Charter: No box, no signal come May 29

Subscribers irate over $6.99 mo. extra charge for digital receiver
By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Charter customers will want to check the back of their TVs. If a cable comes from the wall and into the TV, come May 29, the screen will be going blank, and replaced by a solid blue screen.

Most of the Fenton area has Charter Communications as its cable TV provider. The Holly area has Comcast. Local Charter customers are some of the last hold-outs of receiving their Charter signal via cable, a system that Comcast phased out a few years ago, and that Charter is currently undertaking.

“With more people buying High Definition (HD) TVs and really expecting HD delivery, it doesn’t make sense to be holden to an analog channel,” said Bill Morand, regional communications director for Charter.

Morand said 90 percent of Charter’s 1.1 million Michigan customers already have some
See CHARTER on 10A

Low turnout typical for Fenton school bond elections

Voters will decide fate of controversial $11 million bond
Tuesday, May 6
By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com

Voters within the Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) will decide on the district’s future on Tuesday, May 6 when they vote on the proposed $11 million bond.

Should it pass, the bond will have a 12-year lifespan and will be used to update technology, buses, infrastructure and security, as well as enhancing instructional technology.

All registered voters within the FAPS boundaries will have the opportunity to vote on the bond, whether
See BOND on 11A

The Laundry not so ‘Under the Radar’

Chad Brennan of The Laundry is interviewed Thursday by Tom Daldin of Under the Radar, a PBS show that highlights “what’s moving Michigan forward,” whether it’s a person, place, or business according to Daldin. He previously dined at the restaurant and was impressed by the food and service. On camera is Jim Edelman, (blue shirt) and Eric Tremonti. The show will air June 28 at 10:30 a.m. on PBS. Go to tctimes.com for more photos.

City might buy seminary for $29,000

146-year-old building condemned, owned by county treasurer office

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton — It’s no secret that the city would prefer to see the seminary building on High Street demolished. It has seen decay over the last 20 years and is currently fenced off due to a portion of the stone building collapsing last year.

The home behind it was condemned after a fire. The property is owned by the Genesee County Treasurer’s Office due to back taxes owed by former owner Penny Crane.

At the Monday meeting, City Manager Lynn Markland said he is in discussions with Genesee County, about the possibility
See SEMINARY on 11A

Frank’s Tavern demolished

Iconic Fenton restaurant officially part of the past
By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com

The remains of one of the most celebrated restaurants within the tri-county area was demolished this week. Frank’s Tavern, located at 14331 Eastview Drive in Fenton Township was demolished Tuesday, four years after it closed its doors for good. Renowned for their fish and chips, Frank’s was a must for people countywide and those who were revisiting the area.

See FRANK’S TAVERN on 8A

There is a lot of money at stake in this bond election. It affects your property taxes for the next 12 years. Please, Fenton voters, take the time to vote so that the majority rules, no matter what the outcome. Every single vote will count.
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-Ronny Medawar

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Iconic muscle car still as popular as ever half a century later

By William Axford
axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

It’s been 50 years since Ford Motor Company rolled its Mustang off the assembly line in Dearborn. In just half a century, the Mustang has become the iconic car of the working class, full of top-notch features and more affordable than other sports cars.

“The Mustang was one of the most affordable sports performance cars of its time,” said Matt Lasco of Lasco Ford in Fenton. “From the 1960s up to now, Mustangs have always kept very close to the same image. It’s one of the most branded and iconic Ford vehicles.”

According to the book “Mustang: 1964 ½ to 2003,” Ford’s sports car was introduced as a “reasonably well-built car, boasted great styling and with its long option list and three body styles, it was designed to appeal to as many buyers as possible.” For $2,320.86, a driver could get a 101-horsepower six-cylinder engine with a three-speed manual transmission that came with a floor shifter. Top options for the Mustang were built in 1964 and are often referred to as the 1964½ model. (Right) Jay and Matt Lasco pose with their 2008 Mustang Shelby GT 500 KR, of which Ford only made 1,110.
The sign on the wall

I regularly read the New York Times. The New York Times is one of the most liberal newspapers on the planet. Nearly every article represents the presentation of news and opinions that are skewed to the left. The management and staff is as socialistic and left wing as President Obama.

That being the case, many would wonder why an avowed conservative such as myself would spend his money to ‘support’ a newspaper that, at every opportunity, promotes an agenda that is so at odds with his own beliefs.

The answer lies in the fundamental difference between liberals and conservatives. While many liberals froth at the mouth and condemn the existence of opposing viewpoints, the vast majority of conservatives welcome opposing opinions.

Not long ago the Times conducted a survey of 800 of our readers. While many of those polled expressed an appreciation of the views and opinions presented in this column, many others requested that the King’s article cease to be published in the Times. In fact, requested is too mild a word — they demanded that ‘If I Were King’ be banished from the pages of the Times, under threat of withholding their readership.

In Webster’s Dictionary, the definition of ‘demand’ reads a claim under proper authority, as in a right.

I would not argue with that. Heck, the Constitution even says that each man is endowed with inalienable rights, among them the right to ‘life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.’ Thus, if reading the King column somehow infringes on your right to ‘life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,’ then you most certainly do have the right to not read it.

But you don’t have the right to demand that others can’t read it. That would infringe on their right to ‘life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.’ My point is that insulating yourself from opinions and viewpoints that don’t mirror your own view of the world is, well, silly. When you limit your viewpoint to only what you already believe, you are essentially deciding to stop learning — to stop using the marvelous gift God gave you called a brain. And, that’s a shame.

Longtime readers may recall that I was an avowed liberal when I began expressing my opinions in the King column over a decade ago. And my opinion was: I’d be better off — and much more comfortable and aware of where along the way they changed. And now, my opinions reflect that change.

To those that disagree with my views — thank you. It means that you read it. To those who don’t (or can’t or won’t), I think that’s unfortunate — but it is your right.

But it’s too bad you didn’t have the benefit of the lettered, yellowed sign that hung on the back wall of one of my high school classrooms for the entire four years I was there. It showed a close-up drawing of an obviously irate man, angrily shaking his fist. The caption read, ‘Don’t confuse me with facts, my mind is already made up.’

That sign is why I still read the New York Times.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author’s alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-City Times or its staff. E-mail King at king@tctimes.com. Some information reprinted from the Internet.
Most area homes not ‘underwater’

Tri-county area real estate market above state average

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

While Realty Trac reports that nearly a third of Michigan homeowners are still “underwater” with their mortgages in 2014, the tri-county area actually reflects a much more positive picture in today’s real estate market.

Realty Trac defined “underwater” as homeowners who owe 25 percent or more on their mortgages than their homes are actually worth.

“The market in Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden schools is up 23 percent over a year ago,” said Patrik Welty of Legacy Realty in Fenton. “Some homeowners who purchased at the peak of home prices in 2006 still may owe more than their mortgage than their house is worth, but the percentage of those have dropped dramatically.”

Welty believes that most “underwater” homeowners today are those who attached second mortgages on their homes or added equity lines of credit, based on inflated SEVs (state equalized valuation). “These were based on drive-by appraisals or no appraisals at all,” he added.

John Wentworth, who specializes in waterfront properties for REMAX Platinum in Fenton, also notes that fewer homeowners are “underwater.” “Just last year, some people couldn’t sell their homes for the price they needed or wanted to get out of it,” he said. “This year, most homeowners can sell their properties for the price they want.”

What has so dramatically changed in the real estate market during the last year? Home values are up because the supply of homes is down, according to John Tremaine of Tremaine Real Living Real Estate in Fenton. He looks at prices stabilizing in the next five years, with few huge gains or losses. “This is the best time in the last seven years to sell a home,” he said. “The cold winter we had created a lot of pent-up demand. It’s going to be an exciting summer in real estate.”
Cool spring, early summer in the forecast

Great Lakes ice coverage, water temps keep air cool

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

If the water temperatures of the Great Lakes are an indicator, we may be in for a cool spring and early summer.

“I’d be surprised if we have any prolonged stretch of hot weather into early summer,” said J.R. Kirtek, chief meteorologist for the ABC Channel 12 Weather Center in Flint.

He just finished an interview on Tuesday with representatives from the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, regarding ice coverage on the Great Lakes. “The amount of ice coverage for this part of April is unheard of,” said Kirtek. “Lake Huron is still 20 percent covered and Lake Michigan is still 50 percent covered. The water temperatures for Lake Huron, Lake Superior and Lake Michigan are cooler than they ever have been this late in April.”

How does water temperature affect our air temperature? It has a huge effect, according to Kirtek. “In the winter, it keeps us warmer than we’d otherwise be, and in the summer, it keeps us cooler,” he said. “It’s like an air conditioner. Because the water is so cool, I’d be surprised if it gets significantly warmer anytime soon.”

The long-range weather projections through the summer are less certain. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) said that the 90-day seasonal outlook is for “equal chances” for seeing above or below average temperatures, and above or below average precipitation.

“It’s 50/50, one way or the other,” said Kirtek.

But there are several silver linings in the forecast. Cooler water temperatures will also keep lake levels up, as well as reduce the highest levels of evaporation that take place in late fall and early winter. Looking even further ahead to next winter, Kirtek said that with El Niño out in the Pacific, it looks like it will be a relatively mild winter.

AVERAGE MONTHLY TEMPERATURES IN MICHIGAN

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Source: mystateguides.com

Mother Nature is unreliable — warm weather is coming!

Time to get your Air Conditioning Checked

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Stay connected to your community

C & L Ward hosts contest in May to give away a free roof to a homeowner in need

In an effort to give back to the community, C&L Ward will be hosting a contest during the month of May called Shingles for Shelter, in which they will host a contest during the month of May called Shingles for Shelter, in which they will give away a free asphalt roof to a homeowner who has fallen on hard times and cannot afford to replace a failing roof. C&L Ward has a link on its website, www.golow.com, where the homeowner can be nominated, or nominate themselves.

The contest runs through May 31, 2014. Entrants are asked to submit an online entry via the web form, which includes a written statement on why the nominee should win the roof and a photo or video of the current roof on the home. The winner will be judged on current roof condition, circumstance, merit of the nomination and presentation quality. Entrants must be 21 years of age, the homeowner of the house and a resident of Genesee County. Judging will begin in June from all of the entries and the winner will be announced on June 15.

The contest runs through May 2014. Entrants are asked to submit an online entry via the web form, which includes a written statement on why the nominee should win the roof and a photo or video of the current roof on the home. The winner will be judged on current roof condition, circumstance, merit of the nomination and presentation quality. Entrants must be 21 years of age, the homeowner of the house and a resident of Genesee County. Judging will begin in June from all of the entries and the winner will be announced on June 15.

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STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Times

Aglow International-Holly

The Aglow International-Holly will meet on Wednesday, May 14 beginning with fellowship and snacks at 9:30 a.m., followed by a meeting at 10 a.m. They meet at 315 South Broad St. Holly. Featured speaker will be Graham Cooke, an international speaker and author with a passion to empower people to walk in their true identity. For more information, contact Julie at (248) 841-5126 or jawbe33@hotmail.com.

Alumni banquet on June 7

Graduates of Holly High School are invited to the 114th HHS Alumni Association Banquet scheduled for Saturday, June 7, at 5:30 p.m. Dinner, entertainment and a business meeting will be included in the $20 ticket. To reserve your spot, send check to: Holly High School Alumni, c/o Betty Tinsman Messe, 1292 Thistleridge Drive, Holly, MI 48442 no later than May 21.

Blood Drive

The Fenton Firefighters Charity will be hosting its annual blood drive on Friday, May 30 from 12 to 6 p.m. It will be held at the fire station located at 205 East Caroline St. in Fenton. Those wishing to give blood can drop in any time or make an appointment by visiting www.redcross.org and search for their event using the 48430 zip code. Please make an effort to stop in and help save a life. For details about the Fenton Firefighters Charity, go to www.fentonfirecharities.org.

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Demolition begins on 415 East Maple St.

Two months after fire, historical home is torn down with no immediate plans for reconstruction.

By Amy Mayhew
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Holly — It’s been more than two months since fire ripped through one of Holly’s oldest Victorian homes, and on Friday, demolition work began on the remaining structure.

For decades, the home located at 415 East Maple St. served as an apartment complex to many Holly families, but on Feb. 23, was destroyed by fire. Fire officials ruled the blaze accidental.

The clawed backhoe effortlessly tore charred boards, windows, appliances, and shingles into a formidable debris pile as onlookers watched.

“I lost everything in the fire,” former tenant of the apartment complex Chris Lauinger said as he watched crews work on Friday. “But this community really came together for us — it really did.”

“The plan is to demo the house and the basement,” Village Manager Jerry Walker said Wednesday, adding that the lot will remain vacant until the owner decides on what to put in its place.

“Obviously, if the owner decides to put in another home there, we’d like it to reflect the historical nature of the neighborhood,” Walker said. “I expect that we’ll be having ongoing discussions with the owner as we continue to move ahead.”

FRANK’S TAVERN
Continued from Front Page

“My fiancé and our children became hardcore regulars at Frank’s Tavern,” Anne Birckelbaw posted on the Times Facebook page. “It actually got to the point where we no longer had to order because they knew exactly who we were. We no longer saw this establishment as a restaurant, but a place full of amazing food.”

“Best spaghetti… frog legs and fish and chips ever!” posted Carol Campbell. “Went every Friday night growing up… parents insisted it was the ONLY place to go!”

Since closing, the location has allegedly become a spot for drug usage and wild parties. Township Clerk Robert Krug said the Fenton Township Board of Trustees has been trying to demolish the building for years, as complaints from neighbors continued to pile up.

“It went from being a very nice restaurant for fish and chips to a draw for bad kids,” Krug said. “The neighbors complained about drinking and drugs.”

The building was torn down by Cook’s Excavating, which was awarded a $9,750 contract by the township board in October. Krug said the demolition would be covered by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The board briefly contemplated using the buildings as a training facility for township firefighters but decided against it after discovering possible asbestos contamination and grease reserves beneath the structure.

What will become of the property after the building is completely demolished has yet to be determined.

“There are several different ideas that have been talked about, none of them finalized,” Krug said. “We definitely want to reconfigure the road down there since the school bus has to back up to pick up kids.”

Established in the early 1920s, Frank’s Tavern was originally ran by Frank Vosburgh and his wife Bessie. According to a 2005 Times article, the restaurant served fish straight from Lake Ponemah and originally accommodated 75 people. Reservations were not taken and it became so popular on the weekends that a line formed outside of the tavern. The tavern exchanged hands in the 1940s, first to Max and Ruth Burdick in 1943 and then to Marge Nichols in 1946. Nichols ran the restaurant for 37 years before selling it to Steve Fessler in 1983. By May of 2010, the restaurant was closed by the Genesee County Health Department after the owner at that time, H & B Industry, Inc., did not renew its restaurant license.

There were some individuals who wanted pieces of Frank’s Tavern, Krug said. “It was a place that drew people from all over in a 100-mile circle. It had some of the best fish and chips.”
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**CHARTER Continued from Front Page**

kind of digital box. He called the May 29 date, the “cutover,” when any TV screen without a digital box for Charter TV services will go blue. The project has been underway since last fall, and area by area, customers have been receiving notices on multiple fronts.

Anyone who has a digital box already, or a digital box and antennae for local channels won’t experience a change.

Anyone with a cable TV service has to replace it with a digital box from Charter — for every TV in the house — at a rate of $6.99 per month for each additional box.

This is the rub for local residents — paying an extra fee, and having to pay an extra fee for every TV they want to watch their favorite TV shows on.

Morand explained that with the increased fees and boxes, customers will immediately have access to 75 additional channels, and another 25 by the end of the summer. Internet speed by Charter will double at no extra charge.

Why the change? In short, it’s where the wind is blowing, and where technology is going, according to Morand. As a matter of efficiency, Morand said the cable (analog) delivery of the content is of the lowest quality, and also takes up the most space on Charter’s network. For one analog channel, four HD digital channels can be delivered.

The digital box can be delivered via Internet order, or picked up at the local Charter store at 1580 North LeRoy St. in Fenton.

Each box carries a rental fee of $6.99 per month, though the first box will be free for 12 months. Morand said hardship exemptions linked to Medicaid can be discussed with a local representative.

Although they all cost the same, several boxes are available. They vary in size depending on the type. A standard definition digital box is around the size of a paperback book, while a HD DVR box is more like VCR-sized.

This highlights a possible benefit to the change — you will be able to DVR shows, pause, rewind, etc, instead of a one-direction flow of content.

Morand said that currently, a box is required for every TV, though he can’t rule out the company seeking a one-box per home set up instead, in the future.

He suggested customer take steps to get their box now. Once installed, the customer will have to call a number on the box to have it activated, which he said takes a couple minutes.

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**Getting a digital box**

Go to charter.com/digitalcable, or call 888-438-2427. You can also visit the local store, at 1580 North LeRoy St. in Fenton. Hours are: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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**Fenton | Linden | Holly | Grand Blanc | Brighton**

SEMINARY
Continued from Front Page
of using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to buy the property from the county treasurer’s office.

There are around $29,000 remaining, and CDBG funds must be programmed for a specific use and spent within an allotted amount of time. The money was originally secured for a condemned property on Mill Street.

Markland said that by the end of the year, it’s likely the property will be reverted to the city if it is not purchased at auction. He did not mention it specifically, but he did say once the city owns the property city officials would decide how to proceed.

The seminary had been condemned since the mid-’90s, and was structurally damaged in the tornado a year ago. The wind and ice storm of mid December did further damage.

Crande’s home behind the seminary was condemned after a fire in December, leaving her to live in an on-site trailer. She has since left the area.

Brad Hissong, building and zoning administrator said in a recent article, “I don’t want to take it down but it’s too far gone. I’ve let Genesee County know if they get it, they’ll have to take care of it right away. We don’t want it to fall and hurt someone.”

BOND
Continued from Front Page
they have children who attend the schools. Portions of the city and townships of Fenton, Rose and Tyrone are included in the Fenton school district.

Historically, elections for school bonds at Fenton have been low. The board of education attempted to pass two bonds in 2012, one in May and another in November. The May 2012 school bond asked for $9.6 million. The election attracted 12,56 percent of voters within the school district, or 2,031 voters out of 16,175 total registered voters in the district. Fenton schools had to pay $13,466 to Genesee County since it was held outside of the November General Election.

For the November 2012 election, 8,885 voters cast a ballot, about 53 percent of total registered voters within the district. The bond had a margin of 595 votes, with 4,740 “no” votes and 4,145 “yes” votes. The Fenton school board asked constituents for an $8.4 million bond in the November 2012 bond, which would have covered safety, technology and buses.

Discussion for another attempt at a school bond began in December. A majority of school board members have voted in favor of the bond, save for Trustee Drew Shapiro, who was in favor of seeing a more comprehensive long-term plan for technology that didn’t depend upon a bond. Regardless of how constituents feel about the bond, Shapiro encourages everyone capable within the school district to cast a vote May 6.

“It’s important for people in this community to realize that the school controls a sizeable budget and that they can influence how it’s spent,” Shapiro said. “Whatever the outcome of the election, it should be representative of how this community truly feels and not just the opinions of special interest groups.”

Shapiro also added for constituents who would further like to be a part of the decision making process within Fenton schools, four seats will be up for election this November.

To become a candidate, interested parties need to file with the Genesee County Clerk’s office by 4 p.m., July 24, along with 100 signatures of support or a $100 fee, in lieu of petitions.

Voting locations for residents of the Fenton school district

City of Fenton residents — St. John Activity Center, 600 North Adelaide St.
Fenton Township residents — Lake Fenton High School, 4070 Lahring Rd
Tyrene Township residents
• Precinct 1 residents — Fenton Church of the Nazarene, 11075 Runyan Lake Rd.
• Precincts 2 & 3 — Tyrene Covenant Presbyterian Church, 10235 White Lake Rd.
• Precinct 4 — Tyrone Township Hall, 10408 Center Rd.
Rose Township residents
• Precinct 1 — Rose Township offices, 9080 Mason St.
• Precinct 2 & 3 — Rose Pioneer Elementary, 7110 Milford Rd.

ELECTION RESULTS
Watch for results for the Fenton Area Public Schools proposed $1 million bond at tctimes.com Tuesday evening after the polls close at 8 p.m. Be the first to learn if voters within the school district approved the ballot question.
Social News

ANNIVERSARY

Marshalls celebrate 50th wedding anniversary
Jerry and Cheryl Marshall of Fenton recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Port Charlotte, Florida. Jerry is retired from General Motors and his wife was a receptionist/secretary and active volunteer through the years. A family dinner party is being planned in their honor.

ENGAGEMENT

Chavez-Papa
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Chavez of Romeo are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Marissa Chavez, to Jordan Eaton, son of Jerry and Kay Eaton of Romeo.

BIRTHS

Leighelle Marie Pierce
Mitchell and Kristin Pierce of Fenton are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Leighelle Marie Pierce. She was born on March 15, 2014 at Crippen-tonton Hospital at 3:02 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs. 16 oz. and was 21 inches long. Her grandparents are Terry and Daelyn Pierce of Fenton and Rick and Judy Palmgren of Holly. Her great-grandparents are Ernestine Pierce of Jonesboro, Arkansas, Shirley and Lloyd Motiva of Flint, Dick and Shirley Palmer of Ft. Myers, Florida, and Elaine Townsend of Rochester.

Olin Jay Ford
Chris and Julie (Berra) Ford of Auburn Hills are proud to announce the birth of their son, Olin Jay Ford. He was born April 22, 2014 at Troy Beaumont Hospital at 8:14 p.m. His weight was 8 lbs. 11 oz and 20 inches long. His paternal grandparents are Sandy and the late Ned Ford of Fenton and the maternal grandparents are Chuck and Sandy Berra of Fenton. Olin is also wel-come by his older brother Anthony, age 6. Chris and Julie are Fenton High School graduates.

BIRTHDAY

Ida Lee celebrates 100th birthday
Ida Lee was born May 5, 1914 in Rogersville, of Hungarian immigrants. She has memories of when transportation was a horse drawn carriage, and when the bob haircut was popular for the first time. Victo-lass was how you listened to music of the World War era, with songs like “Over There” and “Break The News To My Mother.” Ida has been a member of the Lin-den United Methodist Church for 43 years. She remains active making her bean soup for a neighbor that is ill. She is an avid reader of The Tri-County Times and The Flint Journal, which makes her an interesting conversationalist about current events. She greets everyone with a smile and a compliment. She is a great lady. Ida raised three children: Leone, Marilyn, and Jim. She has many grandchildren and great grandchildren. It’s an honor to call this centenarian our friend.
LFHS students share talent with Vicinia Gardens

Baylee Hooks steps back from the seaside-themed mural she is working on with Sydney Herrn on Wednesday afternoon at Vicinia Gardens in Fenton Township. Along with Hannah Sepanak (not pictured), the Lake Fenton High School studio arts class members will complete several hallway murals for the memory care building under construction in time for the May 15 open house. See more photos at www.tctimes.com.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHEN I FIRST moved to Lake Fenton 28 years ago, my 80-year-old neighbor suggested to turn off flood lights toward the lake. She said it was so beautiful long ago. Now it seems so many people have so many lights. Imagine how the moon would shine on the lake.

GREAT BOARD OF Education meeting. Lake Fenton. We love the peer support program. It is great for all kids.

I’M APPALLED AT parents’ behavior at tee-ball. I sat in disbelief as my son’s teammates had shirts ripped off them by a parent because they wanted that color. The children were visibly upset, shame on you.

DETROIT GOT THEMSELVES into this mess, let them get themselves out. The governor wants to send $350 million a year for 20 years.

ENLIGHTEN ME, HOW is it that $11 million to improve school security, replace worn out buses, remodeling and upgrading school buildings has anything to do with a quality education? Show me a plan that would provide our children with a stellar education.

WHEN WILL THESE kids learn that heroin kills? If you do heroin, chances are, you will die. And if you don’t die, you could live with a permanent disability. Wake up kids. Be smart.

AT 8:30 P.M. on Tuesday, May 1, it’s a cold, rainy, nasty evening and there are 12 cars waiting in line for ice cream at Uncle Ray’s. Yes, there is proof spring is really here.

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Do you recognize these well-known area residents?

**PROM PICTURES of the past**

A. 1964 ROSARY HIGH SCHOOL

B. 1962 LINDEN HIGH SCHOOL

C. 1983 LAKE FENTON HIGH SCHOOL

D. 1970 MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

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Civil Air Patrol gives teens opportunity to fly

Air Force Auxiliary always seeks new members

By Tim Jagielo

Flint — Outside the parking structure of the downtown Flint building, the vague echoes of cadets’ ‘sounding off’ can be heard.

It’s a little louder inside, where Ray Kromer works quietly at a desk, on a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) handbook for his squadron. When he hears his cadets in training he smiles. “Sounds like they’re having fun,” he said.

Kromer, 17, of Tyronie Township, is a junior at Fenton High School, and a second lieutenant (2nd Lt.) in the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), a U.S. Air Force (USAF) auxiliary for 12- to 21-year-olds. The CAP focuses on cadet training, emergency services and aerospace education. There are approximately 56,000 members nationwide.

Recently, the CAP in Arkansas put eight planes in the air to video tape and photograph tornado damage.

While they achieve titles that mirror the USAF, each member is technically a civilian, and not enlisted into the military.

Each CAP cadet is part of a squadron, in Kromer’s case, the Lt. Col Keeth Composite Sqdn, which meets in Flint and Mundy Township.

Each week tends to have its own focus, and dress code — these teens and pre-teens wear USAF uniforms with ribbon racks to denote the grade they’ve achieved, whether airman or sergeant. On Tuesday, they wore dress blues, but they also wear BDU’s (battle dress uniform). Kromer’s look is so genuine that he’s been mistaken for a helicopter pilot before.

The meeting started with opening formation and uniform inspections followed by marching drills and class time. Kromer is the one who sets the agenda for the meeting. At 17, he’s the cadet commander for the squadron, answering only to the Squadron Commander, Maj. Larry Parks.

He’s been a member of CAP since October 2010, and has worked hard to get as much as he can out of the experience. “What Civil Air Patrol boils down to — it changes you for the better,” he said.

Kromer said he has achieved the grade of 2nd Lt., and all the skills and knowledge that the title required — multiple boot camps, training and special courses. He estimates he spends a few hours a week on CAP, whether preparing materials or his uniforms. He’s also heavily involved in advanced video production at school, youth church activities, preparing for a mission trip, and depending on the season, running across country. “CAP has just allowed him to mature in leaps and bounds, over what he could have done without it. We can’t recommend it enough,” Tammy Kromer, mother of Ray.

A cadet’s dress blue uniform is inspected by 2nd Lt. Ray Kromer, 17 (left) and 2nd Lt. Nick Lake, 14 at the Tuesday meeting. Military decorum and chain-of-command is followed. While strict, the cadets are treated kindly, and encouraged more than critiqued.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

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Nothing settled between rivals, yet

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Fenton — Fenton’s No. 2 doubles team of Abby Rachor and Sylee Kiran had no clue what would happen if they lost their match on Wednesday.

Fenton varsity girls coach Gary Ballard wouldn’t tell them who was winning or losing in the team score with only their flight remaining to be completed.

“Our coach wouldn’t tell us,” Kiran said. “I think if he did, it would’ve changed the way we played, but we had no idea.”

Well, the Tigers were trailing the Holly Broncos 4-3 at the time and needed the flight win to earn a draw against Holly. The pair did just that, defeating Holly’s Alannah Rau and Leah Moller in what was an entertaining and well-played 4-6, 7-5, 6-4 match between the foes.

The draw means if the two teams continue to win the rest of their Metro League duals, the squads will remain tied in the standings entering the Metro League meet. Considering none of the area teams appear to have a chance with competing against the two area rivals, that means whichever of the two teams wins the league meet will win Metro League crown. If it is Holly, it’ll be the Bronchos’ second straight. If it is Fenton, it will be the Tigers’ second in three years. A lot remains up in the air.

“It was awesome winning the match,” Racher said. “It was cool helping our team (earn the tie). It was kind of cool to be part of our team and to be there for our team.”

See SETTLED on 19A

Eagles win physical affair vs. Kearsley, remain in first place in Metro League

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Around the world, soccer is called ‘the beautiful game.’

Kevin Fiebernitz will be the first to admit his team’s game against Kearsley wouldn’t qualify in that category on Wednesday night.

It had little to do with his Linden girls varsity soccer team. The Eagles scored eight goals and easily cruised to the victory against the Hornets. However, the Linden mentor was less than thrilled by the way the Hornets played.

“The reffing and the conduct of the other team was very poor,” Fiebernitz said. “I’m happy with my team as far as their conduct. They held themselves up with a lot of class. But the other team had five yellow cards and one red, and it should’ve been five more yellows and one more red card.”

While the Hornets had a hard time staying out of the disciplinary ledger, the Eagles were having no problems winning their fourth straight Flint Metro League contest, keeping Linden in first place. The Eagles cruised to an 8-0 victory.

Despite playing another game without one of the team’s best players, freshman Madeleine Zayan, the Eagles still cruised to the victory. Katie Wilkowski picked up a good chunk of the slack, scoring a game-best four goals. Meanwhile, freshman Erica Freeman scored two goals and Jessie Magalski and Sam Zayan...
**Linden track soars vs. Clio, Lapeer East**

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

It was a clean sweep for the Linden varsity track program against Clio and Lapeer East.

Both the boys and girls defeated their foes, keeping both squads in the upper half of the Metro League race.

The Linden girls were particularly dominant, taking outright firsts in 14 of the 17 events, including all four relays.

The sister combination of Miranda Greene and Samantha Greene were in two of the relays. They teamed with Alexis Brandt and Rebecca McDonald to win the 400 relay (54.16) and with Bella Blank and Jordin Gunderson to win the 800 relay (1:52.70).

The other two relay winners were the 1,600 relay team of Bryanna Tunispeck, Blank, Morgan White and Gunderson (4:51.44), and the 3,200 relay team of Sydney Elmer, Maya Gossett, Courtney Davis and Savannah Ferrara (11:01.88).

Freshman Jessica Daul had a big day, winning the shot put (30-7 1/2) and the discus (85-11), becoming the Linden girls’ only two-time individual winner. Other individual winners were Taylor Smith in the 100 (13.71), Samantha Greene in the 200 (27.77), Gossett in the 400 (52.84), Elmer in the 1,500 (5:44.64), Ferrara in the 3,200 (12:37.28), McDonald in the 100 hurdles (16.39), Tunispeck in the 300 hurdles (51.84), and Brook Ovington in the high jump (4-10).

The boys had six individual firsts. The only winning relay team was the 3,200 relay of Andy Bennett, Blake Bloomfield, Hunter Holsinger and Mikey Varacalli (8:59.89).

Individuals, Bennett won the 800 (2:09.59), while David Doyle took the top spot in the 1,600 (4:39.33). Other firsts were earned by Kyle Frederick in the 110 hurdles (16.53), Andy Roberts in the shot put (45-3 1/2) and Alex Kissel in the discus (151-7).

“We knew it was going to be a close meet with Clio,” Linden boys track coach Nick Douglass said.

“It was nice to see some people step up and perform. We have two tough meets next week with Swartz Creek and Kearsley.”

---

**Linden golfers knock Fenton from undefeated list**

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Linden’s Rebecca McDonald won the 100 hurdles during the Eagles’ meet with Clio and Lapeer East on Wednesday.

The Eagles were able to knock a team off the ranks of the undefeated and at the same time beat their biggest area rival.

Linden (4-1) edged Fenton 173-175 at the Coyote Preserve.

The match medalist was Linden’s Alec Bond, who carded a 39 on the par-36 layout.

He followed by Dylan Elmer’s 43, Nolan McDonald’s 44 and Tyler Ziccardi’s 47.

Fenton’s top golfer was John Lloyd, who carded a 42. Jack Berry followed with a 43, while Michael Conroy carded a 44. Nick Campbell shot a 46.

“Alec set the pace for Linden with a 39 which is a very solid score,” Fenton coach Tyler Szczepanski said.

“Tiger Preserve is a tough track, but the weather conditions were ideal and he took advantage of it. I anticipate our guys getting back to work to improve their games. … Give Linden all the credit today. They shot good and managed a tough course well enough to beat us out by two strokes.”

**Fenton 162, Lapeer East 178**

At Metamora Country Club, John Lloyd earned medalist honors with a 37, leading the Tigers to the win.

Max Martin followed with a 41, while Nick Campbell and Michael Conroy had 42s.

**Holly 159, Kearsley 171**

At Flint Elks Country Club, the Bronchos were paced by Mitchell Hughes and Kyle Pepper, who shot 39s on the par-36 course, improving the Bronchos to 5-1 in the Metro and 6-1 overall.

Connor Patterson shot a 40, while Will Moller carded a 41. The weather was ideal on Tuesday while the golfers competed.

“I couldn’t believe it. For the most part, it was the best weather we’ve had this year. It wasn’t too hot and not too windy,” Holly coach Brent Davies said.

“As far as my guys go, our motto is to grind. I’m a grinder and they’ve adopted it. They are getting stronger mentally. We play for every shot, grind for every stroke. We never let up.”

---

**Fenton 162, Lapeer East 178**

At the Coyote Preserve, the Tigers (5-1) bounced back from the loss to Fenton by defeating Kearsley.

John Lloyd was match medalist with a 38 on the par-36 course. Max Martin carded a 42, while Michael Conroy and Jack Berry shot 44s.

Evon Flood led Kearsley with a 40, while Brian Sams carded a 43.

---

**Early goals lead Fenton soccer by Brandon, 2-1**

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The Fenton Tigers need Lapeer West and Linden to slip up if they want a chance of defending their Metro League title this season.

But more importantly, Fenton has to do, the Tigers have to keep on winning themselves.

Fenton (3-1, 6-3-3) did just that on Monday, defeating Brandon 2-1 at home.

Fenton scored two first-half goals and made them hold up, keeping the Tigers three points behind first-place See GOALS on 18A
**Tigers’ pitching sparks sweep of Creek**

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The Fenton varsity baseball team is getting itself in a good habit. It’s a habit that involves good pitching.

Just two days after Fenton pitchers Jamie Castiglione and Austin Landis tossed complete-game victories against Kearsley, two more Tiger hurlers had strong outings on Wednesday.

John Leasko tossed a four-hit complete game in the opener against Swartz Creek, leading the Tigers (5-5, 6-7) to a 6-2 victory. Not to be outdone, Chase Coselman pitched the second game and the freshman allowed just three hits in six innings, leading the Tigers to a 7-1 victory.

With the pitching staff allowing just five runs in four games this week, it’s fair to say the Tigers are looking pretty solid on the mound.

“We are pitching well, but first I’d credit the weather and second, these new bats are making it hard to hit,” Fenton coach Shawn Lawrence said. “But our pitchers are doing a good job.”

In the first game, the Tigers trailed 2-0 after the top of the first inning was completed, but Justin Norris did something about that, starting the bottom of the first with a solo home run. The Tigers’ first included three consecutive hits and a walk, helping Fenton take a 3-2 lead after one inning. The Tigers never trailed again.

Coselman led the offense with two doubles and three RBI, while Max Barker also added an RBI-double.

In the nightcap, Coselman allowed just three walks and three hits and earned the complete game victory.

Offensively, the Tigers scattered their hits.

“We had eight hits and we didn’t have that many with a bunch of hits,” Lawrence said. “Everyone had hits, bunts, steals and everything.”

The Tigers stole 13 bases in the twinbill.

Fenton hosts Holly for a Metro doubleheader sweep of Swartz Creek on Wednesday.

**SOCCER**

Lake Fenton 3, Goodrich 0: In a game that should go a long way toward figuring out who will be the No. 1 seed in the Genesee Area Conference tournament, the Blue Devils (5-0, 5-0-2) defeated the Martians in a battle of undefeated squads.

Jordan Newman continued to add to her state-record career goal total by notching three more goals, giving her 174 for her career. Each goal came off a strong assist from a teammate. Ashley Skidmore had two of the assists, while Melissa Williams had the other.

Defensively, Alyssa Ktege, Alex Isaac, Brianna Meicher and Alexi Cash helped spark the shutout. In net, Missy Eggleston had to make only one save to earn her clean sheet.

**BASEBALL**

Lake Fenton vs. Perry: The Blue Devils (4-1, 5-1) defeated Perry 15-1 and was beating Perry 11-4 when darkness called the game.

In the opener, Joe Boughner led the Blue Devils with four hits, including a home run and three RBI. Cody Alexander had three hits and three RBI. Two of his were doubles. Robbie Alexander also drove in three runs.

In the second game, the contest was stopped with two outs in the fourth. Neil Altor had two hits and two runs scored, while Cody Alexander had three hits (home run and three RBI).

**GOALS**

Continued from Page 17A

Linden and Lapeer West. The Tigers already played Linden, but still have a contest with the Panthers.

Both goals came off of quality crosses by the Tigers’ offense. The first goal was provided by Riley Moore and the second one by Baylee Adams.

Brianna Costigan and Chloe Foo added assists on the goals.

In the second half, the Blackhawks tried to get back into the game. Sophia Sebring scored early in the second half, cutting the deficit to just one. However, that was as close as the Blackhawks would get as Miranda Campbell and Abigail Quinones each had a save in net for Fenton, sparking the win.

“Our offense was not clicking, but Mackenzie Murphy and Bri Costigan were tremendous for us on defense in very difficult conditions,” Sullivan said.

Fenton returns to Metro action on Monday with a home game against Clio at 6:45 p.m. The Tigers travel to Lappeer East on Wednesday.

**Fenton’s Baylee Adams (right) tries to get the ball from a Brandon player during the Tigers’ 2-1 victory against the Blackhawks on Wednesday. Adams scored one of the two Fenton goals.**

**LF, Fenton softball squads continue their winning ways**

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

To say the Lake Fenton varsity softball team is on a roll would be an understatement.

Not only are the Blue Devils 10-0, but with the exception of a 1-0 victory against Clio to start the season and a 3-0 victory against Montrose, Lake Fenton hasn’t been overly challenged this year.

That trend continued on Thursday as the Blue Devils swept Mt. Morris in a twinbill. Lake Fenton scored at least two runs in each inning, earning a 16-0 victory in the opener. In the nightcap, the Blue Devils posted a nine-run fourth, earning a 13-6 victory.

In the opener, Lake Fenton pounded 16 hits. Kim Roe and Allison Petts each had three hits to pace the offense. One of Pete’s hits was a double. Kayla Ward, Taylor Sheyachich and Patricia Whittaker had two hits each. Roe, Ward, Alexi Melton and Whittaker had two RBI each.

In the second game, the nine-run fourth was sparked by seven hits, including a double and a home run. The big blow was a three-run home run by Melton.

Melody Draeger led the team with three hits, while Ward, Sheyachich and Sidney Sheyachich had two runs each. Melton and Ward drove in three runs.

On the mound, Sidney Sheyachich added another hit and two runs scored, while Cody Alexander added three hits (home run and three RBI).
SETTLED
Continued from Page 16A
The No. 2 doubles match was early in the third set when the rest of the matches were already completed, setting up the 4-3 Holly lead. The Bronchos led in the final set 4-3 when the match was delayed due to rain. However, the match resumed about 15 minutes later with all eyes from both programs witnessing the action.
Fenton trailed 40-15 in the next game, but bounced back to win it, tying the final set at 4-all. The Tigers kept that momentum by winning the final two games as well, earning the 6-4 third-set victory.
“(The rain delay) helped because they were on a roll,” Kiran said. “They won games in a row, and then we had the delay and they kind of lost their fire. We pumped ourselves back up.”
The second-last match to be completed came at No. 4 doubles where Holly set up the scenario where the Bronchos could do no worse than tie the match depending on the No. 2 doubles match. Holly’s Katherine Skubik and Abby Graff defeated Josie Foguth and Katie Lewandowski 7-6(2), 7-5 in what was another entertaining and tight match. It was a big victory for Holly considering the Tigers moved Foguth, traditionally a singles player for Fenton, to the doubles spot. Both teams enjoyed the competitive spirit of the day.
“It’s definitely very interesting,” Skubik said. “It always is when you have two good teams playing each other. No matter what, it’s going to be a good match.”

As the tie score would suggest, there wasn’t much separating the two teams. Fenton captured the top two singles flight points, with Madison Ballard (No. 1) defeating Natalie Clink 6-2, 6-1; and Sydney Phipps beating Haley Crimmins 6-1, 6-3 but Fenton took the final two single flight points. Jenna Pepper (No. 3) defeated Carley Beemer 6-4, 6-3, while Lily Kossak defeated Rachel Anderson 6-1, 6-0.
In the doubles flights, there was only one reasonably routine straight set victory. It was earned by Fenton’s Katie Kurnicz and Kendra Pradel (No. 3) by a 6-1, 6-4 margin against Skylar St. Croiz and Paige Reid. Skubik and Graff (No. 4) won theirs in a tight straight-set fashion, while Kiran and Racher battled from behind to win in three sets. Finally, at No. 1 doubles, Holly’s Sydne Neyehene and Carley Postma earned a nice 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 victory against Fenton’s Hannah Horton and Ashley Beards.
Both teams know there’s a lot of hard work to come in the upcoming weeks.
“I think we have to keep practicing, keep going to other tournaments and keep building as a team,” Skubik said.
“I think we need to stay tight as a team, work hard and practice a lot,” Racher said.
The last time that Holly girls tennis has lost a Metro dual meet came on Sept. 19, 1995. The only two times since that date the Bronchos didn’t win a dual came when Holly earned draws. That was the case on Tuesday as it was against Fenton about two years ago.
The Flint Metro League meet is May 20 at Lapeer East High School.

EAGLES
Continued from Page 16A
Hawkins, another freshman, scored a goal each. Magalski, a junior, led the team with three assists, while Ashley Peck, Gabrielle Freeman and Alia Frederick (freshman) had one assist each.
“I’m pretty pleased with where we are at, but I do feel like we are treading water a little bit right now,” Fiebertnitz said. “I know we have a good team, and potentially we have a very good team, but I feel we haven’t found that leader yet. We don’t have that true leader, grabbing the bull by the horns leader. We just don’t have it yet. I’m a little nervous about that. I know we are young, but I don’t care if it is a senior or a freshman. We need someone to take command and we haven’t had anyone do that yet.”
That’s one concern. The other involves injuries.
“We are banged up pretty good right now, so we are paper-thin as far as players,” Fiebertnitz said. “We have had Maddie Zayan out for a week-and-a-half with hamstring issues. We have two other players sitting out due to injuries.”
The Eagles will get what could be their biggest test remaining for the rest of the Metro League season on Monday. Linden travels to Lapeer West to compete against the only other undefeated Metro soccer team. Whatever wins the game, which is expected to start around 6:45 p.m., will have the inside track to the league championship.

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CITY OF FENTON
301 SOUTH LEROY STREET
FENTON, MICHIGAN 48430-2196

CITY OF FENTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Fenton, Genesee County, Michigan, will hold a public hearing at its regular council meeting on the 27th Day of May, 2014 at 7:30 pm, in the City Hall, located at 301 South Leroy Street, Fenton, Michigan 48430-2196, to consider a proposed amendment of the City of Fenton Local Development Finance Authority (“LDFA”) Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan.

The purpose of the proposed amendment, adopted by the LDFA at its regular meeting on April 10, 2014, is to authorize the LDFA to enter into an agreement with the City of Fenton to provide for sharing of a portion of the captured assessed value between the LDFA and the City of Fenton. The text of the amendment reads as follows:


a. Exhibit B attached to the Tax Increment Financing Plan is amended to provide the following additional provision: “The LDFA shall exclude 10.6226 mills from its capture of millage levied by the City of Fenton for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to an Agreement to share captured assessed value between the City of Fenton Local Development Finance Authority and the City of Fenton to be effective May 27, 2014.”

The fiscal and economic implications of the proposed amendment are limited to the temporary shifting of tax revenue generated by the 10.6226 mills, in an amount not to exceed $171,000.00, from the LDFA to the City of Fenton.

The district is comprised substantially of the US-23 Industrial Park, Fenway Plaza industrial park and certain additional industrial zoned property adjacent to the east of these parks. The district is generally bounded by US 23 on the west, Owen Road on the south, Silver Lake Road on the north and Pontchartrain Boulevard extended on the east.

Maps, plats and a description of the Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan are available for public inspection at the LDFA office in the City Hall. No persons are expected to be displaced by the plan. All aspects of the plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing.

EXHIBIT B TO:

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF FENTON, COUNTY OF GENESSEE, MICHIGAN

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN FOR THE CITY OF FENTON

Approved by the Local Development Finance Authority of the City of Fenton for submittal to the City Council of the City of Fenton on November 17, 1988.

Approved by the City Council of the City of Fenton on December 27, 1988, subsequent to a public hearing on December 27, 1988.


The LDFA shall exclude 10.6226 mills from its capture of millage levied by the City of Fenton for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to an Agreement to share captured assessed value between the City of Fenton Local Development Finance Authority and the City of Fenton to be effective as of May 27, 2014.

NOTICE OF HYDRANT FLUSHING
CITY OF LINDEN

City of Linden residents are advised to check their water before using for laundry, etc. on Monday, May 5, 2014 through Saturday, May 10, 2014.

THE LINDEN DPW WILL BE FLUSHING HYDRANTS ON THESE DAYS.

Scott Fairbanks,
Public Works Department

Synopsis of Argentine Township
Regular Board Meeting
April 28, 2014

Call to order @ 7:00 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Cole
Approved: Budget Amendments.
Approved: Payment of bills as presented.
Issued: 14 Building Permits that amount to $6,446.79.
Authorized: Attorney to research issues related to dock ordinance.
Approved: Supervisor to sign 3-year extension of Ferrelgas lease agreement.
 Entered: Closed session@ 7:47 p.m.
Returned: To Regular session @ 8:44 p.m.
Adjourned @ 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Denise Graves
Argentine Township Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF FENTON
2014-2015 BUDGET

The City of Fenton will hold a public hearing on the 2013-2014 Amended Budget and the proposed 2014-2015 Fiscal Budget on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:30 PM as part of the regular meeting agenda in the City of Fenton Council Chambers, 301 South Leroy Street, Fenton, Michigan. Copies of the proposed budget are available for review at City Hall, 301 South Leroy Street, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and at the Jack Winegarden Library, 200 East Caroline Street during their normal business hours.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject at this hearing.

Please contact the City Clerk’s office if accommodations are needed due to a disability.

Renee Wilson
City Clerk
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MOTHER’S DAY DINNER SUNDAY, MAY 11 • 11:30AM-4PM

Buffet Items:
- Beef Tips & Noodles
- Roast Beef
- Baked Mostaccioli
- Fried Chicken
- Cheddar Ranch Potatoes
- Chicken & Beef Gravy
- Country Green Beans and Corn
- Bread Sticks

Includes Salad Bar and Dessert Table

MAY SPECIAL

Mother’s Day Specials
Sunday, May 11, 2014
12:00pm - 6:00pm

Reservations recommended but not required

BUFFET ITEMS:
- Beef Tips & Noodles
- Roast Beef
- Baked Mostaccioli
- Fried Chicken
- Cheddar Ranch Potatoes
- Chicken & Beef Gravy
- Country Green Beans and Corn
- Bread Sticks

Includes Salad Bar and Dessert Table

DIKNES:
- Dinners come with choice of a Baked Potatoes, Fries, Spaghetti, Rice or Veggie - Includes Salad Bar

KING CUT PRIME
RIB (14 oz.) $13.95

QUEEN CUT PRIME RIB (10 oz.) $10.95

BROILED WHITE FISH $10.95

Full Menu Also Available

PRICES:
- All you can eat buffet $13.95
- Children 8-12 $7.95
- Children 4-7 $6.95
- Children 3 and Under FREE

MOTHER’S DAY DINNER

Sunday, May 11th

Brunch Prices
Adults $19.95 • Children (2-11) $9.95

Dinners come with choice of a Baked Potato, Fries, Spaghetti, Rice or Veggie - Includes Salad Bar

Hand Carved Slow Roasted Beef with mushroom marsala sauce
Baked Honey Glazed Ham with fruit cocktail sauce
Poached Salmon with cucumber sauce
Smoked Whitefish Spread with honey, maple & brown sugar
Country Biscuits & Gravy
Leroy Street Salad

Oriental Slaw Salad
Spinach & Feta Cheese Quiche
Hotel Scrambled Eggs with ham, onions & peppers
Scrambled Eggs
French Toast, Waffles & Cheese Blintzes
Mac & Cheese
Hotel Breadsticks
Lox, Bagels and Cream Cheese
Link Sausage & Bacon
Fresh Fruit & Dessert Table

Special Dinner Menu
Reservations recommended but not required

FENTON HOTEL TAVERN & GRILLE
302 N LEROY STREET, FENTON, MI 48430 (810) 750-9493
MUSTANG
Continued from Page 3A

a 1964-'65 Mustang included a 289-horsepower V-8. While Ford’s sports car continues to be iconic and consistent with design, not all Mustangs are built the same.

Since its inception, Ford has expanded the Mustang with other high-quality models, such as the Boss and GT series.

Peter Putman may very well have the oldest Mustang in the Fenton area with his 1965 model, which he’s been driving since he was 18. It’s a feat he finds that most of his colleagues cannot do.

“There’s no power steering or power brakes, it uses drums,” Putman said. “My friends find it difficult to drive, telling me the brakes won’t work. You just have to use more power.”

When it comes to driving newer cars, Putman finds himself turning too fast or braking too hard, since power steering and braking is standard for vehicles. The 22-year-old is in the process of restoring his Mustang back into pristine condition.

Flash forward 50 years later and the pony car is just as popular as ever. Lasco said the new Mustang adapts to each time period but keeps its distinct style.

“The car has always kept very close to the same image with slanted slopes in the front and the rear,” Lasco said. “Even though it has evolved and the technology has gotten better, Mustangs have the same characteristics as someone who owned one in the 1960s and ’70s.”

For the 50-year anniversary, Ford is building 1,964 limited edition Mustangs, based on the V-8 GT fastback coupe, according to Motor Authority. Ford expects the new Mustang to deliver more than 400 horsepower and will be for sale by this fall.

“For us as a dealer, we’re already taking orders on the ’15 model,” Lasco said. “It’s one of the hottest vehicles we’ve had in five years. It’s going to be just as collectible as the original.”

More Than a Trappers Convention

The U.P. Trappers Association is hosting the 55th annual National Trappers Association Convention and Outdoor Show July 24 – 27 at the U.P. State Fairgrounds in Escanaba. This impressive National Convention has only been in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula once before, 41 years ago. This huge national show is open to the public and provides an opportunity for everyone to learn more about the world of trapping and all that the great outdoors has to offer.

Admission is $10 for all four days with 12 and under admitted free.

For more information contact Tamara Masterson, convention coordinator at (248) 568-5804, masterson@nationaltrappers.com or for more details visit www.uptrappers.com or www.nationaltrappers.com.

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THIS WEEK’S INSERTS

Alpine Marketplace
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Rite Aid
Sears Hometown Stores
Sloan’s Sales & Service
Target
Tractor Supply Co.
VG’s
Walgreens
Walmart

To have your insert/flyer viewable online, call Gail Grove at 810-433-6822.
Meet Brad Hissong

Brad Hissong wears many hats as a city of Fenton employee. If you get ticketed for a code violation, it’s from his department. But that’s just one part of his many tasks. He’s very proud of the work he did for the Haiti Tool Kit Committee — helping to establish a minimum building code for the struggling country. “I really enjoyed that... probably one of the most rewarding things I’ve done.” He, his wife and daughter take care of his father-in-law, in their home.

In a nut shell, what is your job in the city? I run three different departments; the building department, the zoning department and the code enforcement department — it keeps me busy. I prepare all the building plans, all the site plans for the planning commission, and I have to go through all the planning and direct that. We get the site plans approved. I review all the construction documents. I’m a certified construction plan reviewer — most municipalities have to send those out. Then I manage all the part-time building inspectors. I also run the zoning department, all the zoning requests, we also handle all the residential zoning requests — fencing, everything; enforce all the city ordinances.

Do some property owners see you as a villain? Yeah, but you have to do what you have to do, you have to treat everyone the same or you can have some real problems. You don’t want to put anything on them that’s not required in the law. If you don’t enforce those ordinances and work on a lot on blight and substandard housing, you’ll lose a few people each year that don’t want to live in that environment. The area starts to go downhill. We probably did 500 complaints a quarter, and probably 275 are property and maintenance issues.

What kind of knowledge does it take to do the job effectively? You have to, according to the state, have so many years in construction, or have a degree. I was lucky I got out of the Marine Corps, I got out of Vietnam, and I went to Berkley in construction technology. I came and got a job at Buick, and I became a code enforcer way back when in 1972.

What is the most difficult part of job? Trying to keep everyone happy. That’s the toughest part of any job in my line of work. If you can get someone to do something that needs to be done, without me harassing them, but still gets done and still be able to shake their hand and get it accomplished, that’s the best part. We try to diplomacy and knock on doors before we mail out letters.

What’s something people may not know about you? I used to own a company called Metro Media Entertainment. I used to go around the state of Michigan on the country western circuit, doing radio interviews and we sold the tape to many radio stations in the area. I’ve got photography session with 70 to 80 groups, in the ’80s and early ’90s. I used to sing in a band and I still sing. I sang in Las Vegas, I sang in Nashville, Tennessee, I sang at the Beale Street Barboque. I sang at the Winery, I sang there two weeks ago. I’m an old drummer by trade.

What style do you sing? I can do top 40, a little country, pop. I don’t do the whiny country. I’ve sang stuff by Mickey Gilley, Ronnie McDowell, Glen Campbell, and then I did stuff by Ronny Milsap. I was born and raised in Flint/Beecher so I did a lot of soul singing. I love my music.

What is the nationality of the name Hissong? It’s a little bit of everything, Dutch, and German and little bit of Swedish. It’s not a popular name, there’s a little bit in Detroit and quite a bit out west. Not a very usual name you run across.

What can you tell us about your family? I’ve got five children — a set of twins boys, I’ve got two daughters, and an older son. Haven’t had any vacations in probably five years, because we’ve had hospice. We moved my mom in, and then my mother-in-law, and now we have my father-in-law. He’s been with us eight years, and he’s been on hospice three years. It’s quite a bit, taking care of him, keeps us busy. So I head home and then it’s my shift. My wife’s a manager at Lucky’s Steakhouse in Davison. I think her dad may outlive me (laughs). He’s a good guy, strong, he must be. It’s family, so you gotta do it.
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173989………..…….$16,500

2011 Chevrolet Cruze LS
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America’s new national pastime?

Soccer’s popularity growing in tri-county area through AYSO, clubs

By Sally Rummel

If a young person in your household plays soccer, it’s not surprising. Soccer is now the fastest-growing sport in the U.S., with 15 million players, and 30 percent of all households have at least one member who plays the sport, according to ESPN.

Huge sports figures like English soccer star David Beckham have made the sport more popular than baseball among young Americans, age 12 to 17. In fact, soccer, in general, is the second-most popular sport for Americans aged 12 to 24, bigger than pro basketball, pro baseball and college football.

All you have to do to gauge soccer’s popularity in the tri-county area is drive to Deer Run Soccer Complex on South Linden Road in Fenton Township, and watch continuous play every weekend. The park opened for the season on April 27, and will host hundreds of families this Saturday, May 3 for a local celebration of the 50th anniversary of the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO).

Called SoccerFEST14, this event is a one-day tournament featuring local players as young as age 2 from Little Kritters Soccer Club, up to AYSO recreational players and competitive players in the FC Bolton Soccer Club. Play begins at 9 a.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m., with the FC Bolton Club holding free clinics throughout the day.

If you’re looking for a summer activity for your kids, you can’t go wrong with soccer. The benefits of playing soccer are many:

- **Physical Fitness**: Soccer is a great way to get kids moving and stay active.
- **Teamwork**: Playing soccer helps children learn about cooperation and collaboration.
- **Confidence**: As children improve their skills, their confidence grows.
- **Sportsmanship**: Soccer teaches children the value of sportsmanship and fair play.
- **Skill Development**: Soccer helps develop various skills such as dribbling, passing, and shooting.
- **Endurance**: Playing soccer can be physically demanding, helping build endurance.

If you’re interested in finding a local soccer club, check with your local recreation center or visit the AYSO website for more information.

See SOCCER on 7B
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Treat your mom to a Personalized Elemental DODOCase for her iPad, and she’ll be the toast of her book club. $31.98

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**PERSONALIZED FAMILY PILLOW**
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**MALDIVES NECKLACE**
Statement necklaces are the must-have accessory now, so if your mother is looking to freshen up her wardrobe, a bold necklace would be a welcome addition. $118.00

**ATLAS 150 ALUMINUM PASTA MAKER**
Built to last from chrome-plated steel and made versatile with an assortment of attachments to make different types of noodles, this pasta maker should be a fixture in your mom’s kitchen for years to come. $69.95

**PERSONALIZED ELEMENTAL DODOCASE**
Treat your mom to a Personalized Elemental DODOCase for her iPad, and she’ll be the toast of her book club. $31.98

**GROSCHE WATER INFUSER**
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**NIKE FREE 5.0+ RUNNING SHOES**
A new pair of running shoes is a no-brainer if your mom is active. The Nike Free 5.0+ shoes feature flexible rubber soles, one-piece, lightweight mesh uppers and a fit that’s like wearing a second skin. They’re available in several colors to match your mom’s favorite running outfit, and with each step she takes, her feet will be thanking you. $75.00

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What is your favorite sport and why?

Question asked to third-graders at Torrey Hill Intermediate School

“Softball, because it is fun when you pitch. I have played four years.” — Camryn McMillan

“Football. It is fun to score touchdowns.” — Joshua Wright

“Football. I have played flag football one year.” — Max Horn

“Dance. I have done ballet for six years, jazz for three, tap for four and hip hop for one.” — Gracie Spezia

“Waterskiing. I go to the Silver Lake Ski Club. This is my first year.” — Molly Webster

“Hockey, it’s fun to watch. I am signing up to play this year.” — Nolan Shroeder

White Can Collection set for this weekend

Members accepting donations at Walmart, VG’s

The Fenton Lions Club is once again gearing up for its annual White Can Collection weekend. It will take place from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. this Saturday and Sunday. Members will be at Walmart, VG’s on North LeRoy Street and VG’s on Silver Parkway. They are looking for a record collection year, with collections averaging $3,500 per year. It will be difficult to surpass 2006, when they collected $4,900, but members are up to the challenge.

“One hundred percent of the proceeds go back in the community,” said Lion Doug Storrs. “We are out there no matter the weather!”

Proceeds support projects like purchasing eyeglasses for those in financial need, scholarships to Fenton and Lake Fenton High School seniors ($1,000 each), and providing transportation for area visually impaired. They also support child vision screenings, purchasing products that will help the visually impaired, and donating to the Leader Dog School in Rochester.

“The Fenton Lions are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, and we have been collecting for White Can every one of those years,” said Lion Dick Lynch. Lion Mary Ann Brostek said that for two years in a row, they have received an anonymous donation of a $100 bill in our buckets. She said they are fortunate to have unique collection buckets made out of white canes, which were made and donated to the club by Lion Dave Windsor, with help from Lion Bill Boyd.

“It’s a lot of work, but worth it,” said Windsor.

“Our annual collection for White Cane in the local community gives us a true feeling of pride and satisfaction knowing the many local, regional and national groups benefiting from our support. It wouldn’t be possible without everyone’s support and hard work,” said President Dave Dipka.

If you or someone you know would like to reach out to the community through a volunteer organization, please consider the Lions. Call 810-354-5610 to find out more.
How seniors can guard against robocall scams

Dear Savvy Senior,

Is there anything that can be done to stop the annoying robocalls by my husband and I keep getting? It seems like we get two or three a day offering lower credit card interest rates, medical alert devices, home alarm systems and more. What can you recommend?

— Frustrated Seniors

Dear Frustrated,

There’s been a huge spike in robocall scams in the U.S. over the past few years. In fact, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) gets more than 200,000 complaints every month about this widespread problem. Here’s what you should know, along with some tips that can help you protect yourself.

ROBOCALL SCAMS

Whenever you answer the phone and hear a recorded message instead of a live person, it’s a robocall.

You’ve probably gotten robocalls about candidates running for office, or charities asking for donations. These robocalls are legal and allowed. But if the recording is a sales message and you haven’t given your written permission to get calls from the company on the other end, the call is illegal. In addition to the phone calls being illegal, their pitch most likely is a scam.

Some common robocall scams that are making the rounds these days are offering lower credit card interest rates, mortgage relief, free vacations, medical alert devices, or home security systems, or they falsely notify you about changes in your health benefits or bank account. But be aware that new scams are constantly evolving, and they all have only one goal in mind— to get your personal and financial information.

The reason for the spike in robocalls is technology. Fraudulent robocallers are using autodialers that can send out thousands of phone calls every minute for an incredibly low cost, and are very difficult to trace. When these kinds of calls come in, your caller ID usually displays “spoofed” (fake) numbers, or just says “unknown.”

PROTECT YOURSELF

Your first step to limiting at least some unwanted calls is to make sure your phone number is registered with the National Do Not Call Registry (see donotcall.gov or call 888-382-1222). This, however, will not stop telemarketing scams or illegal robocalls.

Another tip, if you have a caller ID, is to simply not answer the phone unless you recognize the number. But if you do answer and it’s a robocall, you should just hang up the phone.

Don’t press 1 to speak to a live operator and don’t press any other number to complain about the call or get your number off the list. If you respond by pressing any number, you’re signaling that the autodialer has reached a live number and will probably lead to more robocalls.

You should also consider contacting your phone provider to ask them to block the number, and whether they charge for that service. But keep in mind that telemarketers change caller ID information easily and often, so it might not be worth paying a fee to block a number that will change.

Another call blocking option you should check into is Nomorobo. This is a free new service and works only for people who have an Internet-based VoIP phone service. Anyone with phone service from Comcast and Time Warner Cable can use it too. Nomorobo uses a “simultaneous ring” service that detects and blocks robocalls on a call list of known offender numbers. It isn’t 100 percent foolproof, but it is an extra layer of protection. To sign up, or see if Nomorobo works with your phone service provider, visit Nomorobo.com.

It’s also important that you report illegal robocalls you receive to the FTC at ftc.com/complaintassistant.gov or call 888-382-1222.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73067, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.
Praise pays

A retired businessman once told me how damaging negative comments could be to a committee evaluating people for different levels of employment. He said the first evaluation usually proved to be the most important. If the speaker contributed even a few words of praise about the person being considered, the other committee members would often also make positive observations. On the other hand, if the first comment was critical, those that followed would generally be the same.

Consider the losses in life when praise is missing from personal relationships. A wife keeps her house in order for years and hears few words of praise. Her husband seldom takes her in his arms to whisper words of love and appreciation, then wonders why she’s unhappy.

A husband and father labors hard to provide for his family. Finally, after life is past, people gather at his funeral to talk about how faithful he had been. Some of these kind comments, made in time, could have built his confidence. A few words of praise might have even extended his life.

A family works faithfully in their church, serving on the board or various committees, singing in the choir or using their talents in other areas. Then one day they are gone, having decided to try another church.

Diagnosis? Discouragement! They concluded no one cared.

While it’s true that all service for the Lord should be its own reward, we’re all human enough to appreciate encouraging words from others. Praising God should be the highest priority in life.

The Psalmist declared, “I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth” (Psalm 34:1).

C.H. Spurgeon, the highly regarded 19th century English minister and writer, said we ought to praise God more and blame neighbors less. These practices naturally follow each other: as we give ourselves to thoughts and words of praise, we’ll be less likely to blame others for our difficulties.

David’s resolution to praise God continually is the Old Testament verbalization of Paul’s call to fill our minds with things that produce praise (Philippians 4:8).

A.W. Tozer, the noted author of numerous worship classics wrote: “Now as a cure for the sour faultfinding attitude, I recommend the cultivation of the habit of thankfulness. Thankgiving has great curative power. The heart that is constantly overflowing with gratitude will be safe from those attacks of resentfulness and gloom that bother so many religious persons. A thankful heart cannot be cynical.” Praise pays. In praising God, we brighten every day. And in praising people, we help weary ones along their way.

Roger Campbell is an author, a broadcaster and columnist who was a pastor for 22 years. He can be reached at rcministry@ameritech.net.
Krystina Packard, director of the Little Kritters Soccer Club leads the children in activities to get them moving and interacting with each other, and their soccer ball.

SOCcer

Continued From Page 1B

“It’s a family event with a full day of soccer and a way to make our communities more aware of AYSO,” said Allison Metz, administrator/board member for local AYSO Tri-County Region 417. She also works with the kids as a coach.

Local youths interested in playing soccer can start between the ages of 2 and 6 in the Little Kritters Soccer Club, which offers both outdoor programs at Deer Run, as well as on-site programs at local day care and preschool facilities. “Kids can learn soccer easily, as soon as they’re able to run and kick a ball,” said Little Kritters director Krystina Packard.

Once they get past the age level of play at Little Kritters, they progress to AYSO, where they can play recreationally through high school. “It’s the ultimate developmental sport,” said Metz. “Kids are constantly moving as they’re taking the ball down the field. It’s also very family-friendly, with kids and parents being at the same place at the same time.”

One soccer parent added that the sport’s requirement of continuous “on the fly” decision-making out in the field is a great preparation for real-life.

Soccer is also a very affordable sport, especially compared to other competitive team sports with huge price tags. A registration fee at the beginning of the season covers the cost of both spring and fall play, plus the expense of an AYSO-specific jersey, at about $24-$30.

For kids desiring more competitive play, the FC Bolton Soccer Club offers a year-round program beginning at age 8 through high school. A premier travel soccer club, FC Bolton offers professional coaching, equipment and quality competition.

A four-week FC Bolton Spring Youth Academy helps prepare youths for the rigor of more competitive travel play.

Whether kids play for fun or for competition, it’s clear that soccer is here to stay, as more and more kids and families look for a lifetime sport to enjoy.
Anytime Fitness
New owners at Fenton fitness facility

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8262

Fenton, get ready, new owners at the Anytime Fitness location at 1145 North LeRoy St. have pumped up this local franchise with a clean, re-energized attitude.

Ted and Kelly Rickabus purchased Fenton’s Anytime Fitness location a month ago, and have already attracted dozens of new members with hands-on attention. “We spend a lot of time in our clubs, working with members and making sure our facilities are clean and well cared for,” said Kelly. In addition to owning the Fenton location, the Rickabus family also owns Anytime Fitness in Oxford and north Clarkston. It’s truly a family affair, with Kelly’s parents, Don and Armene Walsh, regularly working at the new Fenton location.

The Grand Opening is set for this Saturday, May 3, inviting new members to sign up that day with zero money down and the first month free. A May Special will follow, inviting new members to join for $10 down and the first month free. All members have access to Anytime Fitness 24/7, including locations in other cities, states and countries.

For Kelly, her pride in Anytime Fitness ownership comes from her own personal journey in health and wellness seven years ago, when she lost 60 pounds working out with a personal trainer. She became a trainer herself and is now committed to helping others achieve their own personal health goals.

“I love the people — the members and our staff,” said Kelly. “We offer a great family atmosphere, with lots of energy and support. We want to be your hometown gym.”

For more information, call Fenton’s Anytime Fitness at (810) 750-1149.

Kelly Rickabus and her husband, Ted, are the new owners of Anytime Fitness in Fenton.

Maryann McConnell
Pre-planning Specialist

Paula Androsky
Pre-planning Specialist

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If you should die, your family would face some important decisions concerning the funeral. The strain of such a great loss could make it especially difficult for them. You can give your family the guidance they would need by planning the details of the funeral in advance.

We believe in the advantages of pre-planning so much, we even honor pre-arrangements made at other funeral homes. You can transfer your arrangements without losing any benefits. In fact, we will most likely be able to offer you more.

If you would like more information, don’t hesitate to contact us. One of our prearrangement specialists would be happy to discuss preplanning with you. Feel free to call or stop by anytime.

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Carolyn Burch of Holly shot this wild turkey gobbler at 6:45 a.m. on April 25 in Holly. It weighed in at 21.5 pounds and had a 10.5-inch beard. This was Burch’s second turkey in two years.

The Tri-County Times wants to give our readers the chance to show off their trophies they get this season. If you have a turkey worth showing off, snap a photo and bring it in or mail it to the Times office.
Are you a first-time homebuyer?

There are many things to consider beyond a down payment and mortgage.

By Sally Rummel
news@ltctimes.com; 810-629-8282

There’s a lot more to buying a home than saving up a down payment and being able to afford a monthly mortgage.

Even with an affordable monthly mortgage payment, there are many other resources — both time and finances — that need to be considered.

That’s not meant to discourage a first-time homebuyer. In fact, it’s an ideal time to buy a home, with low interest rates, government loans available to help with down payments and closing costs, etc.

“A young person can often buy a home cheaper than they can rent,” said Kim Rinks, a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Professionals in Fenton. “Loans like the Rural Development Loan are fairly easy to obtain, allowing a young person to come in with zero down and lower PMI (private mortgage insurance). It’s a great program.”

Steve Melchor, a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services in Fenton, suggests prospective buyers check with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, which helps finance the down payment and closing costs for eligible borrowers. “If you’ve got a credit score of at least 640 (or 660, this program may work for you),” said Melchor.

Federal Housing Administration (FHA) loans, while more expensive in 2014, are still available to qualifying borrowers, especially those who can’t qualify for a conventional mortgage. Borrowers with credit scores of at least 580 can qualify for an FHA loan with a down payment of just 3.5 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

With so many different mortgage options available, it’s important for a homebuyer of any age to choose their lender carefully.

“With many offers contingent on a buyer selling their home first, a real estate transaction can have a ‘domino effect’ that can start to back up the whole process,” said Realtor John Wentworth, of REMAX Platinum. “It’s very important that a buyer is pre-qualified properly, and ahead of time.”

To select the right lender? “Select the right Realtor,” said Wentworth. “We choose the lenders who’ll make the process as painless as possible for everyone concerned.”

If you or someone in your family is in the market to purchase a home for the first time in the tri-county area, make sure you’re not making any of the common “mistakes” listed here.

Mistake #1:
There’s more to buying a home than just a mortgage. That monthly payment is only one portion of the expense of a home. Don’t forget property insurance, taxes, homeowners association dues, maintenance and higher electric and water bills. Ideally, you should plan to live in that house for five to seven years, to make it economically feasible for you.

Mistake #2:
Looking for a home first, and a loan later. Home buying doesn’t begin with home searching; it begins with mortgage pre-qualification, unless you’re lucky enough to pay cash for your first house.

Mistake #3:
Not getting professional help. You’ll need a reputable Realtor, an experienced loan officer and perhaps a lawyer. Most real estate experts suggest that homebuyers find a buyers’ agent to help them. Since you are about to make your largest single investment of your lifetime, it’s important that it’s done right.

Mistake #4:
Exhausting your entire savings on the down payment. Everyone needs to have a rainy-day fund, even if it means putting down less than 20 percent on a conventional mortgage and having to pay for private mortgage insurance.

Mistake #5:
You finance furniture or a car before your closing date. Don’t celebrate the upcoming deal by financing any large purchase. In this tight lending environment, lenders pull credit reports before closing to make sure the borrower’s financial situation hasn’t changed since the loan was approved. Any new loans on the credit report can jeopardize the closing.

Source: Bankrate.com

Before getting their hopes set on a particular home, first-time homebuyers are advised to get pre-qualified for a mortgage by a certified lender in order to determine what price range they should stay within.

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**5 mistakes not to make if you are a first-time homebuyer**
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during the closing of

Congratulations to Patty and Sean Africa on the closing of their home!
To rent or to buy?

Sometimes renting is the wisest option

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

While buying a home is a win-win in today’s upbeat real estate economy, it’s not the right move for everyone needing a place to live.

Rental: A home makes more financial sense than buying in many situations. For example:
- Young people without enough money for a down payment for a house, who also need experience in home maintenance before making a leap to home ownership.
- Good people who have had bad things happen to them may need to rent while they repair their credit for another chance at home ownership.
- Temporary work situations, such as resident doctors moving into the area for a limited amount of time.
- “Rentals are huge in the Fenton area,” said Mark Goldsworthy, of Legacy Realty in Fenton. “Not everyone wants to live in an apartment, so there are strong reasons to look at renting a single family home, a condo or duplex.”

Goldsworthy, 57, wears two hats in the real estate business: one as a listing Realtor and the other as a full-service property manager with his own company, Rental Solutions, LLC, which works under the brokerage of Legacy Realty.

Property management is a unique niche in the real estate market, as many Realtors shy away from rental transactions, which aren’t as lucrative as buying and selling. They also require a unique skill set of tenant relationships and long-term maintenance.

“Rentals are passionate about property management,” said Goldsworthy, who opened his own company about three years ago. “It’s all about building relationships with people on both sides, the tenant and the owner. It’s very gratifying to help people out, especially those who find themselves needing a second chance in life.”

Goldsworthy handles property management in two different ways:
- Marketing, advertising, tenant background checks, showing properties to prospective tenants — charging the owner half of the first month’s rent for his services of finding a reliable, responsible tenant.
- Month-to-month maintenance and tenant relationships, from preventative maintenance of the property to collecting checks from tenants, etc. — charging the property owner a percentage of the month’s rent for his ongoing services.

Goldsworthy has earned himself enough clients, mostly investors or homeowners who use his services to build strong tenant/owner relationships that about 80 percent of his work at Legacy Realty is in property management.

“It’s a unique field in the tri-county area,” said Goldsworthy. “Not many people do what I do here.”

PREMIUM PROPERTIES! THEY WON’T LAST LONG!

EQUESTRIAN ESTATE

Tyneee Township — 4 bedroom, 3 bath contemporary home. Main floor includes kitchen, formal living room, dining room, sun room, 3 bedrooms; and 2 full baths. Main floor master suite with walk in closet dressing room and huge master bath. Walk out of the lower level family room to an in ground, 150 x 80 Outdoor arena with sand footing, clay foundation. Large family room, fireplace, hot tub room, full bath, bedroom, a full western and multiple storage areas. Equestrian Estate includes a 56X72 horse/pole barn with 9 matted stalls, tack room and a heated wash rack. Individual living room over stalls. 150 x 80 Outdoor arena with sized footing, clay foundation and a French dressing system. Grounds include 17 acres of pasture, 3 acres of lawn and 11 acres of woods. A MUG Pila in Sam Hill Residents and Consumers Energy have an agreement to bring natural gas to residents in Fall of 2015. Maturated Seller $899,000.

A PERFECT 10

Harford - 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Over 3 acres surrounded by mature pine trees planted for privacy. A wrap around porch with covered siding area, ceiling fan and lighting. Beautiful kitchen recently updated with granite countertops, slate floors and a breakfast area with fantastic views. The great room includes a fireplace with a marble surround, hardwood floors that flow into the foyer and formal dining room. First floor spacious master bedroom with large master bath including shower and jetted tub. Full finished basement with recreation room and fireplace and four bedroom. Merton pole barn with porch, 30x30 electric and ready for gas furnace. Whole house generator included. $397,000.

ARGENTINE TWP

Argentina — 3206 sq ft currently used to operate coin laundry. Front automatic operating doors makes entry easy. Two handicapped accessible bathrooms, office and plenty of storage. Rent entry and parking as well. 3 phone electricity, special water systems and boiler. Laundry related equipment sold separately. Front 1050 sq ft space currently rented as an office. Perfect for office space. Two additional handicap accessible bathrooms in front area as well as separate heating and cooling system from coin laundry. Let your imagination run wild to transform this quality building. Property has water frontage on Lobdell Lake. $499,000.

A BIG CHANGE HAS COME!

David Goldstein & Denise Rothley

• Over 20 years experience in the community
• Vacant land Specialists
• Commercial, Retail, and Industrial Sales
• Specialty Residential and Farms

TRI-COUNTY TIMES - SALLY RUMMEL

Property manager/Realtor Mark Goldsworthy puts a FOR RENT sign on a condo at Fenton Commons.

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When planning your new home, be sure to convey your likes and lifestyle to your architect or designer so that your home will reflect your family’s personality.

Latest trends in new homes

We are all as different and unique as our fingerprints, and your dream home should fit you like a glove. Take your time and shop the market for all the perks and perfections that your new-construction home buying budget can buy.

GOING GREEN AND SAVE MONEY

The buzz word today is “green,” and the finer newly constructed houses have mastered this art to perfection.

Energy-saving home features include alternative energy resources that not only protect the environment but also keep the utility costs down. Solar paneling and wind generation power along with a combination of other money-saving strategies are perks found in some modern neighborhoods.

Ask your builder to double-up on the insulation, add extra rubber stripping beneath the doors and opt for advanced windows to keep the air temperature comfortable.

CREATURE COMFORTS

Let builders entertain you with a variety of media perks to woo and court the fussiest buyer.

Home theater rooms are no longer a luxury, but rather are becoming the norm. In addition, built-in sophisticated security systems add a special touch to set the property apart from the pack.

Not to be neglected is the outdoor living space that when carefully planned can bring a backyard entertaining area with or without a pool.

KITCHENS AND COMMON AREAS

A wide and easy-access kitchen is one of the first things a buyer will evaluate about the property. This is not simply an issue for the cook in the family, as everybody in the household is going to spend a considerable amount of time at the kitchen table.

The counter space may be granite, tile or laminate, just as long as there is plenty of it. Extra outlets are appreciated, and deep closet or pantry shelves mean serious storage capacity.

NEVER SETTLE FOR LESS

When purchasing a new construction home or building your own dream home from scratch, be sure to factor in the key components that make your house a home. Whether you are searching for 1,200 square feet or several thousand square feet of sumptuous living space, the layout and design should reflect your lifestyle.

In today’s competitive market, the buyers get what they want instead of taking what they get. The right home for you will have that special look and feel that delivers a custom fit for flow, design and practicality. Traditional home construction has its place with style, grace and aesthetic beauty, but those older homes sometimes fail to meet the needs of today’s savvy buyers.

STAGING

Continued from Page 12B

Let the sun shine in. Replace heavy drapes with something light and airy, or do without window treatments if there is a lovely view. Other tips: if windows are narrow, extend curtain rods a foot or so on each side to suggest width, or hang rods at the ceiling line to create the illusion of height.

Light the way. Great lighting makes rooms look open and welcoming. To make your home more inviting, increase the wattage in your lamps and fixtures. Aim for a total of 100 watts for every 50 square feet. Install dimmer to vary light levels according to your mood and time of day.

Make a splash with color. Add to your neutral palette by thinking beyond beige to grays, honey tans, even soft blue-greens. Don’t shy away from deep colors in a powder room, dining room or bedroom.

Bring the outdoors in. Pricy flowers and arrangements are beautiful, but you can also raid your yard for clippings of branches or twigs, put them in a large vase to add height. You can also incorporate seasonal greenery, from fern fronds to blazing fall leaves, airy feather grass plumes, etc.

Source: frontdoor.com

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3396 Horrell Ct., Fenton
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OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 3rd 1PM-3PM
13584 S. Horrell Rd., Gaines
Lakefront with panoramic views of Squaw Lake. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2000 sq ft. 2 car garage stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, heated bathroom floor. $326,900

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 3rd 1PM-3PM
13029 Lia Ct., Linden
5 bedroom home with huge master bedroom, walk in closet and master bath. Large kitchen featuring quartz countertops, large custom stamped patio, three car garage and shed. $258,500

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 3rd 1PM-3PM
3939 Faussett Rd., Grand Blanc
Large 2 bedroom condo. Fresh paint, new carpet, 3rd floor great room, 2nd floor laundry. All appliances stay. Close to expressway. Move-in ready and waiting for you! $113,700

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 3rd 1PM-3PM
10040 Wilson St., Grand Blanc
Schoole Beautiful 2 bedroom condo. Fresh paint, new carpet, 3rd floor great room, 2nd floor laundry. All appliances stay. Close to expressway. Move-in ready and waiting for you! $113,700

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13075 Gage Rd., Owosso
Beautiful 3 bedroom ranch on 5 acres. Ranch, 1284 sq ft. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Finished walkout basement. Fully landscaped. Perfect for same or 2 families. $219,000

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 3rd 1PM-3PM
2437 Davis Rd., Fenton
Charming 3 bedroom cottage on property you can expand and enjoy the best view on the lake. Bedroom available for an additional $100,000. $320,000

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 3rd 1PM-3PM
305 Rockwell, Fenton
Charming 3 story historic home in Fenton. Completely updated. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, first floor laundry, office. Loads of character. Stop by and see what this home has to offer. $149,800

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Position for agricultural, industrial & consumer product dealership, prior experience required. Competitive benefits & pay include insurance, 401(k), dental & vacations. Will consider current technicians for the position.

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With valid PA and 7F certificates to work in the Fenton area. Pay is $12.50/hr. Call 810-714-5900.

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V-8, 318 engine, 139,000 miles. Nice for restoration. $1,500. 248-634-9434.

**Linden Nice 2 Bedroom**


**Linden - One and Two Bedrooms**

Close to park and lake. Heat included. $525-$625 per month. 810-692-4957.

**Langston Plan 42-027**

If the Langston looks magical to you, you’re not alone. The steep roof and gingerbread trim on this Victorian cottage evokes memories of fairy tales. While its footprint is small, this home offers more than 1500 sq. ft. of living area on three levels. Dining room, kitchen and an expansive vaulted living room are on the main floor. The owners’ suite is upstairs, along with a large storage area and a walk-out lower level. The living room utilities are in the basement, which could also accommodate another bedroom. Diamond-shaped grids adorn the glassed window in the front door. A slender, similarly gridded window nestles under a tiny street-facing gable. This mini gable echoes the eye-catching two-story A-shaped gable next to it.
A Look back at the TOP 10 SONGS

Week of May 6, 1978

As determined by Billboard

1. Night Fever - Bee Gees
2. If I Can’t Have You - Yvonne Elliman
3. Can’t Smile Without You - Barry Manilow
4. The Closer I Get To You - Roberta Flack & Donny Hathaway
5. With A Little Luck - Wings
6. Too Much Too Little Too Late - Johnny Mathis & Denise Williams
7. You’re The One That I Want - John Travolta & Olivia Newton-John
8. Lay Down Sally - Eric Clapton
9. Dust In The Wind - Kansas
10. Count On Me - Jefferson Starship

TOP 10 SONGS

KING FEATURES

SuperCrossword

ACROSS
1. Locust of the Taj Mahal - Ray Charles
5. Luggage tag - Ted Williams
8. Vietnam War - offensive - Vietnam - Vietnam War
11. Crucified - music - The Beatles
12. Urgo (org) - Urgo
14. Lot out the secret - Lot
16. Turn loose on the hogg - Turn
19. Whackin’ stuff - Whack
23. Cored grain big enough to be seen? - Cored
25. Girl on the Andy Griffith Show - Girl
27. You've got... - You
28. Aunt of under Aber - Aunt
29. Lunatics on the schedule? - Lunatics
31. Consoling command - Consoling
34. Buckets - Buckets
36. Running line - Running
37. Joy killer by a warthog? - Joy
39. Bashful - Bashful
40. Rock in the hood - Rock
41. Traffic signs - Traffic
42. Keep (en) - kept

DOWN

1. Corporate shuffle, for short - Corporate
2. Comfy - Comfy
4. Chained attempt at a phone call - Chained
5. "Illeg" guy in a scrubber - "Illeg"
6. Start for history - Start
9. What am I - What
10. Fiddle - Fiddle
11. Lore, to - Lore
12. Army ginnings - Army
13. With 11- Down, army affirmative - With
14. Fulfilling corporation division? - Fulfilling
15. Prince in Dennis' - Prince
16. In where spikers are extracted - In
17. Move hastily - Move
18. "Loo" - "Loo"
19. 1883 Woody Allen film note - 1883 Woody Allen film note
20. Princess in Disney's - Princess
21. "Seals" band - "Seals"
22. Old Roman arena fighter - Old Roman arena fighter
23. Very special goody - Very special goody
24. "Lord" (Roy) - "Lord"
26. Delinquent - Delinquent
27. Encountered again - Encountered again
28. Mind - Mind
29. Old Thaieland - Old Thaieland
30. Office fill in - Office fill in
31. His - His
32. Avian homes - Avian homes
33. The - the
34. Power plant isle - Power plant isle
35. Fist - Fist
36. Substitute brand - Substitute brand
37. Noble horse - Noble horse
38. Get a total - Get a total
39. Ohio county - Ohio county
40. Filmaker - Filmaker
41. 72 of these - 72 of these
42. Zion in on - Zion in on
43. Nothing but - Nothing but
44. Actor Sams - Actor Sams
45. Livid cows - Livid cows
46. 56 prior - 56 prior
47. Need after a separation - Need after a separation
48. Uęperead (Jedro) - Uęperead (Jedro)
49. One (using detector) - One (using detector)
50. Back (in) - Back (in)
51. Light up, postally - Light up, postally
52. Holy song - Holy song
53. Mix of metals - Mix of metals
54. 101, Abandonings - 101, Abandonings
55. "Hoot, " hoots - "Hoot, " hoots
56. 104 USA grad. - 104 USA grad.
57. Mangled dog - Mangled dog
58. "In" (really "in") - "In" (really "in")
59. 111 65 - 111 65
60. 115 Across - 115 Across
61. 116 66 - 116 66

SUNDAY JUMBLE ANSWERS

Jumbles:

1. PLEA - FER - DEAR - FET - GRAB - MATE
2. YES - OLD - FRAG - EM - GRAB - FATE

SUNDAY JUMBLE ANSWERS

SUNDAY JUMBLE ANSWERS

King Crossword, Wednesday Jumble, Wednesday Sudoku puzzles are located in last Wednesday's issue. All other puzzles are throughout this edition.

FREE - SCRAP

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES PHOTOS

Any staff photo published in the Tri-County Times can be purchased by calling 810-433-6797.

NOTICE "TO ALL OWNERS, AGENTS OR OCCUPANTS OF LAND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF HOLLADY:

Notice is hereby given that after May 15 of this year the provisions of Holly Townships Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Article VI, Noxious Weed Ordinance will be enforced.

No owner of any parcel of land within the township or the occupant or agent of such owner shall permit on such parcel of land or upon any sidewalk abutting the same, or upon that portion of any street or alley adjacent to the same between the property line and the curb or traveled portion of such street or alley, any growth of weeds, grass or other rank vegetation to a greater height than six inches on the average, or any accumulation of dead weeds, grass or brush. No such owner or agent shall permit on such land poison ivy, ragweed or any other poisonous, noxious or unhealthful growths.

If after May 1st an owner, agent or occupant has failed to cut or cause such noxious weeds to be destroyed it shall be the duty of the commissioner to abate the nuisance, either utilizing township employees or private contractors which may enter upon such land and destroy by cutting, with or without mechanical equipment, any such weeds and all expenses incurred in such destruction shall be paid by the owner of such land. The township shall have a lien upon land for such expense, to be enforced in the manner prescribed by the general laws of the state providing for the enforcement of tax liens.

(d) Means of abatement.

If an owner, agent or occupant has failed to cut or cause such noxious weeds to be destroyed after receiving notice as herebefore provided in subsection 6(b), it shall be the duty of the commissioner to abate the nuisance, either utilizing township employees or private contractors which may enter upon such land and destroy by cutting, with or without mechanical equipment, any such weeds and all expenses incurred in such destruction shall be paid by the owner of such land. The township shall have a lien upon land for such expense, to be enforced in the manner prescribed by the general laws of the state providing for the enforcement of tax liens.

(e) Exclusions. This Article does not apply to weeds in unimproved lands, designated open space, open fields or fields devoted to growing small crops such as wheat, oats, barley, or rye. In the case of an easement or public property such as a forest preserve, and all other land as to which definite ownership is not known to the commissioner and cannot be established the county board of commissioners shall cause the destruction of noxious weeds in accordance with Public Act 359 of 1941.

Karin S. Winchester, Holly Township Clerk
Wonderful, unattractive friend finds love elusive

DEAR AMY: My husband’s best friend from work, Billy, is an amazing guy. He’s friendly, confident, funny, easy to talk to, nicely groomed and well-dressed, and is a warm, generous guy. We love him to death, but he can’t get a date. The problem is, he’s just physically unattractive. It’s not any one feature; it’s just sort of everything. He is also short. I’ve introduced him to every single woman I know. They like his personality and all agree that he’s a wonderful guy, but none of them can get past his looks. I know he’s tried every avenue he can think of — online dating, social groups, singles clubs, church groups — you name it. He knows he’s terribly lonely, and it eats at him to be constantly rejected. I think that it doesn’t help that he wants to have children. He would make a wonderful father! He’s 44. Is there any hope for him? — Sympathetic

DEAR SYMPATHETIC: ‘Billy’ might be looking for love in all the wrong places. Yes, he has looked everywhere he, you (or I) can imagine, but has he volunteered to be an after-school tutor (or coach) at the local Boys and Girls Club? Has he looked into being a foster father or a Big Brother? Would he like to try to adopt a child? What I’m getting at is if this wonderful guy would be a great dad, maybe he should cut out the middleman (or woman) and turn his search toward sharing his life with a child who will value attention, love and companionship as much as he does. Being a single man is no longer the impediment to fatherhood that it once was. As his biggest and most generous fan, maybe you should engage him in a conversation that could ultimately change his life. Start like this: ‘Billy, have you ever considered becoming a dad? If you’re interested, we’d love to help.’

DEAR AMY: My boyfriend and I have been together for 2-1/2 years. It was great the first year but now it seems like all we do is fight. It’s gotten to the point where we break things. Then back to the same. Is it crazy to stay with him? — Confused and in Love

DEAR CON芙USED: If your fighting is escalating and your peaceful times diminishing, you should separate in order to get a bead on what you really want, and see if you — and he — are both motivated and capable of committing to the hard work of changing (one person changing cannot fix this). A professional counselor can help.

Use offline Google Maps when traveling without wifi

Here’s how to save offline maps in Google Maps 2.0:
1. Launch the Maps app
2. Zoom in or zoom out the map screen so that the area you want
   That’s it. You should now be able to use
Google Maps for that area even without an internet connection. How-
ever, please note that searching for a location
or getting directions still can’t be initiated without an internet connection.

NEW DVD RELEASES

DVDs and movies recently released

LABOR DAY Labor Day centers on 13-year-old
Henry Wheeler, who struggles to be the
man of his house and care for his
reclusive mother Adele while confront-
ing all the pangs of adolescence.
On a back-to-school shopping trip,
Henry and his mother encounter Frank
Chambers, a man both intimidating
and clearly in need of help, who convinces them
to take him into their home and later is revealed to be
an escaped convict. The events of this long Labor
Day weekend will shape them for the rest of their
lives. PG-13, 1 hr. 50 min.
HEym FENTON,
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