Superintendent pens letter to parents

Expresses concern over students’ potentially dangerous social media connections

In light of ever-ending headlines of adults with not-so-pure intentions communicating through social media with unsuspecting children and teens, and tragic stories of children missing after secret meetings with unscrupulous strangers, Julie Williams, superintendent of Lake Fenton Community Schools, drafted a letter last week to parents outlining her concerns.

“Lake Fenton Families:

This comes to you today not only as the superintendent, but also as the mother of four daughters.

See LETTER on 6

Teen seriously injured after SUV hits train

Impact sends vehicle into ice-covered pond in Rose Township

By Sharon Stone

A 19-year-old Grosse Ile Township woman was seriously injured when the SUV in which she was a passenger crashed into the side of a passing train at Rattlesnake Lake Road and then broke through ice of a nearby pond in Rose Township on Friday, Feb. 14.

See story on page 2

Genesee County Animal Control closed

Shut down until further notice due to canine parvovirus

By Sharon Stone

Genesee County Animal Control is closed due to canine parvovirus. All animal adoptions and owner

See ANIMAL CONTROL on 5

Impact sends vehicle into ice-covered pond in Rose Township

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A 19-year-old Grosse Ile Township woman was seriously injured when the SUV in which she was a passenger crashed into the side of a passing train at Rattlesnake Lake Road and then broke through ice of a nearby pond in Rose Township on Friday, Feb. 14.

See story on page 2

Members of North Oakland County Fire Authority had to remove an injured female passenger from this vehicle, which struck the side of a passing train at Rattlesnake Lake Road and then broke through ice of a nearby pond in Rose Township on Friday, Feb. 14. See story on page 2 Photo: Courtesy of NOCFA

Byron seeks to be chosen for new HGTV series

Ben and Erin Napier take ‘Home Town’ on the road to make over a small town

By Sharon Stone

HGTV launched a nationwide call to find towns that could use some of the “Home Town” touch. It’s all part of an ambitious new TV series — “Home Town Takeover,” a six-episode special event to air on HGTV in 2021.

In this exciting new project, Erin and Ben Napier lead a team of renovation pros as they take over and make over an entire small town. Could your town be the next ‘Home Town?’

Residents in the historic village of Byron, founded in 1824 and just .76 square miles in size, believe so.

The video, narrated by a fourth-

See BYRON HGTV on 5

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See ANIMAL CONTROL on 5

Just read the incredible obituary for Pat Findlater. Wow! I’ve lived in Fenton my entire life (1954). How did I miss meeting this amazing woman? Her family was truly blessed as I am sure is true of all the other obituaries in the paper.”

Get real. You are not upset about all the political comments in the Hot lines; you just don’t want to read the one you don’t agree with.”

I would love to see a Chick-fil-A, Chipotle or a Qdoba restaurant come to Fenton.”
TEEN INJURED
Continued from Front Page

a passing train in Rose Township last Friday evening and then broke through an ice-covered pond, submerging the vehicle. The driver, a 20-year-old woman from Grosse Ile Township, sustained minor injuries.

On Friday, Feb. 14 at approximately 5:30 p.m., the North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) responded to a report of a train versus vehicle collision on Rattlesnake Lake Road east of Stallion Lane in Rose Township. While en route to the call, NOCFA was notified that the vehicle had been thrown into a small pond where it had broken through the ice and was submerged in water with one occupant out of the vehicle and one occupant who was trapped in the vehicle.

The first NOCFA unit arrived on scene at 5:33 p.m., and reported one vehicle through the ice partially submerged in the water with one female driver that was out of the vehicle and a second female passenger still in the vehicle unable to get out.

Additional fire units arrived on scene and began rescue efforts to free the trapped occupant. The vehicle was halfway submerged in the water and the trapped passenger was submerged up to her chest with her legs trapped in the wreckage under the water.

NOCFA firefighters immediately began extrication efforts entering the water to get to the vehicle. Two firefighters were able to climb on to the partially submerged hood of the vehicle where they removed the windshield to gain access to the female and held her upper body out of the water while several other firefighters began working blindly to try to free her legs.

Using recently learned training techniques, fire crews worked for 20 minutes and were finally able to free the passenger. The trapped woman was awake and talking to fire personnel the entire time. Both occupants were treated for hypothermia and transported to Ascension Genesys Hospital in Grand Blanc Township.

The 20-year-old driver sustained minor injuries. The 19-year-old trapped passenger sustained serious lower extremity injuries. Both occupants are from Grosse Ile Township. No firefighters were injured.

Jeremy Lin tz, NOCFA fire chief said, “I would like to comment that this incident was extremely challenging and dangerous, however, the men and woman first responders under immense pressure and limited time, executed a flawless rescue and saved the life of this young lady.”

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Ice fishing tourney — more sun than fish

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton Twp. — Anglers Justin Ringler of Goodrich, Roger Fitch of Argentine Township and Scott Jacques of Fenton Twp. ownership pull their sleds from the slush-covered Byram Lake and up the hill of Clover Beach. They were defeated, at least from the perspective of ice fishing.

On Sunday, Feb. 16, 130 registrants went ice fishing for the fourth annual Linden Community Ice Fishing Tournament. Fishing was from about 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., with weigh-in at the Loose Center banquet hall afterward. While weighing in, visitors could sample from 12 chili recipes in the annual chili cook off.

While these three came up empty, Ryan Thompson of Fenton Twp. ownership gathered a small pile of crappie, bluegill and sunfish beside him. His son Landen Thompson, 13, may have had the best catch of all — saving his $200 auger bit, which fell into the water.

The father-son duo ended up winning prizes in their respective divisions (see sidebar).

It was a beautiful day for February. While sunny and 37 degrees out, it fell on a bad day for fishing according to the lunar calendar, Ringler said.

Bassmaster.com reported that Feb. 16 was “fair” fishing at best, while the original tournament date of Feb. 9 was “excellent.”

The tournament was pushed back due to thin ice from warm temperatures. The tournament was saved by several colder conditions.

Justin Pfeiffer of Durand fishes with his children, including Acein, 11, on Sunday, Feb. 16 during the Linden Community Ice Fishing Tournament. Photo: Tim Jagielo

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Who will take us HOME?

Adopt A Pet

A Friend for Life!

13575 Fenton Rd • Fenton
wwwadoptapetfenton.com
810-629-0723

Who will take us HOME?

Jazzy

I’m a spunky 6-month-old girl who needs an active home.

Stream

I’m a sweet, girl who would love an experienced person.

Lost Sock Coin Laundry

8389 Silver Lake Rd., Linden • 810-735-5047
I just finished watching a newly released four-part docuseries on Netflix called “The Pharmacist,” featuring Dan Schneider, a retired pharmacist from St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. Schneider’s son, Danny, was shot to death in 1999 when he attempted to buy crack cocaine in St. Bernard Parish. Believing that the police weren’t working hard enough to find his son’s killer, Schneider was compelled to do his own investigation. Between his findings and the police, the 16-year-old shooter was charged and imprisoned.

As a parent who lost a child nearly 20 years ago due to an illness, I understood Schneider’s determination to make sense of his son’s death and to make something positive out of the unfortunate. He couldn’t rest until the killer was found.

Schneider eventually resumed working at the local pharmacy in St. Bernard Parish. The compassionate man worried about the crime- and drug-plagued area in which he was living. In addition to crack cocaine, he was seeing an increase in prescriptions for OxyContin, a highly addictive opioid to treat pain. More and more teens were bringing local police agency that would listen as well as any federal agency that would take the time to listen to his findings. Eventually, enough evidence was found to charge a local doctor Jacqueline Cleggett, who wrote prescriptions to anyone who asked. It was all about making money.

The Fenton area is not immune to overdoses, either from illegal drugs or from legally prescribed medications. I have written too many stories on these horrible and preventable deaths and would like to thank our local grieving parents, police, fire and first responders who are trying to make a difference — and save a life. Keep up the fight.

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.

Heartfelt kudos to ‘The Pharmacist’ and others on similar mission

Many Happy Returns...

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Compilers by Tim Jagielo, media editor

Are you good at fixing things?

“I’m pretty good at things around the house — appliances, furniture. I also like fixing our car.”
— Walt Campbell
Fenton

“I’m pretty good with tools — fixing the house and car. I retired from General Motors; I was a millwright.”
— Larry Schuh
Holly

“I’m pretty good; depends what it is. I’m good at fixing things at work; issues with patients at dialysis.”
— Sara Gerard
Fenton

“I’m not. I rely on my husband for that.”
— Cassie Sprague
Tyrone Township

“I can fix most things. I just replaced a floor drain at work. Replaced PVC with cast iron. Never done plumbing in my life.”
— Josh Schaefer
Fenton
BYRON HGTV

Continued from Front Page

generation resident of Byron, starts by
her showing where Byron is located by
using her hand, like many Michiganders
do. She said it’s the
place “Where traffic stops for tractors and
turtles and the only thing brighter than the night -
time country sky is the
Friday night lights of a hometown football
game.”

The video is packed with Byron history, in -
cluding information about the fire Oct. 1,
2012 that gutted most of the historic shop-
ping block of downtown Byron. Janelle’s
Family Restaurant, and Tower Hardware

were destroyed. New Image Tanning and
Hair Salon was severely damaged. The
fire was believed to be arson.

Organizers of Byron’s submission
said the response to Byron’s #HGT -
VHomeTownTakeover submission video
exceeded their wildest
expectations. By Fri -
day afternoon, the original Facebook post was
shared over 1,500 times,
and the YouTube video
had nearly 26,000 views.

According to hgtv .
com, applicants should
make it special, fascinating, historic or unique — including distinctive features
like vintage period architecture, special
destinations or a classic main street.

Citizens of the selected town can
expect to witness the rehab of multiple
individual family homes as well as the
revitalization of public spaces — parks,
local diners or restaurants and outdoor
recreation areas.

“This is a big one,” Erin said for hgtv
com. “HGTV has never, ever taken on a
whole-town renovation and restoration
project, and we’re so proud and excited to
be leading the team that will get it done.
Show us those photos and videos. Tell us
what makes your town special and how
you’d like us to help make it better. You
may see us in your town soon.”

Erin and Ben Napier star in HGTV’s
“Home Town.” They are searching for a
town to make over for their new series “Home Town Takeover.” The
village of Byron seeks to be chosen for the makeover.  Photo: HGTV.com

ANIMAL CONTROL

Continued from Front Page

surrenders will be suspended until fur -
ther notice for the protection of the ani -
mals currently residing inside the shel -
ter, as well as animals in the community
said Marie Clif ford, communications
and brand coordinator for the Genesee
County Board of Commissioners.

Clifford said all animals currently
held at the shelter will be monitored by
shelter and veterinary staff for signs of
the virus, and will continue to clean and
sanitize the building.

“We are diligently monitoring and
taking proper precautions to avoid fur -
ther spreading of this disease inside the
shelter,” Clif ford said. “We apologize
for any inconvenience, but this is an
animal health issue.”

Genesee County Animal Control will
still be open to the public during busi -
ness hours for purchasing dog license as
well as identifying a lost pet.

If you have an Animal Control emer -
gency, you are asked to call (810) 732 -
1660 and follow the prompts or call 91

Canine Parvovirus Infection

The canine parvovirus (CPV) infection is a highly contagious viral illness
that affects dogs. The virus manifests itself in two different forms, according
to petmd.com.

The more common form is the in -
testinal form, which is characterized by vom iting, dia rrhea, w eight l oss
and lack of appetite (anorexia). The
less common form is the cardiac form,
which attacks the heart muscles of
fetuses and very young puppies, often
leading to death.

Parvovirus is a disease with serious
consequences. Fast action by you and
your veterinarian gives your dog the
best prognosis for a full recovery.
Source: petmd.com

Source: petmd.com
Experience Community Threads opens in Flint area

By Paula K. Schmidt

Flint Twp. — When you think “thrift store” you might think dirty and grungy and poor quality or old merchandise, but Allen Ryckman, owner of Community Threads of Fenton, wants to change your mind.

Ryckman has opened his second location, Experience Community Threads, in the former Forever 21 space in the Macy’s wing in the Genesee Valley Center mall. The new thrift store sells new and gently used merchandise, from clothing to furniture and household goods to toys and back-to-school items.

Ryckman says he is only about 85 percent stocked. The clean, brightly lit store looks like any fashionable outfit in the mall, with a good selection of items to prepare you for summer with lots of swimwear, beach toys and household goods to toys and back-to-school items.

More of the merchandise is not used, consisting of manufacturer close-outs with deeply discounted prices to fit any shopper’s budget. Katherine Stump of Fenton is a fan of the first store and stopped by one of the VIP events held earlier this month. Stump said she likes how roomy the store is and that the merchandise is not crunched together on the racks.

Ryckman employs a business model which includes hiring students to give them real world job experience in a retail setting. He said with the holiday season ending he was able to get some good, quality applicants and is thrilled to be opening the new space.

His plan is to have 33 percent of the staff to be students by the end of the first year, 66 percent at the end of the second year and 100 percent student run by the end of the third year. He said he is a little ahead on the number of students, currently having six of 16.

Ryckman says by the end of the third year his intention is to have student employees actively engaged in the core business functions and decision making. For now he is helping them find their specialties and leveraging those skills to aid in their development.

“I am looking forward to helping them grow as part of a long-term plan,” Ryckman said.

LETTER
Continued from Front Page

Over the last two weeks, we have been working in cooperation with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office and did not want to jeopardize their investigation by sending this letter to our families any sooner than today.

During this time, we have dealt with a number of social media concerns which did not necessarily involve the school, but were brought to our attention due to the nature of the interactions taking place. We are finding an alarming number of our students are connected to individuals, via social media, who are significantly older and have absolutely no ties to our schools or community. In each instance, we have worked with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office and cooperated with any investigation needed. In addition, we have had conversations with multiple students and their families to alert them to the concerns.

I know we would like to think our children would never be compromised on social media, but those platforms have no boundaries. Please talk with your children about chat rooms, gaming and all the other social media applications out there. We teach our students not to give out personal information on these platforms, but we have seen evidence they still continue to do so.

When I look around our district, I can see we have spent tens of thousands of dollars to improve the safety and security of our schools, but this is one of those areas we cannot protect with a locking device or access control system. Together, we must continue to express to our children how important it is to exercise caution when using social media.

On Thursday, March 5, Lake Fenton Community Schools will host a community event on Human Trafficking and grooming behaviors. We will be showing the film “Ring of Silence,” which shows how children can easily be pulled into a human trafficking ring.

The film contains mature content.

In addition, we are working to have a representative here from the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force to provide additional information and answer questions. All parents are encouraged to attend. If you have a high school student, we strongly recommend they attend with you.

The event will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium."

Sincerely,

Julie Williams

---

Paczki Days at crust
February 22nd - February 25th

Save time and order your paczki online for In-store Pickup, bit.ly/CRUSTpaczki

our fillings
Apricot
Cream
Lemon
Prune
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Strawberry
Raspberry

ENJOY HOME-MADE FILLINGS IN ALL OF OUR PACZKI!

All are dusted with confectioner's sugar.

Raspberry and Strawberry are also available glazed.

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Katherine Stump of Fenton was getting the deals at an early shopping VIP event earlier this month just before the new Experience Community Threads store opened in the mall. Behind the counter are store employees (from left) Chloe Vaughn, Lexi Ward and Brenda Stam along with store owner, Allen Ryckman. Photo: Paula K. Schmidt
Lady Justice

First, as a lawyer and now as a judge, it has been my privilege to be a part of our legal system and everything that it stands for.

There are a number of reasons why I feel this way not the least of which is that when all is said and done, our system is meant to ensure that all parties concerned have received justice, no matter who they are or the type of case that brought them before the court.

I am reminded of this principle every day as in my chambers there is a statue, which was given to me by now retired Genesee County Circuit Court Judge Thomas C. Yeots when I became a judge in 1993. Judge Yeots epitomized what justice stands for and made sure that anyone who came before him was treated with dignity and respect.

The statue is called “Lady Justice.” She is wearing a toga and holding the scales of justice in one hand and an unsheathed double-edged sword in the other.

She is also wearing a blindfold.

Every feature of the statue symbolizes a part of our justice system. Although some readers may already be familiar with it, today I will explain the significance of the statue.

My statue depicts the Greek goddess Themis, the lady of good counsel. Some versions depict the Roman goddess of justice Justitia. Both stand for the personification of the law, fairness, and all that goes with it.

The scales are called the Scales of Justice because she is weighing the strengths and weaknesses of the cases that come before the court.

The sword represents authority and that justice stands by its decisions and can enforce them. Being double-edged shows that justice can rule for or against either party after the evidence is reviewed. The fact that it is unsheathed means that justice is transparent and not to be feared.

The blindfold signifies impartiality and the ideal that justice should be applied without regard to wealth, power or other status. Her toga symbolizes the philosophical nature of justice.

An accepted definition for “Justice” is protecting rights and punishing wrongs using fairness.

Our Lady Justice confirms this without saying a word and I will always be grateful for her reminder.

Can you hunt coyotes?

By Hannah Ball

With increased activity from coyotes in the tri-county area, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is reminding people of the law in regards to hunting.

Hunting season for coyotes is year-round statewide. There is no kill tag, mandatory registry or bag limit. However, hunting coyotes may be limited in certain areas that have firearm, shooting or trapping restrictions.

Holly Vaughn, public outreach and engagement unit manager in the Wildlife Division of Michigan DNR, said, “If you are in an area where hunting or discharging a firearm is legal, coyote may be taken on private property by a property owner or designee all year if they are doing or about to do damage on private property.”

A license or written permit is not needed.

“If you are in an area where hunting or discharging a firearm is not allowed and a coyote is acting aggressive and is not easily scared away you can contact a nuisance wildlife control company to come remove and euthanize the problem animal(s),” she said.

In Fenton, under Ordinance 20-91(c) a landowner may use a pellet gun on coyotes for pest control, but trapping is not allowed, said Lt. Jefrey Cross. Fenton Township does not have specific ordinances regulating the hunting of coyotes.

In Linden, Police Chief Scott Sutter said their ordinance that “Hunting wild game animals and birds is unlawful in the city, except that a landowner may use a pellet gun on his or her own property for pest control with respect to rats, coyote, opossum, porcupine, weasel, red squirrel and skunk.”

DNR Conservation Officer Justin Muehlhauser said Argentine Township and Gaines Township do not have further ordinances prohibiting hunting or trapping coyotes.

“They can be taken without a license if they’re about to do damage, and that includes protecting livestock and poultry,” he said. “Trapping season is from October through March 1, but if they are about to do damage, you can trap them legally on your own property.”

Check with your local municipality before hunting or trapping coyotes.

- Genesee County: Region Seven, Bay City Customer Service Center (989) 684-9141
- Oakland County: Region 10, Detroit Customer Service Center (313) 396-6890
- Livingston County: Region Nine, Detroit Customer Service Center (313) 396-6890
- The DNR Customer Service Center afterhours number is 1 (800) 292-7800.

See the Times story in the Sunday Feb 9 edition for coyote habits, facts and how to scare them away from your yard.
By Hannah Ball

Thank you to everyone who sent in a photo of your pet to help us celebrate Love Your Pet Day. We are honored to live in a community that values its furry companions. We loved every animal submitted, but we could only choose a handful.

Mini Dog is 1 year old and was very excited to experience snow for the first time. *Sent in by Mica Vasquez.*

Cheeto, 5, loves tuna fish. *Sent in by Nancy Jensen.*

Diesel, 6, licks everything and doesn’t know how to bark, but he has a very loud scream when hyper. *Sent in by Heather Fulghum.*

Izzy Bear is 4 years old and rescued her caregiver three years ago by helping her through a hard time. *Sent in by Debbie Ream.*

Ollie, 6, is a gentle giant who sits like a human. *Sent in by Mishelle Dutinaume-Albers.*

Digit and Bigfoot, both 1 year old, are polydactyl. Bigfoot has six toes on each front paw. *Sent in by Melanie Tyrrell.*

Sunny, 1, loves to swing in the yard. *Sent in by Sharon Spangler.*

Piper, 6, greets you every morning in the bathroom when you get ready. *Sent in by Kaitlyn Canning.*

Cooper, 2, loves walking downtown Fenton and hanging with the boys. *Sent in by Anita Hoover.*

Jovie, 5, and Mr Pickles, 2, love to snuggle. *Sent in by Lisa Eckman.*

By Hannah Ball

Thank you to everyone who sent in a photo of your pet to help us celebrate Love Your Pet Day. We are honored to live in a community that values its furry companions. We loved every animal submitted, but we could only choose a handful.
FISHING
Continued from 3 days last week. Still, Lobdell Lake in Argentine Township was deemed unsafe for walking, so Byram Lake was the only place to fish.
“Overall I would rate this as our best event in the four years, based upon feedback and how much people enjoyed just being out and about in our community,” organizer Steve James said.
James said there were 130 fishing registrants and 12 chili cook-off participants. There were more than 200 people at the Loose Center banquet hall.
The Linden Hotel took home the $100 prize for best chili.
There were raffles, chili and cookies available at the hall. James said he appreciates the donation of raffle items from Gander Outdoors and other local businesses.

2020 TOURNAMENT WINNERS
Prizes were $125 for first place, $75 for second and $50 for third.

ADULTS
Bluegill winners
Troy Moiles........... 9.25 inches
Nick Anderson......... 9.25 inches
Matt Springer........... 9.125 inches
Crappie winners
Travis Reed..............11.875 inches
John Zeeman.......... 11.75 inches
Ronald French.........11.125 inches
Pike winners
Clint Chambers........34 inches
Ryan Thompson.......32.75 inches
AJ Stadler................ 30.5 inches

UNDER 15
Landen Thompson: 9-inch bluegill, 9.75-inch crappie and 30.25-inch pike
Logan Johnson: 9-inch bluegill
Riley VanNorman: 7.75-inch bluegill

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Comedian performs this weekend at the Holly Hotel
John Poveromo, a Brooklyn-born, Jersey-raised stand-up comedian with a blend of self-deprecation and optimism makes him a dynamic and unpredictable performer that’s both engaging and fun to watch as he struggles to make sense of himself and the world around him.
Poveromo has been featured in the New York Times and the Asbury Park Press and can be heard on Sirius XM Radio, and more. Poveromo will be performing live Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21 and 22 at 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. at the Holly Hotel, 110 Battle Alley, Holly. Check out hollyhotel.com/comedy-club for details.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY is for the wealthy. If the lower income continue to vote Republican, all you are doing is widening the gap between the rich and the poor.

WHEN FENTON FINALLY fixes our roads, please leave N. Oak Street between Fifth and Sixth streets alone. We love the potholes; prevents our children from getting hit by speeders. Our stop signs don’t work here.

BLOOMBERG KNOWS HE is smarter than you. So just keep quiet and do what you’re told.

IN 2018 AND 2019 my husband and I paid $1,100 a month for healthcare. With Medicare and supplemental insurance, we will pay $442. We got hundreds of calls that wanted to sell us the supplemental insurance. Tell me again why we can’t all have health insurance and affordable healthcare?

WHY DIDN’T THE Fenton City Council apply for a grant aimed at contributing to the cost of the proposed trail system first before asking voters to pay for it? What a waste of time and money to get that failed proposal on the ballot. Nothing like doing things half backwards. Am I surprised? Not at all.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

Cheerio, 1. loves Honey Nut Cheerios and Kai, 8, closes drawers and cabinets with her nose. Sent in by Angi Spees.

Misha, 4, loves having her morning coffee with crackers. Sent in by Amanda Ly.

Roscoe Stone, 2, is a silly boy obsessed with playing fetch. Sent in by Nicole Akridge.

Levi, 8, spent his first six months living on the streets in Ohio. Now he’s spoiled rotten. Sent in by Rosemarie Sullenger.

Coco, 11 years old, is a constant companion. Sent in by Brook Wilson.

Ozzy, 6 months, loves to shake for treats, and his favorite food is clementines. Sent in by Jami Richards.

Misha, 4, loves having her morning coffee with crackers. Sent in by Amanda Ly.

Clover enjoys biting fingers when being fed. Sent in by Lisa Smith.

Queenbee, 1, is a rescue pup. She’s always smiling. Sent in by Rachel Roberts.

Coco, 11 years old, is a constant companion. Sent in by Brook Wilson.

2020 TOURNAMENT WINNERS
Prizes were $125 for first place, $75 for second and $50 for third.
Eagles capture Metro Stripes championship

By David Troppens

Swartz Creek — The year was 1995. Detroit Tigers’ manager Sparky Anderson took an unpaid leave due to the Major League Baseball strike.

People were just learning about the World Wide Web, but that was just fine considering only one-fourth to one-third of households even had personal computers.

February 1995 also marked Linden’s second straight Metro League title, earning back-to-back Metro crowns for the first time in school history.

On Friday night, it finally happened again.

The Eagles were crisp on offense all night long, earning an 80-65 road victory against the Swartz Creek Dragons, clinching Linden the outright Metro League Stripes Division championship. Linden also won the Metro League title a year ago outright.

“We have a great group of guys,” Linden junior Blake Lund said. “It’s fun to play with them. We have a great coach who is fun to play for. To be with this group of guys and experience (a championship) is great.”

“It’s something we’ve been dreaming about since we were all playing together when we were 5-years old,” senior Brendan Miller said.

Continued at TCTIMES.COM

Seventeen wrestlers qualify for regional round

By David Troppens

Seventeen tri-county wrestlers still have a shot at earning a state championship at the state meet at Detroit’s Ford Field in early March.

That’s because 17 wrestlers qualified out of the Fenton individual wrestling district tournament Saturday. Holly led area teams with six regional qualifiers while Linden and Lake Fenton had four each. Fenton finished with three. Four Holly wrestlers earned district titles while two Eagles did and one Blue Devil did.

The event had four all-area district championship bouts. One of the best had to be Holly’s Jacob Gonzales’ (152) 6-5 decision win against Linden’s Jimmy Roti at 160 pounds. Gonzales earned three pinfall wins prior to the final, improving his record to 42-0. Roti, who earned two pinfall wins and a decision win in his first three matches is now 22-3.

Linden’s Uzziiah Delgado (160) also won a tight 3-2 decision against fellow tri-county and Fenton foe Brady T riola. Delgado won his first match by pinfall and second one by decision while Triola earned a tech fall and a decision win during his run to the title match.

Continued at TCTIMES.COM
**BOYS BOWLING**

- **Holly 23, Corunna 7:** The Bronchos were led by Justin Mallory’s 200-226-426 two-game series while Matthew Creasey had a 146-184-330 series. Holly also won both baker games.

- **Kearsley 30, Linden 0:** The Eagles were led by Brendyn Sinn who had a 109-163-272 series.

- **Flushing 24, Fenton 6:** Tate Temrowski led the Tigers with a 215-152-368 two-game series while Andrew Hutchings bowled a 207 game.

- **Owosso 28, Fenton 2:** The Tigers were led by Brandon Davis who bowled a 207-189-396 series. Tate Temrowski bowled a 177-205-382 series.

**GIRLS BOWLING**

- **Corunna 23, Holly 7:** The Bronchos were led by Kaitlyn Allison’s 116-146-262 series.

- **Kearsley 30, Linden 0:** The Eagles were led by Kaitlyn Rice’s 174-191-365 series. Paige Sundrla bowled a 149 game.

- **Flushing 24, Fenton 6:** The Tigers were paced by Abbey Lamb’s 153-128-281 series. Avery Logan bowled a 145 game.

- **Owosso 29, Fenton 1:** Julian Roberts led the Tigers with a 136-123-259 series.

**MIDWEEK TIMES**

**Tigers collect state times at MISCA meet**

**By David Troppens**

The Fenton varsity boys swim team continues to post impressive performances this season.

The most recent strong efforts were recorded at the MISCA meet on Saturday.

The Tigers had seven state-qualifying times at the event.

Fenton freshman Max Haney continued his outstanding rookie season with the Tigers with two individual state-qualifying times. Haney finished sixth in the 500 freestyle (4:47.53), about 12 seconds less than the state-qualifying standard in the event. He also made the 200 freestyle state time by 1.2 seconds by taking 16th (1:48.59) in the event.

He also helped two relays post state-qualifying times. The 400 freestyle relay team placed seventh with a time of 3:21.55, 3.45 seconds faster than the state-qualifying standards. He teamed with Gavin Crews, Anthony Barnett and Alec Maddock in the event. He also teamed with Joel Diccion, Kaz Sieja and Crews to place 11th with a state-qualifying time of 1:41.77.

Three other individual state-qualifying times were recorded. Diccion earned one in the 100 backstroke (56.96). He placed 29th in the event. Crews also placed 29th in the 100 freestyle (49.81), earning a state cut in that event. He also qualified for the state meet with a 16th-place finish in the 50 freestyle (22.35).

Plenty of other swimmers competed at the MISCA meet. They were Barnett, 47th in the 100 freestyle (50.46) and 56th in the 200 freestyle (1:54.59); Jack Fries, 32nd in the 100 backstroke (1:57.54) and 59th in the 200 freestyle (1:55.14); Sieja, 55th in the 200 individual medley (2:10.05); Diccion, 45th in the 100 butterfly (56.61); and Alec Maddock, 65th in the 100 backstroke (1:00.60).

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**

**LADY TIGERS POST IMPRESSIVE UPSET VICTORY VS. KEARSLEY**

**By David Troppens**

The Fenton varsity girls basketball team appears to be steadily improving from its early season fortunes.

After starting 2-4 in Flint Metro League Stripes Division play, the Tigers have won each of their last two divisional contests, including an impressive 53-48 overtime victory against Stripes contender Kearsley on Friday night.

Sophomore Kaleigh Shaker made a free throw with four seconds left in regulation to force overtime. Korryn Smith went a perfect 4-for-4 at the free throw line in overtime, leading the squad to the victory.

Smith finished with 14 points, eight rebounds, five steals and three assists.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**

**CHEER TEAMS COMPETE AT BRANDON**

**By David Troppens**

As the area tri-county competitive cheer teams prepare for district action, all four squads competed at the Brandon Cheer Invitational on Saturday.

The Blue Devils had the strongest showing among their division, taking second in Division 3. Fenton placed third in Division 2 while Linden was sixth and Holly was seventh.

The Blue Devils earned its second-place finish by posting a round one score of 207.20, a round two score of 188.26 and a round three score of 262.00 for a total score of 647.46.

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**Accidents Happen**
Tigers stung by Kearsley Hornets

By David Troppens

All teams have their “off nights.” Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan thinks the Fenton Tigers had one on Friday night.

The Tigers lost to Kearsley 67-62. “We felt out of synch the whole night,” Logan said. “Maybe it was Kearsley. Maybe it was us. But we weren’t quite ourselves.

“Our kids are disappointed. And I feel for them because losing games in front of your friends is really hard to do. We were uncharacteristically off tonight. We played pretty solid for 13 games now but this will be a hard one to swallow.”

But even on an “off night” the Tigers had a great chance at victory until a fluke call happened. As Addison McIntosh drove to the bucket for a go-ahead layup, the Tigers were called for a technical foul eliminating the layup and giving Kearsley two free throws. Kearsley made those free throws and were able to hold on for the final 1:45 to earn the win.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

Eagles showing improvement, lose to Creek

By David Troppens

Swartz Creek — The first time the Linden varsity girls basketball team played the Swartz Creek Dragons, the Eagles lost a 67-25 verdict at home.

Since that Jan. 10 game, the Eagles have improved, and Friday night’s rematch at Swartz Creek High School was a perfect example of the progress.

The Eagles (4-12) were within single-digits right until the final five minutes of the game before the Eagles ended up losing a 47-36 verdict.

Linden, whose four wins this season are one more than the Eagles had the previous three seasons combined, led the Dragons throughout the night. The Eagles cut the gap to 37-32 on a jump shot by Kelsey McLennan during the fourth quarter. However, that was as close as the Eagles would get down the stretch.

The Dragons scored the next six points, raising their edge to 43-32 after a driving layup by Makenna Gardiner with 4:26 left. Delanie Prince cut the gap back to 43-34 with a layup, but from there the Eagles never got any closer. Still, the competitive contest represented a nice change from the 42-point loss about five weeks earlier.

“I was so proud of the girls,” Linden varsity girls basketball coach Zack Darling said. “It was a totally different game than the first time we played them. The first time we lost by 40-something and it was a running clock. To see them out there battle the whole game – it was a fight, an absolute battle, physical both ways, all good play. I’m super proud of them.”

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

FLLF’s Hiscock headed to state ski meet

Fenton/Linden/Lake Fenton skier Emma Hiscock will be heading to the Division 1 state ski meet. Hiscock placed seventh individually in the giant slalom at the Pine Knob regional, earning a spot into the state meet. The top four individuals not on a state-qualifying team in each event qualifies for the D1 state meet.

Holly girls fall to Flushing Raiders, 47-23

The Holly varsity girls basketball team suffered its most difficult offensive performance of 2020 against the wrong opponent Friday night.

Facing Metro League leaders Flushing, the Bronchos were able to score just 23 points in a 47-23 loss to the Raiders.

Holly boys play strong defense, but lose

The Holly varsity boys basketball team found itself in a tough defensive battle with the Flushing Raiders.

The Bronchos played well enough on defense but were held to their second-lowest point total of the season, resulting in a tough 48-44 overtime loss.

Fenton/Linden Griffins split weekend games

Friday-Saturday hockey doubleheaders have been a 50-50 proposition for the Fenton/Linden varsity hockey team this season.
**Horoscopes**

**ARIES**  
Mar 21/Apr 20  
Aries, you may want to pick up a relationship right where you left off, but the other person may not be as amenable. Bide your time and give this person some space.

**TAURUS**  
Apr 21/May 21  
A few extra goals never hurt anyone, Taurus. Sit down and see how your new resolutions can be turned into new tasks. A few extra goals never hurt anyone, Taurus.

**GEMINI**  
May 21/June 21  
Gemini, while you may want to expand your social circle right now, you’re just not sure how to get started. Networking opportunities may be the way to go.

**CANCER**  
June 22/July 22  
There is no point getting into a disagreement over a situation you have no control over right now, Cancer. Instead, wait for the right opportunity to express your position.

**LEO**  
July 23/Aug 22  
Leo, take a step back from responsibilities at work to devote more energy to your relationships at home. Embrace activities that your family can enjoy together.

**VIRGO**  
Aug 23/Sept 22  
Some melancholy may have you seeking out quiet corners, Virgo. Distancing yourself from the crowds is only a temporary fix. Instead, look for activities you find soothing.

**LIBRA**  
Sept 23/Oct 22  
Someone close to you may be feeling under the weather and could use some extra support, Libra. Take a few days off to be the rock that this person can use right now.

**SCORPIO**  
Oct 23/Nov 21  
Friends may make excessive demands on your time this week, Scorpio. As a generous person, you want to go along with it all, but be careful not to overextend.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
Nov 22/Dec 21  
Sagittarius, you are usually outgoing, but this week you may be feeling more shy and reserved. It could be because you are missing someone.

**CAPRICORN**  
Dec 22/Jan 20  
Don’t take what you hear this week at face value, Capricorn. The information that has been coming your way may not be entirely accurate. Make up your own mind.

**AQUARIUS**  
Jan 21/Feb 19  
Group activities or time spent with a spouse may not go as well as usual this week, Aquarius. Your mind is elsewhere. Until you are focused, things may seem stressed.

**PISCES**  
Feb 20/Mar 20  
A minor disagreement could have you questioning a relationship. Pisces, don’t fret, as you’ll soon find that the turmoil is short-lived.

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**Fun by the Numbers**

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

**Sudoku Puzzle**

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

Level: Intermediate
OBITUARIES

Donald Leland Shaffer
1945-2020
Donald Leland Shaffer - age 74, of Linden, died Friday, February 14, 2020. Visitation will be held 3-9 PM Saturday, February 22, 2020 with a service at 6 PM at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 E. Broad St., Linden. Those desiring may make contributions to the Lung Cancer Research Foundation. Donald was born July 17, 1945 in Detroit, the son of Armour and Violet Shaffer. He is survived by his wife, Denise; daughters, Dawn (Tim) Leonard and Danielle (John) Curtis; grandchildren, Maycee, Gabriella, Boston, Angela, Maycee, Gabriella, Boston, Angela, Anthony and Colton; mother, Violet; sister, Nancy Jones; nephew, Donnie. He was preceded in death by his father. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Mary Josephine “Mary Jo” or “Josie” DiTeodore
1931-2020
Mary Josephine “Mary Jo” or “Josie” DiTeodore - age 89, of Fenton (formerly Warren) passed away Monday, February 10, 2020. She was born in Detroit, February 2, 1931. She was preceded in death by her loving parents, George and Marie Gonzalez; father, James Perry and treasured brother, Frank Perry. Cherished mother of Lisa “Lee” Martorana (Philip) and adored grandmother of John Michael. Dear sister of Diane Jurco (Andrew) and Diana Perry (Frank); caring aunt of Christina and Marlaina. A strong, smart and precious soul whose first concern was for those around her and how she could make their lives better. A perpetual student and teacher, Mary retired from the Burroughs Corp. (Unisys) after 32 years of service in payroll operations and finally as a Senior Accounting Clerk/Instructor. Following retirement Mary volunteered as an adult literacy tutor. Her passions were her faith, family and friends. Family vacations, traveling, dancing, gardening and bowling with friends brought true joy to her and those around her. A jewel has been sent to heaven. Services have been held. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at AJDesmond.com.

Janet S. Church
1952-2020
Janet S. Church - age 67, of Holly died Saturday, February 15, 2020. Funeral services will be held at 2 PM Thursday, February 20, 2020 at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly with Rev. James Garfield officiating. Burial will be in Oakhill Cemetery, Holly. Visitation will be from 2-8 PM Wednesday, February 19, 2020 and from 11 AM until the time of the service Thursday. Mrs. Church was born in Petoskey on August 29, 1952 to John and Ruby (Bonnett) Byczynski. She was a former employee of Holly Schools and a member of MIRG (Michigan Independent Riders Group). She was a beloved wife, mom, and nana. Janet was a great cook and she loved birds, especially hummingbirds, and hated squirrels. She loved gardening and flowers, fishing, hunting, being up north in Harrison, and Christmas. She was a strong fighter and fiercely battled cancer over the past 12 years. Surviving are her husband, Ken Church; two children, Cheri (Rick) Roberts and Ken (Melissa Adams) Church, Jr.; four grandchildren, Jace Church, Dalton Roberts, Nolen Adams and Gage Roberts; step-grandchildren, Erika Roberts-Pate, Savanna Adams, and Donnie Adams; brothers, John, Tom, and Roger Byczynski and sister, Karen Alvarez, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Ken Byczynski. Flowers are welcome. Memorial donations may be given to the family. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

Barbara E. Grunewald
1938-2020
Barbara E. Grunewald - age 81, of Fenton, died Saturday, February 15, 2020. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 AM Saturday, February 22, 2020 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 600 N. Adelaide St, Fenton. Fr. Robert Copeland celebrant. Burial in St. John Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton from 4-8 PM Friday, February 21, 2020 where a rosary will be prayed at 7 PM and at the church Saturday from 10 AM until the time of the service. Those desiring may make contributions to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. Barb was born November 1, 1938 in Detroit, the daughter of Edward and Helen (Standish) Oestman. She was a 1956 graduate of St. Michael Catholic High School, Flint, and attended Michigan State University and the University of Michigan. She married Ralph L. Grunewald May 7, 1960 and he preceded her in death August 20, 2012. She retired as the Administration Assistant and Bookkeeper for Dr. Scarchilli. She had resided in the Fenton area for many years. Barb was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church where she was a Eucharistic Minister, the Sacristan, she trained the Altar Servers, and was the head of the Worship Commission. She also was a member of Great Lakes Association of Medicine and served on four different boards at different colleges. She enjoyed golfing, playing cards, gardening, traveling, and her animals. Surviving are several cousins. She was also preceded in death by her parents. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

view OBITUARIES online

Obituaries updated daily online
myfenton.com
Midweek Crossword

ACROSS
1. Venomous viper
2. Incense
3. Pop
4. Ball-bearing item
5. Beelzebub’s doings
6. From square one
7. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood –
8. Calm before the storm
9. Comedian Rivers
10. Refuge
11. Downright
12. Road’s shoulder
13. Hard to find
14. Almond concoction
15. “— Got a Secret”
16. Left-hand page
17. Ostrich’s cousin
18. Union
19. Valhalla VIP
20. Loathe
21. Loses traction
22. Drive away
23. “Wozzeck” composer
24. Summertime treat
25. Thatcher’s command

DOWN
1. ment starter
2. “— Abner”
3. Thickness of beef
4. Right angle
5. Sandwich
6. Sauces
7. Burden
8. Place to buy
9. 8-down
10. Piercing tools
11. Slightly
12. Historic period
13. Large amount of 50-Across
14. 49-Across
15. See
16. 48-Across
17. Tanzer’s creator’s monogram
18. — and proper
19. Volcanic spillage
20. Cephalopat’s boat
21. Encountered
22. Gaelic
23. “— was saying…”
24. In the thick of
25. 9-down
26. Vegan’s no-no
27. 8-down
28. 9-down
29. 9-down
30. 9-down
31. 9-down
32. 9-down
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34. 9-down
35. 9-down
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44. 9-down
45. 9-down
46. 9-down

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