'ALWAYS LOCAL... my favorite stores are in Fenton'

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — On Monday, Nov. 19, in the back of the Tri-County Times’ warehouse, a dozen inserter and bundlers work on tall stacks of advertisements from various local and national businesses. Christmas music is playing in the background and their worktables are piled high with ads.

The inserter will bundle and insert over 200,000 advertising flyers by hand for the special Black Friday insert over 200,000 advertising flyers by hand for the special Black Friday Midweek Times.

On Monday, Nov. 19, Tri-County Times warehouse inserter Dan Maser pulls together stacks of advertising inserts for the special Black Friday Midweek Times. Photo: Tim Jagielo

Livingston County pet cemetery closes

What will happen to 74,000 animals buried there?

Compiled By Vera Hogan

The closure of a pet cemetery in Livingston County is leaving some residents wondering what will happen to their animals’ remains.

According to livingstondaily.com, Heavenly Acres pet cemetery in Genoa Township closed after its lease expired on Sept. 30. First Pet Care Services, LLC operated the cemetery. Attorney David Johnson represents the owner and reported that he attempted to renegotiate the lease with the property’s owner but was denied.

Genoa Township Supervisor Bill Rogers reported that Johnson told him there are as many as 74,000 animals and one human buried on the 12-acre property that has been a pet cemetery for 40 years.

An area pet cemetery has closed after 40 years leaving many to wonder what will happen to their beloved pets. Photo: Heavenly Acres pet cemetery Facebook page

Fenton parents worried about elementary re-configuration

Superintendent says this is just one of many options being considered

By Vera Hogan

There is a growing concern among some parents with elementary-aged children in the Fenton Area Public Schools.

These parents have learned that school leaders may be considering reconfiguring classes, which could include making changes in the elementary school buildings.

The three elementary schools in the Fenton district are State Road on the south side of town, Tomek Eastern on the northeast side of town, and North Road toward the west end of Fenton.

See PARENTS on 20A

Fiery rollover crash in Holly kills Clarkston man

One passenger remains in critical condition, another escapes with no injuries

By Sharon Stone

The Michigan State Police report that Metro North troopers responded to a one-car rollover crash on fire with entrapment on E. Holly Road at Tucker Road in Springfield Township on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 9:56 p.m.

North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) was also dispatched.

A 22-year-old man from Clarkston was pronounced dead at the hospital. Another victim, a 20-year-old man from Waterford sustained serious injuries and a 17-year-old female from Davisburg escaped injury. Police have not released their identities.

While en route to the crash NOCFA was advised the village of Holly Fire Department was also en route due to a one-car rollover crash on fire with entrapment on E. Holly Road at Tucker Road in Springfield Township on Saturday, Nov. 17 at 9:56 p.m.

Tucker Road in Springfield Township was closed after its lease expired on Sept. 30. First Pet Care Services, LLC operated the cemetery. Attorney David Johnson represents the owner and reported that he attempted to renegotiate the lease with the property’s owner but was denied.

Genoa Township Supervisor Bill Rogers reported that Johnson told him there are as many as 74,000 animals and one human buried on the 12-acre property that has been a pet cemetery for 40 years.

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Thankful and blessed to help Mark your Moments since 1920.

- The Medawar Family
Snoopy’s ‘Red Baron’ debuts in Macy’s 1968 parade

Compiled by Vera Hogan

“The Red Baron,” the alter-ego of that loveable Peanuts cartoon character beagle, Snoopy, made his giant balloon debut in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York 50 years ago, in 1968. Although not listed to appear in the 2018 parade, the Charles M. Schulz classic comic character has soared many times over New York’s Herald Square. Snoopy has been a crowd favorite ever since.

Over the years, Snoopy has taken on a variety of roles from an Astro-naut (1969-1977) to an Ice Skater (1986-1987). From 1988 to 1994 he appeared as Ice Skater Snoopy. His famous red costume comes from the Charles M. Schulz comic strip, which has been running since 1950. The show is based on the life of the character, who was created by Schulz.

He has been the subject of several books, including “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” which tells the story of a holiday celebration in the town of Peanuts.

In addition to his role as an ice skater, Snoopy has been seen in many other movies and television shows. He even made a cameo appearance in the 2000 animated film “The Peanuts Movie.”

Today, Snoopy remains a beloved character and continues to be a favorite among fans of all ages. He is still a popular part of the Peanuts comic strip and appears regularly in newspapers and magazines around the world.

By Hannah Ball

Fenton — If you’ve ever wanted to help animals, becoming a licensed veterinary technician could be the job for you.

Amanda Greene, a licensed veterinary technician (LVT), has worked at Pointe Animal Hospital in Fenton since Chris Repke, DVM, purchased and renamed the facility three and a half years ago. She sees more than 30 animals a day. She draws blood, records pet histories, educates clients, and preps animals for surgery. Vet techs are in charge of monitoring anesthesia, doing X-rays, dental cleanings and more.

“Every day is a surprise. You must be flexible,” she said.

Greene of Clarkston entered the field of animal medicine because she wanted to be a voice for animals. Her favorite parts of the job are success stories with healthy animals and watching them grow and develop over the years.

Before getting a pet, she said to think about the cost of owning a pet, how it’s a lifetime commitment, and to research the breed and/or breeder before adopting or rescuing an animal.

The cost of pet health care is “skyrocketing,” according to petlifetoday.com. Americans spent over an estimated $69 billion on their pets in 2017. The American Pet Products Association estimates that spending on vet care reached $16.62 billion in 2017, which doesn’t include over-the-counter medication.

Greene recommends people look into pet insurance to offset the cost of medical care. Pet insurance helps cover the cost of veterinary care, similar to human health insurance.

The plans include deductibles, co-pays, maximum payments, premiums and more.

Greene said the hardest parts of her job are euthanasia and not being able to help an animal because of cost issues or a problem they can’t fix.

“One thing I wish I could tell anyone looking for a pet, is plan. Things happen. Illnesses, accidents. Look into pet insurance. Saving money for when the emergencies do happen,” she said. “I can tell you how difficult that is when we can’t help an animal.”

She said being a tech is a thankless job. “The vets always get the ‘thank you’ even though it’s the techs that work in appointments and keep the vets on track monitoring their pets,” she said. “Our vets are very good at thanking us for the things we do.”

Fenton resident Alycia Brown, LVT, sees anywhere from 15 to 30 animals a day at Pointe Animal Hospital licensed as a veterinary technician.

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Recognition of members of our communities serving on active duty in the Armed Forces will be published at no charge.

Amanda Greene, a licensed veterinary technician, draws blood from a canine patient while Chris Repke, doctor of veterinary medicine, assists. Photo: Hannah Ball

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Do you have an ‘attitude of gratitude?’

G
do Lord, what has happened to us as Americans? So many of us seem to be so unappreciative — unthankful if you will — about so much these days.

Watch the news, pick up a newspaper, listen to talk radio — all seem to be dominated by complainers. Republicans chronically complain about the Democrats and Democrats constantly complain about the Republicans. The blacks complain about the whites and the whites complain about the blacks. The rich complain about the poor being given handouts and the poor complain about the rich not being taxed enough. Those with jobs complain they aren’t paid enough, the jobless complain they can’t get a job. Neighbors complain about each other and everyone complains about taxes. Citizens complain about immigrants that are in the U.S. illegally, illegal immigrants complain about not being granted instant and unregulated citizenship.

In a nutshell, we simply have been allowed to take the time to be more thankful for what we have. We even complain about the weather — the same weather that provides our country with such diverse beauty. From the majestic glaciers of Alaska to the rocky and rugged beaches of California. To mysterious anomalies like Old Faithful in Yellowstone to our world famous Great Lakes. From the sandy beaches of Florida, to the Badlands of South Dakota, to the Louisiana bayous, to the amber waves of grain in Iowa — there is so much to see and experience in America that it would take us a lifetime to see it all. What a gift — right in our own backyard.

It was just a generation or two ago — when I grew up — that we didn’t have. That’s a shame — to be less sad if they helped to keep illegal immigrants out who are killing U.S. citizens.

NEW FACTS TO consider: Trump’s economy is the best in 45 years; unemployment is 3.7 percent, with lowest numbers ever for blacks, women and Latinos; wages up, taxes down, GDP over 4 percent; thousands of regulations eliminated; 6.9 million new jobs and 876,000 new businesses; renegotiated NAFTA, TPP, Iran, and Paris deals. Results.

OUR PRESIDENT said he does not know, has never met, and he recently appointed as our nation’s AG. That man has been in the Justice Department for months, has briefed the President numerous times.

YOU HAVEN’T SEEN any road repairs? Do you not drive outside of the tri-county area? What about I-75 south of Sashabaw, I-75 down river, I-696, M-96, and every north/south road south of M-59 and between John R and Van Dyke (to name just a few). You have either selective ignorance or selective memory.

YES, YOU ARE correct; killers come in all colors, races, and citizen statuses. And it saddens me as well. What saddens me even more is people don’t realize they would be less sad if they helped to keep illegal immigrants out who are killing U.S. citizens.

WHY DO PEOPLE say ‘woken?’ It’s not even a word.

WE CAN MAKE America great again if we show compassion to our fellow man — no matter their skin color, their religious beliefs, their national origin.

WHY WOULD FENTON even consider spending millions of dollars in welfare and money to be spent in helping retail porn shops, strip clubs, pig farms, garbage dumps, prisons, ruke reactors, fracking or casinos? All are legal statewide. Why would Fenton not want the extra tax revenue, not to mention the employment? Keep retail marijuana out of Fenton.

YOU ARE CORRECT that Reagan did not destroy Russia; he destroyed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). You have confused the two.

EVER HEAR a butcher warn against too much meat, a doctor recommend self-care or a banker request regulatory oversight? No, it is not in their self-interest to do so. Thus, groups like the SPLC, Jewish Anti-Defamation league, and BLM can only report increases in hate crimes.

I AM A Vietnam vet and would like to thank all the people who took the time on Veterans Day to thank me for my service and those who stopped me in public and said thanks. It means a lot to me and other veterans.

THE REPUBLICAN-CONTROLLED House passed a bill Friday to drop legal protections for gray wolves across the lower 48 states, reopening a lengthy battle over the predator species.

IF I WERE KING... – Paula Maser

Do you have an ‘attitude of gratitude?’ — Paula Maser

Do you have an ‘attitude of gratitude?’ — Tim Sanford

Do you have an ‘attitude of gratitude?’ — Jill Metz

Do you have an ‘attitude of gratitude?’ — Alex Pavlis

Do you have an ‘attitude of gratitude?’ — Joan Horcha

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE THANKSGIVING?

It was probably when we had the whole family over and we watched ‘Miracle on 34th Street’ and the football game. And we ate chocolate pie.

— Paula Maser

“WE WOULD DO Brunch. We had 10 grandchildren; and would have 20 people over. We did that for several years.”

— Joan Horcha

“Last year, my 4-year-old granddaughter took a ride on a mini-bike.”

— Tim Sanford

“I had a typical family growing up — the parade on TV, helping my mom in the kitchen. Thanksgiving is my favorite because it’s more about family than buying presents.”

— Jill Metz

“I come from a blended family, so we had to fight about where we were going, what’s the order of visits, where do we stop first.”

— Alex Pavlis

What was your most memorable Thanksgiving?

Compiled by Tim Jagiello, media editor

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Truly one-of-a-kind opportunity to own 34 acres close to beautiful downtown Fenton. The main house stands at nearly 7,000 square feet with an additional 4,300 square feet in walkout basement. When you walk through the front doors of this stunning home, you are greeted by an impressive wood-trimmed bar area off the family room with unspoiled views of the private property. The open floor plan is prime for entertaining friends and family. The property features a second home with its own mailing address – perfect for guests or in-laws. The shop offers any car enthusiast the rare opportunity to keep their collection close to home with over 5,000 square feet of storage space. Too much to maintain? The property has splits available. Do not miss this rare opportunity to own a historic piece of Fenton!

11,309 Total Square Feet | 6 Bedrooms | 6 Full, 1 Half Baths | MLS# 218090003

For more information or to schedule a private tour, contact

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Associate Broker
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www.sellwithbrownbrothers.com
Our Preservation and Restoration of the Linden Mills Luncheon and Auction on November 3rd was an amazing success. Our group raised almost $8,000 for the Mill. Thanks to all of you and all the people who attended the luncheon/auction for making this event a tremendous success.

By Vera Hogan

There will likely be seven more homes constructed in the city of Fenton in the spring.

On Thursday, Nov. 15, the Planning Commission gave its support for Pontchartrain Estates Development, seven detached single family condos on 3.31 acres on the south side of Pontchartrain Drive.

The developer, Dan McNeill, originally asked for eight homes. The property is zoned MDR (Medium Density Residential). Pontchartrain Drive is off Silver Lake Road, east of the Silver Lake/Poplar intersection on the south side of Silver Lake Road.

Fenton City Councilman Dave McDermott, who is also a member of the Planning Commission, said, “The Planning Commission was supportive of the project. It was approved for seven sites. I’m not sure of the exact size or price of the homes, but I believe they will be similar to those built in the Lexington Oaks subdivision by Tomek Elementary (built by a different developer).”

Lexington Oaks is located on 17 acres on the northern east side of the city. It features 53 residential parcels.

According to the Lexington Oaks website (mitchellbuildingcompany.com), Lexington Oaks is closing out with fewer than 12 homes left. Sale price of the homes begin at $225,000.

“THERE are a few administrative items left to be approved and a review by our engineers of the site grading to ensure there are no negative impacts on the abutting MDEQ (Michigan Department of Environmental Quality) regulated wetlands. I’d expect the builder to have everything wrapped up and start building in early spring,” McDermott said.

Pontchartrain Estates to feature seven site condos

Fenton Planning Commission reviewing site plans for new small housing community

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Motorists must give a lane — and slow down

Stricter law to provide more protection to roadside emergency responders, others

Compiled by Sharon Stone

Drivers will now be required to slow down and move over when passing emergency, maintenance, and utility vehicles on the road under legislation signed Thursday, Nov. 15 by Gov. Rick Snyder.

The bill was unanimously passed by the House on Sept. 26 and unanimously passed by the Senate Nov. 8.

“This legislation will better protect those responding to emergencies as well as workers on busy roadways,” Snyder said. “My hope by signing this bill is that more Michiganders will slow down and give a lane.”

Senate Bill 477, sponsored by state Sen. Dale Zorn, will require drivers to slow to 10 mph below the posted speed limit as well as yield their lane, if possible, when passing police or emergency vehicles on the side of the road.

The bill also includes roadside tow trucks, garbage trucks, maintenance, and utility vehicles that have amber lights flashing.

Violations would be a civil offense subject to a $400 fine. The bill is now Public Act 349 of 2018.

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Menthol cigarettes, flavored e-cigs could be banned

By Vera Hogan

On Thursday, Nov. 15, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced it intends to take a historic step forward in reducing the death and disease caused by tobacco use in the United States.

The agency announced a multipronged approach on tobacco: its intent to end the sale of menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars, while also implementing restrictions on e-cigarette sales in certain locations.

According to the American Lung Association, however, the FDA’s response to protecting youth from e-cigarettes will not be sufficient in light of new data released on youth e-cigarette use.

The American Lung Association in Michigan is encouraging Governor-Elect Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Legislature to address this epidemic by enacting legislation to raise the retail sales age of all tobacco products to 21 to reduce and prevent youth e-cigarette use.

With this announcement, the FDA is taking an important step forward in the effort to reduce tobacco use and protect the nation’s health, said Kenneth Fletcher, American Lung Association in (Michigan) director of Advocacy.

“However, this effort stands in the shadow of a new report showing skyrocketing use of e-cigarettes by kids,” he said. “The American Lung Association calls on Governor-Elect Whitmer and the Michigan Legislature to take swift action to protect kids from this e-cigarette epidemic and a lifetime of nicotine addiction by enacting policies to raise the retail sales age of all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to 21.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also announced on Thursday, Nov. 15 that youth use of e-cigarettes has “skyrocketed,” with a nearly 50 percent increase in the use of e-cigarettes by middle school students since 2017.

The lung association continues to urge the FDA to use its full authority to protect kids, including ending the sales of all flavored tobacco products, including all flavored e-cigarettes, from the marketplace.

In the meantime, the American Lung Association is calling on states including Michigan to take action now.

Currently, six states have enacted legislation raising the retail sales age of tobacco products to 21. About 95 percent of adults who smoke started by the age of 21, and half of adult smokers become regularly daily smokers by their 18th birthday.

If the age to purchase cigarettes or e-cigarettes was raised to 21, it would not make it illegal for an 18- or 19-year-old to smoke or possess cigarettes, according to Ken Fletcher of the American Lung Association.

“Our goal is not to make criminals out of kids,” he said. The penalty would be on those selling tobacco products to persons under 21.

A top U.S. health official on Thursday pledged to try to ban menthol from regular cigarettes, outlaw flavors in all cigars, and tighten rules regarding the sale of most flavored versions of electronic cigarettes.

The move represents a major step to further push down U.S. smoking rates, which have been falling for decades.

The CDC claims the use of e-cigarettes by teenagers has skyrocketed with a 78-percent increase since last year.

The CDC released data showing a nearly 50 percent increase in the use of e-cigarettes by middle school students since 2017.

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Other stats

Battery-powered e-cigarettes are more popular among teens than regular cigarettes and are considered safer. But many versions contain potentially addictive nicotine, and health officials believe they get kids who try them on a path toward regular cigarettes.

Smoking is the nation’s leading cause of preventable illness, causing more than 480,000 deaths each year in the United States. The FDA currently bans sales of e-cigarettes and tobacco products to those under 18.

In 2009, the government banned a number of kid-friendly flavorings in cigarettes. But after an aggressive lobbying effort by tobacco companies, menthol was exempted.

Smoking has been declining for more than five decades. Some 42 percent of U.S. adults smoked in the early 1960s. Last year, it was down to 14 percent, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The cigarette smoking rate is even lower among high school students—about 9 percent, according to the latest figures. But e-cigarette use jumped 78 percent this year in high school kids and 48 percent among middle school kids.

The FDA has taken steps to investigate the marketing of e-cigarettes by a number of companies, including the market leader, Juul Labs Inc. of San Francisco.

Getting ahead of Thursday’s FDA announcement, Juul on Tuesday Nov. 13 stopped filling store orders for mango, fruit, creme and cucumber pods and will resume sales only to retailers that scan IDs and take other steps to verify a buyer is at least 21.

Source: wreq.com
Kiwanis Club decorates Linden for Christmas

More than 50 Christmas pieces attached to light poles

By Hannah Ball

Linden — The red and green Christmas decorations adorning Linden are thanks to the Kiwanis Club of Linden. On Sunday, Nov. 18, club members walked the city and watched as Ronald’s Tree Service hung approximately 55 decorations with lights and garland to large poles along the streets. Some look like candy canes, while others are in the shape of Christmas trees. When it gets dark, they will light up.

Linden Kiwanis Club President Annette Murphy said the Kiwanis Club has decorated the city for the holidays since the 1950s. Her father-in-law, Mike Murphy, was one of the original members of the Linden Kiwanis Club.

“It’s so fun,” she said. “Not a lot of people realize we do the Christmas decorations. We all have fun and it’s a good time.”

Ronald’s Tree Service decorates the city for free in November and takes the decorations down after the holidays. “We try to pay them and they give the money back,” Murphy said.

The cost for decorations amounts to $20,000, which includes upkeep and switching all the light bulbs to LED lights.

Murphy said they’re hoping to get new members so they can have more help continuing all of their projects. This includes giving away two $1,500 scholarships, giving to the schools and charities such as Delivering Hope, a charity that helps kids in a difficult financial situation. The Kiwanis Club also donates to the police and fire departments.

“We’re trying to get bigger and bigger,” she said.

The Kiwanis Club of Linden, with the help of Ronald’s Tree Service, puts up Christmas decorations in Linden Sunday, Nov. 18. Photo: Hannah Ball

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The Generation GAP

Editor’s Note: The Generation Gap, a series that is exclusive to the Midweek, features opinions from people in our community who are of different generations. Featured this week are Jim Leaman, 78, a retiree from Linden, who is a member of the Silent Generation (1925-1945) and Jordan Wakefield, 24, a customer service representative at The State Bank in Fenton, a Millennial.

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How does your family celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas?

Jim Leaman

As a kid, everyone lived in the same town, so holidays meant you got together with all your grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins. It was the 1940s in Saginaw. Thanksgiving was always at my parents’ home, until my father died. There would be 20 to 25 people stuffed into our small house. Kids would sit at card tables spread out all over. We’d have turkey, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, locally grown corn, bean salads and always pumpkin pie.

Today, our family is more dispersed; we don’t have the camaraderie of family being together like we used to. But we’re lucky, our children at least live in our same state.

My parents always put up the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve and the four of us kids would wake up sometimes as early as 5 a.m. (we’d get in trouble) to a sea of presents.

We didn’t have a lot of money and one year, my dad put off buying a Christmas tree. We went out to a local seller on Christmas Eve and he found this emaciated tree. My dad negotiated the price down to $1. Dad asked him what he was going to do with those boughs on the ground, and he let us take them home, too.

The next thing I knew, Dad was drilling holes into the tree trunk and inserting the branches in. That was one tree I’ll never forget.

We still try to get our family all together for Christmas, for at least one meal. Usually, our kids come over to our house on Christmas Day; sometimes we go up to our son’s home in Boyne City. It gets increasingly difficult to get people together, everyone lives far away and are so busy.

The Kiwanis Club of Linden, with the help of Ronald’s Tree Service, puts up Christmas decorations in Linden Sunday, Nov. 18. Photo: Hannah Ball

Jordan Wakefield

When I was a kid, we always had really big family holidays in the state of Oregon, on my mom’s side. That’s where I grew up until I was 10 and we moved to Michigan for my dad’s job. Our holidays have always been different since then. We still spend a lot of time together as a family, including my older brother, Josh, who’ll be 26 in December, my younger sister, Sarah, 22, and my younger brother, Jon, 20, but we don’t have extended family close by.

Sometimes my grandparent’s fly in for the holidays but this Thanksgiving it will just be my family. I try to help my mom with the cooking; we have some family recipes including my favorite, Cheesy Green Bean Casserole and also our Five-Cup Salad. It’s got canned mandarin oranges, pineapple, mini-marshmallows, coconut and sour cream all stirred together and it sits over night. It sounds weird but it’s a sweet, fruity, delicious dessert. Of course, we always have turkey.

Afterwards, we’ll watch some football and I’ll spend time with my girlfriend. Her family always goes to a movie together after dinner. I think I’ll join them.

On Christmas Eve, we always go to church. I usually play guitar in the band, and after church, we’ll take a family photo in front of the really nice, decorated tree at Brightton Assembly of God.

When we were in high school, we switched to opening gifts on Christmas Eve so we could sleep in, but now that we’ve gotten older, we’ve gone back to the traditional Christmas morning gift opening. Our grandpa always sends us a Honey Baked Ham, so we have a real traditional Christmas dinner, then we always watch the movie, “Elf,” as a family.
Take a self-defense class

Learn how to protect yourself when you can’t run away

By Hannah Ball


This is the motto of the S.A.F.E. Workshop offered by Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation (SLPR). I attended with a dozen other people Wednesday, Nov. 14. SLPR hosts self-defense classes taught by Grand Master Ibrahim Ahmed, blackbelt in Hapkido, Judo and is an instructor in Tai Chi. His wife, Julie Jernigan, also a black belt, was his assistant.

The class focused on avoiding trouble as much as possible. I had heard this stuff before — don’t run alone at night or in the early morning, run with only one earbud in, park in well-lighted areas, cross the street if someone looks suspicious or is following you, etc.

Although, Ahmed included something I haven’t heard talked about in self-defense discussions before. Don’t open Facebook messages from unknown people who could see the message as “read” and could get angry. As a woman who frequents the internet, I can say this is a great message, especially for young girls. There should be a whole class on internet safety.

Ahmed said to look at the person’s Facebook page first to determine if you want to engage. If the person only has one photo and barely any posts, it’s best to ignore the message and block the person. Great advice.

What I found most interesting was the section on the law. Ahmed said repeatedly that a person only has the right to use “reasonable” force in self-defense. This means it’s legal to use whatever force necessary to stop the attack against you. “If you do more than ‘reasonable,’ you could be the attacker,” he said. “If you use a weapon, you will probably be arrested.”

Terminology was key. Someone made a comment about using their high heels to stomp on someone’s foot, and I said they were definitely weapons. Ahmed said if you’re ever in a situation where you have to defend yourself with something and you’re talking with police, call the item a “tool” and not a “weapon.”

Let’s talk about those tools. If you’re carrying a water bottle, you can jam the top bottle cap into someone’s neck. You can use pens, canes, a flashlight, a comb or anything with a hard or sharp end as a tool for self-defense.

You could carry an air horn to use when someone tries to attack you. Buy one with a cone that can direct the sound toward the attacker. This will seriously hurt their eardrums and you can get away.

But, engaging should be your last option. “The last thing you want to do is engage. Running away is an honorable thing,” he said. “The smart person runs away from trouble.”

What happens when you can’t run away? Ahmed taught some simple and useful self-defense moves in case someone grabs you. He showed the class how to break a wrist hold, a double wrist hold, what to do if someone chokes you from the front, how to get out of a choke hold from behind, and more. They were simple moves anyone could do.

Our area is relatively safe, but everyone should know what to do when facing an attacker. Ahmed’s next class is May 9, but you can always search for self-defense classes around the area.

Times staff reporter Hannah Ball takes a self-defense course at the Fenton Community and Cultural Center on Wednesday, Nov. 14. Each participant had a partner and practiced escape techniques. Photo: Tim Jagielo

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Midweek Times
10A Wednesday, November 21, 2018
Penton

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Some publicly announced their illness to heighten awareness

Compiled By Vera Hogan

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan designated November as National Alzheimer’s Awareness Month. Reagan himself would later succumb to the disease, but Alzheimer’s Awareness Month continues.

According to A Place for Mom’s Senior Living Blog (aplaceformom.com), other celebrities like Glen Campbell and Rita Hayworth have heighted understanding of the illness and reduced the stigma of Alzheimer’s patients by publicly announcing their own illnesses:

Malcolm Young (1953-2017)

Malcolm Young, legendary guitarist and co-founder of rock band AC/DC, has been playing guitar since 1969. He’s considered by some to be one of the best rhythm guitarists in the world, producing hits like “You Shook Me All Night Long.” Young retired from music, due to a dementia diagnosis.

Glen Campbell (1936-2017)

Country singer and guitarist, Glen Campbell, announced in 2011 that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s. He’s completed his “Goodbye Tour,” which concluded in Napa, California. Campbell has over 50 years in the music business and on television, and landed a historical win of four Grammy’s in 1967.

Perry Como (1912-2001)

Perry Como was a popular singer and television personality during the 1950s and 60s and continued to perform periodically during his later years, especially around Christmas. Como suffered from Alzheimer’s for two years before dying in 2001.

Charles Bronson (1921-2003)

Charles Bronson, star of “Death Wish” and numerous other action films, spent the last years of his life debilitated from Alzheimer’s.

Ronald Reagan (1911-2004)

Six years after the end of his presidency, Ronald Reagan announced to the American public that he was “one of the millions of Americans who will be afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease.” He said that his public disclosure was intended to raise public awareness about the disease.

Rita Hayworth (1918-1987)

Hayworth was an American film star who rose to prominence in the 1940s. Despite fairly obvious signs of the illness, Rita Hayworth was not correctly diagnosed for several years. After eventually learning the cause of her memory loss, Hayworth became the “face of Alzheimer’s disease” during the 1980s.

Sugar Ray Robinson (1921-1989)

Sugar Ray Robinson, recognized as one of the best boxers ever, died from Alzheimer’s at just 67 years of age. Robinson held the welterweight and middleweight title belts, and finished with a final record of 173 wins, 19 losses, and 2 draws. It’s not currently known whether his head injuries contributed to Alzheimer’s disease.

EARLY SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF ALZHEIMER’S

According to the Alzheimer’s Association, a staggering 50 million people are living with Alzheimer’s and other dementias worldwide.

Alzheimer’s disease is a degenerative brain disease and the most common form of dementia. Dementia is not a specific disease. It’s an overall term that describes a group of symptoms.

The following are early signs and symptoms of Alzheimer’s:

Memory loss that disrupts daily life
One of the most common signs of Alzheimer’s disease, especially in the early stage, is forgetting recently learned information. Others include forgetting important dates or events, asking for the same information over and over, and increasingly needing to rely on memory aids (e.g., reminder notes or electronic devices) or family members for things they used to handle on their own.

Challenges in planning or solving problems
Some people may experience changes in their ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers. They may have trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills. They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things than they did before.

Difficulty completing familiar tasks at home, at work or at leisure
People with Alzheimer’s often find it hard to complete daily tasks. Sometimes, people may have trouble driving to a familiar location, managing a budget at work or remembering the rules of a favorite game.

Confusion with time or place
People with Alzheimer’s can lose track of dates, seasons and the passage of time. They may have trouble understanding something if it is not happening immediately. Sometimes they may forget where they are or how they got there.

See ALZHEIMER’S on 18A


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Famous people who suffered, died from Alzheimer’s

Charlton Heston (1923-2008)

Charlton Heston’s most famous role was as Moses in “The Ten Commandments.” Like his personal friend, Ronald Reagan, Heston also announced publicly that he had Alzheimer’s. Heston left a long legacy of entertainment contributions and political activism.

Norman Rockwell (1894-1978)

Rockwell, one of the most famous American painters, became well known for his illustrations on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post. Rockwell succumbed to Alzheimer’s after a long and illustrious career. Interestingly, Rockwell’s paintings are now used sometimes in dementia therapy because of the memories and nostalgia they elicit.

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**LOCAL**

**Continued from Front Page**
Midweek Times. These ads will likely help local shoppers to draft a “plan of attack” for Black Friday shopping this Friday, Nov. 23.

“It seems daunting,” said Warehouse Manager Susan Dagenais. “It’ll be nice when the tables are empty.”

Black Friday is traditionally the day retailers get their coffers back into the black, or back to being profitable, due to the one-day super-surge of shopping.

The Black Friday tradition has changed since the popularity swelling in the early 2000s, when smartphone videos were circulated that showed multiple shopper stampedes and even physical fights for certain leader products, primarily televisions, which were priced under cost.

The last 10 years featured more orderly and controlled atmospheres.

In recent years, Black Friday has been tempered by online sales on expanded sales traditions like “Cyber Monday” and “Small Business Saturday.”

Still, shoppers are far more apt to go after those Black Friday super-deals.

Tammy Chinn of Holly has a plan every year — she looks at all the ads in the Times before the shopping day.

She maps out who has the best deals and what time they open, grouping them by proximity.

Today, she only shops local, and some online. “Always local … My favorite stores are in Fenton,” she said. Chinn doesn’t go to Flint anymore. She stays in Howell and Fenton, and shops “Small Business Saturday” as well.

Antoinette Dowd-Williams said via Facebook that she went once with a friend who had the “best plan of attack ever. She went with a small group of people. Each person was assigned one item. One person stood in the center of the store with the cart. People didn’t have to maneuver around others with their cart and brought back their item to the meeting place.”

Beth Darago of Burton doesn’t go shopping anymore since her children have grown.

“The deals aren’t like they were back then” she said. Darago used to shop at the local Kmart before it closed.

According to thebalance.com, about 30 percent of retail sales for the year occur between Black Friday and Christmas.

Total sales did decline 4 percent on Black Friday in 2017, compared to 2016, when there were 101.7 million shoppers searching out those Black Friday deals.

Shopping tends to dominate the entire weekend, with the least number of shoppers coming out on Thanksgiving Day.

Retailers have adjusted and some are no longer open on Thanksgiving, such as the local Sears Hometown Store which, after years of staying open, will be closed on this Thanksgiving so that the owners and employees can enjoy the special day with their families.

The National Retail Federation (NRF) expects holiday shopping sales to increase 4 percent this year over the course of the entire Christmas season, predicting that a total of $717.5 billion worth of goods will be sold during that period.

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* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 11/16/2018. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to $250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

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**Times Warehouse Manager Susan Dagenais**

Times Warehouse Manager Susan Dagenais will oversee tens of thousands of inserts being prepared for the Midweek Times. **Photo: Tim Jagielo**

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### LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

**Senate Bill 787: Authorize lower-cost auto insurance for seniors**

To exempt a person age 65 or above from having to buy the unlimited personal injury protection (PIP) coverage mandated by the state no-fault auto insurance law. Specifically, these individuals could buy either unlimited injury coverage or a policy that caps medical coverage at $50,000, with injury expenses above that amount covered by the individual’s Medicare and related coverage.

**Senate Bill 1014: Cap auto insurance crash victim family care costs**

Introduced by Sen. Joe Hune (R), to restrict the amount that can be charged for long-term “attendant care” provided by family members to crash victims under the state no-fault insurance law’s mandatory unlimited medical coverage.
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Maxwell James, Linden High School senior, is pictured here with his two dogs, Chester and Lilly. Submitted photo

Maxwell James

• Linden High School senior
• Would like to meet Isaac Newton
• Will attend Michigan Tech

By Hannah Ball

Maxwell James, 18, is a senior at Linden High School. He’s proud of his 3.93 GPA, and the advanced placement classes he takes, such as AP Calculus, AP Statistics and AP Chemistry.

What’s the best thing about your mom/dad or grandparents?
My mom and dad are the two people who push me the most in order to be the best person I can be. They inspire me to help people and to help improve other people’s lives.

Are you involved in sports or extracurricular activities?
I was involved with the varsity soccer team at my school and I also am on a club team. I tutor multiple students in different subjects, and I volunteer for my local church on some Sundays.

If you could change one thing about our current education system, what would it be?
Include a class where students can learn essential life skills such as doing taxes, buying a house and choosing the right insurance.

Which historical figure would you like to meet?
I would really like to meet Isaac Newton.

Do you have any post-high school plans?
I will be attending Michigan Tech in the fall of 2019 to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering.

If you would start your own business, what would it be?
I would love to start a business focused on creating products that involve math and science for other companies.

What’s one thing you want to do before you graduate?
I would love to get closer with friends and family.

What’s something about you that surprises people?
No, I do not play basketball even though I’m 6-feet, 4-inches tall.
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VET TECH
Continued from Page 3A

My job entails so much. Phlebotomy, radiology, surgical nurse, anesthesiologist, snuggler, human comforter, etc.”

Alycia Brown
Roadside Veterinary Clinic
licensed veterinary technician

A day at Roadside Veterinary Clinic in Highland. She’s seen a zipper in a dog’s colon, bra hooks in a dog’s stomach, rare tumors, and other odd things in her line of work, including Cuterebra, which are large flies that use furry animals as hosts.

“My job entails so much. Phlebotomy, radiology, surgical nurse, anesthesiologist, snuggler, human comforter, etc.” she said. Brown mainly does preventative care, such as vaccines, and also assists in surgeries, places IV’s and catheters, and does client education. She’s been an LVT for five years.

The hardest part of her job is client education. Brown said many clients balk at the cost of medical care for their pet, and that their field isn’t lucrative. “Medicine is expensive. After ordering supplies/medications, I can honestly say people would be amazed at how expensive vaccines alone are. Again, we don’t make a lot of money. What is charged to clients helps go back into stocking the clinic with what we need to give best medicine for pets,” Brown said.

The best part of her job is sending home a healthy pet, whether it’s after vaccinations or after they come in sick.

Inquire about getting pet insurance through your veterinarian or your homeowner insurance carrier.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

A HEALTHY DOSE of job growth has long been seen as a likely cure for poverty. But new research suggests that poor Americans are frequently left behind even when their cities or communities benefit from hiring booms.

GLAD TO SEE by the other Hot lines I am not the only person complaining about the family favorites at Fenton High School. We heard about it early on and should have believed it.

PRESIDENT TRUMP’S TRADE war with China is having a major impact on agricultural industries, most notably on U.S. soybean exports. U.S. soybean exports to China are down 98 percent in 2018. There were about $1.2 billion in soybean exports to China in January 2016 before the nosedive. Soybeans were the top U.S. agricultural export to China last year.

SEN. CINDY HYDE-Smith (R-Miss.) appeared to endorse voter suppression during a campaign stop this month, saying efforts to undermine voting among liberals at certain colleges would be a ‘great idea.’

NO, I DON’T need to grow up. You need to wake up and support the Americans in this country.

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**Gotta have pizza?**

By Vera Hogan

If you’re like most people, you’ll be indulging on big Thanksgiving Day dinner with your family and friends Thursday. But after your nap and a couple of football games, you may begin to think about a snack. Maybe that special turkey sandwich will do it, but others may be wishing they could just have a pizza.

Well you can. Here is one recipe for pizza using leftovers from your Thanksgiving table:

### Thanksgiving Leftover Pizza

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 pound pizza dough
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 1/2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- 1/2 cup turkey gravy
- 2 cups chopped cooked turkey
- 1 1/2 cups mashed potatoes
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt

**PREPARATION:**

1. Grease or flour a pizza pan. Roll dough onto the prepared pizza pan.
2. Heat 1/2 tablespoons olive oil in a skillet over medium-low heat; cook and stir mushrooms and garlic until mushrooms are tender. 5 to 10 minutes.
3. Spread gravy over pizza dough; top with mushroom mixture, turkey, and spoonfuls of mashed potatoes. Sprinkle mozzarella cheese and parsley over pizza.
4. Whisk remaining 1/2 tablespoon olive oil with garlic powder and garlic salt; brush over pizza crust.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until dough is cooked and cheese is melted, 12 to 15 minutes. Cool slightly before serving. 3 to 5 minutes.

**NUTRITION FACTS**

- Per Serving: 512 calories; 18.2 g fat; 51 g carbohydrates; 32.5 g protein; 61 mg cholesterol; 1305 mg sodium.

Source: allrecipes.com

### Marijuana laws and allergies

*I am a six-year member of a maintenance crew in a rental home community. Because I am extremely allergic to marijuana smoke, management doesn’t force me to work in houses where the residents with medical marijuana cards are smoking. Now that recreational marijuana is legal, I fear this is only going to get worse. Is there anything in the law that would protect people like me?*

To answer your question we need to look at Michigan’s two marijuana legalization laws.

In 2008 Michigan’s first legalization law went into effect with the voter approved Michigan Medical Marihuana Act (MMMA). Concerns were raised about many aspects of the law including how the rights of nonsmokers and nonusers were protected.

Because the MMMA is a very complex law, it was acknowledged that the courts would have to continue to provide continuing guidance as to interpreting it and/or the legislature would have to amend the law when needed.

As to protecting nonsmoker’s rights, the law originally provided that smoking marijuana was prohibited on any form of public transportation or in any “public place.”

As predicted it has taken a combination of case law and new legislation in 2017 amending the MMMA, to settle the law in this area.

It is now clear that under the MMMA, private property owners can prohibit the smoking or cultivation of marijuana in leased premises if the prohibition is in the written lease. This prohibition is not allowed for so-called marijuana edibles and creams.

In the new law, making marijuana legal for adults 21 years of age or older, there are specific provisions, which state that consuming marijuana in a public place is not allowed and smoking marijuana can be prohibited on property a person owns, occupies, or manages. Cultivation, distribution, processing, sale, and display of marijuana can also be prohibited.

However, as with the MMMA, a lease agreement can’t prohibit lawful possession or consumption of marijuana by means other than smoking.

So to sum up, under both laws, it is entirely up to your management as to whether to allow marijuana smoking by the residents.

The new law is expected to take effect on Dec. 6, 10 days after the election results are certified by the Board of Canvassers.

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**Thanksgiving Leftover Pizza Recipe**

Thanksgiving Leftover Pizza

**INGREDIENTS:**
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- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 1/2 cups sliced fresh mushrooms
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1. Grease or flour a pizza pan. Roll dough onto the prepared pizza pan.
2. Heat 1/2 tablespoons olive oil in a skillet over medium-low heat; cook and stir mushrooms and garlic until mushrooms are tender. 5 to 10 minutes.
3. Spread gravy over pizza dough; top with mushroom mixture, turkey, and spoonfuls of mashed potatoes. Sprinkle mozzarella cheese and parsley over pizza.
4. Whisk remaining 1/2 tablespoon olive oil with garlic powder and garlic salt; brush over pizza crust.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until dough is cooked and cheese is melted, 12 to 15 minutes. Cool slightly before serving. 3 to 5 minutes.

**NUTRITION FACTS**

- Per Serving: 512 calories; 18.2 g fat; 51 g carbohydrates; 32.5 g protein; 61 mg cholesterol; 1305 mg sodium.

Source: allrecipes.com

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**Marijuana laws and allergies**

*I am a six-year member of a maintenance crew in a rental home community. Because I am extremely allergic to marijuana smoke, management doesn’t force me to work in houses where the residents with medical marijuana cards are smoking. Now that recreational marijuana is legal, I fear this is only going to get worse. Is there anything in the law that would protect people like me?*

To answer your question we need to look at Michigan’s two marijuana legalization laws.

In 2008 Michigan’s first legalization law went into effect with the voter approved Michigan Medical Marihuana Act (MMMA).

Concerns were raised about many aspects of the law including how the rights of nonsmokers and nonusers were protected.

Because the MMMA is a very complex law, it was acknowledged that the courts would have to continue to provide continuing guidance as to interpreting it and/or the legislature would have to amend the law when needed.

As to protecting nonsmoker’s rights, the law originally provided that smoking marijuana was prohibited on any form of public transportation or in any “public place.”

As predicted it has taken a combination of case law and new legislation in 2017 amending the MMMA, to settle the law in this area.

It is now clear that under the MMMA, private property owners can prohibit the smoking or cultivation of marijuana in leased premises if the prohibition is in the written lease. This prohibition is not allowed for so-called marijuana edibles and creams.

In the new law, making marijuana legal for adults 21 years of age or older, there are specific provisions, which state that consuming marijuana in a public place is not allowed and smoking marijuana can be prohibited on property a person owns, occupies, or manages. Cultivation, distribution, processing, sale, and display of marijuana can also be prohibited.

However, as with the MMMA, a lease agreement can’t prohibit lawful possession or consumption of marijuana by means other than smoking.

So to sum up, under both laws, it is entirely up to your management as to whether to allow marijuana smoking by the residents.

The new law is expected to take effect on Dec. 6, 10 days after the election results are certified by the Board of Canvassers.
ALZHEIMER’S
Continued from Page 11A
Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships
For some people, having vision problems is a sign of Alzheimer’s. They may have difficulty reading, judging distance and determining color or contrast, which may cause problems with driving.

New problems with words in speaking or writing
People with Alzheimer’s may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue or they may repeat themselves. They may struggle with vocabulary, have problems finding the right word or call things by the wrong name (e.g., calling a “watch” a “hand-clock”).

Mislacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps
A person with Alzheimer’s disease may put things in unusual places. They may lose things and be unable to go back over their steps to find them again. Sometimes, they may accuse others of stealing. This may occur more frequently over time.

Decreased or poor judgment
People with Alzheimer’s may experience changes in judgment or decision-making. For example, they may use poor judgment when dealing with money, giving large amounts to telemarketers. They may pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean.

Withdrawal from work or social activities
A person with Alzheimer’s may start to remove themselves from hobbies, social activities, work projects or sports. They may have trouble keeping up with a favorite sports team or remembering how to complete a favorite hobby. They also may avoid being social because of the changes they have experienced.

Changes in mood and personality
The mood and personalities of people with Alzheimer’s can change. They can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful or anxious. They may be easily upset at home, at work, with friends or in places where they are out of their comfort zone.

Source: alz.org

Tyrone Township to host pet food drive
Santa and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance Saturday, Dec. 8 from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Tyrone Township Hall, 10408 Center Road, to help out at the eighth annual Food and Pet Food Drive. Santa will arrive via City of Fenton fire truck, which will be available for kids to see and take pictures with. The event collects donations of non-perishable food items and pet items that will be given to those in need during the holiday season. The items will benefit Gleaners Community Food Bank and the Livingston Area Pet Pantry. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for meet and greet photos.

Source: myfenton.com
RED BARON
Continued from Page 3A

The Red Baron serves as the main antagonist for Snoopy’s battles as the World War I Flying Ace. Snoopy’s imaginary battles against the Red Baron began in the comic strip in October 1965 and would continue in it for several decades. Snoopy’s make-believe encounters with the Red Baron would also be seen on television and inspired a novelty record.

Of all of Snoopy’s guises, the World War I Flying Ace was perhaps his most notable. Using his doghouse as his “Sopwith Camel” fighter plane, he imagined endless battles with his nemesis. Though never depicted in human form (which went with creator Charles M. Schulz’s credo of not picturing grown adults in the comic strip), the Red Baron would sometimes invariably get the best of Snoopy; as seen, for example, in the TV special It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown.

The initial sequences involving Snoopy’s battles with the Red Baron have been credited as the pinnacle of Schulz’s achievement in the comic strip, though this claim bristled Schulz himself. Eventually, he shifted the flying ace subject from battling wars to battling love and loneliness. As he confided to writer Rheta Grimsley Johnson in her 1988 book, Good Grief: “It reached a point where war just didn’t seem funny.”

Freiherr (Baron) of Lower Silesia, his eminence Manfred von Richthofen (May 2, 1892 – April 21, 1918) was a genuine historical figure, an ace fighter pilot for Germany during World War I. Richthofen is considered the ace-of-aces of the First World War. With a confirmed kill list of 80 he is considered the best combat pilot of the Great War.

The nickname, The Red Baron, was bestowed upon him by the British Army due to his red-colored plane, and his aristocratic lineage. Shot fatally just days before his 26th birthday, Richthofen had only been shot down once before, in 1917, when he was stunned by a British bullet.
to some confusion of the exact location from the caller.

Upon arrival, Tim Seal, captain/paramedic of NOCFA reported a rollover over vehicle 100 feet off the road with two occupants trapped inside. The Holly Fire Department was already on scene and extinguishing the fire.

Once the fire was extinguished firefighters were faced with a very challenging disentanglement of two occupants, Seal said.

Firefighter paramedics worked inside the compromised vehicle while firefighters, with assistance from MSP troopers and the Holly Police Department, performed the disentanglement. The first occupant was removed within 20 minutes from the time of call by firefighters and transported by the village of Holly Advanced Life Support Ambulance to the hospital.

The second occupant was severely entrapped in the passenger side of the vehicle up against two trees. Seal said members of both fire departments worked seamlessly together with firefighter paramedics inside the vehicle rendering care to disentangle the second occupant. The second occupant was removed within 20 minutes after the first occupant.

Groveland Township Fire Department assisted with an Advanced Life Support ambulance to transport the second occupant with assistance from NOCFA Paramedics.

“Firefighters used the Jaws of Life, lifting air bags, Res-Q-Jacks, cribbing and a high level of skill to perform the disentanglement,” Seal said. “Overall there were three fire departments and 22 firefighters performing a very difficult extrication requiring all hands working.”

Both occupants were transported in critical condition. The driver of the vehicle was pronounced dead at the hospital and the passenger, as of Monday afternoon, remains in critical condition.

A third occupant who was out of the vehicle upon arrival refused medical transport to the hospital and denied any injuries.

“Preliminary investigation revealed that it doesn’t appear that alcohol/drugs were a factor. However, speed was a factor. It appears that the vehicle was driving too fast to negotiate the curved roadway. An investigation is underway by Metro North Post and MSP traffic reconstruction."

One person was killed, another was critically injured and one was uninjured in this Holly Township crash. Photo: NOCFA

Parents
Continued from Front Page

A Facebook group called FAPS Elementary Re-configuration Concerned Parents was formed and currently has 442 members. It is a closed group.

Group members are encouraged to “politely” share information, discuss their concerns and work together to make sure that their voices are heard.

Kristin Plew is a parent in the district, one of several who attended the Monday, Nov. 5 Board of Education meeting and spoke during public comment.

“Before I could even develop an opinion or thought about the possibility of configuration, I had three questions,” Plew said.

“First, why are we considering this change?” she said. “Second, what outcomes do we hope to achieve, and third, have we explored all avenues to reach these outcomes?”

Plew said the board was receptive and Superintendent Adam Hartley offered to meet with her, which she and her husband did.

On the 100-year-old elementary school, Plew said, “Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the occupants involved and all the paramedics, police officers and firefighters involved in this incident,” Seal said. “We would like to thank our surrounding departments for their assistance during a very demanding run.”

Preliminary investigation revealed that this (reconfiguration) is not even in its infancy,” Plew said. “I am choosing to believe them.”

“Before I could even develop an opinion or thought about the possibility of configuration, I had three questions,” Plew said.

Once he learned of the rumors and social media posts, Hartley wrote a letter to the parent community. We will look at that data and see what they are saying about benefits and challenges.

If the district were to seriously investigate making changes in the elementary buildings, it would take a very long time,” Hartley said.

So much would have to be considered including transportation and the teachers’ workday. “So much energy would have to go into it,” he said.

Hartley said he is pleased that parents are getting involved, sharing research and talking about student achievement. “That’s the great thing I’m seeing,” he said.

Two weeks ago, I asked our elementary administrative staff to meet with their building instructional staff to gain feedback on the potential instructional benefits and potential challenges of transitioning to grade specific buildings (i.e. K-1 in one building).”

Hartley said it is imperative that administrators look at all options and investigate strategies to address factors that include, but are not limited to instructional best practices, interventions for all types of learners, use of grant dollars and peer collaboration.

He said the administrative team also would be investigating challenges that include possible staggered start and end times, transportation, vertical collaboration, transitions between buildings and staffing.

Since that letter was sent, a survey was sent to parents for their feedback. So far, more than 200 responses have been returned, Hartley said. “At some point we will take teacher responses and responses from the parent community. We will look at that data and see what they are saying about benefits and challenges.

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Many score in the Griffins’ 10-2 win vs. Marysville

By David Troppens
It didn’t take long for the Fenton/Linden co-op hockey team to earn its first blowout victory of the 2018-19 season.

After losing a tight first contest 6-5 against Milford, the Griffins took their vengeance on Marysville, crushing the home squad 10-2 by the mercy rule.

It was a great result beyond the victory. Just as with their first contest, many players shared the wealth with six players scoring goals. Three scored their first goals of their high school careers. Freshman Nick Temple not only scored his first goal of his prep career, he scored his first hattrick, netting three goals in the contest. Senior Adrien Gansladt scored twice, earning his first two goals of his prep career while junior Trevor Isaacson also scored a goal, his first of his career.

Sophomore Ethan Hutchings also provided two goals while seniors Dylan Conte and Josh Appleberg each had a goal as well.

The contest didn’t stay very close for very long. The Fenton-Linden squad took a 5-0 lead in the first period and the lead was never threatened. Both squads scored two goals in the second period, helping the Griffins maintain their five-goal lead at 7-2.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Freshman Olsen captures her first state title

By David Troppens
Rochester — Freshman Gracie Olsen wanted to give a gift to the senior class and her newfound Fenton varsity girls swim teammates while she was at the Division 2 state swim meet Friday and Saturday.

It’s fair to say Olsen accomplished her task. Olsen captured the Division 2 state championship in the 200-yard individual medley (IM) and finished runner-up in the 100 butterfly, posting what probably was the greatest individual performance of a Fenton swimmer at a state meet.

Olsen didn’t only win the 200 individual medley, she crushed the field. Her time of 2:03.19 beat second-place Clarice Fisher (2:06.60) by over three seconds. Meanwhile, in the 100 butterfly Fisher edged out Olsen as Fisher posted a time of 54.86 seconds, about one second faster than Olsen’s time of 55.69 seconds. Olsen’s IM time gives her All-American consideration, while her 100 butterfly time qualified her for Winter Junior Nationals.

“I was so excited,” Olsen said. “I really wanted to make it but not just for me. I wanted this meet for the seniors. I wanted it to be the best meet they’ve ever had.”

“Going into the IM I was really nervous because I know I did have a lot of competition. Even if my time may have been a few seconds faster, I knew they were going to give it their all and they did. I am friends with Clarice Fisher, who took second. I got first in the IM and she got second. We raced in the 100 butterfly and she got first and I got second, it was really fun.”

Olsen is Fenton’s first individual state champion since Amber Shalla and Liz Korsedal won individual Class B titles in 2000. Shalla won the 500 freestyle while Korsedal won the 100 butterfly.

“What a great way to start her high school career,” Fenton varsity girls swim coach Brad Jones said. “She has All-American consideration in two events (she also has it in the 200 freestyle).”

Photos: David Troppens

Fenton freshmen Gracie Olsen capped her season by winning the individual Division 2 state championship in the 200-yard individual medley at the state meet at Oakland University, Saturday. (Above) Olsen celebrates in the 200 IM. (Below) Olsen smiles when she sees her winning time. Olsen also finished second in the 100 butterfly. (Left) Olsen congratulates champion Clarice Fisher after Olsen took second.

See OLSEN on 23A

See SENIORS on 23A

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Dolly
I’m an all around happy girl who gets along with everyone.

Jack
I would love a family with other animals, kids and people who want to spend time with me.
Olsen earns right to pick song for finals during meet’s first day

By David Troppens

Editor’s note: This story details the first day of the state swim meet. Stories about the second day can be found on the front page of sports.

Fenton freshman Gracie Olsen had a huge responsibility on Saturday.

Fenton’s standout swimmer had to select the song that will be played when the 200-yard individual medley was introduced during the Division 2 state swimming and diving state meet held at Oakland University on Saturday.

She earned that right by earning the top seed during Friday’s preliminary round, posting a time of 2:04.45, almost three seconds ahead of the rest of the field. That meant Olsen entered the meet as the clear-cut favorite to win a state championship in the event. Of course, winning a state championship may eventually be a tad more meaningful than selecting a song, but Olsen couldn’t win the title during Friday’s prelims. She could only earn the top seed, giving her the song decision honor, so why not enjoy the honor?

“I am so excited,” Olsen said about being able to decide the song. “I have picked one. It’s called the ‘Rump Shaker.’ It’s a song from the ’80s or ’90s or something like that. My friends taught me a dance and it goes perfectly with that song.”

Olsen actually positioned herself to contend for two individual state titles during Friday’s prelims at Oakland University. She also earned the second seed in the 100-yard butterfly, posting a season-best time of 56.60 seconds during the preliminary round. Grosse Pointe South’s Clarice Fisher is the top seed after winning the preliminary with a time of 55.42.

Fenton also has all three of its relays competing in the consolation finals on Saturday. Individually, diver Morgan Smith came close to advancing to Saturday’s activities by placing 19th in the preliminary and semifinals rounds of diving.

Olsen was pleased with her individual performances on Friday.

“I said this is going to be fun,” Olsen said. “I got to the meet and I was a little tired. I swam our first relay and the adrenaline shot up. I realized this was going to be a fun meet. I ended up swimming really well. I didn’t get any best times but I was close to them. I was really happy with that and I’m super excited about tomorrow.”

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SENIORS

Continued from Page 22A

at the meet. Ending the meet by breaking the school record meant a lot to the 400 freestyle relay squad of Gracie Olsen, Megan Mallard, Sabrina Hall and Lillie Kromer. Mallard and Hall were seniors, so it was fitting they got to enjoy watching the record go down on the relay.

Meanwhile, Olsen and Kromer, a junior, were able to give the seniors a final memory.

“That was really exciting,” Hall said about breaking the 400 freestyle record. “We talked about that before the race and wanted to get it on the board. It put a little fire in Lilly and Grace because they wanted to get it for us. We did it as a team. … It was an awesome way to end the meet. I couldn’t ask for anything more than that.”

There were aspects of the state meet that didn’t go exactly the way the Tigers hoped. Fenton hoped to get their relays in Saturday’s final round, but instead got all three in the consolation finals. But even with that slight disappointment, the Tigers still made history. It marked the second straight season the Tigers

OLSEN

Continued from Page 22A

style from earlier this season) and to get All-American is outstanding.”

In the 100 butterfly, Olsen (55.69) was seeded second and held her seed. She beat third-place Sage Gettings by 1.4 seconds.

“I was really satisfied,” Olsen said. “I have never gone 55 (seconds) before so that was exciting. I was really going for it for the end of the season.”

Olsen also helped two relays to strong performances. She teamed with Abigail Dolliver, Caitlyn Dailey and Sabrina Hall to take 11th in the 200 medley relay (1:51.47) and helped the 400 freestyle relay team of herself, Megan Mallard, Hall and Lillie Kromer place 10th with a school record time of 3:37.87.

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The Fenton varsity girls swim team competed at the Division 2 state swim meet at Oakland University Friday and Saturday, earning 14th overall. The Tigers’ biggest story at the meet during Friday’s first day was freshman Gracie Olsen (top) who earned the top seed in the 200 individual medley and the second seed in the 100 breaststroke. (Left) Many of the Fenton swimmers take some time in the warm-up pool before competing in a relay. The Tigers had all three of their relays make it to the second day.

Photos: David Troppens

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Photos: David Troppens

Some of Fenton’s swimmers huddle right before the start of Saturday’s final day of the Division 2 state swim meet.

Photos: David Troppens

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It’s the most haphazard season of all

With dads falling off ladders and grandmas slipping on ice, the holidays are the most dangerous time of year

By Sally Rummel

The holidays may be the most joyful of all seasons, but there are many opportunities to land in the emergency room or urgent care. Here are a few tips for making it through the holidays unscathed:

EYE INJURIES

It’s not just the Red Ryder BB Guns that had Mom in “A Christmas Story” warning Ralphie, “You’ll shoot your eye out!” Whether you’re popping open a bottle of champagne or decorating the Christmas tree, your eyes may be in danger. Shattering glass ornaments, Christmas tree sap and pine needles can all cause injuries to your eyes.

See DANGERS on 6B
Hey Kids! Enter our Christmas Coloring Contest

Nine winners will be selected from kids ages 3-11. One winner per age group. These winners will receive a Christmas bag filled with treats and age appropriate surprises. Drop off your entry at the Tri-County Times or mail it to: Tri-County Times Christmas Coloring Contest, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, MI 48430 By Friday, December 7th at 4p.m.

COLORING CONTEST RULES: Children must be 3-11 years old to enter. Winners will be contacted on Monday, Dec. 10th, prize pickup no later than Thursday, Dec. 13th. Winners will be published in the Sunday, Dec. 16th edition. Tri-County Times, Alliedmedia.net and Rockman and Sons Publishing employees and their relatives are not eligible.

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Getting through the holidays when you’re alone

By Vera Hogan

For many people, it’s not going to be an “over the river and through the woods to grandmother’s house we go” kind of holiday. Festive gatherings often conjure a Norman Rockwell image — a big family, all smiles, gathered around a succulent, golden turkey.

But for many — particularly those who are divorced, widowed, or estranged from family, the long stretch from Thanksgiving through New Year’s can be lonely, stressful, and depressing.

Whatever the reason, many find themselves alone for the holidays. With the emphasis on families and being with others, the holidays can be an especially lonely and trying time. But there are many things you can do to make the holidays a little less lonely when you’re alone.

DE-MYTHOLOGIZE AND ADJUST EXPECTATIONS

There are many categories of expectations about the season being just right that it brings up all sorts of issues relating to family, stress and anxiety, eating disorders, sobriety, self-esteem, competency — the list goes on. There’s this idea that it is supposed to be perfect, but statistically, traditional households in this country are not in the majority.

DE-MYTHOLOGIZE AND ADJUST EXPECTATIONS

If you can afford it, get away from it all.

Nothing says I feel better like a tropical get away.

If you can’t be with family or loved ones during this time of the year, send them letters or emails or call them — in other words, reach out to them.

REACH OUT

Call friends and ask to be included in whatever they’re doing. Offer to bring a dish to pass or see how you can contribute to the gathering. Most people love opening their homes and expanding the celebration. It works for everyone.

BE PROACTIVE

Create an “alternative family” made up of people whose company you enjoy. Plan and prepare a potluck feast if you like. Remember that you are not alone in being alone during the holidays. Get together with others and have some fun.

PLAN AN OUTING

Go on a hike, weather-permitting, or go to the movies, a park or a museum. Enjoy the outing with your group or by yourself.

PAMPER YOURSELF

Treat yourself to a day of beauty at a spa, get a massage or find some other special way to luxuriate. Do whatever you enjoy doing.

REACH OUT

If you can’t be with family or loved ones during this time of the year, send them letters or emails or call them — in other words, reach out to them.

REMEMBER YOUR BONDS AND BLESSINGS

Pull out photo albums and read old letters. While this may be bittersweet, it is not toxic. If possible, get on the phone and talk with loved ones who are still living.

HELP OTHERS

Volunteering at a mission or shelter for the homeless or an animal shelter will help you feel more connected.

Volunteering at a soup kitchen or shelter for the homeless will help you feel connected this holiday season. Times file photo

GET THROUGH THE DAY.

If you’re unable to do any of these things, do what you need to just get through it. Read, sleep, rent movies. And remember, tomorrow it’ll all be over.

The holidays can be a lonely time, but that doesn’t mean you have to feel alone. Stay focused on acknowledging and meeting your needs, and the holidays will be over before you know it.

Source: Psychcentral.com

Tips and tricks to a healthy, safe and stress-free holiday

Source: Psychcentral.com

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The holidays are a minefield of possible hazards for your pet, so be careful ahead of time with seasonal plants, décor and dangerous foods.

Photo: Hannah Ball

After all, ‘tis the season of chocolates, poinsettias and other toxic items for pets

By Sally Rummel

You’ve got your holiday budget down to the penny with money set aside for gifts, decorations, your Christmas dinner, etc.

What you hadn’t planned on was $300 to get your pup’s stomach pumped, after he got into the Christmas chocolates, foil and all.

So when you are figuring out how much you’re going to spend this Christmas, you might be wise to factor in the cost of an emergency vet bill. After all, it’s the season of chocolates from Halloween through Christmas.

The average claim last year associated with accidental poisoning was $465, plus a deductible of $50 to $200. If the pet ingested an inedible item like tinsel or candy wrappers, that figure nearly triples to $1,284.

Here are a few possible scenarios that might result in an emergency vet visit:

**CHOCOLATES**

What humans love to eat to reward a sweet tooth can be toxic to cats and dogs. Chocolate contains both theobromine and caffeine, which can speed the heart rate and stimulate the nervous system. It can trigger diarrhea, vomiting, and, in large amounts, even seizures and death.

What to do:

Call your vet immediately and/or call the Pet Poison Helpline (855) 213-6680 for advice. Your vet may recommend you monitor your pet for symptoms like vomiting, diarrhea, increased urination, tremors or elevated/abnormal heart rate, or prefer you bring your pet into the clinic. The vet may induce vomiting.

**TABLE SCRAPS**

Scraps from the Thanksgiving and Christmas table can include foods that are dangerous to pets, such as cooked bones, which can splinter inside your pet’s mouth or internal organs or items that are poisonous to pets, such as garlic and onions, dairy products, etc. Other scraps may contain pits or cobs which can cause internal injuries if swallowed.

Turkey bones, if ingested, can splinter or become lodged in the digestive tract.

What to do:

Don’t feed your pet from the table and make sure your garbage can is inaccessible to your cat or dog.

We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday!

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TWAS THE NIGHT(MARE) BEFORE CHRISTMAS

...and all through the house, there’s room for disaster, worse than a mouse, from plumbing to electrical and more

By Sally Rummel

Now that we’re moving into the holiday season, with plenty of feasting and family get-togethers at our homes, potential disasters await us at every turn. Now that sounds rather negative, but let’s face it — there are plenty of places for disasters to befall us when we least expect it.

PLUMBING

Family feasting puts a whole lot of extra pressure on your already hard-working appliances and fixtures. A lot of it has to do with all the extra food-related waste going down the kitchen sink.

To avoid plugging your kitchen sink, remember these important tips:

• Not everything can go down the disposal all at once. Gradually feed your garbage disposal food so it can easily “digest.”

• Keep water running as you use your garbage disposal, to aid in “digestion.”

• Keep your garbage disposal free from unflushable items like feminine sanitary products, facial cleansing pads, wipes and cotton balls get thrown away, not flushed away.

• Keep your live Christmas tree fresh by watering it daily and if you’re using an artificial tree, make sure the label says “fire resistant.” Place your tree at least 3 feet away from all heat sources.

• Turn off all decorations at night. Also, hang lights with care and don’t pierce electrical cords or outlets.

• Use battery-operated candles rather than traditional candles.

• Hang lights with care and don’t pierce electrical cords or outlets. Make sure every electrical cord or outlet is approved by UL. Electrical cords or outlets can cause a fire hazard. Here are a few ways to keep your home safe this holiday:

• Don’t overload electrical outlets; plug in only one high-wattage appliance into each outlet.

• Keep your electrical circuits protected with a circuit breaker or fuses.

• Keep sure protectors and cords out of sight.

• Consider making a cute sign that reads: “Only toilet paper gets flushed, anything else will clog the drain.”

Visit Familyhandyman.com or YouTube.com to learn how to fix clogs in either your kitchen or bathroom sinks.

ELECTRICAL

All the lights, decorations and extra company using hair dryers and more can trip a strain on your home’s electricity, and may cause your house a fire hazard. Here are a few ways to keep your home safe this holiday:

• Don’t overload electrical outlets; plug in only one high-wattage appliance into each outlet.

• Use battery-operated candles rather than traditional candles.

• Keep sure protectors and cords out of sight.

• Turn off all decorations at night. Also, make sure your electrical cords or outlet are using outside is covered to protect them against the weather.

• Never use indoor lighting outdoors. Buy UL-listed lights to remind you about proper usage.

• Keep water running as you use your garbage disposal, to aid in “digestion.”

Bathroom plumbing also gets a workout during the holidays. Make sure that unflushable items like feminine sanitary products, facial cleansing pads, wipes and cotton balls get thrown away, not flushed away.

Consider making a cute sign that reads: “Only toilet paper gets flushed, anything else will clog the drain.”

APPLIANCES

It takes a lot of organization to prepare a holiday feast, whether it’s Thanksgiving or Christmas. Is your oven up to the task, or is it a recipe for disaster?

• Check your oven for reliability before the holiday.

• Avoid running the self-clean cycle in the two weeks leading up to your holiday feast, because that’s when many ovens experience problems requiring expensive repairs.

• Consider using small appliances like slow cookers, roasters and microwaves to expand your cooking capabilities and save energy. You can also bake several dishes at a time.

If your oven or another appliance does stop working on the holiday, you’ll have to decide whether to have an expensive repair bill from an appliance repairman or replace your current appliance. Your decision will likely depend on how old your appliance is — if it’s a decade or so old, you should start saving for a new appliance.

FURNACE

Snuggling by a cozy fireplace is fun when it’s your choice, but not so much when you have a broken furnace and are trying to stay warm. A few minor preventive maintenance tasks will lessen the likelihood that you’ll have a major furnace blowup during the holidays.

• Have a preventive maintenance service performed by a qualified professional before the cold weather starts.

• Replace your filters monthly.

• Consider a warranty plan, which will put you on the top of the list for any service calls, including emergency service.
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Always wear seat belts and make sure your children are properly secured in car seats. Stay sober or designate a driver in advance. Keep your eyes on the road and drive defensively.

To avoid car trouble on the road, give your car a winter check-over: ignition, brakes, hoses, fan belts, spark plugs, tire air, head-lights, battery and wipers. Carry a shovel, jumper cables and a bag of salt or cat litter for traction.

SLEDDING

This good, clean family activity results in about 33,000 injuries each year, according to the National Safety Council.

To avoid injury, choose a spacious, gently sloping hill free of trees, fences, rocks or other obstacles and make sure it doesn’t cross traffic. Don’t sled on or around frozen lakes, streams or ponds. Wear thick gloves or mittens and protective boots.

DECA' NATIONS

Putting them up and taking them down can be a dangerous activity, especially when it involves heights and ladders. More than 5,000 people are injured in decorating-related falls each holiday season, according to the NSC.

Make sure the ladder is on secure and level ground. Space the ladder 1 foot away from the wall for every 4 feet high it reaches. Stay centered between rails and don’t overreach. Don’t step on the top two rungs. Make sure the ladder is locked open.

SLIPS AND FALLS

Depending on where you are for the holidays, there are likely slipping hazards everywhere you turn, if you’re in a cold, icy winter wonderland. Make sure to de-ice your driveway and walkways to protect your family and holiday guests. Source: health.com; National Safety Council (NSC.org)

DEEP-FRYING

Your Turkey

Deep-frying your turkey can be so dangerous that Underwriters Laboratories, the product safety certifier, has refused to stamp any fryers on the market with its iconic UL logo.

If you’re going to deep-fry your bird anyway, follow your fryer instructions carefully and read safety tips available from many sources, including State Farm Insurance and Safewise.com.

HEART ATTACKS

The holidays are the perfect storm of heart attack risk, with heart attacks peaking in late December and early January. The deadliest date? Dec. 25, according to one study.

Holiday stress, heavy meals, skipping medications, and ignoring chest pain are just a few of the reasons that heart attacks peak this time of year. Moderation is key and so is paying attention to symptoms and being diligent about your medication.

PACKAGING PUNCTURES

Opening gifts can actually be a health hazard. Sounds simple, but each year about 6,000 people in the U.S. visit the ER with wounds from trying to pry, slice or stab open gifts encased in hard plastic “clamshells” or held down with a thousand metal twist ties.

Don’t use kitchen knives, pens, scissors and other inappropriate tools to open your gifts. If you must use a blade of some kind, use a safety blade and always cut away from yourself and other people. Help young children open their packages if they have a hard time ripping through their presents.

CAR TROUBLE AND ACCIDENTS

Driving to Grandma’s house just might be a holiday hazard because of all the traffic at Christmastime and the number of accidents that result. Christmas and New Year’s, when alcohol is responsible for nearly half of accident fatalities, bring their share of danger on the road.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC):

• Approximately 1,300 people are treated each year in emergency departments for injuries related to holiday lights.
• Another 6,200 are treated for injuries related to holiday decorations and Christmas trees.
• Holiday lights cause about 510 fires each year.
• Candle fires are four times as likely to occur during the winter holidays. More than $170 million in property losses were attributed to candles. About one-sixth of fires started by candles occur in December.
Sciatica is leg pain caused by a pinched nerve in the lower back. Pains begin in the nerve roots, located on either side of the lower spine and move through the sciatic nerve, which runs the length of each leg from the buttocks, down to the foot. The leg agony, called radiculopathy, “is often worse than the back pain,” says Dr. James Ide, DC, clinic director at Painless Chiropractic of Fenton MI. “It’s very common for patients to come in describing an agonizing, shooting, burning pain that starts in the buttocks and flows down to the leg and at times into the foot with numbness, tingling and cramps in the leg.” The sensation “can be intolerable,” says Dr. Ide. “Some people describe it to be similar to the nerve pain you experience if you have a toothache.”

For home care options visit PainlessDC.com/sciatica

After reviewing many different pain options we have found that typically the average person who suffers from Sciatica pain usually experiences the same frustration when seeking help. They tend to start off going to their doctor who prescribes them one or more of the following: Muscle Relaxers, Pain Pills or Steroid Based Anti-Inflammatory Drugs.

The Muscle Relaxers tend to make patients tired but do relax the muscles. The Pain Pills mask the pain while on them but tend to make many people tense, nauseous, constipated and unable to focus. The Steroid Based Anti-Inflammatory Drugs give some people weakness, moon face, weight gain, insomnia and mood swings. All in all the pain usually comes back once the drugs are gone because nothing was ever corrected just masked. These drugs all focus on the symptoms and not the problem.

This is often the case with most pain related to the spine and nerves, regardless if your issue is in your neck, resulting in headaches or pain, numbness, tingling and/or muscle weakness in the arms and hands or down in the low back and buttocks, resulting in Sciatic Pain.

Once the patient goes to their MD, takes their prescriptions and then goes back, still in pain, they are usually referred to physical therapy, pain management or a surgeon. Most patients respond to physical therapy however, once the program has finished many report the pain returns.

When they visit pain management, they may be prescribed the same types of drugs their MD gave them or they may jump right to the steroid epidural shots into your spinal column which may not be FDA approved so please be advised to do plenty of research if you ever find yourself in this situation.

As for having surgery... well we all know that surgery should always be a last resort because once you make the decision to have surgery, there is no going back and undoing it and many other options are off the table after surgery.

Regardless of how the symptoms are treated, the number one problem with finding relief through these treatments is that they only focus on treating the symptoms not the underlying issue. In severe cases, this condition can lead to muscle wasting, numbness, and constant tingling down to the toes and eventually sexual dysfunction and even loss of bladder/bowel control. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life. People lose hope and have no idea where to turn.

That is until now.

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care. The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% many back surgeons are recommending their patients try this treatment first before having surgery. Right here in Fenton MI, at Painless Chiropractic you can try Non-Surgical Reconstructive Spinal care under the direct supervision of low back and sciatica specialist Dr. James Ide D.C. The fully trained spinal care team have helped countless patients find relief from their agonizing back and sciatica problems. “We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology not utilized elsewhere in the area for precisely diagnosing the cause of your pain; and a unique program for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people” said Dr. Ide.

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain. However, as Dr. Ide says “we are happy patients experience less pain but the pain is just a symptom, our goal is to correct the underlying problem which is structural.”

If you are ready to get to the bottom of your debilitating shooting, stabbing and burning pain stemming from your low back, buttocks and sciatic nerve, Painless Chiropractic is ready to deliver the same positive results to you as they have to so many others. That is why the Times has teamed up with the clinic to spread the news and showcase the offer they put together for our readers.

Call them now and get a full and thorough consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just $37!

The normal cost of such an exam is $195 so you will save $158! Don’t suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve. Call and set up your appointment now. Call 810-618-6380 Mention the code SANTA2018 to claim your special offer.

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*By Erica Rainer*

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**Sciatica Relief Expert James Ide, says:** In 7 years of practice, I’ve never seen a treatment as effective as Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care for patients with sciatica or lower back pain.

**Dr. Ide**

---

**Louis K., Grand Blanc**

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**Chiropractic Corrective Care for Sciatic Pain Relief**

“I was beginning to think surgery was my only option and then my neighbor told me about Painless Chiropractic and how much they had helped his brother. I made an appointment the next day. I was skeptical but I was out of options. It was the best decision I ever made. I only wish I would have tried it sooner. My pain is gone and I feel better than I have in years!”

- Louis K., Grand Blanc
SEASONAL PLANTS

Poinsettias, mistletoe, amaryllis, holly, Christmas cactus and Jerusalem cherry are all holiday plants that range from mildly irritating to being toxic for your pets. In fact, poinsettias are likely the least toxic of the holiday plants with results being only a mild irritation, in most cases.

What to do: Avoid bringing toxic plants into your home. If your pet ingests a poisonous plant, contact your vet immediately.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Perhaps the biggest danger with a Christmas tree is if a cat causes a tree to topple over, breaking tree toppers and ornaments into dangerous, sharp pieces. In addition, the oils produced by fir trees can be irritating to a pet’s mouth and stomach, causing excessive vomiting or drooling. The tree needles, meanwhile, may cause gastrointestinal irritation, obstruction and puncture.

What to do: Contact your vet if there are signs of chewed needles.

ALCOHOL

Having a party this holiday? It’s wise to know that alcohol is toxic to dogs and cats and can be deadly. Alcohol’s affect on pets is much like it is on people, and the main issue is more about how much the pet consumed, not what kind of alcohol it is. Fortunately, alcohol is not a substance your pet willingly seeks out.

What to do: In most cases, your dog or cat can sleep it off like humans do, and no other treatment is usually needed.

FOOD ITEMS SWEETENED WITH XYLITOL

Many sugar-free products, including chewing gum, contain xylitol. It’s commonly called a “sugar alcohol,” and is naturally found in certain fruit (in small amounts). While it’s safe for humans, it results in a severe insulin release when ingested by non-primate species (e.g., dogs). Acute poisoning will occur in dogs, resulting in two main syndromes: hypoglycemia (i.e., a life-threateningly low blood sugar) and acute hepatic necrosis (i.e., severe liver failure).

What to do: Read the ingredients to see if the product eaten contains xylitol. The general rule is that if xylitol is listed in the first 5 ingredients (typically in order of the amount that they appear in the food or product), it is going to be poisonous, according to pethealthnetwork.com. Call the vet immediately.

TINSEL AND OTHER DÉCOR

Tinsel, ribbons and ornaments can cut through the digestive tract in a cat or dog if it’s ingested, so be careful not to expose your pet to these decorations.

What to do: Contact your vet.

Sources: APCC.org, pethealthnetwork.com

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MIDWEEK LIFESTYLES

PETS

Continued from Page 4B

Tips and tricks to a healthy, safe and stress-free holiday

“CALLS INCREASE ABOUT 20 PERCENT THIS SEASON, COMPARED WITH THE REST OF THE YEAR.”

Animal Poison Control Center

‘LIFE IS NOT ALWAYS A BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS CARD’

Christmas Peace Service set for Sunday, Dec. 16 — any and everyone is welcome

By Sally Rummel

Christmas time is joyous for many, but holidays are difficult for some people.

That’s why the public is invited to the Christmas Peace Service offered Sunday, Dec. 16 at 6 p.m. at Transfiguration Lutheran Church (TLC) of Fenton, 14176 N. Fenton Road.

“Many people are suffering from a variety of hardships and loneliness that can be made worse during the holidays,” Pastor Mark Fisher said. “The Christmas Peace Service is meant to be shared with all people.” He’s hopeful that it will serve to create a moment of peace that can lead to hope for all those who attend.

“Sometimes it’s known as ‘Blue Christmas,’” Fisher added. “We walk around with smiles that mask real pain and hurt. Life is not always a beautiful Christmas card. But we believe the loving spirit of God is in our midst, and we can experience a special kind of peace by joining together.”

Refreshments will be offered after the one-hour service.

“This service will feature familiar, comforting songs, readings, prayers, a short reflection and open table communion for everyone who wishes to participate,” Fisher said. “All ages are invited, really, the doors are wide open for all people.”

“Come as you are, and remember you really are not alone,” he said.

“MANY PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING FROM A VARIETY OF HARDSHIPS AND LONELINESS THAT CAN BE MADE WORSE DURING THE HOLIDAYS.”

Mark Fisher
Pastor of Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Fenton

8B Wednesday
myfenton.com
Even though he has been long gone, the holidays would not be the same without the Bing Crosby influence

Compiled By Vera Hogan

“White Christmas” is one of the most beloved Christmas songs of all time. Composed by Irving Berlin, an immigrant Russian Jewish songwriter, he did not celebrate Christmas, but it was a day that held special meaning for him. He had spent each Christmas Day visiting the grave of his son, Irving Berlin, Jr., who died at just 3 weeks old on Dec. 25, 1928.

The song premiered in 1941 on Bing Crosby’s weekly NBC radio program, “The Kraft Music Hall.” It went on to become one of the most commercially successful singles of all time, and the top-selling single ever until being surpassed by Elton John’s “Candle in the Wind 1997.”

“White Christmas” took its first steps toward becoming a bedrock standard in the American songbook when Crosby first performed it publicly on Christmas Day, 1941. The song’s success couldn’t have surprised Berlin, who despite having already written such songs as “Alexander’s Ragtime Band,” “Cheek To Cheek” and “God Bless America,” had raced into his Manhattan office in January 1940 and asked his musical secretary to transcribe “The best song I ever wrote … the best song anybody ever wrote.”

It was nearly two years later, however, that Crosby finally premiered the song on live radio, and a year after that that Crosby’s recording of “White Christmas” became a smash pop hit.

Crosby’s October 1942 recording of “White Christmas” received heavy airplay on Armed Forces Radio as well as on commercial radio during its first Christmas season, becoming an instant No. 1 pop hit. It also returned to the Hit Parade pop chart in every subsequent Christmas season for the next 20 years.

The movie

As did the song, the movie “White Christmas,” released in 1954, became an instant holiday hit.

A synopsis of the plot goes something like this: Singers Bob Wallace (Bing Crosby) and Phil Davis (Danny Kaye) join sister act Betty (Rosemary Clooney) and Judy Haynes (Vera-Ellen) to perform a Christmas show in rural Vermont. There, they run into Gen. Waverly (Dean Jagger), the boys’ commander in World War II, who, they learn, is having financial difficulties — his quaint country inn is failing. So the foursome planned a yuletide miracle, a fun-filled musical extravaganza that’s sure to put Waverly and his business in the black.

The film has a little bit of everything, including love, loyalty, deception, misunderstandings, sacrifice, happy surprises and much more. This classic holiday film, that for many never gets old, has been a long time favorite for decades.

His last Christmas special

Bing Crosby joined with David Bowie in 1977 for Crosby’s TV holiday special called “Bing Crosby’s Merrie Olde Christmas.” The song was recorded with David Bowie, 30, on Sept. 11, 1977. The pair exchanged dialogue about what they do for Christmas before singing “Little Drummer Boy” with a new counterpoint with original lyrics written for the special, “Peace on Earth.”

Crosby’s last Christmas special, originally aired Nov. 30, 1977, after Crosby’s passing (Oct. 14, 1977). It was introduced by his widow, Kathryn Crosby. A musical highlight is Crosby singing “Little Drummer Boy” in counterpoint to Bowie singing “Peace on Earth.” Ron Moody appears in a sketch as Charles Dickens with Twiggy. Twiggy and Crosby sing “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.” The show ends with Crosby singing “White Christmas.”

Sources: people.com; goodhousekeeping.com;

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Vincent Reliuga
1948-2018

Vincent Reliuga - age 70, of Fenton, died November 18, 2018. Funeral services will be held 12 PM Friday, November 23, 2018 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton. Visitation will be held from 10 AM until the time of service. Burial will be 12:30 PM Monday, November 26, 2018 at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Those desiring may make contributions to Navy Seal Foundation (navysilverfoundation.org). Vincent was born May 18, 1948 in Hanau, Germany, the son of Stanley and Stacey (Klementes) Reliuga. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, Navy Seals, serving in Vietnam. Mr. Reliuga retired from DTE Energy. He was a HAM Radio enthusiast, collected toy trains, was a Navy Seal Foundation member, and loved animals. He was an avid stamp collector and a professional focus takes on a new edge this week, Capricorn. You are determined to make a mark for yourself by finishing an important task, and you have your eyes on the prize.

Midweek 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.

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Omitting these three bar Jumbles, one letter to each square to form four ordinary words.

Midweek Sudoku

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

Horoscope
For the week of Nov. 19, 2018

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you are back on track in various ways. This week friendships get pushed to the forefront. If you are looking to make new connections, you’ll make them.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, if you can find balance in your daily schedule, satisfaction will flow all week long. Start implementing new strategies to get on task and any stress will dissipate.

GEMINI
May 22/ Jun 21
Your work life may seem like it is all over the place, Gemini. It could be because you haven’t established a firm separation of career and family. Try not to overlap the two often.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, your recent plan to flex some creativity must fit in with family life. Why not get a spouse or children involved with the project? It can be a group effort.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, you have to pull back and re-cuperate if you have been pushing yourself too hard, otherwise, your health can suffer. Economize your energy for big things.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22
While you can’t help but worry if you have enough material and resources to make a project succeed, dwelling too much on that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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Midweek Sudoku

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