FAMILY CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS
sparkle and shine

Find activities that bring us all together in the holiday spirit

By Sally Rummel

Christmas traditions are a very festive way that families and friends can stay connected over the holidays. They can be as simple as opening up one gift on Christmas Eve before the onslaught of Christmas morning or as elaborate as a Christmas Eve pageant of “A Partridge in a Pear Tree,” danced and sung off-key by a large, local family.

Chris and Donna Anderson enjoy a meal of spaghetti and meatballs on Christmas Eve, then watch the holiday movie classic “It’s a Wonderful Life” before going to the midnight candlelight service at First Presbyterian Church of Fenton. “I have a great family recipe for spaghetti and meatballs, and it’s easy, delicious and much different from turkey or ham which we’ll have the next day,” Donna said. “Our daughter started the tradition of watching ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’ when she was in high school over 10 years ago. She decided it was the perfect movie for Christmas Eve.”

The tradition of attending the candlelight service goes back to Donna’s childhood in Florida. “There is nothing like singing ‘Silent Night’ while holding candles in a dark sanctuary to help you feel Christmas in See TRADITIONS on 4B

(Above) Fran Moore of Linden holds a few Christmas ornaments she has received from her son, Michael Moore, over the past 32 years. (Right) Jeff and Sharon Stone of Fenton Township give an ornament to their children each year. When they move out, they hang their ornaments on their own Christmas tree. Submitted photos
HOT LINE CONTINUED

EVERYONE SHOULD BE outraged by the political antics going on in Washington, D.C. Democrats lied, cheated and used legal and illegal acts to unilaterally impeach President Trump. The impeachment supporters should be careful because next time Republicans dislike a Democrat they can use the cheating Democratic techniques.

SAD DAY FOR our nation today. The Democratic mainstream media has encouraged the hate toward our president. Sad to hear that Flint is having a rally for this. Seems like a lot of effort to prove that hate is contagious.

LF VARSITY BASKETBALL coach needs a new strategy. Playing the same seven players is obviously not working. The others on the team have the very same potential as your favorites do. Play the whole team; it just might produce a win. Your strategy is not working. Give the boys someone to look up to.

WAS RICHARD M. Nixon impeached?

Helping a loved one with Social Security

Submitted by Vonda Van Til

The aged and people with disabilities may need extra assistance to manage their finances. If you have a loved one who needs your help, you may be able to become a representative payee.

A representative payee receives the beneficiary’s payments and is given the authority to manage them on the beneficiary’s behalf. The Social Security Administration (SSA) recognizes that turning someone’s finances over to someone else is a big deal so the SSA makes sure that the beneficiary needs the help and that you are the best person to offer that help. The SSA may also monitor that you spend the benefits appropriately on behalf of the beneficiary.

If the SSA chooses you to serve as a representative payee, that appointment is only to manage Social Security and SSI funds, not to manage non-Social Security money or medical matters.

As a representative payee, you must know what the beneficiary’s needs are so you can decide the best use of benefits for their care and well-being. Each year, Social Security may ask you to complete an annual Representative Payee Report to account for the benefits you’ve received and spent on their behalf. You can either fill out the form and return it to Social Security or go online at socialsecurity.gov/payee to file the report.

Due to a recent change in the law, the SSA no longer requires the following payees to complete the annual report:

• Natural or adoptive parents of a minor child beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household as the child
• Legal guardians of a minor child beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household as the child
• Natural or adoptive parents of a disabled adult beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household with the beneficiary

Spouse of a beneficiary

The SSA also made it easier for caregivers who are representative payees to do business with the SSA. If you’re a representative payee, check out their new Representative Payee Portal at socialsecurity.gov/myaccount, which lets representative payees conduct their own business or manage direct deposits, wage reporting, and annual reporting for their beneficiaries.

Vonda Van Til is a Social Security public affairs specialist.
While each family in the United States enjoys their own Christmas traditions, most of them involve the decorated tree, Santa Claus, gift giving, church and feasting. There are other countries, however, who take things a little (or a lot) away from the norm. They include:

1. **Bad Santa (Austria)**
   Kids can consider themselves lucky they don’t live in Austria, where a ghoulish creature called ‘Krampus,’ the evil accomplice of St. Nicholas, is said to wander the streets in search of misbehaved children.

2. **A Cobweb Christmas (Ukraine)**
   Ukrainians use decorations that mimic the natural formation of spiders’ webs shimmering with dew. The tradition goes back to a folktale about a poor widow who could not afford to decorate a tree for her children. Legend has it that spiders in the house took pity on the family’s plight, and spun beautiful webs all over the tree, which the children awoke to find on Christmas morning.

3. **Fried Caterpillars (South Africa)**
   When you think of Christmas food, minced pie and turkey are often high on the list. In South Africa, however, it’s the creepy crawlies that local children look forward to. Fried caterpillars on Christmas may seem like one of the weirdest Christmas traditions around the world, but these caterpillars aren’t just the run-of-the-mill variety you find in the garden. The Pine Tree Emperor Moth, or Christmas caterpillar, is covered in very festive hues — giving all who swallow a little extra luck in the coming year.

4. **Flying Witches (Norway)**
   According to Norwegian folklore, Christmas Eve is the day when mischievous spirits and witches take to the skies for mischief and general tomfoolery. As witches often use brooms as their preferred mode of transportation, it is tradition for Norwegian families to hide any cleaning supplies attached to sticks where the witches won’t be able to find them.

5. **The Poop Log (Catalonia, Spain)**
   Meet Tió de Nadal, the Christmas log. Tió de Nadal is made from a hollow log, with stick legs, a smile, and a red hat. Every evening between Dec. 8 and Christmas Eve, the children feed the log small treats with water, and leave him under a blanket to keep him warm. On Christmas Eve, children are tasked with beating the log with sticks while singing traditional songs which include amazing lyrics such as “Poop log, Poop nougats, Hazelnuts and mato cheese, If you don’t poop well, I’ll hit you with a stick, Poop log!” After Tió de Nadal is properly beaten and serenaded, the log magically poops out presents and candy — where he is then considered useless and thrown in the fire.

6. **The Yule Goat (Sweden)**
   The Yule Goat dates back to at least the 11th century where there are mentions of a man-sized goat figure, led by Saint Nicholas, who had the power to control the devil. In the 17th century, it was popular for young men to dress as the goat creature and run around pulling pranks and demanding gifts. By the 19th century, the goat became the good guy — a giver of gifts. Instead of Father Christmas, men in the family would dress up as the goat and give gifts to the entire family.

Source: holidayextras.co.uk
We walked out of the church at midnight and Christmas welcomed us with big, beautiful snowflakes falling softly. It was magical.

Donna Anderson, of Fenton

Other local family Christmas traditions

--- From Times Facebook page ---

**Tana:** My daughters, mom, and I make cookies together, everyone gets an orange in their stocking.

**Brigid:** Huckleberry RR train ride and Christmas carols, Christmas Eve dinner and presents, baking cookies, watching “It’s a Wonderful Life” and “Miracle on 34th Street.” Also, reindeer pancakes!

**Wen:** Open one present on Christmas Eve, breakfast pizza, favorite cereal from Santa, tree goes up after Thanksgiving. Matching Christmas sweaters, funny hats.

**Tammy:** Husband and I spend the day at Frankenmuth. We always pick out one ornament.

**Liz:** Annual trip to Bronner’s where each kid picks out an ornament that represents their year, decorations and the movie “Elf” and sleeping by the tree on the day after thanksgiving, open one present and Christmas jammies on Christmas Eve, Chinese buffet for Christmas dinner . . .

**Tami:** Here’s a list of what we tend to do each year. Sometimes the kids call them FFF (forced family fun), but they still really love them. They can be meaningful, silly or just plain fun: dip pretzels, watch “Elf” together, family reunion with live Nativity, Christmas carols and visit, Bethlehem dinner, hot cocoa, looking at lights, big breakfast and unwrap stockings on Christmas Day.

**Kelly:** Bethlehem Dinner (eat food from Bethlehem, especially homemade flat bread) after Christmas Eve service and watch “The Nativity Story.” Reindeer food: they get a buffet of trail mix items to scoop into jars that can later be sprinkled on ice cream. Watch “Miracle on 34th Street” on Black Friday. Make an ornament every year.

**Christy:** We have a Christmas bucket list on the wall and everyone puts one thing they want to do by Christmas. So it may vary a bit but the kids pick their favorite holiday traditions.
Laughter is strong medicine

Do people tell jokes anymore? The only time I hear (or actually read) a good joke is on Facebook. My late mother used to love jokes. I can’t begin to tell you how many times she would call me on the phone and say, “Did you hear the one about…”

It’s true that laughter is strong medicine. According to helpguide.org, it draws people together in ways that trigger healthy physical and emotional changes in the body. Laughter strengthens your immune system, boosts mood, diminishes pain, and protects you from the damaging effects of stress. Nothing works faster or more dependably to bring your mind and body back into balance than a good laugh. Humor lightens your burdens, inspires hope, connects you to others, and keeps you grounded, focused, and alert. It also helps you release anger and forgive sooner.

My favorite jokester is a man about my age, a former Fenton resident now living in sunny Florida with his lovely wife. Every morning, I open my Facebook page over breakfast and get a belly laugh over one of his jokes. A few of them are kind of risqué, but for the most part they can be shared with family and friends — and even kids.

My recent favorite is, “A man and his wife are sleeping when at 3 o’clock in the morning, there’s pounding on the front door. The man jumps out of bed and goes downstairs to check it out. He opens the door and there stands a man, obviously drunk, begging for a push. The man slams the door shut and goes back to bed. His wife asks who that was. He told her what happened. She reminded him that a few months ago, a kind person helped him when he needed it. So reluctantly the man goes back downstairs, opens the door and yells out, ‘Are you still there? Do you still need a push?’ The man replies that he still needs a push and the homeowner asks, “Where are you.” The drunk says, ‘Over here on the swing!’”

Sometimes things other people think are funny, I do not. For example, I don’t think the America’s Funniest Home Videos show is funny at all. People are getting hurt in the majority of videos. How is that funny?

Many years ago, my husband’s uncle was on that show, and won third place. He had been remodeling his kitchen and laid newspapers across the counters and stovetop to catch paint spatter. The burners on the stove got turned on accidentally, the newspapers caught fire, and there was Uncle Gordon, jumping up on the counter trying to put it out. “Ooh, ooh, ooh!” It may seem funny, but it could have turned into a tragedy very quickly.

Like I said, I love a good joke, but I don’t want anyone getting hurt. Just sayin’!

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.
HOT LINE CONTINUED

I SPENT THE last few weeks watching our Congress in the impeachment hearings and I can only say that it's a shame that we pay these idiots. The same thing over and over for the last month but no accomplishment in the end. They are truly worthless people who should be impeached.

I LOVE DOGS and our family has always had one. I, however, was grossed out when we were dining at a local restaurant and saw a lady holding a dog on her lap. I highly doubt it was a certified service dog. How does the health department allow that?

THE DEMOCRATS ARE not only trying to impeach our president, but all of us who support him hoping we are ignorant enough to buy into their totally partisan and unfounded accusations.

SO DISAPPOINTED THAT our Rep. Slotkin was not brave enough to think for herself on this farce of an impeachment. She just went along with what her party said to do. Pathetic.

DONALD TRUMP IS a genius. He tricked the Dems into a fight that they can't possibly win. So long Slotkin and many others; you got played like a fiddle.

EVEN ALAN DERSHOWITZ a liberal, left leaning law professor says President Trump did nothing against the law and nothing impeachable. The Dems are grasping at straws because they know he's going to be reelected. Now, you can just about guarantee it. Thanks Dems. MAGA.

HOW CAN WE teach our children not to tell self-serving lies when they watch our elected officials openly lying to the People? Whether you believe Democrats or Republicans, one side is lying, not stating a difference of opinion but lying. They should be ashamed, but they have no shame.
Genesys, Hurley and McLaren came together for the 19th year to sponsor the Flint Community Schools “Shoes that fit Connie’s Kids” program. Coordinated by Flint Community Schools and the three hospitals, school staff identifies students in need of shoes, and employees at the three hospitals purchase them. The 2019 campaign took place this year from Nov. 18 through Dec. 17. “We appreciate the hospitals and their employees for supporting this project for nearly two decades,” said Ernest Steward, director of Parent/Student Intervention, Safety and Title IX coordinator. This year, the hospitals provided close to 1,300 pairs of shoes to students, which is nearly 50 percent of the elementary students in the district. Hospital employees handed out the new shoes to students Dec. 13-17 so they get them right before their Christmas break.
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

At their meeting of December 16, 2019, the Fenton Township Board introduced the following proposed ordinances:

1. A proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment to rezone parcel 06-22-400-047 (14337 Eastview Drive) from C-2 to R-5.
2. A proposed amendment to the Sewer System Ordinance to require all sewer contractors to be Gold Shovel Standard certified.
3. A proposed Assault & Battery Ordinance.

Second reading and a vote on adoption for the proposed ordinances will be conducted at the January 6, 2020 Fenton Township Board meeting.

Complete copies of the proposed ordinances may be obtained at the office of the Fenton Township Clerk, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430. The ordinances are also available on Fenton Township’s website at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

HOLLY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 18, 2019
REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS

Roll Call: Supervisor Kullis, Clerk Winchester, Treasurer Freeman and Trustee Feeney. Excused - Trustee Ruth.
Approved: Consent Agenda as Amended.
Postponed: North Holly Road Paving.
Postponed: Kurtz Road Bridge.
Approved: Appointment of Two Planning Commissioners Terms Ending 12/31/2021 – Pam Mazich and Lloyd Kernen.
Approved: NOCF Loan.
Approved: Designation of Signatory for Consumers Energy Belford Road Well Hydrant for Fire Services - Clerk (Karin Winchester).
Approved: 2019-2020 Mining Permit – Tri-City Aggregates.
No Action: Citizens Academy.

Karin S. Winchester, MMC
Holly Township Clerk
George A. Kullis
Holly Township Supervisor
PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS
DECEMBER 9, 2019

The Fenton Township Board held a special meeting on Monday December 9, 2019 at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan and took the following actions.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Approved the agenda as presented.
3. Approved a cost assessment calculation for the proposed Margaret Drive-Ruth Drive Improvement Special Assessment District.
5. Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

A complete copy of the minutes of this meeting and any ordinances adopted at the meeting are on file and available for review at the Fenton Township Office, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday. Ordinances, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

DIRECT CARE WORKERS NEEDED IN FENTON AREA

NOW HIRING FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

You must have at least 2 years of related experience. Job requirements are as follows: great communication skills, highly organized and detail-oriented, database management and record-keeping as well as a working knowledge of Microsoft Office Software (Word, Excel, Publisher, Gmail and Calendar) and Outlook. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits. Please email your resume to ssrphiring@gmail.com.

REQUIREMENTS:
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Have a clear criminal record
- Have dependable transportation
- Must be responsible and committed
- Available for mandatory stay
- Be willing to learn and take direction
- Work well with others
- Be available for training if you are not fully trained already

COMPENSATION:
- Paid training
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$11 per hour to start

TO APPLY:
- Call 734-458-8140 between 9:00am-3:00pm
- Email resume to recruiter@questserv.org
- Mail resume to 36141 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150
- Fax resume to 734-855-4200

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North Oakland County Household Hazardous Interlocal Agreement.

Postponed: Rose Township Resolution to amend Sec. 38-397 Accessory Buildings.

Appointed:
- Jacob Maurer to the Rose Township Planning Commission for a three-year term expiring December 2022.
- Michael Brooks to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term expiring December 2022.

Date Set:
- Public Hearings for Special Assessment Districts Fish Lake Weed, Big Trail Road, Eveline Drive will be during Board of Trustees meeting, February 12, 2020 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourned: By motion at 8:10 p.m.

ROSE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS
December 11, 2019

Supervisor Scheib-Snider called the Regular Meeting of the Rose Township Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Rose Township Office, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Board Members Present: Miller, Gambka, Blaska, Noble, Scheib-Snider
Board Members Absent/Excused: None

Approved:
- Agenda for the December 11, 2019 regular meeting of the Rose Township Board of Trustees.
- Consent agenda minus HAYA report.

Presentation: Rana Emmons, CPA, Rose Township Audit Report.

Approved:
- North Oakland County Household Hazardous Interlocal Agreement.

Postponed:
- Rose Township Resolution to amend Sec. 38-397 Accessory Buildings.

Appointed:
- Jacob Maurer to the Rose Township Planning Commission for a three-year term expiring December 2022.
- Michael Brooks to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term expiring December 2022.

Date Set:
- Public Hearings for Special Assessment Districts Fish Lake Weed, Big Trail Road, Eveline Drive will be during Board of Trustees meeting, February 12, 2020 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourned: By motion at 8:10 p.m.

Debbie Miller, MMC, CMMC
Rose Township Clerk

Dianne Scheib-Snider
Rose Township Supervisor

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Line Ads: Noon Thursday

MIDWEEK PAPER
HELP WANTED DEADLINES
Display Ads: Monday 3 p.m.
Line Ads: Noon Tuesday
To authorize automatic expungement (expungements) criminal records (expungements)

House Bill 4980: Expand clearing vote in the Michigan House and Senate. This
plain-English descriptions of every bill and
MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK
ROBERT E. KRUG
Friday. Ordinances, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and other Township
Office, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Office hours are
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
fternoon. All meeting documents are on file and available for review at the Fenton Township
Hall located at 8420 Runyan Lake Road. The public is encouraged to attend.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON
BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS
DECEMBER 16, 2019

The Fenton Township Board held a regular meeting on Monday December 16, 2019 at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan and took the following actions.

2. Supervisor Mathis led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
3. Approved invoices and expenditures for payment in the total amount of $619,986.27.
4. Continued from November 4, 2019 a public hearing on a proposed street improvement special assessment district for Margaret Drive and Ruth Drive.
5. Approved the mailing of a notice to property owners on Margaret & Ruth Drives to determine their preference among street improvement options.
6. Approved a motion to continue to February 3, 2020 the public hearing on a proposed street improvement special assessment district for Margaret Drive and Ruth Drive.
7. Conducted the first reading of a proposed Zoning Ordinance amendment to rezone parcel 06-22-400-047 (14337 Eastview Drive) from C-2 to R-5.
8. Conducted the first reading of a proposed Sewer System Ordinance amendment to require all sewer contractors to be Gold Shovel Standard certified.
9. Conducted the first reading of a new Assault & Battery Ordinance.
10. Adopted amendments to the 2019 Fenton Township Budget.
11. Adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

A complete copy of the minutes of this meeting and any ordinances adopted at the meeting are on file and available for review at the Fenton Township Office, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday. Ordinances, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT E. KRUG
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

TYRONE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS
HELD DECEMBER 17, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.

2. Approved the agenda as amended; approved the consent agenda to as presented.
3. Received and placed on file Communications #1-2.
4. Approved the 2020 sewer rates as presented.
5. Authorized the Treasurer to attend the MMTA workshop.
6. Approved the budget amendment to the Building & Site Fund and to the General Fund as presented.
7. Approved to upgrade the network switch to be paid with PEG funds.
8. Approved the change order for the additional electrical plugs to the new township building.
9. Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of all regular and special Tyrone Township Board Meetings are on file and may be viewed at the Tyrone Township Clerk’s office, 8420 Runyan Lake Road, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and online at www.tyronetownship.us. The next regular meeting of the Tyrone Township Board will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tyrone Township Hall located at 8420 Runyan Lake Road. The public is encouraged to attend. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Tyrone Township Clerk at (810) 629-8631 at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Marcella Husted, Tyrone Township Clerk
Aldean Louise Wiltse
1934-2019
Aldean Louise Wiltse - age 85, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 18, 2019. Services will be celebrated at 11 AM Saturday, January 18, 2020 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St., Fenton. Visitation begins at 10 AM until time of Mass with a luncheon to follow. Aldean was born November 26, 1934 to Lloyd and Anne (Matula) Wiltse. She graduated from Saginaw General Hospital School of Nursing in 1955. She had a long career as a registered nurse, and especially enjoyed caring for her dialysis patients. She had a love of music including teaching herself to play the guitar. She loved all animals including her beloved dog, Jing. She is survived by her five children, Cheryl (Kelly) Feenstra, Kathy Ferguson, Ellen (Peter) Lockwood, Nancy (Gordon) Lange, Craig (Lisa) Johnson; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and a third on the way. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

Thomas Jack Richards
1956-2019
Thomas Jack Richards - age 63, of Fenton, formerly of Mt. Morris, died Tuesday, December 17, 2019. In accordance with his wishes, Tom’s body has been donated to the University of Michigan Anatomical Donation Program. No services will be held at this time. Tom was born September 24, 1956 in Flint. He was a graduate of Holly High School and earned a bachelors degree from the University of Michigan. Tom was an avid sportsman, he spent many years Muskie fishing on Lake St. Clair, Salmon fishing in Frankfort, MI, as well as, fishing on the area inland lakes. He is survived by his sisters, Pamela (Dan) Kenny and Diane (Terry) Sievert; and their children, Kristen (Bill) Meyer, Travis Sievert, Katie (Tom) Joachimi, Clinton (Abby) Stars, Andrew Kenny and Alexander Kenny; his siblings, Jim Millington, Linda Millington, John (Elizabeth) Millington, and Victor (Denise) Millington; and their father Wayne (Sandra) Millington. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Annie (Shirley) Richards and Marilyn O’Dell Millington. Memorial Contributions may be made towards a college scholarship for a local student, Thomas Richards Scholarship Fund. Drop off or Mail to: The State Bank, 175 North Leroy St., Fenton, MI 48430. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Herman Powers

Franklin Karhoff

Susan Pruett

Thomas Jack Richards
1956-2019
Tom was born September 24, 1956 in Flint. He was a graduate of Holly High School and earned a bachelors degree from the University of Michigan. Tom was an avid sportsman, he spent many years Muskie fishing on Lake St. Clair, Salmon fishing in Frankfort, MI, as well as, fishing on the area inland lakes. He is survived by his sisters, Pamela (Dan) Kenny and Diane (Terry) Sievert; and their children, Kristen (Bill) Meyer, Travis Sievert, Katie (Tom) Joachimi, Clinton (Abby) Stars, Andrew Kenny and Alexander Kenny; his siblings, Jim Millington, Linda Millington, John (Elizabeth) Millington, and Victor (Denise) Millington; and their father Wayne (Sandra) Millington. He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Annie (Shirley) Richards and Marilyn O’Dell Millington. Memorial Contributions may be made towards a college scholarship for a local student, Thomas Richards Scholarship Fund. Drop off or Mail to: The State Bank, 175 North Leroy St., Fenton, MI 48430. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Jean Case
1929-2019
Jean Case - age 90, of Linden, formerly of Redford, Twp., died Thursday, December 19, 2019. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Friday, December 27, 2019 at Hope Lutheran Church, 7355 Silver Lake Rd., Linden with Pastor Paul Kollek officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery. Visitation will be held 6 - 8 PM Thursday, December 26, 2019 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 East Broad St., Linden and 10 - 11 AM Friday at the church. Those desiring may make contributions to Hope Lutheran Church, 7355 Silver Lake Rd., Linden, MI 48451. Jean was born May 26, 1929 in Detroit, the daughter of Frederick Houghtaling and Emma (Rupprecht) Houghtaling. She married Kenneth Case on April 6, 1951. Jean was a homemaker and devoted to her family. She was a devoted member of Hope Lutheran Church in Linden and was a past member of Grace Lutheran in Redford, Twp. where she served as past president of the Ladies Guild. Jean played the Dulcimer instrument and was a wonderful cook specializing in her homemade pies. Survivors include three daughters, Catherine (Greg) Stiles, Fowlerville, Wendy Ann (Marshall) Zinn, Holly, and Kim (Wade) Lawrence, Kalamazoo; thirteen grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; sister, Martha Ann Haller, Lapeer; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Kenneth Case on April 9, 2004; brother, Robert Houghtaling; and sister, Noreen Larente. Tributes may be sent at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Mark Thompson

David Moraczewski

Carolyn Secord

Laura Ann Smith
1930-2019
Laura Ann Smith - age 88, of Fenton, died Thursday, December 19, 2019. Funeral services will be held 10 AM Friday, December 27, 2019 at Fenton United Methodist Church, 119 S. Leroy St., Fenton with Rev. Michelle Forsyth officiating. Intermem will follow in Oakwood Cemetery. Visitation will be held 4 - 7 PM Thursday, December 26, 2019 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 W. Silver Lake Rd. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association (www.alz. org). Laura was born December 31, 1930 in Detroit, the daughter of Edward King and Dorothy Ann (Dykstra) McCutcheon. She received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Wayne State University. Laura married D. James Smith on August 5, 1955 in Detroit. She was a vocational nursing teacher at Fenton, Lake Fenton, Linden and Holly Schools in the late 1970’s and early 80’s, and the head nurse at Fenton Extended Care for many years. Laura was a member of the Fenton Bay View Club and the 20th Century Club. She was very adventurous and loved to travel. Surviving are: husband, Jim Smith; two daughters, Carrie (Smith) Grafft, Patty (Smith) and husband, Jim Peabody; six grandchildren, Lauren (Brandon) Peabody, Ryan (Natalie) Grafft, Grace Peabody, Kate Peabody, Claire Peabody, and Tessa Peabody; four great-grandchildren, Amelia Peabody, Cullen Peabody, James Peabody, and Evelyn Grafft. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, and son, DJ Smith. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.
Tips for safe holiday entertaining in pet-friendly households

The holidays are a time to spend with friends and family. Celebrating and entertaining are large components of what makes Thanksgiving, Christmas, Chanukah, and New Years festivities so enjoyable. Holiday hosts with pets must consider companion animals when planning the festivities.

The holiday season brings added dangers for pets. The American Veterinary Association notes that, by keeping hazards in mind, pet owners can ensure their four-legged friends enjoy the season as much as everyone else.

- **Secure the tree.** Securely anchor the Christmas tree so that it won’t tip over on anyone, including rambunctious pets. Also, stagnant tree stand water can grow bacteria. If a pet should drink the water, it may end up with nausea or diarrhea. Replenish the tree basin with fresh water daily.

- **Skip the candles.** When creating mood lighting, opt for electronic or battery-powered lights instead of open flames. Pets may knock over candles, and that can be an instant fire hazard.

- **Keep food out of reach.** Situate food buffets beyond the reach of hungry and curious animals. Warn guests to promptly throw out their leftovers so that dogs and cats do not sneak away with scraps that may cause stomach upset or worse. Real Simple magazine warns that fatty foods can promote pancreatitis - a potentially dangerous inflammation of the pancreas that produces toxic enzymes and causes illness and dehydration. Small bones can get lodged in a pet’s throat or intestines as well.

- **Avoid artificial sweeteners.** Exercise caution when baking sugar-free desserts. The artificial sweetener xylitol can cause dogs’ blood pressure to drop to dangerously low levels. Xylitol is found in some toothpastes and gum, so tell overnight guests to keep their toiletries secure to avoid accidental exposure.

- **Be cautious with cocktails.** If the celebration will include alcoholic beverages, the ASPCA says to place unattended adult beverages where pets cannot reach them. Ingested alcohol can make pets ill, weak and even induce comas.

- **Be picky about plants.** Mistletoe, holly and poinsettias can be dangerous in pet-friendly households. These plants can cause gastrointestinal upset and may lead to other problems if ingested. Opt for artificial replicas instead. If guests bring flowers, confirm they are nontoxic to pets before putting them on display.

- **Watch the door.** Guests going in and out may inadvertently leave doors open. In such instances, pets who get scared or are door dashers may be able to escape the house. Put a note by the door to watch for escaping pets.

- **Designate a safe space for pets.** If the holiday hustle proves too much for cats, dogs, birds, and more, give the pet a safe, quiet spot away from the crowds. Holiday hosts should factor in pet safety when they open their homes to guests.
Horoscopes

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, if things seem to be a little confusing this week, take some time to pause and reflect. Maybe you are interpreting the data in the wrong way. Ask a friend to check your work.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Your generosity is limitless this week, Taurus. Your efforts will be rewarded to you in kind in the near future. Keep your charitable efforts coming.

GEMINI
May 22/Jun 21
Getting your point across to others may prove challenging, Gemini. Slow down and explain yourself clearly. Being amenable to compromise can help.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22
Your relationships have longevity and that is something to be proud of, Cancer. Keep doing all the right things to keep the ones you love close by.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23
Go with the flow when you anticipate something exciting coming your way, Leo. Let your hair down a little and enjoy the good times ahead.

VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, give something new and frivolous a try this week. You may find this experimentation sparks a new interest that proves rewarding for years to come.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23
Someone is very proud of what you have accomplished lately, Libra. If you find yourself in the spotlight, enjoy the much-deserved praise and attention.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, employ various ways of looking at situations that come your way. It is always beneficial to have an open mind. When a new project arrives, maintain your enthusiasm.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21
Sometimes you need to be a bit pushy to get what you need, Sagittarius. Step up and part the crowds so you can reach your goal. Make sure your voice is heard.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20
This is a good time to share positive thoughts with others, Capricorn. With the new year on the horizon, resolutions are at the forefront of many people’s minds.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, while you can expect a week full of energy and nonstop activity, you can manage to fit some fun into the mix. Start making plans with close friends.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20
You very well may learn something important over the next few days, Pisces. Keep your eyes and ears open to what’s around you.

Word Search

ANSWERS

WEEKEND SCRAMBLE ANSWERS

Scrambles: SEARCH, INVEST, TANGLE, CHORE
Answer: VACATION

WEEKEND JUMBLE ANSWERS

Jumbles: GIDDY, CRANK, BUFFET, SCULPT
Answer: The server couldn’t get the pancakes to the tables fast enough. Orders were — STACKING UP

WEEKEND CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Solution Time: 21 min.

WEEKEND WORD SEARCH ANSWERS

CHARITY
AFFILIATION, ASSISTANCE, AUDIT, BOARD, BUDGET, COMMITTEE, DEDUCTION, DONATE, DONOR, EXPENSES, FOUNDATION, FUNDRAISING, GIVE, GRANT, INVESTOR, INVOLVEMENT, LEADERSHIP, MESSAGE, NONPROFIT, ORGANIZATION, PHILANTHROPY, PLATFORM, SOCIAL, TRANSPARENCY, VOLUNTEER

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Puzzle Answers

Midweek Sudoku, Crossword Puzzle and Jumbles are located in the last Midweek’s issue. All other puzzles are located throughout this edition of the Tri-County Times.

Read then Recycle
**Weekend Scrambler**

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

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CHEARS
PROVIDE
STEVIN
SNAG
GENTAL
DUTY

TODAY’S WORD

* How many more days of the boss’s __________ do we have left?*
```

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

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**Weekend 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.

Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times

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**Weekend Crossword**

**PUZZLE CLUE:**

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**Answers in this edition of the Tri-County Times**

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**CROSSWORD PUZZLE SPONSORED BY**

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