

City to apply for \$1 million grant

■ Would go to additions and upgrades at Bush Park

By Sharon Stone

Fenton City will be applying for a \$1 million Spark Grant for improvements at Bush Park.

Fenton City Council unanimously ap-

proved authorizing submission of the Spark Grant application and authorized grant match funding in the amount of \$120,000 during its work session Monday, Dec. 5. Timely authorization was needed because the window to apply for the grant was narrow.

The city's 2017-2022 Parks and Recre-

ation Master Plan includes action plan recommendations for Bush Park. Listed below are the action plan recommendations.

- Construct restrooms on the west side of the river near the pavilion/playground structure
- Improve existing restrooms on the east side of the river

See **GRANT** on 18



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Midweek Times

VOL. 29 NO. XLIX

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022

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School district to sell vacant property

■ Fenton superintendent will seek appraisal on 62.3 acres in Rose Township

By Sharon Stone

The Fenton Board of Education voted unanimously at its meeting Monday, Dec. 5 to sell property the school district owns in Rose Township.

Fenton Area Public Schools Superintendent Heidi Ciesielski said the school district purchased the 62.3-acre parcel of vacant land in 1999 for \$460,000 on a land trust through Hillsdale College. Add to that the fees associated with the land contract, the total cost was approximately \$575,000 using the district's sinking fund dollars.

See **PROPERTY** on 7



Thousands attend Linden Holiday Happening

A Christmas gnome is featured on the Linden Pay It Forward float for the Linden Holiday Happening Frosty Parade on Friday, Dec. 2. Thousands of people attended the annual event. See story on page 8. Photo: Hannah Ball

'It's always really successful'

■ Fenton's annual Jinglefest welcomes over 10,000 people

By Hannah Ball

Fenton — Christmas cheer, holiday lights and hot chocolate were in abundance during Fenton's Jinglefest on Saturday, Dec. 3.

Pat Lockwood, chair of the Jinglefest Committee, said more than 10,000 people attended the city's largest Christmas celebration.

"Everybody does such a great job," she said. "It's truly the kick off for the holiday season in Fenton."

This annual event helps get people in the holiday spirit. It began with the Jinglefest 5K/Walk around 3 p.m. and more and more people arrived in the downtown area in time for the Jinglefest Parade at 6 p.m. Dozens of

See **JINGLEFEST** on 11

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Polar Bear Ski returns to Silver Lake

■ Dozens of people water ski in December thanks to Fenton business

By Hannah Ball

Thirty-three brave people participated in the Polar Bear Ski on Saturday, Dec. 3, put on by Silver Spray Sports on Silver Lake.

Temperatures were in the 30s, but that didn't stop participants from donning swimsuits and Santa hats to go water skiing. Owners estimate this is the 37th year they've held the event.

"Weather has messed us up a few times. We didn't do it the last two years because of COVID and supply chain

issues and not having boats readily available to us for use," said organizer Whitney Burnash, whose parents own Silver Spray Sports. "It's a super fun event. We love doing it. It kind of breaks up the winter months a little bit. It gets people ready for spring again."

Drivers take skiers to the end of the lake and back. Skiers ranged in ages from 8 years old to 64. The 8-year-old boy is a regular skier and a relative of one of their customers.

"It's definitely a family event," she said. "It's just a day to hang out and say you skied in December."

It's a free event for the public and it's not only members of the Silver Lake Ski Club that are willing to water ski in De-

cember. The Michigan State Water Ski team and the Michigan Water Ski team assisted at the event and participated. Burnash said this added a bit of rivalry and fun on Saturday.

Participants skied on two skis, they wakeboarded, and some performed trick skiing. They often bring a photographer who endures the chilly boat ride.

"I promise you that's not a warm boat ride," she said.

Air temperatures hovered around 34 degrees and the water temperature was about 40 degrees. Burnash didn't ski this year but she has in the past. She said her father describes the experience as a "full body brain freeze." They have

See **POLAR BEAR SKI** on 7

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Building Brands

Last summer I noticed a shiny new addition to my best friend's wrist. She's a luxury watch buff, but this accessory was much smaller and daintier. I grabbed her wrist and upon further inspection realized it was a bracelet made of three delicate chains of different designs and metals. She was delighted I noticed and told me all about this event she attended where a jeweler was offering permanent bracelets.

I had no idea what she was talking about, so she explained. Permanent jewelry is a new trend where a person selects their material (gold, silver or gold plated), their chain design and thickness. Then a jeweler uses a welding machine to close the bracelet around the person's wrist ... forever. There is no clasp. Just a spark, a puff of smoke and voila, permanent bracelet. I was intrigued. (By the way, it's a painless process.)

The pieces were so pretty I immediately started looking for a place I could get my own. My best friend lives in Nashville where there are a few stores and lots of pop-ups around the city that offer the service. There aren't many

places in Michigan that do, so it took me a while to find a spot.



Emily Caswell

Finally, last weekend while having a father/daughter day-of-fun in Ferndale, I was near a store that offered permanent jewelry. After waiting more than an hour for my turn, I now have a beautiful gold paper clip chain permanent bracelet. I won't lie, the spark and puff of smoke are almost as cool as the bracelet. I can't wait to add another to my collection, next time with someone who

will get one with me. A gold bracelet isn't exactly my dad's style.

While he didn't get a bracelet, the

experience did offer my dad (View Newspaper Group Publisher Wes Smith) an opportunity to turn our trip into a branding lesson.

Stores offering permanent jewelry have a leg up on their competition right now thanks to the popular trend. It's what is differentiating them from other jewelers during a busy holiday season. It's a part of their value proposition.

Quick brand lesson: A value proposition is a statement that clearly identifies the benefits a company's products and services will deliver to its customers. A well-crafted value proposition will differentiate the company and/or its specific product or service in the mar-

See **BRANDS** on 18

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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.

CURIOUS AS TO why candy couldn't be handed out during Linden's Frosty Parade. I somewhat get why it can't be thrown from floats, but stating no candy at all allowed?

MORE POSITIVE HOT lines? We are joyfully thankful for Silver Spray's grand Christmas tree light exhibit on Silver Lake Road. We look forward to see what color it is every night.

YOU'RE GOING TO hear a lot more about global warming. It's the left's push to get more of your cash and nothing more. The planet is aging. We can't stop it. No one can.

TO THE 'ALIGNING of values.' Don't let our mitten hit you on the way out.

I DON'T GET why places are short-staffed. I do not know any people who are not working. Where did all the workers go?

DO NOT TRUST what you hear from the mainstream media. Do your own research. Stay away from Google and Bing when you do. The truth is out there, and the media suppresses it.

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter — Question asked to Tri-County Times' Facebook followers

What's a Christmas gift that you really wanted as a kid?

streettalk



"About age 5 I was a big Smokey the Bear fan and wanted a teddy of him from Santa. I still have it."

Hewitt Judson
Fenton



"A baby brother. No, I never got it. I did have a son 20 years later. Worth the wait!"

Holly Richard
Fenton



"I really wanted a Baby Betsy doll. My auntie got it for me. I still have her 45 years later."

Barb MacKay Hubbard
Linden



"I'd say the most expensive gift us kids asked for was a Nintendo, which we did get."

Andy Butts
Gaines

New HVAC system under consideration

■ Fenton City Council to vote next week on proposed system at city hall

By Sharon Stone

During its work session Monday, Dec. 5, Fenton City Council voted unanimously to recommend the costs for HVAC (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) replacement at City Hall. Council is recommending the project go to K&S Ventures, Inc. at a cost of \$140,000, which is budgeted from the current operating budget.

The proposal will go before city council at its meeting next week for final approval.

The HVAC equipment for Council Chambers is the original (1973) and the five HVAC units that service the rest of the building were manufactured in 2003. In a Nov. 30, memo from Department of Public Works (DPW) Director Dan Brisson to City Manager Lynn Markland, Brisson said the reliability of all the HVAC equipment has been a concern for the past three or four years. He added that all the equipment has reached or passed its useful service life.

Bid specifications were prepared and posted on the city's website. Vendors that perform HVAC work for the city were notified of the bid opportunity. An internet search of local HVAC vendors was collected and local HVAC vendors were called and/or emailed to participate in the bid opportunity. A mandatory pre-bid walk-through was held Nov. 10 and seven companies attended the meeting. Three sealed bids were received and publicly opened by the city clerk on Nov. 23. The three bids included Rawley HVAC in Macomb for \$128,280, K&S Ventures, Inc. in Rochester for \$140,000 and Dee Cramer in Holly for \$144,603.

Based on background investigation, reference check and interview of the low bidder, city staff recommended that city council go with K&S Ventures, Inc. K&S Ventures has extensive commercial/industrial HVAC experience and specializes in energy management controls. They have done extensive municipal, school districts, and large commercial facility work. K&S has done equipment replacement at the DPW building and repair work at City Hall.



The fifth Ally Challenge presented by McLaren raised \$1,758,195 on Aug. 28, which is the largest amount the annual golf tournament has raised so far. Approximately \$1,587,704 will go to charities serving Genesee County. Tournament and fundraising officials made the announcement and presented the large checks on Thursday, Dec. 1 at Andiamo Fenton. This is the third year that the event has surpassed raising \$1 million. In total, the Ally Challenge presented by McLaren donated more than \$6.2 million to charities in the greater Flint area. More than 34 charities will receive funds. Photo: Hannah Ball

#73

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COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

CREATIVE CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA — TODAY

Linden's Central Elementary PALS is holding its fifth annual Creative Christmas Extravaganza in which fourth and fifth graders at the school create their own arts and crafts to sell to the public. The event is **today, Wednesday, Dec. 7 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.** at the school. Admission is \$1.



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Mark McCabe

67th District Court

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judge

DECEMBER 7, 1941 — A DATE WHICH WILL LIVE IN INFAMY

Today marks the 81st anniversary of Japan's surprise attack on Pearl Harbor when 2,403 Americans were lost, and the resulting involvement of the United States in World War II.

Accordingly, I present some legal facts, facts that are worth repeating, and some little-known facts about that day and what followed.

The Pearl Harbor attack was primarily by air involving 353 Japanese planes.

The objective was to wipe out the U.S. Pacific Fleet, which was stationed

there, to prevent us from interfering with Japan's invasion of southeast Asia and its mineral and oil reserves.

Five midget submarines also played a part but caused no damage.

The attack began at 7:55 in the morning and lasted about two hours.

On December 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared before a joint session of Congress and gave his famous "A Date Which Will Live In Infamy" speech, asking for a declaration of war against Japan.

The speech was only seven minutes long but marked a turning point in American history.

Congress granted his request and thereafter declared war on Germany and other Axis countries.

Under the United States Constitution Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, only Congress has the power to declare war.

In our history, Congress has declared war on eleven countries with the last time being in 1942.

Since then, all our military engagements have been by Congressional resolutions or other authority.

Among the six American ships sunk that day was the battleship Arizona.

In 1962, a Pearl Harbor memorial was dedicated above where it was sunk, which marks the final resting place of the 1,102 sailors and marines who were killed.

It was financed through Congressionally authorized public and private funding including a special benefit concert and contribution by Army Veteran Elvis Presley.

On March 4, 1942, the Japanese unsuccessfully attacked Pearl Harbor again.

In 1994, Congress officially proclaimed December 7 of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day with flags to be flown at half-staff.

In 1879, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman famously told the graduates of the Michigan Military Academy that "War is hell." Veterans who have experienced it know this all too well.

Today let us take a moment and remember those who fell on December 7 and, if so inclined, say a prayer.



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Linden 175 Order of Eastern Stars award gift baskets at Linden Holiday Happening

Members of Linden 175 Order of Eastern Stars shared free cookies and a chance to win gift baskets during Linden's Holiday Happening on Friday, Dec. 2. Marilyn Ivey-Crook, of the local Eastern Stars, said members along with their Masonic brothers were happy to see all the smiling faces walk through the doors of their lodge. McKall Solwold of Linden won the adult basket. Her husband Robert Solwold, shown here, picked up the basket from Margie Henderson. Jasper William won the kids basket, which he shared with Mia Hooper. **Submitted photo**

PROPERTY

Continued from Page 1

The property is at 20043 Hickory Ridge Road, just south of W. Rose Center Road.

Ciesielski said the school district at that time bought the property in Rose Township and within the school district's boundaries with expectations that housing development was possible in that area. If that housing development had taken place, the property could have been used for another elementary school.

Since the housing development didn't materialize, the school district believed it was best to sell the property and put the funds back into the district's sink-

ing fund, which is used for repairs and upgrades to the buildings.

"Since it was never developed, the district held it as an asset," Ciesielski said. She added that the district is no longer interested in holding onto the property.

The vacant land is zoned agriculture/residential. Over the years, a farmer has leased the land for farming.

With the school board's approval, Ciesielski has been authorized to seek an appraisal of the property to find out its worth so that it can eventually be listed on the market.

"Our hope is that someone finds use for it," she said. "It makes no sense for us to hold onto it."

BOOK SIGNING

Local author, Jill Wagner, will sign copies of *Jane's Journey*, the 1st book in her new "Mother Killer" series.

Sunday | December 11th | 3 pm
at Bottom's Up Bar
14007 Dixie Hwy, Holly

This gripping crime thriller is set in the Village of Holly, where FBI agent and daughter of a serial killer, Jane, begins her journey through a tangled maze to track down her father's copycat killer. In the book, the killer and the FBI agents both dine at Bottom's Up Bar!



POLAR BEAR SKI

Continued from Page 3

safety precautions in place every year.

"Obviously it's bragging rights. It's not the most enjoyable experience but when your friends are out there doing it, you've got to do it too. It's just a really good time with everybody," she said. "It's kind of the same as jumping in the snow from the hot tub."

It's often a bucket list item for skiers to water ski every month of the year. This can be challenging in Michigan during the winter when the lakes freeze. In the past, they've had to cancel the Polar Bear Ski because the lake has frozen the night before.

Depending on the weather, they generally have about 20 to 40 participants. Burnash said they were lucky with the weather this year.

"We have had people in the past say they want to water ski and snow ski on the same day," she said. These people will do the Polar Bear Ski and then go ski at Mt. Holly or in Brighton.

A few people wore Santa hats. In past years, people have skied dressed in full Santa outfits. Some participants came dressed in decorative onesies, but this presents certain challenges. They hold a lot of water, Burnash said, so they had to start on the dock or do another creative start.

Burnash gave a special thanks to Ron Skinner and Henry VanFaussien, trained drivers who pulled the skiers on Saturday.

They typically have this event the same day as Jinglefest, which was Saturday, Dec. 3.

Silver Spray Sports brought floats to the Linden and Fenton holiday parades this past weekend. Burnash said riding in the parades felt like being in a Hallmark movie.

"The turnout seemed to be very good. Everybody did an amazing job with their float decorations and creativity. I thought there were a lot more lights this year for a lot of the floats. It's awesome to see businesses participating more in community events," she said.

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Photos: Hannah Ball

Financial Plus Credit Union raises \$28,000

■ Will be used by local breast cancer patients

Financial Plus Credit Union raised funds for local breast cancer patients in October through its Pink Bake Sale and Banking to Beat Cancer campaign. All proceeds benefited Hurley's Breast Cancer Navigation Fund and The Pink Fund.

Hosted on Oct. 7 at all locations, the Pink Bake Sale raised a grand total of \$8,667.53 from members, branch employees, and donations — a record-breaking total. Financial Plus also partnered with RMI in October and created Banking to Beat Cancer to raise additional funds for local cancer patients.

After a successful campaign, \$3,054.34 will be donated to Hurley Breast Cancer Navigation Fund and \$5,840.76 for The Pink Fund. In addition, Financial Plus Credit Union made a \$10,000 donation to support Pink Night Palooza.

Hurley's Breast Cancer Patient Navigation Fund is a vital, free year-round program that helps identify gaps within patient care and assists with financial hardships a patient might encounter. The Pink Fund provides financial support to help meet basic needs, decrease stress levels, and allow breast cancer patients in active treatment to focus on healing while improving survivorship outcomes.

"There was an overwhelming amount of support from community members and staff for both initiatives; we're very thankful for everyone's generosity. The funds raised from our Pink Bake Sale and Banking to Beat Cancer show that our community wants to support each other during difficult times,



Financial Plus Credit Union raised \$22,000.00 through Pink Night campaigns for Hurley Foundation.



Financial Plus Credit Union's Banking to Beat Cancer campaign raised over \$5,000 for The Pink Fund.

which is touching," said Madeline Mason, public relations and social media specialist and member of Pink Night Palooza Committee.

Financial Plus Credit Union has a long history of giving back to breast cancer awareness and support through its partnership with Hurley Medical Center on Pink Night Palooza. Pink Night Palooza is an annual event that raises funds and awareness to benefit those affected by breast cancer, and all proceeds go toward the Hurley Breast Cancer Navigation Fund or General Cancer Services Fund.

Owned by over 81,000 members, Financial Plus provides a full range of modern, easily accessible banking products and services to all throughout the state of Michigan. For more information, visit www.myfpcu.com or call (800) 748-0451.

Thousands attend Linden Holiday Happening

■ Decorative floats, carriage rides, entertainment, Elf Hunt and more in Linden

By Hannah Ball

Linden — Downtown Linden was packed Friday, Dec. 2 for this year's Linden Holiday Happening.

Lights, music and holiday cheer filled the air as families celebrated this Christmas season with numerous activities.

The Frosty Parade floated through a festive downtown to cheers and waves. The Robins family, owner of Linden Kitchen & Bath, were this year's grand marshals and rode in a specialized float in the parade.

The fireworks were canceled due to the wind, but the cold temperatures were mild. Activities for the entire celebration included a tree lighting ceremony, Shopping in the Moonlight, food trucks, pre-parade entertainment, a family ac-

tivity area, photo booth, Linden Mills Museum tours, Elf Hunt and Mason Temple Pasties Sale.

Families and kids had ample opportunity to meet Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus this weekend. They took photos with kids after the parade. Breakfast with Santa was held on Saturday, Dec. 3 at Hyatt Elementary.

Refreshments were served at the VFW Hall and attendees enjoyed train rides, horse carriage rides and a live Nativity at the Linden United Methodist Church.

Before Holiday Happening on Dec. 2, Linden Pay It Forward also held a dedication and lighting ceremony of the P.J. Dobos Memorial Angel Tree in downtown Linden. More than 60 memorial angels are represented on the tree. Dobos was a 2010 graduate of Linden High School and was active in the family business, Dobos Concessions. He died Nov. 5, 2013 at the age of 21.

'Make a Veteran Smile Campaign' has begun

■ Bring joy to our hero veterans around the holidays with greeting cards

Michigan Veteran Homes' 'Make a Veteran Smile Campaign' encourages Michiganders to spread holiday cheer by sending a card or letter to veterans.

"The ongoing pandemic has limited attendance at our activities and led us to be more cautious about attending large community gatherings," said Sarah Johnson, volunteer and donations coordinator for Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti. "Sending a letter or card to our members is another way the community can share appreciation and support for veterans around the holidays."

"These cards make a real difference in the lives of veterans who have fought and sacrificed for our freedom," said Tiffany Carr, community engagement coordinator for Michigan Veteran Homes (MVH). "For some of our members who do not have close friends or family, this might be the only message they receive around the holidays."

Here are a few helpful guidelines for holiday messages:

- Include a personal note in each card.
- If you have an envelope, please do not seal it.
- Use large writing and dark ink.
- Large format cards or banners that can be displayed or hung are acceptable.
- Standard paper food tray liners with coloring or messages are a great alternative to cards and letters.

Cards and letters can be addressed to ATTN: Make a Vet Smile and mailed to:

- Michigan Veteran Homes at Chesterfield Township at 47901 Sug-

arbush Rd., Chesterfield Township, MI 48047

- Michigan Veteran Homes at Grand Rapids at 2950 Monroe Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505

- Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti at 425 Fisher St., Marquette, MI 49855

For more information or questions about supporting MVH with an in-kind donation, contribution to the charitable support fund or a donation to help fund a capital campaign, contact Ryan Engle, director of development and strategic engagement for MVH at engler3@michigan.gov.

MICHIGAN VETERAN HOMES

Michigan Veteran Homes (MVH) is the entity that provides day-to-day operational oversight of the state's veteran homes on behalf of the Michigan Veterans Facility Authority (MVFA) and is a branch of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA). MVH strives to ensure that quality long-term care is provided to the veterans and their eligible family members that live within the Homes. High quality care for this phase of life is central to the "member for life" concept that DMVA embraces. The MVH operates the Michigan Veteran Homes at Grand Rapids (MVHGR), the Michigan Veteran Homes D.J. Jacobetti (MVHDJJ) in Marquette and Michigan Veteran Homes at Chesterfield Township (MVHCT). For more information, visit: www.michigan.gov/mvh.

HONORING OUR VETERANS



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Mariann Vernasco, owner of Mariann's Family Hair Care, and Tiffani Smith, owner of Tiffani's Therapeutic Massage, run an intimate salon offering haircuts, color, highlights, perms, facial waxing, as well as Tiffani's therapeutic massages. Mariann graduated from Brighton Institute of Cosmetology. Her business starts and ends with client satisfaction. She says her husband, Mike, has been her biggest cheerleader. Her dog Doc goes to work with her every day. For hobbies, her passion is her two horses. "I truly enjoy my time at the Salon. To some, it's just a haircut, to others, it's a spirit lifter." Tiffani is a licensed massage therapist and sole proprietor of Tiffani's Therapeutic Massage. She offers individual massage therapy focusing on pain management, relaxa-



Tiffani Smith (left) and Mariann Vernasco pose with Mariann's dog, Doc.

tion and spiritual wellbeing. Whether under a lot of stress, woke up with a stiff neck or have chronic pain, the ultimate goal is for the client to leave the salon feeling better than before. She earned her massage certificate at the Flint School of Therapeutic Massage and is licensed by the state. "I have a very supportive husband, Tim, son and many animals. To everyone who has supported me along the way, thank you, I could not have done this without you," Tiffani said.

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JINGLEFEST

Continued from Page 1

businesses and organizations decorated vehicles with lights or made festive floats to drive through downtown to entertain onlookers. Many float attendants threw candy to children. The parade had more than 50 units this year.

"It's always really successful," Lockwood said.

Meghan Grimshaw, membership director and event coordinator at the Fenton & Linden Regional Chamber of Commerce, said the parade is the highlight of the event that gets everyone into the holiday spirit.

Ice sculptures were placed along Shiawassee Avenue and S. LeRoy Street. After the parade, families and children took pictures with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center where refreshments and cookies were available. Local vendors set up booths. Attendees also had the chance to enter a contest to win a holiday shopping spree sponsored by chamber members.

Organizers added strolling music

before the parade this year and more entertainment, which was sponsored by the Fenton Arts & Cultural Commission. The fireworks were canceled due to the wind gusts. Many businesses remained open and welcomed the pedestrian traffic.

"The committee is really happy to be able to put on such a family friendly Christmas event. We're really happy with the result," she said.

The event is a team effort.

"Jinglefest is a team effort of the Jinglefest Committee which includes representatives from the civic and nonprofit groups, Kiwanis, Boy Scouts, St. Augustine, the Beautification Committee, Rotary, Mom to Mom, Fenton United Methodist, Fenton First Presbyterian, city of Fenton police, fire and DPW departments, Fenton Chamber of Commerce and many volunteers, and Business sponsors."

Lake Fenton and Fenton Project Graduation organizations are also involved. Both high school marching bands play and they alternate who leads the parade every year.

"Both bands did a terrific job," she said.



Photos: Hannah Ball and Sharon Stone



'Hockey Fights Cancer' raises over \$33,000

■ McLaren Flint and Flint Firebirds partner for seventh annual event

For the seventh consecutive year McLaren Flint and the Flint Firebirds Hockey Club partnered for "Hockey Fights Cancer," which took place Oct. 22. This year's event raised \$33,266.

Proceeds will be used to support the community with many cancer-related services, including transportation to and from treatment, free 3-D mammograms to help with early breast cancer diagnosis, education, access to oncology nurse navigators and much more.

The Flint Firebirds players wore specially designed lavender jerseys during the game to represent all types of cancers. The jerseys were autographed and auctioned off at the end of the game. A 50/50 raffle also was held.

"We greatly appreciate the Flint Firebirds partnering with us again this year to raise awareness and funds for this important cause," said Doug Glazier, vice president of the McLaren Flint Foundation. "We are also grateful for the sponsors who supported our efforts. The funds raised will go a long



way to assist patients." Reg and Judy Tidball drop the puck at this year's "Hockey Fights Cancer" event. Reg is a prostate cancer survivor and long-time cancer support group advocate. Submitted photo

The Firebirds have hosted this special game every year since the team moved to Flint in 2015.

"The Flint Firebirds always look forward to this annual partnership with the McLaren Flint Foundation to help fight against cancer," said Jeremy Torrey, Flint Firebirds president. "We all have loved ones who have been or could be affected by this disease. Having the ability to make a difference creates a great amount of pride for our fans, players, and organization."

Griffins capture first victory of season, defeat Generals

By David Troppens

The Fenton/Linden/Lake Fenton co-op varsity hockey team has had its struggles early on this season.

However, those struggles ended for a game this weekend.

The Griffins scored their most goals of the season and held their opponent to a

season low en route to a 5-2 victory against the Genesee Generals.

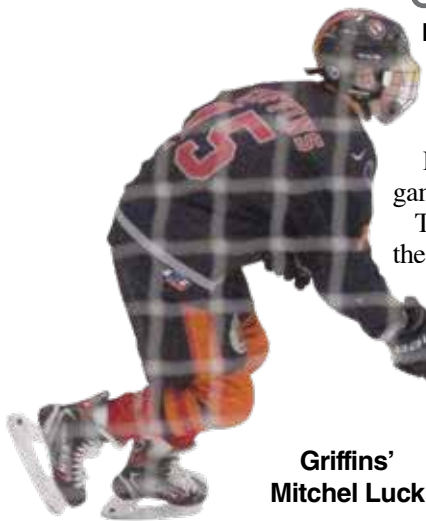
"It felt amazing," first-year varsity Fenton/Linden Area hockey coach Jason Warda said. "The boys really needed a 'W.' They have really bought into the style and system of hockey that we are trying to establish. With all of the injuries and setbacks, our

younger players have gotten some great experience."

Mitchel Luck, on his birthday weekend, gave the team something to celebrate. The captain had a three-goal hat trick. The other goals were provided by Caden Crandell and Dylan Holloway.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

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Griffins' Mitchel Luck

Sports Times

Blue Devils win opener vs. rival Eagles, 71-41

By David Troppens

Lake Fenton — Lake Fenton and Linden varsity boys basketball teams opened the season in a way that doesn't happen too often.

They had a good ol' rivalry battle at Lake Fenton High School.

This one was won by the Blue Devils. Lake Fenton jumped to an early first-quarter lead and held on to that lead the rest of the way, earning a 71-41 victory against the Eagles.

The Blue Devils started on fire offensively, converting on 7-of-14 shots with four of them being three-pointers in the first quarter. They also turned the ball over just twice while assisting six of the seven buckets. The only issue the Blue Devils had after one quarter was despite leading 21-13, three starters entered the second quarter with two fouls already. It didn't matter as the Blue Devils held Linden to just one second-quarter field goal, helping Lake Fenton take a 33-16 halftime lead.

"We were pretty happy with the overall depth of our guys," Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Tyler Szczepanski said. "The guys came in, stepped up and came in and played at a different pace of how we played the game in the first quarter.

"Obviously we hit some shots

in that first quarter. We played some really good defense in the second quarter. ... Overall, I was pleased with the balance of the team. Kudos to one through 11 that got out there, played and contributed."

The Eagles were playing their first game under new head coach Matt Christensen, and they are trying to find a way to replace the points scored by first-team all-league performer Reichen Lund. One of those options who will be doing that was obvious. Sophomore post player Jase Becher had a pretty strong game, netting a team-game high 17 points. However, no one else scored more than seven points, and the Eagles followed their three-point second quarter with a nine-point third.

Lake Fenton's first quarter saw Brit Antonangeli, Carson Haddad and Ashton Hunter each score five points, with three of each of their points coming on treys. The fourth three-pointer of the quarter was provided by Gavin Teffner. Becher netted 10 first-quarter points, keeping Linden within a 21-13 deficit entering the second quarter.

In the second quarter, the Blue Devils hurt themselves by netting just 1-of-7 free throws, resulting in a 12-point quarter. However,

See **DEVILS** on 15



Lake Fenton's Ashton Hunter drives to the bucket against Linden's Joe Miller in the Blue Devils' 71-41 victory against the Eagles on Monday.

Photo: Mark Bolen



Fenton's Luke DeFina competes in an event in a meet last winter.

Fenton, Holly open swim season at Tiger Relays

By David Troppens

It's traditionally the first meet of the season for Fenton's varsity boys swim team and it was again this season. The Fenton squad hosted its annual Tiger Relays and finished seventh out of 12 teams among a tough field of teams. Holly also placed 12th at the same meet.

The Tigers were led by divers Owen Cox and Caleb Markley who posted a second-place score of 254.05.

Four other Fenton relays earned top-six finishes. The 200 butterfly team of Isaac Gurnsey, Jacob Grifka, Bennett Foster and Zach Michelson (2:01.39) placed fourth while the 400 medley relay team of Michelson, Foster, Grifka and Gurnsey placed fifth (4:42.13). Two other teams took sixths. They were the 400 freestyle relay team of Finley Hughes, Gurnsey, Gabe Lampe and Luke DeFina (4:10.70); and the 400 medley relay team of Foster, Grifka, DeFina, Michelson (4:30.47).

The Holly varsity swim team had two top-six finishes. The 200 butterfly relay team of Bradlee Coggins, Zac Brown, Joshua Dahlin and Brandon Strickert (2:05.08) placed fifth while the 400 medley relay team of Brown, Grant Hoffman, Strickert and Gabe Strickert placed sixth (4:42.23).



LF's defense leads to victory vs. Linden

By David Troppens

Linden — It's a new season, with some new players and a new varsity head coach, but the Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball team looks as good as ever two games into the Blue Devils' season.

The Blue Devils earned their second road win in as many games on Monday, defeating a tri-county squad that also has a new head coach, the Linden Eagles.

Lake Fenton used its in-your-face pressure defense to earn a 65-19 victory against the Eagles.

"I was definitely pleased with what I saw with my team," Lake Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Karlie Dieck said. "We are defensive-minded, and that's one of our big pushes — not to just take care of the basketball on our end, but to also keep the basketball from the other people — getting the steals, getting in their face, giving them pressure and making sure some of the other players that may not be the best players on the opposing team to beat us. We are

trying to shut down some of their good girls."

It worked. The Blue Devils recorded 21 steals in the contest, and made life tough for what is expected to be a pretty solid, but young, Linden squad. First-year Linden varsity girls basketball coach Brian Klein learned what the tri-county area has known about the Blue Devils for awhile. They are pretty good.

"That was a good team we played. A lot of credit to them," Klein said. "They came in and looked really good tonight. It's a credit to their head coach and what they are doing over there.

"We just need to be better in all facets of the game. We need to break bad habits. ... If there was one good thing about this game we know exactly what we have to focus on, which is a lot of different things. But I wouldn't want to do it with any other group of girls. I have a great group of girls that are with me. But, they have to choose each and every day to get better

and break those bad habits that they have."

Lake Fenton had five girls score in the first quarter while the defensive pressure took handle from the start. Lake Fenton enjoyed a 15-5 lead after one quarter, with Emerson Baker leading the way with five first-quarter points, including the Blue Devils' only three-pointer of the quarter. Linden had a field goal each by Allison Maienbrook and Kelsey McLennan in the opening stanza.

The Blue Devils continued their domination in the second quarter. Kendyl Smith scored six of her team-high 13 points and Cola Sisk had five points en route to a 20-5 run during the second quarter. Linden had just one field goal, a hoop by McLennan, in the stanza and trailed 35-9 at the half.

Lake Fenton forced seven steals in the third quarter with Smith recording three of them. Mackenna Clement scored six points in the third quarter and Savannah Fellen-

See **DEFENSE** on 15

Linden's Kelsey McLennan finds herself among a bunch of Lake Fenton defenders including Parker Beardsley (5) and Makenna Clement (13) during Lake Fenton's win against the Eagles. Photo: David Troppens

Holly boys bowlers win Richard Hochstein tournament

By David Troppens

It was a pretty nice start for the Holly varsity boys bowling team last weekend.

The Bronchos took first place at the seventh-annual Richard Hochstein Memorial Scholarship Tournament. The boys also won its first Metro event of the season, defeating Clio 22-8.

At the tourney, the Bronchos placed second in the three single team games. Ryan Dalton led the squad with a 651 series, recording the high game of the tourney, a 254. He had the third-highest series score

The next round were four Baker games. Holly bowled a 171, 203, 214 and 200, placing them third among the field. The top eight advanced to the elimination rounds. Holly beat South Lyon two out of three games in their opening round Baker series. They lost

the first game 148-138, but bounced back to win the next two 213-175 and 167-158.

They also defeated Walled Lake Central by a 199-168 and 232-173 sweep. That got the Bronchos in the finals against Waterford Kettering. The Bronchos lost the first game 201-182 but then crushed Kettering in the final two games 182-167 and 217-148.

"These boys bowled 15 games today," Holly varsity boys bowling coach Dan Yoder said. "They never gave up once and kept fighting back when falling behind. It was a great team effort all-around.

"This was the first tournament of 2022, and to start it off with a championship is a great way to start the season. Keep up the good work."

The boys dominated the singles matches against Clio, with Dalton

bowling games of 246 and 187, Sean Dankert with a 183-201 and Ryan Sparklin with a 184 and 237. That earned Holly 18 out of 20 points in singles matches.

"This is a great start to the season," Yoder said. "We are excited for the season with the big sores to come."

Holly girls Holly 26, Clio 4

The Bronchos won the Baker games, took a 10-0 lead and cruised from there. Evelyn Wolleson won both of her points in her singles matches while Tatum Stuemke, Alex Dietze, Claudia Kelmpp and Adrianna Thisse had a point each.

"It was a good day on the lanes," Holly varsity girls bowling coach Beth Beebe said. "With a team that is mostly first-year bowlers, they worked hard to get this win."

Tri-County Standings

The sports staff thought it may be fun to have an unofficial "Tri-County Times Conference champion" for boys and girls hoops. Games played against area teams during the regular season will be included. Winning percentage will determine the winner. Here are the current standings.

Boys Standings

Team	Rec	Pct.	GB
Lake Fenton	1-0	1.000	---
Fenton	0-0	-----	0.5
Holly	0-0	-----	0.5
Linden	0-1	.000	1.0

Girls Standings

Team	Rec	Pct.	GB
Lake Fenton	1-0	1.000	---
Fenton	0-0	-----	0.5
Holly	0-0	-----	0.5
Linden	0-1	.000	1.0

Next tri-county games

Linden at Holly, Dec. 16

Tigers learn lessons, defeat Brandon

By David Troppens

Monday night was a time of learning for the Fenton varsity boys basketball team.

It was a team that saw seven seniors graduate a year ago, making some wonder what type of team the Tigers may have this year.

One game into the season, what Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Chad Logan learned, was his team may be just fine.

After a slow start offensively in the opening quarter, the Tigers, scored at least 18 points in each of the final three periods earning a 66-53 road victory at Ortonville-Brandon.

"I learned a lot about my team and they learned a lot about each other," Logan said. "We defended really well and then in the second half we defended well and made a couple of shots. We were up by about 15 most of the second half, and we were able to get some guys on the floor that have not had a lot of floor time. I lost seven seniors that kind of dominated the minutes last year."

Sam Dillard was the player that stood out the most. Dillard scored a game-high 29 points, which included near-perfect 5-of-6 shooting from behind the three-point line. He nailed 10-of-13 shots overall.

"He got hot in that second half," Logan said. "He had a good game."

The Tigers led 11-7 after the first quarter and Dillard was already showing signs of a hot night. He scored six of the Tigers' 11 points. In the second quarter, he scored eight points while Ja'Hion Bond hit on 6-of-8 free throws, leading the Tigers to an 18-point quarter. Brandon also scored 18. Fenton led just 29-25 at the half.

The Tigers put some distance between them and the Blackhawks in the third quarter as Colin TerBurgh and Dillard scored five points each. The Tigers netted 18 and led 47-36 entering the fourth stanza.

The Tigers blew the game open in the fourth. The largest Fenton's lead got in the fourth was 56-38, before the Blackhawks trimmed it down to just a 13-point deficit at the end of the contest.

Bond had 12 points while Justin Banura scored eight points and TerBurgh had seven points.

Joey Norris led Brandon with 12 points, all 12 coming on three-pointers.

Fenton returns to action Friday when they travel to Flushing for the team's first Flint Metro League Stripes Division game at approximately 7 p.m.

Logan pounds six treys; Lady Tigers cruise past Blackhawks

By David Troppens

And that's why a team opens the season with tough non-league foes.

The Fenton varsity girls basketball team opened the season with two losses against two strong squads — DeWitt and Howell — but lessons were learned and were incorporated in a 67-41 Flint Metro League crossover victory against the Brandon Blackhawks.

"We schedule tough teams to get ready for Metro League play," Fenton varsity girls basketball coach Don Kutchey said. "The whole idea is to prepare yourself to do tough things. We could've rolled out easier opponents but this is getting us the results we want. We have bigger goals in the league. Playing tougher teams gets us more prepared for the Metro."

Someone who was really prepared offensively in this contest was Abby Logan. Logan broke the school record by hitting six three-pointers during the victory. She scored 11 first-quarter points, leading the Tigers to a 21-point stanza. However, Riley Abney scored 13 first-quarter points, keeping Brandon within a 21-17 score after one quarter.

In the second quarter, Logan hit two more treys while Keegan Weddle scored five points, leading to a 16-point stanza. Brandon trailed 37-29 at halftime.

The Tigers used solid defense to go

with their strong offense in the third quarter. Logan hit her sixth trey in the stanza and had five points. Meanwhile, Izzy MacCaughan, Maddie Sleziński, Weddle and Tammy Craven hit a bucket each. Abney scored eight third-quarter points for Brandon, but the Blackhawks still trailed 52-37 entering the final quarter. In it, Brandon scored just four points. Fenton had seven players score in it.

Logan finished with a team-high 22 points.

"We made the extra pass, found wide open shots and we made them," Kutchey said. "Making the extra pass was huge. Abby tied our three-point record and didn't even play in the fourth quarter. She told herself tonight she wanted to play better so she put the team on her shoulders a bit. Seniors step up. She's a two-year captain and she wanted it tonight. She's spent a ton of time shooting, been in the gym a lot. It showed tonight."

Adrie Staib followed with 11 points while MacCaughan had seven points. Craven finished with five points.

Abney finished with a game-high 28 points for Brandon, but no one else on the squad scored more than five points.

Fenton hosts Davison on Wednesday and travels to Flushing on Friday. The Davison game starts at 7 p.m. while Flushing is a 5:30 p.m. start.

LFLF gymnasts take fifth at Holt invite

By David Troppens

The LFLF gymnastics team opened its season at the Holt Invitational and came home with a solid fifth-place finish among 14 teams.

Keira Sadler was the team's top performer. She took fourth in the all-around with a score of 34.475. She earned it by taking fourth on the beam (8.625), fifth on the floor (9.175) and fifth on the bars

(8.525).

Jillian Shanahan placed 10th on the vault with an 8.525 score.

"It's early in the season and we earned 23 qualifying scores for the regional meet," LFLF gymnastics coach Nancy Holden said. "The team is off to a good start. We do not have all of our gymnasts competing yet, so I am looking forward to getting everyone going."

PREP REPORT

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► **Corunna 41, Holly 23:** Corunna scored 21 points in the second quarter, blowing open a game in which Holly played well in the other three quarters.

Holly (0-3) trailed just 5-4 entering the second quarter, but trailed 26-8 by halftime.

Morgan Fluckey led the Bronchos

with seven points while Ella Zabell and Annabelle Basham had six points each.

Holly travels to Swartz Creek for a Friday Metro League contest at 6 p.m.

► **Howell 65, Fenton 25:** Tammy Craven led the Tigers with eight points while Abby Logan netted seven points. in the loss against non-league Howell.

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Second quarter crushes Holly Bronchos, 50-30

By David Troppens

The Holly varsity girls basketball team had a stronger showing against Troy in its second contest of the 2022-23 season.

However, the Bronchos are still looking for their first victory.

Holly scored 30 points, seven more than they did in their first loss to Byron, but lost a 50-30 verdict.

The Bronchos were more competitive than that final score sounds. Holly trailed 36-26 with 6:32 left in the final quarter after a putback hoop by Ella Ezbell. They still only trailed 42-30 with 2:20 left after a driving layup by Makena McGee, but Troy was able to ice the game away by scoring the contest's final eight points.

The Bronchos (0-2) had an early 2-0 lead when Azbell hit a layup with 7:25 left in the opening quarter. However, Troy scored the next five points, taking a 5-2 lead. Holly was able to fight back. A three-pointer by Annabelle Basham tied it at 5-all, and Holly trailed just 7-5 entering the second quarter.

The Bronchos tied the game two more times in the second stanza. A pass from McGee to Azbell for an eight-foot jumper tied the game at 7-all with 6:04 left in the first half. Later, a 12-foot jumper by McGee tied it at 9-all. Once there, the Bronchos ended up earning their final lead of the game at 11-10 after a layup by Basham. However, Troy scored the final six points of the half and took a 19-11 lead into the half.

Holly cut the gap as close as 19-13 on a post layup by Alana Simmons with 7:30 left in the third quarter, but that's as close as the Bronchos got. Troy went on a 14-1 run, taking a 33-14 lead at that time. From there, Holly was able to cut the gap to 10 early in the fourth quarter, but get no closer.

McGee led the Bronchos with seven points while Azbell had six points. Basham netted five points while Simmons finished with four. Eight Bronchos scored.

DEVILS

Continued from Page 12

by limiting Linden to just three points, the Blue Devils led 33-16 at halftime.

Lake Fenton had Haddad and Hunter each net four third-quarter points. Becher had four third-quarter points, but the Blue Devils still extended their lead, taking a 45-25 lead entering the fourth quarter.

Linden had its best offensive stanza in the final quarter, scoring 16 points. However, the Blue Devils iced the victory on the charity stripe, netting 14-of-18 free throws in the final eight minutes, including one stretch of 13 in a row.

"In the first half our free throws were not so great," Szczepanski said. "We worked out some of those misses and the guys did a good job being confident at the line. It was a perfect script in the fourth quarter that kept us in a solid position and able to move forward."

Haddad led the Blue Devils' balanced offense with 15 points while Gavin Teffner netted 13 points. Hunter and Antonangeli had nine points each while TJ Payne scored seven. The Blue Devils distributed the ball well with Hunter finishing with five assists and Coleson Lessner earning four. Haddad led the team with 10 rebounds while Antonangeli and Payne had seven each. Lessner had four steals.

"Shot selection has been a big focus for us and I feel we took a lot of shots within the offense," Szczepanski said. "Some of the possessions later in the game were a bit longer. Linden did a good job getting back on defense. But we worked the ball, getting it where needed and got some good shots."

DEFENSE

Continued from Page 13

baum, Amaya Smith and Gabby Gerald hit three-pointers during the Blue Devils' 21-point quarter. McClennan scored four points in the period for the Eagles, but it wasn't enough to keep pace. Lake Fenton enjoyed a 56-16 lead entering the final quarter.

In it, Lake Fenton forced another five steals, three more by Smith. Smith also hit a trey and a two-point hoop, leading the Blue Devils in the stanza on the scoring sheet. Linden managed



Linden's Jase Becher tries to get by Lake Fenton's Carson Haddad (right) and Gavin Teffner in the Blue Devils' victory against Linden on Monday. Photo: Mark Bolen

After Becher's 17 points, Monte Keener netted seven points while Joe Miller, Reed Krueger and Colin Weiss

had five points each.

Linden hosts Kearsley on Friday while Lake Fenton travels to Brandon.

three converted free throws — two by Addyson Sturgis and one by Kayla Widner — for its fourth-quarter points.

The Blue Devils had nine players score points. Smith had 13 points to go with her seven steals and three assists. Clement had 10 points and three steals while Anna Prevost had nine points and two steals off the bench. Ella Prevost had eight points, two assists and two steals while Baker and Fellenbaum had seven points each. Baker also had three assists. Cola Sisk had five points to go with her two assists

and two steals.

Linden was led by McLennan's nine points. Widner had three.

"It's a really nice group of girls," Klein said. "They have their heads on their shoulders and it's easy to come to work every day and coach these girls. ... Each and every day they've given me everything they go. I can't be more proud of these girls when it comes to that aspect."

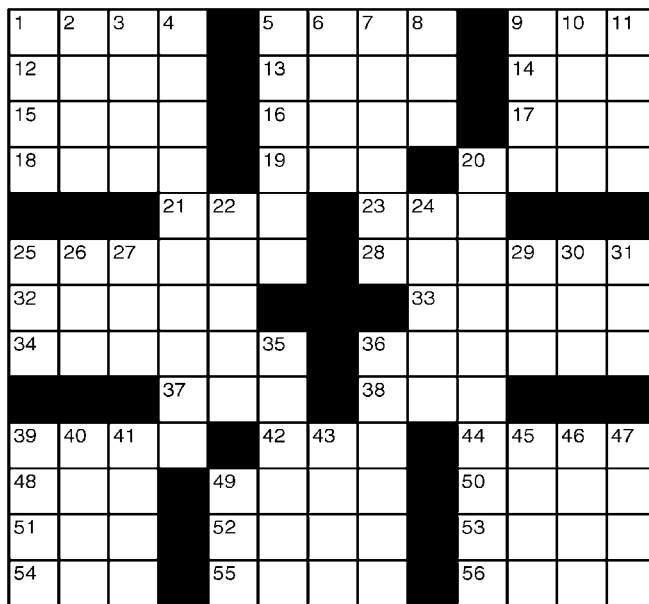
Linden hosts Kearsley on Friday while Lake Fenton travels to Brandon. Both games start at 6 p.m.

KING
FEATURES

Midweek Crossword

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- 1 Asian desert
5 Weep loudly
9 Swiss peak
12 Mideast gulf
13 "Night" author
Wiesel
14 Life story
15 Pantheon
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16 Quest
17 Director
Howard
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19 Texter's
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20 Full house,
e.g.
21 Dolphins' org.
23 Here (Fr.)
25 Used a hoe
28 Put a price on



- 32 Dole out
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36 Creatures
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38 Ornate vase
39 Corn castoffs
42 Tavern
44 Party pooper
48 Small battery
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53 Portent
- 54 That lady
55 River to the
Baltic
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Midweek Sudoku

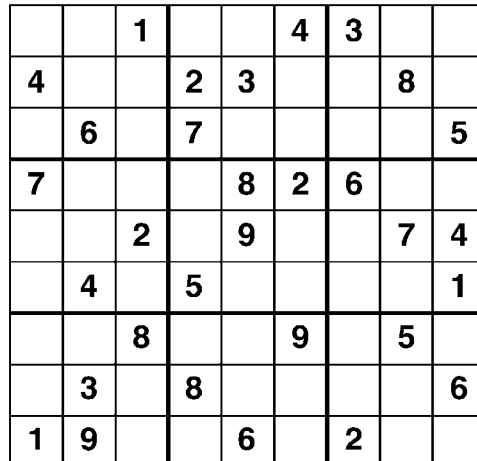
FUN BY THE NUMBERS

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

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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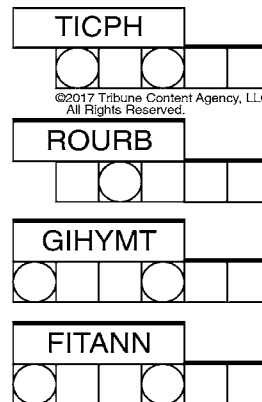
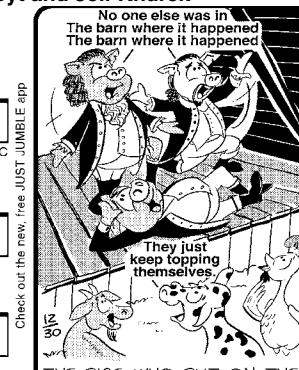
Midweek Jumble

JUMBLE

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

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

JUMBLE PUZZLE
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answer here:

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

Horoscopes

For the week of
December 5, 2022

ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

Someone thinks you are up to
a challenge this week, Aries.
Dive right in and prove them
correct. There's much you'll
get done, but leave some time
for leisure.

TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

There's not much you can't
accomplish these next several
days, Taurus. The key will be
knowing just where to pull
back so that you can do each
job well.

GEMINI

May 22/Jun 21

Think before committing to a
project that is expected to take
a long time, Gemini. While you
may have a lot of free time
right now, that may not be the
case in a few weeks.

CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, health concerns may
come to the forefront this week,
whether it pertains you or
someone close to you. Empty
your schedule so you can de-
vote the utmost attention.

LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, despite many looming
deadlines, you are surpris-
ingly relaxed about all the
things you need to accom-
plish. Maybe that is because
you have a lot of help.

VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

Some unexpected time off has
dropped into your lap, Virgo.
Figure out if a small vacation
or weekend getaway might be
just what you need right now.
Then make it happen.

LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

A career change could be on
the horizon, Libra. Do your
research before you take the
full plunge into new waters.
Maybe test things out before
making a firm commitment.

SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

Home improvements could be
coming soon, Scorpio. They'll
interfere with your daily
schedule for a bit, but the
results will be well worth any
disruption.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Your hospitable nature is a
perfect match for the enter-
taining you will be doing this
week, Sagittarius. Expect a
houseful of people on one or
more days.

CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

Spending certainly is up during
the holiday season, but you
may need to keep a closer eye
on what is going on with your
finances, Capricorn. Don't lose
sight of your budget.

AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

A few interesting possibili-
ties may come across your
desk, Aquarius. Look at them
with a critical eye and get a
second opinion before moving
forward.

PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

Too many things seem like
a priority right now, Pisces.
You need to weed through all
of your responsibilities and
tackle the most urgent.

Classifieds

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OBITUARIES

Times

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

Auctions

Times

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Beware of holiday scams

■ AARP offers advice to not become a victim

Holiday shopping, like most shopping these days, has moved online, and that poses unique risks, according to a new AARP survey. More than 75% of U.S. consumers reported that they have experienced some kind of fraud and a similar share of consumers failed a nine-question safe shopping quiz.

The AARP holiday scams survey also identified three specific threat areas:

- Online shopping scams
- Gift cards with zero balances
- Stolen packages

Here are tips to avoid these specific scams this holiday season.

When shopping online, visit sites you know and trust, and avoid clicking on offers for deep discounts on hot items.

The safest way to give a gift card is by purchasing it online through the retailer's website.

Avoid porch pirates by seeing if your packages can be held by the shipper in a nearby location, placed in a secure location on your property, or delivered to a UPS or Amazon drop box.

Be a fraud fighter. If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Service Directory

Times

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER 4 — Tyra Banks, TV Host (49)
DECEMBER 5 — Frankie Muniz, Actor (37)
DECEMBER 6 — CoCo Vandeweghe, Athlete (31)
DECEMBER 7 — Jon Moxley, Wrestler (37)
DECEMBER 8 — Nicki Minaj, Rapper (40)
DECEMBER 9 — Donny Osmond, Singer (65)
DECEMBER 10 — Kenneth Branagh, Actor (62)

BRANDS

Continued from Page 4

ketplace and among a target market or target audience.

No matter what product or service you're offering you need to know your value proposition.

I was happy for the reminder when Advertising Director Pete Clinton and I found ourselves in a meeting just a few days later with a potential client. She said if one more person comes into her office to sell digital marketing with no explanation of why she should buy digital marketing from that person versus the other 10 who sell the same thing she was going to scream.

She added that great salespeople need to explain why their product is different.

We nodded. We weren't there to talk digital marketing, because that right there is a big part of our value proposition. What sets View Newspaper Group apart is that we are a print-first company, and it doesn't end there. We are locally-owned and deliver local

coverage of news, sports and events. Our products are direct-mailed into the homes of our readers, many of them at no charge. We strongly believe in giving back to the communities we serve. We do this through donations, sponsorships, low or no cost advertising to nonprofits and editorial coverage. View also makes connections and gives back through our signature events, which in the last 10 years have raised more than \$200,000 for our nonprofit partners. Most importantly, we connect our clients to our readers and our readers to their community. The result is informed citizens, stronger, healthier communities and thriving businesses.

View Newspaper Group is different, and we are valuable. There's no spark or puff of smoke, but we believe our impact is just as permanent — and so do our readers and advertisers.

What's your spark and puff of smoke? Email me at ecaswell@mi-homepaper.com.

Emily Caswell is the brand manager for VIEW Group, the branding division of View Newspaper Group.

GRANT

Continued from Page 1

- Upgrade and make improvements to the sand and volleyball area
- Pave the west side parking lot
- Improve and repair the existing pavilion and add a second pavilion
- Install security cameras
- Upgrade playground equipment to be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant

In 2021, the pavilion had electrical updates and the entire structure was repainted.

In 2022, the existing restrooms were completely remodeled and security cameras were added to upper Bush Park. Replacements parts are on order for the existing playscape equipment located in lower Bush Park.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recently presented a grant opportunity, the Spark Grant Program. City staff and the city's engineering consultants, Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. (OHM) discussed and put together the strategy for the grant application.

The city will apply for a \$1 million Spark Grant with the city's matching portion being \$120,000 (12%). Additional funding by donations also is being explored as part of the application process.

The Spark Grant program

It's a milestone moment for recreation in Michigan: a \$65 million grant program to help local communities that want to create, renovate or redevelop public opportunities for residents and visitors — especially those whose economic opportunities and health were hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Administered by the DNR, Michigan Spark Grants will support projects that provide safe, accessible, public recreation facilities and spaces to improve people's health, introduce new recreation experiences, build on existing park infrastructure and make it easier for people to enjoy both indoor and outdoor recreation. This grant opportunity is possible because of the Building Michigan Together Plan, signed in March 2022, which included a historic infusion of federal funding in our state and local parks. **Source:**

[Michigan.gov/dnr](https://michigan.gov/dnr)

Obituaries

Times

Harold Daniel Plummer

1949 – 2022

Harold Daniel Plummer went home to be with his Savior Jesus on Thursday, December 1, 2022, at the age of 73. Harold was born October 27, 1949, in Wayne. He was the oldest of five children born to Harold W. and Alice (Sampson) Plummer. He attended Fenton schools and graduated from Fenton High School in 1967. He served in the U.S. Navy Construction Battalion and was a graduate of the Class A Builders school. Following service in the Navy, he attended Kirtland College in Roscommon. He earned a Residential Builders License and Real Estate Broker's License, actively working in the building, construction, and real estate industries. Harold was the proud father of five children and six grandchildren that he loved dearly. Surviving are four children, Daniel Plummer, Jonathan Plummer (Ashleigh Simon), Timothy Plummer (Olivia Dodson), Annie (Mark) Reid; grandchildren, Jaidah, Layla, Willow, Westley, Mavryk, Raelyn; four siblings, Linda (Greg) Hoover, Ron Plummer, David (Sue) Plummer, Pam (Terry) Strawser; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and son, David Plummer. Harold had a strong



relationship with the Lord and frequently shared his faith with others. He faithfully prayed for his kids and was a mighty prayer warrior. He was a member of Cornerstone Highland Church and was active in the choir and many other ministries. He enjoyed serving on the National Ski Patrol in the winter months and taking

his sons along. Vacationing in Grand Marais with his family was a favorite destination. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and cooking, especially making pasties with his children. He also loved music of all kinds, singing, playing his prized Martin D28 guitar, and attending the Flint Symphony. Visitation will be held at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Rd., Fenton on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, from 4 - 8 PM. Celebration of Life Services will be held at Cornerstone Church, 4995 N. Hickory Ridge Road, Highland, Thursday, December 8 at 11 AM with visitation from 10 AM until the time of the service. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



VIEW OBITUARIES ONLINE. TCTIMES.COM

Obituaries

Times

Alice Joan (aka Toni, Tony, Joanie) Wright

1933 – 2022

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our mom, Alice Joan (aka Toni, Tony, Joanie) Wright, passed on Friday, November 25 at Toledo Hospital, Toledo, Ohio. She had been living with her daughter, Michelle and son in law, Paul. Alice was born to Myrtle Lillie (nee Mason), and Alonzo Lineberry in



which was a family business. It was a labor of love and a source of much fun and laughter (especially for us kids), and they enjoyed it. When the recession of 1980 hit, they had to close the store. She worked at JC Penney to make ends meet until Wendall secured a job. Alice raised a lot of money for March of Dimes in the early

Flint, on December 6, 1933. She was the youngest of four daughters; her older sisters were Thelma, Wilma, and Barbara. Her own mother died when she was nine years old. Her father re-married Mildred S (Pierce) who Alice adored, and we knew as our grandma. Alice loved growing up in Flint and attended schools there. One of her favorite places was the Flint Public Library. She always remembered how beautiful it was and how she struggled to carry her stack of books home. She married Wendall M. Wright on February 24, 1951. She was 17, he was 21 "by 10 days" he liked to say as his birthday was February 16. They moved to Lobdell Lake next to Wendall's parents who had a summer house there, before living there permanently. Mom and dad's "house" wasn't much more than a shack at first. No running water, no power etc. They rectified that and raised their children there. They had three children, Vicki Marie (Steve Keller) in December of 1951, Wendall Scott (Char Cooper) in April of 1955 and Michelle Leigh (Paul Fletcher) in October of 1971. Alice also lost a couple of special babies, Amy in 1969 and Melissa - twin to Michelle - in 1971. Throughout our growing up years, mom and dad ran "Wright's Music Store" in Flint,

1960s. Because of her fund-raising efforts, she was chosen to travel for dinners and award shows. Mom had two grandchildren, Aaron S. Keller, and Christopher H. Keller. She loved them and enjoyed their company immensely. She loved to attend their games - football, hockey, baseball - in the 1980s and 1990s. Mom was an avid bowler for most of her life. After taking a break in the 70s, she returned in the 80s. She bowled for years on the same team with Linda Dickinson, Bev Neuville and Dee Behrens. She enjoyed the many years of bowling, and her team even won their league one year. She later bowled on another team and had fun and joy with them also. Alice loved shopping and eating out, and we had a lot of fun times on those endeavors. We laughed and laughed. She loved old movies, especially Westerns. She watched "Rio Lobo" so many times she probably knows every line! She loved her chocolate, too. A Hershey bar was never far away. Or a caramel. Or a marshmallow. Mom loved nature and sitting out on her deck. Watching all the wildlife was a joy to her, especially the sandhill cranes, who returned to the swamp year after year to have babies. Mom and dad were married 56 years before dad's death due to

Alzheimer's. She was dad's primary caregiver for many years before he died in 2008. A few years later, mom found companionship with an old friend Bill Clark. They spent several happy years together in Grand Blanc, and mom enjoyed getting to know Bill's family and friends. To all of mom's friends from "the landing", thank you to all of you who lived, loved, and laughed with mom over the years. She never forgot any of you, or your kids, and thought about you often (and told stories, too!) We also give special thanks to the Stehle girls, Janet, Shirley, Noreen and Theresa, for the love and care they gave mom over the years. She loved you all dearly (you know our moms would have the Scrabble board out!), we would also like to thank Bill Clark's family for their love and kindness to mom and to us over the years. We loved Bill. May he rest in peace. Mom leaves us, Vicki, Scott and Michelle and our spouses, Steve, Char and Paul along with her grandson, Chris to cherish her memory. There are also so many nieces, nephews, cousins, and personal and family friends, too numerous to mention,

that mom loved immensely we thank you. We love you. Trying to do justice to a human life in this way is nearly impossible. Our love and appreciation for mom was boundless, just as her encouragement and love for us was seemingly endless. We know how lucky we are that this vibrant, smart, funny, and vivacious woman was also our mom. To know her was to love her. We shall cherish her memory forever. Mom is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Wendall; sisters, Thelma, Wilma, and Barbara; and her grandson, Aaron. Funeral services will be held 1 PM Monday, December 5, 2022, at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 East Broad Street, Linden. Visitation will be held 1 - 8 PM Sunday, December 4 and 11 AM Monday until the time of service at the funeral home. Interment to follow at Fairview Cemetery, Linden. Contributions may be made to Adopt-A-Pet Fenton. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.



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