No plea deal, LaJoice headed to trial

Admitted embezzler sells off all properties, including home

By Hannah Ball
hbball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Nearly nine months after turning himself in to authorities, the Tyrone Township man who admitted to embezzling $20 million from his employer will stand trial on Dec. 12. Michael LaJoice, 37, is currently involved in six different cases — two criminal cases, one in the federal system and one in the state system; two forfeiture cases, one in the federal system and one in the state system, and two additional cases involving properties that he owns.

His attorney, Michael Manley, said, “I’m trying to come up with a global resolution. We would like to have all of this done before Mr. LaJoice faces the judge.”

Michael Manley
Michael LaJoice’s attorney

Fenton residents will have another cable choice in 2017

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

City of Fenton residents who have been hoping for cable service from Comcast may wish to thank a city council member. On Monday, the Fenton City Council voted unanimously to approve a Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement, required by the Michigan Public Service Commission, to Comcast of Flint, Inc.

According to Rob Ponto, public relations representative for Comcast of Flint, Inc.

See CABLE on 18A

Street corner solicitations outlawed

Likely to impact local charities and schools

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

City leaders don’t seem to like it — but the next time civic and charitable organizations ask for permission to solicit donations from city roadways and intersections, the Fenton City Council is going to have to say “no.”

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette has recently issued a new opinion on State law prohibits organizations from collecting donations on street corners and intersections.

See SOLICITATIONS on 17A

Three charged after meth lab found in Gaines Township home

Drugs, equipment, weapons and three small children found in drug raid

By Sharon Stone
ststone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Two Gaines Township residents and one Sebewaing resident were arraigned on multiple drug and firearm charges regarding an alleged meth lab they were operating in a Gaines Township home.

Michigan State Police-Flint Post troopers and a probation officer raided a home at 12100 W. Reid Road, west of Duffield Road in Gaines Township on Aug. 27, according to Spl/F/Lt David A. Kaiser.

See METH LAB on 16A

Admitted embezzler sells off all properties, including home

Michael LaJoice

Fenton residents will have another cable choice in 2017

See CABLE on 18A

Street corner solicitations outlawed

Likely to impact local charities and schools

See SOLICITATIONS on 17A

Three charged after meth lab found in Gaines Township home

Drugs, equipment, weapons and three small children found in drug raid

See METH LAB on 16A

Comment of the Week

Was told that Fenton quietly retired the silly tag line ‘Be Closer.’ If you had just asked the citizens for tag line ideas someone would have come up with a real winner and the city would not have wasted our tax dollars. Try listening to the taxpayers once in a while.
John Tremaine makes selling your home
AS EASY AS APPLE PIE!

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM
FENTON - 3 ACRES

5331 Felley Crossing | Fenton
3 Bedrooms, 4 Baths, 3,650 Finished Sq/ft
Custom built home with a finished walkout.
$400,000

17420 Hickory Ridge | Fenton
4 Bedrooms, 4 Baths (3/1), 2,540 Finished Sq/ft
Stucco woodwork, Florida room, 5 Acres.
$280,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM
5 ACRES - FENTON

8522 Pineview Lake Dr. | Linden
3 Bedrooms, 4 Baths, 2,960 Finished Sq/ft
Beautiful kitchen w/ granite, finished LL Walkout, backs up to woods & wetlands.
$290,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM
LINDEN

405 Courant St. | Flushing
4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2,040 Sq Ft
Charming home with large backyard and beautiful landscaping.
$210,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM
FLUSHING

10166 N. Fenton Rd. | Fenton
4 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths, 3,590 Finished Sq/ft
Grand home on a 20 Acre estate, with Pool, Barn, pond and in-ground pool.
$675,000

11004 White Lake Rd. | Fenton
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bath, 1,988 Sq Ft
Beautiful ranch on an acre of Rainbow Lake.
$499,500

13185 Torrey Rd. | Fenton
3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 1,218 Sq Ft
Original Crane Farmhouse on Bride’s Cove
$450,000

2170 Lost Oak Ct. | Grand Blanc
4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2,085 Sq Ft
Secluded custom-built on 1 acre wooded back yard.
$399,000

20 ACRE ESTATE

6385 Moonstone Dr. | Grand Blanc
4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 3,318 Sq Ft
Fantastic home in Grand Blanc Village, finished lower level.
$334,000

8068 Benton Hill | Fenton
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,693 Sq Ft
Own 3 Acres with a pond & barn, Gorgeous home.
$280,000

1400 Bone Rd | Fenton
3 Bedooms, 2 Baths, 1,852 Finished Sq/Ft
Brand new kitchen, granite, SS appliances, 3 Acres.
$340,900

2730 Westwood Pkwy | Flint
4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2,015 Sq Ft
Complete English Tudor Estate Home in Woodcroft!
$269,999

GRAND BLANC

609 W Shiawassee Ave. | Fenton
4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2,100 Sq Ft
Hardwood floors, cove ceilings and archways.
$200,000

6182 Grand Oak | Grand Blanc
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bath, 1,780 Sq Ft
Charming updated home, hardwood floors, fenced backyard.
$165,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3PM
LAKE FENTON WATERFRONT

5439 Country Club Lane | Grand Blanc
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1,480 Sq Ft
Vaulted Ceilings. Fireplace, 2.5 car garage.
$115,000

12553 St. Andrews Way | Fenton
3 Bedroom, 2 Baths, 1,070 Finished Sq/Ft
On I-69 Entrance with golf course view.
$91,000

1361 N Long Lake Rd | Fenton
Great location for retail or office space! Includes a 30x50 Pole Barn. Currently a doctor’s office.
$300,000

DOWNTOWN DIBBLEVILLE - FENTON

2730 Westwood Pkwy | Flint
4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2,015 Sq Ft
Complete English Tudor Estate Home in Woodcroft!
$269,999

NEW LISTING

13622 Grand Oak | Grand Blanc
3 Bedrooms, 2 Bath, 1,500 Sq Ft
Charming updated home, hardwood floors, fenced backyard.
$165,000

NEW LISTING

5439 Country Club Lane | Grand Blanc
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1,480 Sq Ft
Vaulted Ceilings. Fireplace, 2.5 car garage.
$115,000

GLEN DEVON CONDO - FENTON

6923 Lone Oak Ct. | Grand Blanc
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1,675 Sq Ft
Glen Devon Condo with golf course view.
$129,000

FENTON - COMMERCIAL

17420 Hickory Ridge | Fenton
4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2,040 Sq Ft
Charming home with large backyard and beautiful landscaping.
$210,000
Nearly 2,000 square feet of vintage lumber salvaged from Dibbleville house

Iconic Shiawassee property now a distant memory

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

The deconstruction of 106 W. Shiawassee Ave. in Dibbleville has been completed.

“We're done. If you drive by the house, you wouldn't see anything left,” said Robert “Bob” Bloomingdale of Bloomingdale Construction in Rochester.

Bloomingdale was the contractor on the job. The materials salvaged from the house is his only payment.

Last month, the process of taking apart the house while sparing the usable wood and other materials, began. According to Joe Bruz of Milford Salvage & Iron, the house was taken apart manually with the goal of preserving all of the salvageable old-school lumber so that it may be repurposed into furniture and other items.

See SHIAWASSEE on 7A

The museum has been great working with us in researching the history of the material.”

Robert “Bob” Bloomingdale
Bloomingdale Construction, Rochester

On Friday Sept. 9, David Stimage of Rochester Salvage sorts lumber that they'll be keeping to take back to the shop. His company salvaged 2,000 square feet of material, some of which will be turned into tables and other furniture. On Friday, Sept. 16, only the chimney and one corner of the house remained.

Fenton Hotel to expand with outdoor patio

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

The Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grille will soon be the owners of another little corner in the city. On Monday, the Fenton City Council unanimously approved selling the parcel the city agreed to lease to them earlier this summer for the purpose of installing an outdoor seating area.

The lease amount was $1. The sale price is $4,270.

Since the city agreed to the lease in June, Nick Sorise, owner of the Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grille, has done some investigating and now plans to make a substantial investment in the development of outdoor dining and improvements to the exterior of the restaurant, according to City Manager Lynn Markland.

“In order to assist in financing and because of the substantial investment, the owner has decided to request the City Council consider the sale of the property,” Markland added.

He said he has discussed the possible sale with the city assessor, Tonya Molloseau, who provided him with the $4,270 sale price for See OUTDOOR PATIO on 18

Think varicose veins are just a cosmetic issue?

Think again!

Varicose veins are a sign of vein (venous) disease.

Now that your deductible has been met... it’s time to have your varicose veins treated.

By Thomas A. Shuster, DO
Board Certified Vascular Surgeons
Fellow American College of Surgery/American College of Phlebology

1-877-771-VEIN
600 Health Park Blvd. Ste. G, Grand Blanc • 810.606.1660

Blood
Valve

NORMAL VEIN

VARICOSE VEIN

Symptoms may include pain, swelling, restlessness, burning, itching, fatigue of the legs as well as skin damage. Learn more about vein disease at www.flintveins.com
Not reading natural text
Celebrities do it - ‘Y’ not you?

The Y Lift ™ is your fastest, safest (non-surgical), technique for a natural look

By Sally Rummel
news@ctimes.com

Every time you look in the mirror, you may begin to notice that each advancing year has diminished your high cheekbones, defined jawline and nice, taut neck.

You’re still confident in your appearance and have never even considered plastic surgery or a traditional facelift. But if you can instantly turn back the clock and achieve a very natural, more youthful look over your lunch hour, wouldn’t you want to do it?

The Y Lift ™ is the newest technique in today’s generation of non-surgical facial contouring procedures, pioneered by Dr. Yan Trokel, a New York cosmetic surgeon.

Y-Lift trained, Dr. Eric Seiger, Medical Director of the Skin & Vein Centers (in Fenton, Sterling Heights and Garden City) performs the procedure locally and is one of only 17 surgeons in the U.S. to do so.

As a highly-skilled cosmetic surgeon for more than 25 years, Dr. Seiger has earned a national reputation for using cutting-edge technology and science. He pioneered The Hour Lift, a mini-facelift technique more than 15 years ago, and considers the Y Lift ™ the most amazing non-surgical, facial/neck procedure he has ever seen. Many patients elect Seiger’s “Total Lift,” which combines both the Y Lift and Hour Lift techniques to achieve a desired look.

The Y Lift ™ itself, re-volumizes the facial structure from the hollowness under your eyes, to your cheekbones, jawline and neckline. It can literally be done during your lunch hour, with no incision, stitches or general anesthesia. You can resume your daily activities immediately after the procedure.

Here’s what to expect:

Q. What happens during the procedure?
A. The Y Lift ™ is performed, first using novocaine to numb the area. Then, a specialized titanium instrument is inserted beneath the skin and maneuvered through designated parts of the facial region to instantly lift and contour the muscles, fascia and fat underlying the skin.

Once lifted, naturally occurring hyaluronic acid is then added to hold the new position of the facial features, at which point the titanium instrument is removed. The rejuvenated face is then “sculpted” by Dr. Seiger to accent and highlight each individual’s facial features highlighting their natural beauty.

Q. How long will the Y Lift ™ procedure take?
A. The entire procedure itself takes 30 minutes. Include some time for a consultation beforehand and a brief follow-up afterward.

Q. Is the procedure painful?
A. The Y Lift ™ doesn’t involve any painful surgery, sutures or anesthesia. A local anesthesia is applied to manage any discomfort.

Q. What can I expect during recovery?
A. There is no recovery time with the Y Lift ™ and you can resume normal activity right away. However, you may have some slight swelling and soreness for a couple of days.

Q. How much does the Y Lift ™ cost?
A. The cost can be determined at a free consultation and is based on each patient’s particular age and facial structure and the type and amount of fillers used.

Q. Can I talk to anyone from The Skin & Vein Center who has had the Y Lift ™ done?
A. The Skin & Vein Center can arrange for a contact with someone who has had the procedure and agrees to speak to prospective patients.

Thinking about having The Y Lift ™?
You’re a Neighbor, Not a Number.

Brown and Brown’s professional advisors are your neighbors, friends and community members with the resources of the industry’s premier regional and national carriers behind them. Whether for personal, commercial or life insurance, we strive to provide the highest level of service and seek the most effective insurance solutions at a competitive price.

“I take pride in making sure clients are properly covered with the best products to meet their individual needs.”

Stephanie Natzke
Personal Lines Sales

Aims to boost revenue, save money and create positive culture

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Since his first day on July 1, Adam Hartley has hit the ground running in his new job as superintendent of Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS).

On Monday, he outlined to the Fenton Board of Education his July through Dec. 31 goals.

Finance

Finance is one of the goals from the action plan Hartley unveiled when he started in the district.

Hartley said he will continue efforts to address budgetary issues and develop a strategic plan for addressing budget allocations, while enhancing teaching and learning.

Embracing the SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely) concept, Hartley said by Dec. 31 he will have a list of both cost savings and revenue-generating opportunities for Fenton schools.

He has already implemented one board-approved cost saving measure successfully.

“We are piloting Odyssey software for credit recovery labs,” said Hartley. It was possible to license Odyssey software through Swartz Creek Community Schools, the district he came from.

“This allows us to provide a high school course in our credit recovery labs, saving more than $25,000 this year by doing so,” he said.

A credit recovery lab is where students behind in their high school credits can catch up.

A revenue-generating idea being considered is a long-term lease for the property owned by FAPS — a parcel of land between the administration building on Owen Road and the Target store.

“That’s something we’re pursuing later in stages,” Hartley said. “We’ve got it narrowed down to two companies that are looking for a long-term lease from us. Things like that.”

To achieve his financial goals, Hartley said he will hold continuous learning sessions with all district administrators and the teachers union.

He will review the current organizational chart of the district, each department, and individual buildings to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

Hartley also will research peer districts and learn what others have done to save money and generate revenue. He will then create a marketing plan that is focused on bringing in new families and retaining current families.

Student Achievement

Hartley said he plans to build upon the academic success of the school district, while expanding technology integration and professional learning communities, to ensure a world class education, maintain high student achievement and improve student achievement gaps.

“By Dec. 31, I will hold instructional walk-throughs in each building with principals and district administrators,” he said. “This will be to build on the common understanding of what effective classroom instruction entails in Fenton Area Public Schools in order to provide quality educator feedback under the new educator evaluation system.

“I need to make sure that I learn and become an expert on how we evaluate our teachers,” Hartley said. “I will be walking around with administrators, observing classrooms and talking about various strategies teachers use. Then I can see how administrators evaluate teachers. It is important for me to get into classrooms. Between now and December, I will have been to each building.”

Communication and Culture

Hartley plans to establish transparent communication and collaboration with all members of the school community to create and maintain a true culture of learning and expand on the work of the Board of Education and previous administration.

“By Dec. 31, I will have baseline data on the overall culture within the Fenton Area Public School community and will improve the communication and transparency centrally to administration to both the FAPS staff and families,” he said.

Hartley said he will be creating a series of surveys to help meet this goal.

“They will be available on the website (www.fentonschools.org), I will be sending emails, and reminding families about the surveys via our phone messaging system,” he said.

“We will also have stations available during parent-teacher conferences in November,” Hartley added. “There, parents can sit down at a Google Chrome book and complete a survey.”

The surveys, he said, won’t be available until late October and during parent teacher conferences in November.

“This is going to give us some baseline data on how we do with communication and learn what the overall culture of the school is,” he said.

Hartley said he can use this data to potentially increase the positive culture and have more effective communication coming from his office. He wants to know peoples’ perception so he can close any gaps.
While the landscaping is still well tended, the house on Shiawassee Avenue, as of Friday, Sept. 9, was nearly gone.

SHIAWASSEE

Continued from Page 3A

Milford Salvage & Iron is being paid $16,450 by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to tear down the house, which includes asbestos abatement and demolition. Bloomingdale will be re-using the wood for making tables, chairs or other furniture. The goal was to salvage everything of historic and architectural significance.

The work to repurpose the items removed from the house will be done by places like The Work Shop in Detroit, which specializes in creating new products from repurposed materials. We will do some of it ourselves, too,” said Bloomingdale.

“What we do that we think is unique is we’re going to brand the lumber with the address that it came from. We’ll have some pictures, some of the history. Then we brand the address. We have not decided about adding the zip code, but we might so wherever it goes people will know where it came from.”

Bloomingdale said there are a great deal of people looking for vintage lumber. “We’ve been building homes for years, and have demolished a lot,” said Bloomingdale. “I always felt bad about disposing of material that we’re never going to find again. Slow-growth lumber doesn’t exist anymore and here we are throwing it away.”

That’s why Bloomingdale decided to get himself a warehouse and start dismantling and reusing materials out of these homes. Next week, a crew from Milford Salvage & Iron will come out with their heavy equipment to help remove the last five or six beams from the basement, heavy equipment to help remove the last five or six beams from the basement, a short time later rebuilt to what it was today.

“Someone stored them there,” Bloomingdale said. “They probably came from the hotel that was once on or near that site. We took some brick from the chimney and gave them to the museum.

“The museum has been great working with us in researching the history of the material,” said Bloomingdale. “The stable came from one of the owners of the house. There’s a story that goes along with these materials.”

Bloomingdale promised to stay in touch so that Fenton residents, especially those interested in history and historical artifacts, will be able to see some of the “cool” things that will become of the salvaged materials.

How it all started

Since it became public earlier this spring that the DDA intended to demolish the house, community members have spoken against the plan. They want to preserve the house and what’s left of the history of downtown Fenton.

The age of the home and its historic nature came into question and became a topic of controversy. It was originally believed that it was a hotel built by Judge Daniel LeRoy and William Fenton in 1837. It was later revealed that the house, after being dismantled and changed over the years, may have been torn down in 1901 and a short time later rebuilt to what it was today.

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That’s why Bloomingdale decided to get himself a warehouse and start dismantling and reusing materials out of these homes. Next week, a crew from Milford Salvage & Iron will come out with their heavy equipment to help remove the last five or six beams from the basement, which is currently fenced off.

“They are the wood beams that came from the original stable,” Bloomingdale said. Once items are removed, the concrete from the basement will be dug out and the hole filled. The parcel will be graded and grass planted.

Bloomingdale said he is taking away approximately 2,000 square feet of all vintage lumber. “We got doors, windows, trim, the 9-inch base molding that runs parallel with the floor,” said Bloomingdale. “It’s very unique and rare.

“We also got iron grates out of the floor, one of which we gave to The Iron Grate store across the street,” he added. “We got some really unique brick that was not necessarily part of the building.

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We can help consolidate all those high interest rate credit cards into one reasonable payment!

Put more cash in your monthly budget. Lower your current monthly payments with our low interest debt consolidation loan. Bundle your outstanding higher interest loans, credit cards and bills into one easy lower payment. It’s like starting over at square ONE.

Fenton

— At approximately 7 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, several local fire departments were called to a fully involved structure fire on Main Street at Eddy Lake Road, just inside the city of Fenton limits.

Because the fire department couldn’t confirm the whereabouts of the home-owner at the time, they conducted multiple searches for the person inside, fearing he may be deceased.

Almost immediately, friends and family members took to social media discussing the fire, and suggesting the owner was “up north.”

Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff confirmed his whereabouts at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

According to Cairnduff, following the fire marshal’s investigation, the cause of the fire is undetermined.

On Wednesday morning, Fenton City, Linden, Fenton Township, Holly/Groveland and the North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA) were on the scene, while Hartland Township Fire Department covered for the city of Fenton until the fire was handled.

Cairnduff said there was heavy fire when they arrived, and that it was necessary to pull firefighters out of the structure initially. One firefighter was transported to a local hospital for treatment of minor injuries, leaving with his foot wrapped.

Just before 9 a.m., fire personnel were able to begin to ease traffic congestion, as motorists waited through significant traffic backup east of the scene.

Fire destroys Fenton home

Fire department confirms owner up north at time of fire

By Tim Jagielo
tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

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Police Appreciation Picnic set for Sept. 24

Here’s your opportunity to thank your local police

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

If you have ever wanted to thank a police officer for putting their lives on the line every day for you, a Police Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 24 will give you an opportunity to do just that.

Herman Ferguson, who has spearheaded a national campaign of Concern Over Police Safety (C.O.P.S.), has teamed up with Tim Scarberry of Wind Walker Farms in Tyrone Township to plan a day to bring police officers, families and community together in one place.

The picnic begins at 2 p.m. at Wind Walker Farms, located at 9204 Valley View Dr., off Foley Road between Hartland and Runyan Lake roads.

The picnic will include: hot dogs, ice cream, live music, a bounce house, games, pony rides and horse demos, and will last into the evening with a bonfire and fireworks.

Most importantly, the picnic will open dialogue between police officers and their communities. “We want our police officers to know how much we appreciate what they do,” said Scarberry.

Police officers and families from Genesee, Livingston and Shiawassee counties have been personally invited, and Ferguson is hoping to include officers from Oakland County as well.

This picnic is a local demonstration of support for police that has gone national through Ferguson’s efforts. He has distributed 20,000 C.O.P.S. wristbands to police departments in 45 states.

“I really hope the people of this community feel as strongly as we do about our police,” said Tim Scarberry, Co-organizer.

The Police Appreciation Picnic set for Saturday, Sept. 24 resulted from Herman Ferguson’s efforts to support police through C.O.P.S. (Concern Over Police Safety), a movement that has now impacted police departments in 45 states.

Ferguson is also looking for a really large flag that can be hoisted on a crane up to 120 feet high. “As we raise it up, Dave Scarberry, Tim’s brother, will play the ‘Star Spangled Banner.’”

Scarberry said he’s had nothing but positive response about the Police Appreciation Picnic from every person he has spoken to.

“I really hope the people of this community feel as strongly as we do about our police, said Scarberry. “I’ve got to believe that there are a lot of people who believe in law and order like I do. I’d like to see people come out and get a conversation going. We’re all just people.”

Shooter of pregnant Linden woman back in court

Suspect facing multiple murder charges

By Hannah Ball
hbail@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

During a preliminary exam on Wednesday, Sept. 7, Genesee County District Court Judge Jennifer Manley ordered Jacquelyn Faye Tyson to undergo a competency evaluation to determine if she is competent to stand trial.

Tyson, 54, has been charged with first-degree, premeditated murder, assault with intent to murder and two counts of felony firearm.

On Tuesday, July 26, Grand Blanc police officers responded to 11284 Grand Oak Dr., the leasing office of Grand Oaks Apartments, on reports of two females being shot.

Johnson was pronounced dead. Work, who was pregnant at the time, was put on life support so doctors could deliver her baby, Marley by emergency C-section. Work died Friday, July 29.

Work was formerly of Linden and Johnson lived in Mt. Morris. They both worked as leasing agents with Grand Oaks Apartment complex.

Tyson is lodged in the Genesee County Jail on $1 million bond.
Linden City Council approves second annual zombie walk
By Hannah Ball
hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792
Linden — Blood, guts, and gore are coming to Linden for the second year in a row on Oct. 14.
At its meeting on Monday, the Linden City Council unanimously approved the second Zombie Walk, put on by the Linden Arts Council.
Sue Turpen, president of the Linden Arts Council, addressed city officials and answered any questions.
“'I'm excited about it. It was a great success last year,” she said.
“It was the first time we had ever done anything like that.”
The walk, which will take place between 6 and 9 p.m., will start near the Fairview Cemetery entrance on Tickner Street, and will make its way to Main Street, where the flash mob dance will take place.
Turpen said the dancers will perform to Michael Jackson’s “Thriller,” a popular Halloween song. Afterward, a disc jockey will play music for about an hour.
Tickner Street will be temporarily closed.
The public is invited to attend and dress up like a zombie with fake blood, pale skin, and torn clothing.
“We’re expecting it to be bigger and better. We had about 250 walkers last year. I’m sure that we’ll up that,” she said.
A few council members said they’re looking forward to attending.
Councilor Danielle Cusson said, "I just want to clarify — it’s not actually starting in the cemetery, because I know this was an issue we had last year, it’s outside the cemetery."

HOT LINE CONTINUED
I WOULD LIKE to know why the Hot-liner never puts his hand over his heart.

I KNEW SOMEONE would be appalled by the Hot-liner’s comment about the trip to Ann Arbor. How do you know it’s had a positive impact?

TRUMP IS NOT going to do what he says. Remember, he flip-flops. He’s like a bull in a China shop.

HILLARY WILL GET Flint’s water problem back in order. I know she’s behind Karen Weaver. Trust me.

HISTORY HAS PROVEN that KKK and Jim Crow laws were started by southern Democrats. Conservatives should want to ensure that this factual information was written properly into all books.

HILLARY FINALLY ANSWERED questions from the press for the first time in a year. Apparently, her favorite color is yellow, she likes puppies and she likes long walks in the parks.

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Dr. Jeremy M. Grove DDS
501 S. Bridge Street
Linden, MI
810-735-7511
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Speed and alcohol factors in fatal U.S. 23 crash

By Hannah Ball
hbali@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

A 38-year-old man died following a rollover crash on northbound U.S. 23 at 3:33 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13.

According to the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office, Gene Todd Harrington of Burton lost control of his 2002 Chevrolet pickup truck while driving northbound on U.S. 23 just south of Lahrig Road in Fenton Township.

Harrington’s truck ran off the road and to the right, causing the vehicle to roll over. He sustained life-threatening injuries.

“Harrington was ejected from the vehicle during the crash. Alcohol and speed appeared to be contributing factors in the accident,” according to the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office.

He was transported to Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc Township where he died from his injuries.

It was reported via police scanner that the taupe-colored pickup truck was “all over the road” before ending up on the side of the highway. The Fenton Township Fire Department, Linden police and the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office controlled the scene. The sheriff’s office reconstructed the crash scene for their investigation, which prompted the closure of northbound lanes for several hours.

Traffic was backed up for miles on northbound U.S. 23 after the crash. A local fire department blocked off U.S. 23 just north of the North Road entrance, diverting traffic to other nearby roadways. Emergency responders cleared the crash site and reopened the northbound lanes at 7:39 p.m.

Your ‘change’ can help many local kids

The State Bank’s ‘Change for Kids’ program kicks off another year

The State Bank is kicking off another year of fundraising for its “Change for Kids” program, which supports the children and families in six local schools districts, including Fenton, Lake Fenton, Holly, Linden, Grand Blanc and Brighton.

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Change for Kids began in response to the local need to assist low and moderate income families.

“We especially want to provide the educational goals.” said Stacey Webb, The State Bank vice president.

“We want to meet the basic physical needs ranging from toothpaste and deodorant to clothing and shoes.

“We also want to provide the educational supplies needed to be a successful student, such as pencils, paper, markers, binders, backpacks and other necessities. These materials provide the foundation so that students can concentrate on their educational goals.”

Funds are collected through a variety of fundraising events organized by Bank staff.

Upcoming fundraisers include:

• Villagers Restaurant (Holly) Sept. 27, 3-9 p.m. – 15 percent of all sales during this time will be donated back to Change for Kids.

• Candle sales — all branches are selling jar candles in various scents for $7.

• Candy bar sales — all branches are selling candy bars for $1.

• Customers of The State Bank are also very generous and supportive of this local cause, often times making a monetary donation when visiting a branch. Additionally, the bank itself also makes a large donation to this program. To date, the Change for Kids program has raised over $60,000 for local schools.

The funds can be used by the districts at their discretion as needs arise. For example, one district purchased a mattress and bedding for a student living with grandparents who could not afford it. Another district used the funds to assist a family that lost everything in a fire. Additionally, funds have also been used to provide food, clothing, toiletries and miscellaneous supplies as needed.

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MEGA OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND! SUNDAY 1-3PM

JohnWentworthGroup.com | WentworthWaterfront.com
Linden joins dog park efforts

Anonymous $10,000 donation kick starts process

By Hannah Ball
hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Linden — On Monday, the Linden City Council unanimously passed a resolution verbally agreeing to support the Thompson Road Regional Dog Park. Linden now joins Fenton Township and the city of Fenton in developing this regional dog park in Fenton Township.

“The fiscal implications are none as of yet,” said Linden City Manager Paul Zelenak. “That will be spelled out later in the agreement. Right now, they’re just taking donations.”

The city of Fenton joined in the effort to develop this dog park after receiving a $10,000 donation specifically for this purpose.

The 2.2-acre dog park, part of a larger approximately 36-acre park, is located on Thompson Road, just east of Wiggins Road. The bigger park will include baseball diamonds and soccer fields. The area will be handicap accessible, with hardtop surfaces for parking and a path.

Linden will begin helping to raise funds, and plans to approve an agreement at a later date relating to maintenance and other activities, Zelenak said.

“One of the things we had asked about was the maintenance costs and I see that’s still something being left to be decided,” said Councilor Danielle Cusson.

Zelenak said one thing they discussed with the park planners was making sure the dogs are either licensed or had some test done to prove they don’t have diseases like rabies.

“It was discussed that each community would chip in at a later date for maintenance... whether it’s supplying doggie bags or maintain the lawn out there,” Zelenak said. “But those things have not been finalized.”

The park is currently in the fundraising phase. The public can donate a certain amount of money to become a sponsor (see sponsorship opportunities with this story at tctimes.com).

“There needs to be lot of dialogue on this,” said Councilor Ray Culbert. He said controls need to be in place so they don’t have dogs in the park that aren’t licensed and aren’t up to date on their shots.

“This is an opportunity to do a regional thing with Fenton, Fenton Township and Linden... I think that’s always good,” Culbert said.

Ray Culbert
Linden City councilor
HOT LINE CONTINUED
IN THE FBI interview, Hillary said she couldn’t remember many things. She never remembered firing anyone for erasing 23 days of emails, she never fired anyone for destroying government records. She doesn’t recall putting our national security at risk.

OVER THE LAST few years, the Philippine President has killed more than 2,400 involved in the drug trade in Philippines. He said they were ruling his country.

HAVE YOU NOTICED that the only thing that gets the Hillary Clinton scandal off the front page of the news is her newest scandal, which is week after week?

A PRESIDENT WAS born last night. He’s not a politician, he’s an American. He has a plan to save America, to restore law and order, and to put America first in terms of safety and security. Trump is the only candidate who can save our country.

ARE YOU AWARE of the battle lines being drawn in Georgia and New Jersey over the proposal to build a new huge mosque and Islamic schools against strong opposition in towns where construction is being proposed?

THEM IMPEACHED THE president of Brazil and booted her. Maybe there’s still hope for us, we need to get rid of Obama.

YESTERDAY, HILLARY GAVE a speech in front of the American Legion, to a group of about 5,000 veterans. She had a very lukewarm response to her talk. She did not talk about her abuse of the VA system and how she ignored the treatment vets received. She did not talk about her role in the Benghazi scandal.

AS SHE EMBRACES open borders, uncontrolled immigration and Black Lives Matter, Hillary Clinton and her Democrat party are now associated with being anti-border, anti-military, anti-police, anti-Christian, anti-white and, of course, anti-American.

I’M NOT SURE what in the world is going on in this country, but it seems to me the powers that be are slowly getting us ready for the USA’s death knell.

THE GET OVER it bully continues to tell us what to think about downtown development, that we can do nothing about it. So, good citizens of Fenton, are we going to just roll over?

I LOVE THE Linden mill. Great job to Linden for preserving its history.

THE ONLY REASON why I need a building permit to put a roof on my house is so you bastards can keep your hands in my wallet. Come on, my roof was leaking, I needed to get it fixed.

LINDEN MAN JOINS ACORN WEALTH ADVISORS
John Bleyaert has served clients in his position as a Private Wealth Advisor since January at Acorn Wealth Advisors in Grand Blanc. A graduate of the University of Michigan in 1981, he earned his Certified Financial Advisor designation in 1987. Bleyaert has been working in the investment industry since 1983, working at both banks and Registered Investment Advisor firms. He and his wife, Susan, reside in Linden. Acorn Wealth Advisors is located at 8305 S. Saginaw St., Suite 2 in Grand Blanc, telephone (810) 953-4444.

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Specializing in post-acute rehabilitation and nursing care, we are designed to provide a bridge to recovery and wellness. We invite you to learn more about WellBridge at www.thewellbridgegroup.com
METH LAB
Continued from Front Page
public information officer.

Finding three young children in the home, including a newborn, the Department of Human Services removed the children.

Flint Area Narcotics Group (FANG) assisted with the investigation.

Kaiser said responding troopers recovered a one-pot methamphetamine lab, three grams of meth and components for producing the drug.

Several weapons were also recovered during the raid.

One man and two women were arrested and transported to the Genesee County Jail, pending arraignments, which were held on Aug. 31.

Kevin H. Ross, 48, of Gaines Township was charged with eight felonies including operating a meth lab, operating a meth lab in the presence of a minor, possession of meth/ecstasy and felony firearms. His cash surety bond was set at $200,000.

Mary A. Morris, 36, of Gaines Township was charged with the same eight counts as Ross, plus an additional charge of manufacturing and delivering a controlled substance. Her cash surety bond was set at $225,000.

Rhonda Ross, 53, of Sebewaing was charged with six felonies, including running a meth lab, and manufacturing and delivering of a controlled substance. Her cash surety bond was set at $60,000.

All three co-defendants are expected to stand trial.

LAJOICE
Continued from Front Page

Brandon Community Credit Union, which has since been taken over by the Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, earlier that week. He reportedly told law enforcement at the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office that he embezzled approximately $20 million from this credit union over the past 12 years. He had been the chief financial officer (CFO) since June 2015.

On Jan. 6, LaJoice was arraigned on 14 felony counts of embezzlement, each count in excess of $100,000. He is facing federal bank fraud as well.

LaJoice passed a competency evaluation in March and was deemed competent to stand trial.

On Sept. 12, he was in court for a pre-trial hearing where no plea deal was worked out. He is scheduled to stand trial Dec. 12 and face the embezzlement charges.

Manley said he is trying to resolve the cases before Dec. 12.

“You can never have loose ends in these cases. It’s better to take your time and do it right rather than do it quickly and have something go wrong later,” he said.

LaJoice-owned properties in the city of Fenton, including the site planned for the “Riverview” project, have all been sold to SkyPoint Ventures.

SkyPoint bought his properties at 229 West Caroline St., 125 South Adelaide St., 219 South Adelaide St., 116 Mill St., and 108 South LeRoy St.

Manley said the sale of LaJoice’s 5,800-square-foot home in Tyrone Township is scheduled to close by Oct. 7.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

FENTON TOWNSHIP AND Genesee County Road Commission need to make the paved portion of Ripley Road a marked 45 MPH zone. I’m sure people think it’s 55 but I heard it isn’t.

I’VE TRIED. I mean I really tried to give Andrew Heller a chance. I enjoy articles that are not only informative but also interesting. Heller just makes up these stupid stories? A few months ago he claimed he was talking with Trump’s publicist. Bring back the King,

SO, ROMNEY BACKS Gary Johnson for president. Wow, does that mean that Romney is smoking the same thing Gary Johnson is so proud to smoke (weed).

WHO ON EARTH thinks it is acceptable to throw fast-food bags, liquor bottles, water bottles etc. out of their car window? There are trashcans everywhere for you to throw your trash. You should be ashamed.

IT’S AMAZING HOW under Obama the unions have lost so many members and lost so much power despite them giving millions toward his election.

MR. OBAMA HAS placed a red line on North Korea I bet it is the same red line that was placed on Syria. Hence, his election. Despite them giving millions toward his election.

I sincerely wish the attorney general had included discussions with the local municipalities and the charities before rendering this opinion.

Pat Lockwood
Fenton City councilwoman

“The charities use all safety precautions while soliciting in the streets,” Lockwood added. “I believe this ruling by the attorney general will have a serious impact on their ability to do the good work that they exist for.

“Charities such as the Lions, Project Graduation, Old Newsboys, VFW, Fireman’s Fill the Boot and many more will be impacted,” she added. “I sincerely wish the attorney general had included discussions with the local municipalities and the charities before rendering this opinion.”

Lockwood said she believes all requests for street solicitations will be denied based on this new opinion.

“This is the law,” she said.

While the law is intended to ensure the safety of everyone on the roadways, Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said, “We haven’t had any injuries or accidents that I’m aware of in Fenton because of this activity.

“I volunteered with the Old Newsboys in the past,” he added. “However, when the Michigan attorney general gives an opinion indicating that an activity is a violation of law, my opinion or feelings don’t really matter. I took an oath to uphold and enforce the law and that’s what I do.

“All of the organizations we have worked with here in the past are great groups with a worthwhile cause,” Aro said. “I’m hopeful they can find another venue to use that works, possibly large stores, events, etc.”

Fenton Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff said his department stopped collecting at intersections for the “Fill the Boot” campaign about eight to 10 years ago for safety reasons.

During her 24 years on the Fenton City Council, former Councilwoman Cheryl King consistently voted against allowing street solicitations, citing safety reasons.

IT’S TIME TO GET PINK!
Financial Plus Credit Union’s Pink Night fundraiser has joined forces with the Hurley Foundation Pink Palooza fundraiser to introduce the first annual Pink Night Palooza!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6
Holiday Inn Gateway Centre • 5-11 PM
This year you’re guaranteed to get a seat and great food to eat!

- SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS • DANCING •
- DRINK SPECIALS • BRA-RTISTRY FASHION SHOW •
- PLENTY OF FOOD, SEATING & MORE!

Proceeds Stay Local, Benefiting:

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES STILL AVAILABLE!
Contact Laura Jasso, at ljasso@hurleymc.com or 810.262.9589

Y ou should be ashamed.

Jessica Whitten McDonald also commented. She said, “I guess I don’t understand what the problem is. You can certainly still give to any of these organizations, just not from the convenience of your car window.”

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CABLE
Continued from Front Page
Comcast of Michigan, getting local approval for the franchise agreement is the first step in a multi-step process. Although he said it was too early to tell, Ponto said he believes construction could begin sometime early next year. Ponto was not at liberty to reveal what exact services Comcast will provide to Fenton residents, but what areas will be served first, but said the public will be informed as soon as possible.

“Charter Communications does not have an exclusive franchise with the city,” said City Manager Lynn Markland. “The city of Fenton also has a franchise agreement with AT&T U-verse. The AT&T U-verse is available in some areas of the city.”

In his letter to the city, John Gardner, director of external affairs for Comcast, Heartland Region in Lansing said, “We look forward to continuing to be the company that your residents look to first for the communication products and services that connect them to what’s important in their lives.”

HOT LINE
CONTINUED
IRAN IS TAUNTING our ships and North Korea is talking about shooting our airplanes down. Our president is out campaigning in Korea to talk about re-negotiation of the Treaty of Alliance and you do not want to respect your national anthem the door swings both ways. Find another country where you will have a better life than here and be respected more. Don’t let the door hit you in the butt.

OUTDOOR PATIO
Continued from Page 3A
the property. Sorise and his wife, Margaret, have agreed to the price.

Markland said there are no public utilities located on the parcel to his knowledge. The outdoor seating will be on the south side of his restaurant, facing Main Street. It will be fenced in, as liquor will be served to diners.

The parcel has a zero lot line, which means the building wall is on or in close proximity to First Street, which is no longer a real street.

The Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grille may not obstruct any sidewalk or pedestrian right of way adjacent to the outdoor seating area.

Once the sale of the property is completed, the restrictions outlined will not be an issue, said Markland. “The property is a part of the old street right-of-way and we will not need it for future development of the downtown,” he added.

The Fenton Hotel Tavern & Grille will be responsible for maintaining the parcel in accordance with applicable ordinances and regulations.
Fenton volleyball begins defense of Metro League title, crushes Brandon

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

Fenton — So far the Fenton varsity volleyball season has gone about as good as can be expected, but success can have its issues.

The Tigers created a preseason goal of winning two weekend tournaments, and that’s already become an issue. Why? Well, let’s let Fenton senior Kiley Aldred explain why.

“Our goal was to win two tournaments, and we’ve already won two tournaments,” Aldred said. “Now our goal is to win four tournaments.”

The team also has a couple of other goals according to Aldred. The Tigers want to repeat as Metro League champions and advance beyond the regional championship game as well. The Tigers took the first step toward the Metro League title goal on Tuesday, defeating Brandon 25-12, 15-14, 25-5 at Fenton High School.

Aldred is excited about the season. “I think we have a lot of room for improvement, but I think we are a strong team and can make it far this year. When we put our mind to it and bring the intensity I think this team has a lot of potential.”

continued online at TCTIMES.com

Allen expanding his role with Wolverines

Fenton resident adds punting to his starting chores this fall

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

Kenny Allen’s dream keeps getting better.

Growing up a Michigan Wolverine fan, the Fenton resident always wanted to be a member of the Michigan football team.

He accomplished that goal when he joined the Wolverines his freshman year in 2012, not under scholarship.

Since then, Allen’s dream has continued to get better and better.

In 2013, he appeared in one game and registered a first punt of 51 yards. During his junior season, he earned his first varsity letter and appeared in 11 games. Last season, Allen finally became the team’s starting placekicker on all kickoffs, field goals and extra points.

Now, this fall reality may have finally surpassed his own dreams. Allen, who is under scholarship for the Wolverines, is the team’s starting placekicker, punter and field goal kicker.

“It feels good. It feels good to be back out there and doing all three again,” Allen said. “It’s been a long time since I’ve done all three, but it’s fun.

“It’s incredible. Looking back it’s kind of weird how things have turned out. I’ve been beyond blessed. I’m beyond happy and now my time is winding down. By no means am I done yet, but it feels like the hard work has paid off, and it’s a great feeling.”

The journey

When Allen was handling all the kicking duties for the Fenton varsity football team in 2011, he had a full-ride scholarship offer from Oregon State. He had many big-name Division I football teams interested in him, places where his trip to being a starting kicker/punter looked like a bit easier path to navigate. After all, there was a time when he was ranked the second-best punting recruit coming out of his senior class in the nation. But Allen didn’t want easy. He wanted to be a part of the Michigan football program, so verbally committing to Michigan was his choice.

“My whole life, me and my brother have played football outside and pretend

See ALLEN on 20A

Linden, Holly volleyball open Metro League season with victories

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

It was a strong start to the Metro League season for two area volleyball squads.

Linden proved why the Eagles are among the contenders in the league race by defeating Swartz Creek, while the Holly Bronchos proved they may be steadily improving by beating Kearnsley.

continued online at TCTIMES.com

Fiberglass
•
• Winterization
• Complete Winterization service Outboard, Stern Drive, Inboard
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOSDEN
Linden’s Alexus Harden leads the team as the players slap hands after the Eagles’ win against Swartz Creek.
**TRI-COUNTY SPORTS**

**Holly boys tennis collect 99th straight Metro League dual win**

By David Troppens

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Holly — The Holly varsity boys tennis team has won 99 straight Metro League dual tennis meets.

Can the Bronchos get to 100? They’ll have to wait until next fall.

Holly concluded its dual portion of the Metro League season by crushing Swartz Creek 8-0 on Tuesday.

All but one of the flight victories were in straight sets. The only match to go three sets was played at No. 3 singles where Cason Konzer was pushed to a third set against Jacob Pitcher.

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**Linden soccer wins a pair of 3-1 verdicts**

By David Troppens

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The Linden Eagles recorded a pair of 3-1 victories last week, defeating Orchard Lake St. Marys by that score on Monday and Goodrich by the same score on Wednesday.

“We are doing all right,” Linden varsity boys soccer coach Kevin Fiebenerzt said. “We are off to a good start, obviously. Our biggest thing now is we have to stay healthy and we have to be able to be consistent.”

Against St. Marys, the Eagles got three goals from Julian Shier to earn the victory.

“The St. Marys game we won 3-1, but the better team was St. Marys. They were as good this year as they were last year.”

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**Allen continued from Page 19A**

we were a team. Every time we’d pick Michigan,” Allen said back in the fall of 2011 when he verbally committed to Michigan.

Patiently, Allen worked and prepared for the day he thought he’d be Michigan’s starting punter. After all, that’s the position he was being groomed for most of his career. However, when a starting position opened up, Allen ended up earning himself the field goal/placekicking duties last season.

He made a positive difference. Allen converted 18-of-22 field goals, hitting a long of 47 yards. He also made all 46 of his extra points and all three of his field goals.

**Becoming a punter as well**

Entering this season, Michigan needed a new punter, opening up possibilities for Allen.

“I knew they would’ve rather not having me do all three if they had a choice, but as camp went on, I was doing all right doing all three of them,” Allen said. “It kind of eased their mind a little bit. Toward the end of camp they made up their minds that I’d be doing all three.”

Two games into the season, working triple duty hasn’t been a problem at all. Allen leads the team in points, converting all 10 of his extra points and all three of his field goals. Eight of his 13 kickoff attempts have gone for touchbacks, as Allen is averaging 46.4 yards a kick. His newfound punting duties didn’t begin until last week’s 51-14 victory against Central Florida. That’s because Allen never got a chance to punt in the season-opening 63-3 victory against Hawaii. Last week he punted three times.

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**Holly girls golf**

The Bronchos placed ninth out of 17 teams at the Oakland County Division 2 Tournament, held at The Links at Crystal Lake in Pontiac on Wednesday.

Megan McReynolds shot a personal-best 18-hole score of 91, leading Holly to a team score of 386. Kate Brown shot a 93.

**Lake Fenton volleyball**

The Blue Devils lost a competitive match to Powers in three sets. The Chargers won 28-26, 25-23, 25-18.

Allison vonDaggenhausen led Lake Fenton with eight kills, seven digs and two aces while Hannah Garty had eight digs, seven aces.

———

**HOLLY GIRLS SWIMMING**

Alex Karakuc won the 100 butterfly (1:13.62) and the 100 backstroke (1:15.17), and also was on two winning relay teams, but the Bronchos still lost a tight dual to Avondale 97-87.

Karakuc teamed with Kelly Sky, Lydia Breather and Hannah Erhard to win the 200 medley relay (2:19.26) and the 200 freestyle relay (2:05.16) as well.

Brauher took first in the 200 freestyle (2:31.44) while Sky won the 100 breaststroke (1:23.63).

**HOLLY BOYS SOCCER**

The Bronchos (4-4-1) were outscored 4-1 in the second half, resulting in a 5-2 loss against Auburn Hills Avondale on Thursday.

Lucas Sammat scored his eighth goal of the season in the contest, while Darius Reynolds scored Holly’s other goal. Holly keeper Parker Munday made 23 saves.
Q: When I’m driving down the road at night sometimes my headlights go out for no apparent reason. What could be the cause of this?

A: This sounds like a circuit that is possibly overheating do to a poor connection. If they come back on after cooling down for a while then this is most likely the cause and should be looked at soon as overheating electrical can cause a fire. If the problem only happens when you hit a bump in the road, this could be a loose connector or fuse and sometimes can be found by taking your hand and hitting different areas until the lights flash or go off. A bad headlight switch can do this as well.

Try turning the light switch off and on when this happens to see if it corrects itself. If so I would replace the switch.

Visit our website at www.viccaneverchevy.com/GMRecalls to check.

Look here for best auto options for busy families

By Sally Rummel

The phrase “family car” conjures up old memories from “Leave It To Beaver” or cargo area.

That’s a far cry from today’s popular family vehicles, providing the best combination of space, safety, reliability, technology and other family-friendly features. At Vic Canever Chevrolet, the Chevy Traverse and Chevy Equinox are two large crossover luxury SUVs that stand out for families who are looking for spacious interiors, cargo room, safety features like rearview cameras, plus entertainment options, according to Jeff Canever, sales manager.

Families looking for sedan options may want to consider the Chevy Malibu, one of the highest rated vehicles in its size and class. Its roomy back seat can comfortably carry kids to school or co-workers to lunch. Its intuitive infotainment system and Teen Driver system add to its appeal. The Teen Driver system allows parents to set limits on some aspects of the Malibu’s operation and get report cards on how it is driven, with the goal of encouraging safe driving habits in new drivers.

Matt Lasco at Lasco Ford recommends that larger families take a close look at the Ford Flex and the Ford Explorer. The Ford Flex offers a spacious and comfortable interior with three rows of seating, plus all the styling and tech options that make it appealing to adults and kids. The Ford Explorer continues to be a popular large crossover SUV with three rows of seating. It is a comfortable ride, has good fuel economy for its class and an impressive array of safety aids and tech features, when fully optioned.

A small family looking for an economical vehicle with mini-van-type features should consider the Ford Transit Connect. “It’s a hidden gem,” said Lasco. “It seats five comfortably with space at the rear, all for a lease price of under $300. Ford has started to put incentives on it that has made it a good value.”

Look no further than Randy Wise Buick GMC for some of the top luxury SUVs for families, according to Lisa Consiglio, sales manager.

The GMC Yukon offers a number of family-friendly features, including Apple Car Play, Wi-Fi, a rear entertainment system, hands-free lift gate and proximity key. It also has safety features such as forward collision warning, lane keeping assist and a rearview camera.

The main difference between the Yukon and the Yukon XL is the length, which adds more interior space.

If you’re in the market for a large SUV with seating for up to eight, the Buick Enclave should be on your list. Along with plenty of passenger room, you’ll also get numerous standard features and generous cargo space.

For smaller families looking for a sedan, Consiglio suggests the 2017 Buick LaCrosse, with its new body and re-designed style. “It’s absolutely beautiful,” said Consiglio.
New 2017 models are rolling into area dealerships

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

Local dealerships are just as excited as customers are about the new 2017 models rolling into their showrooms this time of year. Now it’s a good time to not only see what’s new, you’ll also likely find excellent sale and lease deals on 2016 models still on the showroom floor.

“A lot of our models are changing over to 2017,” said Jeff Canever, sales manager at Vic Canever Chevrolet. “Watch for the new 2017 Chevy Cruze Hatchback. It’s compact, but has cargo space for storage, camping equipment, etc. It’s sleek and roomy.”

Canever is also excited about the 2017 Chevy Volt, with extended 50-mile battery range before it kicks into gas. “It’s already in our showroom,” he said.

A lot of great vehicles are hitting the Lasco Ford showroom, according to Matt Lasco. “Watch for the Escape and Explorers to be freshened up with great styling, more color options and sport packages,” he said.

Trucks continue to be the big seller at Lasco Ford. The new 2017 Super Duty F-250 and F-350 pickups and the 2017 F-150 Raptor are the hottest vehicles this year, according to Lasco.

“We’ve got 16 Raptor® on our lot, one of the largest inventories available in the state of Michigan, based on our truck sales,” said Lasco.

This second generation Raptor®, which debuted in 2010, is of one of Ford’s most spectacular sales successes, Today’s model has been thoroughly engineered as a special vehicle unto itself, with a dedicated chassis and powertrain to go with the special bodywork. “These are mostly custom order trucks,” said Lasco.

“We’re transitioning now from the 2016 models to the 2017s,” said Lisa Consiglio, sales manager at Randy Wise Buick GMC. “It’s a great time to buy 2016s, because we’re closing them out with strong year-end leases.”

The long-awaited convertible Buick Cascada is creating a lot of excitement, along with the new Buick Envision and new GMC Acadia. “People should stop in and take a look at these vehicles,” said Consiglio. “These are all new re-designed vehicles with all new body styles.”
FALL means it’s time for car maintenance

Here are the four most important systems to check on your car or truck this fall

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

With rainy and snowy weather on the way, fall is just the right time to make sure that your vehicle is in good working order.

Here are four parts of your car to check thoroughly while the weather is still sunny and warm, according to pepboys.com:

TIRES
Your tires are the only point of contact between your car and the pavement. Any signs of wear, alignment issues or a bent wheel can compromise your car’s safety, ride comfort and fuel efficiency.

BRAKES
Make sure you hear no scraping or grinding noises or notice that the brake pedal is soft or spongy when applied. These are all signs of a braking issue, which can make braking difficult or dangerous.

LIGHTS
Check your headlights, brake lights, fog lights and hi-beam lights for clarity. These are very important for foggy, rainy conditions, especially in the dark.

WINDSHIELD WIPERS
Replace your windshield wipers if they are worn, cracked or streak when in use. Your vision is obscured by ineffective wipers, and it can be annoying as well as dangerous. Replace the wipers while it’s still warm outside, for your own comfort.

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