

Carbon monoxide — the invisible killer

■ Tragic death of family three years ago serves as annual reminder to check CO detectors

By Vera Hogan

On Feb. 21, it will be three years since a Fenton Township family of six was found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Leonard (Len) Quasarano, 35, Heather, 39, and their children Luke, 11, Brenden, 9, Rachel, 7, and Grant, almost 2, were found in different

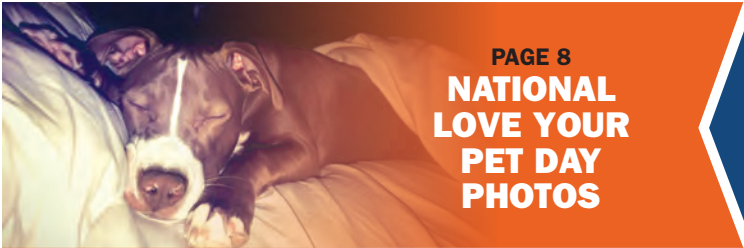
areas of their home. The area was experiencing a power outage that fateful night, and police found a generator set up in the basement of the family's home.

Three years later, the community is still feeling the impact of that tragedy. More than 400 Americans die from unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning every year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). More than 20,000 visit the emergency room, and more than 4,000 others are hospitalized.

See **CARBON MONOXIDE** on 2



A generator must not only be outside the home — the exhaust cannot be leaking into the home as it runs. Photo: www.norwall.com



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**NATIONAL
LOVE YOUR
PET DAY
PHOTOS**

MidweekTimes

VOL. 26 NO. VIII

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019

\$1.00

Pro wrestlers raise \$1,500 for Holly veterans

■ 'I'm thrilled we can provide fundraising for veterans...'

By Hannah Ball

Holly — The lights went down. The spotlights come on and an announcer stands in the ring, microphone in hand. He announces the pro wrestlers, and next comes the dramatic music and flashing lights.

The audience feeds the infectious energy as the wrestlers

See **WRESTLERS** on 10

“Wrestling is a grand spectacle that is nonstop action combined with elements of storytelling that we enjoy in TV, film, and literature.”

Joseph Byrd
Pure Pro Wrestling owner



WATCH THE
VIDEO



AT TCTIMES.COM
WITH THIS STORY

“Dylan Derringer” (top) battles “The Great Lakes Grappler” on Friday, Feb. 15 during the VIP Pure Pro Wrestling matches at the Karl Richter Community Center. The event is a fundraiser for the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center. Photo: Tim Jagielo



‘Midas’ reunited with his owner

Midas, an Australian shepherd mix, was missing for two days, lost in the woods.
Submitted photo

■ Fenton man shares exhausting story of three-day ordeal to find his beloved dog

By Sharon Stone

A Fenton couple is thankful, grateful, and exhausted after they were reunited with their 3-year-old dog, Midas.

Drew Shapiro put the word out

Sunday, Feb. 16 that his male Australian Shepherd mix went missing the prior night in the White Lake and Denton Hill roads area. The dog was microchipped and Shapiro described him as friendly.

At approximately 6 p.m., Monday, Feb. 18, Midas was located.

See **‘MIDAS’** on 5

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“Defunding ICE does not result in ‘open borders.’ ICE has only existed since 2003. Did we have open borders before that? It is a huge waste of money.”



“Cancel schools when you should not, but when you do not. Why? It's count day. You just put a price tag on my child's safety. Never will you have my support again.”



COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“Not all vaccines take. You can get the shot, but the body may not respond to it and make antibodies. Because of this, some vaccinated children are at risk from unvaccinated children. It is totally reliant on herd immunity.”

CARBON MONOXIDE

Continued from Front Page

WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE AND WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that often goes undetected, catching victims off guard or in their sleep.

This "silent killer" is produced by burning fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, portable generators or furnaces, according to the National Safety Council. When the gas builds up in enclosed spaces, people or animals who breathe it can be poisoned. Ventilation does not guarantee safety.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) says about 170 people in the United States die every year from carbon monoxide produced by non-automotive consumer products, such as room heaters. So as the weather turns colder, it's important to take extra precautions.

WHO IS AT RISK

Exposure to carbon monoxide can result in permanent neurological damage or death, and anyone can be at risk.

The CDC says infants, the elderly, and people with chronic heart disease, anemia or breathing problems are more prone to illness or death, but carbon monoxide doesn't discriminate.

PREVENTION

Winter can be a prime time for carbon monoxide poisoning as people turn on their heating systems and mistakenly warm their cars in garages.

The National Safety Council recommends you install a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector in your home near the bedrooms. Check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall.

The CDC offers these additional tips:

- **Have your heating** system, water heater and any other gas or coal-burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.



A popular carbon monoxide detector is by First Alert, which sells for approximately \$40. Detectors of varying features range anywhere from \$25 to \$165.

- **Do not use** portable flameless chemical heaters indoors.

- **Never use a generator** inside your home, basement or garage or less than 20 feet from any window, door or vent; fatal levels of carbon monoxide can be produced in just minutes.

- **Have your chimney** checked and cleaned every year, and make sure your fireplace damper is open before lighting a fire and well after the fire is extinguished. A chimney cap will prevent leaves and other debris from getting into your chimney and clogging passages.

- **Make sure your** gas appliances are vented properly.

- **Never use a gas** oven for heating your home.

- **Never let a car** idle in the garage.

- **Know the symptoms** of carbon monoxide poisoning.

The CPSC says never ignore a carbon

monoxide alarm, and do not try to find the source of the gas. Instead, immediately move outside to fresh air, call emergency services, fire department or 911, do a head count to check that all persons are accounted for, do not re-enter the premises until emergency responders have given you permission to do so.

SYMPTOMS OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

The U.S. Fire Administration has put together materials on the dangers of carbon monoxide. Included is a list of carbon monoxide poisoning symptoms.

Low to moderate carbon monoxide poisoning is characterized by headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness.

High level carbon monoxide poisoning results in mental confusion, vomiting, loss of muscular coordination, loss of consciousness and death.

Symptom severity varies depending on the level of carbon monoxide and duration of exposure. Mild symptoms sometimes are mistaken for flu.

Where to get smoke/CO detectors

The Fenton Fire Department has a limited supply of smoke detectors for free at the fire department, for those who live within its service area. They do not have any CO detectors at this time. Chief Bob Cairnduff advises anyone to check with their fire department that serves them as many of the local departments have free programs for detectors.

The Fenton Township Fire Department is currently out of CO and smoke detectors, but expects another supply in the spring. Since they are no longer donated, the fire department has to save money and go out and buy them, according to Chief Ryan Volz.

The North Oakland Fire Authority (NOFA), serving Holly and Rose townships offers residents in its service area free smoke detectors through a joint agreement with the American Red Cross. They do not, however, supply CO detectors.

The Linden Fire Department; call (810) 735-1714 for information.

The Argentine Township Fire Department does not offer CO detectors or smoke alarms.

Carbon monoxide detectors can be found at any department or home improvement store like Walmart and Home Depot. Stand-alone carbon monoxide detectors typically cost \$20-\$50. For example, a First Alert digital plug-in carbon monoxide alarm with a backup battery costs \$39. Detectors can run up to \$165.

Source: National Safety Council ncs.org

LOST SOMETHING? FOUND SOMETHING?

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A page devoted exclusively to the recovery of pets and personal property.



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Lower returns don't mean higher taxes

■ Many taxpayers experience lower tax withholdings in 2018, and possibly a smaller refund

By Tim Jagielo

Those big changes to the U.S. tax law are coming into fruition in the form of possibly smaller tax returns.

President Donald Trump signed the tax code overhaul

into law in December 2017, and now, tax professionals and individuals are getting the bottom line on how it has affected them.

So far, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is reporting an 8.4-percent lower average tax refund.

Joel Gibbons CPA, and partner with Lewis & Knopf in Fenton, has processed between

60 and 70 returns already this year. He'll handle up to 700 over the course of the season.

Gibbons said his clients, which tend to be higher income, are seeing a 3- to 5-percent drop in their returns. While surprising to some filers, he said expecting a lower refund is a bit of a misconception about paying less in taxes through the year.

See **TAXES** on 9

The important thing is to look at taxes paid, not the amount in your return. In many cases, it will be less than in 2017.



For the best general tax information, go to **irs.gov**

TAX LAW CHANGES FACTS

■ According to CNN Money, the law will **increase the deficit** by \$1.46 trillion over 10 years.

■ There are still **seven tax brackets**, but the percentage rates are changed to 10, 12, 22, 24, 32, 35 and 37 percent.

■ The standard **deductions have doubled**, but the personal exemption is gone.

■ The **Child Tax Credit** has been expanded, and a new tax credit has been added for non-child dependents.

■ The **mortgage interest deduction** has been lowered.

Source: CNN Money

ONLINE COMMENTS:

The Times reached out to its readers on Facebook and asked about their experience with the season so far

Anthony: "I prefer to keep more of my paycheck on a weekly basis and get back less in returns. The tax cuts over the past few years have been greatly appreciated."

Kevin: "Letting the government hang on to your money without paying interest seems silly to me. No one should owe or pay at the end of the year. A simple flat tax would work fine I believe."

Patrick: "I went from \$243 to \$18 on federal. That is what was taken out for (the) year. I got it all back. I was told by my CPA I was very close to paying since the tax law has changed."

Janet: "Overall paid more taxes. Same refund but increased withholdings at start of 2018 because I knew we would not be getting a tax cut. Do politicians ever really cut taxes for normal people? No. Doesn't matter the party affiliation of current administration. the average peeps get to pay more. Always."

AN ONGOING SERIES DESCRIBING MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND THE IMPORTANT WORK THEIR MEMBERS ACCOMPLISH



Residents and visitors alike fill Millpond Park annually in Fenton during summer concert series. **Times file photo**

Boards and commissions are critical to success of communities

This is the fourth in a series of articles aimed at defining boards and commissions, learning the names of their hard-working volunteers, their major past accomplishments and what they have planned for the near future.

By Vera Hogan

If you're inclined to visit any of the parks in the city of Fenton, it is the Park and Recreation Board that is responsible for improving and maintaining them.

There are nine parks in the city, including Rackham Park, Millpond Park, O'Donnell Park, Strom Park, Bush Park, Conklin Park, Freedom Park, Franklin Adams Park and Silver Lake Park. The latter is the only park with paid admission. The board is responsible for approving usage of

See **BOARDS** on 7

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The Tri-County Times (USPS 018-092) is published weekly (with exceptions) by JAMS Media, LLC, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Periodical postage paid at Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699 and other post offices. Subscription Rate: 48.00 per year. No non-member subscribers. Postmaster: Send address changes to Tri-County Times, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any content and/or advertising submissions.



HOURS:
Monday-Thursday:
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Closed

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If I Were King...

king@tctimes.com

Random Royal Thoughts

- **Definition of a husband:** Someone who, after taking out the trash, gives the impression that he just cleaned the whole house.
- **I refuse to believe** that there is one person in the world who gets in the shower and then turns the water on.
- **Which letter is silent** in the word ‘scent?’ Is it the ‘s’ or the ‘c’?
- **When you think** about it, everyone stops smoking eventually.
- **If the federal** government can’t provide medical care for 7 million military veterans, what fool thinks they could provide it for 330 million citizens?
- **It has been my experience** in life that women drivers, in general, operate in just two modes: they are either accelerating or braking — there is no in-between.
- **Have you ever** considered the possibility that it is oxygen itself that kills us, and it just takes about 60 to 100 years to get the job done?
- **Am I the only** one who wonders why no one has ever marketed bullet-proof pants? Seems like a good idea to me.
- **What damn fool** ever thought it would be a good idea to put an ‘s’ in the word lisp?
- **I live for only two reasons.** 1) I was born. 2) I haven’t died yet.
- **Why is it called** the World Series when it is the championship for only the U.S.A.?
- **Once a building** is finished, wouldn’t it make more sense to call it a ‘built?’
- **I agree with** Thomas Sowell who said that Walmart has done more for poor people than any program the government has ever initiated.
- **Does anyone** actually know what ‘OK’ stands for?
- **Isn’t ‘Guidance Counselor’** a redundant term?



- **‘Swims’ is one** of the few words in the English language that looks exactly the same when rotated upside down.
- **Can someone** explain to me why my dog gets annoyed when I blow in his face, but is ecstatic when he sticks his head out the car window while I’m going 50 mph?
- **A mere 70 years** ago everyone owned a horse and only rich people had cars. Today, everyone owns a car but only rich people own horses. Go figure.
- **A just-released** study of the most annoying drivers in America by Expedia found that, for the 15th straight year, the most annoying drivers on the road are every driver that’s not you.
- **If a woman** is always right, and a man is always wrong, then if a man tells a woman she is right, is she not then wrong?
- **Do you remember** when there was nothing to check, and no device to check it on, and all you did was live your life?
- **It is not possible** to think of a color that does not yet exist.
- **Every single** year each of us celebrates the anniversary of our birth. Every single year each of us passes the anniversary of our death – we just don’t know it.
- **Some come into** our lives and leave a footprint on our heart. Others come into our lives and make us want to leave a footprint on their face.
- **Whenever I run** across a pair of twins, I can’t help but wonder if either twin ever realizes that one of them was unplanned.
- **Next time the** government tells us that they’re going to improve something, remind them that they’re the idiots who (----ed) up the gas can.

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

“Do you remember when there was nothing to check, and no device to check it on, and all you did was live your life?”

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What did you want to be when you grew up?



“A professional golfer. It’s something you can do for a long time.”

Jon Staidil
Fenton



“A camera man. They’re so big, like a big apple.”

Lincoln Staisil
Fenton



“I’m 56 and I don’t know what my dream job is. When I got out of college, I wanted to work for a children’s dentist.”

Kathy Rezac
Fenton



“An entrepreneur, because my father was an entrepreneur and his father was an entrepreneur. I am an entrepreneur now.”

Patrick Ayar
Fenton Township



“I wanted to be a mail person. When I was a kid, my mail person was named Shelly and she always said ‘hi’ to my sister and me and gave us hugs. I wanted to do something with a positive influence.”

Katy Sidebottom, Fenton

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.

WHEN I HEAR someone in support of climate change, I get the same feeling I had when I went to a timeshare sales pitch. The people giving me the sales pitch had a lot more to gain than I did.

TO THE PERSON who is sympathetic for the Canada geese. Is the chemical from lawns worse than the E. Coli from goose poop?

VENEZUELA HAS INCREASED state control over its economy. Socialist party committees and the military control production and distribution of basic goods. In 2017, the GDP contracted 12 percent, inflation exceeded 2,000 percent, and people faced widespread shortages of consumer goods and medicine.

HEY SOCIALIST IDEOLOG; schools, roads, dams, bridges, airports and sea-ports are all examples of public goods provided by government — all governments. These items are not socialism.

MY COMPLIMENTS TO downtown Fenton drivers. When walking, cars stop immediately as I approach a crosswalk. In other towns, I sometimes wait a while and have to run across the road. Thank you, Fenton drivers.

IF RESIDENTS TRULY wanted to fix our local streets they have had two opportunities to vote for it. It's time to improve our quality of life and build non-motorized trails.

REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS THURSDAY blocked Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's bid to restructure the state environmental agency — the first time the full Legislature has rejected a gubernatorial executive order since 1977.

HEY FENTON, LAST time I checked, there is a stoplight turning from Owen Road onto Donaldson Drive by the middle and high schools. Don't honk at people who don't go flying through it and actually stop. Talking to you, man in red minivan with the personalized plate Saturday morning.

THERE IS NO winner in the Jussie Smollett story. If he lied to get attention, shame on him and he should be charged with filing a false police report. If he's telling the truth, it's an awful reflection of our society. The truth always comes out in the end.

TO THE PERSON comparing middle class taxes to business taxes. You are comparing apples and oranges, my friend. Individual taxes and company taxes have always been different. We pay more than them, really. As an individual, do you put out money to improve something and hire more people? Probably not. There is no comparison here and never has been.

EXCEPT FOR AIR quality (better look it up) I, too, am healthy and happy in retirement. For the millions less fortunate than you or me, the President's path will not improve their lives.

I WOULD LIKE to thank the Fenton DPW for doing such a great job plowing Elm and Long streets.

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Wikipedia is useful tool for fact gathering

■ Play Wikiraces, learn random facts, use Wiki source materials

By Hannah Ball

What is the Kolosh Glacier? Who created Cole Black, the comic book about a detective? When did Ireland's potato famines take place?

Googling these questions will yield thousands of results. The most common one is Wikipedia. This site adds more than 20,000 new articles every month, and has approximately 27 million registered users, according to Pew Research.

While it's not accepted as a source in high school or university research papers (or news articles), Wikipedia is a wealth of knowledge that many use for quick facts when they're curious about something, or when they want to settle an argument.

The articles themselves may not be accepted as sources, but the links at the bottom of the articles are usually fair game. For example, on the page about the Great Famine that took place in Ireland between 1845 and 1849, after each fact is a small, blue number at the end of the sentence. These numbers reference the source material the Wikipedia contributor used to write the article. If you click on the number, it will take you to the link at the bottom of the page and you can go directly to that website.

Features

On the left side of Wikipedia, users see links for over a dozen options. The site has a featured contents page that highlights "excellent results of the collaborative efforts of Wikipedia," according to the site. You'll see links for the Rwandan Civil War, Apollo 11, the Siege of Berwick in 1333 and much more.

Click on the current events tab to see updated news for everyday. For Feb. 6, it contains information about the Venezuelan presidential crisis and the Guatemalan general election.

If you click on the "random article" link, Wikipedia will generate just that — a random article. If you're in the mood to learn, but you can't decide on a topic, this is the perfect feature.

Under the tools category, you can learn more about the article you're currently reading. Users can see what's recently been changed, what links to that page, how to upload a file, how to cite the page and more.



While Wikipedia is not an acceptable source in most high schools and colleges, it contains a wealth of knowledge used by millions of people.

If you're trying to learn a different language, you can challenge yourself by reading the Spanish or French translation of the article, or any other offered language. There's also a Wikipedia store where you can buy merchandise that helps support the website.

Hyperlinks

When words used in a Wikipedia article have their own informational page, the word appears as a hyperlink so users only need to click on it to see the definition and read more about the word.

This makes a certain game possible — a Wikirace. In this game with any number of participants, the objective is to be the first to land on a certain Wikipedia page. The game could start on the page for Helen Keller or the War of 1812, and the destination page is the color green. Users use the hyperlinks within the articles to bring them closer to the destination page. Going from Abraham Lincoln to the USS Roosevelt would be easy. For a challenge, it's better to choose completely unrelated topics.

If you want to learn more, you can read the Wikipedia page on Wikiraces.

Altering articles

Only unprotected articles can be edited. According to Wikipedia, the process is easy. Click on the "edit this page" tab at the top of the page. You'll see an editable text of the article. Users can write a short summary of the edits being made. When the edits have been made, you see a preview of how the page will look. When you're satisfied, either click "enter" or "save."

Users can also do to the discussion pages for which contains comments about that article from other users.

'MIDAS'

Continued from Front Page

Shapiro said, "It was quite the three-day weekend. We (he and his girlfriend Amanda Wickard) are so relieved. He (Midas) is exhausted."

Late Saturday night, Midas ran from Shapiro's parents' home in Tyrone Township. Shapiro believes Midas might have bolted at the scent of deer. "He didn't come back," Shapiro said.

Shapiro and Wickard printed hundreds of fliers and posted alerts on Craigslist and various social media, including the Tri-County Times Lost and Found Facebook page and For the Love of Louie. They contacted search experts who explained to them that sometimes dogs will run along power line paths and railroad tracks and then realize that they are lost.

Shapiro said friends brought out four-wheelers and several friends and family members drove around in cars in search of Midas.

One of Shapiro's friends, Steve Trosen and his dog, Hank, took part in the search. Trosen and another friend, Andrew Findlater, along with Hank went out looking for Midas since Midas was familiar with Hank. They thought Hank's presence might be helpful.

"They found him in the Foley Ridge neighborhood," Shapiro said. "We drove by that area 50 times already but my friend found him after just 20 minutes. Midas ran at first, but then came back because he knew my buddy's dog."

To help others if their pet ever becomes lost, Shapiro shared what the experts told him and Wickard. He said when it's really cold, the dogs will go into survival mode and will not go to people. Midas tried to run, but Hank was bait. Shapiro said experts also told him that you should not call out for your dog because it scares them.

A few helpful tips included placing some unlaundried clothing near your



Drew Shapiro (front), his girlfriend Amanda Wickard and friend Steve Trosen celebrate the return of "Midas." Submitted photo

home. "The scent could lead them home," Shapiro said. "Also put meat and Spam outside your home. That scent will linger even when it's cold outside."

"Our biggest fear was coyotes would get him," Shapiro said.

Knowing how scary and exhausting this entire situation was, Shapiro said he and his girlfriend will definitely pay it forward on the next search team if a pet goes missing.

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Movies nominated for best picture include (from left) "A Star is Born," "BlacKkKlansman," "Black Panther" and "Bohemian Rhapsody." Photo: www.digitalspy.com

How the Academy chooses best picture

■Eight movies nominated for Oscars biggest award

By Hannah Ball

The Academy Awards are this Sunday, and with it comes speculation over which films and actors and actresses will win the top prizes.

How is the best picture chosen?

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences uses a preferential voting system, which means the winner has the broadest support among voters — but it may not be the top-ranked movie.

With this system, the thousands of voting members rank movies in order of preference. The ballots are collected at PricewaterhouseCoopers' office in Los Angeles, California, where the ballots are sorted based on which movies received number one votes.

Tabulators eliminate the movie with the fewest first-place votes and adds those votes to each ballot's second-ranked film. This process continues until one movie has reached a majority, over 50 percent of the votes.

This preferential system was adopted in 2009, to much controversy. Often it's the movie more commonly ranked two or three that wins the highest award.

BEST MOVIE NOMINATIONS THIS YEAR ARE:

BlacKkKlansman
Bohemian Rhapsody
Black Panther
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A Star is Born
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'Saturday Evening Post' brought back to life

■Final edition published 50 years ago, in 1969, but later revived

By Vera Hogan

Hot lines are sometimes educational. Really, they are. In the Wednesday, Feb. 6 Midweek edition, we published the article "'Saturday Evening Post' final edition published 50 years ago." A reader quickly sent a Hot line, pointing out that the magazine is still being published.

There is more to the story.

It is correct, that in 1969, *The Saturday Evening Post* suspended publication. In seven years, the company had endured five presidents and four editors and was \$67 million in debt. It had approached CBS, Ford, Doubleday, and several other companies, but no one wanted a debt-riddled magazine with dwindling circulation.

That is, until Indianapolis industrialist Beurt SerVaas became interested. What he really wanted was the *Post*'s little sister, the children's magazine *Jack and Jill*. SerVaas bought the magazine and moved the operation to Indianapolis, where his wife, Cory, ran it, according to saturdayeveningpost.com.

The Saturday Evening Post's revival was due in great part to the continuing affection Americans felt for the magazine and to SerVaas's business savvy and determination. After SerVaas bought the magazine and restarted the printing presses, the *Post*'s initial run of 500,000 copies sold out immediately; they reprinted 180,000 more and sold those as well.

At the time, SerVaas was known as an entrepreneur who specialized in turning around troubled companies. In 1969, he learned of the troubles at Curtis Publishing, the former owner. When he purchased Curtis, he not only got *The Saturday Evening Post*, but also *Holiday* and *Jack and Jill* magazines as part of the bargain.

SerVaas quickly sold off Curtis' forests, paper mills, circulation depart-



In 1969, *The Saturday Evening Post* suspended publication after being \$67 million in debt. Shown above was the last printed edition dated Feb. 8, 1969. Photo: www.amazon.com

ment, and book company to focus on the magazine business.

The *Post* was initially revived as a quarterly publication that sold for \$1. It retained its 11- by 13-inch size and revived the masthead of the 1920s and '30s, the years when the *Post* became an American institution.

In 1982, the *Post* was purchased from Curtis Publishing by the Benjamin Franklin Literary Society, which was founded by Cory SerVaas. The *Post* became a non-profit entity that would focus on Cory's passions: health, medicine, and volunteering.

In 2013, in another reinvention, the magazine returned to its original philosophy — celebrating America, past, present, and future. Since then, the *Post* has focused on the elements that have always made it popular — good story telling, fiction, art, and history.

Today, it publishes a print magazine six times a year and is also vastly expanding its online offerings to include videos, podcasts, and the complete magazine archive.

And that is the rest of the story.

Source: saturdayeveningpost.com

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ART OF THE deal — Trump turns Pelosi's offer of 'one dollar, yeah, one dollar' into \$1.3 billion of wall funding.

I AM TRYING very hard to figure out exactly what an eight-year President did for any of us during those eight years. He weakened our military for sure and allowed ISIS to become more than a JV team. He took more of our hard-earned money. He did nothing for our veterans except hang them out to dry.

OUR PRESIDENT IS doing just fine considering it has only been two years and he is being investigated for something he did not do. Let that sink in. Unless, of course, I missed something in those eight long pathetic years

'THE WALL IS immoral, it is not who we are as a nation,' said Nancy Pelosi. Yet, she just funded immorality to the tune of \$1.3 billion. Pay attention to actions, not words.

FORTY-NINE THOUSAND beds for invading border crashers. Who has a

criminal break-in and then gives them food, bed, comfort? It's wrong on all levels. Ship them back.

THERE IS A scam targeting senior citizens. While ringing up your groceries, young cashiers will start making small talk and ring up the most expensive item twice, hoping you won't notice. They then pocket the money. If you don't notice it before you leave the store, you won't get a refund. I've lost \$70. Shameful.

CITY OF LINDEN residents and business owners. Please remember that it is your responsibility to shovel and salt in front of your home/business during the winter. Many of us walk and run every day in town and lots of sidewalks are covered with snow and ice making them really dangerous. Many thanks to those who work hard to keep their sidewalk clear and safe.

I AM OLD. I do not remember so much gun violence growing up. What is happening to this world?



Mark McCabe

67th District Court

Ask the
judge

Touch DNA and secondary DNA transfer

DNA testing is used for various purposes including examining crime scenes where investigators take samples from objects or people present at the time of the offense to determine if potential suspects touched anything or anyone.

This is called "Touch DNA."

These samples are then compared with DNA from known individuals to see if there's a match.

Sometimes things don't go as planned.

In the early morning hours of Nov. 29, 2012, in Monte Sereno, California resident Raveesh Kumra was murdered in his home.

Police investigators were able to make DNA crime scene matches of four individuals including a man named Lukis Anderson whose DNA was found on Kumra's fingernails. He and the others were charged with murder.

As to Anderson, there was a problem when it was discovered that at 10:45 p.m. the night before the murder, he had been taken drunk and unconscious to a hospital by an ambulance and two paramedics where he spent the next 12 hours and the same ambulance and paramedics had gone to the Kumra house three hours later to treat the decedent.

When faced with this evidence, the prosecutor moved to dismiss the case satisfied with the alibi and that the paramedics had inadvertently put Anderson's DNA on Kumra.

This situation is called "Secondary DNA Transfer." It can occur in certain cases depending on a number of factors, including how much skin a person sheds.

There have been a number of studies of such transfers including a 2014 experiment at the University of Indianapolis when 12 people were paired up and then shook hands with each other for two minutes.

The 12 people then individually handled two sterilized steak knife handles and DNA testing was performed.

In 85 percent of the samples, the DNA profile of the person who never touched the knives was found on the knife handles.

In 20 percent of the samples, the person who had never touched the knives was found to be the main contributor. Other studies have had varied results.

The lessons here are that all parties concerned need to be aware of the possibility of secondary DNA transfer and that DNA testing is but one tool in a possible transfer case.

A very informative article on this is found at ryanforensidna.com/touchdna.

BOARDS

Continued from Page 3

the park for events and gazebo rentals, etc., according to Chair Sean Sage.

"We also work on park improvements and projects," Sage said. "I think one of the great charms of Fenton is its walkability and aesthetic beauty, and I think the parks have a lot to do with that."

"In the last few years we updated the five-year master plan required by the state and have prepared and submitted a grant proposal for a wholesale upgrade of the riverwalk trail, including improvements to the millpond playground, kayak launches and lockers, and an extension of the trail to Silver Lake Road," he said.

"The great part about the members of the Park Board is their willingness to get their hands dirty," Sage said. "We have work projects each year, which have included cleanup of the riverwalk along the river between East Street and the millpond playground to clear all of the vines, plants and trees that overgrew the sidewalk."

With the new designation of the river as a State Water Trail, Sage said the Park Board will be working hard in the next couple of years to embrace that with items such as the kayak launches and ways to emphasize the river in the community.

"We see the Shiawassee River was one of the eight trails just designated by the State of Michigan as their first ever State Water Trails," Sage said. "We would love to see people of Fenton to be more connected with the river that is at its heart and stopped Clark Dibble to begin with. We think by adding kayak landings above and below the dam, as well as lockers that could be used to hold kayaks while visitors stopped at local stores and restaurants, we can encourage and aid in that development. We would also love to see more natural resource education be included via programs involving the river as well as signage and displays."

"The biggest challenge to parks is lack of funding," Sage said. "In a time when the city is facing lost tax revenue and dropping state support, they are struggling to meet the everyday needs of the City and it is hard to carve out space for parks in the budget."

"I think we are lucky in Fenton to have big-picture thinkers like (Public Works Director) Dan Czarnecki and (City Manager) Lynn Markland, who agree with our opinion that the outdoor component of

Fenton is one of the great selling points to potential residents and visitors, and that a physically and mentally healthy citizenry is vital to a successful city.

"They have really championed the cause of the parks. In addition, the members of the board with the help of other dedicated citizens, have put a lot of thought and energy into smaller improvements which can be done with low costs."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

KINDLY TAKE A few minutes and clean the snow and ice off your car. Just had my headlight broken by flying ice from a passing car. My \$200 deductible is down the drain.

THE EFFECTS OF climate change, such as rising sea levels and intense heat waves, are already apparent, and they will only get worse over time unless we take action now.

IN RESPONSE TO 'laughed out loud.' The pathway and roads are connected to the same budget — mine. I am another homeowner in Fenton who is considering selling because of property tax increases due to all the millages. This is not a laughing matter. I hope I can sell for the value the city has assessed my home.

EARMARKED MONEY: HAVING been the recipient of Senator Byrd's earmarked money I really support the Trump's 'Emergency Declaration,' for two reasons. First, congress delegated the declaration of an emergency to the President. Secondly, all of the money he went after are earmarks, not money appropriated by Congress for real budget requirements.

JEFF BEZOS' AMAZON Corp. is enjoying another year of paying zero federal tax on \$11.2 billion last year.

AN INITIAL BACKGROUND check five years ago failed to flag an out-of-state felony conviction that would have prevented a man from buying the gun he used to kill five co-workers and wound six other people, including five responding police officers.

IN A 'DEVASTATING' blow to the victims of the 9/11 attacks and their families, the Sept. 11th Victim Compensation Fund says it will be slashing its payouts to claimants by as much as 70 percent because of its rapidly depleting cash pool.

I AGREE WITH others that our roads and traffic are in bad shape. But, my family currently has no other way to travel around the area. I would love to help alleviate the problem by using a bike path. It's got my support.

NO MATTER WHAT happens with the bike path, can we at least get a sidewalk out here on Owen Road?

WE LIVE ON Mary Court. We have a neighbor who plows our driveway and two other neighbors. Thank you, Steven.

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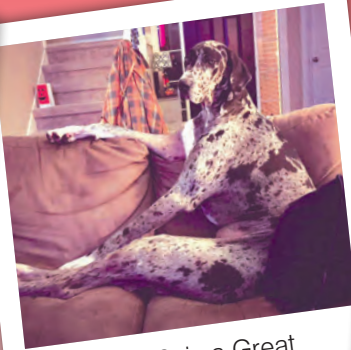
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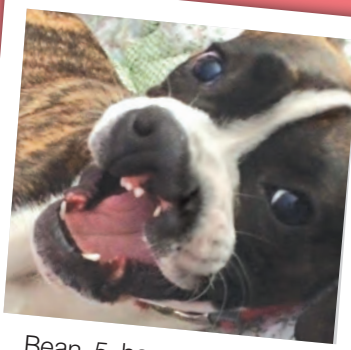
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Axle, 10, makes this face when he sees someone eating yogurt because he loves it. Submitted by Rebecca Bailey.



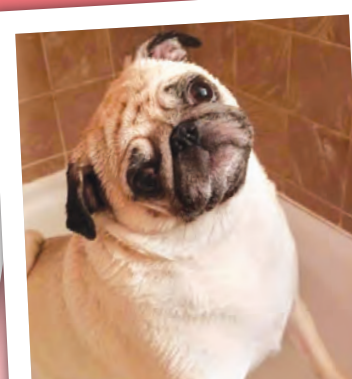
Baylee, 2, is a Great Dane who thinks she's a 130-pound person. Submitted by Andi Bard Eveslage.



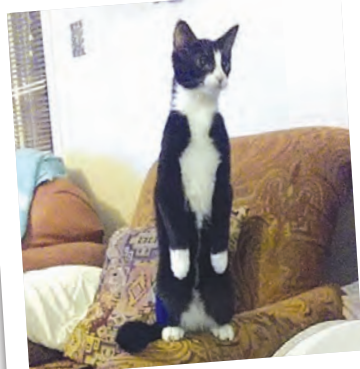
Bean, 5, has a cleft lip and palate. Owner Jaimie Tobel Bayer has had her since she was 3 days old, and had to tube feed her until she was 6 weeks old.



Big Daddy Bocephus, or Bo, is 2 and will eat a stick of butter at any chance he gets. Submitted by Sara Krause.



Burrito, 3, begs for water in the bathtub. Submitted by Hannah Roten.



Charlie, 8, likes to practice being a person. Submitted by Shannon Elizabeth.

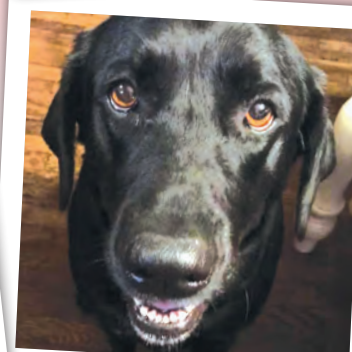
NATIONAL *Love Your Pet day* PHOTOS

By Hannah Ball • hball@tctimes.com

Thank you to everyone for the 180 entries we received for National Love Your Pet Day. To see them all, visit the Times Facebook post from Wednesday, Feb. 13.



Hank, 3, loves taking all the stuffing out of his beds. Submitted by Shannon Scott-Moran.



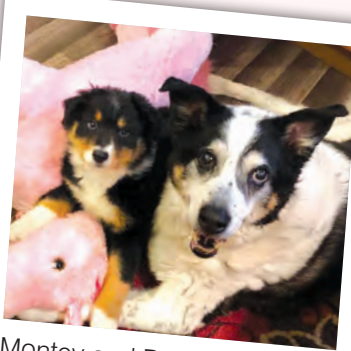
Mylee, 5, loves to jump in the mail lady's truck and helps herself to the treat bucket. Submitted by Brittany Price.



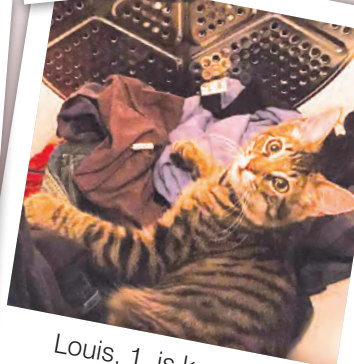
Joy, who was adopted in December 2016 after her litter was found in a burned house in Detroit, loves to "help" put away Christmas decorations. Submitted by Missy Taylor.



Ulysses, 6, is a special needs bearded dragon and one of four rescue dragons. Submitted by Bethany Granger.



Montey and Dewey, 3 months and 14 years respectively, both love winter and laying in the snow. Submitted by Stacey Peters.



Louis, 1, is keen on getting into anything and everything. Submitted by Kyle Austin Switala.



Misha, 4, plays peekaboo and whistles the Dukes of Hazard song. Submitted by Amanda Lewis.



Luna, 10-months-old, gets the "zoomies" three times a day and loves playing in the snow. Submitted by Rachel Roberts.



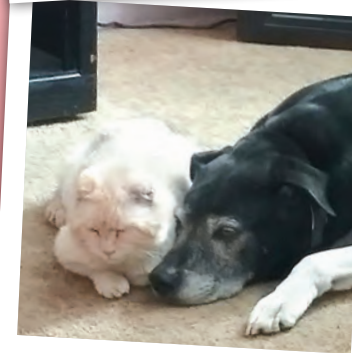
Mareth, 1, is always concerned about who is outside. Submitted by Cassia Hobson.



Mason, 1, loves to sleep anywhere and everywhere, and cuddle his owner's pregnant belly. Submitted by Rachel Stamper.



Merlin, 16, loves to lay on heat vents, steal his owner's pillow while she's sleeping on it, and sits on the toilet while his owner is in the shower. Submitted by Danielle Grace Vaughn.



Minky and Owen, 14 and 13 years old, dislike the weather we've been having. Submitted by Norma Sue.



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THIS FRIDAY!



Even though their name isn't too appetizing, Hydrox cookies contain less sugar, no GMOs and are kosher. Oreo cookies arrived on the market four years after Hydrox. They now come in 25 different flavors, securing their prominent place on grocery shelves. Photo: kotaku.com

What's in a cookie name?

■ Everything matters when you're trying to compete with a giant like Oreo

By Vera Hagan

Who doesn't love a good Oreo cookie, especially since there are so many ways to enjoy them — straight out of the package as is, dunk in ice cold milk, or gently twist them apart and dive into the white creamy center with your teeth.

And today, there are 25 varieties of Oreo cookies, making it even more difficult for a lesser known brand — Hydrox — to share good shelf exposure at the store.

Hydrox is a very similar, slightly smaller cookie also with a white cream center. It has been around four years longer than Oreo.

The problem is its name.

In 1882, the entrepreneur Jacob Loose bought a biscuit and candy company that would eventually be known as Sunshine Biscuits (after the company's baking plant designs) and, in 1908, launched the biscuit sandwich known as Hydrox, according to atlasobscura.com.

The name, they thought, would be reminiscent of the sunlight that glimmered through its factories, in addition to speaking to a basic purity of product. The truth is that what was intended to imply hydrogen and oxygen — the two chemicals that make up water — the result has a more clinical, less roll-off-the-tongue convention to it, and instead evokes hydrogen peroxide, a chemical you probably don't want to drink.

It didn't help that in 1922, there was an existing Hydrox Chemical Company on the market, one that sold hydrogen peroxide and was caught up in a trademark lawsuit at the time over the use of the word "hydrox" — a lawsuit that noted the term was used for coolers, for soda, even for brands of ice cream.

It was a strange name for a cookie. But the cookie's design, which was initially sold with an exotic "English biscuit" twist, was pretty interesting for its era. With an industrial press from a mold,

the cookie took on the look of a flower. While Oreo grew to be a cultural icon, Hydrox retained its partisans, in part also because the slightly-more-bitter cookie was also kosher.

Hydrox did have some natural advantages. For example, while Nabisco was stuck spending money on a costly transformation to remove the lard from the cream in its cookies, Hydrox cookies were already kosher, which for decades gave them an advantage in the market.

The problem, of course, was probably the name. When Keebler took ownership of the Sunshine Foods brands in the late '90s, most people thought Hydrox was the Johnny-come-lately, when it was really Oreo that had entered the market second. And the name proved such a huge turn-off that Hydrox only had 4.2 percent of the sales of Oreo in 1998 — just \$16 million compared to

Oreo's \$374 million takeaway.

Making matters worse, 1998 was the first year that Oreo itself went kosher for the first time.

Keebler realized this was a problem and quickly attempted to rename the cookies Droxies, a sort of softening of the name to discourage people from thinking of chemicals.

But the shift wasn't enough; in 2001, Kellogg's had bought the Keebler brand, putting Hydrox under yet another corporate owner, and by 2003, it had stopped selling Hydrox altogether — sans a brief reprieve in 2008 after enough consumers complained that it briefly changed its mind.

Hydrox made a comeback in 2015. Ellia Kassoff, a Jewish kid who grew up on the kosher cookies, had gained some knowledge on how to gain access to a trademark that was sitting unused, and as a result, he was able to pick up Hydrox for his own company, Leaf Brands.

Not only are the cookies kosher, but these days they're made with real sugar and without GMOs. And even if they'll always be the second best compared to Oreo, they have a spot in the grocery store again.

Sources: Atlasobscura.com; thrillist.com

Hydrox cookies are KOSHER?

"Clean" or "pure" refers to food that has been ritually prepared or blessed so it can be eaten by religious Jews. It comes from the Hebrew word *kasher*, meaning "proper" or "lawful," and became common in English in the mid-19th Century. It can be used as an adjective, for example, "kosher meat." In the mid-1920s, the word took on a more general meaning, used to refer to anything that was acceptable.

Source: vocabulary.com

TAXES

Continued from Page 3

Gibbons wanted to point out that this lower return is due to less money being withheld for taxes each pay period.

In 2018, the individual tax withholding tables changed, with many having reduced tax rates compared to 2017. For example, those making between \$38,700 and \$85,500 were taxed at a rate of 22 percent in 2018, instead of 25 percent in 2017.

This means that less was withheld in 2018, and may not reflect a higher tax return for some. "Generally, your refund should be similar to those in the past," he said.

The important thing is to look at taxes paid, not the amount in your return, he said. In many cases, it will be less than in 2017. Of course, this is different for every individual.

In 2018, the personal exemption was eliminated, but the standard deduction was almost doubled to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for married couples.

Gibbons said that this could elimi-

nate the possibility of using itemized deductions for those who would have less than this amount in deductions. It could change the way some filers handle their taxes. If someone is used to doing itemized deductions, they may not be necessary anymore because they would have to be higher than the \$12,000 standard deduction for a single person.

Still, Gibbons suggested compiling the itemized deductions, to make sure nothing is missed. "It is a simplification (of the tax code)," he said, but he still wants the information from clients. "We don't want to miss something because we think it's too simple."

Many businesses also experienced a tax break in 2018. 'C' corporations making more than \$50,000 are taxed at a flat rate of 21 percent. Smaller 'S' designated businesses are taxed at the individual level and paid based on the new withholding tables.

Businesses and individuals don't have to change the way they prepare, or do anything differently, but he said people are trying to get their information together earlier because of the changes.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

IF YOU HAVE nothing nice to say, say nothing.

ARE THERE ANY school nurses in our school districts?

CAPITALISM RAISES PEOPLE from poverty. Socialism commits everyone to it.

GIVING COLIN KAEPERNICK \$60 million equates to bargaining with terrorists.

LET'S SEE HOW much of the free millions Kaepernick spends to help with the so called 'oppression' cause.

AS A CONSERVATIVE, Republican voting citizen, I am completely insulted by King's ignorant stereotypes. He thinks all of us are a bunch of testosterone driven good 'ole boys. Fortunately, he's wrong. I think he's just trying to pick a fight. That does not help make our country great again.

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50,000 mattresses trashed every day

■ Mattresses can be recycled, turned into fuel, scrap metal, carpet padding and oil filters

By Tim Jagielo

It's the largest object people regularly throw away, and each can occupy 40 cubic feet in a landfill.

Despite this, its internal components are sought-after items for recycling, and can be turned into carpet padding and oil filter components.

We're talking about mattresses and box springs.

According to a 2016 article by Consumer Reports, 80-percent of a mattress or box spring can be recycled, yet there are only a few facilities in Michigan that can take them.

The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) reports that 50,000 mattresses end up in landfills each day. The MRC operates in states where laws require mattress recycling — California, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

According to Consumer Reports, there is a \$10 mattress-recycling fee tacked on to the sale of a mattress in these states.

Aside from the foam, mattresses can be recycled to send the steel springs to foundries, and the wood can be used for flooring or fuel.

So far, the MRC reports that it has recycled 3 million mattresses in California, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Aside from diverting mattresses from the waste stream, it also reduces the number of illegally dumped mattresses.

HOW ARE THEY RECYCLED?

- Mattresses are **cut open** and layers are separated
- Interior materials are **organized** by type
- Soft commodities like **foam** are compressed
- **Metal** and box springs are extracted and sent to scrap recyclers
- **Wood** is recycled and used as a fuel source

RECYCLE A MATTRESS?

Foam, fiber and other soft commodities are compressed. They are then turned into carpet padding, oil filters, insulation, mats, pillow and furniture upholstery stuffing.

Metal and box springs are sent to scrap recyclers. They are then sold to steel mills and foundries for use in tools, automobile parts and construction materials.

Wood is recycled and used for flooring, pressed wood products, mulch and compost.

Source: USA Today



WRESTLERS

Continued from Front Page

came out in tights and wrestling gear, committed to their wrestling personas. Some high-fived the audience; others yelled at them.

The bell rang and the match started.

On Friday, Feb. 15, Pure Pro Wrestling (PPW) performed at the Karl Richter Community Center in Holly to raise money for the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center (HAVRC). The event raised \$1,572.

Joseph Byrd, owner of PPW said the event was a success.

"Our goal was to provide family friendly entertainment to the community of Holly while raising money and awareness for the Holly Veterans Resource Center. I would say that mission was soundly accomplished," he said. "Veterans showed up to the event and had a great time and there were many special needs people from the community who were so excited to be able to meet the wrestlers and take pictures. To be able to provide that type of experience for people is far more valuable than any amount of money."

Joe Mishler one of the founders of the HAVRC said these events are where their money comes from.

"We work on donations. We count on volunteers and we do these kinds of projects," Mishler said. "We've done a lot of different things here. Our primary purpose is to help veterans. We are a resource center. ... A lot of people come in here and they don't know where to start."

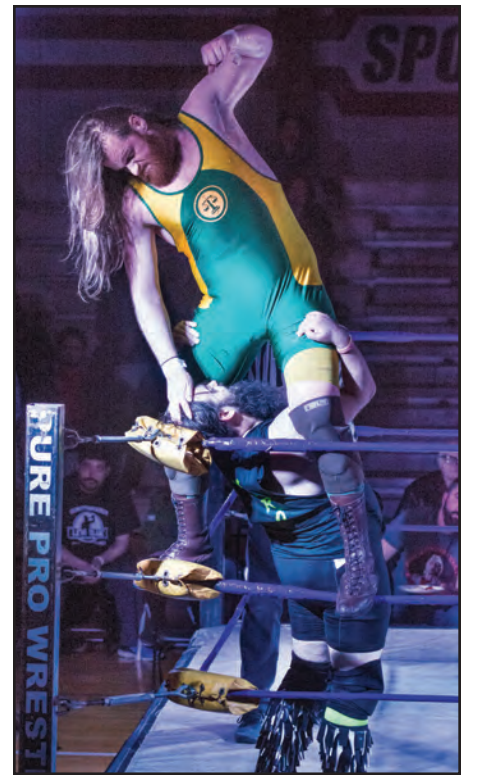
Loretta Dery, 87, a Grand Blanc resident, said this was her first time at a pro wrestling match.

"I think it was great. It was a good experience. I used to watch it on TV and then broke away from it. Now I'm going back into it at 87. I'm going back into sports," she said.

Paul Dery, board member of HAVRC, said they were approached by Byrd who said they were looking to support veterans and nonprofits. PPW, based in Iceland Arenas in Flint, produces more than 50 events every year in Michigan. They train pro wrestlers, offer monthly events and have a regular traveling road show where they partner with nonprofits, schools and veteran-related services.

"Any time you can raise money for a great organization like the Holly Veterans Resource Center, it's special. I'm thrilled we can provide fundraising for veterans groups," Byrd said.

In one segment of the show, a local veteran, James Golden as his alter-ego "Goldy the Sailor Man," did a bit with a wrestler who claimed, "No one cares that he's a vet." Golden and the wrestler tussled, and it wasn't until Golden ate some "spinach"



Pure Pro Wrestlers took a beating for the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center fundraiser on Friday, Feb. 15. Here, "Xavier Justice" (top) pulls back to punch "Nick Xero" during their match.

Photo: Tim Jagielo

that he was able to win.

Each year, they do a "Support Our Troops Tour" where they visit community veterans halls and put on shows. A few of their wrestlers are veterans, and showcase them in "Battle Tested" events.

Byrd wrestled Friday as "Xavier Justice." He's the head coach of PPW's Development Center in Flint. The center is the largest pro wrestling school in Michigan and has some of the top talent from the state.

"Our wrestlers have been signed by some of the top companies in the world. Some are being featured on TV right now," he said.

Byrd has been wrestling for 20 years.

"Wrestling is a grand spectacle that is nonstop action combined with elements of storytelling that we enjoy in TV, film, and literature," Byrd said. "People watch pro wrestling and are willing to suspend their disbelief because there's no other entertainment on the planet that provides this type of action, drama, comedy, and suspense rolled into a sports platform."

"Our pro wrestlers are the complete package. We do our own lines and our own stunts. The top wrestlers are better looking than Hollywood's elite, have more charisma on screen than the highest paid actors, and are able to do all the stunts that actors are not willing to do," he said.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE PERSON who talked about promises. You stated the fact it has been two years for President Trump. Since he is being fought by the Democrats every time he tries to do anything please tell me how you expect him to accomplish all his promises and then in just two years.

CONGRESS, MANY YEARS ago, gave the President authority to declare emergencies. Congress abrogated their job yet again. The President might win in court. If so, the 535 great Americans will have allowed it.

I WANT NOTHING more from the 'Business World' and the 'Top 1 Percent' except that they pay their fair share of the tax burden. Mine is 15 percent. Why should theirs be any less?

A FEDERAL UTILITY board voted Thursday to close a coal-fired power plant in Kentucky, despite objections from President Donald Trump and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, in a move the board says will save its more than 10 million customers \$320 million.

THE MOST FITTING tribute to the late John Dingell is to continue his decades-long legacy of improving Americans' health and access to health care.

I AM AN Army vet. I am angry and disgusted that there is a totally unqualified person in the White House. Trump has divided our country and disrupted cooperation among world countries. He doesn't belong in Washington, D.C.

Times

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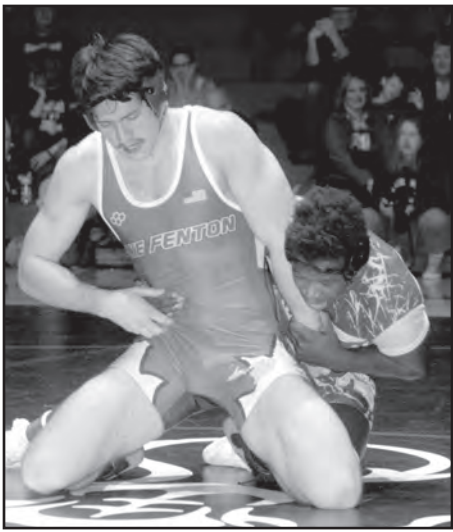
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Logan Julian (front) is one of three Lake Fenton wrestlers headed to the individual state wrestling meet. Photo: David Troppens

Three Blue Devils' wrestlers headed to Detroit's Ford Field

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity wrestling team has had its share of state champions in recent seasons.

This year, the Blue Devils have three wrestlers who could keep the tradition alive this winter.

Sean Trombley (152), Logan Julian (189) and Zolen Marron (215) each advanced out of regional action, earning a spot in the Division 3 individual state meet being held at Ford Field March 1 and 2.

"The kids wrestled really well over the weekend," Lake Fenton varsity wrestling coach Vance Corcoran said. "It was one of the toughest regionals in the state as far as ranked wrestlers, and to get three through was pretty good."

Sean Trombley (152) will have some eyes on him at Ford Field as he tries to earn his first state title during his senior season. Trombley (47-1) avenged his only loss of the season at the regional tourney by defeating Byron's Jerry Hall by a 3-1 decision in the regional championship match. A week earlier, Hall (51-3) defeated Trombley by the same score. Prior to the final, Trombley also earned a pinfall victory in his semifinal bout. Trombley was a state runner-up a year ago at the state meet.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Three Eagles advance to D2 state wrestling meet

By David Troppens

For the second straight season, the Linden varsity wrestling team will have three athletes headed to Detroit's Ford Field for the Division 2 individual state wrestling meet.

Colton Powell (189), Jimmy Roti (152) and Caleb White (130) each earned the honor by earning top-four finishes at the regional meet held at Gaylord High School Saturday. The Eagles had eight kids at the meet, and three more wrestled to the point of needing just one more victory to qualify for the state meet, but Uzziah Delgado (160), Wyatt Gocha (171) and Preston Parker (285) lost that one match needed to do so.

"As a staff we were happy with all of the kids' perfor-



Linden's Colton Powell (right) is one of three Eagles who earned a spot at the state wrestling meet at the Gaylord regional. Photo: David Troppens

mances," Linden varsity wrestling coach Kyle Summerfield said.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Bronchos defeat Linden in final home game of season

By David Troppens

Holly — The Holly varsity girls basketball team had a pretty good time during its last home basketball game of the season Friday night.

The Bronchos dominated on both sides of the court, defeating the Linden Eagles 44-14 Friday night.

Holly jumped to a 19-0 lead

in the opening quarter, with Payton Price leading the way. Price scored 11 of the Bronchos' first-quarter points.

The second quarter was defensive in nature for both teams, as Holly outscored the Eagles just 6-4 during it. Price scored four of the Bronchos'

six points while Linden's Jordan Peterson and Erin Gillespie scored two points each for the Eagles. Holly led 25-4 at halftime.

The Bronchos continued to dominate the game in the third quarter. This time, Rebecca Fugate led the Bronchos' offense.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM



Linden's Grace Pryde (left) tries to defend Holly's Hannah Covert in Holly's 44-14 victory, Friday. Photo: Mark Bolen

Sports Times

Eagles win league outright, looking for perfection

By David Troppens

Holly — The first step was earning a co-Metro League title.

The Linden varsity boys basketball team accomplished that goal when the Eagles beat Flushing 48-35 on Feb. 8.

The second step was completed Friday night. The Eagles became the school's first outright Metro League champion since 1996 when Linden defeated the Holly Bronchos by a 55-42 margin at Holly High School.

What's next? Why maybe a perfect Metro League season. The Eagles can earn the first-ever perfect Metro League season with victories against Clio and Fenton this week. But first thing is first. The Eagles were able to celebrate their outright championship in style at Holly. Linden led by 10 at halftime and led by as many as 25 in the second half, before settling on the 13-point margin.

"It's a great feeling to go out this way," Linden senior Travis Klocek said. "We won it outright and we are not done yet. We want to try to go undefeated. It's a great feeling to go out your last season and win a league championship."

"It's pretty awesome," sophomore Blake Lund said. "Our group of guys have been working hard all year. It's a pretty big goal since it hasn't been done since 1996."

"As far as I know (a perfect Metro season by a Linden team) has never been done before, so that's another goal to break."

Holly started the game impressively, taking an early 7-2 lead. A Ben Grammer three-pointer put the Bronchos up 5-2, followed by two converted free throws by Hunter Jackson.

However, that lead didn't last long.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM



Linden's Eli Beil (left) looks to drive against Holly's Hunter Jackson in the Eagles' victory against Holly, Friday. Photo: Mark Bolen

Holly wrestlers go 6-for-6 at regionals

By David Troppens

Six Holly wrestlers entered the Gaylord region individual wrestling meet on Saturday.

Six are now headed to Ford Field for the individual state championship.

The Bronchos had two regional champions and had all six of their entered wrestlers into the tourney earn a top-four placing, meaning all six will be at Ford Field March 1 and March 2 with a chance of ending their seasons with a potential individual state championship.

"Our kids wrestled really well but our kids have wrestled pretty well since January," Holly varsity wrestling coach Don Pluta said. "It's an amazing feeling getting all six out of the regional."

Cade Dallwitz (189) and Jacob Gonzales (135) are leading



Holly's Jacob Gonzales (top) is one of two Holly wrestlers to win regional championships at the Gaylord regional, Saturday. Photo: David Troppens

the way for Holly, each winning regional championships.

Dallwitz (51-1) is a known entity considering he finished runner-up in a state title match a year ago. Dallwitz earned an 11-0

major decision victory against Gaylord's Cade Foster in the semifinal, and then beat St. Johns' CJ Krum in the championship match by a 3-0 decision.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

LFLF gymnasts take second at league meet

By David Troppens

The LFLF gymnastics team competed at the Lakes Valley Conference meet and ended up taking second place, along with many other strong performances.

Huron Valley United earned the conference championship with a team score of 139.425, with the Linden/Fenton/Lake Fenton co-op finishing second with a 137.750. The two top teams dominated the event as Waterford United was a distant third (124.375).

The LFLF team had six competitors finish in the top 10 in the all-around. Lauren Hayden led the squad by taking third in the all-around with a 35.0 Hayden won the league championship on the beam (8.925) and was fourth on the bars (8.325) and fifth on the floor (8.90). She also finished in a tie for seventh on the vault (8.85).

Maty Temrowski was fourth in the all-around

with a 33.750. Temrowski finished second on the beam (8.90), fourth on the vault (9.05), and seventh on the floor (8.675).

Apryl Smith was fifth overall with a 33.70, and took second on the vault (9.15). She also placed in the top 10 on the bars (third with an 8.375) and on the floor (sixth with an 8.85).

Ella Cox was sixth in the all-around with a score of 33.60. Her top placing was a third-place finish on the floor (9.225). She also placed seventh on the vault (8.85).

CONTINUED AT
MYFENTON.COM

Ella Cox competes in a recent meet. Cox placed sixth in the all-around at the Lakes Valley Conference meet.

Photo: Mark Bolen



Fenton's Rittenbury headed to D2 state wrestling tournament

By David Troppens

It was a big bonus when the Fenton varsity wrestling team got seven wrestlers out of districts, earning a chance to compete in regional action at Gaylord High School, Saturday.

But considering the Tigers seeds and their relative youth, it was going to be hard to get a lot of Fenton wrestlers to place at the regional and qualify for the Division 2 state meet being held at Ford Field March 1 and March 2.

The Tigers gained some valuable experience at the regional as returning All-State wrestler Jayden Rittenbury was the sole Fenton wrestler to advance from the regional.

Rittenbury (145) placed second at the regional, earning two pinfall wins in his first two matches. For the second straight week he faced Marysville's Nick Gates in the championship match. Both have been tight bouts, but both have been losses against Marysville's 37-3 wrestler. This time Ritten-



Fenton's Jayden Rittenbury (top) is headed to the Division 2 state wrestling meet after earning a second-place effort at the Gaylord regional. Photo: David Troppens

bury (42-3) lost a tight 3-2 decision.

"Jayden is our most seasoned and experienced wrestler. Him making it is no surprise and his match with Gates was again a great one," Fenton varsity wrestling coach Brad Beverly said.

CONTINUED AT MYFENTON.COM

Fenton girls ski takes second at divisional meet

By David Troppens

The Fenton/Linden/Lake Fenton co-op varsity girls ski team (FLLF) hasn't been able to compete a lot this winter due to cancellations, but the squad is making up for it during the big meet portion of the season.

Already qualifiers for the state meet, the FLLF squad placed first at the Mt. Holly Divisional Championships. Meanwhile, the FLLF boys squad also did well, taking second.

Emma Hiscock led the girls by taking third in the giant slalom (GS) with a time of 46.79 seconds and third in the slalom with a time of 1:01.18. Julia Young was fourth in the GS (47.87), followed by Lara Kemp in fifth (47.92) and Rachel Smith in seventh (48.13). Smith was ninth in the slalom (1:07.54), followed by Kemp in 13th (1:10.43) and Daisey Horne in 14th (1:10.88).

CONTINUED AT
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Online Exclusives STORIES ONLINE AT MYFENTON.COM

Fenton cheer leads area teams at regional meets

It was going to be a tight battle for the Fenton varsity competitive cheer team to get out of the Linden district held Saturday at Linden High School.

Entering it, the Tigers were one of many teams that looked to have a legitimate chance of finishing in the top four

and advancing to next week's Division 2 regional round.

However, the Tigers fell just short as they finished fifth, about 21 points behind fourth-place Clio. Holly and Linden also competed, with Holly placing ninth and the Eagles taking 11th.

Tigers finish fourth in Metro League standings

The winter weather has created a lot of chaos to a lot of the winter sports seasons, and the competitive cheer season was no exception.

Because of bad weather, the final two

Metro League jamborees were within three days of each other. The week started with the Monday event at Owosso, followed by the final meet at Clio on Thursday.

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PREP REPORT

HOCKEY

► DeWitt 4, Fenton/Linden 3:

The Griffins had goals from Adrien Ganslandt, Zach Eakes and Caleb Baker but it wasn't enough to keep the squad from falling to DeWitt. Liam Murray made 28 saves in net.

► Walled Lake Northern 6, Fenton/Linden 4:

Josh Appleberg had two goals while Dylan Conte and Zach Eakes had a goal each. Loren Jones had 23 saves in net.

BOYS BASKETBALL

► Linden JV 52, Holly JV 34: Gavin Wildeman led the Eagles (12-5) with 21 points while Lance Barkholz netted nine and DJ Robbins had six. Shane Eberhard had five points.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► Corunna 70, Lake Fenton 47: The Blue Devils fell behind 19-5 in the first quarter against the sixth-ranked team in Division 2, but played pretty well from that point in the loss.

"They jumped on us in the first quarter, but we also missed 10 relatively easy shots in the first quarter," Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. "That's a lot of shots to miss. They weren't pressuring us or anything special. We just missed a lot of makable shots."

The Blue Devils were led by Morgan Furey's 15 points while Katelyn Siebert netted 10 points. Aubrey Fray had nine points.

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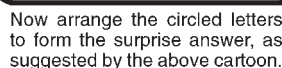
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Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times



Level: Intermediate

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