctimes.com

It's time to deal with reality

It's long past time to have a serious, non-political conversation on how to protect our children when they are in school.

We, as parents and grandparents, have to do it because no one else is going to do it.

Everyone else has an agenda. And that agenda is not how to protect our children.

It is how to get elected. Or how to gain more political power. Or how to sell more guns. Or how to make millions of dollars from movies that glorify violence and murder. Or how to get rich selling video games where kids realistically kill other people for hours on end. It's a music industry that is based on lyrics that promote drug use, prostitution, crime and murder. It is parents who allow their kids to play these inappropriate video games, or watch age-inappropriate movies. It's fathers who get a divorce and then abandon their children just when they need them the most.

You need to understand that no one is going to help you safeguard your children at school. The politicians could do it, but their kids are safe in expensive private schools that are already protected by armed guards. They will do what they always do, which is to leverage this issue for personal political gain.

If you are like most people — which most people are — you are waiting for 'someone' to do 'something' and that's just not going to happen. Even if 'someone' did do 'something' half the parents would support it and the other half would villify it, with the result that (surprise!) nothing would happen.

That being said, there is a solution. A simple, logical and effective solution. A solution that already has

been deemed successful. But half of you won't like it.

Ask yourself, why do these people attack schools? Now answer yourself, because they are soft and unprotected targets.

There are no locks, no bars on windows, no guards and, most importantly, no way for anyone to defend themselves. That means we have hundreds of innocent, defenseless children trapped in rooms and hallways that the shooter is intimately familiar with.

Once you accept this premise there is only one solution available: Every school must be protected by multiple armed guards that are onsite every day and are intimately familiar with the buildings, the staff and the students. That means the only logical solution is to train and arm "school marshals" — teachers, principals, coaches, custodians and others who are trained, ready and capable of defending a school. It's already being done in Texas. Their "school marshal" program could be a working model for the nation. I wouldn't be surprised if one-third to one-half of all teachers volunteered to be trained to take on this responsibility. They are on the front lines and just as at-risk as our kids are.

We need to quit pretending there are other solutions, because there aren't. We are in a war, and our children are the ones on the front lines.

It's time to deal with reality. Hell, it long past time.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the King at king@tctimes.com. Some content adapted from the internet.

“The only logical solution is to train and arm ‘school marshals’ — teachers, principals, coaches, custodians and others...”



FOSTER CHILDS

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.

TO THE PERSON complaining about the candidates running for governor of Michigan not being able to speak English. Crawl out from under your rock. There are actually 20 candidates running for governor according to the Detroit News and the majority of them are highly educated. Please do some research before you vote.

TO THE HOT-LINER who asked how many folks would have been shot by crossfire if two or three teachers were armed. The answer is zero because there would have been no shooting incident.

A DOUBLE STANDARD! Americans correctly mourn the deaths in mass shootings and call for laws to stop these massacres. Where is the outcry for new laws to prevent the deaths of the 57 million American children killed since abortion was legalized?

THERE ARE SEVERAL steps from cause to effect — political correctness leads to school shootings.

TO ALL OF you ladies out there who have come forward to tell us your story about sexual abuse, good job. Think about all the women you did not save by keeping quiet. Anyone who goes through this needs to speak up, right away. I did. And it saved little girls in my area from being his next victim.

I AM FOR having armed guards in all our schools. Since our taxes are already high,

the NRA can foot the bill.

WHAT IN THE United States has changed from the time when kids kept rifles on pick-up truck gun racks, parked in the high school lots and did not shoot each other? Oh, violent video games, gratuitous violence on TV, gratuitous violence at the movies, political correctness, a lack of ethical training and the 24-hour nationwide news cycle.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. The tax is, the more you make the more you pay. What would make you happy? If you want more money — work harder.

OK, SO FOR the last time people, the only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.

I UNDERSTAND THAT you're passionate, but what is a bunch of teenagers walking out of school protesting gun control really going to do? We go to school to learn. Priorities, people.

THE SO-CALLED Bermuda Triangle is real. As a long time truck driver I can't tell you how many times I have been stopped in traffic for accidents between Hartland and Baldwin roads. It would be irresponsible to allow an electric sign to further distract drivers especially in 'Death Alley.'

SO TOPPING THE shopping list this fall for students will be a bulletproof vest. What does this say about us?

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL the companies that are breaking ties with the NRA. At least they are showing some backbone. I will support all of these companies. Thank you.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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Compiled by Ellie Bennett, intern

What is your trusted source for getting national news?

streettalk



"I would say MSNBC is my trusted news source. I refuse to watch news from sources like Fox. MSNBC is a little biased to the left but not by a lot."

Eric Horton
Flint



"For news I go to MSNBC. To me it's more of an accurate report. I won't watch Fox News because it's clearly a biased source."

Deb McCarty
Fenton



"For me I listen to NPR, which is on the radio. It can be biased but not much. NPR is well rounded and more reliable than other sources."

Katie Stanley
Fenton



"New York Times is where I get my national news. I will also listen to ABC News or radio news. I see New York Times articles on Facebook so I read that the most."

Gary Billups
Holly



"I watch or read CNN. This is what I flip on in the morning the most so that is where I get most of my news and I see them as a trustworthy news source."

Dawn Champaign
Fenton

News briefs

LOCAL ACCOUNTING FIRM ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

Lewis & Knopf, CPAs, P.C. has promoted **Christie Bueche** and **Kevin Kelley**, CPA to senior staff accountant, and **Allison Wilcox** to staff accountant. "Christie, Kevin, and Allison have consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to both the firm and our clients," said Gregory Waller, CPA, CGMA, Managing Principal of Lewis & Knopf, CPAs, P.C. Bueche specializes in school audits and holds a Master of Business Administration from Baker College's Center for Graduate Studies and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Baker College. She resides in Grand Blanc with her husband and two daughters. Kelley earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Central Michigan University and his Master of Science in Accountancy from Walsh College. Kelley currently resides in Milford with his wife and their three children. Wilcox of Flint serves in the firm's Small Business Services department as a certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor and staff accountant. Wilcox attended the University of Michigan-Flint, graduating with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting.

HIGH SERVICE PUMP REPAIR APPROVED

The Fenton City Council voted unanimously on Monday, Feb. 26, to approve spending \$9,150 for repairs at high service pump 1 at the water plant. In November 2017, the council approved a \$27,500 project to overhaul the pump and install a variable frequency drive. The project is in the works but has run into an unforeseen problem. The pump bowls are no longer usable and must be replaced.

How the news has changed

■Linden residents share perspectives on today's media, covering school shootings

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

This is the second story in an ongoing Midweek series interviewing our treasured elderly residents for their opinions and input on a variety of topics.

The news is changing. Radio and print media used to dominate the news business, but as technology has advanced, TV broadcasts and online websites have attracted the attention of millions.

As people debate the validity of news and reporters, three Linden residents, and Loose Center members, discuss how the news has changed since they were kids.

When **Mary Salerno**, 81, was in middle school, she worked at her school's newspaper. In high school, she worked at the school's paper and yearbook. As an adult, she worked as a writer for the Linden Leader, a paper no longer in circulation. The business used to be located next to what is now Caretel Inns of Linden. In school, they had their own print shop and the students would set the type (print). Today, everything is online.

"The print newspapers I don't think have changed that much since I was writing," she said.

Newspapers still focus on hard news and contain the same elements, like opinion writers.

"The newspaper hasn't changed that much, except the people don't read it. They get their news on their smartphones, or on their iPads, or computers," she said. "It's probably fine for them. I actually like to hold the newspaper in my hand and

“It's a tell-all thing. They used to say 'they had a party at so and so's house' and who all came.”

Judy Grubb
Linden resident



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Linden resident Mary Salerno, 81, used to write for the Linden Leader. Before that, she wrote for her school newspaper in middle school and high school.

read it and then I cut out a lot of articles. Give it to my kids or friends."

When she worked for a school, she used to maintain a "vertical file," which is a filing cabinet full of folders with newspaper articles. They often divided the stories by category, such as by different states.

"When kids are doing research, they would not only have the books, they could go to the vertical file and find articles in there," she said. Salerno said she watches ABC "quite a bit," and watches Good Morning America.

When asked if there's more controversy over the news in today's climate compared to when she was a kid, Salerno

said "Well, with Trump he's always saying 'fake news' all the time, but other than that, I don't think so."

When asked if news has changed since she was a kid, **Judy Grubb**, 76, said, "Oh yes. It's a tell-all thing. They used to say 'they had a party at so and so's house' and who all came."

With the shooting down in Florida that left 17 people dead, she said, "At least they (the media) didn't go into the funerals like they have before. I don't know why, but I'm thankful they didn't. They tell everything."

She's glad she doesn't have a young child listening to the news because she wouldn't want to explain certain aspects to them, like the sexual harassment controversy.

"They don't need to bring this stuff up," she said. Grubb prefers getting her news through print rather than online, and she would rather see more details in print newspapers.

The disappearance of print newspapers is **Dick Laing's**, 88, biggest complaint.

"The thing I like about print is that I can read whatever I want at whatever pace I want," Laing said. "If I'm watching television I've got to take whatever they give me."

He could record the news and come back to watch it later, but Laing said he'd have to fast forward through it to find the spot he wants.

"With a newspaper, I can read what I want. I can read the ads I want to read. I read the stories I want to read," he said. "I've got total control on my intake."

Fenton Village Players presents....

Things My MOTHER Taught Me by Katherine DiSavino
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March 8th

5:30-7:30 pm

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- Online Enrollment Process
- Young 5's
 - Your child may be eligible for Young 5's based on the following:
 - Birthday must be between June 1st and September 1st
 - Kindergarten Readiness Screening
 - Evaluator's Recommendation

What's your favorite fish fry?



■ Whether fried, baked or Cajun, savor the flavors at Friday night fish fries

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton — The fryers are bubbling and the ovens are baking. Volunteers fry cod, while others shout orders from the dining room and box orders in a well-synchronized business operation at the Fenton VFW.

Fish Fry Chairman Mike Brack said it takes approximately 20 volunteers to run the weekly operation, as well as early morning preparation and inventory. "It's a well-oiled machine, considering we pump out somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 pounds of fish in three hours," he said.

On most Fridays during Lent, some kitchens connected to meeting halls and church activity rooms are transformed into high volume, short order restaurants, as Catholics avoid eating meat on Fridays, and non-Catholics enjoy fish fried to perfection, with secret, locally developed fish batter recipes. Most meals cost about \$10, and include, soup, salad and dessert.

Across town at the Fr. Harvey St. John Activity Center is their own popular, long-running fish fry. Both will attract approximately 300 people, and serve homemade soups and desserts, by volunteers.

The fish fry at St. John's is run by the Fenton Knights of Columbus. Outside the activity center kitchen, tables are filled with families eating dinner. A line



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Volunteer Ginny Collins checks to-go dinners and preps the containers at the fish fry at St. John Activity Center in Fenton on Friday, Feb. 16. They will serve approximately 300 guests with dine-in and to-go orders.

extends into the hall.

Grand Knight Bill French said, "Since I was a little kid, my mom and dad always went to fish fries." He attended when he was a young father 40 years ago.

French said he has approximately 30 volunteers, which include Knights of Columbus and parish members. They sell fried, baked and Cajun cod, shrimp, French fries, baked potatoes, mac n' cheese, applesauce, coleslaw, rolls and dessert.

At the VFW, they serve cod, deep-fried

or baked, fried walleye and pollock, baked chicken, chicken strips, breaded shrimp, salad, fries, soup and dessert.

These of course aren't the only fish fries in the area — though they may argue they're the best. The Fenton Moose Lodge also holds its own on Fridays.

The VFW holds its every Friday from September to May.

The Knights of Columbus' fish fry will end the week before Good Friday, March 30.

Fish fries tend to be fundraisers. The VFW fish fry is a big part of the budget; the monies going to both keeping the lights on, and helping veterans and their families. Brack said on a busy night, they'll bring in approximately \$3,000.

The Knights of Columbus also use the funds from fish fries for their various charitable activities.

“It's a well-oiled machine, considering we pump out somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 pounds of fish in three hours.”

Mike Brack
Fenton VFW Fish Fry
chairman



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the

judge

The open carrying of firearms in schools

In the past few years there have been a number of what can only be described as unspeakable tragedies involving school shootings.

The latest shooting incident was on Feb. 14, 2018 at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, where 17 people were killed and many others wounded by the suspect, Nikolas Cruz. He allegedly used a type of assault rifle for these shootings.

As has been widely reported, there have been calls for a number of different actions to be taken in response to this, including teachers being armed and further gun control laws.

All of this is still in its early stages and we will see what happens.

Coincidentally, here in Michigan, there are two court cases involving pistols on school grounds that are now pending before the Michigan Supreme Court. One of these cases started in Genesee County. The other is from Washtenaw County.

The Genesee County case is Michigan Open Carry Inc. v Clio Area School District.

Both cases involve the issue of whether state law preempts (takes precedence) or conflicts with a school district's policy of not allowing weapons on school grounds.

In the Genesee County case co-plaintiff Kenneth Harmon attempted to visit his child's Clio elementary school in September 2013 while openly carrying a pistol for which he possessed a concealed pistol license. He was denied access to the school.

A lawsuit was then filed alleging that state law conflicts with and preempts the Clio School District policy and it should be declared to be invalid.

The Circuit Court agreed and an appeal was filed.

The court reviewed the facts and the law, and found that the lower court's decision should be reversed for a number of reasons, including a finding that state law did not conflict with the school board's policy as state law also prohibits weapons on school property with specific exceptions.

It also held that the provisions of the policy are not preempted by state law and specifically found that a school district is allowed by statute to provide for the safety and welfare of its students and that a school district is not a "local unit of government" and is allowed to regulate firearms.

The Supreme Court's opinion is expected in the next few months.

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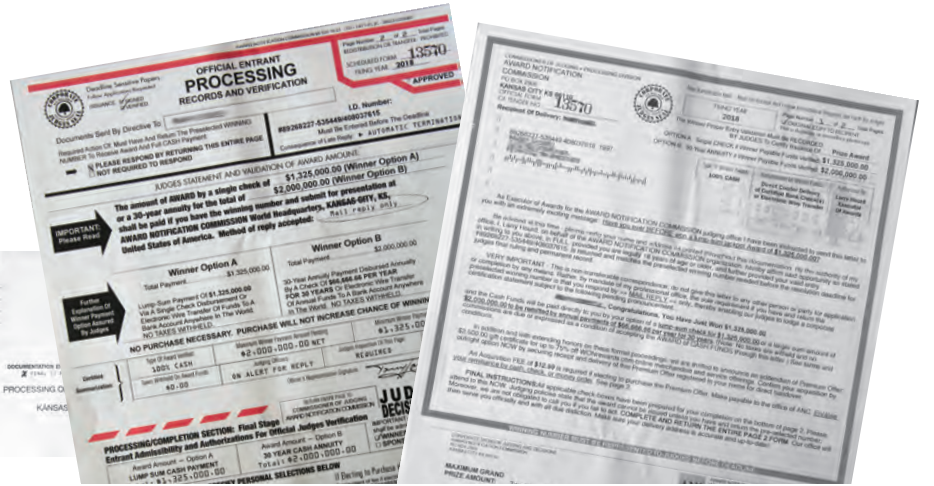
Police&Fire report

REPORT OF WOMAN HELD AT KNIFE POINT IN HOLLY LEADS TO WARRANT ARREST

On Feb. 15 at 4:50 p.m., Holly police officers were dispatched to an apartment in the 4000 block of Grange Hall Road on a caller's report of a woman being held at knifepoint by her boyfriend. Dispatch advised the female victim was not being allowed to leave the residence. Upon arrival, police observed a man peeking through the window blinds and told him to exit. The 20-year-old Flint man told police there was no knife and that his 22-year-old brother, who lives at the apartment and the mother of his children, had been in an argument. The Flint man was taken into custody while police sorted out the situation. A 20-year-old woman and several small children, along with her boyfriend, exited the apartment. The boyfriend, who is black, started yelling at police saying they harass the black people who live in Holly. The boyfriend was taken into custody while his girlfriend told police that the two of them had argued, however, nothing physical occurred. Police determined there was no knife threat. A computer check revealed the boyfriend had an outstanding arrest warrant from Genesee County. He was arrested and lodged in the Oakland County jail awaiting being turned over to Genesee County.

“Take the \$12.99 out of my winnings.”

Online commenter



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

These documents may look official enough, but if you read the fine print, you are not a winner, you did not win \$2 million.

Don't fall for fake 'official prize' scam

■ Senders want \$12.99 fee to send you \$1,325,000

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

It has been said over and over and over again ... if it seems to be too good to be true, it probably is.

The latest alleged scam going around the tri-county area is people being notified, by mail, that they have won a lump sum prize of \$1,325,000, or \$2 million to be remitted by annual payments of \$66,666.66 per year for 30 years.

The documents included are very official — almost IRS-like with the Filing Year 2018 noted, even though they claim to not remove any taxes from the

winnings. It also has an official-looking corporate seal.

The real rub and clue that this is not real is the \$12.99 they want the recipient to pay up front, an acquisition fee if electing to purchase the “Premium Offer.” Nowhere does it say what the premium offer involves, or what you get.

All instructions must be followed and the forms completed and returned to the Processing Office/Distribution Center at a post office box address in Kansas City, Missouri within seven days. Don't forget the check or money order for \$12.99.

There is one more small, two-sided document in tiny print. It's called the Grand Prize Sweepstakes XVII Official Rules. On the second page (backside), it says in big bold black letters, that

no purchase is necessary to enter or win. Purchasing does not improve your chances of winning. “You have not won yet,” it reads.

Nowhere does it say anything about purchasing anything (except that \$12.99 for purchasing the Premium Offer, which is not defined). Everywhere else in the document implies that the recipient has won the prize.

This particular scam has been going around since at least 2014. Simply Google “Corporate Sponsor & Judging Decisions,” and you'll find numerous sites that expose this scam.

Some of the many comments behind this issue online are very funny. The best one is, “Take the \$12.99 out of my winnings.”

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■ ■ ■
I HOPE FENTON Township gives out deadlines to homeowners who need to clean up garbage in their yards. What an eyesore to the neighborhood.

■ ■ ■
THE DEMOCRATS WHO do not want armed guards at the schools to protect the children do not make sense. When a shooting does occur, they call the police who have guns. The shooters planned the attacks at the schools because they were gun-free zones. Common sense needed here.

■ ■ ■
IF THIS IS what it takes to protect our kids while they're in school, I will volunteer to protect our schools unarmed while they are learning. I think just having adult men and women in our schools walking the halls and interact-

ing with the students could make it a safe environment for all. Teachers, principals and counselors have enough on their plates. I am a United States Army combat veteran.

■ ■ ■
THE FBI IS not responsible for the 17 deaths in Florida, a 19-year-old with an assault weapon is.

■ ■ ■
FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TURNED down a bill just to discuss gun violence by a 2-1 margin, but hurriedly passed a bill declaring that porn is a major health concern. Isn't killing kids a major health concern?

■ ■ ■
TO HELLER HIGH water. I may not agree with your opinion on the gun article totally, but I did enjoy it. You may not be able to change people's minds, but you can inform them. Thank you for your input on something that can be a touchy subject.

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A heart attack can be a 'silent killer'

■ Fenton man grateful to be alive after subtle symptoms led him to a doctor's office

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Christopher Sienkiewicz, 53, of Fenton, had no idea he was having a heart attack.

He woke up with shoulder pain and thought it was caused by the way he had slept. Then he felt nauseous, and attributed that to homebrewed beer he tasted at a neighbor's home the night before.

When he started to sweat for no reason, he got alarmed and went to a doctor's office he hadn't been to in 10 years.

"I almost talked myself out of it," said Sienkiewicz, a computer programmer. "If it had been a hot July day instead of Oct. 24, I probably wouldn't have thought anything of it. I was under the false impression that a heart attack feels like severe chest pain and you'd be falling to the ground, writhing in pain. When the sweating hit me, that's something I couldn't explain away."

The staff conducted tests with inconclusive results and told him he needed a full cardiac workup. An ambulance drove him from there to the emergency room at McLaren-Flint.

Even though Sienkiewicz still wasn't exhibiting what he thought were the real signs of a heart attack, blood work revealed he had elevated troponin pro-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SHERRY FARNEY / MCLAREN MARKETING

Christopher Sienkiewicz has a general routine he undergoes three times a week when he visits McLaren's Cardiac Rehab gym. After putting on a heart monitor, he weighs himself, gets his blood pressure checked, and then takes several warm-up laps around the gym. Next, he uses the NuStep machine, re-checks his blood pressure, then uses the ergometer, a cardiovascular exercise that targets the upper body.

teins that told doctors he did, in fact, have a heart attack. "In a cardiac event, these levels spike and keep climbing," said Sienkiewicz, who was admitted to McLaren for a heart catheterization to take place the next day.

That's when doctors found 100-percent

blockage on one of the carotid arteries and 99 percent on the other. They were able to clear the 100-percent blocked artery, and put in two stents. The 99-percent blocked artery was more complicated as it branched out into three blockages that couldn't be catheterized.

"I was heading for a triple bypass," said Sienkiewicz, who finally told his sister and his parents what was happening.

Fortunately for him, in his second heart catheterization the next day, doctors were able to clear the blockages and put in three more stents, for a total of five.

Four months later, Sienkiewicz is continuing his exercise routine at McLaren-Flint's Cardiac Rehab gym and has resumed healthy eating habits.

"I'm handling stress better," he said. "I've always been a bulldog when it comes to finding a problem and solving it. I used to work 50 to 60 hours a week, sometimes 80 to 100. Now, I get other people involved in the process and delegate."

Sienkiewicz said he has a new lease on life, celebrating his 54th birthday on March 3. "I'm grateful to be here," he said.

1968

Continued from Page 3

1968. He had been declared dead in the emergency room and had nine damaged organs. He never fully recovered, and had trouble eating and swallowing for the rest of his life. He wore a girdle to hold in his bowels.

● **Operation "Wandering Soul"** in the Vietnam War — recordings of Americans pretending to be ghosts, urging the Vietcong to turn back or give up, were played through the forests at night.

● **Peter Norman**, the white Australian silver-medalist, who stood with the two African-American sprinters giving the "black power" salute in the 1968 Olympics, was wearing a Civil Rights button to stand in solidarity with them and did so for the rest of his life despite being ostracized in his own country. Years later, Tommie Smith and John Carlos, the athletes responsible for the 1968 Olympics Black Power salute were pallbearers at the funeral for Peter Norman.

● **Harlem Globetrotters** were formed in Chicago and didn't play a game of basketball in Harlem until 1968, 40 years after they were founded.

● **In Mattoon, Illinois**, a small restaurant called "Burger King" won a lawsuit against the giant fast food chain of the same name because they had trademarked the name first. Today, there are no Burger Kings legally allowed within 20 miles of the Mattoon location.

● **The star of the 1968 film adaptation of "Romeo and Juliet,"** Olivia Hussey, was only 15 years old when she appeared nude in the film — and was unable to attend the Great Britain premiere as a result.

● **A researcher, Michel Gauquelin**, placed an ad offering free personal horoscope readings. Everyone received the same data, the chart of France's worst mass murderer. Of the first 150 replies 94 percent found the reading to accurately fit their life; 90 percent found its accuracy confirmed by family and friends.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | BOB SHEEKS

Firefighters from multiple fire departments battle this barn fire on Lahring Road in Gaines Township Tuesday, Feb. 27.

Fire destroys barn in Gaines Township

■ Multiple fire departments respond to Lahring Road farm to battle blaze

By Sharon Stone

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Multiple fire departments assisted Gaines Township Fire Department Tuesday afternoon with a barn fire in the 9300 block of Lahring Road, west of Seymour Road, in Gaines Township. The fire was reported at 12:39 p.m.

The blaze overtook the barn, and by the time the fire was extinguished, only a small portion of the metal structure of the barn stood. A nearby truck was caught in the flames, as well as equipment in the barn. The fire spread to the base of an adjacent silo.

Assisting Gaines were fire departments from Linden City, Fenton City, Fenton Township, Burns Township, and Hartland Township.

Consumers Energy was requested to the scene because wires were reportedly down near the barn. EMS was also requested as a resident sustained multiple minor burns and needed medical attention.

Strong winds caused the fire to spread to the field near the barn.

Staff Reporter Hannah Ball contributed to this story.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THERE'S A MAN with a gun in his hand, telling me I have to beware. No one's right if everybody's wrong. This song was written by Buffalo Springfield after students on a campus in the '70s were shot by armed men and they were the national guard. Now children are shooting children, this saddens me very much. This has nothing to do with guns, it has to do with them being raised and living on computers.

■■■
ONE DAY YOU'RE in good health, the next day your life changes.

■■■
OBAMA WAS GREAT at giving speeches and great at fundraising, but President Trump is a man who listens and is a man of action. He has accomplished more in 13 months than Obama did in eight years.

■■■

Two men rescued on Silver Lake

■ Fire chief says all lake ice is unstable and dangerous, warns everyone to stay off

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

The Fenton Township Fire Department rescued two Fenton area men after they broke through the ice on Silver Lake Sunday evening. This was the department's first ice/water rescue of the season.

At 6:28 p.m. on Feb. 25, Fire Chief Ryan Volz said his department learned that two men, one in his 50s, the other in his 20s, had fallen through the ice, between the area of Silver Lake Beach and the island. Volz said the men did not live on the lake, however, they are from the Fenton area.

It was unclear why the men were out on the ice, said Volz. Due to the fluctuating temperatures, which are mostly rising, ice on all area lakes is deemed dangerous and everyone is advised to stay off.

With their push boat, a specially

designed vessel that can be pushed on lake ice to perform ice rescues, firefighters and the Fenton Township dive team made their way to the two men, who were treading in open water. The men were pulled from the water with ropes and brought back to shore.

Suffering from hypothermia, the two men were transported to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township for medical treatment.

Volz said one of his firefighters slipped on the ice and injured his ankle during the rescue. He was treated at the hospital and released. Including Volz, 12 first responders from Fenton Township took part in the ice rescue. Police officers from Fenton, Linden and Argentine Township, as well as the county's dive team, also responded to the beach area in case they were needed.

Volz is urging everyone to stay off the lake ice this time of year and is reminding residents that they could incur fines to help cover the response cost.

News briefs

New three-year agreement signed with groundwater experts

On Monday, Feb. 26, The Fenton City Council voted unanimously to approve signing a new three-year agreement with AMEC Foster Wheeler Environmental and Infrastructure, Inc., Novi. The Fenton Water Treatment facility holds a groundwater discharge permit from the MDEQ, which allows for water to be discharged into the lagoons. The water then percolates into the ground, which joins the ground water and helps replenish the aquifer. Because this water has an effect on groundwater, a permit is necessary. AMEC Foster Wheeler was hired in 2010 to assist with monitoring, data collection and information dissemination back to the MDEQ in order to obtain the necessary permit. AMEC Foster Wheeler was required in 2015 for an additional three-year period, which has now expired. The new agreement will come with a fee of \$6,430 for 2018, 2019 and 2020 each.

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SHIRLEY'S

Continued from Page 3

At noon, diners come in for Shirley's homemade soups, from chicken dumpling to potato, unstuffed pepper, hamburger vegetable and broccoli. Daily specials, such as a hot turkey sandwich, grilled ham and cheese or beef enchiladas, are big hits, too, served in hearty portions.

When it comes to dessert, Shirley herself is the chief pie baker. "The most popular is my chocolate peanut butter pie," she said. "It's almost like a Reese's cup. Fruit pies, especially cherry and triple berry, are also big sellers."

Shirley's Café is a family affair.

Her daughter, Becky VanDriessche, is manager and part of the three-member wait staff. Shirley's son, Tony Nolf, is a part-time cook, along with a grandson, Nick, and Bill Sipes. Chief cook and bottle washer is Nolf's father-in-law, Randy Fuller, who covers most breakfast and lunch shifts.

Dinner is a thing of the past at Shirley's, with breakfast and lunch now their mainstay meals. The café is open daily at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. on Sundays), and closes at 3 p.m. during the week and 2 p.m. on weekends.

"To this day, it doesn't seem real, that this place is ours," Shirley said. "I love the people. They're like family."

NETFLIX

Continued from Front Page

intimate look at the state of policing in America through the lens of the Flint Police Department.

"Flint, Michigan is consistently named one of the most violent cities in America and the community is still grappling with the cover up of a citywide water contamination, leading to a massive distrust in law enforcement officials.

"Over the course of eight episodes, filmmakers embed with the police officers faced with infrastructure issues and decreasing resources as they risk their lives to protect and serve the community, while simultaneously struggling to gain their support."

Balasko is the female officer portrayed in the documentary. The Tri-County Times asked Balasko for an interview. She said she would love to but needed to gain permission from her superiors to do so. Her request was unfortunately and without reason, denied by Flint City Administration.

Several calls to Flint Mayor Karen Weaver's office were unsuccessful.



Officer Bridgette Balasko (holding child) in a scene from the Netflix documentary "Flint Town."

Watch the trailer

The Netflix trailer for "Flint Town," an eight-part series documentary regarding the plight of the city of Flint and its police officers, which includes Officer Bridgette Balasko of Fenton, can be watched in its entirety at the following address. Please be forewarned about scenes with profanity.

Visit [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for Flint Town

THREATS

Continued from Front Page

"We're all aware of what happened in Parkland, Florida on the 14th. Since the 14th, the entire country has been experiencing school shooting threats," he said at the Argentine Township meeting on Monday, Feb. 26.

It takes the police department's resources to determine whether or not they are legitimate.

"Genesee County alone experienced eight after that incident and two of those eight were in our township," he said.

One incident involved a video with a potential threat, which the Genesee County prosecutor found to be not credible, Allen said. Allen declined to say more because it was matter involving a juvenile.

John Potbury, Genesee County deputy chief assistant prosecutor, said the video was found to be a valid threat. The case began in April 2017, when a Linden High School student was contacted by someone and was asked to add music and lyrics to a YouTube video. The music and lyrics were sent to him by this anonymous stranger and the lyrics raised an alarm with Argentine police.

After an investigation, it was determined

no one at the school was targeted. The student did not have access to guns and he did not have a history of behavioral issues. It was determined not credible.

"The second threat, however ... that is progressing forward," he said, referring to the student who carved a shooting threat into a school desk on Tuesday, Feb. 20. "We're going to have to investigate every case as if it's real, obviously."

The student, whose name has not been released because he's a juvenile, was handcuffed, arrested and transported to the police station where he was interviewed with his father in the room. The prosecutor's office has charged the Linden High School student in juvenile court with one count of threat of terrorism, which carries a potential 20-year sentence.

Allen said many kids aren't taking these threats seriously, and he'd like to coordinate with Linden schools to plan an assembly to discuss the ramifications of sending a false threat.

"You're talking about a false report of terrorism. That's a very serious charge," he said. "It's got to stop, it's ridiculous. It drains our resources."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■■

'CONGRESS DOESN'T REPRESENT anybody?' Are you kidding? Of course they do, the NRA, insurance companies, pharma, oil, and the list goes on and on. You are not on that list. This goes for both sides. Wake up people.

■■■■

SPEAKER RYAN, WHEN would be a good time to talk about gun control?

■■■■

BACK IN THE day we didn't have all these mass shootings because it was legal to make your children mind. Nowadays, you get in trouble for punishing your kid. Think about it.

■■■■

THE DEMOCRATS HAVE never met a tax they didn't like and that's why they were against Trump's tax and job act, which has given bonuses and increases in pay and benefits to over three and half million workers. It also helped jobs and corporations to hire, expand, mod-

ernize and stay in the U.S., a concept that seems to have alluded Democrats.

■■■■

THE ANTI-U.S. campaign started in 2014 by Russia was long before Trump even entered the presidential race. Now we know that Obama, Comey, Lynch, Rice and Kerry all knew about the Russian meddling in 2014 and did nothing. The bottom line is they are out to get Trump to hurt his presidency.

■■■■

HERE'S A LITTLE rap for a Democrat. I spy, I lie. I deny and falsify. I turn a blind eye, we don't comply, I'm just a bad guy.

■■■■

IF YOU CORRECT your child in any way shape, or form, you will be in all kinds of trouble. No wonder they're out of control with their guns.

■■■■

ANYONE WHO KNEW Kathy (Burnstead) Brinker, she passed away. Her funeral was Saturday in Traverse City. She passed away Feb. 20.

■■■■

Horoscopes

For the week of
February 26, 2018

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you may need to muscle your way through some projects, especially if your energy levels wane. Put your nose to the grindstone and work your way through things.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, you are not one for letting obstacles get in your way. In fact, you find a way to go over or under any roadblocks. This makes you an asset to any team.

GEMINI

May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, if you have been forgetful about keeping tabs on your finances, you may be in for a surprise. Make an effort to more closely monitor your financial situation.

CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22
Don't be so quick to write off someone you thought was out of your life, Cancer. This person may play an integral role in your life this week.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23
You might need to channel some newfound excitement, Leo. Perhaps there is a special project brewing or a party on the horizon. Keep up the good cheer.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, everyone makes mistakes, and those who move forward learn from their past errors. If you stumble, dust yourself off and get back into the game this week.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23
Don't consistently doubt yourself, Libra. Be confident that you can make decisions that will ensure your family's success and happiness for years to come.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22
Juggling too many items at once often ends with one of the balls dropping, Scorpio. Call on your support network to lend a helping hand when the juggling act gets too difficult.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21
Friends may flock to you and your jovial attitude this week, Sagittarius. Beat the winter blues by hosting a party, and it can be a win for all involved.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20
Loosen up the reins on something you have been holding onto tightly. This may mean giving a child a little more freedom to explore or involving others in a work assignment.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, it's time to put some new ideas in motion. Channel your energy into projects that will showcase your talents and vision for the future.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, creative endeavors may need to be shelved for a little while as you focus on practical tasks. It won't be long before you can return to them.

SUSPICIOUS

Continued from Front Page

Fenton schools went into "secure mode" for a short time last Thursday morning as Fenton police investigated a 911 call. Police were alerted to an unknown individual, dressed in all dark clothing, carrying a duffel bag and backpack, near AGS Middle School at 9:44 a.m. The caller believed the individual might be suspicious.

Fenton police responded to the school property to search for the unknown individual and contact was made with school officials, who in turn put the school buildings in secure mode, which is a low-level security move to lock doors and other safety precautions.

Slater said a school employee told one of the officers that he saw an individual matching the description provided by the caller. Police located that individual and learned that he is a 70-year-old Fenton resident who was walking school property for exercise.

The resident told police that he regularly walks school property because he feels safe there. Police determined there

Officers told the resident to remain on the sidewalks or the track if he wishes to walk on school property in the future.

was no ill intent and no weapons were involved.

In light of recent incidents, including the high school shooting in Parkland, Florida, Slater said the officers told the resident to remain on the sidewalks or the track if he wishes to walk on school property in the future. Slater said the man was truly sorry for the concern he caused.

On Tuesday, Slater said police have since learned that there was a second individual on school property, however, he was no longer on school property when officers arrived. The Fenton resident, who was lacking transportation, was cutting through school property and carrying a duffel bag and backpack to carry some personal belongings.

"Neither were a threat," said Slater. "He, too, should have been on the sidewalk."

The police chief said, "Everything went the way it's supposed to," with regard to someone reporting a suspicious situation. Police and school officials were immediately in contact and the schools and students were minimally impacted.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

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Personal Notices

SIGN UP

for Text blasts to receive local coupons. Text **localcoupons** to **810-475-2030**.

NOTICE OF ERROR

It is the responsibility of the advertiser to check the correctness of each insertion of an advertisement. The Tri-County Times will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion and for only that portion that may have been rendered valueless by an error.

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Miscellaneous Wanted

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Miscellaneous for Sale

TIMES PHOTOS

Staff photos published in the Times can be purchased by calling 810-433-6797.

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on April 3, 2018 at 3 PM at 224 N. First St. Brighton, MI before Judge Brennan for the following purpose:
The name change of Rebecca Jean Wood and Erika Nichole Everhart to Rebecca Jean Everwood and Erika Nichole Everwood.

Job Openings

Times

Help Wanted

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openings for full and part-time in several locations. Will train; up to \$10.00 once trained. Benefits! Call 248-887-9863.

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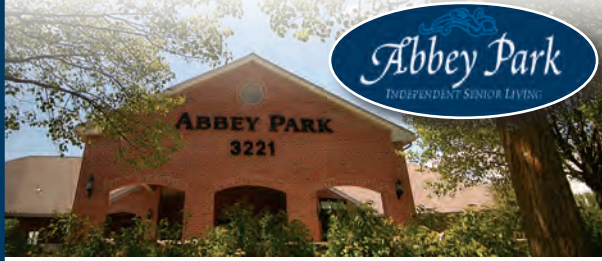
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Rummage Sales

Times

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SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 9-2PM

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Wednesday Sudoku

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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

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

Level: Intermediate

Bronchos take early lead, hold on to advance to district semis

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

District tournament contests don't have to always be pretty.

Really, all that matters is getting the victory.

The Holly varsity girls basketball team did just that on Monday and will be advancing to a Class A district semi-final contest on Wednesday after beating Lake Orion 39-34.

The Bronchos (15-6) controlled most of the game and did so effectively. Holly led 13-10 after one quarter and increased the lead to 23-13 by halftime. The lead was 29-17 entering the final quarter.

"In the first half, our pressure got to them and we were able to create a few turnovers and score in transition," Holly varsity girls basketball coach

David Hall said. "Our defense was really good. We were harassing them and their bad passes would lead to layups."

But in the fourth quarter, the tide turned to Lake Orion's favor.

We had a few unforced turnovers at the start of the fourth quarter and let them back in the game," Hall said.

CONTINUED AT
TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Fenton varsity boys swimming and diving team captured its seventh straight Metro League championship on Saturday at the Metro League meet.

Make it seven straight Metro crowns for Fenton boys swim squad

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — Hunter Smith remembers being on the Fenton varsity boys swimming and diving team when one of the Tigers' senior classes became a four-year Metro League championship squad.

But now three years later, he and diver Ethan Krantz get to join the list of senior classes that helped lead the Tigers to four straight Metro League crowns.

The Tigers made it seven straight league championships on Saturday, winning the Metro League Meet with six event conference champions en route to scoring 624 team points. In conjunction with the team's undefeated dual meet regular season in Metro play, the Tigers captured their seventh straight league crown relatively easily. Holly took third at the meet with 258 team points and one event league champion of its own, placing third in the overall standings.

Smith is happy to continue the Metro League championship tradition.

"It means a lot," Smith said. "The first time they went four years in a row, I got to see those guys and I feel pretty much the same way about it. I am excited I get to have four Metro League patches on my varsity jacket."

"I'd love to see that keep going because it defines who we are. It's what we put in here with our Hell week and our intense training. Our taper (a rest period to help lower times for big meets) goes to show how much we can work, and what we can do as a team."

"We swam very well," Fenton varsity boys swim coach Brad Jones said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018 | PAGE 12 | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

Sports

Holly's
Rebecca Fugate

Tigers lose district thriller vs. Flushing, 49-47

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Flushing — It was only the first day of the start of the girls state tournament series, but when Fenton traveled to Flushing on Monday for a Class A district opener, the game felt very much like a regional championship contest.

The two teams butted heads this season each defeating the other in the opposing team's gymnasium. In the process, the Tigers broke Flushing's 54-game winning streak in Metro play. Finally, these teams were two powerhouses as well. Flushing is the defending Class A state champions while the Fenton Tigers (14-7) have advanced to regional action each of the last three seasons, including getting to a regional championship game in 2016 and 2017. Indeed, this was a great first-round matchup.

And the game played out that way. The lead exchanged hands several times and neither team ever had more than a seven-point edge. And when it was all said and done, it took overtime for the defending Class A state champions to defeat the Tigers 49-47 at Flushing High School. The loss meant the end of a career for a Fenton senior class that saw the varsity squad capture district titles in each of their first three seasons within the program, and also saw the team advance as deep in the Class A tournament as the Tigers ever have in school history.

"It's been a really fun program," one

of those seniors, Mad-die Carr said. "Being a part of this program is always about the team. that's our main goal, the team. We always work together. We push so hard this season. to beat Flushing earlier in the season was the best feeling ever, and just working as a team. We are all about the team."

"(What our senior class accomplished) shows our hard work pays off, because it's hard to do that time after time after time. It just shows through the whole season, through the ups and downs, we stick together. We can make it that far."

Fenton's other seniors were Margaret Berry and Aly Lenz.

The Tigers led for most of the first half, taking its largest lead at 13-7 on



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Flushing held Chloe Idoni to just nine points in the Tigers' 49-47 overtime loss to the Raiders in the opening round of the Class A district.

two converted free throws by Chloe Idoni with 51.4 seconds left in the first quarter. However, despite being physically challenged by two and three Flushing bodies all night long, Idoni never made it back to the free-throw line again the rest of the night.

Fenton led by as many as five in the second quarter a couple of times.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Eagles even the score vs. Fenton Tigers, 67-29

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden — Garrett Strang had never won a varsity boys basketball game in his career against the Fenton Tigers.

But the three-year varsity player doesn't have to worry about ending his career without a defining win against the Tigers. Strang and fellow seniors Nicklas Koan, Corbin Sines and Noah Giamantonio earned it on Friday night in front of a jam-packed crowd at Linden High School.

Linden nailed 50 percent of its shots while Fenton struggled to make just 23 percent of its shots, leading the Eagles to a convincing 67-29 win against the Tigers. The win was sweet redemption

for Linden who lost to Fenton earlier this season after making just 27 percent of its shots in a 36-35 verdict at Fenton High School earlier this year.

"I think we just played so much harder," Strang said. "The first game we were more lackadaisical on defense and we get a lot more easy shots when we play hard."

"We knew we played all right but we didn't hit our shots (in that first game). We knew if we came out and played hard, our shots would fall and we'd be able to win."

That's exactly what happened. The Eagles shot the ball well throughout the entire contest, never shooting worse than 47 percent in any quarter. Linden also

took great care of the ball, turning it over just six times. Conversely, Fenton made five field goals in the first quarter and then made only six the rest of the game. They also turned the ball over 16 times, with many of those turnovers being converted into fast break hoops for the Eagles.

"I think they were able to relax and understand it's just a basketball game," said Linden varsity boys basketball coach Chris Root, who enjoyed his first victory against Fenton as the team's mentor with the win.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Linden's Garrett Strang drives to the bucket during the Eagles' 67-29 win on Friday.



Blue Devils capture win on Senior Day : Fenton's Idoni breaks school record in victory vs. Linden Eagles

By Dale Smith

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Lake Fenton — It has definitely been a year of big adjustments for the Lake Fenton boys' basketball team this 2017-2018 season.

After last year's run to the regionals keyed by an extremely talented senior class, Blue Devils knew this year would be one of new beginnings. With only Luke Tomczyk having major minutes on the team last year, the Blue Devils would be young and inexperienced. But on Friday, led by a stellar performance from Tomczyk and a lot of help from some underclassmen, the Blue Devils topped the Dearborn Heights Robichaud Bulldogs on senior night at home, 55-49.

Lake Fenton used a two-three zone early in the game to slow down a smaller but very quick Robichaud team. The Blue Devils filled the passing lanes and used three consecutive steals that turned into easy buckets to go up early, 12-5.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Lake Fenton's Matt Turgeon attempts a shot during a recent game.

Holly pulls away in fourth quarter vs. Brandon

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

A year ago the Holly varsity boys basketball team had eight seniors and wasn't able to earn 10 victories.

This season, a year that looked like it may be a slight rebuilding season, the squad has now done just that.

The Bronchos (8-8, 10-8) won their 10th game of the season by defeating the Brandon Blackhawks 46-38 at Holly High School on Friday night.

"We lost eight seniors and four starters and we've won one more game than we did (last year). That's an accomplishment," Holly varsity boys basketball coach Lance Baylis said. "That's our 10th win with two more regular season games to go. We've won three in a row and four out of our last five. We don't it in high scoring or fanciful fashion, but to win four out of five games is nice."

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden — It was another magical night for Chloe Idoni.

Just a few nights after scoring her 1,000th point of her varsity girls basketball career, the junior post player posted another scoring mark in the Fenton Tigers' 61-17 victory against the Linden Eagles on Friday night.

Idoni broke the team's single-game scoring record, netting 35 points in Fenton's road victory.

Idoni scored 11 of Fenton's 15 points in the first quarter and cruised from that point. She added only four more points in the second quarter but chipped in nine in the third quarter and 11 more in the fourth quarter. While Idoni was scoring her record-breaking point amount, the Tigers were recording the blowout victory.

The game's outcome was never really in doubt after the first quarter, with Fenton leading 15-2. Linden did cut the gap to 20-10 with a free throw by Taylor Acox midway through the second quarter, but Fenton ended the first half with five straight points, taking a 25-10 lead into the half.

Fenton also continued its tear with the first 13 points of the third quarter.

After Idoni's 35 points, Madeline Carr netted 12 points. Aly Lenz netted six points. Erin Gillespie led the Eagles with nine points.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Linden's Jordan Peterson drives to the bucket against Fenton's Erin Carter in the Tigers' 61-17 victory against Linden on Friday.

Only Online



STORIES ONLINE AT
TCTIMES.COM

Fenton/Linden girls ski beats Powers, boys lose

The Holly varsity girls basketball team couldn't have had a better start to its final regular season game against Brandon High School at Holly High

School on Friday.

The Bronchos outscored Brandon 21-0 in the opening quarter and ended up crushing the Blackhawks 54-21.

PREP REPORT

COMPETITIVE CHEER

► **Lake Fenton at D3 regional at Flint Kearsley:** The Genesee Area Conference champions saw their season end in the regional round at Flint Kearsley. The Blue Devils took ninth out of 12 teams by posting a team score of 712.54. Lake Fenton posted a 218.70 round one score and a 231.94 round two score. They scored a 279.90 score in round three.

BOYS BOWLING

► **Holly, Linden, Fenton at team regionals:** Holly led the area teams at the event, taking seventh. Linden placed 13th while Fenton took 17th. Holly also qualified two bowlers for the state meet.

Holly finished with a total pinfall total of 3,669 pins, 354 pins away from qualifying for the state meet. The top three teams qualified. Holly's top baker score was a score of 189. Eddie Sanner led the Bronchos with a total pinfall total of 1,271, four pins away from first place. He qualified for the individual state meet. He had a high game of 246 during his six-game total. Braden Wilson placed sixth, with a pinfall total of 1,202. His best game was a 246 in his first game. The top 10 individuals qualify for the individual state meet.

Linden had 3,300 total pins. Linden's best baker game was a 193, while their best team pinfall game score of 857. Linden's top individual performer was Zach Horst who had a six-game pinfall total of 1,086.

Fenton had a total pinfall of 2,355. The Tigers' best baker score was 142, and their best team pinfall game total was 571.

Fenton's top individual performer was Colin Shaughnessy who took 79th with a six-game pinfall total of 864.

GIRLS BOWLING

► **Holly, Linden, Fenton at team regionals:** The Fenton Tigers placed seventh at the regional meet with a pinfall total of 2,819. Linden was 12th (2,472) and Holly was 15th (2,139).

Fenton's Angela Hanners led the area bowlers attempting to qualify for the individual state meet. Hanners posted a six-game total of 1,018 pins, just five pins short of qualifying for the state meet.

Holly's top performer was Jenna Royle, who took 16th with a pinfall total of 984. Linden's Meghan Hitt took 30th with a pinfall total of 915.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► **Carman-Ainsworth 75, Linden 14:**

Erin Gillespie scored 12 of Linden's 14 points in the Eagles' Division 1 district opener. The Eagles were outscored 33-1 in the first quarter against a very talents Carman-Ainsworth squad.

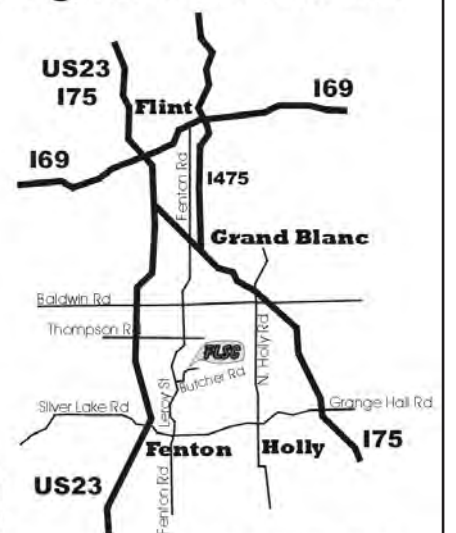
"Carman was just too fast to big and to good," Linden varsity girls basketball coach Ben Varner said. "We played as hard as we could. Erin and Maddie Smith did everything that they could. Maddie played the best game of her life."

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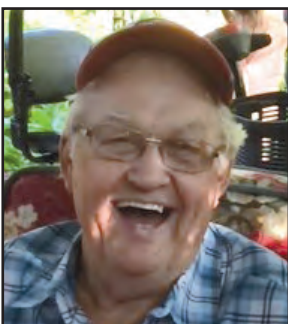
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Obituaries

Times

Jack Shouse
1944-2018

Jack Shouse - age 73, of Fenton, died Monday, February 26, 2018. Funeral service will be held 2 PM Thursday, March 1, 2018 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Pastor Ron Sharpe II officiating. Burial in Colwell Cemetery, Tyrone Township. Visitation will be held at the funeral home Wednesday from 5-8 PM and Thursday from 12 PM until the time of the service. Those desiring may make contributions to the Diabetes Association. Jack was born August 28, 1944 in Lerose, KY, the son of Harlan and Hazel (Estep) Shouse. He married Jane Lee Edman March 21, 1964 in Flint. He had resided in Fenton since 1962 coming from Kentucky. Jack retired from McDonald Dairy as a Milkman after 28 years of service; he then worked with his son, Tom at Skypoint Ventures. Surviving are: his wife of 53 years, Jane; five children, Martin (Becky) Shouse of Fenton, Kathryn Shouse of Grand Blanc, Deborah Shouse Burke of Fenton, Thomas (Collette) Shouse of Fenton, and Robert Shouse of Fenton; 15 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; 10 brothers and sisters; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. Online tributes may be posted at the obituaries page at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



FUNERAL ETIQUETTE

While issues of funeral etiquette may feel very serious or stressful, it's important to remember that your job, as a funeral attendee, is to support and console those grieving, and to participate in the communal grieving that's taking place. In light of this, the general advice for how to act at a funeral or memorial service is to be respectful, courteous, and generous to others. Remember that the simple presence of a friend, a hug, or a kind word can go a long way toward making someone feel comforted.

Source: www.everplans.comPatricia Lynn
(Amthor) Oxley
1956-2018

Patricia Lynn (Amthor) Oxley - age 61, passed away Monday, February 26, 2018. Services will be held 1 PM Friday, March 2, 2018 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. Visitation will be 2-4 and 6-9 PM Thursday, March 1, 2018 and 11 AM - 1 PM Friday. Those desiring may make contributions to Karmanos Cancer Research or Reverence Hospice. Patty was born in Flint, on November 12, 1956 to William and Carol Amthor. She graduated from Holly High School in 1974 and received an Associate's Degree from Baker Business School. Patty worked as a legal secretary in Clarkston for 25 years and another six years managing American Engineering. She married Steven Oxley on September 16, 1978. They built a home outside Fenton and Patty enjoyed decorating her home, antiques, knitting, gardening, reading, traveling, walking her dogs and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She is survived by her husband, Steve; sons, Bradley Oxley (Sara) and Brian Oxley (Tracie); six grandchildren, Henry, Amelia, Benjamin, Stella, Oliver and Isaac; mother, Carol Amthor; sisters, Marliss Gulick and Kim Amthor; brother-in-law, Mark Shaffer and many nieces and nephews. She also leaves a small, close knit group of friends who have remained steadfast for decades. She was preceded in death by her father, William Amthor; sister, Amy Amthor; niece, Darin Miller and great-niece, Seth Thomas. Tributes may be shared on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com. Patty touched the hearts of everyone she met with her kindness, generous spirit and sense of humor.



Obituaries updated
daily online.
Visit www.tctimes.com

Rudy H. Mora
1928-2018

Rudy H. Mora - age 89, Funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 AM Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton. Visitation was held 2-4 and 5-8 PM Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton, with a Rosary at 7 PM. Visitation will also be held at the church from 10 AM until the time of Mass Wednesday. George Patton once said, "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died... rather we should thank God that such men lived." And so we are all eternally thankful to have known one of the greatest, Rudy Mora, age 89, who died Friday, February 23, 2018 in his cherished Fenton area home. He will be dearly missed by his wife, Eleanor, to whom he was married for over 66 years, and their 11 children: Tom Mora (Jan) of Flint, Michele Mora of Swartz Creek, Jeannie Jamison (Gordon) of Gaines, Chris Mora (Helene) of Vero Beach, FL, Tony Mora (Linda) of Fenton, Peter Mora (Mary) of Lansing, Susan Fassett (Dennis) of Fenton, Carrie Mora (Bruce Cook) of Clarkston, Cathy Mora (Matt Zielinski) of Fenton, Lisa Mora of Flint and Ann Ramos (Phil) of Denver, CO. Thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren were also adored by him. Rudy attended Bendle High School where he played baseball, basketball and football all four years before graduating in 1946. He joined the Army from 1946-1948, during which time he was sent to Japan to serve in the Seventh Cavalry. While there, Rudy played 3rd base for the American Army Baseball Team and refereed football games between the military units. This launched a 50+ year career as a sports official in Genesee County where he was inducted into the MHSSA Officials Hall Of Fame in 2016. Education was always held in high esteem by Rudy and he

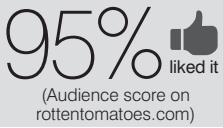
instilled this same value in each of his college-educated children. He graduated from Michigan State College (MSC) in 1952 with a Bachelor's Degree in Broadcast Journalism and a minor in Education. His Master Of Arts Degree was completed at University of Michigan, Bowling Green and Eastern Michigan University. A Music Appreciation course at MSC was a favorite for Rudy, prompting him to listen to classical and opera music on a regular basis throughout his adult life. Flint Kearsley School was where Rudy's distinguished, 35-year career in education began. After teaching math and science there, he went on to become principal at Mandeville Junior High and was President of the Genesee County Principal's Association from 1975-1978. Most educators took a break for summer, but not Rudy. He spent many summers teaching driver's education courses, one of his all time favorite summer jobs. In 1986, Rudy retired from his principal post at Mandeville and in the spring of 1987, was honored to be commencement speaker at Fenton High School, where all of his children graduated. Rudy never slowed down, even during his retirement years. He loved helping friends and neighbors, especially when it required use of his favorite power tools like his snow blower, chain saw and wood chopping gear. Many Fenton area homes were kept warm over the years thanks to Rudy's booming wood-cutting and delivery service. For Rudy, life meant working hard, doing one's best at all times, showing and earning respect and helping others to help themselves. He led by strong example and his awesome legacy is eternal. The "Greatest Generation" truly was great due in large part to him. Rudy (dad) would definitely agree with these wise words from Gandhi: "Live as though you were to die tomorrow. Learn as though you were to live forever."



DVD RELEASES



COCO
Despite his family's baffling generations-old ban on music, Miguel (voice of newcomer Anthony Gonzalez) dreams of becoming an accomplished musician like his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz (voice of Benjamin Bratt). Desperate to prove his talent, Miguel finds himself in the stunning and colorful Land of the Dead following a mysterious chain of events. Along the way, he meets charming trickster Hector (voice of Gael García Bernal), and together, they set off on an extraordinary journey to unlock the real story behind Miguel's family history.
PG, 1 hr. 49 min. Action & Adventure, Animation, Comedy



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing Lake Improvement Project for Lake Ponemah Charter Township of Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON, GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on motion of the township board, as authorized by PA 188 of 1954, as amended, the township board proposes to continue a lake improvement program on Lake Ponemah consisting of the eradication and/or control of aquatic weeds and plants and related services, and to create a special assessment district for the recovery of the costs thereof by special assessment against the properties benefited.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the special assessment district within which the foregoing improvements are proposed to be made and within which the costs thereof are proposed to be specially assessed are more particularly described as follows:

All parcels of land with frontage on or legal access to Lake Ponemah

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the township board has received plans showing the improvements, together with an estimate of the costs in the approximate amount of \$425,000, has placed the same on file with the Township Clerk, and has passed a resolution tentatively declaring its intention to make such improvement and to create the aforementioned special assessment district.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that said plans, estimates of costs and proposed special assessment district may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours on regular business days from the date of this notice through the date of the public hearing and may be examined at such public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a public hearing on the plans, district and estimates of costs will be held at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center at 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan, commencing at 7:30 p.m. on Monday March 5, 2018.

At the hearing, the board will consider any written objections and comments to any of the foregoing matters which are filed with the Township Clerk at or before the time of the hearing, and any objections or comments raised at the hearing; and at the hearing (or any adjournment of the hearing which may be made without further notice), the township board may revise, correct, amend or change the plans, estimates of costs or special assessment district.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if written objections to the improvement are filed with the township board, at or before the hearing, signed by record owners of land constituting more than 20 percent of the area in the proposed special assessment district, then the township board may not proceed unless petitions in support of the project, signed by record owners of more than 50 percent of the area to be made into a special assessment district, are filed with the township. Written comments or objections may be file with the Township Clerk at the address set out below.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if the township board determines to proceed with the special assessments, it will cause a special assessment roll to be prepared and another hearing will be held, after notice to record owners of property proposed to be specially assessed, to hear public comments concerning the proposed special assessments.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place in person or by representative and to submit comments concerning the foregoing.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE
FENTON, MI 48430-8817
(810) 629-1537

Wednesday Jumble

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

YANON

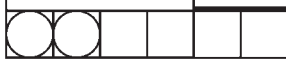


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CCROSH



DIRAHO



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Print your answer here:

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



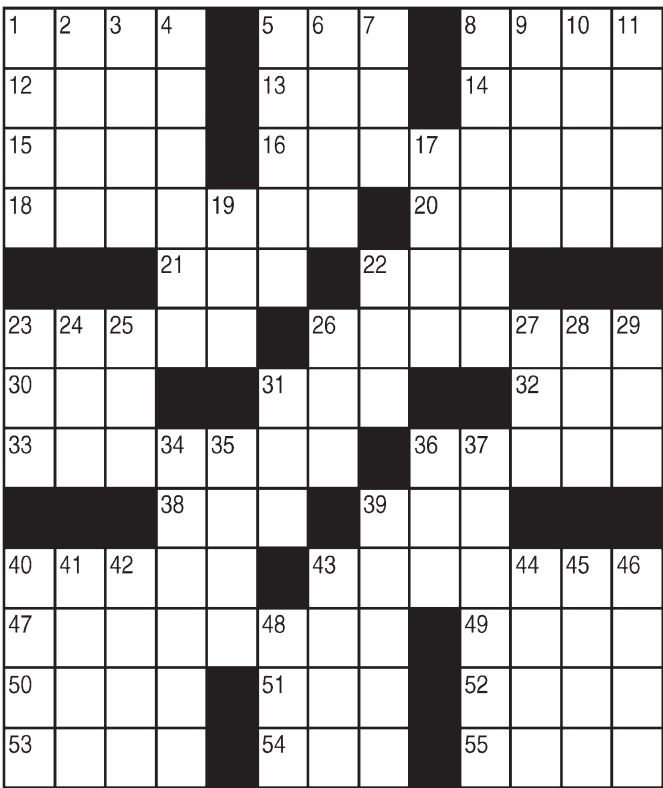
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

KING FEATURES

Wednesday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "If I may interrupt, ..."
- 5 Pen filler
- 8 Otherwise
- 12 African gully
- 13 Born
- 14 Sweetie
- 15 "Metamorphoses" poet
- 16 Make less intense
- 18 Disappointment
- 20 Shampoo directive
- 21 Author Buscaglia
- 22 Cravat
- 23 Fireplace minutia
- 26 Square dance party



- 30 — constrictor
- 31 Prompt
- 32 Court
- 33 Overwhelm
- 36 Archipelago components
- 38 Suitable
- 39 Modern-day evidence
- 40 Frighten
- 43 Dusk
- 47 Prison security measure
- 49 Pelvic bones
- 50 Baseball's Hersher
- 51 Varnish ingredient
- 52 Breaks a Commandment
- 53 Simple
- 54 Coloring agent
- 55 Slam-dance
- 9 Ponce de —
- 10 Cutting tools
- 11 Sea flyer
- 17 Great Lake
- 19 "— the ram parts ..."
- 22 Pirouette pivot
- 23 Recede
- 24 Cattle call?
- 25 Satchel
- 26 Attila, e.g.
- 27 Hooter
- 28 Trouble
- 29 Ph. bk. data
- 31 100 lbs.
- 34 In an ominous way
- 35 Newspaper pg.
- 36 Hostel
- 37 Cruel treatment
- 39 Conical-cap wearer
- 40 — gin fizz
- 41 Cat of "Iron Chef America"
- 42 High cards
- 43 Vacillate
- 44 Hodgepodge
- 45 Victories
- 46 Doggerel
- 48 Antiquated

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Field Test CANDIDATES WANTED to evaluate NEW HEARING DEVICE TECHNOLOGY

Professional Hearing Clinic, as a leading site in Michigan, has been chosen to run preliminary studies on a revolutionary hearing device.

The manufacturer of this revolutionary new hearing device technology has released this product in the Burton and Fenton area for distribution through Professional Hearing Clinic.

This exciting new hearing device is engineered to be nearly invisible and dramatically reduce background noise. Users of this new device can easily enjoy conversations or the rich detailed sounds when listening to music or TV. Recent field study candidates have reported that wearing the new hearing device technology is effortless and pleasurable.

Test-Trial Candidates Wanted: Qualified candidates will wear the new hearing technology for 7 days. Candidates will assess performance in real-world situations for the purpose of determining the need for a hearing device (deposit required). Product is available for immediate distribution.

How to Apply: This test-trial is only available to the **first 35 qualified applicants per location.** Call Professional Hearing Clinic now to determine if you are a potential test-trial candidate:

Burton: (810) 471-4418
Fenton: (810) 936-6754

U.A.W. retirees, state and school employees may be eligible for

**2 FREE
HEARING AIDS**

Call today to see if you qualify!

Call now to be included in this free trial.

Test-Trial Dates: March 5-9, 2018



**Professional
Hearing Clinic**

BURTON CLINIC
1235 S. Center Rd.
Suite 7
Burton, MI 48509

(810) 471-4418

FENTON CLINIC
1440 Torrey Rd
Suite H
Fenton, MI 48430

(810) 936-6754

Free trial offer is available only to the first 35 qualified applicants.

Please call now. (810) 471-4418 (Burton) or (810) 936-6754 (Fenton)