

Where's the snow?

■ Expect big swings in temps and snow that will come and go

By Sally Rummel

Our holidays this year didn't

resemble a picturesque "winter wonderland" like we have experienced during many Christmases past.

With just a dusting of the white stuff in the tri-county area, it's time to ask Mother Nature,

"Where's the snow?"

Actually, you'd have to look back to November to find it.

ABC-TV 12 Chief Meteorologist JR Kirttek said that up to this point of the season, we've had

See **SNOW** on 8A

"Where's the snow?" might be a common question for residents in the tri-county area, but ABC-TV 12 Chief Meteorologist JR Kirttek assures us that we'll likely end up with near average snowfall this winter. Photo: Tim Jagielo





PAGE 14A
MEET BRIAN EDWARDS, THE NEIGHBORHOOD HANDYMAN

Weekend Times

\$1.00

VOL. 26 NO. 1
SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019

Tri-County Times joins View Newspaper Group

■ New owner committed to maintaining local presence

By Publisher Wes Smith

Tri-County Times co-owner and publisher Craig Rockman is proud to announce the sale of the Times to locally owned View Newspaper Group. The sale was completed Jan. 1.

“We share the same values and commitment, which is why this is such a good fit...”

Wes Smith
View Newspaper Group publisher

is family owned and operated and has been a partner and associate of the Times for several years.

“They are, literally, a perfect fit to continue the legacy of providing the

See **NEWSPAPER** on 15A

“My brother Rick and I are both very excited that the Times has been acquired by the best media group in the Midwest,” Rockman said. “Like the Times, View Newspaper Group



View Newspaper Group Publisher Wes Smith stands with Tri-County Times General Manager Jennifer Ward at Michigan Web Press facility in Davisburg. The Times was acquired from the Rockman family and is now part of the View Newspaper Group effective Jan. 1. Photo: Tim Jagielo

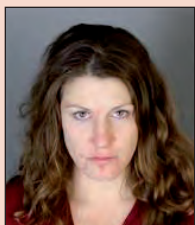
Holly woman charged with assault

■ Police respond to home three times in one night to investigate disturbance

By Sharon Stone

Sarah Corrine O'Connell, 29, of Holly is in the Oakland County Jail on a cash surety bond of \$5,000, after being arrested for assault Dec. 30, 2018.

According to Holly police, officers were dispatched at 1:09 a.m. Dec. 30, 2018, to O'Connell's



Sarah O'Connell

home in the 4200 block of Grange Hall Road to investigate a family trouble complaint.

O'Connell and her 31-year-old boyfriend were reportedly arguing over prescription medicine. Police observed that both were intoxicated. The officers were able to de-escalate the situation and left the scene.

Police were called back to the home at 1:48 a.m. and then again at 3:23 a.m. for similar problems.

During the third response, police heard a physical and verbal

See **ASSAULT** on 7A

Senior housing coming to Linden?

■ Plans call for 24, one-story units on N. Bridge Street

By Hannah Ball

A new senior housing development could be coming to Linden.

The Linden Planning Commission approved the preliminary site plan Dec. 3, 2018 for Sandalwood Village Senior Housing. It was submitted by Griggs Quaderer, Inc., on

See **HOUSING** on 15A

“As long as all concerns are satisfied, along with the other final site plan requirements, I believe final site plan approval will be granted.”

Brad Dick
Linden planning commissioner

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“Your statement ‘teenagers are smart’ proves your ignorance. Smart simply reflects a level of knowledge. Wisdom, on the other hand, reflects an ability to effectively use knowledge. You proved my point by calling yourself smart.”



“Anyone who thinks Republicans alone shut down the government didn't pay attention in civics class. The expression ‘It takes two to Tango’ is accurate in this case. Both parties are equally culpable or it wouldn't be happening. Quit listening to biased, dishonest newscasters.”



“Before you laugh about children believing in Santa Claus, please remember that there are people who believe Obama was a good president.”



COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“If I have to be tested regularly to prove I'm drug free in order to keep my job, wouldn't common sense dictate that people getting free food, free housing and a welfare check should have to do the same?”

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(Above) Flint Institute of Arts Instructor/demonstrator Andy Koupal forms the glass with wet newspaper as technician Benjamin Ewing blows to expand it. (Below) The molten glass is rolled along the stainless steel marver table to begin shaping it.

Photos: Tim Jagielo



Flint Institute of Arts offers classes and free demonstrations

By Tim Jagielo

Flint — Glowing red and as hot as lava, a blown glass bottle begins as a lump of molten glass on the end of a hollow stainless steel rod.

Sweating behind tinted glasses, instructor/demonstrator Andy Koupal uses gravity, tools, assistants and air to shape it.

Much can go wrong.

On Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018, everything went well before the eyes of the Flint Institute of Arts (FIA) audience. The “gold ruby” colored vase was marked with the FIA logo and was set to cool down from 900 degrees Fahrenheit for 12 hours.

See **GLASS BLOWING** on 10A

Psychic predictions for 2019

■ Nikki, psychic to the stars, shares specific events for the new year

By Vera Hogan

Whether you believe that some people have psychic abilities, often referred to as “the sight,” or think it’s a bunch of baloney, it’s still fun to read what they have to say about the future.

Psychic Nikki, psychic to the stars, has been clairvoyant all her life, according to psychicnikki.com. She is an audient clairvoyant — the ability to see and hear and come up with specifics. Nikki’s father is said to have had the gift as well.



Psychic Nikki

Nikki is known all over the world. Some of her clients include well-known movie stars, politicians, people from the sports world and business world, as well as the world of entertainment.

See **PSYCHIC** on 12A

“We’re going to see more UFOs coming to earth... I wouldn’t be surprised if a spaceship landed by the end of 2019, 2020 for sure. I don’t think it’s going to be anything to be scared of. I just think there’s another planet like us out there.”

Psychic Nikki
“psychic to the stars”

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



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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

• **If I'm 2019**, I'd be feeling pretty cocky right about now. The year 2018 was so bad on so many fronts — politics, journalism, human rights, environment, climate change, weather, stocks, Michigan sports, pop culture (here I'm specifically thinking of Snoop Dogg totally ruining Joker's Wild, one of my favorite game shows from back in the day, and the fact that Anderson Cooper continues to embarrass himself and CNN with a New Year's Eve show) etc. — that 2019 can flat-out suck and still seem like a vast improvement.



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

• **Wait. Sorry. Scratch** all that. The lovely yet formidable Marcia, who gets tired of all my grousing, just reminded me (via a cuff upside the head) that my New Year's resolution was to be

more "positive" and "upbeat" this year and less sarcastic. So let me rephrase that last sentence: I'm "positive" 2019 is going to be better than 2018, which totally sucked! (An explanation point makes it upbeat, right?)

• **I'm not making** any other resolutions this year. But I did take part in my #3words, which is a Twitter thing where you pick three words to serve as personal guideposts for the year. Mine are "Habits matter, dummy." I need the reminder since I'm not terribly disciplined. So developing the habits of regular exercise, better eating, stretching, mindfulness, and thinking bigger are important. How about you?

• **Does any politician** ever mean it when he/she says, "We need to reach across the aisle and learn to compromise?" Maybe in the past, but not today. Today, if a politician reaches across the aisle it's to throttle an opponent.

• **By the way**, I know it's hard to believe but politics is actually a lot more polite and genteel these days compared to almost any time in American history.

“Does any politician ever mean it when he/she says, ‘We need to reach across the aisle and learn to compromise?’”

For instance, in 1856 a Congressman named Preston Brooks savagely beat Sen. Charles Sumner with a cane over Sumner's opposition to slavery. Afterward, Brooks was unapologetic: "Every lick went where I intended. For about the first five of six licks he offered to make flight but I plied him so rapidly that he did not touch me. Towards the last he bellowed like a calf." Pelosi and Mitch McConnell don't like each other much but it's hard to see something like that happening, right?

• **You didn't ask** but here are my predictions for Detroit's pro sports teams: Tigers (worst team in baseball — they're so bad, in fact, that the entire franchise is demoted to AAA); Lions (win the division, followed immediately by squadrons of flying pigs burying Michigan cities in poo); Pistons (trade away Blake Griffin and Andre Drummond and begin another rebuild); Red Wings (miss the playoffs). By the way, I'm never wrong about these things.

• **Has anyone noticed** that gas prices have been so relatively low since they spiked to \$4 a gallon in 2008-2009 that no one is really noticing that a gallon is now below two bucks?

• **Speaking of those** loathsome years, I figure whether we have another stock market collapse and recession, despite the strong economy, is going to hinge in part on whether people with 401ks feel like Wall Street is going to do to them in 2019 what they did to them in 2009. I know I'm nervous about that and ready to put everything in my retirement account into money market funds. And if I'm feeling that way, others are, too.

• **"The four most dangerous words** in investing are: 'This time it's different.' — Sir John Templeton

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

Hotlines

Submit Hot lines online at myfenton.com
or text to 810-771-8398

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

WE ARE NOW officially a 'cool city.'

My question is how is that good for the residents? I can't afford to eat out or have a drink at those prices. All our money is spent on enriching merchants that aren't from here. And our roads still suck. Again, what's in it for residents other than higher taxes?

• **TO THE PEOPLE** of Linden who use Bridge Street going south. There are two lanes at the signal, one to go straight or to make a right-hand turn and one is a left-turn lane only lane. Watch for people going into the right side next to you and make a right hand turn, this is illegal. I will make sure the police know.

• **TO THE HOT-LINER** complaining Fenton Council has usurped the 'will of the people' and asked what gives council the right to do so. Proposition 1 gives them the right. To quote the proposition: 'If approved, the Act would allow municipalities to pass ordinances entirely prohibiting or limiting marijuana establishments.'

• **FENTON COUNCIL'S VOTE** to ban marijuana establishments within city limits in no way hinders a stoner's ability to grow and consume.

• **SERIOUSLY, PEOPLE, IF** you think the Senate minority party is powerless, please go take Civics 101. Both parties

are responsible for the government shutdown.

• **SOME IN THE U.S Congress** want to give everyone in the country Medicare. That money will have to come from all working taxpayers who have worked a lifetime paying into the fund. Easy vote-getting scam.

• **THERE HAVE BEEN** two elections by minority, Bush in 2000, Trump in 2016. Will voter tolerance once again be tested as the same constitutional flaw re-elect Trump in 2020? Ironically, what was meant for fairness is a prime destroyer. Unless the 'electoral college' is eliminated, 'Democracy' may eventually fail.

• **WHILE VETOES MAY** have heartened some moderate voters, Snyder also signed bills that will make it harder to gather the signatures needed to get a proposal on the ballot and prohibit state regulators from adopting rules that are stricter than federal regulations.

• **TO THE PERSON** who voted for marijuana in Fenton. Maybe you and others did, but both Linden and Fenton are basically small towns/cities and if you want this kind of stuff, I suggest you move to a large city where they dispense this stuff even if it isn't legal.

• **TO THE PERSON** in the Sunday paper talking about how their stock holdings were down 20 percent. When the stock market was going up faster than it ever had, did you make a comment about how great it was by any chance? My guess would be 'no' because you are on the other side of the table probably. Sad.

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What's your stress reliever?

Compiled by Gracie Warda, intern

streettalk



"Yoga. I grew up dancing, and I ended up liking yoga when I became an adult. I go at least once a week."

Haileigh McVety
Oakland Township



"I listen to music. I like country."

Meghan Maier
Fenton Township



"I like going to the movies, and I like watching action and adventure."

Rob Maier
Fenton Township



"I go to the MGM Casino."

Maria Diamond
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"I work out in my basement usually. It helps."

Addison Palmer
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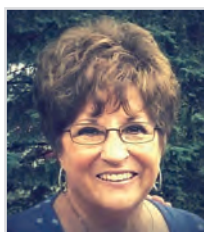
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POLICE & FIRE REPORT

RESIDENTS WARNED TO KEEP VEHICLES LOCKED

The Fenton Police Department took three larceny from auto complaints, which occurred Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2018. Police also received two other reports of autos being entered, but, nothing was reported stolen. Lt. Jeff Cross said the thefts occurred between 8 p.m. Christmas Eve and 5 a.m. Christmas Day in the subdivision surrounding Waters Edge Lane, off Howard Street. Police believe all of the vehicles were unlocked since there were no signs of forced entry. One homeowner provided a security video showing suspects on foot near his home. Items reported stolen included an Amazon Fire TV stick, a Barbie doll, two laptops — one valued at \$1,200, the other valued at \$800, speciality tools valued at \$400, loose coins, and an assortment of Christmas gifts. One computer bag, which contained one of the stolen laptops was recovered by a resident near Linden and Owen roads. Some of the tools were also recovered.

FLINT MAN STEALS TWO TVS FROM FENTON STORE

Fenton police responded to a department store on Owen Road at 10:30 p.m., Dec. 23, 2018 to investigate a retail fraud complaint. A loss prevention employee told police that a man, behaving suspiciously, was observed near the TVs. The employee watched while the man selected a 50-inch TV, priced at \$350 and a second TV, priced at \$128. He placed them in his shopping cart. The man was seen pushing the cart past the cash registers and out the front door. Upon his exit, police took him into custody. The man, a 42-year-old Flint resident, had an outstanding arrest warrant. He was transported to the Flint City Jail on the warrant. Fenton police have charges pending against him for retail fraud. The merchandise was returned to the store.

OWOSSO MAN STEALS TV FROM FENTON STORE

On Dec. 22, 2018 at 12:50 p.m., Fenton police responded to a department store on Owen Road to investigate a retail fraud complaint. A loss prevention employee told police that a man behaving suspiciously was observed in the electronics department. The man was seen placing a 55-inch TV in his shopping cart and exiting the store. The man was last seen putting the TV into his vehicle and driving away. Police located the suspect's vehicle at another department store entrance on Owen Road. Police stopped the vehicle and made contact with the driver, a 30-year-old Owosso resident. The TV was recovered and returned to the first store. His car was towed and he was released pending charges for retail fraud.

Cyberbullying to be illegal in Michigan

■ Offenders could face jail time and \$1,000 fine

By Hannah Ball

It will soon be illegal to bully someone online.

Former Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law Thursday, Dec. 27 a bill that defines cyberbullying as a misdemeanor punishable by jail time and fine. The new law will take effect in March.

The bill was introduced by then-State Rep. Peter Lucido (R-Dist. 36), who was elected to the State Senate in November. Punishment for a misdemeanor could include 93 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

While speaking before the House Law and Justice Committee, Lucido said, "I'm a firm believer in the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution, but hate speech, threats and intimidation are not universally accepted forms of free expression."

"We're seeing more and more of this kind of behavior online and it's not free speech. It's permanently damaging lives and encouraging suicide among the young and old alike. It has no boundaries and Michigan is overdue to establish limitations."

According to the law, "cyberbullying" includes posting a message or statement in a public media forum about any other person if both the following apply:

- The message or statement is intended to place a person in fear of bodily harm or death and expresses an intent to commit violence against the person.
- The message or statement is posted with the intent to communicate a threat or with knowledge that it will be viewed as a threat.

A repeat offender could face a one-year sentence or a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both.

Some involved in a "pattern of harassing or intimidating behavior and by that violation causes serious injury to the victim" is guilty of a crime punishable by not more than five years and/or a fine not more than \$5,000. In the law, a "pattern of harassing or intimidating behavior" is defined as a series of two or more separate noncontinuous acts of harassing or intimidating behavior.

"Serious injury" means permanent,

“...hate speech, threats and intimidation are not universally accepted forms of free expression.”

Peter Lucido
Michigan senator

KEY U.S. RESEARCH ON THE IMPACT OF CYBERBULLYING INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- As of August 2016, 16.9 percent of middle and high school students identified themselves as cyberbully victims. *Source: Cyberbullying Research Center*
- Among adolescents, 36.7 percent of female respondents stated they'd be the victim of cyberbullying at some point in their lifetime, compared to 30.5 percent of boys. *Source: Cyberbullying Research Center*
- Most online behaviors and threats to well-being are mirrored in the offline world. *Source: Perspectives on Psychological Science*
- 34 percent of students claimed to have been bullied online at least once in their lifetime. *Source: Florida Atlantic University*
- 17 percent of students explained that they'd been bullied sometime within the past 30 days. *Source: Florida Atlantic University*
- Roughly, 64 percent of students who claimed to have been cyberbullied explained that it negatively impacted both their feelings of safety and ability to learn at school. *Source: Florida Atlantic University*
- Adolescents who engaged in cyberbullying were more likely to be perceived as "popular" by their peers. *Source: Journal of Early Adolescence*

serious disfigurement, serious impairment of health or serious impairment of a bodily function.

If this harassment or intimidating behavior causes death, the violator is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years and/or a fine not more than \$10,000.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHY MUST ALL salt be white? Colored would help for us old geezers who shouldn't use much.

SO MANY OF us have forgotten what it means to be an American. Trying to hamstring the country's growth isn't an ideology.

SOCIALISM IS GOVERNMENT control of our lives, taking money from earners (at the point of a gun) to give to non-earners. Socialism doesn't allow for free speech, private gun ownership and they can take our property at will. Look at Venezuela, Zimbabwe or Ghana to see how socialism works.

PRESIDENT REAGAN WAS a great president and still is. He, like presidents Kennedy, Bush and Trump, lowered taxes and brought in more money to the Federal Treasury. Democrats spent it on useless things like (non) Planned Parenthood, NPR, PBS, NIA and other useless programs.

QUIT SPOUTING THE party line. Climate change has been going on since the planet cooled. We can never destroy it. In five or six billion years, when the sun burns out, the planet will still be here. The polar ice caps and Greenland ice are not becoming smaller. Would be OK if they were warmer, as in the Medieval warm period.

WHY WON'T THE Democrats provide 1.34 percent of federal appropriations for defense of the United States?

IN MY 72 years, I have found the best reason to vote Republican: To piss off California and New York snowflakes.

YOU PROVED MY point about Kennedy. Three of four events you listed were initiated by Khrushchev, putting Kennedy on the defensive. The fourth event, Bay of Pigs, was a total Kennedy failure. He got played at every turn. Americans on the moon never happens without Russians in space first.

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ASSAULT

Continued from Front Page

disturbance just inside the home upon their arrival. O'Connell and her boyfriend were questioned. Police noted that items inside the home on the third visit were in disarray and broken.

According to police, O'Connell allegedly punched the man in the face and knocked him to the floor.

She was arrested and transported to the police station for processing and later lodged at the county jail. Court dates have not yet been scheduled.

SNOW**Continued from Front Page**

about average snowfall. "We had quite a bit in November, followed by just little batches over the past few weeks," he said. Flint recorded 6.1 inches of snow in November, compared to its November average of 4.8 inches.

Kirtek added that this year's winter weather will be dominated by a Modoki

El Niño. Modoki is Japanese for "same but different." A Modoki El Niño is a rarer subset of regular El Niños, and is marked by warming waters in the Pacific but not along the Equator, creating colder temperatures and more precipitation.

"I think the rest of our winter will be characterized by big swings in temperatures and snow that will come and go, but not really stay on the ground for very long," Kirtek said. "Ultimately, we will probably end up with near average

snowfall and near average temperatures."

He offers this humorous analogy: It will be a case similar to putting your right hand on a hot stove and your left foot in a bucket of ice — on average, you're comfortable.

If you remember last winter's long overstay into our usually beautiful Michigan spring, Kirtek said we may have a repeat this year. "I think there's a chance that winter might linger a little bit into early spring," he said.

Looking ahead to our 10-day forecast, snow lovers might find their next hope for snow on Saturday, Jan. 12, when there's a forecast of a rain/snow mix, possibly 1-3 inches. The average temperature in January is 31 degrees, and our upcoming forecast is calling for temperatures in the upper 30s and low 40s.

Average total snowfall in Flint is usually about 48 inches.

“Ultimately, we will probably end up with near average snowfall and near average temperatures.”

JR Kirtek

ABC-TV12 chief meteorologist

EZREAD

VIEW FULL COLOR, DIGITAL VERSIONS OF THE PAPER AT TCTIMES.COM

**tctimes.com**

A McDonald's sign on Owen Road was destroyed after a two-vehicle crash. One driver was pulling out of the McDonald's parking lot and hit a car traveling westbound on Owen Road. Photo: Hannah Ball

Two-vehicle crash on Owen Road destroys McDonald's sign

■ Vehicles sustain substantial damage

By Hannah Ball

Fenton — Nobody was injured in a crash on Owen Road on Thursday, Jan. 3.

It happened at approximately 3:15 p.m. at McDonald's, just west of Donaldson Drive.

Fenton police responded to the two-vehicle crash. It was reported that while a motorist was driving west on

Owen Road, a second vehicle pulled out of the McDonald's parking lot and hit the first vehicle. The first vehicle veered from the road and crashed into the McDonald's sign.

The driver of the second vehicle had other passengers in the car. No injuries were reported.

Both vehicles sustained substantial damage and were towed away.

Traffic on Owen Road traveling west past Donaldson Drive was reduced to one lane while tow trucks and police worked the scene.

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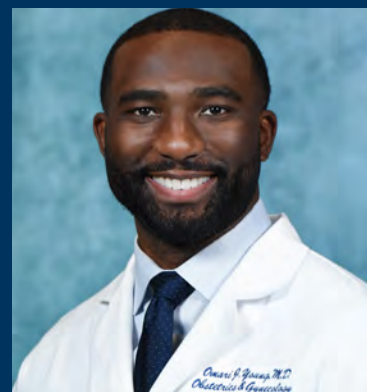
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Alberta Martin dies at age 95

■ Served on Lake Fenton Board of Ed for 32 years; Loose Center board for 17

By Vera Hogan

A long-time community activist and volunteer, Alberta B. Martin of Fenton died Jan. 1. She was 95 years old.

Martin served on the Lake Fenton Board of Education for 32 years. Prior to that, she served on the Detroit Board of Education.

A champion for children and education, Martin strongly supported the successful Lake Fenton school bond in 2017. In an October 2017 letter to the editor, she said, in part, "I have been a resident of the Lake Fenton school district for over 35 years and was a proud member of the Lake Fenton Board of Education for over 32 years... Our kids and our communities deserve to have quality infrastructure to reflect the excellent education provided by our district."

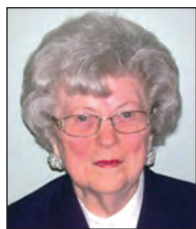
On Thursday, Lake Fenton Superintendent Julie Williams said, "Alberta (a.k.a. Mother Martin) was a very special lady. She spent her entire life working and serving in the field of education and Lake Fenton Community Schools was very fortunate to have her as a board member and community leader for more than 30 years. She was instrumental in the passing of our bond and so proud of how much we grew as an educational system under her watchful eye. I feel very blessed to have known and worked with Mother Martin. I know that Lake Fenton will forever have an angel watching over us."

In May 2018, the Loose Center honored her for her longtime commitment to the senior center in Linden. She was given the Exceptional Service Volunteer Award at a special dinner in her honor. She served on the Loose Board of Directors for more than 17 years, with much of that time as secretary.

At the time, Kenneth Wensel, Loose Board president said Martin would be thanked for her commitment to Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation, Lake Fenton Community Schools, as well as Loose Center.

"She was a tremendous booster for Loose," Wensel said.

Funeral services for Martin will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 12 at Fenton United Methodist Church, 119 S. LeRoy St., Fenton. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton and 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday at the church.



Alberta Martin

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

LARCENY FROM AUTO ON BLOSSOM LANE

On Monday, Dec. 24, 2018, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 5000 block of Blossom Lane in Fenton Township for a larceny from auto complaint. The incident remains under investigation.

THREAT ON GOLDEN SHORES

On Monday, Dec. 24, 2018, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 2000 block of Golden Shores in Fenton Township for a reported threat. The incident remains under investigation.

THREAT REPORTED ON ENID BOULEVARD

On Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2018, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 13000 block of Enid Boulevard in Fenton Township for a threats complaint. The incident remains under investigation.

FRAUD ON MARGARET DRIVE

On Friday, Dec. 28, 2018, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 12000 block of Margaret Drive in Fenton Township for a fraud complaint. The incident remains under investigation.

MAN STEALS MIKE'S HARD LEMONADE FROM HOLLY STORE

At 12:05 a.m. on Jan. 1, Holly police were dispatched to the 800 block of N. Saginaw Street to investigate a larceny that had just occurred at a convenience store. An employee described the suspect as a white male, about 5-feet, 8-inches tall, medium build, blondish hair and with scruffy facial hair. He was wearing a navy blue or black hooded sweatshirt. The employee said the suspect stole cans of Mike's Hard Lemonade. The suspect was last seen running north from the store.

RESIDENT WARNS OF SCAM

A local resident is warning others of an alleged Publishers Clearing House contest after they were scammed out of \$9,000. They recently received a phone call indicating they had won \$8.5 million. As a government requirement to receive the winnings, they were instructed to send \$9,000 to an individual in California. The caller knew much of the resident's contact information. It was a scam. Legitimate contests do not require any upfront fees be paid by the winner.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

DESPITE THE FLINT water crisis and the PFAS crisis in Kalamazoo, the legislature passed and Snyder signed a bill blocking the state from implementing a limit on these dangerous chemicals in our drinking water.

ACTUALLY, THE 'ANTITHESIS of the First Amendment' would be the government restricting your speech and making it illegal. If you aren't politically correct, you are not punished by the government. Stop acting like a victim. Congrats on learning a new big word though.

'THE BAY OF Pigs invasion by Cuban exiles' was a red herring for our own invasion. JFK's refusal to deploy troops destroyed our general's plan. Later, JFK ordered all troops home from 'Vietnam.' JFK's mission? To never squander the lives of our troops.

THE LAST TIME that we had a Democratic governor and a Republican Legislature, the Legislature vowed early on to make sure she failed, and they fought her on everything. It's no different this time.

PROTECTING PUBLIC SPACES and allowing full access to them reflects the community's commitment to democracy. These spaces must remain free to those who wish to protest no matter what the message. That's the American way.

IF YOU DON'T like the peacocks in your yard, put up a fence? Really? Whatever happened to responsibility of the owner?

IF SPECTRUM (AKA Charter) fails to get a contract with WGN we lose Last Man Standing, NCIS, and Blue Bloods. End Spectrum service and move to AT&T.

APPRECIATE THE GUN fire coming from the orchard on Linden Road on New Year's Eve.



YOUR SMILE MATTERS!

By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

FOUR ALWAYS FOODS & FOUR TO AVOID

Dr. Michael Greger, a leading promoter of nutritional health states, "Most deaths in the United States are preventable, and they are related to what we eat. Our diet is the #1 cause of premature death and the #1 cause of disability." Dr. Joel Fuhrman states that "death in America is a food born disease". The Standard American Diet is meat based with an over abundance of sugar and salt and is highly processed. Most Americans are lacking in the recommended daily allowance of nutrients and fiber because most of their dietary habits are lacking in fruits, vegetables and whole grains. As a result, the numbers for heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes are increasing every year in this country. For the most part early death and disability in our country is self inflicted. The healthier you eat, the healthier you are going to be.

FOUR ALWAYS FOODS

• 100% WHOLE WHEAT BREAD: Can be toasted in the morning or part of a healthy sandwich for lunch. • NUTS: Studies show that nut-eaters out-live those who don't eat nuts. • BEANS: Considered to be the world's greatest longevity foods. They are cheap, full of antioxidants, vitamins, and fiber. • FRUIT: Place in a bowl on the kitchen table for easy access.

FOUR FOODS TO AVOID

• SUGAR SWEETENED BEVERAGES: One can of pop can contain 10 teaspoons of sugar. • SALTY SNACKS: Almost all chips and crackers deliver high doses of salt, preservatives, and highly processed grains. • PROCESSED MEATS: Sausages, salami, bacon, lunch meat consumption leads to higher rates of cancers and heart disease. • PACKAGED SWEETS: Cookies, candy bars, muffins, granola bars, and even energy bars are loaded with sugar.

Our health is one of God's greatest gifts; something to be cherished and nurtured. Proper eating and nutrition is key. Like most other things in life, if we ignore and abuse our health, we will lose it. Once lost, our health is very difficult, if not impossible to regain.

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

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GLASS BLOWING

Continued from Page 3A

It takes a three-person team to successfully finish this vase. These instructors do several demonstrations every Saturday and the program runs all year long.

"I'm always amazed by glass blowing," said Angie Okonski of Waterford Township who was part of the group that watched the 30-minute demonstration from the bleachers. "They make it look easy; I know it's not easy."

While Koupal leads the demonstration, shop tech Benjamin Ewing provides an extra set of hands. Grace Phillips narrates the process and jumps in to help at critical moments.

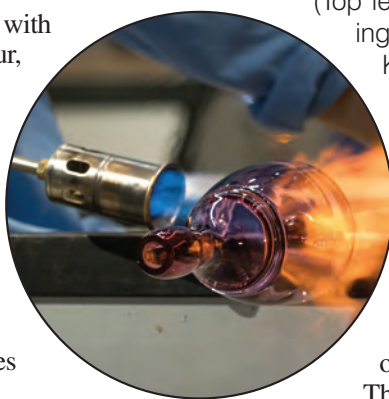
While it may be difficult, the point of the demonstrations is to show interested parties that they can also learn this ancient skill at the FIA. Demonstrations are every Satur-

day, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a demonstration every hour, on the hour. They're free to the public.

The instructors conducting the demonstrations are educated in fine arts and glass blowing. Koupal, who has 12 years of experience, said anyone can start learning, but it takes perseverance.

Similar to learning a new musical instrument, there is a slow building of basic skills, and some failures along the way. "It's a demanding medium; it's hard," he said.

"I enjoy the beauty of the process," said FIA Glass Programs Manager Brent Swanson. "Glass is beauty from every angle and



(Top left) Andy Koupal heats and shapes the glass, while Benjamin Ewing prepares the punty rod. (Top right) Ewing and Grace Phillips help Koupal to transfer the glass to the punty rod for final shaping, during the demonstration on Saturday, Dec. 1. (Bottom photos) The glass is heated using the furnace, and a blow torch to keep it at 1,000 degrees. Photos: Tim Jagielo

its transparency gives it a unique attribute that most other 3D art forms don't possess and or require."

The FIA has an eight-week immersive beginners course into glass blowing along with several other educational workshop opportunities.

THE GLASS BLOWING PROCESS

Everything starts with the 400 pounds of clear, molten glass kept at 2,100 degrees Fahrenheit, which is as hot as molten lava inside the furnace.

First, the artist uses the stainless steel blow pipe to gather clear glass from the "crucible," the inside of the furnace.

The blower uses a stainless steel table called a "marver" to shape the molten layers of glass into a cylinder at the end of the pipe.

As the blower works, the pipe is continuously turned, and reheated inside the furnace through the "glory hole."

The glass will be reheated several times because it has to stay at 1,000 degrees.

Next, color will be added to the glass. In this case, a chunk of "gold ruby" from gold fluoride is picked up and mixed into the clear glass, like mixing paint colors.

Through making the bottle, Ewing does "bench blows," where he blows into one end of the pipe as Koupal forms and shapes the glass, to create the first glass bubble.

He can also "cap" the open end to change the air pressure.

Koupal still has to return to the furnace several times for heating, while maintaining motion and coordination between his hands.

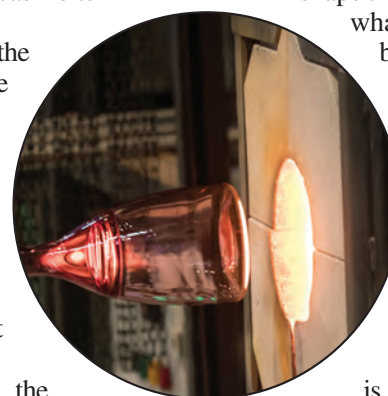
Once the overall shape of the bottle is satisfactory, the piece will have to be transferred from the blow pipe, to the "punty," and iron rod used to further shape the glass, and expand it into whatever shape it will end up being.

This is tricky and requires an assistant, a pre-heated punty and another glob of glass to attach the bottle to.

Ewing held the punty to allow Koupal to break the bottle off the blow pipe. While they didn't drop the glass, this is a critical moment where it can happen.

After the bottle is transferred, Koupal kept the glass hot and in motion as he shaped it with a variety of tools, including those of metal, wet fruitwood, and even wet newspaper.

After adding the FIA logo, the piece is quickly placed in an annealing oven to cool it down at 900 degrees for 12 hours.



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Michigan 'lame ducks' were busy

■ Outgoing Michigan legislators work on 300 bills before ceding control to new congress

By Tim Jagielo

According to Bridge Magazine, this most recent lame duck session was one "for the ages."

Literally hundreds of bills were discussed and several crossed the desk of outgoing Gov. Rick Snyder. Some involved high profile citizen ballot initiatives that were passed just eight weeks earlier.

According to Bridge Magazine, the outgoing 99th Michigan Legislature met on more than 13 days and voted on more than 300 bills on the verge of handing power back to the Democrats for the first time in eight years.

From late November to very early Dec. 21, 2018, the legislature was busy getting bills to Snyder's desk for his signature. According to the article, Snyder signed few bills despite the amount that came to his desk.

One bill he signed weakens the minimum wage and sick leave laws. Senate bills 1171 and 1175 raises the minimum wage to \$12.05 from \$9.25 by 2030. It requires some employers to offer sick leave. (In March, the \$9.25 minimum wage will go up to \$9.45 per hour.)

The original bills raised the minimum wage quicker and would have forced more businesses to offer paid sick time.

One of the most impactful bills might be House Bill 6595, which makes it more difficult to get citizen initiatives on the ballot. It requires that signature drives cover at least half the state's 14 congressional districts.

Supporters say that the bill would make sure there is a cross section of support from across the state. Critics say it makes it more difficult for citizen initiatives to make it on the ballot.

In November 2018, voting rights, recreational marijuana and the end to partisan redistricting were brought to the ballot by citizen initiatives.

House Bill 5526 creates a system in which schools are assigned letter grades based on five areas: proficiency in math and English; growth in those subjects; growth in English proficiency among second-language students; graduation rates and academic performance compared to similar schools, according to the magazine.

Snyder vetoed some bills — such as House Bill 6553, which would have stripped some power from the Attorney General-Elect Dana Nessel. It would have

allowed Congress to litigate and enforce the law, according to metrotimes.com.

Other bills died before a vote. These include ending returnable bottle deposits, banning homegrown marijuana and forcing unions that represent public workers such as teachers to vote every two years whether to keep the union.

An attempt to make it more difficult to serve on the independent redistricting panel also died before a vote.

What is a "lame duck?"

As defined by the U.S. Senate, a "lame duck" session is when Congress (or either chamber) reconvenes in an even-numbered year following the November general elections to consider various items of business. Some lawmakers who return for this session will not be in the next Congress. Hence, they are informally called "lame duck" members participating in a "lame duck" session.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

LARCENY ON HARBOR LANDINGS

On Friday, Dec. 28, 2018, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 13000 block of Harbor Landings in Fenton Township for a larceny complaint. The incident remains under investigation.

STOLEN VEHICLE IN FENTON TOWNSHIP

On Sunday, Dec. 30, 2018, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to Lahring Road in Fenton Township for a stolen vehicle complaint. The incident remains under investigation.

LARCENY FROM AUTO ON DOLLAR LAKE COURT

On Sunday, Jan. 1, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 15000 block of Dollar Lake Court in Fenton Township for a larceny from auto complaint. The incident remains under investigation.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

YES, I AGREE a shout-out to Fenton businesses, but why do people want to try to turn Fenton into something other than what it is? Yes, Rochester is a great town but if you like it that much why not just move there?

EARTH — YOU NEED it more than it needs you.

ELIZABETH WARREN IS running for president. Might as well be Hillary. She plans to run against Trump? Great way for the Democrats to mobilize the Trump base.

ON HIS FINAL day as secretary of defense, Jim Mattis on Monday urged all Pentagon employees, military and civilian, to 'hold fast' in defense of the country.

ORGANIZERS WILL HAVE to cast a wider net for signatures and circulators will have to comply with more rules. Gov. Rick Snyder has signed a bill making it harder for groups circulating initiative petitions to get their measures on the ballot.

I'VE LIVED IN Fenton my entire life yet I encounter roundabouts daily due to my job. I like them; they're easy to navigate. Look to the left. Nothing coming? Continue on. They keep traffic flowing. Do I think we need one in Fenton? No.

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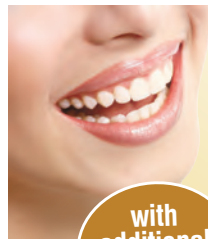
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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

JAN. 6
2001: After a bitterly contested election, Vice President Al Gore presides over a joint session of Congress that certifies George W. Bush as the winner of the 2000 election. In one of the closest presidential elections in U.S. history, George W. Bush was finally declared the winner more than five weeks after the election due to the disputed Florida ballot.

JAN. 7
1789: America’s first presidential election is held. Voters cast ballots to choose state electors. Only white men who owned property were allowed to

vote. As expected, George Washington won the election and was sworn into office on April 30, 1789.

JAN. 8
1918: In an address before a joint meeting of Congress, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson discusses the aims of the United States in World War I and outlines his “14 Points” for achieving a lasting peace in Europe. The peace proposal called for unselfish peace terms from the victorious Allies, the restoration of territories conquered during the war, the right to national self-determination, and the establishment of a postwar world body to resolve future conflict.

JAN. 9
1493: Italian explorer Christopher Columbus, sailing near the Dominican Republic, sees three “mermaids” — in reality manatees — and describes them as “not half as beautiful as they are painted.” Six months earlier, Columbus (1451-1506) set off from Spain across the Atlantic Ocean with the Nina, Pinta

and Santa Maria, hoping to find a western trade route to Asia. Instead, his voyage, the first of four he would make, led him to the Americas, or “New World.”

JAN. 10
1901: A drilling derrick at Spindletop Hill near Beaumont, Texas, produces an enormous gusher of crude oil, coating the landscape for hundreds of feet and signaling the advent of the American oil industry. The geyser was discovered at a depth of over 1,000 feet, flowed at an initial rate of approximately 100,000 barrels a day and took nine days to cap. Following the discovery, petroleum, which until that time had been used in the U.S. primarily as a lubricant and in kerosene for lamps, would become the main fuel source for new inventions such as cars and airplanes. Coal-powered forms of transportation including ships and trains would also convert to the liquid fuel.

JAN. 11
2010: Miep Gies, the last survivor of a small group of people who helped

hide a Jewish girl, Anne Frank, and her family from the Nazis during World War II, dies at age 100 in the Netherlands. After the Franks were discovered in 1944 and sent to concentration camps, Gies rescued the notebooks that Anne Frank left behind describing her two years in hiding. These writings were later published as “Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl,” which became one of the most widely read accounts of the Holocaust.

JAN. 12
1932: Ophelia Wyatt Caraway, a Democrat from Arkansas, becomes the first woman to be elected to the U.S. Senate. Caraway, born near Bakerville, Tennessee, had been appointed to the Senate two months earlier to fill the vacancy left by her late husband, Thaddeus Horatio Caraway. In 1938, she was reelected. After failing to win renomination in 1944, she was appointed to the Federal Employees Compensation Commission by President Franklin Roosevelt.

Source: *history.com*

PSYCHIC
Continued from Page 3A

This is what Nikki sees for the coming year, according to cbslocal.com:

The world will still be a tumultuous place. As Nikki sees it, there are “... going to be a lot of protests worldwide” and “the U.S. government will be one of the big stories.”

She also said the stock market is going to be up and down.

Nikki says extreme weather events will continue, possibly growing in frequency and severity. “I see more tsunamis, more hurricanes, powerful ones,

snowstorms, all that kind of thing, and real powerful ones. And heat waves in places that shouldn’t be... The weather is very mixed up.”

As forces beyond our control worsen, people will look to create some calm in their own lives. Nikki said, “I think people are going to be kinder to each other, which is a good thing.”

Someone from somewhere else in the universe may come into our lives. “... You’re going to hear more voices coming from outer space.” And not just voices, either. Psychic Nikki is certain of that. “We’re going to see more UFOs

coming to earth... I wouldn’t be surprised if a spaceship landed by the end of 2019, 2020 for sure. I don’t think it’s going to be anything to be scared of. I just think there’s another planet like us out there.”

Nikki predicts that some celebrities need to watch out for their health and well-being, including Sylvester Stalone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Elon Musk and Selena Gomez.

Regarding the royal family, Nikki said of Meghan Markle and Prince Harry, “I see them happy for now. But later on she’s going to have a problem with the paparazzi, like Princess Diana did. So that could put a damper on their marriage...”

Lady Gaga can look forward to an even brighter 2019. “I’m pretty sure she’s going to win an Oscar and a Golden Globe and all kinds of awards for her movie, *A Star Is Born*. And her career will go way up. She’s very deserving of it. She’s very talented, and she’s going to get her awards,” Nikki told cbslocal.com.

The year 2019 should be a healthier year for everyone.

Psychic Nikki sees “...a lot of breakthroughs in health areas — breakthroughs in breast cancer; breakthroughs in Alzheimer’s; breakthroughs with arthritis as well.

“And as we go on into 2020, there’s going to be a lot of cures for a lot of diseases,” she said.

The future is looking brighter, even if uncertainty seems to be today’s only true constant. Psychic Nikki is confident

that happier times are coming, maybe not in 2019 totally, but not everything is going to be doom and gloom, she said. “I think there are happy times ahead as we move onward... not so much drama in the world.”

A FEW OF PSYCHIC NIKKI’S PAST PREDICTIONS THAT HAVE COME TRUE

- The 911 planes crashing into the World Trade Center and Washington, including the Pentagon plane crash by terrorists (Sept. 11, 2001) — prediction April 2001 on 102.1 The Edge radio station
- Michael Jackson’s death (June 25, 2009) — on website December 2008; on 102.1 The Edge, January 2008
- The plane crashing into the Hudson River, New York City (Jan. 15, 2009) — Dec. 16, 2008 on blog and 102.1 The Edge (Dean Blundell Show)
- The death of Australian Crocodile Hunter, Steve Irwin (Sept. 5, 2006) — predicted in June 2005 issue of U.S. tabloid The Sun
- Siegfried and Roy’s accident with tigers in Las Vegas (Oct. 3, 2003) — first predicted on radio and television, and in The Globe and Mail newspaper a year before the accident

Sources: *cbslocal.com; psychicnikki.com.*

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
THANK YOU, FENTON police, for quieting down a noisy neighbor setting off fireworks loud enough to set off my baby monitor and wake up my sleeping 2-year-old, not once but twice. Thank you for doing your job on a holiday; you are appreciated. I work at Hurley Hospital doing life saving work and if I'm up half the night trying to get my child back to sleep, I am not going to be on my A game. Have some respect for your neighbors who are not lucky enough to have the day off on a holiday.
■■■

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Our Town
Brian Edwards

- Taylor Hardware operations manager
- Neighborhood handyman
- Eagle Scout

By Sally Rummel
Brian Edwards, 49, is a very familiar face to customers at Taylor Hardware in Fenton. He has lived here since 2000, after marrying his wife, Shelli, a Fenton native. Edwards has been at Taylor Hardware for almost 14 years and serves as the store's operations manager. Shelli is the store manager. He has a stepson, Justin, 27, and a son, Jesse, 23.

What do you like most about the hardware business?

I grew up in the Mt. Clemens area and my first job was at a hardware store. I've always been good at fixing things. I'm service-oriented and a problem solver. I was an Eagle Scout in high school. Scouting played a big part in our lives growing up. After I opened Fenton Power Equipment in 2002, John Austin Taylor talked to me and we decided it would be in the best interests of the



Brian Edwards, operations manager of Taylor Hardware in Fenton, loves to be outdoors and fish. Photo: Hannah Ball

community to join forces with Taylor Hardware. That's how I got where I am today.

How has the hardware business changed over the years?

Taylor Hardware has been in Fenton since 1955. Being the only hardware store in town, it was busy all the time. Even though everyone says that big box stores like Home Depot have put small businesses out of business, I don't believe that's actually true. We focus on the smaller things, like the repair/service side and outdoor power equipment sales and service.

Big box store are more self-serve. We're not; we're going to greet you at the door and take care of what you came in for. We don't sell things like paint anymore. We focus on fasteners (nuts, bolts, screws) and electrical and plumbing supplies.

What do you like to do when you're not working?

I'm not much of a hobby enthusiast. My normal work week is about 60

hours. When I'm not at work, there's always someone in our neighborhood that needs help with something, especially during the snow plowing season. I like to fish and be outdoors, if I'm not working on something. I

could be outdoors all day and not catch anything and still have a great time.

Are you a morning person or a night person?

Definitely a morning person. I find myself getting up early and getting into work to get things done before our customers come in.

What's something people probably don't know about you?

I used to be an EMT in the '80s and '90s, but not anymore. Also, I'm very active in my church, The Rock. I'm a very different person now than I was growing up — I was more of a 'shop rat' and wasn't the most pleasant person to be around. I don't think of myself as a Bible-thumper or someone who goes around quoting Scripture all the time, but I am a changed person since I've found Jesus Christ.

“If I'm not working on something, I could be outdoors all day and not catch anything and still have a great day.”

Brian Edwards

Taylor Hardware operations manager

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REPORT

FENTON TOWNSHIP MAN CHARGED WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

On Sunday, Dec. 30, 2018, Genesee County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 15000 block of Marl Drive in Fenton Township for a domestic assault and battery complaint. Ian Engelmann, 40, of Fenton Township was arrested. He was arraigned Jan. 1 in Genesee County 67th District Court on one count of domestic violence, resisting and obstructing police and interfering with electronic communication (cellphone). Engelmann was released on bond. A probable cause conference is scheduled for Jan. 10 at 1 p.m.

TRI-COUNTY
FUNDRAISERS

Catholic women group to hold first-time jewelry fundraiser

The Council of Catholic women of St. John parish in Fenton is holding a gently used jewelry, purses and accessories sale on Friday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Father Harvey Activity Center. With more than 10,000 parishioners donating to the sale, there will be much to offer. Jewelry will be \$2 each unless otherwise priced. The Knights of Columbus Auxiliary will also hold a luncheon for their shoppers. All proceeds will benefit the parish in the outreach to the needy and St. Vincent de Paul food pantry and any other needs of the parish. St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church is at 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I SEE FENTON Township OK'd a 30-percent pay increase to Republic trash collection. Ten percent per year is ridiculous. I believe it's time for new public servants, with the ambition to fight for us.

■■■■
TO BABY BOOMER parent bashers. I am a baby boomer parent of a child who is now in his mid 40s. He has worked his whole life as a successful small business owner. He has always dealt with the rigors of life with hard work, courage and compassion. He is a devout Christian as well. I am a very proud parent.

■■■■
WHAT IS WRONG with the Detroit Lions? They've had good offenses, bad offenses, good defenses and bad defenses. They've had coaches with good credentials and others who were inexperienced. They've had front office personnel that have had success elsewhere and others that didn't. What has been the constant through all this? The Fords. That's the biggest problem with the Lions. Until ownership changes, nothing else will.

NEWSPAPER

Continued from Front Page

Fenton, Holly and Linden areas with all the interesting, entertaining and informative news and features that exist in these fast-growing destination communities."

Founded in 2003 by Rick Burrough, View Newspaper Group includes 17 community newspapers and a staff totaling 95 covering Lapeer, Sanilac, Huron, Saginaw, Shiawassee, Genesee, Oakland and Livingston counties.

"We've known and worked with the Rockman family for many years," Burrough said. "When it came time for them to sell the paper, they sought us out knowing of our success in the community newspaper business and our reputation for treating stakeholders — readers, advertisers, vendors and employees — with fairness and respect."

"We have made a commitment to maintain the Tri-County Times office in Fenton. The Rockman family has agreed to work with us through a transition period to ensure a smooth handoff."

The Times has been published continuously since founder Rick Rockman, Sr. started his own newspaper in 1955. His weekly column, 'Straight from the Shoulder,' was the most popular and well-read feature in the Times until his death in 2011.

View Newspaper Group will now have more than 270,000 copies in print each week, including the 180-year-old County Press in Lapeer County.

Understanding that some consumers prefer their news online, the Tri-County Times website will remain at www.myfenton.com. View Newspaper Group also maintains an easy-to-navigate, mobile-friendly website at www.mihomepaper.com.

"The addition of the Tri-County Times to our group is exciting on many levels," said Wes Smith, View

HOUSING

Continued from Front Page

behalf of property owner Mitchell Building Company.

The plans call for a new 24-unit senior housing development at 1215 N. Bridge St. and the adjacent parcel immediately to the south, on the west side of the street. The subject area, which is in north Linden, across the street from Meadow Green Lane and near Fenton Township, is 2.57 acres and has 310 feet of road frontage.

The property is zoned R-4, Multiple Family Residential District. The area is mostly vacant, except for a steel building and a silo on the northern portion of the land. Both structures are to be demolished, according to the Planning Commission meeting minutes.

A new driveway is proposed on the northern portion of the site, along with a 15-foot-wide, potentially one-way, access drive that will circle the site. Developers plan to arrange the buildings in three rows of eight attached units. Sixteen units will be 1,492 square feet and eight units will be 1,364 square feet. They will

Newspaper Group publisher. "One, it's further proof that local, community newspapers are important to the communities we serve. Since its start in 2003, View Newspaper Group has grown each and every year."

"Two, we are now able to offer a broader reach to our advertising clients. Three, it means bringing together two talented teams of dedicated newspaper professionals to form the largest, most experienced media team in our region. The result will be higher quality print and digital products across the board. Four, our View Group brand department, which among other tasks creates

signature events that allow our readers to connect with each other and us, will work with the Times team to create events for the Fenton, Holly and Linden communities to enjoy."

View Newspaper Group papers are

printed by its sister company Michigan Web Press in Davisburg. Founded in 1979, commercial web printing company Michigan Web Press was acquired by Burrough in 1999. He expanded the company into a second production facility a few years later and now with a team of 90 operates 24/7 out of two buildings totaling nearly 50,000 square feet.

"One of the keys to our continued growth and success has been establishing or maintaining the unique identity and relationship to its community for each newspaper in our group," Smith said. "We don't use the cookie-cutter approach."

"The Rockman family and the staff of the Tri-County Times have built an excellent newspaper that has served its readers and advertisers really well. As the newspaper industry has undergone significant changes, the Times has evolved and innovated to remain relevant while maintaining its local integrity."

"We share the same values and commitment, which is why this is such a good fit for both View Newspaper Group and the Tri-County Times."



The subject area, which is in north Linden, across the street from Meadow Green Lane and near Fenton Township, is 2.57 acres and has 310 feet of road frontage.

Photo: Hannah Ball

all be single-story buildings with a 20-by-20-foot attached garage, and a concrete driveway large enough for two vehicles.

Developers are also planning an internal, 4-foot-wide sidewalk system, which will connect to the existing sidewalk along the west side of N. Bridge Street. Also proposed are detention systems in the southwest and southeast corners of the property, landscaping along N. Bridge Street and street lights.

According to the meeting minutes, Fire Chief Brian Will expressed a concern with the proposed width of the internal access drive, which is currently planned to be 15 feet wide. Based on the International Fire Code, it would need to be at the minimum width of 20 feet.

"Concerns about parking and traffic flow as well as fire department access were discussed with the developer," Brad Dick, Linden planning commissioner/city councilor, said. "The developer will need

to address these issues when they submit plans for final site plan approval. As long as all concerns are satisfied, along with the other final site plan requirements, I believe final site plan approval will be granted. As I do not speak for the Planning Commission as a whole, this is only my opinion.

"The developer seems willing to work with the city in addressing our concerns.

At this time, we have not scheduled a review for the final site plan. The developer has 180 days from approval to submit plans for final site plan approval," he said.

“The developer will need to address these issues when they submit plans for final site plan approval.”

Brad Dick
Linden planning
commissioner/city councilor

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Times



HOT LINE CONTINUED

MICHIGAN LAWMAKERS HAVE agreed to spend \$180,000 to buy pheasants to promote hunting. The money was included in a spending bill signed last week by Gov. Rick Snyder in his final days in office. The pheasants would be released in state game areas to enhance hunting opportunities.

■■■
PEOPLE NEED TO quit using labels on everyone in order to predict their behavior. I know lazy 80-year-olds, as well as lazy 30-year-olds. Some of the hardest working people I know are my grandkids, who are in their late 20s and my son who is pushing 60. I truly believe it is how you are raised.
■■■

THE WAR IS not Democrat against Republican, it's the globalists of both parties against average Americans. We must choose between global socialism and a free constitutional republic. Support Trump.

■■■
ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION — yet another progressive Democrat strategy to overwhelm the system and cheat.

Correction

In the article, "Disappearances, abduction and murder — it can, and does happen locally," it should have said that Alexandra "Ally" Brueger was killed on Saturday, July 30, 2016 at the age of 31.

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Shiawassee River is now state-designated water trail

■ Popular river winds through Holly, Fenton and Linden areas

By Hannah Ball

The Shiawassee River is now a state-designated water trail.

This designation was spearheaded by a coalition of groups in multiple counties committed to preserving the river.

"We're enthused by that just because it helps brand what we're doing, bringing everybody together along all 88 miles of the river," said David Lossing, chair of the Shiawassee River Water Trail Coalition. He added it's good that the state is recognizing the value of the inland river system.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced Thursday, Dec. 20, 2018 that eight waterways totaling 540-plus miles that flow through more than a dozen counties have been selected as the first state-designated water trails in Michigan.

The DNR and the Office of the Great Lakes partnered on the effort to finalize this first round of designations.

Included in the eight waterways is the Shiawassee River Trail, which has 88 miles of river through Genesee, Oakland, Saginaw and Shiawassee counties.

Office of the Great Lakes Director Jon Allan said, "Today's announcement celebrates our state's connections to the Great Lakes coast and Michigan's inland waters."

"We have made significant investments with community partners to build, market and maintain water trails."

About 19 groups relating to the Shiawassee River all coordinated on this project. It's a mix of local governments, non-profits, the Ponemah Squaw Tupper Lake (PST) Association, the county park associations of Genesee and Shiawassee counties and more.

Lossing said there isn't any grant funding attached to the designation, but he anticipates the new title will help the vari-

ous river groups to secure grant monies.

"Each of those groups can go after grant funding and we'll support that. It can be even the same pot of money, but since we're in different parts of the river segment in different counties, then we're not really competing against each other," he said.

He said they will plan a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the spring when there's better weather.

Ribbon cuttings for the other newly designated water trails will take place during the 2019 paddling season as well. Watch michigan.gov/dnrtrails for more information.

Water trail

A water trail is a designated route on a navigable waterway such as a lake, river, canal or bay that is designed and managed to create a positive outdoor recreation experience for the user. Water trails feature well-developed access points, often are near significant historical, environmental or cultural points of interest and often have nearby amenities like restaurants, hotels and campgrounds.

"Water trails naturally are an increasing trend in Michigan and throughout the country, as interest in paddle sports and other water-based recreation continues to grow," said DNR Parks and Recreation Chief Ron Olson. "We are pleased to help advance these opportunities by recognizing model public water trails that set the standard for future of Michigan's water trails program."

National designation update

The Shiawassee River groups are still waiting to hear from the Department of Interior in if the river will also be designated as a national water trail. They're working with Senators Dan Kildee, Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow.

The National Park Service has approved the plan, and it's in the office of Ryan Zinke, the outgoing secretary of the Department of Interior.

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Fenton Area Public Schools will be accepting applications for the second semester which begins January 22, 2019.

Applications will be accepted January 7, 2019 through January 18, 2019 for enrollment no later than January 25, 2019.

Openings for non-resident students are available at all grade levels and buildings.

A release from the student's resident district is not required. There are no tuition fees to enroll in Fenton Area Public Schools; however, transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the student's family.

Applications available by contacting the Fenton Area Public Schools at **810-591-4708** or on the district's website: www.fentonschools.org

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

SPEEDING LEADS TO CITATION

At 5:24 p.m. on Dec. 28, 2018, a Holly police officer observed a Chevrolet Sonic traveling 46 mph in a 25-mph zone on Elm Street in Holly. A traffic stop was initiated. The officer made contact with the driver, a 20-year-old Holly man, who told the officer he did not know he was speeding. The driver was uncertain if his license was suspended from past citations but believed it to be clear. A computer check revealed his license was suspended. The driver was taken into custody and transported to the police station for processing. He was later released with a citation.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
REPUBLICANS HELD WHITE House, Senate and House majorities and Trump blames Democrats for the shutdown. The saddest part of this mess is many people will believe this nonsense. The blame resides in the White House.

■■■
TO THE PERSON complaining about the Fenton Council opting out of the marijuana idiosyncrasy. Fenton City may not have voted to pass the marijuana law.

■■■
I THINK IT'S time to hold politicians to their word. In 2014, Schumer favored a bill for \$25 billion for a border wall. Just re-introduce his bill and watch him try to lie his way out of that.

■■■
I DON'T THINK baby boomers, as such, destroyed Flint. It still remains a fact that GM built Flint and the unions destroyed Flint.

■■■
IT'S UNFAIR TO say that the whole generation of baby boomers destroyed our country. It's the liberal policies that are destroying our country.

■■■
UNDERMINING A SOCIETY'S moral and cultural foundation will result in the collapse of that society.

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Fenton's Poulson leads our soccer squad for a second time

By David Troppens

Chase Poulson doesn't grade soccer seasons based on wins, losses and championships. He doesn't grade his season based on how many goals he scored or how many assists he dished off.

Ask him about the 2018 Fenton varsity boys soccer team's Metro League championship

and District championship season, and he'll bring up an entirely different subject.

"I felt like my senior year was different than any other because I realized it was my last season, and it meant a lot more to me because I wanted to cherish every moment I could with my brothers," Poulson said. "It was definitely a great year. I feel like we

achieved a lot this year when it comes to meeting new people, bringing new people into the program and accepting them as ours. We had a great year with everyone."

And that attitude may be the biggest reason why Poulson has become our 2018 Tri-County Boys Soccer Player of the Year, an honor he also earned a year ago.

"Not only was Chase our MVP this year, but he won our Tiger Award which

goes to the player who displays the most dedication to the team and the program," Fenton varsity boys soccer coach Matt Sullivan said. "He was our best 'team-mate' this year along with being our best soccer player."

The Tigers had another successful season last fall. They were ranked for most of the season and finished the season with a 13-4-4 record overall. The Tigers finished the Metro League seas-

See **POULSON** on 19A



Fenton's Chase Poulson

Sports Times

Idoni returns to the top of our volleyball squad

By David Troppens

Chloe Idoni has had a pretty impressive career with the Fenton varsity volleyball team.

During her sophomore season, Idoni jumped into the limelight, becoming one of Fenton's top two hitters during the team's first-ever trip into the state semifinals at the Class A level. She led the team with 11 kills in Fenton's three-set loss to eventual state champions Novi in the state semifinal. During that state tournament run, she also broke the school record by collecting 32 kills in a five-set regional championship victory against Clarkston.

During her junior season, Idoni became the primary offensive threat with the departure of Jessica Warford from the squad, and oh boy did Idoni flourish. She broke a school record for most kills in a season (571) while leading the Tigers to a third straight Metro League title. The Tigers also advanced all the way back to the regional championship round before being knocked out of the Class A state tournament against Novi.

During her senior season, she had another outstanding season. Idoni added another 523 kills, giving her a school best of 1,819 kills for her career. She broke the old career record by 571 kills. She helped the Tigers post a 31-15-1 season overall. Her performance this fall helped earn her First-Team All-Metro honors for a third straight season and Honorable Mention All-State honors. She also earned another honor. She's our 2018 Tri-County Volleyball Player of the Year for the second straight season.

Idoni was thrilled to break so many key offensive records during her career.

"My sister played so I got to see so many great players when I was growing up," Idoni said. "Knowing all the talent that came through Fenton, and to be able to break some of the records when looking at all that talent is an awesome feeling. I left a mark that other girls can look up to, and have goals to strive for as well."

But Idoni wasn't just an offensive player. The 6-foot-0 outside hitter, who is headed to Ferris State to play on the women's basketball team, played all six rotations, collecting 326 digs. She also had 63 aces with her 431 service attempts and had just 31 service reception errors in 572 attempts this fall. She can set in a pinch if needed, collecting 35 assists. She also is a serious threat defensively at the net, collecting 11 solo blocks and 45 assisted blocks during the season.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Chloe Idoni gets a dig during the season. Idoni finished her Fenton volleyball career as the all-time kill leader with 1,819 kills.

Photo: Monica Bradburn



For the third straight year, Fenton's Alexa Keiser is our Female Runner of the Year.

Photo: David Troppens

Keiser, Buchanan lead XC teams again

By David Troppens

The 2018 cross country season saw a lot of exciting moments.

There were plenty of talented runners with Fenton winning both the boys and girls Metro League titles. Along with the Fenton teams, the Lake Fenton boys and Linden boys also qualified for the state meet.

But while there were a lot of talented runners competing at a high level, something didn't change — the best for each gender remained the same during the fall of 2018.

For the third straight year, Fenton's Alexa Keiser is the Tri-County Female Cross Country Runner of the Year, while for the second season in a row, Linden's

See **XC TEAMS** on 23A

2018 TRI-COUNTY VOLLEYBALL TEAM					
Volleyball MVP		Grade	Pos	School	
Chloe Idoni		Senior	Outside Hitter	Fenton	
Comment: Idoni earned All-State Honorable Mention honors at the Division 1 level after leading the Tigers with 523 kills and a 31.2 hitting percentage. She also is the school career leader with 1,819 kills.					
Rest of first team					
Name	Pos	School	Name	Pos	School
Sydney Acho	Setter	Fenton	Lauren Lamb	DS	Fenton
Kennedy Hogan	MH	Holly	Jesse Hepner	MH,RS	Holly
Jordan Moros	Setter	Linden	Makenna O’Keefe	OH	Linden
Sophia Clements	OH	Lake Fenton	Abby Schupbach	DS	Lake Fenton

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Eagles pull off impressive victory vs. Lansing Everett

By David Troppens

The Linden varsity boys basketball team ended 2018 in grand fashion. The Eagles posted a 74-71 victory against Lansing Everett, Saturday at the Battle of the Midway Showcase held at Corunna High School.

The victory was Linden's second notable non-league win of the season. The Eagles defeated Powers 56-49 at the start of the season as well.

The Eagles led 17-14 at halftime and inched that lead to 36-30 by halftime.

Everett cut the gap to 50-46 entering the fourth quarter, making it a tight battle down the stretch. However, the Eagles (6-1) made 11-of-13 free throws in the final quarter, icing the victory.

Blake Lund led all scorers with 25 points, including making 7-of-8 free throws down the stretch. He also hit a season-high four three-pointers in the contest. Brenden Miller also had a big game, netting 19 points.

Linden returns to action Jan. 8 at Flint Kearsley.

POULSON

Continued from Page 18A

on unbeaten with a 7-0-1 record, earning the outright league crown. The extra cherry on top of the cupcake was the team's success against Linden. The Tigers defeated their area rivals three times. As the team thrived, Poulson had another super successful season. Despite playing a large portion of the season at sweeper, Poulson found time to score six goals and dish nine assists. He's a center back for his club team, the Nationals, and also played at center midfield during the season. His versatility earned Poulson Division 2 First Team All-State honors.

"Not many people saw the skill he possesses because of where we used him, but he is our most skilled player as well," Sullivan said. "But I will miss watching him dominate games from a physicality standpoint, all with a smile on his face. That's what made him so special."

It was that fun Sullivan is talking about that made playing for the Tigers so enjoyable for Poulson.

"Most teams will have running suicides and stuff and are being punished all the time, but we love having fun and joking around," Poulson said. "We know when to be serious and when to joke

around. Because we have fun, we love being at practice and love being around each other. There's never a moment I dread being with the kids on this team. And it makes us play better. It definitely plays a factor."

Sullivan says the program will miss Poulson.

"I feel like I have been coaching him forever," Sullivan said. "We had a lot of fun together."

2018 TRI-COUNTY BOYS SOCCER TEAM

Player of the Year		
Chase Poulson	Fenton	Hon. Men
First team		
Alex Flannery	Fenton	Hon. Men.
Ben Polehna	Lake Fenton	Third team
Koby Hall	Linden	Hon. Men.
Brady Young	Fenton	Hon. Men.
Jason Juengel	Lake Fenton	Hon. Men.
Ben Gramer	Holly	
Jacob Welch	Linden	
Max James	Linden	
Ashton Keller	Fenton	
Desmond Braham	Fenton	
Ryan Gillespie	Linden	
Riley Besser	Lake Fenton	
Nick Abdallah	Lake Fenton	
Keeper		
Noah Martin	Fenton	

PREP REPORT

WRESTLING

► **Fenton at Goodrich Tournament:** The Tigers brought seven wrestlers to Goodrich, placing 11th out of 17 teams at the event. Jayden Rittenbury (145) went 2-1 and finished in second place. Luke Thornton (130) took fourth with a 3-2 record. Mario Ramirez (152) took fifth while Dalton Wagner (171) placed sixth. Chloe Wagner (135) placed seventh.

BOYS BOWLING

► **Holly 29, Linden 1:** The Bronchos were paced by Justin Malloy's 179-203-382 series, while Jacob Warner wasn't too far behind with a 200-178-378 series. Andrew Sorter bowled a 193-181-374 series. Holly also won both baker games with scores of 155 and 154.

Linden was led by Jackson Shelp's 137-192-329 series.

► **Flushing 26, Fenton 4:** The Tigers won the second baker game with a 204. Tate Temrowski led the Tigers with a 146-191-337 series.

► **Clio 27, Fenton 3:** Tate Temrowski shot a career-high 257-158-415 series, while Max Guerra had a 157-189-346 series. Jake Durant also scored a team point.

GIRLS BOWLING

► **Linden 21, Holly 9:** Linden's Cassie Most posted a two-game series score of

135-179-314, pacing the Eagles. Bella Orsini also had a 165 game. The Eagles also had a 147 baker game.

Holly was led by Savanna Moriarity's 140-130-270 series.

► **Flushing 26, Fenton 4:** The Tigers teamed up to bowl a strong 185 baker game. Individually, Angela Hanners paced the team with a 148-180-328 series. Avery Logan had a 166-128-294 series.

► **Clio 26, Fenton 4:** Angela Hanners had her best performance of the season, posting a 232-234-466 series. Avery Logan and Breanna Trecha also scored a point each.

HOCKEY

► **Davison 7, Fenton/Linden 2:** The Griffins trailed the 10th-ranked Cardinals just 1-0 after the first period, but then were outscored 5-1 in the second period, resulting in the loss. The Griffins trailed 3-0 but a Josh Appleberg goal cut the gap to 3-1. That's as close as the squad would get. Appleberg also scored Fenton/Linden's second goal. Zach Eakes assisted both goals while Trevor Isaacson also had an assist.

Loren Jones saved 20 of the 26 shots he faced while Liam Murray made nine saves on the 10 shots he saved in relief.



For the second season, Linden's Tyler Buchanan is our Male Runner of the Year. Photo: David Troppens

XC TEAMS

Continued from Page 22A

Tyler Buchanan is the Tri-County Male Cross Country Runner of the Year.

Keiser has yet to lose a Flint Metro League race, winning all nine she's run during her three-year career, capping her league season by winning her third league crown with a time of 18:22.57, about 42 seconds faster than the rest of the field. Keiser won some other races as well. She was the county champion (18:29.6) and the Kalya O'Mara Invitational champion (18:29.2).

She qualified for the state meet by taking seventh at the Waterford Mott regional (18:49.3) and earned Division 1 All-State honors by taking 18th

ALL TRI-COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS

Male Runner of the Year

Tyler Buchanan	Linden
Rest of Boys Team	
Adam Jesse	Fenton
Samuel Cox	Fenton
Logan Canada	Fenton
Tom Hufton Jr.	Lk. Fenton
Gage Bond	Fenton
Eric Niestroy	Lk. Fenton

Female Runner of the Year

Alexa Keiser	Fenton
Rest of Girls Team	
Andrea Ruiz	Holly
Cambria Tiemann	Fenton
Abbey Lee	Fenton
Kaitlin Bayer	Fenton
Melanea Strauss	Linden
Zoe Brown	Linden

Note: The teams, and Runner of the Year, were selected by the sports staff using two equations based on the biggest races of the season - the final league meet, the regional meet and the state meet for those who competed at the event.

at the state meet (18:28.7).

Buchanan has a six-league win streak of his own, winning the final race of the season by more than 11 seconds (16:17.08) against the rest of the field. He won eight races this fall, also taking first at the Durand Invitational (16:47.9), the Bath Invitational (15:5.9), the Linden Classic (16:28.4), the Kayla O'Mara Invitational (15:53.8) and at the Division 2 regional hosted by Linden (16:15.0). He was the area's top placer at any of the state meet races, taking ninth in the D2 event (16:04.3).

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