



Polar Plunge 2020 — Kurt Chapelle and his wife, Danielle, take the plunge at the 2020 Fenton Polar Plunge, which raised approximately \$84,000 on Saturday, Feb. 1. More than 230 people jumped off the Fenton Moose Lodge dock in Fenton Township to benefit Special Olympics Michigan. **See story on page 8.** Photo: Hannah Ball

Holly man detained by police

■ Runaway son finds child pornography on dad's tablet

By Sharon Stone

On Friday, Jan. 31 at 7:10 p.m., Michigan State Police (MSP) troopers were dispatched to the 11000 block of N. Holly Road for a runaway complaint. When **See HOLLY MAN on 5**

Township treasurer saves dog from drowning

■ Dog might have been chasing geese on Tupper Lake when it broke through ice Sunday, Feb. 2

By Hannah Ball

Fenton Twp. — Fenton Township Treasurer John Tucker saved a dog from drowning in icy waters Sunday, Feb. 2 after his wife spotted the animal in Tupper Lake.

A little before 10 a.m., his wife was looking out a window of their house with binoculars. She saw the dog, a German shepherd, struggling to get on the ice in a patch of water.

"We were probably 500 feet away from the dog," Tucker said.

He immediately called 911. However, Tucker said the dog's energy was diminishing.

"I was worried because the dog was **See DOG SAVED on 9**

Holly man charged with threat

■ Released after being arraigned on malicious use of telecommunication device

By Sharon Stone

Neil Bruce Billington, 72, of Holly was arraigned Saturday, Feb. 1 in Oakland County 52-2 District Court on one count of malicious use of telecommunication device. He was released on **See THREAT on 7**



Neil Billington

'No excuse on this case'

■ Husband of deceased 66-year-old wife in custody, undergoing psych evaluation

By Sharon Stone

The Genesee County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death of Sandra Wiechman, 66, of Fenton Township.

Sheriff Chris Swanson said the sheriff's office **See NO EXCUSE on 5**



"Loved all the 'plungers' who took part in the Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics.

Also, a big thank you to the Fenton Moose Lodge for hosting such an awesome event."



"Why are people still complaining about downtown Fenton growing and

thriving? I'm thrilled that private developers are interested in growing our great city. Embrace it."



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2020 daddy-daughter dance a success

■900 attend biggest North Road Elementary PTO fundraiser of the year

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — Large snowflakes fell gently on suits, dress shirts, tiaras and dresses as daddy-daughter dance attendees walked up to Andrew G. Schmidt Middle School (AGS) on Saturday, Feb. 1.

As they lined up for the doors to open, three Fenton Fire Department (FFD) trucks lined up on Donaldson Drive, from which 10 firefighters in dress blues and their 11 daughters exited.

This was the first time all the FFD daughters attended together, transported by fire truck. Lt. Josh Sturgis had the idea. “It’s our first time to bring them all together, so we thought we’d give them the full treatment,” he said.

These were among approximately 900 attendees for the annual North Road Elementary School PTO (parent teacher organization) event. Tickets were \$30 per couple plus \$10 per additional child.

PTO Vice President Kelly Jobe said the dance is open to all Fenton Area Public School students and families, and is the organization’s largest



Lt. Dustin Lucius (left) and his daughter , Vada, 5, and firefighter Mike Siburt and his daughter, Harper 5, enter the dance. (right) Jason Sigler and his daughter, Savaya, 7, dance together. **Photos: Tim Jagielo**



fundraiser of the year.

Couples took photos, ate snacks and danced. While most were fathers and daughters, there were also grandfathers, uncles, guardians and women. “They have a blast, they love it, they look forward to this event for a long time,” Jobe said.

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Featured Section

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Sunday, February 16th

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Sharin' the spotlight The Warda Foundation

By Editor Sharon Stone

From running volleyball, curling, and even cornhole leagues throughout the year, there always seems to be something fun going on at The Barn. If it's cold enough, ice skating also is an option on the rink just outside the side door.

The bar/restaurant is owned by Jason Warda. He also owns the Fenton Pub in downtown Fenton and the Ponemah Lakeside Lodge on Lake Ponemah. I'll admit that I have been to all of Jason's restaurants and especially like that my husband and I can take our friends and family by pontoon over to his lake restaurant.

If that's not enough to keep him and his wife, Alicia, and their children busy, Warda has founded The Warda Foundation. The Warda Foundation is dedicated to giving back to the community that supports them. Supported by Warda's businesses, its primary purpose is to help under privileged children and families in need in the local area.

During Thanksgiving, they host the Thanksgiving CommUNITY lunch, which provides a free

Thanksgiving meal to anyone in need. Another event is Project Santa, which provides gifts to children and families in need in an attempt to brighten their holiday season. During this time, they team up with The Whaley Children's Center in Flint as well to provide all of their kids with gifts.



Sharon Stone

Jason said 2019 was the most successful year yet for The Warda Foundation. They officially became a non-profit, bought the Fenton Bar Hopper bus and served a record number of families at their holiday events.

The intent of the Fenton Bar Hopper every Friday and Saturday night is to help the fight

against drunk driving in the Fenton area. Although Jason is a bar owner, he takes a strong stance against drinking and driving and he is thrilled to start offering this free service, which is fully funded by the Warda Foundation. Although rides are free, they do welcome donations to The Warda Foundation to keep it going. "We have some awesome drivers, Bob and Dave, who always make sure people still get home safely and encourage it at the end of the night as long as they are willing," Jason said.

Next up on their list of events to benefit the Warda Foundation is the St. Patrick's Day pub crawl.

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

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All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

IF YOU DON'T think the main stream media, ABC, NBC, MSNBC, FOX, PBS, CBS, et al don't print facts, pay attention to this 'ABC suspends reporter for inaccurate report on Kobe Bryant.' Note, he is only 'suspended,' the behavior is okay.

UPS, FEDEX AND Amazon trucks parking all over public roads during the day is really getting annoying. Is this legal and can something be done to curb this trend? It is a hazard on the roads.

LET'S NOT PUT all the blame on Linden girls varsity coach, even though he is clueless. How about looking into the administration who hired him? Three coaches in three years.

GEORGE WASHINGTON WARNED the nation of political parties in his farewell address, published in newspapers across the country in 1796. He feared that partisanship would lead to a 'spirit of revenge' in which party members would not govern for the good of the people, but for power. Sounds like the present.

THE TRUTH WILL come out in any case. The voters will remember in November.

TODAY IS A sad day for the U.S. and the Constitution. God help us all.

Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

What are your thoughts on the Super Bowl halftime show?



"It wasn't bad; I wouldn't put it in my favorites. My favorite was Prince, and the Michael Jackson one."

— **Norma Wells**
Flint



"I wasn't even watching it. I was watching the ABC Evening News. I prefer college football."

— **Georgie Cornwell**
Linden



"I didn't see it. I had to put my 2-year-old son to sleep. I watched the first quarter."

— **Rebecca Krol**
Linden



"It was awesome, especially if you're a guy."

— **Adam Bobo**
Denver, North Carolina



"It was interesting. I thought a couple of times that it was a little racy. It was entertaining; I like that they touched on the Miami musical influence."

— **Jim Zonca**, Linden



"I thought they were amazingly talented, and strong and fit. But, I wouldn't want my daughter dancing like that in a bar. It's a mixed message."

— **Kathy Begin**, Fenton

street talk



Photo: Tim Jagielo

NO EXCUSE

Continued from Front Page

responded to a 911 call at approximately 7 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 1, made from a home in East Bay Mobile Home Park off North Road in Fenton Township.

The 70-year-old husband of Wiechman called to report that she had died a couple hours prior to his calling for help.

Swanson said this is elder abuse and that there was “no excuse on this case. She wasn’t alone. Her family was there and did nothing.”

The sheriff said Wiechman had been diagnosed with cancer in December 2018, however, he was unsure as to what type of treatment she had undergone since that time. “She had wasted away,” Swanson said. “She was down to about 55 pounds. She had been given no other pain meds beside liquid Tylenol.”

Her body was transported to the county medical examiner for an autopsy.

Swanson said detectives do not know why Wiechman’s health issues had not been taken care of. He said she had not moved since the first part of December 2019 and that her entire back side was ulcerated and covered in pressure wounds.

“Imagine a cold sore covering the whole back of her body,” Swanson said, adding that gangrene had set in.

Swanson said Wiechman’s husband is in sheriff’s custody and that he is undergoing a psychological evaluation. The sheriff’s office will present a case to the county prosecutor’s office for review.

“She did not have proper dignity at the time of her death,” he said.

Lake Fenton sixth grader wins first place in spelling bee

■ Brayden Piper takes the trophy in Knights of Columbus competition

He would be very pleased to “acquaintance immediately.” These are the two words that landed Brayden Piper the 1st place trophy in the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee 2020 competition in Ann Arbor last weekend. Brayden represented Lake Fenton schools in the fourth through sixth grade division competition and now will progress to the third level — state competition in Essexville on March 7.

The bee in Ann Arbor was the second round and there were a total of 14 competitors for Brayden’s bracket. There were about 75 competitors in the first round in Fenton. Brayden made the final win over the runner-up with his winning word, “immediately.” He also had to spell the word before the girl before him missed — “acquaintance.”



Brayden Piper, the 1st place trophy winner in the Knights of Columbus 2020 Spelling Bee, will go on to the state competition in March.

Submitted photo

HOLLY MAN

Continued from Front Page

contacted, the juvenile runaway reported that he found pornographic materials involving children on his dad’s tablet. Child Protective Services was notified and the juvenile was placed with other family members.

Troopers went to the Holly Village Park home in Holly of the juvenile and made

contact with his father. A search warrant was drafted and signed by an on-duty magistrate. The search warrant was executed and large amounts of evidence was located, including sexual materials involving children.

The home was extremely cluttered and the search is going to take a long time, according to the MSP. The MSP cyber dog was used to



The Michigan State Police and other local law enforcement agencies executed a search warrant at the suspect’s home in Holly Village Park in Holly on Saturday, Feb. 1. Submitted photo

search the residence.

There are materials in the home spanning over many years, according to the MSP. The Special Investigation Section is assisting. The male suspect is currently being detained. No further information is being released at this time.

The Holly Police Department responded to the runaway call and will be assisting MSP with this case.

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Special meeting set for school building rezoning decision

■Holly Planning Commission will consider conditional rezoning for 111 College St.

By Vera Hogan

The village of Holly will hold a special Planning Commission meeting Thursday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. in the Karl Richter Center Board of Education Room.

The special meeting has been scheduled to review the application for consideration of conditional rezoning at 111 College St. It is open to the public.

The Planning Commission voted unanimously Jan. 22, to postpone the rezoning request for the former school building in order to allow the applicant to present her written request for conditional

rezoning from single family residential to commercial.

The owners, Cari Cucksey and her husband, Vince Iafano, purchased the building in 2016. The couple plans to rehabilitate the building into a mixed-use banquet center and boutique hotel.

At the Jan. 22 Planning Commission meeting and on social media, many residents, who live in the immediate vicinity of the school building, have expressed concerns about the parking, noise, increased traffic and the availability of alcohol at the banquet center.

Cucksey said after the Jan. 22 meeting that any liquor would be event-related and it would be allowed under their catering license.



The experts at SleepWell in Fenton are available to help clients find the perfect fit when it comes to a mattress. Submitted photo

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: SleepWell opens in Fenton

■Team of experts is ready to help community rest easy

A good night's sleep can help regulate blood sugar levels, keep your immune system functioning properly and even improve heart health, which means that choosing the right mattress is a key component to staying healthy.

The experts at SleepWell in Fenton are available to help clients find the perfect fit when it comes to a mattress.

Opened in November 2019, SleepWell is one of four mattress and furniture store locations owned by Ryan Garrison. After moving back to the Fenton area last year, Garrison, who is originally from Linden, knew this community was the perfect spot for a SleepWell store. All of his stores focus on American-made items, and when it comes to mattresses, customers even have numerous Michigan-made items to choose from.

SleepWell offers a wide variety of

products in a range of prices — everything from an economically priced twin mattress to a custom-made Chat-tam & Wells mattress, which Garrison said is the same brand of mattress that has been delivered to The White House for more than 100 years.

"We carry everything," Garrison said, adding that the store can also do custom-made pieces including mattresses to fit antique beds, RV mattresses and more. The store also sells pillows, sheets and mattress protectors. SleepWell also offers financing options.

As a family owned and operated business, Garrison, a father of six, is especially proud of the team's commitment to customer service. "We work with the customer in every aspect, including after the sale," he said. "We go the extra mile."

SleepWell is at 17175 Silver Pkwy., Fenton. For more information, call (810) 354-8087.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

SPEEDING LEADS TO TRIP TO FLINT CITY JAIL

On Friday, Jan. 24, an Argentine Township police officer made a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling 76 mph in

a 55-mph zone on S. Seymour Road, south of Rolston Road. After making contact with the driver, a 23-year-old Fenton man, it was determined that he had a city of Fenton misdemeanor arrest warrant for "drunk and disorderly." The man was arrested for the warrant and cited for the speeding violation. He was lodged in the Flint City Jail. The man's Nissan Frontier was impounded.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

OH DEMOCRATS, NAH, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah, hey, hey, hey good-bye and good riddance.

■■■

DO YOU THINK now the Democrats will turn to doing what they were elected for governing the country? I don't think so, they will go after another 'wind mill.'

■■■

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The Holmes Youthful Trainee Act

What if there were laws, which allowed criminal defendants to "learn from their mistakes" and if specific conditions were met, have their cases dismissed?

As it turns out there are such laws in Michigan and elsewhere and are generally called "deferrals."

In Michigan, there are 11 such deferral laws and for today's column I will provide some general information on one of the oldest.

On Jan. 1, 1967, a Michigan statute went into effect, which gave young criminal offenders the opportunity to keep criminal convictions off their records. The law is called the Holmes Youthful Trainee Act (HYTA) and named after its sponsor Representative David Holmes.

The HYTA has been amended a number of times over the years but the general concept remains the same — an eligible defendant pleads guilty to a criminal offense and the court, without entering a judgment of guilt, defers the acceptance of the plea and places the defendant on probation as a "youthful trainee."

If the defendant complies with the terms and conditions of probation the case is dismissed and there is no conviction. Additionally, from the time of the entry of the plea and thereafter the case is nonpublic and keeps this status as long as the defendant has obeyed the court's orders.

If the defendant fails to comply, the probation can be revoked, a conviction entered, the defendant sentenced, and the case becomes a public record.

The current version of the HYTA provides that if an individual commits an offense on or after their 17th birthday but before their 24th birthday, they are eligible for this special status.

However offenses committed after the individual's 21st birthday require the consent of the prosecuting attorney for the assignment.

There are certain offenses, which are excluded including life felonies, major controlled substance offenses, traffic offenses, and almost all criminal sexual conduct offenses. Granting HYTA status is in the discretion of the judge.

This law is an example of forgiveness and mercy and reminds me of the famous courtroom speech "The Quality of Mercy" from William Shakespeare's play "The Merchant of Venice."

Without repeating it here in its entirety the last line sums up the HYTA perfectly — "When mercy seasons justice."

I urge readers to look it up — I think you'll be glad you did.

THREAT

Continued from Front Page

\$25,000 personal bond, pending further court hearings.

Billington was arrested for allegedly making threats to Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson last week.

On Wednesday, Jan 29, Michigan State Police Metro North Post was notified that a male individual had made threats against Benson. The investigation revealed that the suspect, Billington, made threats on her voicemail and then spoke to a person in her office and made similar threats.

After further investigation and evidence collection, a search warrant was executed at Billington's home and he was taken into custody without incident. Weapons and evidence were seized from his home.

Benson tweeted in the afternoon of Thursday, Jan. 30, that she was "grateful to MSP Metro Detroit and the MSP for their swift response and action. Threats against public officials have no place in our society."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Meeting notice

The next meeting of McCaslin Lake Country Club Subdivision Lake Association is Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Rd., Linden.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

TWO MEN SHOPLIFT FROM FENTON STORE

On Monday, Jan. 13, Fenton police responded to Walmart on Owen Road for a retail fraud complaint. Lt. Jeff Cross said the loss prevention department called police to report that two males were loading backpacks with stolen merchandise. The men walked past all points of sale without paying and were met by waiting police officers who took them into custody outside. One of the suspects had \$698.13 worth of merchandise in his possession and the other one had \$504.63 worth of merchandise, for a total of \$1,202.76. Both suspects were transported to the Fenton police station for processing. They were released pending a future court date. Arrested was a 35-year-old man from Burton and a 29-year-old man from Grand Blanc.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

TRESPASS AND MALICIOUS DAMAGE ARREST IN HOLLY

On Monday, Jan. 27, a Holly police officer was dispatched to a home on S. Saginaw Street for a report of an unwanted person on the premises that had damaged an entry door to the home. The responding officer was able to determine the identity of the unwanted person and confirm minor damage as well as evidence to indicate the person was at the location without permission. The officer issued citations to the 37-year-old Holly man for trespassing and malicious damage of property and a warning not to return.

GUNFIRE WAS LEGAL TARGET PRACTICE IN HOLLY

On Thursday, Jan. 30, at 3:23 p.m. Holly police officers were dispatched to a private school on Academy Street to assist Michigan State Police. The original caller stated they heard what sounded like gunfire near the school

building but did not see anyone. Arriving officers were able to secure the building and grounds and later determined the gunfire was from two persons who were lawfully target practicing in a lawful distance from the school area. Holly police officers worked with other officers to provide students security while exiting the building to meet with parents. Assisting officers, deputies and troopers remained on the school grounds until children were evacuated and staff were briefed.

WOMAN REPORTS SOUNDS IN ATTIC

On Friday, Jan. 31, at 4:52 p.m., Holly police officers were dispatched to a residence on North Street for a female caller who reported what sounded like a person in the attic area of her home. The caller reported that the sound was different from an animal. Upon arrival, officers located a ceiling access and requested a ladder from the Holly Fire Department. The officers made entry into the attic and were able to determine the home was clear of persons and animals. In addition, the fire department used a thermal heat-sensing device to verify no one was in the attic to assure the resident.

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Fenton Polar Plunge raises nearly \$84,000

■ Proceeds go to Special Olympics Michigan

By Hannah Ball

Fenton Twp.—More than 230 people endured a cold shock to their system to raise money for Special Olympics Michigan on Saturday, Feb. 1. Approximately \$83,900 was raised for this year's Polar Plunge in Fenton.

Jumpers had to raise at least \$75 to make the jump into the icy cold waters off the Moose Lodge dock, next to the Fenton Township Civic Community Center. Many were dressed in costumes or wore bathing suits, shivering on the dock before it was their turn to jump.

Pat Peters, area 13 director for Special Olympics Michigan, said the total amount raised is probably more than \$85,000 after they count T-shirt sales. This amount is approximately \$20,000 more than last year when the event raised around \$65,000.

The money goes to help athletes compete in Special Olympics.

"Athletes pay nothing. We buy the



Two participants of the Fenton Polar Plunge exit the icy waters on Saturday, Feb. 1 after jumping from the dock. First responders were on scene and in the water to help those struggling and to respond to any incidents. **Photo: Hannah Ball**

uniforms. We supply all the equipment whether it's cross country skis ... if it's softball equipment, anything that has to do with the sport, we supply it for them, as well as transportation," Peters said.

Area 13 covers Genesee and Lapeer counties.

"This has been awesome this year," she said to the crowd after everyone was done jumping. "Without volunteers, we

couldn't do this. Without the Moose, we could not do this. This is one of the best facilities around ... you don't realize how great a community is until we do something like this and you see it all come together. So thank you."

She announced prizes for best costume and the youngest jumper, who was 9 years old.

UAW Local 598 President Ryan Buchalski raised the most money as an individual, and the UAW raised the most as a group. They raised more than \$26,000.

One jumper, Bruce Miller from Davidson, who's participated for about six years, said it was colder this year because of the wind. He has a special needs sister and his brother has a special needs niece.

"It means a lot to me," he said, adding that his sister used to compete in Special Olympics. "It warms my heart."

View stories at
myfenton.com



NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

2020 Railroad Person Of The Year nominations sought

Nomination forms are now available at the Durand Union Station at 200 Railroad St. Durand, online at durandstation.org, Durand City Hall and the Shiawassee District Library. Nominations are due no later than March 1, for consideration by a selection committee (composed of former Railroad Persons of the Year), which will choose this year's honoree. To be nominated a person must be working or have worked for a railroad company from the surrounding Durand area. Community and church service will also be a consideration. The Railroad Person of the Year is sponsored by Durand Union Station, Inc., in conjunction with the Durand Railroad Days Festival on May 14, 15, 16, and 17. Friday evening, May 15, there will be an Honoring Ceremony for this year's Railroad Person of the Year. The honoree will also ride in the Railroad Days Festival Parade on Saturday, May 16.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

■ ■ ■
WHAT BETTER WAY to drain the 'do nothings in Washington' than to make the other side 'hugely dislike' you. Then let those who put you in power eliminate your opposition from power.

■ ■ ■
THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL is almost over. Why it is wrong to ask for an investigation when there is clear evidence of corruption by a public official. Isn't it our right to know the truth, wherever it comes from? Makes me wonder what the Democrats are trying to cover up.

■ ■ ■
IT LOOKS LIKE Bloomberg wants to be king and all the liberal elites, royalty. Then all us smelly deplorables will be their subjects and they can take everything and give a little back as they see fit.

■ ■ ■
TRUMP IS A jerk and I don't like him, but I don't want to live in a Democrat world. They are even crazier.

■ ■ ■
WHY WOULDN'T THE Senate help the House with witnesses? They are part of the same branch.

LOCAL NEWS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

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This dog was pulled from the partially frozen water of Lake Tupper on Sunday, Feb 2 by Fenton Township Treasurer John Tucker. Submitted photo

DOG SAVED

Continued from Front Page

floundering. It was trying hard to get up on the ice and the activity was dropping,” he said.

Tucker grabbed his canoe and walked it out on the ice. When the ice got thinner, Tucker walked with one foot on the ice and one in the canoe. If the ice gave, he could get in the canoe.

When Tucker reached the dog, only the animal’s nose was above water. He managed to pull him up by his collar and get him in the canoe.

The Genesee County Sheriff’s Office and the Fenton Township Fire Department both arrived quickly.

Two firefighters from the FTFD came on the ice and attached a rope to the canoe, and the first responders pulled Tucker and the dog to shore.

“They transported it up to an animal emergency hospital on Bristol Road,” he said, adding that everyone should be proud of the township fire department. “They put blankets all over the dog. They were doing everything they could. They were drying the dog off with dryers.”

The only reason Tucker was able to pull him out was because he was wearing a collar. He also went to the hospital to see the German shepherd, where a veterinarian used the chip in the dog to locate the owner.

“The best I know, the dog was in a kennel. I’m guessing the dog escaped. The dog was probably chasing geese,” he said. “I love happy endings. This one had a happy ending.”

Tucker went to visit the dog the morning of Monday, Feb. 3, but he believes he was picked up by the owner.

Fenton Township Fire Chief Ryan Volz said they usually don’t recommend residents go out on the ice to save an animal or person, because they might have to save the resident and the other dog or person.

He said the dog was about 80 yards off shore and probably would have died if Tucker hadn’t gone out to save it.

“Because he did that, the dog did make it,” Volz said. “In this case, he got lucky. The dog is going to be fine. Hats off to Mr. Tucker for saving the dog.”

BUSINESS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

Two new exhibits debut at Sloan Museum’s Courtland Center Mall

Two new exhibits, Extreme Deep: Mission to the Abyss and Roll, Drop, Bounce, opened Saturday, Feb. 1 at Sloan Museum at Courtland Center Mall in Burton. Extreme Deep and Roll, Drop, Bounce will be on exhibit at Sloan Museum at Courtland Center through Sept. 13. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 12–5 p.m. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$7 for kids ages 2–11. Genesee County residents receive discounted admission at just \$3 per person for traveling exhibits. Roll, Drop, Bounce comes from the energetic minds of NRG! Exhibits. The exhibit is focused on the physics of motion, but the main theme is having fun and learning through play. Extreme Deep: Mission to the Abyss offers opportunities for hands-on exploration of life at the bottom

of the sea. Presented by Evergreen Exhibitions in collaboration with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), Extreme Deep is an interactive exhibit that highlights the adventure of deep-sea exploration and discovery.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

REGARDING A GOFUNDME

account for fixing our roads. We already have one and it is called our tax base. Like all voluntary fund initiatives, it only works when the contributions are actually made by its supporters — everything costs money. Get it?

■ ■ ■
IT HAS BEEN a year since gun laws were changed in Australia. Does anyone know anything about the resulting crime statistics?

MICHIGAN REPUBLICANS

FORCED Governor Whitmer to borrow \$3.5 billion in bonds to fix our roads instead of raising gas prices 45 cents per gallon. The Governor talked about the high number of jobs in Michigan, but failed to thank Governor Snyder and President Trump for this success.

Holly resident attends state of the state



Holly resident Joshua Boman, along with Kim Markee, were guests of State Sen. Ruth Johnson at Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s 2020 State of the State address at the Michigan Capitol on Wednesday, Jan. 29. Markee serves as Waterford Township clerk, and Boman of Holly is interested in government and is an active volunteer for Blessings in a Backpack to help feed children in Holly. Submitted photo

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Fenton swimmers continue winning ways in Metro, beat Swartz Creek

By David Troppens

The Fenton varsity boys swimming and diving team have dominated the Metro League for years, eight to be specific.

It looks like this will be the ninth straight year.

The Tigers remained undefeated in Metro League play by crushing Swartz

Creek/Flushing 133-49.

The Tigers (2-0 in the Metro) won nine of the 12 events with Max Haney leading the way with three firsts. Haney won the 100 butterfly (57.39) and the 100 backstroke (59.32) individually. He also teamed with Jack Fries, Kaz Sieja and Justin

Melchor to win the 200 medley relay (1:49.87).

The Tigers actually won all three relays. The 200 medley relay team of Gavin Crews, Anthony Barnett, Melchor and Sieja won (1:35.55).

CONTINUED AT
TCTIMES.COM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020 | PAGE 10 | TCTIMES.COM SPORTS

Photo: Monica Bradburn

Fenton's
Justin Miller

Sports Times

Lady Bronchos pull out thriller vs. Eagles

By David Troppens

Linden — The Holly varsity girls basketball team had led the entire second half.

Frequently, the Bronchos pulled to double-digit leads, threatening to blow the game open. However, the pesky Linden Eagles usually would climb back into the contest only to see the Bronchos stretch the lead again.

But with 26.9 seconds left in the contest, Linden was as close as the Eagles ever got during the second half. A driving six-footer by Linden's Paige Leedle cut the Holly lead to just 37-36 with about 58 seconds left. Now, with 26.9 seconds left, Holly senior Hannah Covert stood at the line facing the first shot of a one-and-one situation, needing to convert to keep Linden from

the comeback win.

No problem. Despite not scoring a single point during the contest, Covert nailed both free throws, raising the Holly lead to 39-36. After Linden missed a shot, Holly's Emma Tooley hit two more free throws, earning the Bronchos the 41-36 win.

"I knew I wasn't making (my shots) all game," Covert said. "I couldn't get a nice open shot and they weren't falling today. I went to the free-throw line and knew I had to make them. We were only up one and I really needed the shots, so I blocked everything out and sunk them."

The Bronchos (2-4 in the Metro League Stripes Division and 5-8 overall) had solid leads in each of the final three quarters.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



Holly's Hannah Covert (right) drives to the basket during the Bronchos' tight 41-36 victory against the Linden Eagles. Photo: Mark Bolen



Fenton's Ella T. Urnblom and Kendra Ryan competed at the girls state meet. Ryan earned her second straight girls state title. Photo submitted

Ryan, Teague capture girls wrestling state championships

By David Troppens

Two years ago, Michigan didn't even have a girls state wrestling meet.

Two years later, Fenton's Kendra Ryan has captured two MWA high School Girls State Championships.

Ryan made it a perfect 2-for-2 at the second-annual event held at Adrian College by dominating all three of her opponents in the 107-pound weight class.

And she wasn't the only champ from the tri-county area. Holly's Autumn Teague became the Bronchos' first-ever state champion in the girls state meet event, winning all four of her matches en route to the 122-pound weight class.

In all, the tri-county area had six wrestlers compete at the meet and five

See STATE on 12

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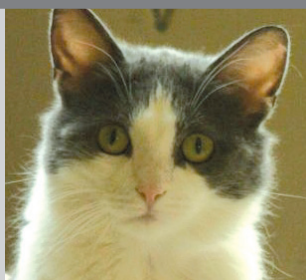


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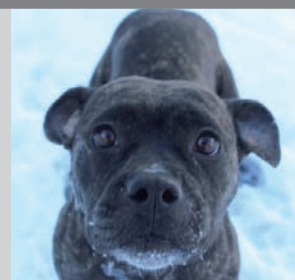


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Linden Eagles continue to soar, beat Bronchos

By David Troppens

Linden — After a tough two-point loss on a late shot against Goodrich on Tuesday, the Linden varsity boys basketball team was in need for a relaxing and fun game.

The Eagles got just that Friday night in front of a home crowd.

The Eagles dominated the Holly Bronchos from the opening shot of the contest, had four players score 10 points and nine score points overall as they cruised to a 65-45 victory.

The Bronchos, who may have thought they had a chance to post the upset based on their 53-47 loss to Linden earlier in the season, fell behind by double-digits with 9.1 seconds left in the first quarter on two converted free throws by Reichen Lund, and the

Bronchos were never within single-digits again.

Linden looked crisp on offense and distributed the ball impressively. It resulted in the Eagles converting 23-of-45 shooting during the first three quarters while turning the ball over just eight times. Meanwhile, the Bronchos had hit just 11-of-31 shots, turning the ball over 19 times during the first three quarters. By the time the game entered the final stanza, the Eagles were comfortably ahead by a 55-31 score. The Eagles played their bench during the final quarter.

“We ran the ball a lot better than we usually do,” Linden senior Seeger DeGayner said. “It makes it a lot easier to score, move down the floor and do what we do.”

**CONTINUED AT
TCTIMES.COM**



Linden's Dominic Bushon attempts a shot while Holly's Aleczander Lewis attempts to block the shot. Photo: Mark Bolen

Tigers fall to Dragons, 63-54

By Dale M. Smith

Fenton — The Fenton varsity boys basketball team opened this season against the Swartz Creek Dragons on December 13.

Unfortunately, for the host Tigers it was a near repeat of the first contest which Fenton lost 63-54. The Tigers battled all the way and were in it to the end but faltered late, losing 71-61.

The taller Dragons were able to use their height advantage on the inside, leading to several baskets in the paint.

Fenton senior Jacob Boulay came out on fire, putting up six points in the first 3:30 of the game. Tigers' coach Chad Logan substituted early and often, keeping his players fresh on defense but Creek was able to pull ahead for a 19-15 lead at the end of the first quarter.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Blue Devils finish strong, defeat Corunna

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team started a little slow against Corunna Friday night.

The Blue Devils scored just six first-quarter points but still only trailed 8-6 entering the second quarter.

The rest of the game the Blue Devils' offense came to life. Lake Fenton scored at least 13 points in each of the final three quarters, sparking a 49-42 road victory against Corunna.

Lake Fenton was always close in the first half, but still trailed 23-20 at halftime. In the third quarter, the Blue Devils trailed by as many as 30-24, but from that point on the squad went on a 24-4 run to dominate the game.

“We were able to get buckets from everybody during the run,” Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Brian VanBuren said. “(Christina Lamb) didn't have such a wonderful first half and she was in foul trouble, but she was resilient and that contrib-



Lake Fenton's Macy Phillips (left) and Katelyn Siebert (right) play defense in a recent contest. Photo: Erin Wetzel

uted to our run big time. She can be so efficient, grabbing some stats and getting some points in short spurts.”

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STATE

Continued from Page 10
came home as state placers.

Ryan has become the area's most recognizable women grappler in recent years. A Fenton team captain, she's won her fair share of matches against the boys, but on Sunday got a chance to face her own gender, earning a pinfall win against Forest Hills Central's Hannah Becker in just 51 seconds of the title match. She also pinned Westwood's Lindsay Williams in the semifinal and earned a technical fall victory against DeWitt's Daniell Ruiz in the quarterfinal round.

"It feels really good," Ryan said. "It means a lot. It shows how if you put some hard work into something you can have an outcome like this."

"I just wanted to go out there, wrestle hard and see what happened."

What happened was her second straight title.

"Kendra's aggression (is her strength)," Fenton varsity wrestling coach Brad Beverly said. "She's physical, very focused and determined. Kendra wrestled more aggressive than I've ever seen her wrestle. She's the hardest



Holly's Autumn Teague (left) poses with Holly varsity wrestling coach Zachary Wood moments after winning a girls state championship. **Photo submitted**

worker in the room. It's well deserved." Teague, who transferred to Holly High School this fall, was a Goodrich wrestler through her sophomore year.

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Fenton, Holly cheer teams post solid scores

The Fenton varsity competitive cheer team proved something at the Kearsley Hornet Invitational on Saturday.

The Tigers proved that they are a squad that can consistently score at the 700-plateau at the meet, posting a total

meet score of 711.48 at the event.

The Holly Bronchos also competed at the meet, posting a team score of 670.00.

The Tigers posted their best round 3 score of the season at the meet, recording a score of 286.80.

Fenton girls fall to Swartz Creek Dragons

One tough quarter probably cost the Fenton varsity girls basketball team a chance at a home victory Friday night.

The Swartz Creek Dragons outscored Fenton 18-5 in the second quarter, resulting in a 31-17 halftime

deficit. The Tigers tried to fight back into the game, but fell a little bit short, losing a 52-47 verdict.

The first quarter was a tight battle with the Tigers getting scoring from four of their starters.

Fenton wrestlers post 2-2 mark at Hartland

The Fenton varsity wrestling team competed at a tough Hartland Team Tournament during the weekend and came home with a 2-2 record against the competition.

Fenton lost to Hartland and Hudson but defeated Milford and a

Novi/Hartland B team.

The Tigers had two wrestlers finish with three victories. Kyle Dunfield (130) had two pinfall wins among his three wins while Login Fuller (189) also earned three victories.

LF boys basketball loses verdict vs. Corunna

The Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team has suffered a couple of heartbreaking losses against Corunna this season.

Earlier this season, the Blue Devils lost a 63-61 verdict against the Cavaliers. On Friday night the Blue Devils

lost a 52-51 verdict at home against the Cavaliers.

The contest was close throughout. The teams were tied 43-43 entering the fourth quarter, but Corunna's Carson Socia hit a three-pointer to start the quarter.

Area ski teams remain undefeated after wins

Two different area ski teams remained undefeated after recent meets.

The Fenton/Linden/Lake Fenton varsity girls ski team (FLLF) defeated Holly/Oxford to remain perfect while the Holly/

Oxford boys defeated the FLLF boys to also remain perfect.

The Holly/Oxford boys had the slightly more dominating performance, winning both the slalom and giant slalom.

Holly swim team cruises to easy win vs. Owosso

The Holly varsity boys swimming team is putting together a pretty solid Flint Metro League season.

The Bronchos took 11 of the 12 first-place finishes in a dual meet

against Owosso.

Logan Molzahn had the biggest outing, taking firsts in all four of his events. Individually, he won the 100 freestyle (53.87) and the 100 backstroke (1:00.35).

Linden wrestlers place fourth at Fuller Invitational

The Linden varsity wrestling team competed at the challenging Corey Fuller Invitational on Saturday.

The Eagles had four first-place fin-

ishers earning fourth at the event.

Bryce Shingelton (119) earned one of them, beating Jenison's Jacob Gregg in an 11-2 major decision win.

DEADLINES: **SUNDAY PAPER:** Display Ads: Wednesday 3 p.m. • Line Ads: Noon Thursday • **WEDNESDAY PAPER:** Display Ads: Monday 3 p.m. • Line Ads: Tuesday 10 a.m.

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It is the responsibility of the advertiser to check the correctness of each insertion of an advertisement. The Tri-County Times will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion and for only that portion that may have been rendered valueless by an error.

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TOWNSHIP OF HOLLY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) requirements a public hearing will be held by the Holly Township Board at its regular meeting on February 19, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., or shortly thereafter, at the Holly Area Schools Board Room, Karl Richter Community Center, 920 E. Baird St., Holly, MI 48442 to receive written and verbal comment regarding the reprogramming of federal CDBG Funds as follows:

FROM: 2017 Clearance and Demolition 732185 \$2,057.53
TO: 2017 Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking (HAVEN) 172160-730137-40620: \$2,057.53

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Obituaries

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Sue M. Wright

1964-2020

Sue M. Wright - age 55, of Linden, died Wednesday, January 29, 2020. A memorial service was held 2 PM Sunday, February 2, 2020 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 E. Broad St., Linden. The family received friends from 12 PM - 2 PM Sunday at the funeral home. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org). Sue was a devoted wife and mother who never missed a child's sporting event. Her kids and her family were her life. Surviving are husband, David Wright; three children, Jason (Aundrea) Wright, Dylan Wright, and Taylor Wright; mother, Judith Ann Whitmire; father, Raymond Darrell Whitmire; siblings, Paula (Whitmire) & Gene Swigert; Leslie Whitmire, Jim (Tracy) Whitmire, Andy (Trista) Whitmire; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Carl and Shirley Wright; many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, and friends. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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Midweek Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Midweek Jumble

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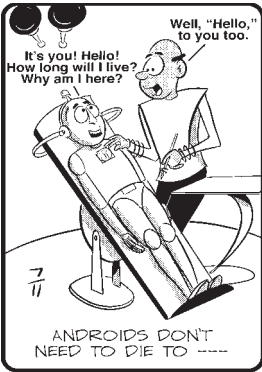
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7/11

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

Midweek Crossword

KING FEATURES

ACROSS

1 Possesses
4 Cribbage scorer
7 Ringlet
8 Preclude
10 "M*A*S*H" setting
11 Scents
13 Kitchen pair
16 — and outs
17 "The — Show With Jon Stewart"
18 Whopper
19 Citi Field team
20 Marching musicmakers
21 Topper for Miss USA
23 Rushmore or Rainier

DOWN

1 Throws hard
2 Neighborhood
3 — : spoken :: libel : written
4 Danger
5 Black wood
6 Ready for action
7 Quarter, e.g.
8 CSA president
9 Overcoat

41 More, to Manuel
10 Japanese pond carp
12 Epithet for Simon Templar (with "The")
14 Information
15 Scarlet
19 Spring month
20 On the other hand
21 Big brass
22 Slanted, as lettering
23 Viral Web

sleeve
phenom
24 One skilled in playing dead
25 "— Kapital"
26 Goes up a few degrees
28 Worship
29 Parkinson's treatment
30 Doctor's orders?
31 Jealousy
32 Iron or Bronze
34 Out of control
35 Long story

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Horoscopes

For the week of
February 3, 2020

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20
Transitional issues pop up this week, Aries. You are not quite sure which direction you should go. A close friend or advisor can help you navigate the way.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, you are a team player, but this week you may need to fly solo for a bit to get a handle on all of your tasks. Once things get settled, the team mentality can be restored.

GEMINI

May 22/June 21
Gemini, if you feel like your hard work is not paying off, then you may need to use this opportunity to speak with a supervisor. This can spark changes you feel are necessary.

CANCER

June 22/July 22
Cancer, there are some major changes in the way you feel this week, and it could take a few days to work through all of the emotions. But you'll get a handle on things.

LEO

July 23/Aug 23
Big news arrives this week with much fanfare, Leo. The excitement will start early in the week and culminate by Thursday or Friday. Expect to be surprised.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22
Relationships can't be the stuff of movies all the time, Virgo. Sometimes you have to go with the flow and make the most of the small daily moments.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23
Your time has been stretched too fast and too much, Libra. The stress may be on and you're feeling it. However, the remedy is to delegate some of your tasks and lighten your load.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you're not one for being overly emotional and sappy, but this week you can't hold back the feelings any longer. Don't hesitate to share your feelings.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21
If you are looking for inspiration, look no further than the close friends or relatives who are around you. They will have plenty of ideas that can get you fired up.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20
You have plenty of events coming up to keep you busy, Capricorn. You may have to pick and choose which ones to attend because you simply can't do them all.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, even though you think certain situations require your undivided attention, you're really not involved at all. Avoid reading into things and wait for news to come to you.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20
It is time to assess your priorities, Pisces. What do you want to get accomplished over this week? You can knock out one or two items.

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