

Linden girl earns lead role in Netflix movie

■ 'Tall Girl' is the perfect fit for Ava Michelle, 16

By Sally Rummel

Ava Michelle Cota, formerly of Linden, is now reaping the rewards of being a tall girl.

At 6 feet 1 inch tall, Ava, 16,

has been cast in the lead role of "Tall Girl," a 2019 Netflix original live action comedy about the struggles of being a 6-foot-tall high school student.

Ava will play the role of Jodi, who has to go above and beyond to survive high school, while struggling with the constant label of being her school's tall girl.

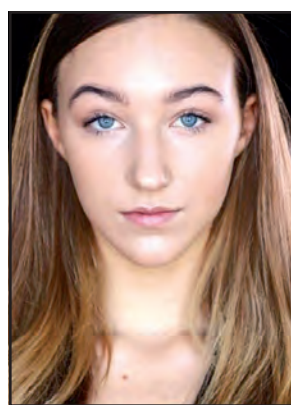
It's a part that fits every inch of statuesque Ava Michelle, who now uses this professional name in place of her birth name, Ava Michelle Cota.

"We've always waited for just the right part," said Ava's mother, Jeanette Cota, who lives with her daughter in Los Angeles,

See **TALL GIRL** on 12A

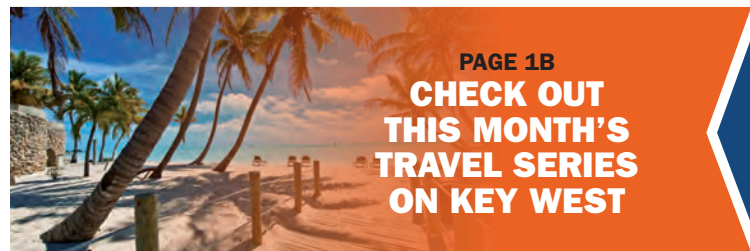
“We’ve always waited for just the right part.”

Jeanette Cota
Ava Michelle's mother



SUMMARY

■ Linden native Ava Michelle Cota, 16, now goes by her professional name of Ava Michelle and recently earned the lead role in an upcoming Netflix movie, "Tall Girl," to be released later this year.



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**CHECK OUT
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Weekend Times

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019

\$1.00

Company project manager clarifies his role in Cornerstone

■ Fenton is now doing all its own electrical, mechanical and plumbing inspections

By Vera Hogan

What happened at the Cornerstone building in late January will likely remain under investigation for some time, however, one of those involved has clarified his role with the building project.

A couple of residents and business owners in the downtown Fenton building are suffering the effects of pipes bursting on the third floor Thursday night, Jan. 31, causing ceilings to cave in and significant destruction on the lower floors.

"The biggest bit of confusion I'm seeing is that people are under the impression that I was both the developer of the building and the owner of the

See **CORNERSTONE** on 15A



WONDERFUL PLAY ON A COLD WINTER DAY — Ellen Street Campus lead child care associate James Olmstead billows the colorful parachute for students during the Global School Play Day on Wednesday, Feb. 13. These Fenton students joined 535,690 other students across the country for an open, unstructured play event. See story on page 14A. Photo: Tim Jagielo



Village Council Member Chris Rankin (center) discusses marijuana businesses in the village. He was the lone vote against a recreational marijuana business prohibition. Photo: Tim Jagielo

Village prohibits marijuana businesses

■ Still legal to own and use recreational pot in Holly

By Tim Jagielo

Holly — The Holly Village Council voted 6-1 to prohibit recreational marijuana businesses within Holly Village, with Council Member Chris Rankin casting the dissenting vote.

See **MARIJUANA** on 19A

Study: Michigan schools should receive at least \$9,500 per pupil

■ Education Commission: 'Michigan children are falling behind'

By Hannah Ball

Michigan is reportedly last in the nation in revenue growth for K-12 schools since Proposal A passed in 1994, according

to a report by researchers at Michigan State University.

Tax revenue generated for the K-12 system in 2015 was about 85 percent the amount in 1995 after adjusting for inflation. The state's per pupil funding revenue dropped See **EDUCATION** on 6A

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“Attention dog owners. A Burton owner of a husky dog said her dog was stolen from her fenced backyard. Then she received a call from Animal Control. The dog was found and was dying. An illegal Flint area dog ring stole the animal to use as bait in dog fights. Please watch your dogs while they are in the backyard or walk them out on a leash.”



“Did you look at your tax bill? Almost 20 millages we are paying for, most of which benefit Flint institutions. Stop voting for any millage. When you vote 'yes' you are saying 'I want more taxes.' The word millage means 'tax.'”



“The voters in Minnesota elected a radical Muslim woman to Congress. She hates America, and said so. Not surprising as they also elected a TV wrestler as governor and a comedian as a senator. Someone should check the water in that crazy state.”



COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“To the person who mentioned, 'The pursuit of happiness is in the Constitution.' Your point is well taken, however that line is in the Declaration of Independence, not the Constitution.”

Cruise into Detroit Boat Show this week



Action Water Sports owner Mary Rising sits in a MasterCraft XT20, featuring “cool feel” marine seats that are 30-percent cooler than regular material. Her business will have 18 performance tow boats at the Detroit Boat Show. Several local businesses will have a display from Feb. 16 to 24. **Photo: Tim Jagielo**

Many local boat dealers will be on deck at Cobo Center Feb. 16-24 for Michigan’s largest boat show

By Sally Rummel

The boats may not be in the water yet, but many local boat dealers have already taken their first drive of the season to Cobo Center in Detroit for the 61st annual Detroit Boat Show from Feb. 16-24.

This show, like the boating industry, is on the grow this year,

with more than 500,000 square feet of space at Cobo devoted to “everything boating.”

“We’re super upsized this year,” said Patti Smith, chairman of the board of the Michigan Boating Industry Association and owner of Silver Spray Sports in Fenton.

See BOAT SHOW on 20A



White’s Landing will have off-shore, center console style boats by Sea Pro at the Detroit Auto Show. **Photo courtesy of Sea Pro**

Don’t want to go to college? Try machining

■ Epic Machines regularly fields calls from companies looking for employees

By Hannah Ball

This is the first article in a series on skilled trades opportunities.

At Epic Machines in Fenton, the classroom is as hands-on as possible, full of workers making machined parts for companies around the nation.

Instead of going to college to become a computer numerical control (CNC) operator and secure a job in the skilled trades sector, try the Epic CNC Training Academy.

Mike Parker, CEO of Epic Machines, said they run this training program a few times a year. Classes are eight weeks long, five days a week, eight hours a day.

“I get such pride in showing these young people how to generate a trade and a skill,” he said, adding that it’s better if they start younger. Over two dozen people have gone through the program. It costs \$9,600, less than a semester’s tuition at most universities.

Currently, their employees must be over 18 and not a student, but they are working on a program for high school students (see sidebar).

About 90 percent of those in the program are between 25 and 35 years of age.

See MACHINING on 8A

“I get such pride in showing these young people how to generate a trade and a skill.”

Mike Parker
Epic Machines CEO

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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

• **I posted** a cartoon to my Facebook page this week of a teacher at her desk wearing a T-shirt bearing the words “I support merit pay for politicians” on it. That’s funny, of course. But I couldn’t resist adding this: “I agree. And while we’re at it, let’s give them a letter grade, too. And scold them for taking summers off. And require them to pay for regular skills training. And complain over and over again about how much they make. And lay them off. And expect them to fix our kids. And



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

make them buy their own work materials. And blame them for most of society’s ills while paying them like crap. And expect them to come in early and stay late and grade papers at home.” A reader added: “And don’t forget — we have to arm them so they can be part-time commandos defending the schools.” A teacher added: “And have them stock food for kids who don’t have it at home because momma is working two jobs to be in a better neighborhood but makes too much for a Bridge card.”

• **If you’re** a teacher, thank you for putting up with all of that. And if you’re training to be one despite all that, you, my friend, are a saint.

• **St. Johns, north** of Lansing, is in the running to become the home of the first-ever eel farm in the nation. If they can also land sweetbreads, okra and liver farms, I may never drive through the city again. Not without barfing, anyway. How can anyone eat eels?

• **As one of** his final acts as governor, Rick Snyder pardoned a man described by a prosecutor as a “career drunk driver.” I won’t bother writing something critical about that. It speaks for itself.

• **If chili didn’t** exist, I’m not sure

winter would be endurable. Mine is better than yours, by the way.

• **Until I stopped** commuting three hours a day for work, I didn’t realize what a physical and mental toll it had taken on me. So when I read stories about all the reasons America can’t possibly invest in high-speed commuter rail, I want to scream. This is killing us, people. Literally killing us.

• **Just wondering:** Do you realize that most medium to large daily newspapers in Michigan have about two-thirds or even three-fourths fewer reporters, editors, copy editors, photographers, artists etc. than they had 10 years ago? So if you’re ever wondering why people seem stupider these days and no one knows what’s going on in their communities, well, now you know.

• **This week’s word** I just like: balsam.

• **I realize I’ve** moaned and groaned for weeks about the new trend in baseball where a third of the teams tank before the season starts. And I know you’re probably sick of my whining about it, but I’m sorry, I can’t help it. This week a newspaper had a story about how the Tigers, who are in spring training, are saying they’re in it this year to win the World Series. Oh, please. They couldn’t win AA with that roster. And yet the Tigers will still charge MLB prices to watch it. That, my friends, is highway robbery. Worse, they’re violating the spirit of the sport.

• **“We suffer more** often in imagination than in reality.” — Seneca

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.

“If you’re a teacher, thank you for putting up with all of that. And if you’re training to be one despite all that, you, my friend, are a saint.”

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.

I JUST PAID my winter taxes and I counted the number of millages levied on my home, which was 19 millages. The same will be charged on my summer taxes paid in the fall. As my home value is increased, my taxes go up. I may have to sell my home.

HAS IT EVER occurred to Democrats that they are electing foreigners, some from Muslim countries, to become our leaders? They openly show their hate for America and use foul language in formal meetings. How could you possibly elect representatives that show so much hate for us and America?

GREEN IS THE new dumb. Just read Ocasio-Cortez’s Green New Deal proposal — bars air travel, guaranteed income for those ‘unwilling’ to work and government takeover of economy. No thank you. America will never be socialist.

MIDDLE-CLASS WORKERS now pay a higher tax rate than the guy who owns the company. That’s not by accident. It was the point.

WE ARE ALREADY paying for 19 millages on our tax bill and you think it makes sense to spend \$14 million for a path for people to ride their bicycle on? You’re a special kind of goofy, aren’t you.

I KEEP READING ‘inclement weather.’ This is an incorrect term. When we have winter weather it is not inclement. Another

incorrect term I have read is ‘Canadian geese.’ They are Canada geese and they are not citizens of Canada. They are Canada geese.

A QUICK ANSWER for the anti-Trumper. The Senate needed 60 votes for the funding and Democrats wouldn’t supply the votes needed to make 60. It’s really that simple.

TRUMP DIDN’T GET funding when Republicans had control. He’s just showing the Dems’ true colors because it’s not red, white and blue.

A NEW REPORT estimates tens of thousands of Michigan residents could lose Medicaid coverage once the state’s work requirements go into effect next year.

A QUICK ANSWER from the Trump crowd on border wall funding. All funding bills must be approved by 60 Senate votes. We only had 51 Republican senators for the last two years. Why didn’t Democrats support border defense?

DEMOCRAT WANTS TO defund ICE. Sounds like open borders to me. Where is the fake news?

CAN SOMEONE TELL me why we should approve a bike path for a ‘projected’ cost of \$14 million when we can’t even pay to fix the damn roads?

WHEN WILL HOLLY Township do something about the junk yard on East Holly Road?

ELISSA SLOTKIN DIDN’T actually say ‘party before country,’ it was a slip of the tongue after which she quickly corrected herself.

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Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

Where would you like to spend a month away from Michigan winter? | streettalk

“Florida probably. We like Destin. It’s a resort town near the coast.”

— John Korte
Fenton Township

“Probably Florida because of the beaches, warm sun and sand. Anywhere warm.”

— Jenna Jernigan
Fenton Township

“My fiancée’s parents live in Florida, but if it wasn’t my money, I’d go to Bora Bora. I’ve never been there.”

— Tim French
Fenton

“Probably Georgia where my family’s at. They really don’t have winters. It can get this cold. It could rain but not usually snow.”

— Amber Grosse
Fenton

“Sedona, Arizona. It’s gorgeous; they have the red rocks there. They have the nice restaurant built into the rocks.”

— Janie Taubitz
Fenton



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Fenton city manager to lead statewide association

■Lynn Markland named president of Michigan Municipal Executives

Fenton City Manager Lynn Markland is the new president of the statewide association representing Michigan's municipal managers.

Markland was selected as the 2019 president of the Michigan Municipal Executives (MME) during the organization's annual Winter Institute in Battle Creek Feb. 5-8. Markland succeeds Patrick Sullivan, Northville city manager, who now serves as immediate past president. Markland served the past year as the organization's president-elect.

"It is both humbling and challenging to be selected to a position of leadership in MME," Markland said. "MME is a great organization that helps develop and support executives in local government. The organization is also an advocate for professional and ethical leadership in Michigan communities."

Markland has 32 years of experience in local government. Before accepting the appointment as city manager of Fenton in July 2008, Markland served as city manager of Durand for 15 years and before that was city manager in

Sandusky, Michigan.

Markland has served the Michigan Municipal League (MML) in many capacities including as a committee chair. He has also served as a member of the Board of Trustees for the MML, is a former board member of the MME and is a member of International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

His civic involvement includes having served as a board member of the Lions Club, Optimist Club (past president), and Rotary Club in various communities. He has also served on the boards of Chambers of Commerce and is a past president of the Durand Area Chamber of Commerce.

A graduate of Central Michigan University, Markland has a passion for local government and creating vibrant and active downtowns. In the communities he has served, he has led collaborative efforts to seek solutions for local issues.

During his one-year term, Markland will ask the MME to focus on continuing education for the membership, expanding the diversity of the profession for a new generation of municipal executives, and collaborating with other public professional groups that seek to make better communities for a better Michigan.



Lynn Markland

EDUCATION

Continued from Front Page

15 percent during the same period.

Doug Busch, executive director of finance and personnel, said two reasons for this are changing how the State School Aid Fund receives revenue and using that fund for programs other than K-12 education.

The school funding process "changed drastically" with the passage of Proposal A in 1994. The proposal shifted the majority of K-12 education funding from local tax collections to a statewide foundation allowance system.

"The foundation allowance system is primarily based on state sales tax versus local property tax collections. When revenue for schools in Michigan is based on a sales tax, it generally becomes more susceptible to economic conditions versus a tax on property which is typically more stable," he said.

The State School Aid Fund is traditionally seen as "sacred" by the legislature and governor, Busch said, however it was used as a revenue source for higher education a few years ago. Previously, it was only used for K-12 education.

"Just this past December, appropriations were designated from the State School Aid Fund for infrastructure improvements and addressing environmental issues. No one would disagree that colleges, infrastructure improvements and the environment are not important, however, the State School Aid Fund was designed specifically for K-12 programs," he said.

Michigan students are also falling behind in testing, and it's not just poor minority students. According to Education Trust-Midwest, in 2003, Michigan's white, higher-income students were ranked 17th in fourth-grade reading. In 2014, that rank was 45. In 2015, they were ranked 50th.

Former Gov. Rick Snyder's 21st Century Education Commission stated, "The urgency could not be greater. While it is difficult to face, the data are clear:

“Schools are asked to do more and more with regard to services for children, yet rarely does funding follow along...”

Julie Williams

Lake Fenton Community Schools superintendent

“When revenue for schools in Michigan is based on a sales tax, it generally becomes more susceptible to economic conditions...”

Doug Busch

Fenton Area Public Schools executive director of finance and personnel

Michigan children are falling behind."

Fenton, Linden and Holly schools received a per-pupil allowance of \$7,871 for the 2018-2019 school year. Lake Fenton received \$7,916 per pupil.

However, a 2018 report prepared for the Michigan School Finance Collaborative found that schools should be receiving a minimum of \$9,590 per pupil to educate a student to meet performance standards.

Holly Area Schools Superintendent Scott Roper said, "It has been shown that a new, fairer school funding approach is needed that meets the unique, individual learning needs of all students, regardless of zip code, income, learning challenges or other circumstances. Adequate funding is essential for schools to provide the support services necessary for all students to achieve and succeed."

"Former Gov. Rick Snyder's 21st Century Education Commission report, Former Lt. Gov. Brian Calley's Special Education Funding Subcommittee report, Michigan's 2016 school adequacy study, and a recent Business Leaders for Michigan report also concluded Michigan fails to adequately fund its schools."

Lake Fenton Community Schools Superintendent Julie Williams said a lack of funding impacts schools in a variety of ways, from larger class sizes and a lack of counselors, resources and programs. She agrees with the study that states districts should receive \$9,590

per pupil.

"Schools are asked to do more and more with regard to services for children, yet rarely does funding follow along, or it is so restricted that students who may need additional services could be excluded due to criteria set by the state," she said. "There are some districts in our state that get a per pupil allocation that is higher than the \$9,590 and those students have access to many more programs and opportunities. I would like to see the per pupil allocations be distributed more equitably for all districts."



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GUEST VIEWPOINT

By Scott Roper
Holly Area Schools
superintendent



Broncho Pride strong over snow days

Over the past few weeks, it became extremely difficult to safely transport Holly Area Schools students to and from school as snow and ice blanketed our 124-square-mile district, and extreme wind chills made it dangerous for our kids to wait for the bus.

The result was a near-record number of snow days.

I recognize school cancellations can create an inconvenience for our Broncho families, and I'd like to thank our students, families, teachers and support staff for their understanding and patience.

At Holly Area Schools, the safety of our students, families and staff is our number one priority. On any given day, the roads we live or travel might be in perfect condition, while other local roads in the district may be unsafe. I would much rather add another school day in June than risk the safety of our Broncho students, families and staff.

Without question, we want our students at school and understand the importance of daily interaction with teachers and students in providing a high-quality, 21st century education that prepares all Bronchos for bright futures. Weather cannot stand in the way of our unwavering mission to provide our kids with diverse and exciting learning opportunities that provide real-world experience and the skills needed to compete for the jobs of the future.

I'm proud to report Broncho Pride was never more apparent than during our snow days. Providing a culture of kindness, compassion and respect every day is an important part of being a Broncho, and that continued even when school was cancelled.

Despite the inclement weather, our fourth annual Blue Game for Autism Awareness went off without a hitch Feb. 8. The Blue Game was sponsored by the high school LIFT Students. Learning in Friendship Together (LIFT) is a Peer Mentoring class where students with and without autism are paired for an entire year working on effective study habits, communication and social skills. I appreciate the dedication of the LIFT students and the LIFT sponsor, Deanna Houldsworth. Their inspiration and commitment overcame the challenges of the recent weather.

Our Snow Day Challenges on Facebook have also allowed us to recognize students and staff who demonstrated Broncho pride over the snow days. The Broncho Facebook page was soon filled with photos of students keeping busy reading books, studying and enjoying outdoor physical activities. The challenges included a best homemade snowflake contest, and we tallied votes for the silliest Broncho faces. Most importantly, this kept our students, families and staff connected when school was cancelled. Kudos to Kathryn Highfield for posting creative snow day challenges for our students and families.

Over recent weeks, we showed the world Holly Area Schools is more than a school district. We are one Broncho family before, during and after school.

WHAT YOU MISSED IN THE MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, Feb. 13, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Coyote sightings up in tri-county area

Mating season is in full swing, be careful when letting your dog out.



2018 crime statistics for Fenton Township

Non-aggravated assault and larceny are top two offenses.

Lake Fenton grad joins Fenton force

Tyler Donnelly is city's newest police officer.

New Fenton Township trustee brings 'small town values'

Linden High School graduate fills vacant board position.

The system that keeps the lights and heat on

Substations, compressors, thousands of miles of wire and pipelines bring power to homes and businesses.

Boards and commissions are critical to success of communities

The third in a series about boards and commissions features Fenton's Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

National Love Your Pet Day is next week

Show off your pet on Times Facebook page.

Two successful ice-fishing tournaments

They were held last weekend. Funds were raised for important causes.

Our Future

Meet Morgan Losey, 17, a senior at Linden High School.

The Generation Gap

A baby boomer and millennial answer the question: What was dating like for your generation?

HOT LINE CONTINUED

YOU KNOW YOU'RE a Democrat if you're a racist, an anti Semite, support illegal activity, want to avoid defending the United States, desire to limit the number of illegals arrested, and support withdrawing the National Guard from national borders.

I LITERALLY LAUGHED out loud at the thought a reader would even think that the non-motorized pathway and our crumbling roads are somehow connected to the same budget. I'm looking forward to a great resource that so many other communities have (and with the same road conditions).

VERA HOGAN'S ARTICLE on the Saturday Evening Post was misleading. The magazine is still published today six times a year in Indianapolis. Just sayin! [Editor's Note: See update in Feb. 20 Midweek edition.]

IN RESPONSE TO Heller's comment about gas tax. Snyder raised gas tax in January 2017, which added \$1.2 billion for roads and made Michigan the fifth highest at pump tax in the U.S. Vehicle registration was also raised 20 percent. If it didn't work then what makes us think it will work now.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE socialistic, in that the government provides them. So are roads, dams, bridges, airports and seaports. Try to imagine our country without these things, all brought to you by teachers.

REGARDING YOUR ARTICLE on the debacle at the Cornerstone building. All they need to do is to add propylene glycol to the system and it will not freeze. Was this the first building they have ever built in Michigan? I feel like I'm explaining how to open a Capri Sun to a 3-year-old.

FINALLY, THE BIPARTISAN committee investigating collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia announced

Wednesday that there was no collusion. What a waste of time and money when our legislators could have been using this time and our taxpayer money to do the jobs they were elected to do.

MICHIGAN'S SENATE IS giving a historic amount of scrutiny to Democrat Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's high-level appointees. Under Gov. Rick Snyder, GOP senators rarely exercised their power to question appointees.

WOULD LIKE TO thank my neighbor, Al, who cleared my driveway, along with a bunch of our neighbors. This is what makes Fenton such a nice place to live.

IF YOU OPPOSE vaccines, you are too unintelligent to be part of society. Your children should be taken away from you. There is no hope. Your brain is mush.

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NEWS

BRIEFS

AMERICAN LEGION FENTON POST TO MEET AT JOHN'S PIZZERIA

The American Legion Fenton Post 38 will hold its next meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at John's Pizzeria, 1492 N. LeRoy St., Fenton. For more information, call Jerry Palmer at (810) 629-7092.

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MACHINING

Continued from Page 3A

"We are rather choosy on who we accept and who we don't," Parker said. Applicants must take a reading comprehension and math test. "We want people who want to do this. It's about making good machines and our manufacturing industry needs this."

Ever since they started the program, they get requests from numerous companies, looking for workers.

"It's blowing up into something more than we anticipated," he said. "People want to know if we have any students available for an interview. We've had so many people hearing about us from in and outside the state."

Last year, they were approved to accept Forever GI Bill dollars, so more veterans are joining the program.

Parker has been in this business for 44 years, and sits on the Genesee Career Institute advisory board. He started the program because of the "skills gap." This describes the gap in skilled trade workers when high school students were pushed

to go to college instead of discovering other opportunities.

"Our schools did a great injustice by telling students they must go to college," he said.

Manufacturing remains a crucial aspect of society.

"When we go around speaking at high schools, we say 'look around the room and identify something that is not manufactured,'" he said. "Everything is made."

Colleges offer courses on machining, and do a "great job" of teaching students about all the different facets of the trade. But, students don't have enough time to develop a skill on the machines in college.

"They have a lot of knowledge of the skill ... but they are not possessing the skill. We have them do it eight hours a day so they don't have interruptions," he said. Working in the factory also teaches them soft skills, such as being on time and teamwork, and the language of machining.

"Our customer base is so broad. We work with automotives, tractor companies, wind energy, the medical industry, food industry," he said. "People don't think about how your cereal is made down at Kellogg. Someone had to build all those machines. It's about helping manufacturing as a whole in the U.S."

Manufacturing is booming in Michigan. Parker said there are so many companies that send products to Michigan for a certain process.

"Michigan is really the largest technological state for machining," he said.

Watch for our next skilled trades story in this series on Sunday, Feb. 24.

Skilled trade high school program in the works

Epic Machines in Fenton is working on developing a program in which seniors in high school could work on-site for part of their senior year to learn machining. It's tied in with former Gov. Rick Snyder's Marshall Plan for Talent, which supports skilled trades by investing \$100 million in "innovative programs, including competency-based certification, assistance for schools to improve curricula and classroom equipment, scholarships and stipends, and support for career navigators and teacher," according to michigan.gov.

Mike Parker, CEO of Epic Machines has been speaking with legislators in Lansing to see how they can help the Epic Machines and these programs. Advantages to students learning in a factory as opposed to a school include more hands-on work, and schools don't have to invest in the equipment or worry about finding an instructor.

"But then we can have the schools do the bookwork," he said.

They're still in negotiations for how to make this work.

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Times



Recycling in Fenton has increased by 35 percent since 2014, due in large part to Republic's rolling cart system, implemented in 2015. **Times file photo.**

Fenton recycling bins runneth over

■ Increased by 35 percent over past five years — that's good news!

By Vera Hogan

It has been more than three years since the city of Fenton approved the new trash and recycling program, launched by Republic Services of Flint in the fall of 2015. Although many residents fought the new program because of the bulky size of the rolling, 65-gallon blue bins that would hold trash and recycling, those bins did replace the former bag and tag program the city utilized. The 65-gallon recycling cart replaces the much smaller green and black containers provided by the municipality. The quarterly cost for residents is \$32.17 in the first year. It was increased to \$33.43 per quarter effective February 2017. These services are paid for with residents' quarterly utility bill. Residents were paying \$1.60 for each trash bag/can they put out on the curb, and

50 cents for each yard waste bag. Recycling was paid for with water bills at \$16.95 per quarter, which ended when the new program was implemented. There was no additional charge for yard waste. Trash is picked up weekly, while recycling is collected every other week. Homeowners, who expressed dislike over the new system, included some senior citizens who said they did not generate enough trash to fill a 65-gallon container. They further expressed concern about their mobility issues and ability to drag or push the rolling bins to the curb each week, especially in the winter. Gary Hicks, the municipal services manager for Republic at the time, said the program has been very successful in other communities, which include Holly, Linden and Fenton Township. "We believe that by adding recycling carts we will grow recycling participation in the city," Hicks said in 2015. He was right — recycling in the city of Fenton was 35 percent higher in 2018 than it was in 2014. (see chart below)

RECYCLE TONNAGES

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Fenton Twp.	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
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		14%	27%	37%	35%
City of Fenton	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Recycle Tons	344.33	376.46	446.76	467.50	525.94
		9%	23%	26%	35%
Combined	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Recycle Tons	1204.08	1376.50	1628.25	1829.59	1857.59
		12.50%	26%	34.10%	35.10%

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Local twins offer double the service through AmeriCorps

■Robbie and Cody Alexander serve community needs throughout the United States

By Sally Rummel

Wherever there is help needed somewhere in the United States, you might find two Fenton Township twins giving double the assistance in the midst of human need.

Robbie and Cody Alexander, 23, twin sons of Fred and Kimberly Alexander, work with the National Civilian Community Corps, whose parent company is AmeriCorps. It is a network of national service programs offering opportunities from serving critical community needs like fighting poverty, to sustaining national parks, preparing for disasters and more.

"It's like a domestic Peace Corps," said Robbie, who is in the middle of his 10-month term serving nine states in the southwest region of the U.S., based in Colorado. Cody is serving in the Pacific region, based in Sacramento, California.

Robbie spent his first six weeks with the program working with the Dream Tree Project for at-risk youth in Taos, New Mexico. His daily work was as varied as putting the finishing touches on an office building to clearing invasive species in the Taos Land Trust Clearing, and restoring natural water in the Rio Fernando River.

He is now helping with Hurricane Harvey cleanup in Houston, Texas, where he'll be until April 5. "We've worked on four different houses each week," Robbie said.

Cody spent his first six weeks in Green River, Utah, a small town where he helped



Cody (left) and Robbie Alexander were able to volunteer together over Christmas at the Habitat Restore in Littleton, Colorado. Submitted photo

with a community garden and different organizations. He's now in Middleton, California, two hours north of Sacramento, doing disaster relief from fires that occurred several years ago.

Full-time AmeriCorps workers do receive a modest living allowance for service and health care. "It's a living stipend," Robbie said. "We get free room and board, often in a church."

Those who complete a term of service also receive an AmeriCorps Education Award that can be used to pay educational expenses at eligible post-secondary



Cody Alexander works on re-building homes in Middletown, California after the devastating Valley Fire of 2015. Submitted photo

institutions, or to repay qualified student loans. The dollar amount of this award is equal to the maximum amount of the U.S. Department of Education Pell Grant and may change from year to year.

But it's not what they're receiving for their service, it's what they're getting.

The twins became interested in AmeriCorps when they heard about the service organization from their cousin, Jason Alexander, former Tri-County Times sports writer.

"When flooding took place in the Detroit area, a team was sent to help. "Jason knew



Robbie Alexander does shelter construction at DreamTree Project in Taos, New Mexico. Submitted photo

about the program through his work with the Michigan Community Service Commission. He encouraged us to do this program. When we were sophomores, we both knew we wanted to do this after college."

While the program ends for the twins on July 18, Robbie wants to apply to be a team leader in the program for next year.

"I really like this line of work," he said. "I always knew I would help people in some way."

Robbie and Cody both graduated from Lake Fenton High School in 2013 and Adrian College in 2018.



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Too cold outside? Try axe throwing

■ Increasingly popular sport offers worldwide competition

By Hannah Ball

If you're growing restless by staying indoors because of the snow and cold weather, you could try a new hobby — axe throwing.

This rising trend is attracting people of all ages to pick up an actual axe and hurl it at a target. While the tri-county area doesn't offer any axe throwing venues, an hour drive is all it will take.

Rich Baker, who co-owns Bull's Eye Axe Throwing in Lansing with his wife, Jennifer, said, "Everyone wants to throw an axe; they just don't know it yet. As soon as you throw one, you're kind of hooked. It's addicting."

Bull's Eye offers axe throwing for walk-ins, open throwing, company parties, birthday and divorce parties, bachelor and bachelorette parties and mobile axe throwing. They also offer league play through the World Axe Throwing League (WATL). All of their equipment is certified through WATL.

In axe throwing, two people throw their axes at different targets at the same time. This adds to their safety by ensuring no one is retrieving an axe when someone is throwing. Bull's Eye has six pits with two lanes per pit.

The game is one-on-one with 10 throws per game. Players throw five times, switch lanes and then do four more throws. Points are tallied. Then, players have a chance at a "kill shot" with the 10th throw, which is worth 10 points.

"Someone who's losing by nine points can win by one," Rich Baker said.

The facility is open Monday through Thursday exclusively for team building, parties and league play. Divorce parties are particularly popular.

"We have quite a few of them actually. A lot more than you'd think," Baker said.

Open throw is available Friday through Sunday. For league play, they offer four eight-week leagues, one for each season. The winter league is ongoing. Points are tracked individually.

WATL runs in 16 countries as a worldwide competition. In order to compete internationally, you have to place in the top 12 globally in each season of the league, and you have to win regionals.

Baker competed at the worldwide competition last year in Chicago. He won his first match but lost his second two.

"We met people from Germany and Ireland. It was televised on ESPN," he said.

When asked if axe throwing is difficult,



Axe throwing is a growing sport in the U.S. Those interested can try open throwing or join a league. Photo: tripadvisor.com

Baker said no. Their youngest thrower is 8 and their oldest is 80.

"It doesn't take a lot of power. It's all about technique, staying relaxed and having a good time," he said.

They don't allow alcohol at their facility, but people are welcome to bring beverages and food. They're currently in talks to move to a bigger building and offer knife throwing.

Other axe throwing locations

Along with axe throwing in Lansing, those interested can try the Backyard Axe Throwing League in Novi. The Michigan Longbow Association has an axe throwing tournament at their spring competition, taking place at the Land O' Lakes Bowman in Fenton.

The HUB Stadium in Auburn Hills has five axe-throwing stalls, each suitable for up to 10 throwers.

Players must be 16 years old to play and minors must be accompanied by an adult. From Monday through Sunday, it's \$100 an hour. For walk-ins, the rate is \$25 per person per hour.

The HUB also offers bombowling, which is a mix of football and bowling.

Two platforms are placed about 50 feet apart with 10 bowling pins arranged in the normal triangle. The objective is so knock down the other team's pins before they knock down yours.

Other indoor winter activities

• **Visit a museum.** The Detroit Institute of Arts and the Flint Institute of Arts always are excellent options for families. The Flint Children Museum caters to children with hands-on experiences and birthday parties.

• **Go bowling.** Fenton Lanes offers

open bowling every day except Monday and Wednesday. Holly Lanes asks that people call before coming into open bowl due to the increased amount of business during the winter months.

• **Go to an indoor water park/pool.** The Hartland Caroselli Aquatic Center, about 20 minutes south of Fenton, offers adult open swim, splash and play, lap swim, a play area, and more. Fenton High School also offers open swim times. Check out slpr.net for times.

MICHIGAN VOTES

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

— Compiled by Sharon Stone —

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, Feb. 1.

The new legislature has not voted on any bills yet, although committees are meeting and deliberating on bills. Rather than votes, this report contains some interesting or noteworthy new bill introductions.

House Bill 4087: Let schools start before Labor Day, but no August Mondays or Fridays

Introduced by Rep. Pamela Hornberger (R), to eliminate a ban on public schools beginning their school year before Labor Day, and instead prohibit school districts from holding class on a Monday or Friday in August. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 4089: Repeal local government power to impose income tax on non-residents

Introduced by Rep. Pamela Hornberger (R), to repeal a provision of the state law that gives cities the power to impose an income tax on the earnings of a nonresident who works for an employer in a city, which are levied at half the rate as the same tax imposed on residents. There are 23 Michigan cities that do this. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.



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TALL GIRL

Continued from Front Page

California, as she pursues her acting, dancing, vocalist and modeling career.

Ava does quite a bit of dancing and modeling in Los Angeles and New York, Cota said. "Sometimes her height has been an issue, now it's what allowed her to audition for the role," she said.

Ava was one of thousands who auditioned for the part last November after the Netflix Casting Company put out a worldwide casting call.

"She had six call backs and 'chemistry reads,' then they let her know she got the part," Cota said. "Ava's really excited for everyone to see the movie, which will be released later this year."

"Tall Girl" is the first film in Netflix's Kids & Family division. The film is directed by Nzingha Stewart, also known for the TV series "Grey's Anatomy" and "A Million Little Things." It was written by Sam Wolfson, who wrote "Andi Mack" and "Finding Carter." The film's casting director is Barbara McCarthy, who also cast Netflix's popular holiday film, "Christmas Chronicles."

"It's very much a woman power film, with a female producer and director," Cota said. "It's a very fun thing to be a part of."

Ava Michelle and Jeanette are now on-site in New Orleans, Louisiana, where filming began Jan. 14 and will wrap-up in mid-March.



Ava Michelle Cota (second from right) was cast in the lead role of Jodi in "Tall Girl," a Netflix movie to be released later this year. Her co-stars are Griffin Gluck, Luke Eisner, Sabrina Carpenter, Paris Berelc, Steve Zahn and Angela Kinsey.
 Submitted photo

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House Bill 4088: Elect ISD board in popular election

Introduced by Rep. Pamela Hornberger (R), to elect intermediate school district boards in popular

votes of the people. Currently only four of 56 Michigan ISDs have boards that are elected by the people, with the rest picked by regular school districts within the ISD. The bill would prohibit ISDs from imposing property taxes unless their governing boards are popularly elected. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

House Bill 4093: Transfer state corporate subsidy money to road repairs

Introduced by Rep. Jeff Yaroach (R), to no longer give \$60 million in annual state revenue from state Indian casino compacts to the state department in charge of corporate subsidy programs (the Michigan Strategic Fund), and instead use this money for road repairs. Under current law, the money from these casino compacts goes directly to the corporate subsidy agency each year without a vote of the legislature. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

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Teacher-to-student ratio important at our local schools

■ Smaller class sizes ideal for younger elementary students

By Tim Jagielo

“Class size is important for the students and the teachers,” said Linden Community Schools Superintendent Russ Ciesielski. “We feel that the teacher-student ratio is an important factor in the educational success of our students.”

Class size can affect both the student and teacher experience; however, there is no state mandate for class sizes.

According to the Michigan Department of Education, the average ratio of students to teachers is 23 to 1. There are currently 1.5 million students enrolled in Michigan schools from pre-kindergarten to grade 12.

The Times is taking a quick look at how local districts compare to this statewide average.

Districts tend to follow their own ideal class-size targets as part of their teacher contracts. Overall, the younger the student of that grade, the smaller the class.

Fenton Area Public Schools

Fenton Superintendent Adam Hartley said standard class sizes are as follows — kindergarten, 24, lower elementary 27 and upper elementary 29. AGS Middle School and Fenton High School don't have a class size cap.

“While class size is important, having quality teachers building relationships with kids has proven to be one of the top factors in learning,” he said.

Hartley said there are interventions in place when a class size grows beyond the contractual amount, such as extra pay for teachers or aides and extra subjects and sections in some grade levels.

Fenton schools has 3,428 students enrolled as of the last count.

Holly Area Schools

“We ideally would like to see an average class size of 25 students,” said Holly Superintendent Scott Roper. “Currently, we are below this average in our four elementary buildings.”

He said class size is one piece of the puzzle in providing students with innovative, diverse learning opportunities.

Holly schools has an average of 25.9 students per class at the middle school



It is recommended that classes have approximately 25 students to one teacher in Michigan. Local districts adopt different numbers which can fluctuate depending on grade level. Times file photo

and high school.

Roper said the School Finance Research Collaborative recommends 25 students as an ideal class size. Grade level, classroom content and course structure may call for smaller or larger groups.

Sometimes, class sizes go beyond the recommended size. “We continually adjust staffing to keep classroom sizes at optimal levels,” he said. They use para-staff members as needed to assist teachers and students.

Officially, 3,285 students attend Holly schools as of the latest count.

“... teachers need to be able to provide feedback to all students and the larger the classes the more difficult this can become.”

Julie Williams
Lake Fenton Community Schools
superintendent

Linden Community Schools

“Average class sizes’ can be misleading,” Ciesielski said. “While we do have consistent class sizes in the elementary grades, your secondary numbers will fluctuate based on student need and availability.”

Based on grade level, Linden schools shoot for the following class sizes — young-5s to first grade, 20 to 23 students, second to third grade, 23 to 28, fourth and fifth grades, 28 to 33 and grades six to 12, 25 to 31 students. He said they attempt to lower class sizes whenever possible.

Their official count from the fall of 2018 was 2,715 students.

Lake Fenton Community Schools

Based on teacher contracts, Lake Fenton classrooms are filled to follow these guidelines. Superintendent Julie Williams said guidelines call for Young-5s, 22 to 23 students, kindergarten through fifth grade, 27 or fewer and grades six to 12, 32 or fewer students.

Williams said it's difficult to offer an average class size, considering that the numbers can fluctuate. For example, gym classes can have a much larger number of students than other classes.

Lake Fenton offers teachers a per-pupil stipend over their contractual amount. “Research shows that smaller class sizes, especially in the elementary, is better for kids,” Williams said. “In addition, teachers need to be able to provide feedback to all students and the larger the classes the more difficult this can become.”

Lake Fenton has 2,069 students currently enrolled.

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Students play in the Ellen Street Campus (World of Wonder) gymnasium Wednesday, Feb. 13. There were two play sessions, which ended with students putting play items back where they found them. Photo: Tim Jagielo

Play goes 'Global' at Fenton school

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — While the snow blustered outside, World of Wonder students built structures of foam, climbed, ran and cheered to their hearts' content, and they weren't doing it alone — this activity was part of the Global School Play Day (GSPD).

The activity took place in two 90-minute shifts throughout the day, spread across three areas. It was held Wednesday, Feb. 13, after the first scheduled activity was cancelled due to snow days.

The Ellen Street Campus, World of Wonder (WOW), specializes in early childhood development. All 250 students took part.

"We believe children learn best through play as they develop concepts and their schema for how the world works as they

explore through play," said Director Linda Mora.

They explored using dozens of activities, while parents and staff helped guide them along where needed, with upbeat music playing in the background.

"We believe children learn best through play as they develop concepts and their schema for how the world works as they explore through play."

Linda Mora
World of Wonder director

There was a climbing wall, several ways to cooperatively build structures, knee skates, tunnels and obstacles, musical instruments, hula-hoops, play parachutes and several other activities.

Once the session was over, children were encouraged to return items to where

they found them, to tidy up.

The GSPD was created by educators to encourage unstructured playtime. In 2019, the organization reported that 535,690 children participated in public, private, and home school locations.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■
CHUTZPAH, THY NAME is MSM. A man is arrested for attacking a newscaster at a Trump rally. The MSM statement: 'It is clearly unacceptable for any of our staff to be attacked for doing their job.' Have you ever heard the MSM condemn anyone who attacks police officers doing their job?

■■■
'LIFE, LIBERTY, AND the pursuit of happiness' is in the Declaration of Independence, not the Constitution. Life, liberty and pursuit of property are in Article 5 of the Constitution, as well as Amendment 14 of the Bill of Rights.

■■■
MR. TRUMP PROMISED the Mexicans would pay for the wall. Please, stick to the promise so my friend doesn't have to worry about working next week. I believe most people agreed with the wall if the Mexicans pay for it.

JUST BECAUSE ABORTION is legal, doesn't mean it's always being done in a safe and clean environment. You are naïve if you think Planned Parenthood has a woman's welfare at stake. It's about the money. Killing an unborn child will always make me emotional. Guilty as charged for having a heart.

■■■
A DEPLOYMENT IN the military usually involved many inoculations to protect from strange diseases. Why do we allow caravans of people into the United States without inoculation to the point where Los Angeles now has a typhus epidemic? That disease was eradicated in the U.S.

■■■
YOU WON'T PRINT this because it's too radical. Look at who said 'Trump is a disaster,' — President and Reverend Jimmy Carter. 'We don't need a president who divides us,' — President Barack Obama.

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CORNERSTONE

Continued from Front Page

construction company that built it," said Ghassan Saab, "But that is incorrect.

"I am a project manager for Corlin Builders, a property management and development company," he said. "Corlin used to build houses in its early years but hasn't actually been in the building business for decades. Corlin Builders was the developer for the Cornerstone building.

"There is another Ghassan Saab who co-owns Sorensen Gross Construction Company, that is my uncle," Saab said. "Sorensen Gross was the general contractor we hired to manage the construction of the Cornerstone building."

Saab said he is not involved with the building anymore.

"The entire building was condominiumized, and each retail and residential unit was sold," he said. "It is now owned and maintained by the home owner association."

Today, the Cornerstone building is managed by Piper Management Company, which takes its direction from the Fenton Cornerstone Condominium Association Board of Directors, according to Bob Perkins of Piper Management Group.

"Piper Management is employed by the Fenton Cornerstone Condominium Association Board to handle the business operations for the association," Perkins said last week. "Piper is not authorized to make decisions for the association, we simply provide them with our financial services, access to contractors and assist with communication to co-owners when needed."

Saab said, I can't speak to the specifics of the building's design, plumbing, or insulation. What I know is that the building was drawn and engineered by a well-reputed

firm, which was chosen by the city of Fenton. The drawings and engineering plans created by that firm were approved by the Building Department, and the construction company built the building per those designs. All inspections were passed and we received a certificate of occupancy."

WHAT HAPPENED, WHAT'S NEXT

The multi-million dollar Cornerstone building was completed in November 2015. Since then, there have been issues with pipes breaking, leading some to question the inspection process.

Former Building and Zoning Administrator Brad Hissong said last week that he issued the certificate of occupancy (CFO) for Sawyer Jewelers and Sagano Japanese Bistro & Steakhouse before retiring from Fenton.

"I did not do the CFOs for any of the condos," Hissong said.

Until November of last year, the state of Michigan performed all of the electrical, plumbing and mechanical inspections. These approved inspections are necessary before a CFO can be issued.

"The state inspectors are very thorough and were pretty rough," Hissong said of past projects, including Cornerstone. "They made us fix a lot of stuff before they would give approval."

Hissong said the companies that worked on that building are good, reputable companies. There should be warranties on

everything, he said.

Going forward, the state of Michigan will no longer be doing inspections, including those at 111 Leroy Place, a Cornerstone-like building, which is expected to break ground this spring.

According to Fenton City Manager Lynn Markland, the city of Fenton has eliminated the state inspection process via a new ordinance. He said it took months to achieve because of all the back and forth paperwork with the state, but effective November 2018, the city of Fenton is now doing all its own electrical, mechanical and plumbing inspections.

"We have contracted with special contractors to perform those inspections," Markland said.

Regarding the upcoming 111 Leroy Place construction, Markland said, "We have been working with (contractors) for quite a while. A lot of agreements have been reached." He said the city will pay particular attention to making sure everything is done and inspected properly.

Rumors that Corlin Builders received \$800,000 from the city, and then another \$400,000 are incorrect, Markland said. In 2013, Corlin Builders was awarded an \$880,000 incentive grant from Michigan Community Revitalization Program. A request to get \$400,000 from the city was rejected. A \$200,000 loan from the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in 2013 has long since been paid back, Markland said.

“The entire building was condominiumized, and each retail and residential unit was sold. It is now owned and maintained by the home owner association.”

Ghassan Saab
Corlin Builders
project manager

CATCH OF THE WEEK



Liam Murray, a senior at Linden High School, and goalie for the Fenton Linden hockey team, caught this 2-pound, 18-inch smallmouth bass on Silver Lake Thursday, Jan. 31.

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MICHIGAN VOTES

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

— Compiled by Sharon Stone —

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This report was released Friday, Feb. 1.

The new legislature has not voted on any bills yet, although committees are meeting and deliberating on bills. Rather than votes, this report contains some interesting or noteworthy new bill introductions.

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Senate Bill 61 and House Bill 4118: Authorize unposted 25 mph limit on non-subdivision local streets

Introduced by Sen. Roger Victory (R) and Rep. Bradley Slagh (R), to allow local governments to enforce an unposted speed limit of 25 mph on streets designated as "local," if the local jurisdiction has designated the road to be part of its street system, and if it is within land zoned for residential use. Under current law, subdivision streets (which have limited entry points) are automatically considered to have a 25 mph speed limit and no speed limit signs need be posted; the bill would extend this posting exception to other streets that are not in subdivisions. The bill would not require local governments to go through the usual process for setting speed limits, which generally requires agreement from the Michigan Department of Transportation and State Police. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 63: Authorize service animal income tax deduction

Introduced by Sen. Betty Jean Alexander (D), to authorize a state income tax deduction for the cost, care and maintenance of a service animal used by a disabled person. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Senate Bill 70: Create crime victim confidential address program

Introduced by Sen. Ruth Johnson (R), to establish an address confidentiality program for crime victims, with the state Attorney General giving a victim a "designated address" to which mail could be sent and then forwarded to the individual's current location. This location would not be subject to disclosure under open records and other laws, and the person could also vote in elections using the designated address. Referred to committee, no further action at this time.

Do teachers need to learn 'mental first aid'?

By Tim Jagielo

The state Senate has introduced a bill that would lead to teachers getting special mental health training, according to Michigan Radio.

Sen. Sylvia Santana's (D-Wayne County) bill would direct the Department of Education & Health and Human Services to develop a course for teachers on mental first aid. It's currently been referred to the Committee on Education and Career Readiness.

Local school districts say they already have plans in place to help students.

"At any given time, our students may be dealing with a variety of mental health issues that impact their concentration and learning," said Holly Area Schools Superintendent Scott Roper. "While teachers are not mental health professionals, they help us flag potential concerns and alert staff who can best serve our students."

Roper said the district participates in Youth Mental Health First Aid, a program that helps teachers understand potential student stressors and mental health issues. Their safeTALK representative trains teachers on suicide awareness and prevention.

Roper said when necessary, Holly schools will refer students and families to mental health resources. He said recognition of the need for more student support services was included in the adequacy study by the School Finance Research Collaborative.

Holly schools uses the R.U.L.E.R. system, an evidence-based approach that's an acronym for recognize, understand, label, express and regulate emotions. It's to help students learn skills to manage emotions every day.

Roper said the district shares an office with Easterseals Michigan, which provides a multitude of services to children.

According to its website, these Children's Services include autism services, family behavioral health services and development therapy and services.

Linden Community Schools Superintendent Russ Ciesielski welcomes

any additional mental health training for staff. "The more educated we are about the symptoms, triggers, conditions, etc., the better prepared we are to help our students," he said.

He said staff members have taken advantage of outside educational development opportunities related to mental health.

Lake Fenton Community Schools Superintendent Julie Williams thinks it's important for teachers to have an awareness of some of the mental health issues their students are facing, but she's not sure training them in that area is the answer.

"Professionals who work in the mental health field have had years of training to be able to provide counseling and assistance to those with mental health issues," Williams said. "Providing training to teachers is not the answer. Teachers already have an enormous job of educating students which includes so much more than just teaching content."

She said they have four counselors and a social worker, spread across the district. "These are the individuals that have had specific training to assist students with a variety of issues," she said.

She says there is a need, but most

districts aren't equipped with the personnel at this time.

Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) Superintendent Adam Hartley said, "We believe in educating the whole child here at FAPS." He said his staff began the year with training on social emotional learning that included a panel of mental health experts.

FAPS has staff that provides training to other staff or they may use an outside person from the medical field.

Hartley believes his staff should be trained in academic and mental health. He said that some staff members receive additional training in this area based on their day-to-day responsibilities.

"Depression, anxiety and other barriers of learning must be taken seriously and training our staff helps us be supportive and problem solvers," Hartley said.

**“At any given time,
our students may be
dealing with a variety
of mental health
issues that impact
their concentration
and learning.”**

Scott Roper

Holly Area Schools superintendent

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Compromise saves Holly car show

■Business owners' complaints were stacked against popular 22-week event

By Tim Jagielo

Holly — Concessions are better than a beloved event coming to an end. This was the decision at the Holly Village Council meeting held Tuesday night, Feb. 12.

"I almost resigned from it after 20 years. I almost didn't do it," said organizer and council member Bob Allsop.

While loved by thousands of visitors annually, the Cruise to Battle Alley is not loved by all the business owners downtown. Their concerns include limited parking and disruption to their businesses leading to losses in revenue.

Historically, the show started at 5 p.m., with the road closing at 4 p.m. Cruisers would claim their spot on Saginaw Street a couple hours before, potentially blocking a spot for a customer. Saginaw Street south of Maple Street is closed before peak travel and shopping times. Allsop admits there can be a battle each year with his permit application.

On Tuesday, most of the public comments were in favor of the car show, but Cindy Hering of Raggs Boutique said she might as well close down at 2 p.m. on car cruise days because no one comes in.

Jeremy Domanik of Vintage Industrial Uniques said it negatively impacts businesses. He owns classic cars himself, but pleaded that the council not allow downtown to be closed any more for the car show.

Inversely, Toni Barnett, owner of Cupcakes & Kisses, said she makes about \$20,000 per year from the car show visitors.

At the meeting, council members applauded Allsop's efforts, and made clear their appreciation for the car show. However, they asked if it might be moved to Bridge Street instead, where Allsop held the car show once 15 years ago. "It was an absolute nightmare," he said. "Broad Street is a death trap for a car show."

Instead of moving it, Allsop offered to start at 5:30 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. Saginaw Street will be shut down at 5 p.m., instead of 4, after most businesses are closed, and he'll encourage cruisers

to stick to the later start time for parking.

He'll ask that vehicles arriving early not back into spots.

Allsop will also move the DJ booth to the former township office building.

After some council discussion, the application was approved unanimously, due to Allsop's concessions.

As noted by council member Rick Powers, these changes are significant for Allsop and his group of volunteers. He said it takes more than two hours to set up the show.

After the meeting, Allsop was energized, discussing it with car show supporters. "We'll just work together," he said, referring to the changes he offered to make to save the show. He said he

felt relieved the application was in. Now the organizational work begins.

The first Cruise to Battle Alley should be held Wednesday, May 8, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., on Saginaw Street, downtown Holly.

"I almost resigned from it after 20 years. I almost didn't do it."

Bob Allsop
Cruise to Battle Alley organizer

The Law offices of Casey D. Conklin and Peace Services P.C. hosts ribbon cutting



Ashley J. Prew (center left) and Kelsy Hoerauf (center right) celebrated their ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday, Feb. 12 at their new Fenton location, 1542 N. Leroy St., Suite 2A. Prew is an Of-Counsel Attorney with the Law Offices of Casey D. Conklin and Hoerauf is a Psychotherapist with Peace Services P.C. Both the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce and Howell Area Chamber of Commerce were on hand, along with many clients, community members and well-wishers for the celebration.

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Council member and car show organizer Bob Allsop (right) argues for keeping the car show in downtown Holly at the Tuesday, Feb. 12 Village Council meeting. Photo: Tim Jagielo

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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

FEB. 17
1993: Approximately 900 people drown when a passenger ferry, the Neptune, overturns near Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The ferry was dangerously overloaded, and carried no lifeboats or emergency gear. The Neptune was a 150-foot boat, with three decks, that made regular trips transporting people, farm animals and some cargo from Jeremie to Port-au-Prince. The 150-mile voyage usually took about 12 hours. The Neptune should have carried a maximum of 650 people, but it regularly took on larger numbers of passengers. In addition, the boat was notorious for its lack of safety equipment.

FEB. 18
1885: Mark Twain publishes his famous—and famously controversial—novel The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Twain (the pen name of Samuel Clemens) first introduced Huck Finn as the best friend of Tom Sawyer, hero of his tremendously successful novel The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (1876). Though Twain saw Huck’s story as a kind of sequel to his earlier book, the new novel was far more serious, focusing on the institution of slavery and other aspects of life in the antebellum South.

FEB. 19
1942: Ten weeks after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs Executive Order 9066, authorizing the removal of any or all people from military areas “as deemed necessary or desirable.” The military in turn defined the entire West Coast, home to the majority of Americans of Japanese ancestry or citizenship, as a military area. By June, more than 110,000 Japanese Americans were

relocated to remote internment camps built by the U.S. military in scattered locations around the country.

FEB. 20
1725: In the American colonies, a posse of New Hampshire volunteers comes across a band of encamped Native Americans and takes 10 “scalps” in the first significant appropriation of this Native American practice by European colonists. The posse received a bounty of 100 pounds per scalp from the colonial authorities in Boston.

FEB. 21
1981: In 1980, Dolly Parton brought the full range of her talents to bear on a project that would cement her cross-over from country music to mainstream superstardom. That project was the movie 9 to 5, for which Dolly wrote and performed the song that earned her both Oscar and Grammy nominations as well as semi-official status as a true pop icon. The biggest hit of Dolly Parton’s career, the song “9 to 5” reached No. 1 on the pop charts Feb. 21, 1981.

FEB. 22
1980: In one of the most dramatic upsets in Olympic history, the underdog U.S. hockey team, made up of college players, defeats the four-time defending gold-medal winning Soviet team at the XIII Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York. The Soviet squad, previously regarded as the finest in the world, fell to the youthful American team 4-3 before a frenzied crowd of 10,000 spectators. Two days later, the Americans defeated Finland 4-2 to clinch the hockey gold.

FEB. 23
1997: An estimated 65 million people tune in to watch all or part of Steven Spielberg’s Oscar-winning Holocaust drama Schindler’s List on the NBC television network. Starring Liam Neeson, Ralph Fiennes and Ben Kingsley, Schindler’s List (1993) told the true story of a wealthy German industrialist who helped a group of Polish Jews escape the Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

Source: history.com

HOT LINE CONTINUED

EVERYBODY, CHECK YOUR receipts with a fine-tooth comb before exiting the big box store. A cashier rang up my most expensive item twice. I found out the hard way that you won’t get your money back if you don’t notice the error until you get home.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CITY Manager Lynn Markland on being appointed the new president of the statewide association of Michigan’s municipal managers. Keep up the good work, Lynn.

IT’S OBVIOUS THAT the huge price increase of road salt has caused Fenton and others to use it very sparingly, but I’m wondering why there isn’t much snow plowing going on. This is pretty bad.

YOUR CHILDREN ARE germ factories. Vaccinate or leave them home!

IT IS PRETTY funny how baby boomers love whining about ‘participation trophies.’ They invented them to make themselves feel like good parents and we threw them out nearly immediately after they gave them to us.

FOR ‘PLENT’O LEFT Outrage.’ Name one Democrat representative calling for the removal of Virginia Lt. Governor with the same rabid outrage they directed at Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

GRETCHEN WHITMER IS an anagram for Jennifer Granholm. Michigan is doomed.

MORE MONEY, BETTER health and cleaner air? Yes to all. My retirement is great and kid’s college is sufficiently funded. Thanks for asking. Promises kept. If you are failing at all these metrics, be mad at the reflection in your mirror, not Trump.

GOVERNOR WHITMER’S GREAT plan to fix Michigan’s roads is for you to ‘take a picture of your damaged car or repair bill and post it with the hash tag #FTDR.’ Brilliant. Roads should be good any day now.

IT’S SOMEWHAT AMUSING to see some early tax filers complaining about insignificant tax returns compared to last year. They seem to have forgotten that their withholding decreased and they got more pay and less withholding leading to smaller refunds. The bad thing is that these people are voting.

I DIDN’T VOTE for Gretchen Whitmer, but we should at least give her a chance. Michigan has some problems that affect all of us, not just those wearing red or blue.

HEY BIOLOGY PROFESSOR, I agree with you. ‘We shouldn’t have to live with someone else’s decision.’ So please stop taxing me to pay for your abortions because of your decision to get pregnant.

TO THE HOT-LINER asking, ‘What and who is he for? What’s the purpose of criticizing past presidents?’ Let me remind you, Obama blamed everything for eight years on Bush. And by the way, our President is for all American patriots and citizens, U.S. citizens.

MARIJUANA
Continued from Front Page
Rankin had made a motion to accelerate a development plan to allow businesses, set in a six-month timeline, instead of prohibiting businesses. It failed with no support.
The vote came Tuesday, Feb. 12, at the regular Holly Village Council meeting held at the Karl Richter Community Center auditorium.

In November, Michigan voters passed Proposal 1, the Marijuana Legalization Initiative, which allowed for recreational use and production of marijuana. It also allowed local municipalities to ban or restrict businesses within their borders.

Village Attorney Mike Gildner offered this ordinance to the council as a way to “wait and see” how the business of marijuana develops and how municipalities handle them.

“You can’t just do nothing,” Gildner said. He said that contrary to the Medical Marihuana Act of 2008, governments have to directly prohibit these businesses with ordinances.

He believes the state of Michigan is 14 months away from having rules set for handling recreational marijuana.

Village Manager Jerry Walker said, “We’re not ready at this time. Even if

we were ready, the state’s not ready.” Several local municipalities including Fenton City, Linden City and Argentine Township have prohibited marijuana businesses as well.
Expecting a larger audience, the meeting was held in the auditorium of the Karl Richter Community Center. Approximately 40 residents were in attendance and several made public comments before the vote.

Comments were split — some were in favor of the prohibition. “I don’t want to see Holly change any way for the negative,” said resident and business owner Lisa Clark.

Others would rather see the village handle these on a case-by-case basis. Resident Sherlynn Everly pointed out that village residents voted in higher numbers for the act than voted for anyone on village council. She mentioned the capital required to even apply for a permit to grow in Michigan. In the end, a business owner will have spent tens of thousands of dollars before opening their doors. “I would welcome them in my community,” she said.

While the village voted to prohibit marijuana businesses, it is still legal to own and use marijuana products. The prohibition can be revisited at a later time if the council chooses.

“We’re not ready at this time. Even if we were ready, the state’s not ready.”

Jerry Walker
Holly Village manager

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Box Office Locations

The UPS Store 17195 Silver Parkway

Fenton's Open Book 105 Shiawassee Ave

February 21, 22, 23, 24
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March 1, 2, 3
Friday-Saturday: 7pm
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Silver Spray Sports owner Patti Smith stands beside a Super Air Nautique wake board/wake surf boat Thursday, Feb. 14. Her business will have 10 boats at the Detroit Boat Show. Photo: Tim Jagielo

BOAT SHOW

Continued from Page 3A

"It's the biggest boat show since 2008."

The Detroit Boat Show is also the largest of the three boat shows produced by the MBIA, including the Novi Boat Show March 14-17 at Suburban Collection Showcase and the Metro Boat Show Sept. 13-16 at Lake St. Clair Metropark.

Boat lovers should take note that next year's 2020 Detroit Boat Show will be moving to January, filling the vacancy left when the North American International Auto Show in Detroit moves from January to June in 2020.

"This will give customers an opportunity to get the best deals and will encourage them to get custom orders in early, by January," Smith said.

As a local boat dealer, Smith said Silver Spray Sports will have all the new Nautiques on display, plus docks and hoists, pro shop items and a large selection of standup paddleboards.

Mary Rising of Action Water Sports in Tyrone Township is excited about this time of year, "Because people start thinking about boats," she said.

Action Water Sports will bring 10 MasterCraft and eight Cobalt models to the show, featuring the MasterCraft X22 and X24. "These wakesurfing and wakeboarding boats are driving the whole industry," Rising said. "MasterCraft has been the leader."

Rising is also excited about the new

Boat lovers should take note that next year's 2020 Detroit Boat Show will be moving to January, filling the vacancy left when the North American International Auto Show in Detroit moves from January to June 2020.

"Cool Feel" vinyl, a MasterCraft exclusive product. "It allows boaters to use darker interiors, but the built-in technology doesn't get hot, so it's comfortable," Rising said.

Freeway Sports Center in Fenton Township offers Detroit Boat Show pricing at their showroom. "All the prices are the same here as they are at the boat show, through the month of February," said owner Jim Adams. He is expecting a really strong boating year. "We've been really busy all winter."

Angler Quest Fishing Pontoons, made in St. Louis, Michigan, are really popular, Adams said. "They offer a better ride in rough waters, more stability and more room for fishing at the back-end and leisure boating at the front-end.

We can set them up as a tri-toon, giving them better performance with more horsepower for skiing, tubing, etc."

White's Landing in Fenton will be taking five boats to the show, all from its line of Sea Pro center consoles. "They've become really popular because of their simplicity and performance,"

said Kevin Watkins of White's Landing. "We can also sell our Bennington pontoons at the show, but they won't be on display. We'll probably sell more boats after the show, but it's good advertising for us."

SUMMARY

The Detroit Boat Show, now going on Feb. 16-24 at Cobo Center in Detroit, is the official beginning of boat show season in Michigan.

C&C Sports in Brighton has exhibited its Sea-Doo line at the Detroit Boat Show for more than 20 years. This year, General Manager Chuck Heil is showing 12 boats, including personal watercraft and the popular Sea-Doo Fish Pro line of boats with an extended

platform for fishing.

All this boating excitement from local dealers reflects the growth the boating industry is experiencing in Michigan.

More than 60,000 people are expected to browse and buy boats and related products during the nine-day show, said Show Manager Nicki Polan.

Admission is \$13 for adults; children 12 and under are free with an adult and seniors 65-plus receive free admission on Feb. 18.

"All the prices are the same here as they are at the boat show, through the month of February."

Jim Adams

Freeway Sports Center owner

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online at

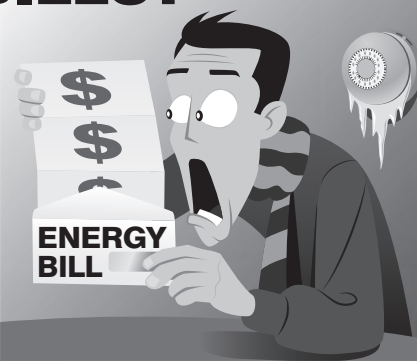
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Siebert, Furey lead Blue Devils by Beecher, 69-43

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton's varsity girls basketball team used the three-pointer and the charity stripe to defeat Beecher.

The Blue Devils made seven three-pointers and made twice as many free throws (12-6) to earn a 69-43 victory against Beecher.

Lake Fenton (4-4 in league play and 10-4 overall) made seven treys com-

pared to Beecher's three. Katelyn Siebert made three from behind the arc while Morgan Furey made two.

"We talked about that being a weapon for us and it played out that way," Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. "Twenty-one to nine is a scoring

edge and we will take that for sure.

"Morgan is a 'marks-lady' for us. We've been talking about her getting in a rhythm and just simply taking her shot and she did that tonight. Kate did a nice job of just taking what the defense gave her."

CONTINUED AT
MYFENTON.COM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019 | PAGE 21A | WWW.MYFENTON.COM SPORTS

Sports Times

Lake Fenton's
Morgan Furey



Lake Fenton's Ben Muenzer (left) tries to get to the hoop against Holly's defense in the Blue Devils' 45-40 victory against the Bronchos, Wednesday. Photo: Mark Bolen

Tigers earn a share of Metro crown

■Idoni scores 29 in Fenton's 55-30 victory against Flushing

By Dale M. Smith

Fenton — The Fenton girls varsity basketball team had to wait a couple of nights due to the tough Michigan winter to have a chance to compete against the Flushing Raiders and earn at least a share of the Flint Metro League title with a win.

The wait was easily worth it as the Tigers handled the defending Metro League champions at the Jungle, earning at least a share of the Metro crown Thursday night with a convincing 55-30 victory.

The Tigers (14-1 in the Metro) eliminated the Flushing Raiders from the Metro race, while Kearsley (11-2) still holds faint hopes for a co-title. However, if the Tigers take care of business against the Linden Eagles at home on Feb. 22 and earn a victory, the Tigers will own the league championship outright. The Eagles, who are winless in the Metro League, will be tremendous underdogs in that contest.

The Tigers led 10-3 at the 5:30 mark of the first quarter. A Lauren Murphy steal and a bucket made it 14-6 and the Tigers closed out the first eight minutes

up 18-8.

Two free throws from senior Chloe Idoni made it 22-11 a little more than three minutes into the second quarter. The Tigers' Korryn Smith neatly dropped in a three from the left corner making it 25-12. An Erin Carter 3-pointer upped it to 32-13 before a couple of late Flushing field goals cut the margin at the half to 32-17.

An early three from the Raiders' Thailiya Christensen made it 34-20 and gave Flushing some hope early in the second half. The Tigers came out a little cold on the offensive end before a rebound and put back from Idoni made it 36-



Fenton's Chloe Idoni (right) scored 29 points in the Tigers' 55-30 victory against Flushing Thursday night. The win means the Tigers earned at least a share of the Metro League title, and will have a chance to win the outright championship when Fenton faces Linden on February 24. Photo: Mark Bolen

22 after the visitors had cut the Fenton lead to only 12. Idoni slammed the door though when she followed with

See METRO on 23A

Blue Devils earn balanced victory vs. Holly

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — It had been a long time since the Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team's last victory prior to Wednesday's home contest against the Holly Bronchos.

In fact, it had been almost a month since the Blue Devils defeated Madison Academy 56-48 on Jan. 15, earning Lake Fenton its third victory (one was a forfeit) of the season at the time.

Since then, there have been some close road games against Goodrich and Hamady. And then, there was a two-point loss at Bendle. Certainly all of them could be looked upon as "moral" victories, but the Blue Devils were tired of "moral" victories. They wanted an actual win.

Lake Fenton got it against the Holly Bronchos, leading most of the way in a 45-40 non-league win.

"It meant everything to us because the season hasn't gone as planned, but we are starting to get toward March and get toward districts, so getting this win under our belt is a momentum builder for us," Lake Fenton senior Ethan Dunckel said. "We've been fighting with chances to win, so to finally dig one out, bring it home and win the game feels nice."

It was a close game throughout, but the Blue Devils (4-11) usually led. Holly's last lead came with 5:31 left in the opening quarter when Ben Gramer dished a pass to Gavin Ambrose for a layin. Ambrose was fouled as well and made the free throw. Holly led 6-5.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

FLLF co-op girls ski team headed to state meet

By David Troppens

The Fenton/Linden/Lake Fenton (FLLF) girls varsity ski team can add another tournament to its prep schedule this season.

The co-op squad is headed to the Division 1 state meet at Schuss Mountain on

Feb. 25.

The girls earned the trip by taking second overall at the regional held at Pine Knob on Wednesday.

The squad earned its spot primarily on its strong performance in the giant slalom (GS). FLLF took second in the GS with

48 points, beating Bloomfield Hills, who was third in GS, by 20 points. The squad also beat their biggest competition for second place and the state trip, Birmingham Unified, by 37 points in GS action. That big edge in GS was needed considering

See GIRLS SKI on 22A

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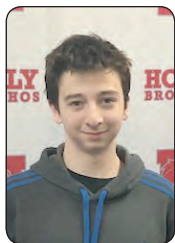
February 17, 2019

Athlete

Of The Week



DYLAN HIGNITE
Boys Basketball

HOLLY

EMILIO PEREZ
Boys Swim/Dive

HOLLY

ELIZABETH PETHICK
Competitive Cheer

LAKE FENTON

GRACEY METZ
Girls Basketball

HARTLAND

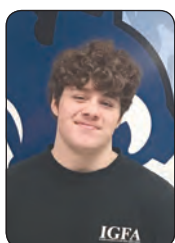
NATALIE FISHER
Girls Bowling

HARTLAND

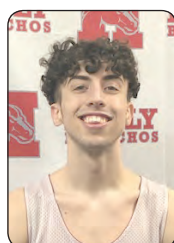
ALLISON SCHRAM
Gymnastics

HARTLAND

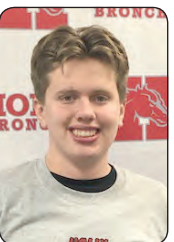
LOREN JONES
Hockey

FENTON

ZOLEN MARRON
Wrestling

LAKE FENTON

HUNTER JACKSON
Boys Basketball

HOLLY

ANDREW SORTER
Boys Bowling

HOLLY

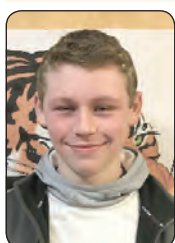
WHITNEY SOLLOW
Girls Basketball

HARTLAND

LAKEN POINTER
Girls Bowling

HOLLY

SABRA ROBINSON
Gymnastics

LINDEN

NICK TEMPLE
Hockey

FENTON

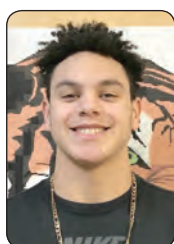
MORGAN COOPER
Competitive Cheer

HARTLAND

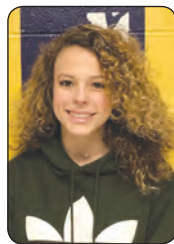
TATE TEMROWSKI
Boys Bowling

FENTON

COREY CAVANAUGH
Wrestling

HARTLAND

PARKER BRADY
Boys Basketball

FENTON

ARIANA ADAMS
Gymnastics

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The Fenton Tigers discuss strategy during a recent game. The Tigers lost a 41-35 contest against the Flushing Raiders. Photo: Mark Bolen

Tigers stay close with Flushing Raiders, but lose 41-35 verdict

By David Troppens

In two games with the Flushing Raiders, the Fenton varsity boys basketball team has had two quality efforts.

But with each game, the same scenario kind of reared its evil head.

Earlier this season, the Tigers lost a tough but competitive 50-45 verdict against the Flushing Raiders. On Wednesday, the Raiders made sure it was a positive senior day on their home floor, beating the Tigers by a very similar and tight 41-35 margin.

"They do a really good job of limiting people offensively. They are doing a really good job with their match-up zone," Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan said. "We had the opportunity to make shots, but they gave us fits."

Flushing jumped to a 13-8 first-quarter lead and held on to the close edge the entire contest. Flushing's lead was 25-

19 at halftime, but was just 34-29 after three quarters. Fenton held Flushing to just seven fourth-quarter points, but the Tigers were only able to score six points in the final eight minutes themselves.

"We just couldn't get over the hump," Logan said. "We had two or three possessions if we could've made a shot, we would've taken the next step. We'd be down three, miss a shot or turn it over and then they'd make a shot. We'd either do something on our end or they'd do something on their end to kind of keep us in check."

Addison McIntosh was the only player on either team to really heat up offensively. The Fenton junior scored a game-high 17 points, nailing 15 of those points from behind the three-point arc. The only other player to score double-digits was teammate Parker Brady who had 10 points and nine rebounds.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Ford twins headed to state meet; Holly/Oxford boys take fourth at regionals

By David Troppens

The Ford brothers will be busy on Feb. 25.

They'll be at Schuss Mountain competing in the Division 1 state ski meet.

The twins dominated the giant slalom (GS) portion of the Division 1 regional held at Pine Knob, Wednesday, finishing 1-2 in the event. The duo helped the Holly/Oxford team finish fourth overall at the meet. Meanwhile, the Fenton/Linden/Lake Fenton (FLLF) co-op finished in sixth.

Connor Ford won the regional championship in the GS event, with a two-run combined time of 37.91 seconds. That was more than a half-second better than his twin brother Jack Ford who took second with a time of 38.58. Jack Ford will be competing

in the slalom event as well taking sixth in it with a combined time of 42.99.

Holly/Oxford was stronger in the GS event with Leyton Reister taking 22nd (41.64) and Connor Denman placing 28th (42.05). In the slalom, Reister followed Ford with a 26th place time of 48.16. He was followed by Jacob Denman in 28th (48.55) and Connor Denman in 35th (50.55).

The Fenton/Linden/Lake Fenton co-op was led by Parker Bundy. He placed 12th in GS (40.37) and 18th in the slalom (46.83). The GS was FLLF's better event. Braden Lapa was 14th (40.73) in it, followed by Devon Cherney in 18th (41.28) and Ethan Gibson in 26th (41.89).

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

GIRLS SKI

Continued from Page 21A

Birmingham Unified beat FLLF by 9.5 points during the slalom portion of the meet.

The Holly/Oxford girls also competed and placed ninth in the 11-team field.

Emma Hiscock led the FLLF team, earning the best position on the squad in both events. Hiscock placed sixth in the slalom with a combined two-run time of 50.65 seconds, and took eighth in the GS (43.31).

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Fenton girls bowling team ends league season with tough loss

By David Troppens

The most entertaining bowling match of the entire Metro League season may have come during the final week of the season for the Fenton varsity girls bowling team.

The Tigers were deadlocked in a 15-15 tie with the Owosso Trojans after the match was over. That meant the two teams would have a two-game baker

series to decide the winner of the match, and even in the baker event both teams won a game. However, Owosso won the total pinfall 278-276, earning the tight 16-14 victory.

It was a back-and-forth affair all match. At the start of it, Fenton won the first baker game, with a 136, but lost the second. However, the Tigers won the overall pinfall total 261-236.

Owosso took the lead during the first match play contests, but the Tigers won the second match 657-652, setting up the tie. Fenton lost the first tiebreaker baker game 156-127, but won the second 148-122. However, the total fall for Fenton was just two pins short, giving Owosso the win.

CONTINUED AT
MYFENTON.COM

METRO

Continued from Page 21A

an “and one” at the 1:53 mark. Her big play got Fenton going again offensively. The Tigers entered the final quarter up 43-25.

Chloe Idoni is a household name to anyone who has followed girls basketball during the last four years. On Thursday, she was outstanding.

She felt it might have been her best game in her four years as a Fenton Tiger. In fact, the Tigers’ energy level was extremely high the entire game.

“I totally agree,” Idoni said. “We were on fire the entire game. Some nights we start out a little slow. This game we took it quarter by quarter.”

Idoni had 29 points, seven rebounds and two steals. And, she did that in limited minutes with Fenton being able to substitute freely in the fourth quarter.

Every good team has players who don’t necessarily set the “stat” book on fire, but are vital to the team’s success. One of those players for Fenton is Murphy. Her hustle and defense combined with a savvy floor presence has been vital to the Tigers’ success this year.

“It means a lot. I am really excited,” Murphy said when asked about earning at least a co-Metro League title.

CONTINUED AT
MYFENTON.COM



Fenton's Erin Carter (right) drives to the basket during the Tigers' 55-30 victory against the Flushing Raiders. Photo: Mark Bolen



Holly's Rebecca Fugate (right) was honored with the basketball she used to break the Holly career point school record during a between game ceremony against Fenton. She's pictured with Holly varsity girls basketball coach David Hall. Photo: Mark Bolen

Bronchos lose tight contest vs. Grand Blanc Bobcats, 40-38

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity girls basketball team lost a heartbreaker to visiting Grand Blanc, Wednesday.

Grand Blanc's Zada Lacy hit the game-winning bucket with six seconds left to earn the Lady Bobcats the 40-38 victory at Holly High School.

The game was defensive in nature, particularly in the first half. The contest was close throughout as well. Holly

trailed 6-5 after one quarter but tied the game at 14-14 by half-time. The second half had more offense, but it remained close.

Grand Blanc enjoyed a 13-11 edge in the third quarter, taking a 27-25 lead into the fourth quarter.

Holly's all-time leading scorer, Rebecca Fugate continued to add to her career total, leading the Bronchos with 21 points.

CONTINUED AT
MYFENTON.COM

PREP REPORT

BOYS BOWLING

► **Swartz Creek 30, Linden 0:** The Eagles were paced by Jackson Shelp who had a 158-195-353 series. Kyle Miller also had a 181 game.

► **Owosso 22, Fenton 8:** The Tigers posted a baker game of 204 and won the baker game portion with a two-game total of 342. Tate Temrowski had a 170-178-348 series while Nick Hall earned a point with a 166 game.

► **Flushing 18, Holly 12:** The Bronchos won the baker portion of the competition with scores of 214 and 184. Braden Wilson led Holly in the individual competition with a 212-253-465 series. Jacob Warner also bowled a 193 contest.

BOYS BOWLING

► **Swartz Creek 28, Linden 2:** The Eagles were paced by Kaitlyn Rice who had a two-game series of 149-210-359.

She performed nearly 50 pins above her season average.

► **Flushing 29, Holly 1:** Chloe Bowren led the Bronchos with a 141-150-291 series. Savanna Moriarty had the team's best game during the event, rolling a 151 contest.

BOYS BASKETBALL

► **Flushing JV 53, Linden JV 38:** Lance Barkholz led the Eagles (11-5) with 12 points while DJ Robbins had eight points. Aiden Miller chipped in seven and Jack Denning netted five points.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► **Linden JV 40, Kearsley JV 37:** Paige Leedle netted 15 points, leading the Eagles to the victory. Mallory Ross had nine points while Hanna Baldwin netted eight points.

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