



Two Linden Holiday Happening parade participants dressed as Cindy Lou Who and the Grinch on Friday, Dec. 6. They walked the crowded streets and took photos with children before and during festivities. **See story on page 6.** Photo: Hannah Ball

Local teen falls into cancer diagnosis

■ First fundraiser is today at 4:15 p.m. for AGS volleyball 'Orange-Out'

By Sally Rummel

A fall at school Monday, Dec. 2 just may have saved Makenzie "Kenzie" Lawson's life.

This Fenton AGS Middle School eighth grader fell and hurt her knee and a teacher noticed how swollen the girl's leg was under her leggings. She also had a number of other unexplained bruises, which didn't alarm anyone since Makenzie, 13, is an active volleyball player on two teams.

Early medical intervention led to blood work last Tuesday and a bone marrow biopsy Wednesday. Three hours later, doctors at Hurley Medical Center

See TEEN DIAGNOSIS on 5

Tri-county area rings in the holidays



Fenton Jinglefest — Fenton High School marching band marches north through the downtown Saturday, Dec. 7. **See story on page 7.** Photo: Tim Jagielo

Holly interim police chief 'grateful' for time

■ Scott Fischer finishes impactful tenure before moving to Florida

By Tim Jagielo

Holly — The last act of Interim Holly Police Chief Scott Fischer was covering the Dickens Festival parade and tree lighting Friday, Nov. 29. He was there to oversee security and interact with visitors.

After it was over, he chatted with **See POLICE CHIEF on 5**



Holly Dickens Festival — Clark "The Juggler" Lewis performs at Holly Dickens Festival on Saturday, Dec. 7. The festival also runs this coming weekend. **Photo: Tim Jagielo**



“Just a reminder that Wreaths Across America can be purchased online and will be placed on graves at Great Lakes National Cemetery on Dec. 14 at 12 p.m. Come and help place wreaths if you can. Thanks.”



“I love the adorable 'good morning' signs a resident posted in Tyrone. They are so uplifting and make me smile every morning. Their kindness is appreciated.”



“So much to see and do in Fenton, Linden and Holly this past weekend. My family came in from out of town and loved all the places we took them.”



Veterinarians at higher risk for suicide

■ Dealing with death on regular basis one of main factors

By Hannah Ball

Veterinarians are at an “increased risk” for suicide, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Approximately 400 veterinarians died by suicide between 1979 and 2015, according to a CDC study. Seventy-five percent worked in small animal practice.

Chris Repke, doctor of veterinary medicine and owner of Point Animal Hospital in Fenton, said he’s not surprised by this.

In 2017, of the 110,531 veterinarians in the U.S., 66,731 were female and 43,662 were male. Female veterinarians are 3.5 times as likely and male veterinarians were 2.1 times as likely to die from sui-

cide compared to the general population.

Since 2000, the number of female veterinarian suicide deaths was stable at 10 percent, but the number has been increasing steadily.

While experts say there isn’t one cause for suicide, the everyday job of a veterinarian differs from a normal 9-5 office job.

“It’s different from some other businesses with our connection to death. It’s a regular part of our day. We’re just exposed to it a lot more frequently than a plumber or accountant,” he said.

The most stressful part is seeing the effect on pet owners when they have to put down an animal.

“It’s sad but everyone knows it’s a necessary thing. It’s hard doing that when maybe the owner is 80 years old and their wife or husband is gone and their pet is

“It’s a tough conversation to broach with people.”

Chris Repke
Pointe Animal Hospital
DMV and owner



Chris Repke, DVM and owner of Pointe Animal Hospital, checks on Tigger, a cat brought to the clinic in 2018. **Times file photo**

their primary companion,” he said.

Another factor could be the cost of pet care and costly surgeries. In 2018, Americans spent more than \$72 billion on their pets, and more than \$18 billion was for vet care, according to the American Pet Products Association (APPA).

Some pet owners become upset with the veterinarians and vet techs over money. A 2014 survey by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) found one in five veterinarians were either cyber-bullied by pet owners, who write mean reviews online or threaten their business, or knew a colleague who experienced this.

Repke said there will always be people who complain about cost, but they focus on providing value.

“Holidays come around, and the economy has been okay but not great. Times

are tight for some people and money is a concern so you just manage that the best you can,” he said.

According to a 2014 survey by the CDC, of more than 11,000 U.S. veterinarians, approximately 9 percent had current serious psychological distress, 31 percent had experienced depressive episodes, and 17 percent had experienced suicidal ideation since leaving veterinary school.

Repke said he doesn’t go out of his way to talk about mental health with his employees, but they’re avid readers and talk about these topics when they come up in the news.

“It’s a tough conversation to broach with people. Providing a work environment where people want to come to work and enjoy the people they work with is probably one of the best things you can do, then it won’t be so stressful,” he said.

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‘Home alone’

■Feeling sad and lonely this holiday season? You aren’t alone

By Sally Rummel

A picture-perfect Christmas is only a myth for many people who find themselves sad and alone at some point during the holiday season from Thanksgiving through New Year’s.

Maybe they have recently grieved for a loved one, or are separated or divorced. Perhaps family circumstances lack the Norman Rockwell image of relatives smiling around the holiday table.

Whatever the reason, support and resources are available to people who feel sad and lonely during the holiday season.

Christmas peace

Transfiguration Lutheran Church, at 14176 N. Fenton Rd. in Fenton Township will offer its second annual Christmas Peace Service on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m.

“Many people are suffering from a



variety of hardships and loneliness that can be made worse during the holidays,” said Mark Fisher, D. Min., TLC’s pastor. “The Christmas Peace Service is meant to be shared with all people. Our desire is to create a moment of peace that can lead to hope for all who attend.”

This peace service will feature familiar, comforting songs, readings, prayers, a short reflection and open table communion for anyone who wants to participate. “The doors are wide open

for all people,” Fisher said.

Grief support

Many local churches offer grief support groups locally, including:

- **The Rock Church** in Tyrone Township: Thursdays at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. through Dec. 12, and then re-starting in January 2020.
- **First Presbyterian Church** in Fenton: Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Please call other churches of your

choice to find out the availability of grief support resources.

Other resources to help people in grief or mourning include:

- **Sharp Funeral Homes** offers grief support meetings the first Wednesday of every month from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Fenton chapel, and the third Wednesday of every month at the Miller Road chapel.
- **Temrowski Funeral Home** in Fenton offers grief support messages each day for a year, after funeral services are conducted.
- **Dryer Funeral Home** in Holly offers online counseling services, as well as resources for many aftercare grief sessions.
- Many local therapists and counseling services also offer grief counseling.
- **Webhealing.com**, an interactive online grief website, offers discussion boards, articles, book suggestions and advice for men and women working through every aspect of grief.

Helpful tips

If the holidays are difficult for you personally, here are tips from Psychcentral.com to help you cope and adjust:

- De-mythologize and adjust your expectations.
- Pick up the phone and call friends who may want to include you in their

See HOME ALONE on 7



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Sharin' the spotlight The Salvation Army — 'Doing The Most Good'

They brave the cold, rain and snow while hoping that the ringing of their bell will get the attention of passersby who are in the midst of Christmas shopping or just making a quick stop to pick up a gallon of milk. Yes, I'm talking about the Salvation Army bell-ringers standing, singing and even dancing near the signature red kettles of the Salvation Army.

The Salvation Army, which dates back to 1878, now helps disaster survivors worldwide, provides shelter, works toward curing hunger, helps people overcome poverty, combat addiction, share God's love, serves the LGBTQ community, assists the unemployed, fights human trafficking and serves veterans.

With the way Thanksgiving Day fell this year on the calendar, there are six fewer official Christmas shopping days. Let's hope this shortened span doesn't result in fewer donations.

People throughout the Fenton area are accustomed to seeing our friendly bell-ringers in front of VG's, Walgreens and Walmart. Sometimes it's just one person, other times, it's a group of friends volunteering together. Some do it for community service, while others do it because they have benefitted from the efforts of the Salvation Army in the past. Whatever their reason, they are volunteering their time to help people in need in our community.

Have you ever thought about being a bell-ringer? There is a "Register to Ring"

online form on with the Salvation Army of Genesee County. Currently, they are seeking volunteers to fill time slots at VG's and Walmart in Fenton.

In most cases, a volunteer signs up for a shift for a minimum of two hours, however, four-hour shifts are preferred. To make it more fun, bring a friend and be sure to dress warm.

Fewer people carry cash today, which has had an impact on donations. In response, the Salvation Army has added a microchip to red kettles so that people who don't carry cash could still make a monetary donation via Apple Pay or Google Pay. To make a sustaining monthly gift, you can go to salvationarmyusa.org and follow the links for "giving now."

The Salvation Army's mission is, "Doing The Most Good." In these four

words, their mission is to feed, to clothe, to comfort, and to care.

According to its 2018 annual report, the Salvation Army:

- provided more than 5.8 million meals and drinks to victims and aid workers
- operated 3,042 service extension units across the country
- served 52,259,152 meals to the hungry
- operated 141 rehabilitation centers nationwide
- generated 38,987 job referrals through employee assistance program
- provided 9,905,970 people with shelter
- Revenue \$4,322,792
- Expenses \$3,700,599

In other words, every dollar counts. So, the next time you walk past a bell-ringer be reminded of the good that your loose change or dollars will do as you put them in the red kettle. Merry Christmas!

Sharon Stone is the editor of the Tri-County Times. To contact her, email her at ssone@tctimes.com or call her at (810) 433-6786.



Sharon Stone

Festival of Lessons in Carols

Sunday, December 22, 2019
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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.

NOTHING SAYS CHRISTMAS

like ... fireworks? Come on Linden you can do better than that. If you are confused on what to do, take a cue from the Holly festival.

■■■■
MS. PELOSI, SPEAKER of the House, said that impeachment is not a political effort. Democrats who are against impeachment should vote against impeachment without any fear of retribution from Democratic leaders. Same goes for private citizens who are against impeachment. Make your voices heard. Tell Kildee to vote 'no.'

■■■■
TO THE PERSON who's father is going to vote for Yang, he will be wasting his vote. Yang says what he knows people will listen to but if he were elected he is still a Democrat. He is kidding you by talking about things you want to hear and it is not reality.

■■■■
IF WE ACCEPT a president extorting a foreign government to interfere in our election (again) and then ignoring congressional subpoenas to obstruct the investigation, we are no longer a democracy but a corrupt dictatorship. This behavior is clearly wrong. Would you have accepted it from Obama?

Compiled by Tim Jagiello, media editor

What is one thing your family always does around the holidays?

| street talk



"I can't say we've done the same thing more than three times in a row, because of the always-evolving family dynamic."

— **Andy Heath**
Argentine Township



"We always get a Christmas tree right after Thanksgiving at the tree farm."

— **Kerri Waligora**
Fenton



"Eat. Shop. Gather together as a family and celebrate. We do a white elephant gift exchange; everyone looks forward to it. I'm having an ugly sweater contest."

— **Deb Henyon**
Tyrone Township



"We always go to Zehnder's in Frankenmuth. It's like a family style chicken dinner."

— **Erica Perrault**
Clarkston



"Have relatives over; from Chesaning and Brighton area. Have them over for dinner and gift exchange."

— **Dave Donakoski**
Fenton Township

POLICE CHIEF

Continued from Front Page

other officers and his daughter Shauna Holland and took photos with Liam Senton, who had just been recognized as part of the "Family of the Year."

This doesn't just cap his three-month term as chief, it also could mark the actual end of a 33-year career in law enforcement.

Fischer had retired from the Holly Police Department (HPD) in 2010 as detective lieutenant. He was appointed interim chief by village manager Jerry Walker at the end of August following the sudden resignation of Chief Michael Story.



Scott Fischer's last duty as interim Holly police chief was to work the Dickens Festival parade and tree lighting Friday, Nov. 29. Photo: Tim Jagielo

Fischer said leaving will be bittersweet. "Honestly it's gonna hurt a little bit," he said, to turn in his badge and gun a second time, to go into the station for the last time.

As chief, he pushed for a closer relationship between police and schools. The department enjoyed a higher morale than it had previously. He also was part of the search and hiring process for the new police chief.

Fischer said he worked to increase the positive visibility of the police officers. "I told them all on day number one that we were going to listen to what the community had to say and attempt to give them what they want," Fischer said. "Not what we, the police department, think they need." Fischer said this made a positive difference immediately.

Jerry Narsh took over as police chief Monday, Dec. 9. The Village Council voted to approve his contract at the Nov. 12 regular meeting.

They each individually recognized Fischer for his time as interim chief during the meeting. "Go be in Florida while we're eating crow here," joked council member Bob Allsop. Fischer delayed moving to Florida to be interim chief.

"Scott did a fine job while serving as acting chief for which we are grateful," Walker said. "His prior service to the department and community were invaluable as he filled in the gaps between chiefs."

TEEN DIAGNOSIS

Continued from Front Page

in Flint were telling Makenzie's parents, Derek and Lady Lawson of Rose Township, what no parent ever wants to hear—a diagnosis of Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML).

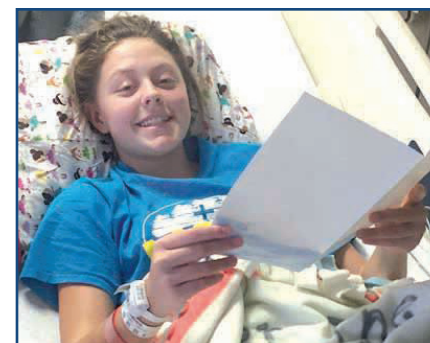
AML is a type of blood cancer that starts in the bone marrow and can spread quickly to the blood and other parts of the body, according to WebMD.com.

Makenzie is currently in the hospital undergoing three rounds of chemo every day, said her aunt, Heather Wolkow, detective at the village of Holly Police Department. She's so appreciative of the overwhelming support of the community, and appreciates everyone's concern for her niece.

"We're super close," she said. "She was the first baby in our family. I've always called her 'my little noodle.'"

Support is already flowing to the family from many different directions. Her teammates and friends are holding an "Orange-Out" volleyball game this Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 4:15 p.m. in the AGS Middle School gymnasium.

"T-shirts will be on sale to help pay Kenzie's medical costs," said AGS Principal Eric Rettenmund. "If you can't go to the game but would like to purchase a



Makenzie Lawson of Rose Township, an eighth grader at AGS Middle School in Fenton, was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia last Wednesday.

Submitted photo

shirt, call the main line at AGS at (810) 591-7700.

AGS students and faculty are also planning other fundraising activities, and there's a dedicated space at school for students to make cards for Makenzie.

Some of her friends are now sporting purple hair in support of Makenzie, who will be getting a purple wig to help her cope with hair loss from chemotherapy.

A GoFundMe has been set up to help the family with bills and medical expenses, along with a Facebook page, KenzieStrong, to keep people informed.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Save & Share event at Skaff Furniture-Carpet One raises more than \$18,000 for local charities

Skaff customers and four local charities were big beneficiaries in the annual Save & Share sale that took place at Skaff Nov. 29 through Dec. 2. According to Skaff Furniture-Carpet One President Dick Skaff, the community's response to the event was overwhelming. "It was a four-day whirlwind," Skaff said. "We were busy when the doors opened Friday

morning and we were hopping right straight through until we closed Monday evening. As a result, we're thrilled to be writing checks totaling \$18,500 to our participating charity partners." As in years past, 5 percent of each purchase made went to Carriage Town Ministries, The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, Whaley Children's Center and Communities First. "All the people at Carriage Town Ministries, Communities First, The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan and Whaley Children's Center, they all do so much to make this a successful event," Skaff said. Skaff Furniture-Carpet One, at 23-Expressway and Hill Road, is family owned and has been in business in Genesee County since 1911.

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Drunk friend won't give up the keys? 'Call 911' says police chief

■ Alcohol a factor in one-third of crash fatalities in Michigan

By Tim Jagielo

Family parties, work parties and normal hangouts are plentiful during the holiday season, and tend to include alcohol.

Maybe you're hosting a party or just attending, but there's a chance that someone might have imbibed too much, and might need to call a ride.

Alcohol-involved collisions total about 10,000 each year according to traffictocrash.org. Consistently, alcohol-involved fatalities make up a third of all crash fatalities in Michigan.

If someone is clearly drunk and shouldn't drive, the first step is encouraging them to stay or get a ride. After all, it might cost \$30 for an Uber, compared to the \$10,000 one can face in fees if they're caught driving drunk. But what do you do if they choose not to listen and try to drive anyway?

The answer might not be physical restraint. Holly Police Chief Jerry Narsh said police generally don't want bystanders tackling anyone or physically restraining anyone who may be drunk.

He said the safest step is simply calling the police on them. He describes this as "tough medicine," but it's better than death or an injury. Dispatchers will want the make, model and direction of the car, with a plate number.

Sometimes an onlooker can see a vehicle swerving on the road, or a person stumbling toward their vehicle with keys in hand.

Technically a bystander isn't required by law to report it, nor are they culpable (legally responsible) in case of a crash. While a bystander doesn't have legal responsibility,

See **DRUNK FRIEND** on 8

Thousands celebrate Holiday Happening

■ Linden streets lined with festive parade-goers

By Hannah Ball

Linden — More than 5,000 people celebrated the Christmas season at Linden's annual Holiday Happening Friday, Dec. 6. The streets were well lit for the crowded area during the Frosty Parade, which featured dozens of businesses and community organizations, such as the Linden Dance Academy, Linden Marching Band, Dr. Wax Orthodontics and more.

Sue Turpen, parade committee member, said it was the largest Frosty Parade yet.

After the parade, attendees enjoyed refreshments and food from the half dozen food trucks near the Linden Mill building,

accompanied by heaters to warm cold hands. The fireworks lit up the sky for a few colorful minutes before parents and children lined up to meet Santa at the Linden gazebo.

Turpen said they feel very good about the event.

"So many segments of the community have come together to make this what it was," she said, mentioning the Cocoa and Carols tree lighting ceremony and the popular Linden gnomes sponsored by local businesses. "Our fireworks over the millpond continue this year to be the best. So many worked so hard to make it all happen."

The Linden High School marching band performs in Linden's Holiday Happening Frosty Parade, providing a welcome beat for attendees. The color guard wore Christmas sweaters and many in the band decorated their instruments with bows, garland or wrapping paper. Photo: Hannah Ball



After the parade and fireworks, Santa poses for photos with children at the Linden Gazebo, accompanied by helper elves and Mrs. Claus, who gave out candy.

Photo: Hannah Ball

Brad Jacob and other members of the Keepers of the Shiawassee, a group dedicated to taking care of the Shiawassee River, brought paddles adorned with lights to the Frosty Parade. Many in the parade gave candy to children.

Photo: Hannah Ball



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67th District Court
Ask the judge

Setting bonds in criminal cases — Part I

Whenever a person is arrested on a criminal charge, they have the right to have a judge or magistrate make a determination as to whether they can be released from jail pending trial. Typically, the answer is yes and the court will set what is known as a bond (or bail) depending on the individual circumstances of the defendant.

In setting a bond there are generally two factors which the court considers: (1) the likelihood of the defendant appearing in court at a later date and (2) the risk they pose to society.

In Michigan, there is a court rule which provides for three possibilities as to a bond for a defendant as follows: (1) no bond for certain specified offenses including murder and treason; (2) a personal recognizance or signature bond; (3) a money bond. A money bond can be a 10-percent deposit with the court, a full cash bond paid to the court, or a surety bond paid to and posted by a bondsman.

Bonds have been with us since colonial times. However, over the past few years there have been calls for change in the way bonds are set.

The reasons for this include the fact that over half of county jail inmates are pretrial defendants who are presumed innocent, with a significant number being indigent and unable to post a money bond. Three-quarters of these defendants are nonviolent offenders.

All three branches of Michigan's government have heard these and other concerns and recently steps have been taken to possibly do things differently.

Bond reform legislation was introduced in the state legislature in March of this year, which would increase the number of defendants who would be released without having to pay money.

Additionally on April 17, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed an Executive Order, which established the Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration. The Task Force has been charged with assessing a number of different areas of the criminal justice system including reviewing how bonds are set. Its report is due to be released in January 2020.

Last, but not least, on Feb. 14, the Michigan Supreme Court announced a pretrial pilot program for five courts (including Genesee County's 67th District Court).

Next week, "Setting bonds in criminal cases — Part II."

Fenton — The 2019 Fenton Jinglefest was Saturday, Dec. 7. While it rained in 2018, this year brought clear skies and crisp temperatures. As always, thousands attended the lighted parade, followed by the tree lighting ceremony and fireworks from behind the community center.



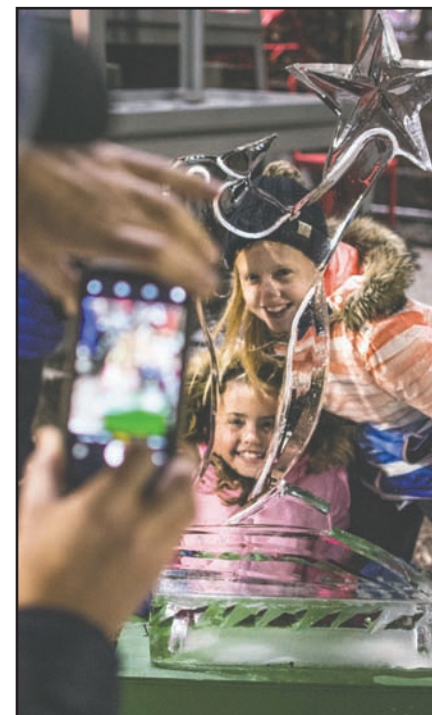
↑ A local Boy Scout troop's float is brilliantly lit for the parade.

Photo: Tim Jagielo

→ José Hernandez of Fenton Township takes a photo of daughter Kaiya, 10 (top) and Isabel Alexander, 8, from behind an ice sculpture.

Photo: Tim Jagielo

Lake Fenton High School marching band marches north through downtown Saturday, Dec. 7 with instruments and uniforms decorated with lights. Photo: Tim Jagielo



HOME ALONE

Continued from Page 3
celebrations.

- Create an alternative family made up of people whose company you really enjoy.
- Plan an outing, whether you're joined by others or go by yourself.
- Pamper yourself at a spa, with a special meal, or find another way to luxuriate.
- Reach out to family or loved ones who are far away with letters, emails or phone calls.
- Remember your bonds and your blessings by pulling out memories from photo albums, scrapbooks or old letters.
- Help others by volunteering.
- Travel — get away for a few days. If you're alone for the first time, get out of your traditional holiday routine for a new perspective and perhaps a fresh tradition.
- Get through the day — read, sleep, rent movies, watch the Hallmark Channel. Tomorrow, it will all be over.

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DRUNK FRIEND

Continued from Page 6

Narsh said a party host could.

"If you're going to host a party, there's some statutory language that can do you harm," Narsh said. He said that the host's activity falls under "dram shop" laws in Michigan. A dram shop is a location that serves alcohol. If someone is over-served and allowed to drive, any damage caused by the party guest's drunk driving can be brought against the host in a civil suit.

Narsh suggests making it known that the host wants a safe party, so keys might be gathered at the door. "Start from the perspective of 'get the keys, and then determine safety,'" Narsh said. Such language can even be on invitations so it's known ahead of time.

Ideally, someone who drank too much should get a ride, whether from a friend or from a ride sharing service.

Hewitt Judson of Fenton Township drives for Uber, the popular ride sharing company. His calls include transporting people who are avoiding driving drunk.

He said it is difficult to get an Uber

How to speak to someone who may be inebriated

Rosie Ellison, LLMFT (limited licensed marriage and family therapist with Peace Services PC) suggests being kind and non-accusatory. She said simple dialogue is best. However, "you can't compromise if it means they end up driving," she said.

driver in the Fenton and Linden area. "There is less call for rides from those areas, and consequently fewer drivers make themselves available there," Judson said.

He said if a car is available, it can take up to 20 minutes to arrive.

Fenton Police said they would make every effort to help someone get a ride if the tipsy person calls police for help. "We'd help them call friends or a family member," said Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater. He urges partygoers to be proactive and prepared before they go out.

Safe ride options

In advance of any get-together, designate a non-drinking friend or family member to drive you home.

Getting a Lyft or Uber ride can be difficult unless you're in a larger Michigan city. There are options in Fenton and surrounding areas that can help.

Hey Taxi!

This company is headquartered at Bishop Airport. Call (810) 629-7080 for a ride. It will cost \$27 at a minimum. Allow 25 to 30 minutes for a ride. You can set up a reservation at reservation@heytaxi.us.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

DOES FREEDOM OF religion mean I can refuse to participate in any religion?

LOVE THE NEW lights on Donaldson.

WOULD SOMEONE PLEASE straighten the yellow warning post that's in the island on Donaldson by the school?

Our Future

Meet

Emma Harper

- Fenton High School senior
- Future dental hygienist
- Animal, nature lover

By Vera Hogan

Emma Harper, 17, is a senior at Fenton High School. She plans to attend Mott Community College after graduation and study to become a dental hygienist.

What is the best thing about your family and friends?

The best thing about my family is the support and love they always give me. The person I most admire is my good friend Teasha Kurmas. I couldn't live without my family and friends because they mean so much to me.

What have you done or would you do to handle some things that bother you?

One thing I have done is let go of toxic friends and stopped giving in. Cancer is a problem. If I had \$1,000 to donate, I would donate to cancer patients because the disease runs in our family and we need a cure to help more people.

How long should parents be expected to pay for and house their children.

I think children should leave home and/or be expected to be on their own financially by 21 years old. I've also been asked if young people, ages 18-22, should serve a two-year stint in our military to learn the value of the freedom we enjoy. My answer is 'no' because I think most young people have learned that lesson. The United States is a great place to live because of our freedom.

If you could ask your pet three questions, what would they be?

I would ask 'what is it like to be a dog?' 'Do you like me?' 'And what's it like walking on four legs all the time?' I love animals and nature, mostly the jungles and forests and animals.

If not in Michigan, where would you like to live? And if you had to



give up your cell phone/internet for a weekend what would you do?

If I didn't live in Michigan, I would live in Florida. And I would travel to Italy if I didn't have my cell phone or internet for a weekend.

If you were President, what's one thing you would change? Also, which historical figure do you admire most?

If I were the President, I would give more money to schools. I admire Susan B. Anthony the most because she helped get women the right to vote.

Would you live a week in the past or future, and if you could time travel, where would you go?

I would time-travel to the 1970s because of the unique style back then. I would rather live a week in the future to see where I am in life.

What do you remember most about your early and later school years?

In kindergarten, I remember chocolate milk, small bathrooms and blocks to build castles. Being a teenager today is harder because life is not as simple as it used to be.

What cartoon character describes you the best, and what superhero power would you like to have?

Princess Bubblegum is the cartoon character that best describes me. As far as a superhero power, I would like to read minds.

What are your food favorites?

If I were to open a store it would be called 'Cupcakes Made By Emma,' and if I opened a restaurant it would feature Mexican food.

What do you look forward to when you wake up in the morning?

The sun!

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Detroit Pistons team up to give 50 kids a behind-the-scenes game day experience

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and the Detroit Pistons have teamed up to offer 50 kids a once-in-a-lifetime experience at Little Caesars Arena on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2020. The Pistons Kids Day sweepstakes, running through 4:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 27, will give children ages 8 and up a chance to go to work and do the jobs that support the Pistons operations on game day. To enter, visit pistons.com/kidsday. Fifty winners will be randomly selected Monday, Dec. 30 to participate on Jan. 11, 2020. As part of their prize package, each child will be given four tickets to watch the Pistons take on the Chicago Bulls and will have the opportunity to shadow a member of the Detroit Pistons staff. Pistons Kids Day presented by BCBS of Michigan supports Blue Cross's ongoing commitment to children's health through its #MIKidsCan campaign — initiatives focused on encouraging kids to adopt healthy habits and get active for at least 60 minutes every day.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

I FEEL FOR the family and friends of Brady Morris. The way this prosecution of Abdu AKI is being continually delayed is unbelievable, if not unethical by both sides.

GETTING REALLY TIRED of people complaining about the right to say Merry Christmas. No one has ever told me that I couldn't say it. This is a made up issue to get upset about. Please stop.

IT SOUNDS LIKE Obama colluded with the Russians but I missed his impeachment.

WAY TO GO Durand for taking a stand. Hopefully, other football teams will follow until the favoritism stops. As for coaching, I did for several years and the politics was too much. I refused to be sucked into that venomous trap. Perhaps there should only be a four-year term.

NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Wreaths Across America

The Great Lakes National Cemetery will host Wreaths Across America, an annual holiday wreath-laying ceremony, to honor and remember our nation's veterans on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 12 p.m. The cemetery is at 4200 Belford Rd., Holly. Veterans' service organizations and citizens are coordinating the event to honor veterans of each branch of the military, the Merchant Marine as well as Prisoners of War and those still missing in action (POW/MIA). Parking this year will be off-site at local businesses on Holly Road with free MTA shuttle service provided. Parking was moved off-site for everyone's safety and to help minimize the traffic congestion in and around the cemetery. Shuttle service from the off-site parking lots will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. The Worcester Wreath Company, through a campaign called Wreaths Across America, began donating holiday wreaths in tribute to veterans laid to rest at VA national cemeteries and state veterans cemeteries in 2006. For more information on this event, visit the website at wreathsaacrossamerica.org.

Transfiguration Lutheran Church of Fenton holds Cookie Walk

Let the "cookie elves" at Transfiguration Lutheran Church do your holiday baking for you and attend their 14th annual Cookie Walk this Saturday, Dec. 14. Doors open at 9 a.m., greeting you with the sweet aroma of freshly baked cookies in more than 50 different varieties — from classics like Vanilla Crescents, to the sophisticated taste of Lavender Lemon Mint cookies. Cookie-lovers are encouraged to come early for the best selection. A Christmas Bazaar and handmade quilt raffle will be taking place at the same time. Santa Claus and a North Pole elf will also make a special visit to the church, at 14176 N. Fenton Rd., Fenton Township, during the Cookie Walk. For more information, call (810) 629-7332.

Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Fenton offers Christmas Peace Service on Dec. 15

By Sally Rummel

Christmas time is joyous for many, but difficult for many others. That's why the public is invited to the second annual Christmas Peace Service at Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Fenton Township on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 6 to 7 p.m.

"Many people suffer from a variety of hardships and loneliness that can feel worse during the holidays," said Mark Fisher, D. Min., pastor at TLC.

"Life isn't always a beautiful Christmas card. We walk around with smiles that mask real pain and hurt. But we

believe the loving spirit of God is in our midst, and we can experience a special kind of peace by joining together."

The service will feature familiar, comforting songs, readings, prayers, a short reflection and open table communion for everyone who wishes to participate.

"All ages are invited and the doors are wide open for all," Fisher said. "Come as you are, and remember, you really are not alone."

Transfiguration Lutheran Church is at 14176 N. Fenton Rd., Fenton. For more information, call (810) 629-7332.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ONCE AGAIN WE have hundreds of people trying to walk across North Leroy to Bush Park for the Christmas celebration decorating evergreens. No crosswalk, traffic signal or any other safe way to avoid being run over by cars. The city is playing with fire.

I LOVE HANNAH Ball. She makes so much sense, and her writing is wonderful.

HANNAH BALL, YOU lost me at Ivanka Trump. Why would we care about her views on paid family leave? And, of course, it's not a partisan issue because it costs the corporations (big donors) money.



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Griffins score eight goals, defeat Tri-Valley in thriller, 8-6

By David Troppens

Seemingly everyone got involved with the Fenton/Linden co-op hockey team's offense against the Tri-Valley Titans on Saturday.

The Griffins scored eight goals (at least two in every period), earning the 8-6 victory. Six different players scored goals while six had assists.

The contest remained close throughout, with the only two-goal

lead coming at the very end when Caleb Baker scored an unassisted goal into the empty net. Dominic Loria provided the game-winning goal earlier in the third period on an unassisted goal.

Baker and Brendan Miles finished with two goals each while Loria, Jace Dumeah, Keegan McNamara and Nick Temple had a goal each. Ken Sorum had two assists

while Temple, Heyden Justus, Ethan Hutchings, McNamara and Carson Gardner had an assist each.

The game had very few penalties. The Griffins (2-3 overall) effectively killed off both shorthanded situations they faced, and were unable to score a goal during their only power-play chance.

CONTINUED AT
TCTIMES.COM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019 | PAGE 10 | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

Griffin's
Carson
Gardner
(front)

Sports Times

Dehart wins first game at Holly's helm

■Bronchos' hot shooting, strong defense sparks 67-23 victory vs. Byron

By David Troppens

Holly — The Holly varsity boys basketball team players were ready.

They were inside the classroom they go to after a game to discuss the events of the night. First-year varsity head coach Steve Dehart wasn't in the room yet and while the team's game against Byron was over, the players had their own game plan devised.

As soon as Dehart opened the door, he was given a first-win water douse.

"I didn't know it was coming," Dehart said. "They got me by surprise."

It was the second game plan the players executed pretty effectively during the night. The Bronchos played strong defense and effectively hit their perimeter shots in a 67-23 first-game home victory against the Byron Eagles Monday night.

"A lot of these guys are returning. Some are three- or four-year varsity guys," Dehart said. "I wanted to make this a fun night and a fun season for them. I'm happy we were able to get that done tonight."

Byron hit two early treys to take



Holly's Daniel Mathews (left) runs for a loose ball in the Bronchos' 67-23 victory against the Byron Eagles on Monday. Photo: David Troppens

an early 6-2 lead, but a dish from Daniel Mathews to Dylan Hignite sparked a 10-0 Holly run to end the first quarter. Hignite scored on a putback attempt and then Ben Gramer hit two free throws. Hunter Jackson converted one-of-two free throws, giving the Bronchos a 9-6

lead. The run ended with a driving hoop by Jacob Welch and a converted free throw by Jackson.

The run grew to 13 unanswered points when Hignite dished a pass to Samuel Fleischer for a three-pointer. Holly led 15-6, and Byron

See **DEHART on 12**



Alec Maddock is one of Fenton's key returning swimmers this winter. Times file photo

Fenton, Holly swimmers compete at Fenton Christmas Relays

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity boys swim team has won eight straight Metro League titles.

One tradition a bit longer than the Tigers' Metro championship run involves the annual Fenton Christmas Relays.

The Tigers hosted their annual event with many of the area's strongest squads, placing ninth out of the 14 teams in the field. The Holly Bronchos also competed, taking 11th while the Kearsley/Lake Fenton co-op placed 12th. The Tigers were the highest placing Metro League squad at the event.

The area's top performance in an event was posted by the Tigers' 800 freestyle relay team of Anthony Barnett, Joel Diccion, Alec Maddock and Jake Kennedy. They placed third with

See **RELAYS on 12**



Lake Fenton's Macy Phillips (left) and Katelyn Siebert (center) defend an Imlay City player during the Blue Devils' 59-43 victory against Imlay City.

Photo: Erin Wetzel

Blue Devils start strong, defeat Imlay City, 59-43

By David Troppens

Good starts can be overrated.

But Friday's for the Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team was pretty critical. Lake Fenton used a fast start against Imlay City to earn a 59-43 road victory on Friday.

Lake Fenton jumped to a 20-7 lead in the first quarter and never trailed.

"We got out quickly," Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. "I think we turned it over on the first possession but after that we got it rolling. Sydney (Ham-mis) hit a three, Morgan Furey hit a three and we were going. We got off to a really good start and never looked back."

The Lake Fenton lead was cut to

six in the second quarter and back in single-digits during the second half, but the lead was never seriously threatened.

Furey had a big offensive game, scoring a team-high 22 points while Katelyn Siebert had 14 points. Freshman Cola Sisk had another strong game, scoring nine points and grabbing nine rebounds.

"She brings a lot of energy to the team," VanBuren said. "She's not the fastest kid or the highest jumper or anything like that, but she's energy all the time. She never gives up on a play."

The Blue Devils return to action Friday when Lake Fenton travels to Corunna.

Linden girls basketball captures first victory of season, defeats Durand

By David Troppens

Wins haven't come frequently during recent seasons for the Linden varsity girls basketball team.

It looks like that may change this season.

Two games into the 2019-20 season, the Linden Eagles already have their first victory of the season.

Linden played strong defense, leading the squad to a 53-41 home victory against Durand, Friday.

The victory didn't come easy. In fact it came with some great adversity. During the midpoint of the fourth quarter, Linden's two primary point guards Jordan Peterson and Alexcis Parker had fouled out. However, sophomore Paige Leedle took over the position and helped the team earn the lead. Freshman Megan Widner hit a key three-pointer late, helping the Eagles earn the win.

"All the players stepped up when they needed to," Linden varsity girls basketball coach Zack Darling said.

"Jordan Peterson and Alexcis Parker helped in the scoring column, Paige Leedle helped by leading the team at point guard late in the game, freshman Megan Widner hit a big three, Delanie Prince played great defense and secured crucial rebounds, and the rest of the players positively helped in some way. We were able to keep our composure through foul trouble and hold off a big run from Durand late in the game, which is something very difficult to do especially with such a young team. It feels great to get our first win of the season and protect our home court."

Peterson scored a team-high 14 points before fouling out. She also had no turnovers. Parker had 13 points, seven steals, six rebounds and two assists while Widner had nine points and six rebounds. Leedle had six points, three rebounds and two assists while Prince had four points, 11 rebounds, four steals and two assists.

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DEHART

Continued from Page 10

never seriously threatened the Bronchos' lead. The Holly lead grew to 10 points on a Hignite pass to Mathews for another trey, and then Jackson dished a pass to Mathews for a baseline three-pointer, making it a 21-8 lead. Holly's lead grew to 28-8 on an inside hoop by Jackson. That was the halftime score.

As impressive as Holly looked in the first half at times, the Bronchos were even more impressive during the final 16 minutes of the contest. The Bronchos converted on 13-of-22 shots from the field with six being three-pointers. Meanwhile, Byron was unable to really get too much going offensively, resulting in the Bronchos triggering the 40-point mercy clock for a good chunk of the fourth quarter.

"Our defense is something going into this season that I wanted to be different," Dehart said. "I want our ball pressure and help to be a lot different, be a lot stronger. We are going to be gritty, blue-collar and that's some of the stuff we saw out

of us tonight."

Mathews led the offense with 17 points. Fifteen of them came on five three-pointers. Jacob Welch had 13 points while Fleischer had 11. Jackson finished with nine points while Hignite and Ryan Ortiz had eight and seven points, respectively.

Holly scored 10 treys. Hignite had 11 rebounds and four blocks. Mathews added six steals and five rebounds.

Holly's defense was stifling. The Bronchos forced 24 steals with many coming off steals. Byron was only able to manage 13 shots in the second half and convert on 7-of-37 shots from the field during the contest. Josh Green led Byron with eight points while Brad Hoffman had six points.

The Bronchos begin Metro League play Friday when Holly hosts the defending league champions, Linden.

Holly's Hunter Jackson battles to keep possession of the ball during the Bronchos' victory against the Byron Eagles Monday night. **Photo: David Toppens**



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RELAYS

Continued from Page 10

a time of 8:19.19.

The Tigers also had two other top-five relay performers. Fenton's 400 (4X100) individual medley relay team placed fourth with the squad of Maddock, Barnett, Tristan Bakker and Kennedy (4:25.54). The 400 medley relay squad placed fifth with the team of Diccion, Maddock, Kenney and

Barnett (4:13.40).

Holly's program had two fifth-place finishing relays. The 400 freestyle relay team of Jake Osborne, Collin Wilczak, Dean Krueger and Zachary Rockafellow earned one with a time of 3:56.75. The other was posted by the 200 medley relay team of Logan Molzahn, Rockafellow, Drew Hignite and Krueger (2:01.80).

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

PREP REPORT

BOYS BOWLING

► **Holly 27, Linden 3:** Holly's Sean Dankert posted a 190-157-347 two-game series to lead the Bronchos to the victory. Justin Mallory had a 168-157-325 series. Holly also won both Baker games, posting a strong 222 in the first game and a 143 in the second game.

Luke Webster led the Eagles with a 153-120-273 while Braxton Vasseur had a 124-148-272 series.

► **Corunna 24, Fenton 6:** The Tigers were led by Tate Temrowski with a two-game 211-164-375 series. Brandon

Davis also had a 360 series. The team also won the second Baker game 137-136.

GIRLS BOWLING

► **Linden 28, Holly 2:** Cassie Most led the Eagles with a 133-163-296 two-game series while Kaitlyn Rice had a high game of 160. Linden won both Baker games with scores of 156 and 124. Holly was led by Emily Sorter's 119-150-269 series.

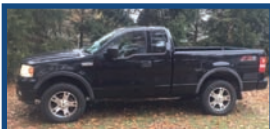
► **Corunna 22, Fenton 8:** The Tigers won the first baker game 125-106 and had an early lead, but were unable to hold on to the edge.

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Holly Area School District will receive firm prime contractor bids for the Holly High School Pool Improvements located in Holly, Michigan.

The bidding documents consist of plans and specifications as prepared by GMB Architecture + Engineering, 85 East Eighth Street, Suite 200, Holland, MI 49423. Documents may be downloaded from Pipeline Suites. Contact Jason Davis or Shawn Debo at AUCH Construction, 248-334-2000, if you need assistance viewing or obtaining documents from Pipeline Suites. A copy of the documents will also be available for review at the offices of AUCH Construction., 65 University Drive, Pontiac, MI, 48342, 248-334-2000, on or after December 9, 2019.

A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at Holly High School, located at 6161 E Holly Rd, Holly, MI 48442 on **Monday, December 16 at 9:00 AM**. The meeting will be held on-site in the pool area.

An opaque envelope bearing your proposal must identify your company, the project being bid "Holly Area Schools Holly High School Pool Improvements" and "Sealed Bid, Do Not Open". The proposal shall be addressed to the attention of Mr. Scott Roper, Superintendent, Holly Area Schools, 920 Baird Street, Holly, MI 48442.

Bids must be delivered no later than **12:00 noon, Friday, January 3, 2020** to Holly Area School District at the address noted above or AUCH Construction. Each proposal must be submitted on the forms furnished by the Construction Manager and must be completed in full. Familial Disclosure Statement and the Affidavit of Compliance to the Iran Economic Sanctions Act must both be completed and notarized. A bid bond executed by a U.S. Treasury Listed Surety Company acceptable to AUCH Construction or a cashier's check in the amount of at least 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Holly Area Schools shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of **\$24,924.00**. All proposals shall be firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at a meeting convened at the Holly Area Schools Administration Building located at 920 Baird Street, Holly, MI 48442 starting at 1:30 PM on January 3, 2020.

Successful bidders whose proposals are \$50,000 or more will be required to furnish a Satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of their bid. The cost of the Bond shall be included in each proposal.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids in whole or in part and to waive any informalities therein. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept that bid which in its opinion, is in the best interest of the Owner.

Linda Blair
Secretary Board of Education
Holly Area Schools

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Janice Lee Nash

1958 - 2019

Janice Lee Nash

- age 61, of

Fenton, died

Tuesday,

December 10,

2019. Funeral

services will

be held Friday,

December 13,

2019 at 1 PM

at the Dryer

Funeral Home, Holly. Visitation

will be 11-1 PM before the service.

Burial will be in Great Lakes National

Cemetery. Mrs. Nash was born in

Royal Oak on February 4, 1958

to Joseph and Barbara (Fulkerth)

Richardson. She was an amazing

mother, step-mother, grandmother,

and friend to all. Mrs. Nash was the

former Holly Twp. deputy treasurer.

She is survived by her husband Tod;

children, Mathew Cook, Krystal (Tim)

Foster, Jason (Lauren) Nash, Scott

(Michelle) Nash; grandchildren,

Maxton, Madisyn, Hunter, Hudson,

Connor, Kyle, Shaylee, and Braxton;

father, Joseph Richardson; sister,

Debbi Teelander; and brothers, Steven

Richardson and Kenneth Richardson.

She was preceded in death by her

mother Barbara, and brother Joseph

Richardson. Memorial donation can

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By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

The letters of these crazy words are all mixed up. To play the game, put them back into the right order so that they all make real words you can find in the dictionary. Write the letters of each real word under each crazy word, but only one letter to a square.

Now you're ready to solve today's Jumble for Kids. Study the picture for a hint. Play around with the letters in the circles. You'll find you can put them in order so that they make your funny answer.

THE

Print Answer Here

EBD

ONNU

TMIR

CENK

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You may need to stand on your head to make this get smaller.

10-1=9
12-3=9
15-6=9
9-3=6
8-2=6
7-1=6

I don't think I can do that.

WHAT GETS SMALLER WHEN YOU TURN IT UPSIDE DOWN?

Color me


Jumbles: BED
NOUN
TRIM
NECK
Answer: THE NUMBER NINE
— What gets smaller when you turn it upside down?

Midweek Sudoku

FUN BY THE NUMBERS

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

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

Level: Beginner


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

Midweek Jumble

JUMBLE

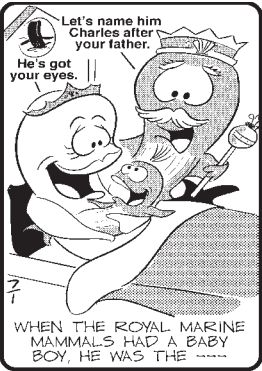
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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



Let's name him Charles after your father.
He's got your eyes.

WHEN THE ROYAL MARINE MAMMALS HAD A BABY BOY, HE WAS THE ----

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

Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

GNEUL
SLEWH
TACINP
ROLFAM

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

Midweek Crossword

KING FEATURES

ACROSS

1 Poehler's pal
4 Alias letters
7 Envelope part
11 Frosty
13 Wire measure
14 "The Amazing —"
15 Killer whale
16 Everything
17 Basin accessory
18 Intended
20 Burg
22 Sedona auto-maker
24 Electronic dance music
28 George who played 007 once
32 Sandbank
33 Lotion additive
34 Massachusetts cape
36 Knitting stitch
37 Pays attention
39 Balearic island
41 Went to a restaurant
43 Cow's comment
44 Responsibility
46 Formal decree
50 On the rocks
53 Jazz style
55 "Damn Yankees" vamp
56 Pickle herb

DOWN

1 Gifttag preposition
2 Ireland
3 Village People hit
4 "I — Camera"
5 Scottish garment
6 Apportion
7 Dowager's

pet, maybe
8 Legislation
9 High card
10 Apiece
12 Pony rider of song
19 Can metal
21 Horror director Craven
23 Kimmel's network
25 60 minutes
26 Drug dealer's foe
27 Earthenware pot
28 Dalai —
29 Came down

30 Region
31 — Kippur
35 Water barrier
38 Helios' realm
40 Coffee, slangily
42 Pudgy
45 Nutritious bean
47 Greek vowel
48 Talon
49 Story
50 Egos' counterparts
51 Spy novel org.
52 Wapiti
54 Energy

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Horoscopes

For the week of
December 9, 2019

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20

Take some time to think a response through before saying the first thing that comes to mind, Aries. It's not easy to take the words back once they're out there.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, even though it can be difficult to cede control, sometimes you have to hand the reins over to someone else. You can still be involved from a distance.

GEMINI
May 22/June 21

Gemini, sometimes it can be challenging to figure out what other people are thinking. Focus on yourself instead of trying to get into the heads of those around you.

CANCER
June 22/July 22

A focus on finances takes priority this week, Cancer. Holiday spending may force you to reevaluate your budget. It could be time to scale back.

LEO
July 23/Aug 23

Put all of your energy into one line of thought or project, Leo. This way you're fully behind the idea. You're a force to be reckoned with when you are motivated.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22

Time is running out to get an important job done, Virgo. This is not a week to procrastinate, but to bear down and finish your tasks. You'll breathe easier afterward.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23

Big changes are on the horizon, Libra. You may have wanted a certain outcome, but another arrived instead. It could take some time getting used to a new situation.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22

Sometimes you have to table the things you want to say in the interest of consensus, Scorpio. Focus your energy on positive things this week.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, be patient with yourself this week, as you have many different balls in the air at once. Even the most organized person may stumble here or there.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, you may need to delegate when demands at home start to feel a little overwhelming. Any free time you can muster will be put to good use.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18

Some situations are beyond your control, Aquarius. Fixating on the things you cannot change will not prove productive. Surround yourself with friends.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20

Enjoy the moments that you have with family members in the weeks to come, Pisces. These are the most reliable people in your life.

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