Police warn of dangerous sales transactions

■Use Fenton police station lobby, which is open 24/7 and monitored

By Sharon Stone

Fenton police are warning individu-

als against meeting unknown people in random parking lots when selling or buying an item discussed over social media.

Two local residents were recently scammed: one of whom was robbed at gunpoint.

Lt. Jeff Cross of the Fenton Police Department said a 29-year-old Holly woman agreed to meet an unknown buyer she had communicated with through Facebook Messenger at a gas station in the 3200 block of Owen Road at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 26. She

was selling her iPhone X for \$600. Cross said if new, the phone would be valued at \$1,500.

The buyer, described as a black male, between 20 and 30 years old, gave her \$600 cash and she gave him the phone. See DANGEROUS on 29

\$1.00



Don't become a victim of package theft

■Use tracking number, request signature, get text notifications

By Hannah Ball

It's the Christmas season, which for many means online shopping and/or sending gifts across the country. Approximately 11 million homeowners said a package was stolen from their porch in the last year, according to parcelpending.com.

See PACKAGE THEFT on 22

State of the vape in 2019

■CDC discourages use of THC vapes; Michigan flavor ban is short-lived

By Tim Jagielo



Vaping has increased in popularity over the past decade. Users say it's a viable quit-smoking option, while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) wants smokers to use other methods to break the cigarette habit.

See VAPE on 23





closed in Argentine. Thanks for trying, Phil."

'Shop with a Hero'



Fenton Township firefighter Kristy Polidan (center) shops with Lake Fenton Community Schools children Tuesday, Dec. 10 at the Owen Road Target. "Shop with a Hero" featured Fenton Township Firefighters Association members and EMTs from STAT EMS and MMR shopping with underprivileged youth. See story on Page 8. Photo: Tim Jagielo



Complaining about Linden's fireworks? Really? People really will complain about anything, just to complain. I thought

the fireworks were beautiful and I really enjoyed them. Is there a reason fireworks can only be enjoyed in July?"



G agree with the Hot-liner about slowing down on Owen Road. It's not a highway. People drive too fast on Silver Lake Road,

too. The speed limit is 25, then 35 when traveling eastbound by Price's Airport. Get off my bumper and do the posted speed limit."

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

Cookie walks that churches have are the best way to get a variety of cookies without having to do all the baking yourself. They are all homemade by the members of the church. I've been to a lot of them and the one on Saturday at the north end of Fenton is the best."

LEGACY REALTY PROFESSIONALS, INC. 810-629-1511



FENTON TWP 16368 Trotter Lakeview Farms! 2,238 sq ft colonial with 4 bedrooms & 3 full baths. Home also features large open kitchen, family room with fireplace. \$309,900



GRAND BLANC 9212 Timberline Ct. This wonderful ranch style home is located on a +/- 1 acre quiet cul-de-sac lot, minutes from Genesys Health Park. \$189,900

Call Jim Romano 810-730-6556



SOUTH LYON 61161 Green Wood Priced to sell! Pet friendly, ground floor ranch with many updates! Hurry! \$133,899 Call Perry Green 810-766-3340



DAVISON TWP. 2491 Blarney Seller motivated! Cozy home nestled on a large half acre corner lot. \$118,000 Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



FENTON 601 S. East St. 3 bedroom, 1 full 1 half bath 1,410 sq ft home on corner lot with a 2 car garage & full basement. Walking distance to downtown fenton!! \$149,900

Call Peter Putman 810-922-6502



GRAND BLANC 14204 Pinehurst The fairways at Woodfield Condominium. The unit is located on the second floor with a deck overlooking woods, and natural country setting.

\$109.900 Call Patrik Welty 810-240-0418



MARATHON TWP. 4569 Klam Immediate occupancy on this ranch in Columbiaville on a huge 9 acre lot w/pond on quiet street.

\$169,900 Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



FLINT 2123 Mountain Ave. College cultural area. This brick home with over 1500 sq ft is ready for your family. Fireplace in living room. HW floors. Freshly painted, and newer mechanicals. \$89,900 Call Patrik Welty 810-240-0418



MILFORD 1875 Hickory Ridge New well and septic, 2.8 acres, easy access to 23. \$235,000 Call Lauren George 810-293-1253



GRAND BLANC 5280 Northwood 4 bedrooms lot overlooking pond and nature area. Landscaped, retaining wall and stamped concrete lined driveway! \$214,900

Call Patrik Welty 810-240-0418



DAVISON 6375 Wilson This home has updates galore but the newly remodeled kitchen is the centerpiece. \$144,900

Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



CLAYTON TWP. 3129 Morrish Rd. Move-in ready! Beautiful home on a tranquil lot just over a half acre. 2 car attached garage with loft storage. \$125,000[°] Call Jim Romano 810-730-6556



HOLLY TWP. 2473 Houser Nice well maintained country ranch home, on almost 2 acres. Huge pole barn is in good condition. \$214,900 Call Tammy Harper 248-459-8688



FENTON 16371 Oak Hill All sports Lobdell Lake! Open floor plan & walkout basement. \$284,900 Call Patrik Welty 810-240-0418



GRAND BLANC TWP. 5473 Green Bank Dr. Beautiful brick home in great location. \$329,000 Call Tammy Harper 248-459-8688



FENTON N. Leroy St. Vacant lot in the city of Fenton. Close to downtown, bush park, the Shiawassee River and more. Survey on file. \$29,900 Call Patrik Welty 810-240-0418



Experienced Agents

Bestselling fiction and nonfiction book selections

There's nothing like a good read on a cold winter's day

By Vera Hogan

Whether it's fiction or nonfiction, some people just can't sleep at night without first reading a few (or more) chapters from a good book. If that person is on your Christmas giftgiving list, here are the top five selections from each category on the New York Times Bestseller List (as of Dec. 15).

Find these books and more at Fenton's Open Book, 105 W. Shiawassee in downtown Fenton, or at other local book dealers.



COMBINED PRINT & E-BOOK FICTION

1.THE RISE OF MAGICKS Bv Nora Roberts

The third book in the Chronicles of The One series. Fallon Swift goes up against an old foe.

2. CRISS CROSS

Bv James Patterson The 27th book in the Alex Cross series. Copycat crimes make the detective question whether an innocent man was executed.

3. THE GUARDIANS

By John Grisham Cullen Post, a lawyer and Episcopal

minister, antagonizes some ruthless killers when he takes on a wrongful conviction case.

4. A MINUTE TO MIDNIGHT By David Baldacci

When Atlee Pine returns to her hometown to investigate her sister's kidnapping from 30 years ago, she winds up tracking a potential serial killer.

5. WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING By Delia Owens

In a quiet town on the North Carolina coast in 1969, a young woman who survived alone in the marsh becomes a murder suspect. See BOOKS on 11

 \mathbf{B}

FULL SERVICE NDEPENDENT BOOK STORE

Special Book Orders Welcomed • Ask Us About Holiday Books Michigan Made Products • Pasties • Toys • Puzzles

ENTON'S OPEN BOOK

105 West Shiawassee Ave. (810) 629-8000 www.fentonsopenbook.wixsite.com/main • Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

The Tri-County Times (USPS 018-092) is published weekly (with exceptions) by JAMS Media, LLC, 256 N. Fernway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Periodical postage paid at Fenton, Michigan 48430-2699 and other post offices. Subscription Rate: 48.00 brief post offices. Subscription Haile: 46.00 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.



	CONTACT IN	IFORMATION
G	eneral Office	810-629-8282
A	dvertising	810-629-8281
С	lassifieds	810-433-6787
С	irculation	810-433-6797
Н	lot Line	myfenton.com

EDITORIAL S	TAFF
-------------	------

Editor Sharon Stone	810-433-6786	sstone@tctimes.com
Associate Editor Vera Hogan	810-433-6823	vhogan@tctimes.com
Media Editor Tim Jagielo	810-433-6795	tjagielo@tctimes.com
Staff Reporter Hannah Ball	810-433-6792	hball@tctimes.com
Features Writer Sally Rummel		news@tctimes.com
Sports Editor David Troppens	810-433-6789	dtroppens@tctimes.com

The opinions and/or views expressed in the Tri-County Times print editions and the Tri-County Times' social media platforms — including but not limited to: blogs, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram and YouTube — represent the thoughts of individual bloggers and online communities, and not necessarily those of Tri-County Times or any of its corporate affiliates, officers, employees or members of its respective board of directors. The opinions and views expressed on these pages and platforms do not in any way reflect the views of the site they are posted on, other sites affiliated with the site or any members of the site. While Tri-County Times' makes reasonable efforts to monitor and/or moderate content posted on its social media platforms, we do not moderate all comments. Recognition of members of our communities serving on active duty in the Armed Forces will be published at no charge

Email.....news@tctimes.com

You are not poor, you are very rich...

Just sayin'...

he generosity of our communities is more obvious during the holidays than any other time of the year. It is heart-warming to witness, and read in our newspa-

per, the many acts of kindness bestowed upon those who are experiencing a rough patch, especially the children.

To the children, if you are the recipient of a new toy, a new coat, hat and gloves, and a great meal this holiday season, you are not poor. You are rich because you have learned what generosity means

and that there are many kind people in this world, despite what you see on television. Perhaps you will think about paying it forward yourself some day.

There are other signs of your wealth throughout the year. You probably just don't know it or think about it. If your mom feeds you a bowl of oatmeal instead of sugar-filled Fruit Loops for breakfast, you are not poor. You are rich because your mother loves you and cares about your good health and wellbeing.

If your family sits down to a

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

home-cooked dinner that includes some veggies from your backyard garden, instead of ordering a pizza, you are not poor. You are very rich because learning about good nutri-

> tion is a valuable and lifesaving lesson.

Are you embarrassed about having to wear hand-me-downs from your siblings? Don't be! You are not poor. You are rich because you will grow up with brothers and sisters who will become your very best friends for life. Instead of playing video

games or watching Netflix, do your mom and dad insist on taking a family walk? You are not poor. You are rich because you are being taught that good exercise and family time

while enjoying the great outdoors are critical components to enjoying a wonderful life.

When you get into your warm bed in your cozy house every night, do you have a mom and dad who like to read to you, or insist that you do some reading yourself? If so, you are very rich because reading is one of our greatest, most valuable skills and the pathway to

everything meaningful in life.

Are you annoyed when your mom and dad make you get you get up early Sunday morning to attend church or Sunday school? Don't be because they are giving you the greatest gift of all, learning about the love of God.

Lastly, if your parents had to rely on charitable organizations and the benevolence of others to make your holidays a little brighter this year, you are not poor. You are very rich because you have learned another valuable lesson — humility.

Opinions offered in Just Sayin' are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email Vera at vhogan@tctimes.com.



Submit Hot lines online at myfer 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.

IF PRESIDENT TRUMP is

impeached by the Democrats in their clearly unconstitutional exercise, the country will divide as never before.

THE FEMINISTS ARE out of control once again. Reverse the genders on the 'Peloton' commercial. How many complaints would there be?

WITHOUT ANY LEGISLATIVE

agenda, the Democrats have become the party of hate, anger, intolerance, and division. They have weaponized the FBI, CIA, IRS, NSA, FISA court, the media, and now the impeachment process. Support President Trump.

PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS given us the best economic record in history. He has supported families with jobs, increased wages and lowered taxes that have benefited 82 percent of working Americans. Trump also supports God. America first, laws, borders, immigration reform, better trade deals, second amendment rights, and a strong military.

If you were to write a book, what would it be about?



"Oftentimes when you're deployed, you have idle time on your hands so I wrote notes for an action series about my son. It's an action-adventure about a 12-year-old."

Ed Koledo, Fenton Township



"I'd probably write about my travel photography and where it takes me. I want to travel around the U.S. to Hawaii, the Grand Canyon, the different regions and see how they differ."

Loran Odell, Linden



"I think I would write a memoir. It would be a thoughtful piece. I'm part of IB theatre and we're doing a piece about suicide. Those deep stories that make you think."

Logan Reeves, Fenton



"Birds. I'm a birder. I got hired as an assistant bird guide. I'd write about behavior and the joys of my birding experiences."

> Maureen Tulip Fenton

street talk



"I would write an autobiography and bore the rest of the world with my life. It's human nature to leave a part of yourself behind and not be forgotten."

Marie Boehlke Fenton Township

VERA HOGAN









Fenton officials approve overhaul of city's website

Will sign four-year contract with CivicPlus, which specializes in government sites

By Vera Hogan

The Fenton City Council has agreed with Assistant City Manager Michael Hart that the city's website is in need of modernization. To that end, officials unanimously approved Hart's request to contract with CivicPlus, a company that specializes in government sites.

The city has been using 3Sixty Interactive since before December 2010, when it extended its website agreement with them for three years, for the same \$650 monthly maintenance fee, and a flat fee not to exceed \$6,000 to improve the website, according to Tri-County Times records. Fenton's website was six years old at the time.

The "Fenton Be Closer" page is imbedded within the existing website. Accunet charges \$450 per year to host the page.

The two companys, 3Sixty Interactive and Accunet, were informed last year that the city was considering some website changes. "They were understanding," Hart said.

With a four-year contract, CivicPlus will charge \$24,330 for the first year, which includes the build, hosting and maintenance fee. Year two will have a hosting and maintenance fee of \$4,500. The hosting and maintenance fee for years three through four will be \$4,725 per year. This includes a website refresh during the fourth year of the agreement. CivicPlus also offered a five-year **See WEBSITE on 13**



COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday**, **Dec. 11, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282 or go to myfenton.com.

Our Future

Meet Emma Harper, 17, a senior at Fenton High School.



Local teen falls into cancer diagnosis

Fundraiser, an AGS volleyball "Orange-Out" was held Dec. 11.

Holly interim police chief 'grateful' for time

Scott Fischer finishes impactful tenure before moving to Florida.

Veterinarians at higher risk for suicide

Dealing with death on a regular basis is one of main factors.

'Home alone'

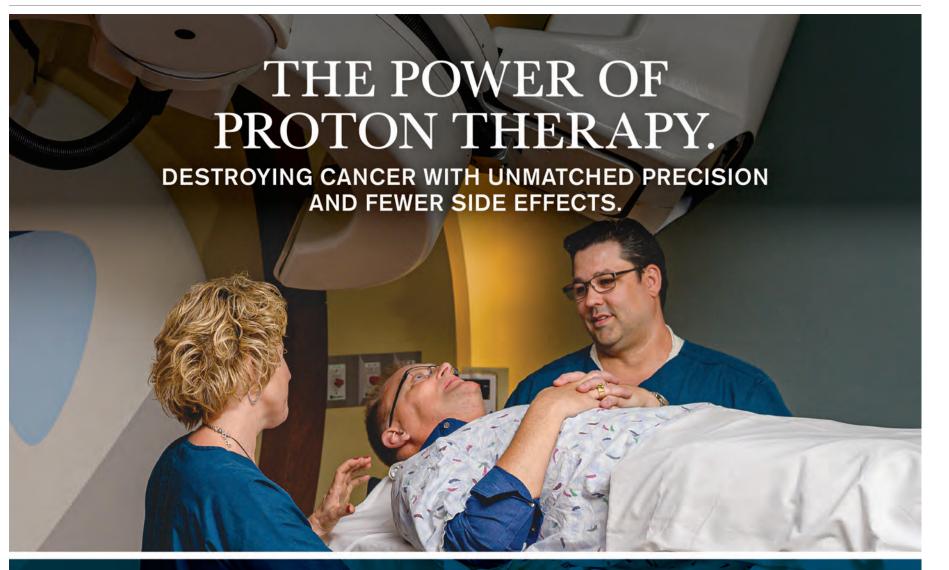
Feeling sad and lonely this holiday season? You aren't alone. Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Fenton offers Christmas Peace Service tonight (Dec. 15), from 6 to 7 p.m.

Sharin' the spotlight

Editor Sharon Stone gives praise to The Salvation Army for "Doing The Most Good."

Tri-County area rings in the holidays

Fenton Jinglefest enjoyed by thousands in downtown Fenton. Thousands celebrate Holiday Happening in Linden. The Holly Dickens Festival was held Dec. 7 and continues through this weekend.



A cancer diagnosis can be overwhelming. Nothing is more important than finding a treatment that provides your best chance for recovery.

As part of the Karmanos Cancer Network, the McLaren Proton Therapy Center in Flint offers the most powerful and precise radiation oncology treatment available in Michigan. Our advanced proton technology delivers higher doses of radiation to cancer cells, while sparing healthy tissue and reducing side effects.

We deliver proton therapy with unmatched precision, conforming the radiation dose to the exact size and shape of the tumor, minimizing any exposure to healthy parts of the body.

That's the power of proton therapy at McLaren. That's doing what's best.

Learn more at mclaren.org/protontherapy



myfenton.com

You may not think about taxes all year but we do.

At H&R Block, we're available yearround to discuss the tax implications of your life-changing events. From wedding bells, babies and new homes to medical issues and natural disasters, we're here to put our expertise to work for you.

1& R BLOCK **17135 SILVER PKWY FENTON, MI 48430** 810-629-0707 FENTON CROSSING, 1272 N LEROY **FENTON, MI 48430** 810-629-0707





Richard Guyzik Jr. (center) shops with his daughter, Bella, 6, with the help of EMT Scott Matteson of STAT EMS. Photo: Tim Jagielo

Some heroes push shopping carts

Programs like

this help build

a solid alliance

between the

children in our

community and

our heroes. the

firefighters and

police. 77

Kathleen Conover

Torrey Hill Intermediate

School principal

WATCH THE

AT TCTIMES.COM

WITH THIS STORY

Fenton Township Firefighters Association spends \$3,500; aids 55 underprivileged kids

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — Torrey Hill Intermediate School student and artist Nilah Smith, 10, has never made pottery before, but thanks to "Shop with a Hero" she'll get to try it this holiday season.

Nilah was one of 55 students from Lake Fenton Community Schools (LFCS) ages 4 to 11 who got to shop with Fenton Township Firefighters Association members and emergency medical technicians (EMT) on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at the Target store on Owen Road.

Students from West Shore Elementary and Torrey Hill Intermediate School were selected by teachers based on need.

It's facilitated by the Fenton Township Firefighters Association. Firefighter Kristy Polidan said the 2019 event was funded from past golf outing fundraisers. This is the 12th year of the event and Polidan hopes to do it for the next three years at least.

Overall, the budget was

\$3,500. Children could spend between \$55 and \$75 and those with more practical needs had a larger budget.

West Shore Elementary School Principal Sonya Shaughnessy said teachers make recommendations, however parents can opt out of such special considerations. She added that Target is "amazing" to work with.

Fenton Township firefighters, STAT

EMS and Mobile Medical Response (MMR) members took children and family members around the store helping them keep within budget. They took them back to a specific checkout line set up for participants.

Nilah chose a potterymaking kit, clothes and gum. Unfortunately, her "hero" was away on a call.

Polidan said, "It's awesome, it's the best experience ever; the kids

light up." Uncle Ray's Dairyland was on hand with free sundaes and Don and Sue Carmer were Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

Richard Guyzik Jr. of Linden came with his wife, Brandi, and their two daughters. "I think the program's excellent," he said. This is their first time taking See HEROES on 11

LOOKING BACK at this week in **HISTORY**

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

DEC. 15

2011: In a ceremony held in Baghdad, the war that began in 2003 with the American-led invasion of Iraq officially comes to an end. Though Dec. 15, 2011 was the official end date of the Iraq War, violence continued and in fact worsened over the subsequent years. The withdrawal of American troops had been a priority of President Barack Obama, but by the time he left office the United States would again be conducting military operations in Iraq.

DEC. 16

1773: In Boston Harbor, a group of Massachusetts colonists, disguised as Mohawk Indians, boarded three British tea ships and dumped 342 chests of tea into the harbor. The midnight raid, popularly known as the "Boston Tea Party," was in protest of the British Parliament's Tea Act of 1773, a bill designed to save the faltering East India Company by greatly lowering its tea tax and granting it a virtual monopoly on the American tea trade.

DEC. 17

1903: Near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, Orville and Wilbur Wright make the first successful flight in history of a self-propelled, heavier-than-air aircraft. Orville piloted the gasoline-powered, propeller-driven biplane, which stayed aloft for 12 seconds and covered 120 feet on its inaugural flight.

DEC. 18

1912: After three years of digging in the Piltdown gravel pit in Sussex, England, amateur archaeologist Charles Dawson announces the discovery of two skulls that appear to belong to a primitive hominid and ancestor of man, along with a canine tooth, a tool carved from an elephant's tusk, and fossil teeth from a number of prehistor-



ic animals. Despite muted criticism from a minority of paleontologists, the majority of the scientific community hailed the socalled Piltdown Man as the missing evolutionary link between ape and man.

DEC. 19

1998: After nearly 14 hours of debate, the House of Representatives approves two articles of impeachment against President Bill Clinton, charging him with lying under oath to a federal grand jury and obstructing justice. Clinton, the second president in American history to be impeached, vowed to finish his term.

DEC. 20

1986: Three black men are attacked by a group of white teenagers yelling racial slurs in Howard Beach, a predominately white, middle-class, Italian-American neighborhood in Queens, New York. Earlier that night, the men were driving from Brooklyn to Queens, when their car broke down near Howard Beach. They walked several miles to a pizza parlor in Howard Beach, where they asked to use a phone to call for assistance. After being told there was no phone available, they ordered some pizza. When the men left the pizzeria, they were confronted by the gang of teens. One of the men was chased into traffic on the Belt Parkway and died after being hit by a car. A second man was severely beaten, while the third man, outran the assailants and escaped without serious injury.

DEC. 21

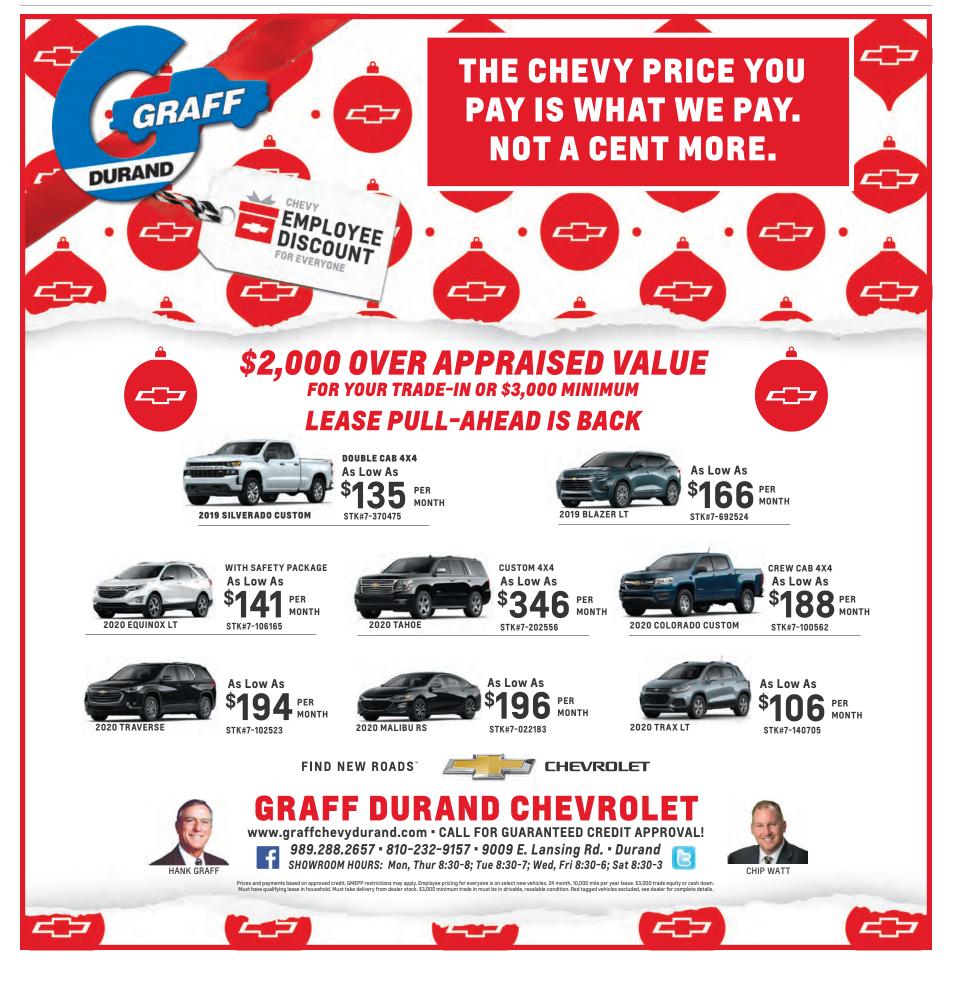
1970: Singer Elvis Presley is greeted at the White House by President Richard M. Nixon. Presley's visit was not just a social call. He wanted to meet Nixon in order to offer his services in the government's war on drugs. Source: history.com

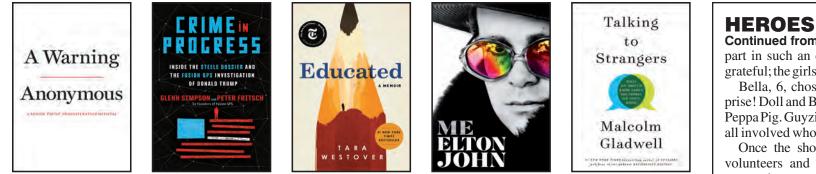
<text><section-header><section-header>



Your Trusted, Hometown Jeweler For 73 Years

134 N. Leroy St. Ste 1, Fenton MI 48430 810.629.7936 | www.SawyerJewelers.com info@sawyerjewelers.com





COMBINED PRINT & E-BOOK NONFICTION

BOOKS **Continued from Page 3**

1.CRIME IN PROGRESS

By Glenn Simpson and Peter Fritsch The founders of Fusion GPS detail their investigations of Donald Trump and the subsequent fallout.

2. A WARNING

By Anonymous

A senior official in the Trump administration offers an assessment of the president and makes a moral appeal.

3. ME

By Elton John The multi-award-winning solo

artist's first autobiography chronicles his career, relationships and private struggles.

4. EDUCATED

By Tara Westover

A memoir that describes the struggle of a young girl who escapes from violence and an emotional prison. It is a conflicting story of fierce family loyalty as well as that of the intense sorrow that arises from the division of one's closest ties.

5. TALKING TO STRANGERS By Malcolm Gladwell

This author looks at the ways we do harm by failing to understand one another, a problem he investigates through the child-abuse scandal involving Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky, the trial of Amanda Knox, the suicide of Sylvia Plath, the deceptions of financier Bernie Madoff and the TV.

Sources: nytimes.com; latimes.com

Continued from Page 9

part in such an event. "We're so grateful; the girls were so excited."

Bella, 6, chose an L.O.L. Surprise! Doll and Brooklyn, 4, chose Peppa Pig. Guyzik wished to thank all involved who made it possible.

Once the shopping was done, volunteers and family members wrapped presents in the conference room. Some children shopped for their siblings and kept the items hidden from the intended recipient.

"Programs like this help build a solid alliance between the children in our community and our heroes, the firefighters and police," Torrey Hill Principal Kathleen Conover said.

Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz said he started the "Shop with a Hero" program in 2004. "Hats off to the people that were there last night. I it was a great thing," Volz said.

The Fenton Police Department held its "Shop with a Cop" event the following night, See story on page 14.



money for a spring break trip, down payment for a car, or new technology? Plug in and turn up your savings with Dort Federal's AMP Certificate. Get a 3–60 month certificate that you can add money to as you go. \$100 gets you started!



Learn more today by visiting a Dort Federal Credit Union branch or calling 800.521.3796.



*Annual Percentage Yield advertised is for a 60-month term. AMP Certificate offers terms from 3 to 60 months with current APY's ranging between 1.05% and 2.85% based on selected term. Rates are subject to change. Minimum balance of \$100 is required to open with a \$50,000 maximum deposit limit. Deposits may be made to the certificate up to the \$50,000 maximum deposit limit throughout the term. Available for a limited time only. Certificates may be subject to penalty for early withdrawal. INSURED BY NCUA



BRING YOUR PHONE SAVE YOUR MONEY

UNLIMITED TALK, TEXT & DATA \$45/MO

TAXES & FEES INCLUDED



1-844-977-7328 | SpectrumMobile.com

Spectrum Internet subscription required. Valid on select devices compatible with the Spectrum Mobile network. Devices must be unlocked prior to activation. Visit SpectrumMobile.com/BYOD to check compatibility and confirm your device is unlocked. Restrictions apply. ©2019 Charter Communications. All rights reserved

HOT LINE CONTINUED

MR. TRUMP SEEMS to have forgotten or just doesn't care that 19 of the 20 Sept. 11 hijackers were from Saudi Arabia. He shouldn't be kissing up to them like he is.

IT'S NICE TO see that Nancy Pelosi has a religion that prevents her from hating people. What is her religious stance on abortion until term?

RUSSIA IS BANNED from next two Olympics in doping scandal.

SPOT ON WORDS with Hannah! Parents are expected to raise children as if they do not work and expected to work like they do not have children.

DEMOCRATS ARE RAISING a

historic impeachment only after being thoroughly embarrassed in the last presidential election. They've worked on it for three years and they can't get that right either.

TO THE PERSON worried about foreign interference. Obama knew what was happening in 2016 regarding Russia. He told Hillary Clinton but he did not say anything to Donald Trump's team. Can you explain that one? This is what was extremely wrong.

WEBSITE Continued from Page 6

agreement, with slightly lower fees than the four-year agreement.

In his memo to City Manager Lynn Markland, Hart said, "City websites are necessary as a multi-point customer service portal for residents, business owners and visitors. The need for a modern and effective website has grown exponentially with the advent of different types of devices that people are using to access the worldwide web. In addition, the website has to be ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant and have adequate technology to minimize breaches from hackers, which are becoming a greater concern/risk for local units of government in 2019 and beyond.

ADA compliance has to do with the ability for people with vision or related impairments being able to effectively use the website, Hart said. "As an example, there are new standards for readability that will be incorporated. CivicPlus for the new website will incorporate in the changes that are required for the city to be compliant," Hart said.

"Once we migrate to our new website, we will reduce from two providers to one," Hart said. "There will be more than enough capacity with the new website to do everything that we need. The timing is good to create some efficiencies."

The build project for the new website should be commencing within the next 60-90 days, Hart said. "There should not be any interruption while this is going on. Once the new website is built, there might be some challenges with the launch when the new site is taken online, but we will have to address those issues at that point."

Hart said the site is going to take at least six months to build and launch once the project commences. One of the foundational items that will be addressed in the complete ground-up rebuild, is that all types of technology, especially smartphones, will automatically adjust to the webpage for ease of use.



COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

McLaren welcomes psychologist to medical staff

Timothy Franke, PsyD, a psychologist specializing in



neuropsychology and clinical psychology, has joined the medical staff at McLaren Flint. Franke is seeing patients at Insight Neurocognitive Health, 4800 S. Saginaw St.,

Suite 1900, Flint. Franke completed his doctorate at the Michigan School of Psychology in Farmington Hills. He earned his medical degree from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Franke is accepting new patients and can be reached by calling (810) 275-9153.

Celebrate the Season!

A Personal Loan for Any Need

- Borrow up to \$5,000
- Terms up to 48 months
- Available through 1/31/20

*Rate is determined at time of application based on individual credit experience. Minimum credit rating required to qualify for this loan. Approximate monthly payment would be \$24.53 per \$1.000 borrowed at 8.25% for 48 months.

28 Southeast Michigan branches, find more at **genisyscu.org.**

HOLIDAY LOAN as low as 8.25%



Grand Blanc Branch 2343 E. Hill Road 810-694-1301

Fenton Branch 15405 Silver Parkway 810-714-9431





COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Hartland Glen Golf Club wins award for its junior golf program

Nicolas L. Thompson, PGA, director of golf operations and head professional at Hartland Glen Golf Club in Hartland announced that they won an award from Michigan Golf Course Association (MGCA) for its Junior Golf Programs at Hartland Glen. The

Dul Family Player Development Award – Junior Golf Program award was recently presented to Thompson and General Manager Steve Scherff. The program has grown from 44 to 127 junior golfers. Several local high school golf teams have numerous team members that have gone through these programs over the years and have then helped their team advance and compete at the MHSAA State Finals. Thompson said he is humbled and honored to receive this award. "It solidifies the work that we are successfully doing to grow the game of golf, create something families can do together for years and decades to come and shows us that golf is truly the game of a lifetime and it is for every one of all levels," he said. For details on 2020 golf camps, go to hartlandglen.com or call (248) 887-3777.

'Shop with a Cop' draws police from around county

■ Fenton, Argentine, Davison, MSP, White Lake officers attend

Compiled by Tim Jagielo

The Target store on Owen Road on Wednesday, Dec.11 would have been a bad place to start trouble.

The annual "Shop with a Cop" event drew 16 police officers from around the county including Argentine Township, Davison Township, White Lake Township and the Michigan State Police. They came together to shop with 20 children from 15 families in need, drawn from five Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) buildings.

Fenton Police Chief Jason Slater said they raised just over \$4,000, which gave each student a \$200 budget. They fundraised through various means including "No Shave November" and donations from individuals and businesses.

"We hope that our Shop with a Cop event will make Christmas a little more joyous for the participants and their families," Slater said.

Slater specifically thanked officers Nicholas Jones and Julie Bemus along with dispatcher Susan Haney for all the work they put into making the event successful.

This is the second year they've partnered with Target, which hosts the event.



Fenton Police officer Jennifer Garrison stands with Fenton students during the Shop with a Cop event Wednesday, Dec. 11. **Submitted photo**

Fenton Community Fund Give Where You Live

The Fenton Community Fund (FCF) is a permanently endowed fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Flint. Grants from the FCF support community projects and nonprofit organizations that exclusively benefit residents in the Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden school districts.

2019 GREAT GRANTS

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT K-9 Officer

CITY OF FENTON

Franklin D. Adams Park Improvements

GEARUP2LEAD

New Alternative High School Program in Fenton

YMCA OF GREATER FLINT Fat Tire Bike Expansion at Camp Copneconic

FENTON COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA Enhancing Music Education of Fenton Area Youth

FENTON AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS Read Early, Read Often Campaign



- Sheila Petty, Chair
- Edward Walterhouse, Vice Chair
- Denise Booher
- Keith Green
- Tom Hufton
- Edward Koledo
- Greg Krueger
- David Lossing
- Bev McKenna
- Dr. Gerianne Mulanix
- Chad Robinson
- Tom Rupp
- Ron Stack



Give where you live and support the Fenton Community Fund this giving season. To make a gift, call **810.767.8270** today or give online at **www.cfgf.org**.

Movies to see this holiday season

Mysteries, musicals and bombshells

By Hannah Ball

November and December bring new big blockbusters to our movie screens. Consider seeing these films this winter.

ACTION

Star Wars: The Rise of the Skywalker

Premieres Dec. 20

The latest Star Wars trilogy comes to an end with the Rise of the Skywalker. It follows Rey, Poe, Finn and the rest of the Resistance as they try to defeat Emperor Palpatine.

Charlie's Angels

Premiered Nov. 15

This remake of the classic stars Kristin Stewart, Naomi Scott, Ella Balinska and Elizabeth Banks for a dramatic action adventure.

MYSTERIES/DRAMAS

Knives Out

Premiered Nov. 27

Starring Chris Evans, Daniel Craig, Don Johnson, Toni Collette, Christopher Plummer, Michael Shannon, Jamie Lee Curtis and more, this comedic mystery is a classic whodunit that keeps viewers laughing and on the edge of their seats.

Bombshell

Premieres Dec. 13

Watch Charlize Theron, Margot Robbie and Nicole Kidman star in a film about the Fox News and Roger Ailes scandal.

Harriet

Premiered Nov. 1

This biopic shows the story of Harriet Tubman and how she freed slaves from the Underground Railroad.

ROMANTIC COMEDIES/ MUSICALS

Cats

Premieres Dec. 20

It's the movie version of the famous Andrew Lloyd Webber musical with an all-star cast including Taylor Swift, Rebel Wilson, Judi Dench, Jennifer Hudson, Ian McKellan and more.

Last Christmas

Premiered Nov. 8 Emilia Clarke, who played Queen

Daenerys Targaryen on HBO's "Game of Thrones," stars in this holiday romantic comedy with Henry Golding, who starred in "Crazy Rich Asians."

FOR THE KIDS AND FAMILY

Frozen II Premiered Nov. 22 The sequel to one of Disney's most successful animated films is here, with Anna, Elsa, Kristoff, Olaf and Sven on another adventure to discover the source of Elsa's magic.

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood *Premiered Nov.* 28

This highly anticipated film starring Tom Hanks about Mister Rogers is sure to leave a lasting impact.

HOT LINE CONTINUED FOX NEWS RATINGS have surged

with Hannity as the most watched cable show and CNN and MSNBC are plummeting. The majority of Americans are against impeaching Trump.

TIS THE SEASON to be jolly with one another. Be nice to neighbor, your cashier, your mail carrier, your delivery people and anyone else you cross paths with. Merry Christmas everyone.

- WB Grand Blanc

WBs Bistro

Excellence · Passion · Innovation · Care

Hear What Former Guests Say About Their WellBridge EPIC Experience



WellBridge

YOUR BRIDGE TO RECOVERY AND WELLNESS

www.thewellbridgegroup.com

WellBridge of Fenton

901 Pine Creek Drive, Fenton, MI 48430 • PHONE: 810.616.4100

WellBridge of Grand Blanc

3139 E Baldwin Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439 • PHONE: 810.445.5300

WBs Bistro

"I've been here multiple times and I will return again if needed. It's wonderful!" – WB Fenton





Everybody was so kind and thoughtful. – WB Grand Blanc



myfenton.com

Do you collect Hallmark Keepsake ornaments?

Don't miss a holiday exhibit of Hallmark Keepsake collectible ornaments from 1973 to 2009 on display at The Henry Ford

By Sally Rummel

Put the brand "Hallmark" in front of the words "greeting card," "ornament" or "cable channel" and you'll automatically have an audience of sentimental folks who'll put their money where their hearts are.

The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation at The Henry Ford in Dearborn is hoping that people will be as excited as they are to be the "keeper" of a vast collection of Hallmark Keepsake ornaments.

The exhibit, "Through the Years with Hallmark," will be a foretaste of next year's display, when visitors will be able to peruse all 6,600 ornaments.

More than just seasonal decorations, these ornaments actually provide a cultural snapshot of American society from 1973, when Hallmark

Keepsake ornaments first debuted, through 2009. The first Keepsake ornaments were just a low-key six glass balls and 12 yarn figures, all relatively simple.

The Hallmark Keepsake Collection then evolved over the years into 8,500 different ornaments and more than 100 ornament series, from traditional styles into whimsical fantasy. Along with the anticipated ornaments every year came a collectors' club, special buying events and print and online Dream Books of available ornaments each year.

This collection originally belonged to a family owned Hallmark store in Indiana that

opened in 1978. When the owners decided to retire, they contacted the museum about becoming a "keeper" of this keepsake collection.

The collection traces the history of modern Disney movies, "Star Wars" reboots and revivals, the Harry Potter craze, nostalgia for TV shows like "Star Trek" and an appreciation for classic cars and Barbie Dolls, among other themes.

Unlike greeting cards or TV movies, ornaments hold a special place in peoples' hearts, as they are carefully stored and unwrapped each year. They often capture a moment in time or commemorate a wedding, birth or other special occasion.

The Hallmark Keepsake ornaments display started Monday, Nov. 25 and will continue through Jan. 5, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For ticket information, visit thehenryford.org.

> Star Wars Hallmark Keepsake Ornament. Photo: slashfilm.com

Callard named 'Best of Fenton'



U.S. Awards recently recognized Dr. James Callard of Callard Clinic, at 873 W. Silver Lake Rd., Fenton, as the best chiropractor in Fenton for 2019. Submitted photo

View all stories online at myfenton.com



COMPLETE WATER SYSTEMS

- Residential & Commercial
- Well Abandonment
- Water Softeners

Constant Pressure Systems

Repair Service

• 5" Wells & Up

- Wells & Pumps Merry Christmas From Serving you with Quality Work for 5 Generations Call toll free: 1-866-4-KEN LEE (1-866-453-6533)

Local: 810-735-7144 | Fax: 810-735-1167 | P.O. Box 342 • Linden, MI 48451

Winning Social Security **Disability at the First Step**

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi file as FAST, or FASTER than all other firms. Most importantly, they do it RIGHT.



Their clients win the majority of their cases at the first step. In recent years statistics show that the average person wins less than 1/3 of their cases at the first step, and, if you don't win at the application stage, it could be years until you receive benefits.

They interview you, and unlike some other firms, an actual attorney immediately files your application. Over 70 pages of documents must be completed during the application process. Often an answer given on one of the multiple confusing forms is actually used by the government to deny your case, not just on the first step, but in later appeals. The firm does the paperwork for you. Forms are sent to your doctor to bolster your case. They follow up with the government to determine

the status of your case. Winning your case results in up to thousands of dollars in monthly benefits and early Medicare coverage.

Attorneys JB Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have been winning the vast majority of their cases at the application level and beyond. Between them they have 50 years of combined experience in only Social Security disability matters. They have won over 7,000 cases and have won over \$100 million in lump sum benefits for their clients.

In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law, attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorneys Bleske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. They will promptly inform you if they can make a difference at the application stage.

If you have filed on your own and have been denied call immediately. The firm has won the vast majority of their appeals for years. No fee charged until after case is won.

Bieske and Alfonsi are very familiar with the local judges. Office conveniently located in Macomb Township on Hall Rd. just west of I-94. Call them at **1-800-331-3530** for a FREE CONSULTATION.

www.ssdfighters.com



Bennington Hills Kennel recently added 800 square feet to its space, which includes new office space and updates to the grooming areas. The kennel also upgraded its phone and security systems recently. **Submitted photo**

Bennington Hills Kennel of Fenton

■ Celebrates 35 years in business with expansion

After 35 years in business, the team at Bennington Hills Kennel is proud to announce its newest expansion.

"We are constantly doing improvements here, some that our clients will see, like new paint or sun tubes in the grooming area and others they won't, like new furnaces, better cleaning supplies and updates to the dog walk area with sun shades," said Linda Rademacher, who owns and operates the kennel with her daughter Kris Fleckenstein and Fleckenstein's son Arron. "There is always something ongoing like decorating for our clients or ordering more bones for the dogs. We strive to make it as comfortable for the owners as it is for their pets."

Most recently, the kennel added an additional 800 square feet to its space, which includes new office space for Rademacher and updates to the grooming areas. This is the fourth expansion to the business since they moved to their current Baldwin Road location 19 years ago. Last year they expanded the parking area. Throughout her 35 years in business, Rademacher said she has seen many changes, one being the need for additional security, another upgrade she is proud of.

"We have recently upgraded our telephone system as well as our security system," she said. "Our security system gives us the ability to monitor all areas of our kennel on our monitors as well as our smartphones."

As the staff enters their busy season, Rademacher said it's so fun to see clients return with their pets, along with those clients' kids and grandkids and their pets.

"I've been so blessed," said Rademacher, who lives on-site enjoying the 40-acre property complete with a beautiful country setting and 7-acre pond.

In addition to operating the kennel, Rademacher also breeds golden retrievers. "I love animals. I get to make a living doing my hobby," she said. "It's the best of both worlds."

For more information or to schedule your pet's stay, visit benningtonhills.com or call (810) 750-4245. Bennington Hills Kennel is at 2099 Baldwin Rd., Fenton.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

DURING THE HOUSE impeachment hearings, CNN and MSNBC showed every minute just as Fox. Horowitz hearing, during Graham's opening statement, CNN and MSNBC did not show one minute. They had their biased commentary and many commercials. But as soon as Feinstein began her opening statement, they went to the hearing. Sickening.

FOR THE 'BONE heads,' that blow their horn at the roundabout. A yield sign calls on the driver to do the following: slow down, defer to oncoming or intersecting traffic, especially those who ignore the yield sign, stop when necessary, proceed when safe, and remain aware of oncoming vehicles.

I AM STILL waiting to be able to get my doctor back and my health insurance that Mr. Obama promised us we could keep. How do you feel about that lie?

Fenton to switch online payment processor

■New site expected to be up and running by March 2020

By Vera Hogan

In a few short months, the city of Fenton will be offering residents a upgraded method of online bill paying with the services of a new online payment processor.

At its Monday, Dec. 9 meeting, the Fenton City Council unanimously approved a request by Jon Satkowiak, Jr., the city treasurer, to approve a contract with Invoice Cloud, replacing Official Payments, which has been taking payments for utility and taxes online since 2011.

In his memo to City Manager Lynn Markland, Satkowiak said, "Unfortunately, Official Payments has not adapted with the changing technology and most importantly, our software company (BS&A) is no longer integrating with their system. This has caused the administration to look at an alternative company for this service."

Satkowiak said Invoice Cloud offers

a variety of payment options, including an in-house card reader. Invoice Cloud will offer the traditional methods of online payments with credit card or banking information but also will have a pay-by-text feature and ACH (Automated Clearing House) option.

User fees for tax payments will be 3.5 percent of the transaction with a \$2.95 minimum. User fees for utility payments will be \$4.95 with a \$400 cap.

"They also send out reminders when the bill comes out and just prior to the due date if the resident utilizes that option," he said. "The city will have the ability to send messages with the bills as well and be delivered through various forms of media."

The cost to the city will be \$100 per month base rate, Satkowiak said.

"We expect to have it up and running in early March (2020)," he said. "Residents will still be able to view and pay their bill online in the meantime using our current provider. There may be minimal blackout dates as we get closer to the launch with the new company."



2740 Grange Hall Road, Suite A | Fenton (At the light at Fish Lake Rd.) Call ahead for private appointment If you have a larger collection we can come to you! GOLDANDSILVERCOINANDBULLIONEXCHANGE.COM



Are you traveling anytime soon?

■Visas, passports and enhanced licenses how to get important travel documents

By Tim Jagielo

To travel the country and the world, there are several documents to consider and prepare for depending on your intended location.



What is a passport?

A passport is required to leave and to return to the U.S. It's the most important document for traveling the world, and it's issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS). To learn about all the steps involved, go to travel.state.gov. It can take several months to receive your passport, so don't wait.

The United States Postal Service (USPS) can accept all the documents required for your application, but they may have set hours for passport service. The Fenton Post Office has appointment hours between 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and until noon on Saturday.

The required materials are the DS-11 application form, photocopy of proof of identity (both sides), proof of U.S. citizenship (also front and back.) Fees can cost \$35 if you have a valid photo, or an additional \$15 for a new photo. The USPS suggests gathering all this ahead of time.

The first step is to fill out an application form. Currently this is the DS-11, but an updated form may be available soon. According to the DOS, these forms are "expired" but still accepted.

These must be downloaded and filled out and printed, do not pre-sign — it must be witnessed by a USPS employee. The fee is \$110, plus \$35 for accepting the application. It takes four to six weeks for a passport.



Photo: currentschoolnews.com

What is a visa?

Visas are required by many countries of visitors for travel, work or study. The U.S. requires a visa from citizens of several countries. A visa is basically temporary permission to stay in the country, and overstaying can have negative consequences. This is required in addition to the passport.

Each country has individual visa requirements. Some can be done electronically ahead of time and some are given as a passport stamp right at the airport gate. Always check on visas well in advance. Requirements can change from year to year.

According to AFAR.com, countries like Mexico, France, Italy, Belize and Iceland don't require an extra travel visa to visit, but Australia does. To visit the "land down under," you'll need to apply for an electronic authorization online, which costs \$20.

China will allow you to visit Hong Kong for non-business reasons for up to 90 days with no visa, but exploring mainland China requires a \$140 entry visa. Again, each country is different.

Consulting the U.S. State Department for a travel advisory is always a good idea. Visit travel.state.gov.

Sales & Service Installation

Heat pumps

• Boilers

HIGH ENERGY BILI

Furnaces

Natural gas

UBALLY

conversions

We can help reduce your

monthly energy bill

Servicing all makes & models
Furnace filters

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING,INC



Photo: michigan.gov

What is an enhanced license?

According to Michigan.gov, an enhanced driver's license (EDL) is a special driver's license that allows Michigan motorists to cross into the U.S. when traveling by sea or land from Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and Caribbean nations without a passport or other documents. Michigan.gov/sos has all the information needed to apply for an EDL.

First, an applicant must be over the age of 18, a U.S. citizen and already have a driver's license. You must also have no violations, suspensions, revocations or denials on your driving record. You'll need legal proof of your identity.

To apply, you can visit any Secretary of State (SOS) office. If you've never had a license before you'll need valid documentation of your Social Security number, U.S. citizenship, identity and residency. You'll have to pass a set of tests, which includes vision and written knowledge and everything else related to the regular license.

If you already have a license, you still need all the aforementioned documents. You'll need a new photo taken and pay the \$45 fee. The EDL can be issued that day, or it can require an additional visit.

ENERGY

810-629-4946 • 409 E. Caroline • Fenton

www.davelambheating.com

Providing Quality

Products & Service

You Can Trust

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE AVAILABLE!

Heating & Air Conditi

LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS.

mana



Photo: michigan.gov

What is a state ID card?

A State ID is for residents who don't drive, or whose licenses are temporarily revoked. They're as valid as a driver's license. Starting Oct 1, 2020, these cards are required for all who don't have a license. These can be obtained at any SOS branch for any resident of any age.

Documentation of a valid Social Security number, legal presence (U.S. citizenship) other identification and Michigan residency are required. The first card costs \$30.

Each country has its own individual visa requirements. Some can be done electronically ahead of time, and some are given as a stamp right at the airport gate.



ReGrout • ReCaulk • ReColor ReStore • Clean & Seal your tile & stone surfaces



* 1111765

myfenton.com

DINING SENTERTAINMENT CHECK OUT THESE FINE AREA MERCHANTS THE NEXT TIME YOU DINE OUT.

A+ ANGELO'S CONEY ISLAND PALACE Family Restaurant 7500 Grand Parkway at Grand Blanc Rd. & US 23 810.655.0912 | OPEN 24/7 Same great taste since 1949

CIAO ITALIAN BISTRO Authentic Italian Food 110 S. Leroy St. | Fenton 810-354-8555 Newly added banquet room. Sunday Brunch & Bloody Mary Bar 10am-2pm.









NOW ACCEPTING HOLIDAY RESERVATIONS

Christmas Eve • 4 to 7pm New Years Eve • 4 to 10pm Call for Reservations 810-750-9463

Fenton Hotel tavern & grille 302 N. LEROY ST. · FENTON · www.fentonhotel.com

Cosmic Crisp apples — 'out of this world'

■New apple variety expected to take a bite out of Honeycrisp's popularity after debuting Dec. 1

By Sally Rummel

Move over, Honeycrisp, the Big Apple is here.

A new variety of apple called the Cosmic Crisp rolled out in grocery stores across the country Dec. 1. It's expected to be the star of the biggest apple promotion since Honeycrisp debuted in the 1990s.

These two apple varieties are actually in the same family.

Cosmic Crisps are a cross between the disease-resistant Enterprise and the popular, crunchy Honeycrisp. It's

called Cosmic Crisp because of the bright yellowish dots on its skin, which look like distant stars, according to a recent story by Associated Press.

This new variety, which rolled out with a \$10 million marketing budget, is the first apple bred in Washington state, by far the largest apple-producing state in the U.S.

Washington grows about 60 percent of the nation's apples, or about 171 million bushels. Michigan is the third largest apple-growing state, with 28 million bushels produced in 2018.

"I've tasted the Cosmic Crisp; it's a good apple," said Charlie Mueller of Mueller Orchards in Fenton Township. "But as a grower, I can't afford to pay all the baggage (royalty fees) to grow it. If I had a choice to grow Honeycrisp or Cosmic Crisp, I'd choose Cosmic Crisp because they're a lot easier to grow."

How soon the Cosmic Crisp apple will be available on all grocery shelves remains to be seen.

VGs Grocery stores in Fenton started receiving and selling Cosmic Crisp apples Dec. 10, said Produce Manager Krystal Morey of

the Silver Parkway store. Alpine Marketplace also began getting shipments of Cosmic Crisp apples Dec. 10. The local stores will carry the variety of apple for a while to see how well they sell.

> Putting a shine on this apple is its ultracrispy texture, juiciness and balance between sweetness and tartness. This new variety is also known for its long storage shelf life and its natural resistance to browning.

Cosmic Crisp is the result of 20 years of study and research by Washington State University's tree fruit breeding program. In addition to helping pay for that research, apple growers need a license to buy the trees and pay a royalty on sales of the fruit. Already, apple growers have planted 12 million Cosmic Crisp apple trees.

TOP 10 APPLE VARIETIES SOLD IN THE U.S.

- Gala
- Red Delicious • Fuji
- Granny Smith
- Honeycrisp
- Golden Delicious
- McIntosh Cripp's Pink/Pink Lady
 - Braeburn • Jazz
 - Source: usapple.org

Making Christmas more environmentally friendly

■ Six tips to reduce waste By Hannah Ball

Christmas often comes with buying things we don't need, and many of these items are only used for a few months until they're dumped in a landfill.

Consider these tips to have an environmentally friendly Christmas:

1. Renting a Christmas tree or choosing a real tree is better for the environment, unless you use a fake (not prelit) tree for at least 20 years.

2. Most wrapping paper found at stores contains elements such as foil, glitter and certain plastics that aren't recyclable. Tissue paper is not recyclable, nor are plastic bags, aluminum foil, Styrofoam containers or wax-coated cardboard.

To find out if your wrapping paper is recyclable, use the "scrunch test," according to countryliving.com. To do the scrunch test, crumple a wad of the wrapping paper. If it unfolds on its own, it probably can't be recycled.



To reduce your trash load, use brown paper or newspaper to wrap gifts.

3. Plan meals more efficiently and buy less food. Food waste can be a significant money waster and create more trash that ends up in landfills.

4. Choose gifts of experiences and not physical items. Taking someone out to lunch or the movies, planning a camping trip or a hot air balloon ride can be better gifts than a sweater or something a person might use once.

5. Use LED Christmas lights.

6. Use family heirlooms as Christmas ornaments instead of buying more plastic ones. Hang pictures or family trinkets on the tree to celebrate the holidays and loved ones.

Source: countryliving.com



News you need to know

4 I've tasted the

Cosmic Crisp: it's

a good apple. 77

Charlie Mueller

Local apple grower



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Christopher Douglas Ph.D.,

Associate Professor and Chair Department of Economics University of Michigan-Flint — AND —

Matt Sherrow,

Owner of Fenton Winery & Brewery

Additional Guest Speakers Representing the City of Fenton, City of Linden, Fenton Township, Tyrone Township, and the Village of Holly have been invited to present their community information forecasting for 2020.

RSVP by email info@fentonchamber.com or call 810.629.5447

Construction begins on \$20 million building

■Vicinia Gardens announces new independent living building in Fenton Township

Midwest Construction Group of Zeeland has begun construction on a \$20 million residential independent living building at the 16-acre Vicinia Gardens senior campus in Fenton Township.

The new three-story, 170,000-squarefoot facility is designed for independent senior living. The senior complex includes 133 residential units providing 71 one-bedroom apartments, 59 two-bedroom apartments and three studio units.

"The new building for independent living is phase four of Vicinia Gardens in Fenton that was opened in 2013," said Steve Steffey, Vicinia Gardens'

PACKAGE THEFT Continued from Front Page

How to prevent the theft of your packages:

Lt. Jeff Cross of the Fenton Police Department said stolen packages do not happen very often in the city. He estimated they had fewer than 10 reports of it last year.

"Have packages delivered to your place of business or to an address where someone over 18 will be there to sign for the package," he said.

In Linden, Police Chief Scott Sutter said this isn't an issue there. He advises shoppers to track the packages online and know which company is handling the delivery. Save the receipt.

"Request a signature confirmation upon delivery. This prevents the delivery person from leaving the package unattended," he said. "Request a time for the package to be delivered when you're at home. Ask the delivery company to leave your packages somewhere it can't be seen from the street."

He also recommends installing home security cameras, both as a deterrent and to assist police in case you become a victim of "porch pirates." Request delivery alerts so you know when your package arrives.

"Many delivery companies offer at no cost — text notification to your cell phone when a package has been delivered," Sutter said.

A bill recently passed by the Michi-

manager member/owner. "We currently offer at the Vicinia campus assisted, intermediate and memory care. This next phase will add independent living opportunities."

Vicinia Gardens has plans for a fifth phase of construction for independent living cottages. The residential senior campus at 4031 Vicinia Way in Fenton Township. A second Vicinia Gardens senior community is in Otsego.

"We expect to have the new building completed and open in February 2021," said Scott Geerlings, Midwest Construction Group partner and president. "Midwest will be doing the construction management on the building and will be hiring 20 to 50 construction workers and tradesman from the local area to work on building construction."



Using home security cameras can help catch "porch pirates," which is the term used to describe people who steal packages from porches. YouTube video still

gan legislature will make stealing packages from porches a misdemeanor on first offense punishable by up to a year in jail. On a second offense, they could be charged with a felony.

Sutter said previously, they would charge someone who committed this crime with larceny. The penalty was dependent on the amount stolen. If the package was worth less than \$200, it was a 93-day misdemeanor and/or a \$500 fine. If items worth \$200 to \$1,000 were stolen, it was punishable by up to a year in jail and/or not more than a \$2,000 fine. Anything over \$1,000 was a felony.

Police Chief Dan Allen of the Argentine Township Police Department said they have no reported incidents from this year or last year.

"If you are going to be away, have someone pick up your packages and hold onto them for you," he said.

myfenton.com

WEEKEND TIMES

VAPE

Continued from Front Page

In 2019, an "outbreak" of lung injuries associated with the use of e-cigarettes or "vaping" products swept the U.S.

E-cigarettes work by heating e-liquid which usually contains nicotine and flavoring, producing vapor that the user inhales.

The vaping industry has weathered negative news headlines and even a temporary ban on flavored e-liquids this year. The ban set in place by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration only lasted two weeks before being blocked by a Michigan judge, according to the Lansing State Journal.

Mary Ayar of Vaporia in Fenton said the ban put a damper on their plans to expand, and while the ban ended, they still feel like they're "in limbo." They opted to sell their flavoring, and their e-liquid with nicotine separately to get around the ban.

They're preparing for new federal oversights on e-cigarettes that she said could cost them \$300,000 per pre-market e-liquid application.

Despite this, vaping might be here to stay — so what's going on with this relatively new habit?

A "mysterious" illness

The CDC named these vape injuries EVALI, or electronic vaping associated lung illness. As of Dec. 3, the CDC reports that there have been 2,291 of these EVALI cases across the U.S., with at least 56 in Michigan, two of which led to death.

Symptoms could include coughing, shortness of breath or chest pain, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, fever chills or weight loss.

According to the CDC studies, THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) is present in many of these cases and patients report using THC vaping products. THC is the active chemical in marijuana to provide the user with a "high." These "dank vapes" are counterfeit products according to the CDC, not sold by reputable





Patrick and Mary Ayar of Vaporia in Fenton stand by their e-liquids in October. Since the temporary ban, they've started selling their flavorings and e-liquids separately, and they even supply other retailers. Times file photos

shops. "Dank vapes" refer to black market e-cigarettes with THC.

Vitamin E acetate has been identified as a chemical of concern. The CDC recommends not using these THC products or any vaping products from informal sources.

Why some use e-cigarettes

Lake Fenton graduate Bethany Cuppernoll, 30, had smoked cigarettes for five years before she tried vaping. She experienced shortness of breath and coughing along with asthma and upper respiratory and sinus infections as a cigarette smoker. She started seeing an upper reparatory therapist who reported her lung capacity was at about 70 to 80 percent.

It took her a full year to switch from cigarettes to an e-cigarette. She said since she switched, all of these symptoms have abated.

Her lungs function at 100 percent capacity. She credits this with the ecigarettes, which she only buys from reputable retailers.

"I totally agree that no one should just start vaping if they don't already have a

11 totally agree that no one should just start vaping if they don't already have a nicotine addiction. Eventually I will quit vaping. **77** Bethany Cuppernoll

E-cigarette user, Lake Fenton graduate

nicotine addiction," she said. "Eventually I will quit vaping."

Cuppernoll said that both cigarettes and e-cigarettes have an impact on the lungs, but she sees the e-cigarette as less severe. Vaping does weaken the cells of the lung but doesn't rob the blood of oxygen, she said.

NOTES OF

The family of Bruce Dorland is proud of the city of Fenton and its fire department. Everyone in the city of Fenton can feel pride and honor in their officials' conduct in regards to the passing of Bruce Dorland, 25 years as Fenton City fire chief. Fenton was Bruce's home. Current Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff along with firefighters, retired and active, from his department and surrounding fire departments extended to the family of Bruce Dorland the honor guard, walk-through, pall bearers and fire truck escort and actual transport for old fire chief's last run. Integrity, honor and tradition will be a lasting memory and a tribute to Bruce's family Thank you and always remembered, Family of Bruce E. Dorland



Everything you need to know...



in one handy, little package! Business directory • Government • Schools Churches • Menus • Clubs • Lakes & much more!

BUSINESS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Genesee District Library names Nick Eisengruber new headquarters branch librarian The Genesee District Library (GDL)



has named Nick Eisengruber the new headquarters branch librarian. He started his career with GDL as a library assistant in 2018. Eisengruber has a vision for the

headquarters library. "I hope to continue the success that the previous librarian, Liz Kish, brought to the branch," he said. "Being flexible to patron needs is my goal." Eisengruber holds a bachelor's degree in history from Saginaw Valley State University and a Master's in Library and Information Science, with a Graduate Certificate in Archival Administration, from Wayne State University.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

AT LEAST ONE thing about our current President, he works for the American people and he tries as hard as he can to keep his promises and has to fight the Democrats every step of the way. We accepted a lot from Obama and most of it was bad.

THE DEMOCRATS ARE done with their latest attack upon our country. It will fail like all the rest in the last three years. I fear when they panic and try to use forceful anarchy to overthrow our legal government. Communists always use fear and force as their last option. History will repeat itself once again.

IF YOU WERE paying attention to the facts, you would know that this plot against Trump began under Obama with Hillary and the DNC putting together the phony dossier and the FISA mess with the help of the Russians, to spy on Trump and his campaign. Sound familiar? Obama knew.

TRUMP'S APPROVAL RATING is surging upward. More Americans are working than ever in history, with the best economy and lowest unemployment.

Search is on for next Miss Hibernia

Genesee County women aged 16 to 22 with Irish ancestry have until Jan. 20, 2020 to enter contest

The 2020 Flint St. Patrick's Day grand marshal, Tony Vance, has announced that applications are being accepted for the 2020 Miss Hibernia Pageant with \$3,000 in cash scholarships being awarded to Miss Hibernia and her court.

The Miss Hibernia Pageant, which has been a tradition in Genesee County for the past 36 years, is sponsored by the Grand Marshals of the Flint St. Patrick's Day Celebrations. The pageant is a highlight of the events leading up to the grand day in March and will select the queen and her court who will join the Grand Marshal in hosting the official St. Patrick's Day festivities in Flint on March 17.

The pageant is a two-step process with contestants first participating in a screening interview Jan. 26, 2020 at Brick Street of Grand Blanc and then preparing and delivering an essay at the pageant Feb. 8, 2020. The pageant will take place at the Dom Polski Hall in Mt. Morris Township. The newly selected 2020 Miss Hibernia and her court will be announced and introduced at the annual Pre-St. Patrick's Day Party, which is a fundraiser for the Miss Hibernia college scholarships and other activities promoting Irish culture and Christian charity throughout the year.

The chosen Miss Hibernia will receive a \$1,500 cash scholarship, the first runner-up will receive a \$1,000 cash scholarship and the second runner-up will receive a \$500 cash scholarship.

Along with Vance, Miss Hibernia and her court will preside over various events on St. Patrick's Day, including the annual Catholic Mass celebrated by Diocese of Lansing Bishop Earl Boyea and the official Flint St. Patrick's Day Party at St. Matthew's Catholic Church Activity Center in downtown Flint.

The pageant is open to any young woman from Genesee County with Irish ancestry between the ages of 16 and 22. The deadline to apply is Jan. 20, 2020. The application and more details may be found online at FlintStPatricksDay. com or by calling (810)730-4446.





The Northern Lights of Finland

AROUND THE WORLD This is the 36th story in a series about popular travel destinations.

DISTANCE FROM DETROIT TO HELSINKI, FINLAND



Your holiday adventure begins here in Lapland, the northern tip of Europe at the Arctic Circle

By Sally Rummel

Elves, reindeer, festive magic and Santa Claus — all this awaits you in Lapland at the largest and northernmost region of Finland.

Comprising almost a third of Finland, Lapland lies within the Arctic Circle. This region is beloved by families all over the world for being the epitome of the Christmas spirit.

Crisp Nordic air, pristine landscapes and the cutting-edge capital city of Helsinki come together to create a one-of-akind, up-and-coming travel destination. A December trip to the Lapland of Finland might find you lodging in the woods in a glass igloo, with beds adjusted to sit you up slightly as you gaze at the bright night sky of the Northern Lights.

See FINLAND on 28

oto: aroundtheworldin18years.com





Merry Christmas to All! RealLiving TremaineRealEstate.com John Tremaine.com 810-444-04 **G**E From. The Tremaine Family



Dog Man: For Whom the Ball Rolls

Published: Aug. 13, 2019 Author: Dav Pilkey (creator of Captain Underpants) The Supa Buddies have been working hard to help Dog Man overcome his bad habits. But when his obsessions turn to fears, Dog Man finds himself the target of an all-new supervillain. Meanwhile,

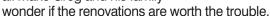


WRECKING BALL

Petey the Cat has been released from jail and starts a new life with Li'l Petey.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Wrecking Ball

Published: Nov. 5, 2019 Author: Jeff Kinney A No. 1 New York Times Bestselling Series is Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series. Once the walls come down, all sorts of problems start to crop up. Rotten wood, toxic mold, unwelcome critters, and something even more sinister all make Greg and his family



Good Night, Little Blue Truck

Published: Oct. 15, 2019 Author: Alice Schertle Illustrator: Jill McElmurry Beep! Beep! Beep! It's time for sleep. Say goodnight with Little Blue Truck and friends — a perfect bedtime read-aloud in this bestselling series. A storm

is brewing and Little Blue Truck and his good friend Toad are hurrying home for bed. But who can sleep with all that racket?

Hey Grandude!

Published: Sept. 5, 2019 Author: Paul McCartney Illustrator: Kathryn Durst This is a one-of-a-kind adventurer. With his magic compass, he whisks his four grandkids off on whirlwind adventures, taking

them all around the globe. Join them as they ride flying fish, dodge stampedes, and escape avalanches. It's the perfect bedtime story for little explorers.



The Crayons' Christmas

Published: Oct. 15, 2019 Author: Drew Daywalt Illustrator: Oliver Jeffers A brand-new Crayons book from the No. 1 New York Times bestselling duo Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers is just in time for the holidays. This special



book has letters, games, ornaments, a poster, and even a pop-up Christmas tree.

Santa's Story

Published: Sept. 10, 2019 Author: Will Hillenbrand Santa is ready to leave on Christmas Eve, but he can't find the reindeer anywhere. Dasher is



busy dashing, Donner is dozing, and Cupid is crooning. It isn't until Santa remembers their annual tradition — reading a Christmas story together — that the reindeer are ready.

Sources: googlebooks.com; penguinrandomhouse.com



FINLAND Continued from Page 25

Then in the morning, you'll begin your snow-covered adventure being pulled by your dogsled team of huskies through the woods. Hike in your snowshoes and make sure you stop at the actual North Pole, home of the Santa Claus Village, where Santa actually lives.

LAPLAND BY THE NUMBERS: Square miles: 38,752 Population: 179,223

Religion: 71.9 percent Christian,

with the majority being members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland

Language: Finnish, then Swedish and Russian

Average temperatures: 3 to 37 degrees F. in peak travel months from December through February.

How much does it cost to get there? If you go during the month of December, airfare spikes to about \$1,600 from Detroit Metro Airport to Helsinki-Vantaa Airport in Finland. Then you hop on a smaller plane to Lapland in the Arctic Circle. It's very cold in the winter, with limited daylight. However, summers are warm with up to 20 hours of daily sunlight, so the best time to visit depends on whether you want snow or sunshine.

For the best viewing of the Northern Lights at Abisko National Park, plan your trip between November and the end of March.

Where to stay

Lapland is roughly the size of Portugal, but has only about 180,000 residents (and 200,000-plus reindeer). Accommodations in cities, small towns

Merry Christmas

> from your local independent agent



2532 Old US 23 • P.O. Box 129 • Hartland • 810-632-5161 www.hartlandinsurance.com



myfenton.com

and villages range from luxury aurora viewing suites and top quality hotels to quaint hostels and cozy cottages.

Check out Arctic Snow Hotel and Glass Igloos in Rovaniemi, or the Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort, a luxurious resort surrounded by wilderness. Visitors can stay in a variety of unique accommodations including cozy log cabins and glass igloos, giving guests an unobstructed view of the night sky.

What to do

• Husky safari

Visit a local husky farm and become acquainted with these friendly dogs, the commands and the equipment before leading these dogs on a snow-covered adventure.

• Reindeer safari

Set out for remote areas of Kakslauttanen on a relaxing reindeer safari that takes you deep into nature with local reindeer herders. Chat with the local Sami people during your adventure on a sleigh led by Finnish reindeer.

• Meet Santa Claus

Lapland's main town, Rovaniemi, is officially the hometown of Santa Claus with three Santa-themed attractions, including Santa Claus Village, Santa Park and Jolukka, a rural attraction where kids can hang out with Santa's elves, go fishing, see reindeer and pick berries.

• Skiing

Cross-country skiing is a national pastime, partly because it's the easiest way to get around while Lapland is under a deep blanket of snow from October through April.

• Saunas

There's more than one sauna for every three people in Lapland. In the bitter winter, it's the ultimate escape from the cold. If you've been out trekking in the summer, it's a remedy for aching feet and backs.

• Lapland foods

Here's your chance to try sautéed reindeer served on a bed of mashed potatoes with (poronkaristys), and in the summer, you'll find suovaskebabs, smoked reindeer meat in pita bread with salad and garlic sauce.

"Squeaky cheese," so-called because of the noise it makes when you chew it, is the oldest and most well known gourmet cheese in Finland. It is served with another Lapland specialty — cloudberry jam.

myfenton.com

DANGEROUS Continued from Front Page

The suspect then left. Shortly after, the woman examined the cash and discovered that it was "for motion picture use only" money. She immediately drove to the Fenton police station to report the fraud. This case is under investigation.

A similar transaction occurred Dec. 5.

Cross said a 23-year-old Holly man agreed to meet an unknown buyer for

WEEKEND TIMES his PlayStation 4 in the parking lot of a big box store in the 3700 block of Owen away. The suspect was described as a

heavy set black male, between 20 and

30 years old. This case also is under

ment is advising anyone who makes a

transaction over the internet to meet

the buyer or seller in the lobby of the

Fenton police station (311 S. LeRoy

Cross said the Fenton Police Depart-

investigation

Road at 9 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 5. The

man and the buyer had communicated

through the app "letgo," which lets

PlayStation 4 and the buyer pulled

out a handgun, pointed it at the man

and told him to get back into his car.

The Holly man gave the buyer the

people buy and sell used items.

Sunday, December 15, 2019

the police department is always there and the area has security cameras for everyone's safety.

29

"You are welcome to meet here for any transaction," Cross said. "We advise people to do that."

In both of these cases, the transaction was done in close proximity of U.S. 23, which allows suspects to flee the area quickly. "It's happening more and more," Cross said.

The suspect in this armed robbery got St.), which is open 24/7. Someone with Christmas Eve Allare welcome CAMALA HOLIDAY oclaim the wonderful news!! toget Christmas Eve Candlelight Services December 24th, 4 p.m./ 7 p.m./ 11 p.m. finto the New Years Eve Communion Service STILL Monday, Dec. 23 withus 7 pm (810) 629-7861 rinity ityLCMSFenton utherar urch Transfiguration Lutheran Church 14176 Fenton Rd. Fenton, MI **Festival of Lessons in Carols** St. Rita Parish of Holly **Advent & Christmas Schedule** Sunday, December 22, 2019 $4.00 \,\mathrm{PM}$ ⇒ PRIVATE CONFESSION <</p> Each Saturday of Advent following 4pm mass Featuring the choirs of St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Flint ⇒ CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONCERT <</p> and Linden Presbyterian Church "A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols" Linden Presbyterian Church Sunday • December 15th • 4pm 119 West Broad Street ⇒ COMMUNAL PENANCE WITH INDIVIDUAL PENANCE <</p> Tuesday • December 17th • 6:30pm We Celebrate Beat "Blue Christmas" at this year's the coming of the Christ Child! Christmas The Nativity of the Lord **Peace Service** ⇒ CHRISTMAS EVE MASS <</p> 4pm • 6pm • 11pm • Choir at 10:30pm → CHRISTMAS DAY MASS <</p> Everyone is welcome to join us as we seek peace Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 and joy during this holiday season. Come as you are to 9am • 11am hear a personal message, special music and open table 6 to 7 pm at Transfiguration Lutheran communion for those who wish to participate Transfiguration Lutheran Church 🔳 14176 N. Fenton Rd 🔲 Fenton 309 E. Maple St. • Holly • StRitaHolly.org • 248.634.4841

