

Fenton grad's video on Joe Smallbone going viral?

■ Over 4,300 YouTube views in just 48 hours

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Facebook exploded last week with a YouTube video about Fenton's most-famous eccentric, Joseph Milo Smallbone.

The piece, set to song and music, was created

by Bonnie (Caryl) Whitehurst, a 1973 graduate of Fenton High School. She now resides in Tarpon Springs, Florida, but says she keeps in touch with her class through Facebook.

"I wrote the song 'Joe Smallbones' in the 1990s and it is from a CD of original songs called 'Songs

See **SMALLBONE** on 15A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
SUBMITTED PHOTO

This photograph is the only known picture of Joe Smallbone. He is shown here at his 50th Fenton High School reunion.



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**2016 MODELS
COMING
TO AREA
DEALERSHIPS**

Weekend Times SUNDAY EDITION

\$1.00

VOL. 22 NO. XLII

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2015

2012 - 2013 - 2014 **NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR**

Candy used as bait

■ Unknown woman attempts to lure 12-year-old boy into car

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Holly police and the Michigan State Police are attempting to identify a woman suspected of trying to lure a boy into her vehicle in Holly Township. The incident took place shortly after 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 14 on Fagan Road, near Quick Road.

Holly Police Chief Michael Story said a 12-year-old boy was out running for practice for his track team. While he was running, a red four-door sedan stopped and a white female driver offered him candy in an attempt to lure him into the vehicle.

The boy immediately ran from the vehicle as fast as he could. He told police he was

See **CANDY** on 2A

SUMMARY

■ Police are attempting to locate an unknown woman who reportedly tried to lure a 12-year-old boy into her car with an offer of candy in Holly Township Wednesday afternoon.

Red Fox Outfitters aiming for Black Friday opening



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Just before carpet is laid, Dave Thompson of Lil' House of Carpet sweeps the upper floor of the Red Fox Outfitters building Wednesday morning, with Jason Fournier. The renovated beanery will house an outfitters store, with everything from running shoes to kayaks. Owners expect to be open by Black Friday. See story on Page 8A



Decreased enrollment at three local school districts

Local superintendents say the cause of declining student enrollment is the declining Michigan birth rate.

Page 6A



Local municipalities explain leaf pick-up programs

If it's not possible to mulch all of the leaves in the yard, local officials recommend bagging the leaves and placing them curbside.

Page 7A



Absentee ballots still available to Fenton voters who qualify

Fenton voters who qualify may cast an absentee ballot. Applications can be made in person, by telephone or via email.

Page 2A

TEXT
YOUR
HOT LINE
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“If I owned a body shop I would stock up on driver-side doors based on the new parking spots on Mill Street, at the post office. It is an accident waiting to happen, over and over.”



“Are there any municipal cameras on traffic lights in downtown Fenton? You know, the kind where they can mail you a ticket. If so, we should be able to lower taxes through revenue generated by the dozens of red light runners.”



“Most of the people commenting, or what you call complaining, in the Hot lines about the new garbage cans are seniors. My 89-year-old dad was wounded on the beaches of Normandy to save your sorry ass. That wound is what makes it difficult for him to haul a large trash can over 200 feet to the road. Show a little respect.”



COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“Looks to me like 'six shooter granny' is going away for a long time. So now the child has lost her mother due to child neglect, her father to being murdered by her grandmother and her grandmother to murdering her father. In the end, it's always the child who suffers.”

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CANDY

Continued from Front Page

concerned about his team and wanted to warn them. The boy told police that when he left, running north on Fagan Road, the red car took off in the opposite direction at a high rate of speed.

Story said the woman used the old "Want some candy?" offer to lure the boy.

The boy described the driver as a white female, with straight shoulder length brown hair. He believed she was in her 30s and had an average-size build. The woman was holding/using a pink e-cigarette.

The boy told his parents what happened when he returned home, and his mother had already been in contact with the track coach.

Michigan State Police were brought in to assist since they provide coverage for Holly Township, where the incident took place.

Anyone with information is asked to call Holly police at (248) 634-8221 or Michigan State Police-Groveland Post at (248) 634-4882.

Absentee ballots still available to Fenton voters who qualify

■ Don't miss out on voting Nov. 3

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Voters in the city of Fenton can now cast an absentee ballot, if they qualify.

In order to vote via an absentee ballot, voters must:

- be age 60 years or older,
- be unable to vote without assistance at the polls,
- expect to be out of town on election day,
- be in jail awaiting arraignment or trial,
- be unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons, or
- be appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of their precinct residence.

Absentee voter ballots can be mailed up to 2 p.m. on the Saturday prior to the election (Oct. 31). The Clerk's Office is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday

“A ballot cannot be given to anyone other than the voter.”

Renee Wilson
Fenton city clerk

preceding an election, said Renee Wilson, clerk for the city of Fenton.

On the Monday prior to the election (Nov. 2), voters can obtain an absentee ballot, but it must be voted in person at the clerk's office as the ballot cannot leave the office, and it can only be done until 4 p.m.

Identification is required when requesting an absentee ballot in person, or there is an affidavit that can be signed should someone not have their ID with them.

"A ballot cannot be given to anyone other than the voter," said Wilson.

A request for an absentee ballot application can be made via email, in person or by telephone.

Wilson said voters have up until the polls close at 8 p.m. on Election Day (Nov. 3) to return their completed absentee voter ballot and the ballot envelope must be signed in order to process the ballot.

The only decisions to be made locally are for the city of Fenton mayor and three city council members.

Mayor Sue Osborn is running for another two-year term

unopposed. Incumbent Councilman Les Bland and Councilwoman Pat Lockwood are seeking to be re-elected for another four years. They are joined by newcomers Cherie Smith and Nancy Draves, who also are vying for one of the three open seats. Councilwoman Cheryl King is not seeking re-election.

Fenton City Hall is at 301 South LeRoy St., Fenton. The telephone number is (810) 629-2261. Wilson's email is rwilson@cityoffenton.org.

SUMMARY

■ Fenton voters who qualify may cast an absentee ballot. Applications can be made in person, by telephone or via email.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE PERSON complaining how Planned Parenthood uses taxpayer dollars to go on trips, throw parties and pay salaries, I hope you have the same anger toward Wall Street. Your tax dollars also bailed them out. If you think they weren't doing the same thing, you are part of the problem.

■ ■ ■
FOR ALL THE inconveniences the people of Fenton are going through, it could be worse. Be patient.

■ ■ ■
TEN YEARS AGO the USA had Steve Jobs, Johnny Cash and Bob Hope. Now the USA has no Jobs, no Cash and no Hope.

■ ■ ■

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Dr. Kimberly Eustache, 28, is currently a physician in residence at Genesys Regional Medical Center. She's had to balance studying, working in the emergency room and decorating her new condo. This is the first home she's owned and she will be looking for window treatments next.

Living and loving Cornerstone condo lifestyle

■ First resident to move in to iconic downtown building settles in

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Every time Dr. Kimberly Eustache gets her nails done or meets someone new, she feels like a celebrity in town when she tells them where she lives.

Eustache, 28, a resident specializing in emergency medicine at Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc, was the very first occupant of the Cornerstone condominiums in downtown Fenton.

Originally from Haiti, she moved to the U.S. 10 years ago to finish college and attend medical school. She made

a two-day trip from her family's home in Ohio to find housing this past spring, and met with Realtor Ken Brant.

"Ken was extremely helpful and patient with me as a first-time homeowner. He brought me here and I instantly loved it," said Eustache, who purchased a two-bedroom, two-bathroom unit. She plans to live here through her residency program, then will likely keep the unit as an investment and lease it out.

"It was lonely at first," said Eustache, who moved in late June. "I couldn't wait for someone else to move in."

Eustache says it's the perfect lifestyle for her right downtown, with all the restaurants and shops. "I live

See **CORNERSTONE** on 11A

“It was lonely at first. I couldn't wait for someone else to move in.”

Dr. Kimberly Eustache

First resident of the Cornerstone condos



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Being very busy, along with the dust created by the Streetscape project, discouraged Eustache from using her balcony. She plans to use it more next spring.



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The Tri-County Times is published semi-weekly by Rockman Communications, 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton, Michigan 48430. We serve the communities of: Fenton, Linden, Lake Fenton, Holly, Hartland, Byron, Gaines, Davisburg, Swartz Creek and Grand Blanc and the townships of: Fenton, Holly, Rose, Tyrone and Argentine. We reserve the right to accept or refuse any content and/or advertising submissions.

HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday Closed



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Circulation 810-433-6797	Website tctimes.com

Random royal observations

■ **One of the biggest** issues in race relations is the divisive racial designation as either ‘black’ or ‘white.’ The core message of this racial branding is inherently divisive due to cultural attitudes historically associated with colors (angels and devils... etc). Wouldn’t it make far more sense, and be far more accurate, if we referred to each other as ‘browns’ and ‘pinks?’

■ **When Donald Trump** purchased and rebuilt Mar-A-Lago, an estate in Palm beach, Florida, he got into a dispute with the city. Trump had installed a 50-foot flagpole even though 30-foot is the maximum allowed. The City imposed a \$1,000 fine per day. When the fine had reached \$120,000 Trump proposed a



solution. He would donate that amount to a Veterans Organization, would move the flagpole to a different location and would only use a 30-foot flagpole. The city agreed and signed off on it. So Trump brought in the company that did his Golf course construction and had them build a 20-foot high grassy hill and put a 30-foot flagpole on top of that. It’s still up and flying today.

■ **Here is something** for the gun-control enthusiasts to consider that is 100 percent true, 100 percent of the time: When seconds count, police are minutes away.

■ **There are 11 states** where welfare programs pay more than the starting salary for a teacher. The states with the highest welfare payouts (I refuse to use the word

‘benefits’) are Hawaii, with payments equaling \$29.13 per hour based on a 40 hour week (that’s about \$60k a year), DC at \$24.43 per hour, Massachusetts at \$24.30, Connecticut at \$21.33, New York at \$21.01 per hour, New Jersey at \$20.89 per hour, Rhode Island at \$20.83 per hour and Vermont at \$20.36 per hour.

■ **Presidential debates** are an embarrassment to America. When some CNN fool recently asked the candidates, ‘What would your Secret Service name be if you were president,’ they insulted all of America. A candidate can have the most brilliant ideas in the world but nobody cares. You score far more votes with a witty one-liner than a credible plan to feed the hungry or make college affordable. Americans are becoming stupider every year.

■ **No one values** something they receive

“What some politicians really mean when they say ‘this country,’ is ‘my party.’”

for free. That’s why college should never, ever be free. If you want it bad enough, you will find a way to make it work through grants, scholarships and other programs — not handouts.

■ **Everyone bitches** about the ridiculous cost of college but no one ever points out that it is the liberal agenda that has fostered loony, vastly overpaid ‘professors’ who work the system for maximum gain, while teaching valueless classes such as ‘Tree climbing’ at Cornell University. Cost for one year at Cornell? \$64,182.

■ **You likely don’t** realize this, but it’s true. Whenever we meet anyone, our first, almost unconscious, reaction is to look for imperfections. There are no exceptions to this rule. Even the Pope does it.

Opinions offered in If I Were King are the author’s alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the King at king@tctimes.com. Some content adapted from the internet.

Hot lines

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

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

IT IS HUNTING season once again and it would be nice if hunters would properly dispose of the deer carcass, instead of throwing them in the ditch, on the side of the road. This action soils the image of the sport.

■ ■ ■

WHY IS IT that these Second Amendment gun nuts always forget the first part of the amendment? ‘A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state.’

■ ■ ■

PEOPLE NEED TO stop passing judgment. It’s not your job to do that because in the end you will be judged by God. There’s always two sides to every story; not just what you read or hear from others.

■ ■ ■

IN THE ‘CUT the cable’ article, two other methods were omitted. One is to use an antenna that will provide HD reception of all major networks and other stations. Second is to connect your PC or laptop to your TV with a HDMI connection, which allows viewing of many videos and movies from the internet. Both methods are cheap and easy.

■ ■ ■

WHAT IS AN elephant? That’s a horse designed by the Fenton City Council.

■ ■ ■

CURIOUS ABOUT THE mindset that throwing trash from your car is acceptable, as well as emptying your ashtray

in a parking lot when a trash can is 10 feet away. Everywhere you go, there is a trash-can. Use it.

■ ■ ■

CALLED GENESEE COUNTY Road Commission several times, left messages, no reply. Called Fenton Township Hall, left messages, no reply. Why do they have voicemail if they are not going to reply to my phone messages?

■ ■ ■

THE BEATLE ROOFTOP concert looked fun. Would have loved to attend. Always look forward to reading about what I missed.

■ ■ ■

WE JUST GOT our Fenton quarterly water bill. Used \$8.91 of water/sewer, \$0 unpaid balance. Total bill equals \$126.65. What’s wrong with this picture?

■ ■ ■

TO THE GOOD-hearted people who protested Planned Parenthood in Holly — do it more effectively. Their signs ‘Pray To End Abortion’ should be changed to ‘Do Not Vote Democrat.’ Without a need for Divine intervention and after a few elections, abortion on demand will be history — guaranteed.

■ ■ ■

HOW CAN ANYONE think it is OK to take a cigarette butt and simply throw it on the ground? And stay away from the entrance to restaurants. Last thing I want to smell after a meal is your exhaust.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

Readers write

Letters, 150 words or less must be signed and include a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and liability. Letters must be written exclusively for the Times.

Legacy of integrity and honest service

Dear editor,

Dewey’s is what local service should be. There are definite advantages of dealing locally and establishing regular customer relationships. Dewey Johnson, founder of Dewey’s Auto Center, left a legacy of integrity, honest service, and friendliness, which I have experienced for over 40 years from Dewey, then Norm, and now from Jerry Lesperance. Over the years, these men have advised me to take my car to dealerships for warranty work, or to more specialized garages, when Dewey’s could have been paid by this ‘clueless woman’ for doing the work themselves. While we were in Arizona, our neighbor reported our vehicle would not start. We called Dewey’s, and Jerry said he would pick up the vehicle from our home, do the required service, and return it to our garage before our return to Fenton — and didn’t ask for payment until we drove it and approved the work. Dewey’s is what small-town trust and service is all about!

— Judy and Max Hogan

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Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What’s your least favorite thing about humanity?

streettalk



“I feel our society lacks consideration and being considerate of another’s. Kindness goes a long way.”

— Donna McCarthy
Deerfield Township



“Being too connected to our cell phones. We’re so technically driven, we’ve forgotten how to talk to our friends.”

— Lindsay Maloney
Fenton



“People’s lack of understanding and acceptance of each other. Treating other people with kindness is more important than people recognize.”

— Angela Seyfried, Fenton



“It comes down to ignoring problems, just to turn a blind eye. I don’t know if it’s ignorance or not caring.”

— John Bourassa
Argentine Township



“Entitlement. I’m a teacher. Kids seem to think everything should come to them super easy.”

— Elisa Fixler
Fenton



“The killing of innocent people. That really disturbs me.”

— Nancy Nelson
Fenton

Police&Fire report

MOTORCYCLIST INJURED IN HEAD-ON CRASH, FACES CHARGES

A 72-year-old Fenton man faces charges after he crashed his 2008 Harley-Davidson motorcycle head-on into a Chevy at 7:40 p.m. on Oct. 10. Lt. Jason Slater said the motorcyclist was traveling southbound on Adelaide Street. He failed to negotiate the curves, crossed the centerline near Mill Street and hit the Chevy, driven by a 44-year-old Fenton man. A witness said the motorcyclist was traveling at a high rate of speed. Although he was wearing a helmet, the motorcyclist sustained facial injuries. Police suspected he had been drinking and had blood drawn after STAT EMS transported him to Genesys Health Park in Grand Blanc Township. Charges are pending. The driver of the Chevy was not injured and the Chevy and motorcycle were towed from the scene.

MAN WITH A GUN COMPLAINT

At 5 p.m. on Oct. 11, Fenton police responded to a parking lot at Owen and Silver Parkway to investigate a report of a man with a gun. A caller said they saw a man with a gun, arguing with a woman seated inside a car. The car sped away and the man began walking north on Silver Parkway. Police located the man, who initially provided them a false name. He was later identified as a 27-year-old Mt. Morris resident. Police recovered an air-soft gun from his waistband. Lt. Jason Slater said the orange tip of the gun had been cut off and the end was painted black. Apparently, the man and his girlfriend had gotten into an argument and when he exited her car, the gun fell to the ground. The man had a valid felony warrant and was turned over to the sheriff's department for arraignment on the warrant.

MAN FORGETS TO PAY FOR RAZORS

A 62-year-old Fenton man has a Dec. 7 court date for retail fraud. Lt. Jason Slater of the Fenton Police Department said police responded to a grocery store on Silver Parkway on Oct. 10 after learning that a loss prevention employee had a suspected shoplifter in custody. The employee told police that they saw the man conceal a package of razors in his sweater. The man then proceeded to pay \$131 for merchandise, but not the razors. Slater said the man told police the razors kept falling from his cart so he placed them in his sweater. He claimed he just forgot to pay for them.

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS



• Alpine Marketplace

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• Direct TV



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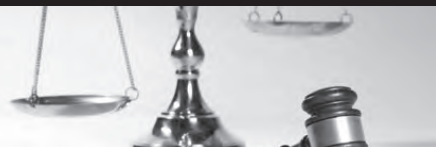


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Decreased enrollment at three local school districts

■ Holly only district to see slight increase

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton, Lake Fenton and Linden school districts saw a decrease in enrollment for the 2015-16 school year, while Holly has seen an increase.

HOLLY AREA SCHOOLS

Holly schools, with a current enrollment of 3,350 students this year, saw an increase of 17 students over the previous school year, according to Superintendent Dave Nuss.

"If the numbers hold, this will be the first time in many years our enrollment has increased year over year. It's exciting to

see enrollment stabilization for consistent budgeting and program offerings," Nuss said.

FENTON AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fenton Area Public Schools experienced a decrease in student enrollment. In October, 2014, the district had 3,395 students. This October the district has 3,380 students for a difference of 15 students district-wide, according to Interim Superintendent Doug Busch.

"The district budget was built conservatively to have a 50 student reduction from our fall 2014 count date," Busch said.

Since the budget was set accordingly, the school experienced a net positive of 35 students. The school receives \$7,391 per student from the state.

Between reducing staffing and program reductions, the district reduced expenses by \$1.3 million for this fiscal year.

District-wide, North Road Elementary and Fenton High School experienced the biggest disparities in numbers. North Road Elementary lost 37 students and Fenton High School gained 23.

Busch said the low birth rate in 2010 caused the drop in elementary students, and one section was dropped at North Road Elementary.

"Individual section adjustments were made at the high school," Busch said.

LAKE FENTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Lake Fenton schools currently have approximately 2,023 students, according to Superintendent Wayne Wright. This is the first decrease in a few years.

"Lake Fenton has had a growth in student population every year since the 2012-13 school year," Wright said. "This may be the first year we will see a slight decline as we had 2,035 students at this time last year."

The schools have 10 fewer kindergarten students this year, and there was a drop of eight students in the online consortium program with Oakland Intermediate School District, called the Virtual Learning Academy Consortium.

Wright said he used the birth rates to project that the student population would plateau last year.

"The student drop is not drastic for Lake Fenton," he said. The district receives

Declining birth rate

- Birth rate is an important factor in **student enrollment** numbers.
- According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, the birth rate has **declined 14 percent** since 2007, affecting schools statewide.
- The number **continues to decline**. In 2013, there were 112,486 live births, the lowest number of births in 69 years.
- The state's **fertility rate**, which is the number of births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 44, was 59.3 in 2013, as low as the rate was in 1900.
- The **teen birth rate** has gone down 29 percent since 2007, and while this has positive side effects, it also harms school systems' fiscal resources.
- Births to **women in their 20s and 30s** have also dropped 9 percent and 6 percent respectively.
- Births to **women ages 40 to 44** have also dropped 4 percent since 2007.

Source: Michigan Department of Community Health

\$7,445 per student. The school budgeted for 2,030 students based on previous numbers for the student population.

The district does not need to alter staffing.

LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Linden Community Schools experienced the most prominent decrease in student enrollment.

As of the fall count day this year, Oct. 7, Linden schools had approximately 2,835 students. Last year at count day, Linden schools had 2,859 students, which means the district saw a decrease of 24 students.

"We did anticipate a drop in students, and budgeted for the 2015-16 school year accordingly," Ciesielski said.

The Linden school district receives \$7,391 from the state for each student, which is less than last year.

"This does have an effect on our district," said Ciesielski. "We are projecting that the decrease in student enrollment will continue in the coming years, which in turn impacts the per pupil revenue that the state gives us. We will receive less."

“We are projecting that the decrease in student enrollment will continue in the coming years, which in turn impacts the per pupil revenue that the state gives us.”

Russ Ciesielski
Linden Area Public Schools
interim superintendent

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Know the rules before you bag or burn leaves

■Local municipalities explain leaf pick-up programs

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The smell of burning leaves comes as naturally as the changing colors in fall, but some local cities and townships prohibit or advise against burning leaves.

Starting a fire to get rid of leaves is an easy choice for many, but there are other options.

Besides mulching, local residents can put their leaves roadside to have them removed.

Republic Services serves Fenton Township, Linden and the city of Fenton with leaf removal.

LINDEN

Linden Mayor David Lossing said the city's contract with Republic for leaf and debris goes from the last snowfall in April or May until the end of November. Residents need to purchase the leaf disposal bags from area retailers and put them curbside on Fridays.

Bags can be bought at stores like Walmart, Target, Home Depot, and Linden True Value.

Burning is not allowed in the city of Linden.

FENTON TOWNSHIP

For those not mulching, Fenton Township residents must put the leaves into paper bags or receptacles labeled "Yard Waste" and they will be picked on residents' regular trash days April through November, according to Tom Broecker, operations manager and deputy clerk of Fenton Township.

It's illegal to burn grass clippings or leaves in a municipality with a population of 7,500 or more under Michigan law, unless the municipality adopts an ordinance stating otherwise. Fenton Township has not adopted any ordinances permitting the burning of leaves or grass clippings.

"It is illegal to burn grass clippings and leaves in Fenton Township under any circumstances," he said.

FENTON CITY

In the city of Fenton, burning leaves or grass clippings is prohibited, according to the city of Fenton Fire Prevention Code.

Open burning is not allowed in the city, except for permit-issued bonfires, and permit-issued fires for agriculture and wildlife purposes.

Yard waste will be collected by Republic Services on normal trash pickup days, according to the city of Fenton. The waste can be put into biodegradable Kraft bags or 30-gallon cans labeled "Yard Waste" or people can use their old trash cans labeled with "yard waste" stickers than can be obtained for free from city hall.

Twigs and branches smaller than 2 inches in diameter must be placed in bundles no bigger than 2-feet by 4-feet long or 50 pounds per bag. No tree trunks, stumps, or construction debris will be accepted.

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP

In Argentine, residents can burn leaves or participate in the yard waste collection program with Emterra Environmental USA, according to Argentine Township Clerk Denise Graves. Yard waste is collected every other Monday until November 30.

It must be in a clearly marked container or yard waste bag.

Burn permits can be obtained by calling the Argentine Fire Department at (810) 735-4911.

"We would encourage residents to take advantage of our yard waste pick-up rather than burn, due to neighbors who may have sensitivities to smoke from burning leaves," Graves said. Violating the burn ordinance is an offense with a fine up to \$500 and/or 90 days in county jail.

HOLLY TOWNSHIP

In Holly Township, it's illegal to burn leaves without a permit. Residents can call the North Oakland County Fire Authority at (248) 634-2620 to obtain a burn permit.

Republic Services does not service Holly Township for leaf removal. A resident's trash removal company may dispose of leaves as well as trash, but it depends on the service, according to the township.

HOLLY VILLAGE

The village of Holly also prohibits open burning. Republic Services picks up leaves in bags marked "Yard Waste" up until the last garbage pickup day in November.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

CHECK THE FACTS. The budget deficit has been decreasing since 2009, unemployment is at its lowest level since 2007, 17 million more people have health insurance with Obamacare, we are out of Iraq and Osama bin Laden is dead.

■■■■
A RECENT HOT line claimed the country has existed for over 400 years, which is wrong. Another Hot line states the original 13 colonies were established in 1776, also wrong. One of the reasons this country is doomed. First Colony, 1607. U.S. Independence, 1776.

■■■■
OUR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP gave Iran \$150 billion enabling Iran to buy aircraft from Boeing, a major political donor. Trade agreements are passed to benefit political donors and not Americans.

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Red Fox Outfitters hopes to be open by Black Friday

■ Exclusive tour reveals latest updates and renovations to historic building

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Fenton — Never before in the history of the Fenton retail community has a building evoked more emotion and memories than the new Red Fox Outfitters, opening soon in the historic beanery building downtown.

Now in the finishing stages of major renovations, Red Fox Outfitters should be open in time for Black Friday, Nov. 27, the day after Thanksgiving.

Kevin Rhoads of Rhoads & Johnson Construction is project manager for the entire renovation project.

The Times was allowed an early walk-through of the building, hosted by SkyPoint Ventures, to show readers how the vision of this new business is intricately tied to its history as a granary built in 1856. SkyPoint Ventures is the real estate/capital development arm of Phil and Joyce Hagerman of Fenton Township, who purchased the property last March.

“We’re obviously business owners,” said Jesse Anderson, who owns the business with Nick Brown. “But we’re interested in maintaining the personal connection the people in Fenton have in this building. We’re showcasing its history while running a business inside that allows us to keep this history going. This business will still be part of the economic fabric of the community as it has always been.”



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The main floor of Red Fox Outfitters will have a mix of new and old, with this contemporary light fixture, and a repurposed antique street sign.

The view from Silver Lake Road

The most impressive view of Red Fox Outfitters is when driving into Fenton from the east, as the giant glass window spanning two stories immediately comes into view.

You’ll also note the return of the building to its original color of red, taken from photographs of the building in its earliest years.

Landscaping is also adding another layer of curb appeal to the building, provided by Outdoor Living Lawn & Landscaping.

Through the front entrance

This portion of the building was added on in the 1940s, and had to be totally re-done. “It wasn’t structurally as sound as the rest of the building,” said Bryce Moe, of SkyPoint Ventures.

This front section will house the Patagonia showroom, featuring fleece and active outdoor apparel.

A brand new brick wall that looks 100 years old will provide a rustic backdrop on the south wall. An interesting feature is an original downtown Fenton street light that has been repurposed for use inside.

In addition to track lighting, warm amber spotlights emphasize the original wood dormers that connect the old and the new.

The center is the hub of the building

The showroom leads right into the center of the building where pillars have held up this structure for 160 years. From the pillars back, it’s the original structure from 1865, as historically accurate as the Michigan Bean Company scales that are still in place.

The retail counter and service area will be a community hub for information, brochures and a meeting area for running groups, fishing groups, paddle groups, etc. “People who are passionate about their sport are always looking for others who have the same passion,” said Anderson. “We want to be that hub, that connection.”

Running specialty shop and hiking

Runners will find in this next section of the store a dedicated area for their sport, including shoes by Brooks, Saucony, New Balance and more. There will also be

running apparel, mostly by Nike.

“We’ll also be getting into hiking and backpacking, with hiking shoes on display on the opposite side of the wall of running shoes,” said Anderson. “Look for brands like Merrell and Vasque (owned by Red Wing), plus associated accessories.”

Full-scale fishing specialty shop

The west end of the building provides a cozy ambiance for the sport of fishing, from spinning rods to heavy emphasis on fly fishing with products by Orvis. “We’ve created a cozy atmosphere for fly fishing with its own unique character,” said Anderson.

Camping, backpacking, paddleboards and kayaks

Above the original grain shoots and elevator, most of the upstairs space was unusable. But that didn’t stop Rhoads from creating an enclosed landing/loft area for seasonal sports and larger equipment, while maintaining an original wooden wall with its original red paint.

Sleeping bags, tents, backpacks, standup paddleboards, kayaks (with a special focus on ones from which a sportsman can fly fish) will all be found on this second level.

“We’re a ‘store within a store,’” said Anderson. “We want people to come here and feel like we’re approachable and helpful to get people started in an activity that might interest them. There’s a whole community here.”

RED FOX OUTFITTERS NOW HIRING

A special hiring event is planned for Sunday, Oct. 25, from 3 to 7 p.m. and Monday, Oct. 26, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Red Fox Outfitters.

“We want people who are passionate about their sport, and are interested in interacting with people to make them feel welcome here,” said Anderson. “Bring your resume and a letter explaining what you like to do.”

WHAT HAPPENS TO RED FOX FOOTWEAR DOWNTOWN?

This location will remain where it is, with an emphasis on work boots by Red Wing and apparel and casual comfort shoes for the family. “The old store will be a throwback to what Ken Kirkey offered at Kirkey Shoes,” said Anderson. “It will be a family shoe store, and will offer shoe repair through Johnny’s Shoe Store & Repair in Flint.”

Store manager will be Kyle Smith, a 2006 graduate of Lake Fenton High School.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Steve Welch of Michigan Fence Company installs a trash bin outside of Red Fox Outfitters on Thursday.



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Clarkston Independence District Library, Clarkston

Hazel Park City Hall, Hazel Park

Karl Richter Community Center, Holly

Downtown Milford (parking lot), Milford

Powell Lake Township Park, Oxford

Waterford Twp Hall, Waterford

Transportation and museum admission are free for Oakland County residents, but reservations must be made in advance online at dia.org or by calling 313.833.4005!



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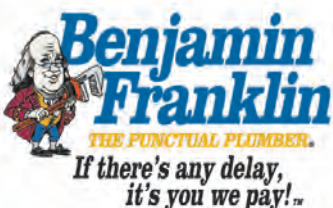
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Shipping deadlines looming for military packages

■Christmas is just 67 days away

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

People annoyed about "Christmas" showing up in stores before Halloween even rolls around likely don't have a loved one serving in the military.

October is actually the time to start thinking about holiday shopping for their troops, especially those serving in overseas countries.

Care packages are our only means of sending the comforts of home to loved ones serving our country.

According to Mike Clabuesch of Goin' Postal in Fenton, there are a number of convenient and affordable ways to ship packages to military personnel.

A popular method is the large 12- by 12- by 6-inch flat rate box that can be filled to approximately 20 pounds for one price. Boxes shipped to troops bear a small emblem indicating it is being sent to military personnel.

There are some rules and regulations about shipping to military personnel and installations. Seeking packaging and pricing advice from Clabuesch and the Goin' Postal team in advance may save

time and money.

"We will be happy to help anyone with their questions and packaging," Clabuesch said.

According to military spouses and other family and friends, our troops need some necessities. When sending toiletries and personal items, be sure to send things for both the male and female service members, including sunblock, socks, underwear, flip-flops, Chapstick, baby wipes and powder, soap and shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes and feminine products, for example. Be sure to put items that

may open or leak in Ziploc bags so that there will not be a mess if something opens.

When it comes to food, think durable and non-perishable. Canned or jarred foods like Pringles, salsa, nuts and trail mix aren't easily crushed. Beef jerky, granola bars, gum and non-melting candy make the trip well, as do foods that come well packaged like Oreos, Little

Debbie snack cakes, Moon Pies and packaged fruit pies.

The most popular edibles are home-made cookies and single bottle-sized drink mixes such as Gatorade or Crystal Light. Send the cookies your soldier

DO NOT SEND PROHIBITED ITEMS

There is a strict list provided by the United States Postal Service of items that cannot be sent to troops.

PROHIBITED ITEMS INCLUDE:

- **Obscene articles** (prints, paintings, cards, films, videotapes, etc).
- **Any matter depicting nude or seminude persons**, pornographic or sexual items, or non-authorized political materials.
- **Bulk quantities of religious materials** contrary to the Islamic faith. Items for the personal use of the addressee are permissible.
- **Pork** or pork by-products.

Source: adoptaplatoon.com



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The deadlines for sending holiday packages to friends and loved ones in the military are just around the corner.

wants. Don't waste postage on something he'd never eat at home. Chocolate chip cookies should be fine.

According to military.com, "Those little chips hold up in a 350-degree oven, so they'll be fine in a desert."

If you're sending soft cookies, toss a piece of bread into the container. It'll keep the cookies soft by releasing moisture that the cookies will absorb.

Some of the most popular time-passers include playing cards/poker chips, small games, practical joke pieces, crossword/Sudoku puzzles, books, magazines and hometown newspapers.

Other ideas include, holiday decorations, pictures, music on a CD or USB or recordings of the Sunday sermon. Avoid sending valuables.

Stationery is a must if you expect to get any letters from your Marine. Send it all — paper, envelopes, address labels and pens. They won't need postage stamps. Depending on their location, service members may or may not have

MAILING AND SHIPPING DEADLINES

According to the U.S. Postal Service, mail and packages going to military installations in Afghanistan (APO, Army/Air Post Office and FPO, Fleet Post Office) can be accepted as late as Dec. 3 this year. Express Mail is not a mailing option this year.

Deadlines for shipments are:

Nov. 12 for Standard Post
Nov. 26 for Space Available Mail
Dec. 3 for Parcel Airlift Mail
Dec. 10 for Priority Mail
Dec. 17 for First Class Mail
Dec. 3 is the deadline for all mail going to Zip 093, regardless of the mail service you are selecting. There also is no Express Mail Service offered to this zip code.

For other overseas military installations (APO/FPO) elsewhere, the deadlines are:

Nov. 13 for Parcel Post
Nov. 26 for Space Available Mail
Dec. 3 for Parcel Airlift Mail
Dec. 10 for Priority Mail
Dec. 10 for First Class Mail
Dec. 17 for Express Mail

Source: usps.com

computer (email) access.

Stuffed animals are always good to send, as service members will sometimes give them out to children in their area. Phone cards so your service member can call home also are a great idea.

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See for yourself! For an actual photo of the debris that is pulled from a typical home's ducts, visit our website www.callpowervac.com.

"Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners experience excessive dust. While work was being done in the home, your cold air returns sucked all the dust through the system. It settled on the bottom of the duct lines and little by little, that debris is being blown back into your home," Keith continued.

"Here's a test. Take a walk down into your basement, and look up at the ceiling for thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. Do you see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges? That, my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems, and this debris cannot be removed without the help of a professional.

"This brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are essentially like a Shop-Vac that you would vacuum your car with. Then there are companies who claim they have a truck-mounted

system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van. We have the equipment powerful enough to get the job done right, and that equipment is a Power Vac truck."

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"The Power Vac truck is the most powerful equipment in the industry," Keith explained. "Simply put, the entire truck is the vacuum, and the truck motor powers the equipment. You'll know it's a Power Vac truck because it's the size of an ambulance and when engaged, 12 large air bags come out of the roof.

"What makes the difference in equipment? Power! To put things into perspective, your furnace moves 2,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is what you feel coming out of your register. Truck-mounted equipment moves 4,000 CFMs. Well, Power Vac moves over 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is four times the power of most competitors.

"You need to beware of companies using cheap equipment and advertising cheap prices. Most of these companies are unlicensed, but are not. Avoid scams by not falling for cheap, get-you-in-the-door prices. What sets us apart from our competitors is our honest service, and, of course, our equipment. I know the importance of being on time, working with a smile and respecting people's homes and their belongings. There are a lot of duct cleaners around, but rest assured you'll receive the same quality of service I expect in my home."

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

April and Keith Meadows help keep indoor air clean with their local business, Power Vac.

MICHIGAN VOTES

WHAT YOUR LEGISLATORS
VOTED ON RECENTLY

MichiganVotes.org is a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy to provide concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. With one click, you can approve or disapprove of key votes by your legislators using the VoteSpotter smart phone app. This report was released Friday, Oct. 9

Senate Bill 239: Ban local restrictions on particular dog breeds

To prohibit local governments from enforcing an ordinance that imposes regulations or restrictions on dogs based solely on their breed or type (such as pit bulls or Dobermans).

Passed 25 to 11 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ Did not vote
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

House Bill 4209: Authorize, regulate and tax medical marijuana dispensaries

To authorize a comprehensive regulatory and licensure regime for medical marijuana growers, transporters, testers, dispensaries and more, with civil and criminal penalties for violations. Also, to impose a 3-percent tax on retail sales. The state's voter-authorized medical marijuana law is ambiguous on dispensaries, which the bill would allow, though local governments could choose to ban them.

Passed 95 to 11 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) ☒ YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) ☒ YES

House Bill 4827: Create "seed to sale" medical marijuana database

To establish a comprehensive "seed-to-sale" tracking system for commercial marijuana, with information on each step including recording final sales to individual customers. This would all be contained in a computer database and would not be a public record, but could be used for enforcing the medical marijuana law, including tracking how much individual cardholders purchase and from whom.

Passed 99 to 7 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) ☒ YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) ☒ YES

House Bill 4505: Increase civil asset forfeiture burden of proof

To require a more rigorous "clear and convincing" burden of proof standard for police agencies to take ownership of property that has been seized in connection with a possible crime, called "forfeiture." Under current law, property may be taken under the least rigorous "preponderance of the evidence" standard, and owners need not be convicted or even charged.

Passed 38 to 0 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

House Bill 4504: Require police civil asset forfeiture disclosures

To require law enforcement agencies to file annual reports on the number of civil asset forfeiture proceedings concluded, pending or "negotiated." The reports would have to disclose details regarding the charges (if any) and outcome of the case; the property and value; whether any federal agencies were involved; how much the police agency realized from taking ownership of seized property, and more. The State Police would compile these disclosures and post a report on the Internet.

Passed 38 to 0 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES

Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

House Bill 4581: Increase state payments to liquor distribution oligopolists (small number of sellers)

To increase from \$7.50 to \$10 the per-case fee that the three private companies granted a state oligopoly to warehouse and distribute liquor to retailers can collect from the state as a "reimbursement" for their distribution costs. According to the House Fiscal Agency, the bill would have the effect of transferring some \$10 million annually from taxpayers to these companies.

Passed 102 to 4 in the House

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Dist. 47) ☒ YES
Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Twp.) ☒ YES

Senate Bill 340: Increase penalties for tobacco sales to minors

To increase the penalties for selling tobacco to minors, from \$50 to \$100 for a first offense, and \$500 for a subsequent offense. The increased penalties would also apply to a minor who tries to buy or who possesses tobacco.

Passed 37 to 0 in the Senate

Sen. David Robertson (R-Dist. 14) ☒ YES
Sen. Mike Kowall (R-Dist. 15) ☒ YES
Sen. Joe Hune (R-Dist. 22) ☒ YES
Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Dist. 27) ☒ YES
Sen. Ken Horn (R-Dist. 32) ☒ YES

CORNERSTONE

Continued from Page 3A

right on top of Salon 416 and I love the Rough Draught, the Fire Hall and all the other restaurants. This summer, I walked everywhere."

Inside her condo, Eustache has created her own style, enjoying the hardwood floors, high ceilings and spacious kitchen. "I love my soft-close cabinets," she said, demonstrating how easily they open and close.

She's still getting everything organized and arranged, especially in her guest bedroom.

"The only thing is, construction is going on right outside my window and I can't keep the dirt off my balcony," she added. "Otherwise, it's pretty quiet. I sleep during the day, then go to work at 5."

The Cornerstone condo project contains 23 units of one-bedroom, two-bedroom and penthouse-style with a huge picture window, priced from \$100,000 to \$200,000. The one-bedroom units start at 800 square feet and the two-bedroom units start at 1,200. The largest two-bedroom unit plan is 1,800 square feet.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Dr. Kimberly Eustache was the first resident to move into her Cornerstone condo. She loves her downtown lifestyle.

The condos were built by Sorensen Gross Construction of Flint, as part of a downtown development project with four retail businesses on the ground floor and three residential floors above.

Cornerstone condo's listing agent is Realtor John Wentworth of RE/MAX Platinum in Fenton, who says that only one unit is still available for sale, a two-bedroom penthouse on the third floor for \$200,000.

"We've had a great response to these condos," said Wentworth. "Once the Streetscape is done and everything is back to calm, the lifestyle will be great. People really seem to like it."

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'A legend in his own time'

Fenton eccentric, Joe Smallbone, still remembered today

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

If Joseph Milo Smallbone could have seen into the future, he may have been shocked to know that in the year 2015, his photos and story would be told via a medium aimed at serving the same purpose as the televisions he once repaired.

Smallbone, who was born on Sept. 26, 1911, died on Jan. 9, 1985. His life as one of Fenton's most mysterious and eccentric individuals was recently featured on a YouTube video, created by musician Bonnie (Caryl) Whitehurst, formerly of Fenton (see related story).

Odd as Smallbone might have appeared, dressed in black with a soot-streaked face from the wood-burning stove he used to heat his Wakeman Street home, and smelling just as bad, he was Fenton's own.

His parentage dates back to a grandfather, Milo Crawford, who was one of the early lamp lighters in Fenton, long before electricity came to town.

Legend has it that Smallbone never bathed and feared the tub. Store employees would spray their counters and the money he gave them with Lysol immediately after waiting on him.

“We are richer because of his time here, and poorer because of his going.”

Leo Weigant in 1996
Former Fenton mayor and friend of Joe Smallbone

About Bonnie Whitehurst

Bonnie Whitehurst is a lifelong musician, composer, music teacher, and recording artist. She performs in a variety of venues, including the beaches of Pinellas County. She is also an experienced and popular Tampa Bay wedding harpist. After graduating from Fenton High School



in 1973, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music, from Oakland University in Rochester, and a Master's Degree, from the University of South Florida College of Arts and Sciences.

Fentonites protected Smallbone, defending his right to be different. No outsider would dare say an unkind word about Smallbone. All one had to do was look beyond the dirt into his dark brown eyes to know he was very kind. This was difficult, however, because Smallbone avoided eye contact whenever possible.

Smallbone was an electronic whiz with TVs and radios. He also knew everything that was going on in town, keeping in contact



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

One of Joe Smallbone's beloved Model-A's is parked next to his house. He had two Model-As that he drove until he could no longer insure them or get parts.

with several townspeople via telephone to keep up on the local happenings.

Smallbone never married and lived with his mother until her death in 1947. After that, he developed more eccentric attitudes and lived in an increasingly cluttered home, tinkering with radios and the new-fangled televisions.

Eventually, when people brought items to be fixed, they witnessed only a narrow path through the house.

He had two Model-A Fords that he drove until he could no longer get insurance or parts. After that, his mode of transportation was his dilapidated old bicycle.

Fentonites were kind to Smallbone. The children didn't make fun of him and loved to visit him and watch while he worked on radios and later, TVs.

Smallbone never had any significant employment during his life, but a few businessmen around town "pulled some strings" so he qualified for Social Security.

"That Social Security, along with any money gained from small repairs, was his income," said long-time friend Leo Weigant, who also served as Fenton's mayor.

"He didn't like preservatives or additives in food," said Nancy Stockham, Fenton's social worker and long-time friend of Smallbone. "One bitter-cold Christmas Eve, I took him a box of food. It was heavy and I couldn't carry it, so the paper boy helped me take it to the door. Joe stood there looking at the labels on the food to make sure there were no additives. Both the boy and I were freezing, exhausted and frustrated by the time we left."

While using an old hand plow, Smallbone cut his leg. The druggist, George Hovey, kept Smallbone in bag balm.

"I think he avoided amputation by using the balm," Stockham said.

In 1981, Stockham bought soap, towels and new clothes for Smallbone so he could attend the 50th reunion of his FHS class at the Fenton Community Center.

"I took a lot of good-natured ribbing about being his date for the night," Stockham said. "But he took a bath, looked nice, and had a good time."

In 1996, Weigant said, "In society today,

SMALLBONE QUOTES

In July of 1996, Tri-County Times Feature Editor Jan Rynearson wrote an in-depth feature article on Joe Smallbone. She interviewed several local people who knew him. Here is what some of them had to say about Fenton's most eccentric citizen:

“I was criticized because I didn't have Joe shown, but I felt if you didn't call on him when he was alive there was no sense in gawking at him when he was dead.”

Nancy Stockham (deceased)

Fenton social worker and friend to Joe Smallbone after arranging his funeral

“I used to go up to Joe's with my dad and later by myself. The guys from the window factory were always taking radios and TVs that no one else would work on to Joe.”

Jerry Palmer

Fenton fire chief (retired)

“Joe was a member of the Fenton High School Class of 1931. He was odd, but very smart, very good in math and science.”

Dorothy Bush, Linden

Former classmate

“He was a smart boy, real brainy, he was up on the sciences.”

Ivar Strom, Fenton (deceased)

Former classmate

“Shull Woodworth kept Joe in freshly caught fish. He used to clean them on newspapers on the back porch using an electric razor. It was a trip and a half to watch the process.”

Nancy Stockham

Fenton social worker and friend to Joe Smallbone

“When we gave him wood or food, we felt kind. When we respected his privacy by not taking pictures, we felt good. When we showed visitors our local eccentric, we felt proud.”

Leo Weigant (deceased)

Former Fenton mayor and friend to Joe Smallbone

there is no room for eccentrics. Joe would have been hospitalized or institutionalized. I think in Fenton it was a mark of kindness that we let him suffer.

"He created a contented feeling to our lot," Weigant added. "Joe Smallbone's life was a success. He, more than anyone I know, created a feeling of fulfillment in town. We are richer because of his time here, and poorer because of his going."

Smallbone died on Jan. 9, 1985. He froze to death in the snow. His body was found in the yard, a short distance from his house. He is buried at Oakwood Cemetery. His tombstone, which bears the image of a Model-A Ford, reads ... "A legend in his own time."

(Sources: Tri-County News obituary Jan. 14, 1985; Tri-County Times feature article July 21, 1996)



(From left) Joe Smallbone's ham radio operator call letters, his slingshot and a basket filled with spice tins taken from Smallbone's home after he died are housed in Fenton's A.J. Phillips Museum.

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The Bright Side of the Road...



Smallbone or Smallbones?

Is it Joe Smallbone or Joe Smallbones?

It has innocently been spelled both ways in various writings about Fenton's local legend. His grave marker says it's Smallbone, without the 's', as does his Genesee County death record.

SMALLBONE

Continued from Front Page of Myself' released in 1997," said Whitehurst.

"After being on Facebook for only two days, I've received over 4,300 views of 'Joe Smallbones,' which is by far the most of any video I've made," Whitehurst said. "Who would have guessed something so quirky could catch on so quickly.

"That proves how much of an impact Joe's presence had on the community of Fenton over decades," she added. "Even though he died in 1985, thousands of people still want to talk about him. That's amazing to me."

While the lyrics of the song have a lot of collective odd humor, Whitehurst said it was certainly not her intention to make fun of him in any way.

"Rather, I wanted to honor Joe's memory with the video," she said.

Her video about Joe Smallbone represented challenges for Whitehurst because she lives so far away and the fact that she was telling an old story with no photos or documentation.

"I checked into the cost of animation and that was monetarily out of the question," Whitehurst said. "I finally decided to 'create a fictional reality,' if that makes sense, and choose random images that matched the lyrics."

The historical images Whitehurst found of Fenton had a connection to the Fenton Historical Society, according to Whitehurst.

During the summer, Whitehurst was in touch with the researcher/webmaster for the Fenton Historical Society, and was

“Who would have guessed something so quirky could catch on so quickly.”

Bonnie (Caryl) Whitehurst
Creator of "Joe Smallbones" video



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Joe Smallbone lived in this house on Wakeman Street with his mother until she died in 1947. He continued living there until his own death in January 1985.

given permission to use any photos as long as credit was given.

"My mom and dad were Betty and Jerry Caryl (both deceased)," said Whitehurst. "As long-time residents of Fenton, they owned the Cup and Saucer Gift Shop at the corner of Adelaide and Silver Lake Road.

"Also, my dad worked briefly at the Fenton Independent and then for a long time at the Flint Journal, retired in 1974 and moved to Florida," she added. "My dad was not electronically inclined so all our malfunctioning

appliances went to Joe for repair. We knew him from being customers and from seeing him all over town.

"Being a small town, who could not notice Joe," Whitehurst asked. "As the song says, 'Because I hated to take a bath when I was young, my mother always said I would grow up and marry Joe.'"

Whitehurst said she has made about 10 CDs in the last 20 years. Three have been of all original music.

"As a daily user and viewer of YouTube, I decided that it would be a

great vehicle for some of my music," she said. "So in the last two years I've made about 12 videos."

Whitehurst is married and together she and her husband have four adult sons. They have only "grand dogs" at the moment, but one is getting married in July. "The son, not the dog," she joked.



The video

The video accompanies this story at tctimes.com. It is also available by searching "Joe Smallbones" on YouTube. The video by Bonnie Whitehurst will be among the first results. While some of the photos and information in the video have not been authenticated, it is interesting and entertaining nonetheless.

News briefs

FREE PRODUCE GIVEAWAY FROM LOCAL CHURCHES

The Fenton United Methodist Church and St. Vincent de Paul at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton are co-sponsoring a produce giveaway, on **Saturday, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, behind St. John School near Bush Park. The food pantries of the churches will be giving away carrots, onions, apples, potatoes, pie pumpkins, spaghetti squash and butternut squash. The produce is completely free. Anyone interested can pick up food.



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STARTING FRI OCT 16

*#2D GOOSEBUMPS (PG)

FRI-SAT 11:45 12:35 2:10 7:05 11:30

SUN-THUR 11:45 12:35 2:10 7:05

*@3D GOOSEBUMPS: REALD 3D (PG)

FRI-SAT 4:40 9:30 11:50

SUN-WED 4:40 9:30

THUR 4:40 9:30 11:50

*BRIDGE OF SPIES (PG13)

FRI-SAT 10:15 1:15 4:15 6:45

8:30 9:45 11:40

SUN-WED 10:15 1:15 4:15 6:45 8:30 9:45

THUR 10:15 1:15 4:15 6:45 9:45 11:40

*CRIMSON PEAK (R)

FRI-SAT 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 9:55 11:20

SUN-WED 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 9:55

THUR 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 9:55 11:20

*@CRIMSON PEAK:

AN IMAX EXPERIENCE (R)

FRI-SAT 10:35 1:10 3:45 6:20 9:00 11:40

SUN-WED 10:35 1:10 3:45 6:20 9:00

THUR 10:35 1:10 3:45 6:20 9:00 11:40

*WOODLAWN (PG)

FRI-SAT 10:00 12:50 3:40 6:30

9:20 11:55

SUN-WED 10:00 12:50 3:40 6:30 9:20

THUR 10:00 12:50 3:40 6:30 9:20 11:55

STARTING SAT OCT 17

*#2D GOOSEBUMPS

(SENSORY FRIENDLY) (PG)

SAT 10:00

STARTING THUR OCT 22

*2D PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION (R)

THUR NIGHT/FRI MORNING 9:10 12:05

*@3D PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION: REALD 3D (R)

THUR 7:00 11:15

*STEVE JOBS (R)

THUR 8:00 10:45 12:05

*THE LAST WITCH HUNTER (PG13)

THUR 7:00 9:30 12:05

CONTINUING

*@3D PAN: REALD 3D (PG)

*#2D THE WALK (PG)

*2D PAN (PG)

SICARIO (R)

*@3D THE MARTIAN: REALD 3D (PG13)

2D THE MARTIAN (PG13)

THE INTERN (PG13)

*2D HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2 (PG)

MAZE RUNNER:

THE SCORCH TRIALS (PG13)

BLACK MASS (R)

THE VISIT (PG13)

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

■■■■
WE WENT TO the Lake Fenton vs. Beecher football game and could not believe how some of the players acted. Their penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct resulted in them losing the game. Sad day for Lake Fenton football.

■■■■
IF RUNNING ON a treadmill was the only way to charge your cell phone, the entire world would be healthy. Just saying.

■■■■
I USED TO think that Neil Cavuto was really good but lately, when he has people on his program and if he doesn't like what they're saying, he interrupts them. He's obviously very one sided and if he doesn't like what he's hearing then he asks them a

different question. That is very poor interviewing and reporting.

■■■■
I'M JUST WONDERING how many people out there got a message in the mail that the warranty on their vehicle is getting ready to expire. I'm pretty sure mine expired 80 years ago. I'm driving a 1979. It never had a warranty on it.

■■■■
BERNIE SANDERS WAS open and honest in the Democratic debate last night, the clear winner. He could easily beat Trump one on one.

■■■■
I HAVE TO agree with the caller who called in about the camels. We have men overseas, giving their lives for our freedom and the only thing you can complain about is a garbage can? Get a life.

HILLARY CLINTON AND the Democrats are promising more of the same. More government programs, more regulations, and, of course, more taxes. Along with this will come more debt and more damage to America. They're promising free college, free health care, even free stuff to illegal immigrants. America cannot afford this.

■■■■
HERE IS THE Democrats' plan to get elected in 2016. We will take money from people who have earned it and give it to you if you will vote for us.

■■■■
AFTER READING THAT item about the girl who bought four items and the woman didn't know how to ring it up, here's a true story. I paid my utility bill and I gave her \$100 bill. She ended up closing her machine and going to get her boss. She didn't

know what to give me back in change.

■■■■
I HATE WHEN the older generation complains about young people being on their phones too much. I see just as many older people texting in stores and while driving as I do younger people.

■■■■
THERE IS SOMEONE on Rolston Road near North Road who shoots a super loud gun from time to time. Isn't it illegal to discharge in a residential area?

■■■■
WHILE RUSSIA AND Iran are systematically taking over Libya and Iraq, Obama is going to Oregon to push gun control by politicizing this tragedy and going to push climate control. Liberals have been saying for over 40 years that the world will end in the next few years if we don't change.



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Fenton volleyball defeats Holly, remain perfect in league

■ Improving Bronchos pleased with effort

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Holly — Winning teams aren't always the happy squad and the losing teams aren't always the ones that are upset.

That was the case at Holly High School on Tuesday night in

varsity volleyball action.

The Fenton Tigers defeated Holly 25-16, 25-12, 25-18, but looked more like the team that was defeated. Fenton spent a long time in its postgame huddle and had faces of concern once the match ended. In many ways, that can be expected when a squad that is gunning for a Metro League crown feels it didn't play its best match.

"I didn't think we had

a lot of energy," Fenton senior Jessie Eastman said.

"It was kind of bad. We won, which is always good, but we didn't play to our potential at all. We spread the ball around pretty well tonight, though."

"We didn't play very well tonight," Fenton coach

JESS WARFORD

Photo by: Scott Schupbach

Jerry Eisinger said, confirming Eastman's point. "We were definitely slow and just not ready to come out to play. So even though the score what it was, it wasn't our best effort by a long shot. I was kind of disappointed with it, actually."

Meanwhile, the Bronchos have struggled in recent seasons and realize most don't expect them to beat a power like Fenton. The Bronchos, under first-year

coach Hannah Timm, are a squad looking to create building blocks not only for this season but the future. And considering the varsity roster includes only two seniors, the future is the emphasis. With Tuesday's match, the Bronchos were able to see themselves progress with some of these goals, regardless of the actual win-loss results.

See VOLLEYBALL on 19A



Times
SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 18, 2015
PAGE 17A

Sports

INSIDE SPORTS

PINKED OUT
Holly swim team raises money for American Cancer Society during meet
See Page 18A



 **ONLINE EXCLUSIVES**

► Read about Friday night's football results, visit tctimes.com

SOCCER TEAMS BEGIN DISTRICTS

The Holly Division 2 district will host three of the tri-county's boys soccer teams on Tuesday.

All three teams have tough paths to district crowns. Linden hosts seventh-ranked Orchard Lake St. Marys, while Holly will host an even tougher foe, fourth-ranked Cranbrook Kingswood. Finally, Fenton faces Auburn Hills Avondale. All three games start at 6 p.m.

If the teams advance, semifinal action will be held at Holly's Karl Richter campus on Thursday, with the first game starting at 5 p.m. The title match is Oct. 24 at 5 p.m.

Lake Fenton begins its Division 3 district action at third-ranked Williamston on Monday at 4:30 p.m.

If the Blue Devils win that game, they'll play either Sexton or Corunna in Wednesday's 7 p.m. semifinal at Williamston. If Lake Fenton wins that game, the final is Friday at 6 p.m.

Allen's U-M dreams coming true

■ Fenton graduate is Wolverines' starting placekicker

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Kenny Allen knows who he will be cheering for when Michigan plays Michigan State this weekend.

It'll be the team he is playing for.

In fact, if things go right for the Fenton graduate, Allen could be making the winning kick for the Wolverines.

After waiting patiently for three seasons, Allen is the Michigan Wolverines' starting placekicker this fall. And he's having the time of his life.

"It's unbelievable how things have worked out," Allen said. "It feels incredible. I always thought I would be punting and now I'm scoring points, trying to put points on the board and trying to get some touchbacks. It feels good knowing I can make a difference in a game."

Like most of the University of Michigan football players this season, Allen is off to a strong start. He's converted 7-of-9 field goals, with his only misses com-



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | U-M PHOTOGRAPHY

Fenton graduate and Michigan Wolverines starting placekicker Kenny Allen attempts a field goal during a Michigan game earlier this season.

ing from 44 and 47 yards. Meanwhile, Allen also has a long field goal of 47 yards.

He's been a perfect 20-for-20 on extra points and has kicked 15 of his 35 kickoffs for touchbacks. Not bad for someone who expected to be punting when he decided to walk on at the Univer-

sity of Michigan instead of taking scholarship offers at other D1 institutions to play at the school he loved.

"There were guys in front of me and they were doing a good job, so I had to wait my time, get

See ALLEN'S on 20A

Eagles remain tied for first in Metro League

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

The Linden varsity volleyball team is two matches away from doing something it's never done in the Metro League — that's win a Metro League volleyball crown.

The Eagles improved to 5-0 in Metro play, with two league matches remaining, after defeating Kearsley 25-12, 25-15, 25-14 on Tuesday.


See EAGLES on 20A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES

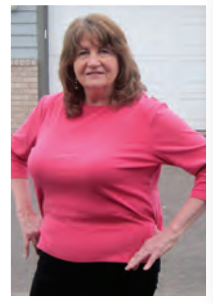
MARK BOLEN

Linden's Bridget Adams (right) attempts a kill in a previous match.

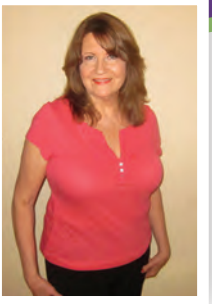


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Fenton swimmers get pushed at MISCA meet

■Cassidy posts two state-qualifying times

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

The number of state cuts for the Fenton varsity girls swim team reached three at the Michigan Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association (MISCA) Meet.

The Tigers' Elise Cassidy posted two individual state-qualifying times at the event. Cassidy recorded her first state standard in the 100 freestyle, taking 25th in 55.12 seconds, .07 seconds below the Division 2 state cut. She also posted a 20th-place time in the 100 backstroke, recording a time of 1:00.22, well over a second below the state-qualifying mark.

The 400 freestyle relay had already qualified for the state meet, and came close to making the mark again at MISCA. The team of Grace Siefker, Cameron Mathews, Brianna Costigan and Cassidy finished 27th place with a time of 3:50.55, about a second off the state time.

Others are getting close. The 200 freestyle relay team is a little less than two seconds off of qualifying. The team of Maddie Hall, Sabrina Hall, Mathews and Costigan finished with a time of 1:46.51, while the 200

medley relay team of Cassidy, Lauren Gruber, Caitlyn Dailey and Siefker had a time of 1:58.07. That time was about a second off of state-qualifying times. Both relays should eventually qualify.

"Elise's two swims are both state cuts, so with the 400 (freestyle relay) we know have three," Fenton varsity girls swim coach Brad Jones said. "The medley and 200 free relays are both very close and we anticipate making both before the league meet."

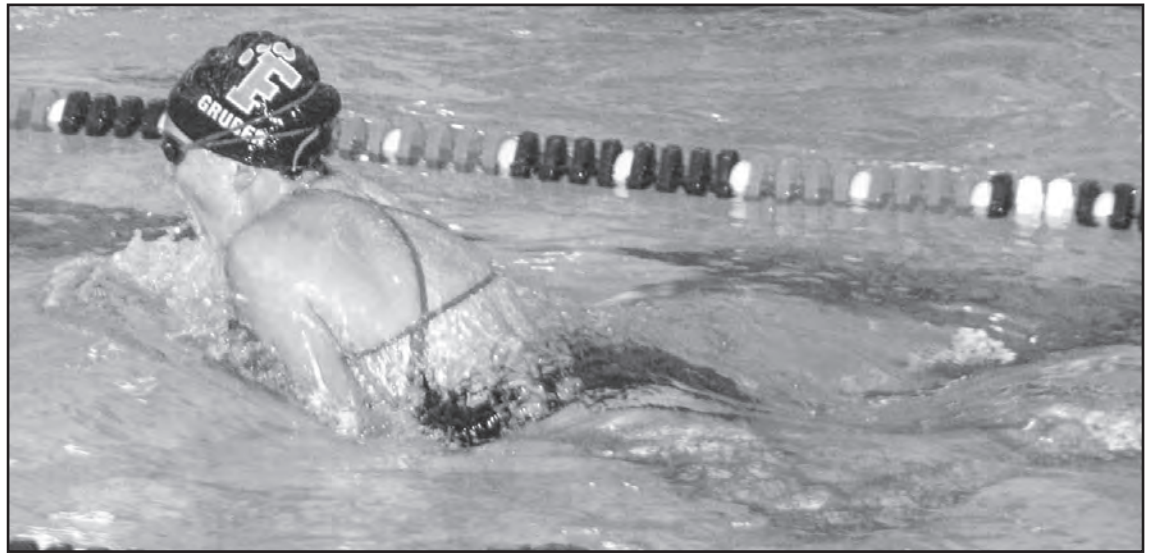
Finally, Siefker competed in Fenton's last event at the meet. She posted a time of 58.68 seconds in the 100 freestyle.

"We have about four or five more potential cuts before the league meet," Jones said.

Fenton returned to Metro League action on Thursday, defeating Brandon 114-64.

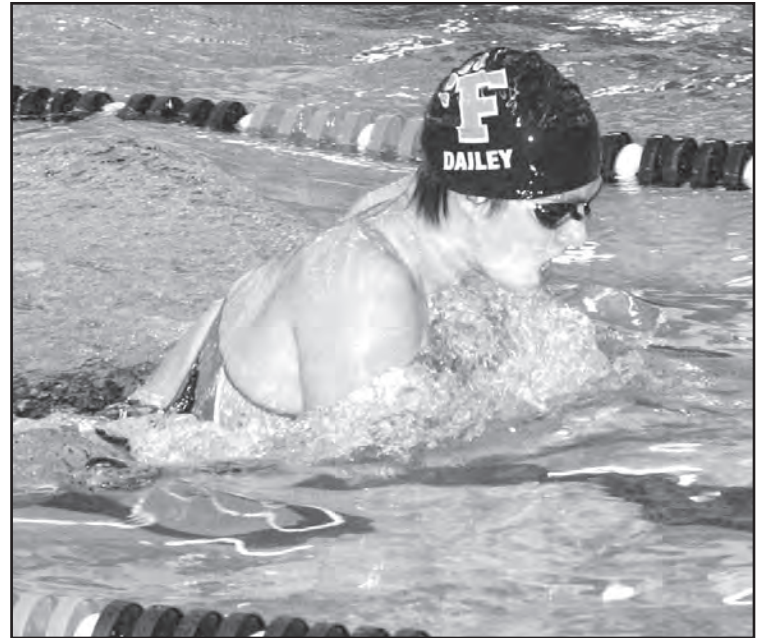
Earning individual firsts for Fenton were: Siefker in the 200 freestyle (2:16.80) Cassidy in the 200 individual medley (2:27.94) and the 100 butterfly (1:13.13), Mathews in the 50 freestyle (27.70) and the 500 freestyle (5:49.83), Shegos Taylor in diving (267.85), Haylee Skank in the 100 freestyle (1:04.03) and Emma Cagle in the 100 backstroke (1:17.38).

The Tigers also posted



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
DAVID TROPPENS

(Above) Fenton's Lauren Gruber was a part of Fenton's 200 medley relay team which placed 38th and posted a time of 3:50.55 at the MISCA meet. (Right) Caitlyn Dailey also competed on the relay.



the best time in every relay. Mathews, Rachael Rittichier, Danielle Rushton and Skank won the 200 medley relay (2:15.67), while Emma Snedden, Rittichier, Sabrina Hall and Sarah Barnett won the 200 freestyle relay (1:56.70). Cassidy, Rylie Becker, Rittichier and Cagle won the 400 freestyle relay (4:13.98).

Bronchos compete vs. Milford, raise money for the American Cancer Society

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

The Holly varsity girls swim team hosted more than a dual meet against Milford High School on Tuesday.

The Bronchos also hosted its first-ever cancer awareness meet, making both teams winners. The event raised \$225 for the American Cancer Society.

"Our families brought in drinks, baked goods and popcorn for the Leadership class to sell," Holly varsity girls coach Danielle Gray said. "We also did a 50/50 raffle which was won and donated back to the American Cancer Society. Both teams wore their pink caps as well."

The pink caps were in force, in the meet

won by Milford 118-67. Holly had one individual event winner. She was Lydia Brauher in the 200 individual medley (2:48.98).

Four others earned second-place performances, including Emma Ford who had two of them. She placed second in the 200 freestyle (2:27.77) and the 100 butterfly (1:16.24). Other second-place performers were Lexi Kivari in the 100 freestyle (1:08.68) and Alex Karakuc in the 100 backstroke (1:16.80). The meet also had an interesting third-place finish when teammates Karakuc and Toni Morse finished in a rare tie with a time of 2:31.88 in the 200 freestyle.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Holly varsity girls swim team, with some of the Milford players directly above them, proudly display their pink swim caps during Tuesday's dual meet.



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12779 (7-12)

Linden girls place third at Portage

Other TC squads perform well at prestigious XC event

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Several teams had a strong showing at the Portage Invitational on Saturday.

None had a better day than the Linden girls cross country team.

In a field of 46 division 2 teams the Lady Eagles place third at the Portage Invitational.

Many Eagles had personal best days. Alia Frederick was strongest, placing third in a field of 316 runners with a time of 18:10, establishing a new school record by 19 seconds. Audrey Steiert followed in 11th place (19:01), while Taylor Ganger finished in 25th (19:23). Jordan Holscher placed 53rd (19:53) and Maya Gossett took 80th (20:21). All five runners posted personal-best times. Gossett cut 38 seconds off her best time.

The Linden boys also had a strong day, placing eighth out of 49 squads. And just like

the Linden girls, all of the varsity boys posted personal-best times.

Nick McDonald led the boys by taking 29th (16:32), followed by Kagen Griffith in 46th (16:48), Jack Eck in 66th (16:59), Chase Morse in 82nd (17:07), Skyler Zieske in 89th (17:13) and Tanner Blaney in 94th (17:15).

"We were very pleased with the outcome," Linden boys varsity cross country coach Clint Lawhorne said.

Fenton's program also competed at the meet, in D1 action, placing 11th.

Jacob Lee continued his strong season, taking seventh (15:29), while Dominic Dimambro wasn't too far behind in 13th (15:56). The rest of Fenton's five scorers were: Andrew Bond in 77th (16:45), Luke Chabot in 137th (17:08) and Nolan Day in 177th (17:31).

Fenton's girls competed and took 21st. The Tigers' top three runners were: Cami Tiemann in 53rd (19:38), Emma Lane in 91st (20:11), and Jenna Keiser in 102nd (20:19).

Lake Fenton's program and

the Holly girls also made the trip to Portage to compete in the prestigious event. The Lake Fenton boys placed 32nd in the D2 event, while the girls took 41st in the girls D2 competition. Holly's girls placed 37th in D1 competition.

Lake Fenton's Thomas Mueller led the Blue Devils, taking 30th (16:35), while Jacob Fletcher came in 77th (17:03). The Blue Devils' leading girl was Alexis Cash in 76th (20:14).

Holly's Lauren Hackett led the Broncos by taking 38th (19:20.0).

Holly boys at Oakland County Championships

The Holly varsity boys cross country team took 11th at the Oakland County Championships.

Dilon Lemond led the Broncos by taking 12th (16:32). The rest of Holly's scoring five were: Michael Ponkey in 54th (17:21), Blake Staffne in 62nd (17:31), Francisco Valdovinos in 83rd (17:48) and Emilio Gomez in 85th (17:48).

VOLLEYBALL

Continued from Page 17A

"We've been a younger team this year and in past years we haven't done really well," senior Katie Bartholomew said. "But this year we've really brought it. Our season record may not show it yet, but we have definitely brought it versus past years."

"Last year I was on varsity and this year we did way better (against Fenton) than we have done in the past. It is amazing to play them and actually keep up with them."

"I thought it was a very active game," Timm said about her young squad. "The girls had fun playing them and Fenton is a fun team to play against."

The most competitive set of the three played on Tuesday was the third set, however, it

didn't look like it was going to be when it first started. Led by consecutive block kills by Sheayln Mandle and Eastman, the Tigers were able to jump to a quick 6-1 lead, making it feel like the Broncos may wilt against the Tigers. However, the Broncos did just the opposite, playing some of their strongest volleyball of the night while trying to get back even. Consecutive block kills by Bartholomew and Courtney Acorsi cut Fenton's lead to 8-5. That was followed by a Shannon Torpey ace and another block kill by Bartholomew. The Broncos were within 8-7.

Later, a Torpey kill tied the set at 9-all and it was tied back at 10 and 11. Holly enjoyed its first lead since 1-0 in the set with a Juliet Clark ace at 12-11. However, Fenton roared back at that point. Over the next nine

services, Fenton had two kills by Eastman, two more from Jess Warford and another by Mandle, taking a 19-13 lead. Holly remained competitive the rest of the set, but were unable to seriously cut into Fenton's lead by that point. The Tigers eventually earned match point on a fake-set kill by Kiley Aldred.

The Tigers (5-0 in the Metro and 26-10-5 overall) now prepare for their two biggest Metro matches of the season — contests against defending Metro champs Flushing on Tuesday and then fellow undefeated Metro rival Linden a week after that. The Tigers understand they are going to have to play better to win those two matches.

"So far we are undefeated, but we have two big games coming up," Eastman said. "I think we definitely need improvement, but we are working hard on it



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

Holly's varsity volleyball coach Hannah Timm talks to her team after a recent match.

every day in practice."

Holly (1-4 in the Metro) has very winnable matches at Swartz Creek next Tuesday and at home against Brandon a week later.

"We definitely have improved on our attitudes, and I think in general as a team we've been more together than in past seasons," Bartholomew said. "It's been a great season."

Eastman led the Tigers with seven kills on nine attempts. She had no hitting errors. She also had a solo block and four block assists.

Holly's offense was led by Juliet Clark's four hills, while Torpey, Taylor McNinch and Acorsi had two each. Katie LaClair had 13 digs, while Clark and Torpey had 10 each. Setter Isabelle Brown had 13 assists.

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PREP REPORT

BOYS SOCCER

► Lake Fenton 4, Kearsley

1: Nickolas Joslin scored two goals and Luke Rimarcik and Parker Mitchell scored a goal each in the Blue Devils' (10-9) victory.

"We finally got our defense to come up and support the play and try to score," Lake Fenton varsity soccer coach Sam Jawhari said. "I had three defensemen and one like a midfielder, helping keep the ball in the attacking zone. ... The whole first half was played in their zone. We had so many shots."

► Oxford 3, Fenton 0: The Tigers were outshot 12-2 in the non-league loss to the Wildcats.

VOLLEYBALL

► Fenton, Linden at Oxford Invitational:

Both area teams went 3-1-1 at the tournament, with the tie being against each other. The squads split their round robin match with Linden (26-8-3) winning the first set 21-10 and Fenton winning the second 23-22.

Linden beat Warren Mott, Troy Athens and L'Anse Creuse. The squad lost to Avondale in three sets.

Bridget Adams led the Eagles with 27 kills, three blocks and three aces. Emma O'Keefe had 25 kills, while Allison Conly had 22 kills. Megan Klavitter recorded 64 digs and nine aces, while Miranda Fowler had 62 assists.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL

► Holly seventh-graders 24,

Fenton 18: The Bronchos scored a late-game TD, giving the Tigers their first loss of the season.

► Fenton eighth-graders 44, Holly 7:

The Tigers' Blak Marchi scored three TDs and also ran for just under 200 yards on the ground in Fenton's victory. The defense had a strong night, with Steven Bloss and Owen Koza earning interceptions.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► Holly seventh-graders 44,

Carmen-Ainsworth 27: Emma Tooley led the Bronchos with 28 points, while Korryn Smith scored nine points.

► Carmen-Ainsworth eighth-graders 37, Holly 8: Amber Ploch led the Bronchos with three points, while Rebecca Gierlack and Grace Ortiz had two each.

ALLEN'S

Continued from Page 17A

stronger in the weight room and wait for my opportunity," Allen said. "(It's frustrating) and not (frustrating). It's tough because you want to get out there and contribute, but at the same time you are getting stronger and better, so when you finally get out there you are going to make a difference."

Allen entered his redshirt senior year with a battle for a starting position. He eventually captured the starting placekicking position and impressed the Michigan staff enough to give him a scholarship. On several occasions, first-year head coach Jim Harbaugh has praised Allen and the kicking game.

"Kenny Allen, I'm real pleased with the way he can kick the ball through the uprights when he's asked to do so," Harbaugh said at a Sept. 14 press conference. "I'm happy with the monumental improvement we've made through the operation of the field goal — protection, the snap, the hold and the kick. We've come so far in that area. ... Just mass improvement."

"It's just nice to see hard work pay off," Allen said. "With a field goal, there are a lot of things that have to work. We have guys blocking for me, a long snapper snapping it to the holder and then I have to make a nice kick. It's a group effort to make everything run smoothly, and we approach it the same way (every kick). We want the operation to run smooth."

Allen's first field goal this year was a 29-yard kick to tie Michigan's contest at Utah at 3-3 in the opening quarter. Allen

remembers that first kick.

"It was a little surreal. I had not kicked a field goal since high school," Allen said. "I was thinking do what you do. You have kicked a thousand of these before. I just followed what I knew best — my muscle memory and technique — and thankfully things worked smoothly."

Michigan eventually lost the contest, 24-17, but since then the Wolverines have rattled off five straight wins entering Saturday's game at home against Michigan State. Allen is excited to be playing in the rivalry contest.

"This is why you come to this school — to play games like this so you can take in the great atmosphere on campus," Allen said. "Everyone is dialed in and everyone is ready to work."

Allen, who is now living his dream, says it's an unbelievable feeling to enter the Big House right before the start of a football game. Of course, one of Michigan's biggest traditions is running on to the field and having the players jump to reach the Michigan flag.

"It's an unbelievable feeling to run out of the tunnel, look up and see the sea of maize and blue," Allen said. You see the banner and it's kind of a surreal moment. I think to myself how blessed I am."

And now Allen gets to be part of the team as Harbaugh brings the program back to its past glory years. The best part



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | U-M PHOTOGRAPHY

Fenton graduate and Michigan Wolverines starting placekicker Kenny Allen is about to kickoff the football to start action.

of it, of course, Allen is part of recreating those glory days.

"Our coaches have been great from the moment they stepped on campus," Allen said. "They've just changed things up. Their style works and they have a proven track record. They push us every day and encourage us to get better and not take anything for granted."

EAGLES

Continued from Page 17A

The victory leaves the Eagles tied with Fenton for first place in the Metro League with both squads having two matches left.

Linden varsity volleyball coach Cori Mason was pleased her team kept its focus against last-place Kearsley on Tuesday.

"We controlled the ball and didn't make many mistakes," Mason said. "We

definitely did not take Kearsley lightly. We are taking it one day at a time. The kids played with a lot of heart and stayed together as a team. It was a total team effort for sure."

The offense had a big game. Bridget Adams led a diverse attack with 12 kills, while Breayanna Turnipseed and Emma O'Keefe had seven kills each. Morgan Fitch helped pace the attack with 11 assists.

Defensively, the Eagles were strong as well, led by Megan Klavitter's 14 digs. Turnipseed had 10 digs, while Fitch provided six. The defense made sure no one on the Hornets finished with more than Kayla Meyer's two kills.

Adams also had a strong night serv-

ing, getting all 15 of her chances in and four down for aces.

Linden hosts Clio in another match the Eagles will be overwhelming favorites on Tuesday at 7 p.m. The Fenton Tigers will be playing defending Metro champs Flushing on the road. If both teams win or lose on Tuesday, the teams will be playing for an outright Metro crown on Oct. 27 at Fenton High School. Even if one team wins and the other loses on Tuesday, both teams will be playing for at least a co-championship on Oct. 27.

The teams played to a split at the Oxford Invitational, recently. The closest Linden has come to winning a Metro crown is in 1991 and 2011 when the Eagles finished second.

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POPULAR NEW 2016 MODELS ROLLING INTO AREA DEALERSHIPS

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

It's beginning to look like 2016 is going to be another banner year for auto sales.

At least 40 new and refreshed vehicles are heading our way for 2016, according to forbes.com. Local dealerships in Fenton are gaining momentum as they push out the 2015s with record-breaking lease deals and herald in newcomers to their showrooms.

Matt Lasco of Lasco Ford is excited about the all new 2016 Explorer Sport Package, featuring a high performance motor, wheel upgrade and appearance facelift. "This vehicle sets itself apart from any other Explorer," said Lasco.

Lasco's most popular truck, the F-150, was all new in 2015, but this year's "refreshed" 2016 model boasts a whole new package, the Pro Trailer Backup Assist, an automatic trailer parking system.

This system consists of software and a control knob on the dashboard. Once it's activated, the driver takes his or her hands off the steering wheel, turns the knob in the direction the trailer needs to

See 2016 MODELS on 23A



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8 TIPS FOR CHOOSING A MECHANIC

HERE'S WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN FINDING A QUALITY REPAIR SHOP FOR YOUR VEHICLE

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

If you're new to the area or want to check out a different auto mechanic, now's the time to begin your search for the right repair shop to meet your and your vehicle's needs for service and maintenance.

Here are some things you should look for in selecting a new repair shop, according to consumerreports.com.

SUMMARY

► Do your homework before selecting a mechanic for your vehicle, either at a dealership or local repair shop.

1. FIND A SHOP OR DEALERSHIP for your brand of car. Those that focus on your type of vehicle are more likely to have the latest training and equipment to fix your vehicle.

2. ASK YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. Seek recommendations from those who have a vehicle similar to yours.

3. CHECK OUT ANGIE'S LIST, Consumer Reports Car Repair Estimator and the Mechanics Files at Cartalk.com.

4. CHECK THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU (www.bbb.org) to find out which shops to avoid because of consumer complaints. According to the BBB, auto repair shops rank 12th on the bureau's list of common complaints.

5. CHECK FOR CERTIFICATION. Your mechanic and shop should be certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence, or ASE.

6. GIVE THE SHOP A TRYOUT. Before your car needs a big repair, try out a local shop for smaller repairs or maintenance items, to see how you like it.

7. ASK ABOUT WARRANTIES What kind of guarantees does the shop give on repair work? Warranties can vary greatly among shops, so ask ahead of time, using a common repair like brakes as your guide.

8. MAKE SURE THE SHOP IS CONVENIENT. Its hours need to work with your schedule, and you need to know what the transportation options are after you drop off your vehicle.



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12793 (11-12)



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Muffler & Go owner Chris Burke takes a quick break from phone calls at his busy auto shop for a photo in August.

FORBES.COM

The all-new 2016 Jeep Renegade is a great winter vehicle, with available all-wheel drive, and fun for warmer months with removable roof panels.



2016 MODELS

Continued from Page 21A

go and lets the truck automatically steer it into place. "It makes backing up automatic, so easy and simple," said Lasco.

Lasco said that two performance vehicles will be getting a lot of attention this year, the **Focus RS** and the **Mustang Shelby GT350**.

"The Focus RS is a European-themed performance version Focus," said Lasco. "It'll probably be the best performer in history in its class."

The new Focus RS features a first-ever stall recovery feature. Rather than having to manually restart the engine after a stall, the driver simply presses the clutch and it restarts, with no need to even shift the car into neutral.

The Mustang Shelby GT350 and the 350R take off where the Boss 302 left off, according to carand-driver.com. "These are top-of-the-line collector's cars," said Lasco. "Ford's only building hundreds each quarter, instead of high production volume."

The Ford Fusion, Escape and Edge were all refreshed in 2015 and their high resale value is creating "the most aggressive leasing we've ever seen," said Lasco.

In addition to new models coming in to Lasco Ford, this dealership is welcoming a completely remodeled showroom to display them. "We'll be doing a soft opening in early November and expect to be fully operational by the first week of December," said Lasco.

With low gas prices and low interest rates, trucks and SUVs remain huge sellers at Randy Wise GMC Buick. "Trucks are always popular," said Sales Manager Lisa Consiglio. "We are leasing 2015 Acadias, Yukons and Terrains with some of our best deals until the end of the month. Our new 2016 Acadias and Canyons are coming in."

The all-new 2016 **Buick Cascada** luxury convertible is Buick's first convertible after 25 years. It's a rede-

signed version of the previous Buick Reatta, with upgrades in interior and exterior designs and fine-tuned suspension and powerful engine for better performance, more comfortable ride, handling and better fuel efficiency. Its planned release date is last quarter 2015, and Consiglio is waiting for it for the Randy Wise showroom.

Vic Canever Chevrolet is gearing up for a number of new 2016 vehicles, according to New Car Sales Manager Jeff Canever.

The **2016 Chevy Volt** may not be an exciting performance car or luxury sedan, but this new second-generation Volt rolls into the showroom with everything new, including the hybrid drive system, transmission, interior and exterior.

EPA range for pure electric driving is now 53 miles, a 40 percent increase over prior models.

The **2016 Chevrolet Malibu** is presenting a totally new body and includes safety features like Teen Driver Alert, which allows parents to set driving parameters for their new drivers. "If the (teen)

driver goes over the line a specified number of times or exceeds the speed limit, this system will alert the parents," said Canever.

The **Chevy Colorado** has reinvented the midsize pickup from the frame up. An all new turbo-diesel has been added to the engine to provide the fastest turn ratio.

The **2016 Ram Rebel** is one of the most anticipated new models driving into the Hall Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram dealership. With bold interior and exterior styling, this new model is adding a lot of excitement to the Ram brand, according to General Manager Tim Hall.

Also new to the Jeep line-up for 2016 is the **Jeep Renegade**. "It's smaller, with front-wheel or all-wheel drive," said Hall. "It comes with a removable top, making it a neat looking four-wheel drive Jeep. At under \$20,000, it will appeal to a younger buyer."

This vehicle (2016 Ford Explorer Sport) sets itself apart from any other Explorer."

Matt Lasco
Lasco Ford

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