Unfinished neighborhoods coming back to life

Construction on new builds indicates better economic times are here

By Vera Hogan 
vhogan@cttimes.com; 810-433-6823
People driving around the tri-county area are seeing something they haven’t seen in a long time — construction of new homes on private parcels and in unfinished subdivisions.

Jeff Payne, building official for the city of Linden, said there has been an

un

finished subdivisions.

These permits are in subdivisions that had stopped building due to the recession.

“ These permits are in subdivisions that had stopped building due to the recession.”

Jason Payne
Building official for the city of Linden

Common Core says cursive writing unnecessary

By Hannah Ball 
hball@cttimes.com; 810-433-6792
Writing in cursive is harder and requires more thought because the letters require different hand movements, which engages both the left and right side of the brain.

“Traffic fix — southbound

Traffic fix — southbound

Poplar onto westbound Silver Lake Road, put a big sweeping right-turn lane through Conklin Park and merge to the existing unused lane on Silver Lake Road. Keep the big tree in a new median. No brainer.”

“With Bob Evans. Ruby
tuesday and Kmart closing, who will be next in Fenton?”

“Stupid is as stupid does,
said Forrest Trump.”

“If I had a

If I had a teenage daughter in this day and age, I would never let her go to a mall.”

Denise Keipert
Fenton Zonta Club director

“Doesn’t matter how Trump performs in a debate. The media will favor Hillary and criticize Trump. The moderator, Lester Holt, is an acknowledged liberal. If people would simply ignore the candidates words and focus on their actions, the decision of who to vote for would be simple.”

Police say it is ‘very common in that area’

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@cttimes.com; 810-433-6823
A Fenton area woman and her daughter are grateful to be safe this week after an incident that occurred on Sept. 21.

On that day, Anna (whose name has been changed for safety reasons) stopped for gas at the Mobil station at Hill Road and U.S. 23. She was with her attractive, young teenage daughter, Sara.

Anna said there was a young man in the gas station store with them, according to the surveillance video.

“We didn’t notice him in the store,” said Anna. “He tried to open the driver side door when I was at the pump and my daughter was in the passenger seat.

“I thought maybe he wanted to see if the keys were in the ignition, which they weren’t,” she said. “He then came around to

See HUMAN TRAFFICKING on 17A

HOT LINE

Local mom believes daughter was human trafficking target

By Vera Hogan
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HOT LINE
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Early diagnosis and treatment are the keys to beating cancer

Here are the types of cancer you are most likely to die from

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

Get ready to start seeing those pink ribbons everywhere because October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. With all the walks and fundraisers, an estimated $6 billion is raised every year in support of fighting breast cancer, according to marieclaire.com.

This particular type of cancer deserves — it’s the second leading cancer that caused death for women in the U.S., behind lung cancer. Breast cancer will affect one in eight women in the U.S., which is approximately 12 percent, and one in 1,000 men, according to breastcancer.org.

Here are the most fatal cancers (not including skin cancer) in the U.S. for men and women, according to the American Cancer Society and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Women

The three most common cancers among women are breast cancer, lung cancer, and colorectal cancer, which is a cancer in the colon or rectum.

Lung cancer is the leading cancer that causes death in women of all races, with an estimated 117,920 new cases and 85,920 deaths in 2016.

Approximately one out of four cancer deaths in men is caused by lung cancer.

The chance that a man will develop lung cancer in his lifetime is one in 14.

Prostate cancer is the second leading cancer that causes death. The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be 180,890 new cases of prostate cancer in 2016, and about 26,120 deaths.

Approximately one out of every 39 men will die of prostate cancer. However, most men diagnosed with this cancer will not die from it.

Colorectal cancer is the third leading cancer that causes death in men in the U.S. It is estimated to kill 49,190 men and women in 2016.

Liver cancer is the fourth leading cancer that causes death in men.

Men

The most common non-skin cancers in men are prostate cancer, lung cancer, and colorectal cancer.

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Cancer trends

The diagnostic rate for lung cancer has decreased 2.5 percent per year in men from 2003 to 2012, and 0.9 percent per year for women. The mortality rates for lung cancer have decreased 2.7 percent per year in men, and 1.4 percent per year in women from 2003 to 2012.

Breast cancer diagnostic rates remained level for women from 2003 to 2012, and mortality rates have decreased 1.9 percent per year.

Prostate cancer diagnostic rates have decreased 3.2 percent per year among men from 2003 to 2012, and mortality rates have decreased by 3.4 percent.

Colorectal cancer diagnostic rates have decreased 3.6 percent per year among men from 2003 to 2012, and decreased 3.2 percent per year among women. Mortality rates have decreased 2.8 percent per year among men and women from 2003 to 2012.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Check the fundraiser

November is lung cancer awareness month. September is prostate cancer awareness month, and March is colorectal cancer awareness month.

Many organizations that raise funds in support of breast cancer might not donate a large portion of the proceeds to research.

Giveforward.com urges people to research the organization before donating. Websites like the American Institute of Philanthropy, charitywatch.org, and Charity Navigator, charitynavigator.org, are watchdogs for charity organizations.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure, the most well-known breast cancer fundraising organization, scored a 81.47 out of 100 on Charity Navigator.

One common standard is making sure the organization you want to donate to spends at least 75 percent of its budget on expenses that directly go to funding awareness, research, or prevention.

Administrative expenses should be less than 15 percent.

CANCER RISK

Your Odds of Being Diagnosed

Tool Box Tip #8

Keep Your Energy Costs Down!

Unplug any electronics that aren’t being used. Many devices use energy when they are plugged in, even if they’re turned off.

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I need a break — we all need a break — from the election. I’m going to write about jungle gyms, specifically the one in a black and white photo — circa 1920s or so — someone posted to Facebook the other day. You should see this thing. It’s a lawyer’s dream and an insurance company’s nightmare — metal pipes, without protective coatings, no wood chips or rubber mats to cushion falls, no warning signs saying don’t do this or that, no netting, no safety monitor with a whistle. Somehow, despite any of that, the kids seem to be having a ball. Some sit or balance like wire-walkers atop the highest bars, which are 20 feet high. Others swing on swings hung 10 glorious feet off the ground. How they got on the swing, so anybody’s guess.

Under the whole construct — park benches that would easily snap a falling kid to death, our slide was way too long and got finished by the Nazis. Our monkey bars were way too high, our swings too long, our trampolines too high, and for heaven’s sake, there’s not one time were all brand new. Did you know that? They weren’t built that way. Why do they look like hell now? The reason is, they weren’t built that way. The neighborhood would get up on weekends or summer days, gulp some Lucky Charms, then race out the door. We’d be gone all day jumping banana bikes off ramps, blowing things up with firecrackers, playing ditz in the woods, damming creeks, playing completely unauthorized football, carving sticks for sword fights, jumping off swings, etc. We’d only go home when Mom hollered out the door for dinner or the streetlights came on. Our lives, in short, were a lot like the nightmare — metal pipes, without protective coatings, no wood chips or rubber mats to cushion falls, no warning signs saying don’t do this or that, no netting, no safety monitor with a whistle.

That’s a good thing, of course. Safety first. Blah, blah, blah. But for all the safety and security built into today’s society, I do think kids — whose lives are wrapped in bubble wrap and hovered over by helicopter parents — are missing out on something that my generation took for granted.

Let’s call it freedom. Or maybe a certain sense of adventure, writ small. When I was a kid (yes, I know, cue the sappy string music), every kid in the neighborhood would get up on weekends or summer days, gulp some Lucky Charms, then race out the door.

We’d be gone all day jumping banana bikes off ramps, blowing things up with firecrackers, playing ditz in the woods, damming creeks, playing completely unauthorized football, carving sticks for sword fights, jumping off swings, etc. We’d only go home when Mom hollered out the door for dinner or the streetlights came on. Our lives, in short, were a lot like the movies ‘Sandlot’ or ‘Stand By Me.’

Not today. Unsupervised children running around and doing who knows what? No way — it wouldn’t happen. Too dangerous. Today, kids’ lives are structured, supervised, tracked and sanitized for their protection, and thank goodness for it. But I’m still glad I grew up when I did.
The Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce will then make endorsements of candidates they feel will best represent the business interests of the community.

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“Meet the Candidates’ this week for local elections

By Sally Rummel
break@tctimes.com 810-629-8282

Fenton event is Oct. 4, followed by Linden on Oct. 11

Local “Meet the Candidates” events in Fenton and Linden will give residents an opportunity to learn more about candidates who will be on the ballot Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8.

“Meet the Candidates” in Fenton will be Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Fenton Community & Cultural Center, sponsored by the Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The focus will be on the race for the State Representative seat in the 51st District, including Incumbent Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township) and Ryan Bladzik (D-Village of Holly).

Each candidate will have five minutes to introduce themselves, then they will be asked a series of questions prepared by the Political Action Committee of the chamber. P.A.C. Chairman Patrik Welty will moderate the event. The forum will then be opened for questions from the audience.

Candidates for Genesee County Commissioner, Republican candidates Drew Shapiro and Democratic candidate Pete Ponsetti, will also be on hand for an opportunity to introduce themselves and distribute literature.

Linden’s event on Oct. 11 will be held at the Linden VFW Hall at 7 p.m. “This is the first time we have held separate events for Fenton and Linden,” said Welty.

Candidates for the Linden City mayoral race and council seats will participate in the same form as the Fenton event.

Mayoral candidates W.R. “Jack” Furry and Danielle Cusson, and Linden City Council candidates Ray Culbert, Heather MacDermid and write-in candidate Jeremy Zinn will field questions from the P.A.C., then from the audience.

Police&Fire

DISORDERLY CONDUCT IN HOLLY

At 10:30 a.m., on Monday, Sept. 26, Holly police received a larceny complaint from a resident in the 200 block of Grant Street. The homeowner reported that someone stole her moped, described as an orange 2012 Dykon. The homeowner had both sets of keys to the moped. The moped was separated the man and woman into different rooms, hoping they’d fall asleep but as soon as the officers exited the residence, they could hear the couple yelling again and throwing things. Officers could see neighbors watching the situation and knew the couple was disturbing others. Police eventually arrested the couple for disorderly conduct. At the police station, the woman had .148 percent blood alcohol content (BAC) and the man had a .142 BAC.

MOPED STOLEN

At 4:23 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, Holly police responded to a residence in the 4000 block of Grange Hall Road for “family trouble.” The officers made contact with the 46-year-old male and his 37-year-old ex-girlfriend. The man said his ex-girlfriend was intoxicated, causing trouble and he wanted her to leave. Loud arguing led to items in the residence being thrown, causing damage. Police advised the woman to keep her voice down so not to disturb their neighbors, but she refused. The woman told police that she had been at the bar drinking and then drank a 12-pack and Fireball after returning to the man’s residence. The man said he had been drinking since 6 p.m. the previous evening. The officers eventually arrested the couple for disorderly conduct. At the police station, the woman had .148 percent blood alcohol content (BAC) and the man had a .142 BAC.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

TO THE COWARD who sneaked around in the night and stole my ‘Pray To End Abortion’ sign. Thanks for taking away my first amendment right to speak on behalf of the unborn. I’m only hoping you took it home and put it in your own front yard.

WARNING! NEW PHONE scam from 845-600-3439. Caller says they are from Microsoft support saying that your computer is sending them warnings. They want access to your computer to fix it. I told them I will call Microsoft myself and the guy with a heavy accent hung up.

IT’S CLEAR WITH the debates and then the election that the left and the right are polarizing their positions — but remember, come Nov. 8, we’re all going to end up at the same poll.

THANK YOU to the person(s) responsible for the incredibly generous contribution to my aunt’s funeral. Words cannot describe how much it was truly appreciated. Thank you.

VEK’S LOOKS GREAT since they spruced it up. I love that old service station.

HOT LINE

For Personal & Commercial Insurance

Tim Martin
Hartland Insurance Agency, Inc.
2532 N. Old US-23 • Hartland • MI
810-632-5161

Auto-Owners Insurance
Life Home Car Business

LICENSE #140081

Tri-county fundraisers

Fenton VFW to hold spaghetti dinner
VFW Auxiliary 3243 in Fenton is holding a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 8 at the VFW Post, 1148 N. LeRoy St. The dinner will be served from 4 to 8 p.m. and features all-you-can-eat spaghetti served with salad, bread sticks, dessert and beverages. The fundraiser is to benefit auxiliary member Bonnie J. Pray as she prepares to be elected as Michigan VFW Auxiliary president for the 2017-2018 year. Pray has served as president of the Fenton Auxiliary, the 10th District VFW Auxiliary and is presently senior vice president of the Michigan VFW Auxiliary. She has also been chairman for the VFW Voice of Democracy Audio Essay and Patriot’s Pen Essay contest for the Fenton group. Pray joined the Fenton Auxiliary in August 1977 and became a Life Member on Sept. 27, 1994. She joined on the eligibility of her husband, John H. “Jack” Pray who served overseas in the U.S. Navy and earned the Vietnam Service Medal and National Defense Service Medal.

New senior vice president will lead eight Coldwell Banker Professional locations

William McCullen has joined Coldwell Banker Professionals as senior vice president and director of special operations for all eight locations, including Fenton. His leadership role will include strategic planning, merger and acquisitions and special project leadership. The Coldwell Banker Professionals office in Fenton is located at 120 N. LeRoy St., telephone (810) 629-2220.

Business briefs

Watching Chester
Have you ever wondered what your dog does all day while you are at work? I do. Does Chester mope around waiting for us at the door? Does he sprawl out on the couch all day?
Now that I have a new Petzi cam, I, along with my family, can spy on Chester anytime we want. It’s great. In return for spying on him, we can also treat him to a small snack.
The Petzi camera/snack holder syncs with an app that we all downloaded onto our phones.
Word to the wise — be selective to whom you give your password since they can turn on the camera at anytime of the day and see what’s going on in the room where the camera is located. My only fear is that someday I might see a stranger standing in my home while we are at work.
Chester has learned the sound that the camera makes when the app is opened on our phone. We can also make the camera chime to get his attention.
Using the app, we can select the dog bone icon to throw dog treats on to the floor. There is about a two-second delay so once we click on the dog bone icon, we can see Chester wait with anticipation before the two or three small dog treats are tossed into the room for him to chase and eat.
We’ve shown this app and Petzi cam to several people at work, at friends’ homes and even to strangers who hear us talking about it while we are out. Everyone wants to watch us throw treats to Chester. I’m guessing there will be some of these units under the Christmas tree this year.
To top it off, we can even talk to Chester. We love how he recognizes our voices and tilts his head, possibly in confusion or excitement — it’s hard to tell.
If you find yourself missing your dog while you are out for the evening or away at work, you might want to check out this fun new toy. I think I’m going to see what Chester is doing now.

From the editor

Sharon Stone

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If you find yourself missing your dog while you are out for the evening or away at work, you might want to check out this fun new toy. I think I’m going to see what Chester is doing now.
**BROADWAY-STYLE SHOW COMING TO CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ON OCT. 9**

“Cring & Clazzy,” an inspirational Broadway-style two-piece band, will perform “567: Go Tell It from the Mount,” a modern-day, humorous look at the Bible’s Sermon on the Mount on Sunday, Oct. 9 at 9:30 a.m. and 11:11 a.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church, 15010 N. Holly Rd. in Holly.

The duo of Jonathan Cring and Janet Clazzy has been touring together for 20 years. Cring has written 16 symphonies, 12 books, recorded 10 albums and written 13 screenplays, some of which have been made into movies. Clazzy has performed with numerous symphonies, include the Chicago Symphony at Carnegie Hall. She was the first primary female orchestra conductor in Tennessee. She performs on an instrument called the WX5 Wind Machine, a horn touting the sounds of 250 different instruments. WX5 Wind Machine, a horn touting the sounds of 250 different instruments.

**TO THE HOT-liner asking, “Why conservatives believe 150 million Americans are just being lazy rather than 400 Americans are greedy?” There is overwhelming evidence. Go to any impoverished area in America to see lazy. In contrast, the 400 create philanthropic foundations to give away their greed.**

**FROM THE LA Times. Democrats, starting in January, will not control a single governorship, U.S. Senate seat, or legislative chamber from the Carolinas to Texas.**

**FARMHILL AND ORCHARDVIEW residents please slow down. This sub is full of children. Let’s keep them safe.**

**MEET THE CANDIDATES**

**51ST STATE REPRESENTATIVES**

**Fenton**

Tuesday, October 4
7:00pm-9:00pm
Fenton Community & Cultural Center
150 S. Leroy • Fenton

**MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL**

**Linden**

Tuesday, October 11
7:00pm-9:00pm
Linden VFW Post 4642
105 Mill St. • Linden

There will be an opportunity for the public to submit questions to the candidates running for State Representatives - Fenton and Linden Mayor & City Council. The Political Action Team will ask questions that are important to businesses. If you are concerned about a particular political issue, please contact the Chamber office at 810-629-5447 or email your questions to info@fentonchamber.com.
OCT. 2
1985: Actor Rock Hudson, 59, becomes the first major U.S. celebrity to die of complications from AIDS. Hudson’s death raised public awareness of the epidemic, which until that time had been ignored by many in the mainstream as a “gay plague.” Hudson was a Hollywood heartthrob whose career in movies and TV spanned nearly three decades. To protect his macho image, Hudson’s off-screen life as a gay man was kept secret from the public.

OCT. 3
1995: At the end of a sensational trial, former football star O.J. Simpson is acquitted of the brutal 1994 double murder of his estranged wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman. In the epic 252-day trial, Simpson’s “dream team” of lawyers employed creative and controversial methods to convince jurors that Simpson’s guilt had not been proved “beyond a reasonable doubt,” thus surfacing what the prosecution called a “mountain of evidence” implicating him as the murderer.

OCT. 4
1957: The Soviet Union inaugurates the “Space Age” with its launch of Sputnik, the world’s first artificial satellite. The spacecraft, named Sputnik after the Russian word for “satellite,” was launched at 10:29 p.m. Moscow time. Visible with binoculars before sunrise or after sunset, Sputnik transmitted radio signals back to earth strong enough to be picked up by amateur radio operators. Those in the United States with access to such equipment tuned in and listened in awe as the beeping Soviet spacecraft passed over America several times a day.

OCT. 5
1966: Eugene Hasenfus is captured by troops of the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua after the plane in which he is flying is shot down. Under questioning, Hasenfus confessed that he was shipping military supplies into Nicaragua for use by the Contras, an anti-Sandinista force that had been created and funded by the United States. Most dramatically, he claimed that operation was really run by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

OCT. 6
1926: Yankee slugger Babe Ruth hits a record three homers against the St. Louis Cardinals in the fourth game of the World Series. The Yankees won the game 10-5, but despite Ruth’s unprecedented performance, they lost the championship in the seventh game.

OCT. 7
2003: Austrian-born actor Arnold Schwarzenegger is elected governor of California, the most populous state in the nation with the world’s fifth-largest economy. Despite his inexperience, Schwarzenegger came out on top in the 11-week campaign to replace Gray Davis, who had earlier become the first United States governor to be recalled by the people since 1921.

OCT. 8
1871: Flames spark in the Chicago barn of Patrick and Catherine O’Leary, igniting a two-day blaze that kills between 200 and 300 people, destroys 17,450 buildings, leaves 100,000 homeless and causes an estimated $200 million (in 1871 dollars; $3 billion in 2007 dollars) in damages. Legend has it that a cow kicked over a lantern in the O’Leary barn and started the fire, but other theories hold that humans or even a comet may have been responsible for the event that left four square miles of the United States governor to be recalled by the people since 1921.

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THERE’S NO DEBATE!
John Tremaine is the MOST QUALIFIED real estate agent in town!
Are you listening?

Communication is 20 percent verbal, 80 percent body language and tone

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

Do you ever zone out when someone is speaking to you? Your thoughts might drift to something else if the conversation isn’t stimulating for you.

Or do you find yourself thinking about what you’re going to say before the other person finishes speaking, meaning you missed parts of the conversation?

These are all signs that you might be a bad listener.

Roger Flax, PhD, a corporate communications and leadership consultant, talked with the magazine Bottom Line Personal about what makes you a bad listener, and what you can do to fix it.

Someone might be a bad listener because they get distracted. When you’re speaking with someone and they ramble on about a dull topic, your mind might wander and you’ll miss an important part of that conversation.

For example, if someone starts talking to you about fantasy football or “Keeping up with the Kardashians,” and you don’t care for either, you’re likely to tune out the conversation.

Jumping to conclusions can also distract your brain.

When someone is speaking to you, and you infer where the conversation will go, you’ll focus on the ending and miss what’s being said in the moment.

Another way distraction can deter you from listening is your own unintentional close-mindedness. Certain controversial phrases or people, like Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, can cause people to lose all interest in listening to someone speak if mentioned.

People also often let offensive statements and their emotions get in the way of having an important conversation.

When someone uses a potentially offensive term, it can distract someone from potentially important information and giving the speaker their full attention.

Bad listeners also make the conversation about him or herself. If someone is telling you about a personal issue, and you’re thinking about how when they’re finished speaking, you’ll tell them about yourself, you aren’t listening very well.

Another type of bad listener is someone who thinks that they know what the speaker will say, and rushes them to finish.

Flax also said that people who refuse to reexamine their initial interpretation of a conversation are bad listeners.

People who only focus on words, while ignoring body language and tone of voice, could also benefit from working on their listening skills. According to psychologistworld.com, communication is 20 percent what’s said and 80 percent non-verbal.

That 80 percent includes body language and tone.

Flax said in order to overcome this, practice on reading in between the lines. Pay attention to tone of voice and body movement to have a better understanding of what someone is saying.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

PEOPLE THINK THE grass is greener on the other side. I’ve got news for them. It’s not.

PRETTY HARD TO blame the Republicans for Flint’s water mess. Democrats have been running it for decades.

VERA HOGAN’S ARTICLE about TSA failure forgot to disclose that they are very good at Detroit in confiscating the unopened Sanders hot fudge in a glass jar I sent home to Seattle with my daughter. It is totally out of control there, no common sense.

THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION, eight years and the man has done nothing good.

ALL TALK, NO action — Donald Trump.

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Meet

CHERYL HARPER

• 1990 Fenton homecoming queen
• Mother of five
• Certified nurse assistant and author

By Hannah Ball

Cheryl (Rockman) Harper, 43, graduated from Fenton High School in 1991 and has lived in Fenton her entire life. While attending Fenton, she was a cheerleader, ran track, played tennis, and skied on the Silver Lake Water Ski Team. Her hobbies include photography, cooking, baking, writing, spending time with her kids, and repurposing old furniture.

Did you expect to win homecoming queen?

I was so surprised to even be chosen for the homecoming court that being crowned queen was beyond exciting. It was truly an honor and meant a lot to me.

How were the homecoming festivities?

The senior and junior girls participated in ‘The Blunder Bowl’ the week of homecoming. We wore orange and black face paint as well as handmade sweatpants and jerseys, showing our colors and school spirit. The event was held on the football field and track where we ran races, such as three-legged race, potato sack race, 100-yard dash, egg toss, tug-of-war and many more.

What is something people are surprised to learn about you?

I’ve never drank coffee. I think it’s nasty. I live on ice cold Mountain Dew and I only drink it in a styrofoam coffee cup from Speedway. It’s my daily fuel, along with lots of prayer. My faith in God and my Mountain Dew is what gets me through the day, and my life is crazy busy so I need it to keep up.

Tell me about your writing.

I published a book in 2007 titled ‘My Saving Grace’. It’s a self-help book written to inspire and encourage mothers who have a full life but an empty spirit. Oftentimes, after women get married or become mothers they lose sight of themselves and the energy that once made them feel alive and happy.

Children are the most precious blessing but their daily demands from infant up to teenager is exhausting and can leave us mothers feeling hopeless on most days. The book has touched many lives and I have received countless letters from women who felt the message truly reached their hearts when they needed it most. Choosing to stay grounded in your faith and focusing on the things that really matter, will bring peace to your chaos and balance in your walk through life, marriage and motherhood.

You can purchase the book online or pick up a copy at the Tri-County Times in Fenton.

What’s something people are surprised to learn about you?

I’m a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) and an entrepreneur. It’s in my DNA to stay busy. I’m always working on a project, taking care of someone, or investing my time and energy into my children and their many activities.

I was so surprised to even be chosen for the homecoming court that being crowned queen was beyond exciting. It was truly an honor and meant a lot to me.

Cheryl Harper

900 FISH homecoming queen

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Popular in the ’90s, fewer comedies are using artificial laugh tracks

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

“Fewer and fewer TV comedy shows are using laugh tracks, which could indicate that form of TV comedy is becoming less and less popular.

Some popular shows throughout the years that use a laugh track include “The Fresh Prince of Bel Air,” “Mom,” and “The Big Bang Theory,” which is defying the trend of the declining laugh track shows. The 10th season of the show premiered Sept. 19 on CBS. See LAUGHTER on 19A

As the season of the show opened, to the audience, “I Love Lucy” was filmed in front of a live studio audience.

Outline for Proposed Article -

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As the season of the show opened, to the audience, “I Love Lucy” was filmed in front of a live studio audience.
Legacy Realty expands into Davison with new office

Within first year, the Davison office has tripled its space and number of agents

By Sally Rummel

Legacy Realty Professionals, Inc. in Fenton opened a new office in Davison in September 2015 and in just one year, has tripled its space and the number of agents working from that location.

“We’re excited about our opportunities,” said broker/owner Patrik Welty. “One of my agents, Kevin Usealman, who lives in Davison, was doing more and more business in Davison and Lapeer and needed an office to work from. Now, agents Kelsey Kerr and Tina Grant are also working from that office.”

The new office is at 222 N. Main St. in Davison, sharing space with Superior Travel’s downtown office. The new Davison office phone number is (810) 652-6525.

“We lease the back two-thirds of the building,” said Welty. “We just recently completed an expansion project and added these additional agents. Now our Davison office is part of all of Legacy Realty’s mar-

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHY ARE THE roads so horrible on Main Street in Linden by the post office and in the Lindenwood subdivision? Dirt roads would be better than driving through there.

DONALD TRUMP, COULD you please build a huge wall on U.S. 23 between Lahring and North Road exit? Illegal noise from cars, semis, and motorcycles is affecting my sleep.

IN ADDITION TO Bob Evans, Ruby Tuesday and Kmart closing, McLaren Physical Therapy also closed. Stem the tide, Fenton officials, before we have a ghost village in a vibrant city. Start with streetlights on the bridge over U.S. 23. It’s dangerous at night with no lights.

UAW WORKERS, FORD is moving all small car production to Mexico. More jobs gone for the UAW workers. Trump says he will put an end to this and start bringing jobs back to America. Shouldn’t we vote for Trump and keep our jobs here because Hillary surely doesn’t care?

HAVE YOU EVER noticed that when Hillary or Tim Kaine talk they spend all of their time bashing Trump. They don’t talk about their policies they just bash Trump.

DIVERSITY EQUALS DISCRIMINATION? Obviously, all men are created equal: This town is getting better every day through diversity and inclusion. Get over it!

I THINK THE Fenton DDA took lessons from Hillary Clinton on how to exploit a government appointment for your own benefit.

LIBERALS AND CONSERVATIVES have different views on human nature. Liberals’ views are based on ideology, conservatives’ views are based on history. Human nature is the same today as it’s always been, for as long as there’s been humans.

ABC (ANYBODY BUT CLINTON) we have had 30 years of Hillary with Bill’s governorship, attorney general of Arkansas, two-term president, secretary of state in Obama administration. Her mean, vicious and stupid actions force me to vote for Trump.

WHAT, WE DON’T have to vote Republican or Democrat? I am voting for Danell Lane Castle for President.

DO SOME RESEARCH, you’ll find that you are wrong. President Reagan never said ‘trickle-down economics.’ It is derogatory slang invented and used by small-minded liberals.

Legacy Realty Professionals, Inc. in Fenton opened a new office in Davison in September 2015 and in just one year, has tripled its space and the number of agents working from that location.

“arithmetic, promotion and communications.”

The Fenton office of Legacy Realty is at 526 N. LeRoy St., telephone (810) 629-1511.

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HairPlay welcomes new manager, stylists

Fenton salon adds staff to its growing business

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

HairPlay Salon in Fenton introduces a variety of new stylists to its staff of experienced hair designers.

Kimberly Burek-Godziebiewski has been styling hair in the Fenton and Holly areas for more than 25 years. She is co-owner of the salon with her sister, Carolann Powers.

They are pleased to welcome new salon manager, Lisa Kildow, a stylist for more than 30 years; stylists Arina Robison, Jill Frost, Christopher Fischer, and Darlene Ritz, who handles Young Living Essential Oils.

HairPlay is well-known for family hair care, as well as color specialists, using highlights, extensions and expert styling techniques for the latest trends. During the month of October, HairPlay will be giving away a free single pink extension in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

HairPlay is at 14278 Fenton Rd., next to Sagebrush Cantina. Business hours are Monday through Saturday for walk-ins and appointments, telephone (810) 629-5001.

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Calendar of events

Equestrian Conservancy Barn Tour
the Highland Equestrian Conservancy (HEC) Barn Tour is set for Saturday, Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The self-guided tour will feature several historic and working equestrian barns in Highland, Milford and Springfield townships. The event will be held rain or shine. Barns will have indoor demos and tours. Tickets may be purchased at the Huron Valley Council for the Arts the day of the tour or in advance on HEC website. Call (248) 889-7328 or visit www.highlandequestrians.org.

This week’s inserts

- Alpine Marketplace
- Auto Value
- CVS Pharmacy
- Direct TV
- Harbor Freight
- Holly Foods
- Rite Aid
- Sears Hometown Stores
- Target
- Taylor Hardware Store
- ULTA
- VG’s
- Walmart
What you can do

What happened to Anna and Sara is consistent with measures used by would-be human traffickers.


Forced teaming is one way. He describes a true scenario where a mom is shopping with her 12-year-old son. The son wants to leave but the mother hasn’t finished her shopping. A harmless-looking young man standing nearby approaches her and strike up a conversation about how he was in the same boat a short time ago. He said his son finally went to a video-gaming place in the same mall and offered to take her son down there, and that she could come and pick him up when she was done shopping.

Her antenna went up, of course, and she said “no thank you.” But the young man kept at it. In several ways to get her to listen to his side and the boy away from his mom. The young man also provided too many details, which is another sure sign that something is not right. Talking to a young boy not wanting to be at the mall about video game places and a pet shop with a real lizard is a trick to entice the child.

He tried many more tricks to win the mother and her son over, which apparently worked, because the mother let her guard down momentarily and her son was gone. That was three years ago and he hasn’t been seen since.

De Becker, president and current director for the Fenton Zonta Club, said in an earlier interview that Michigan is No. 2 in human trafficking cases.

Awareness and prevention of human trafficking (along with eliminating domestic violence) is among Zonta’s missions worldwide.

“We’re among the states that are within two hours of an international border,” Keipert said.

“If I had a teenage daughter in this day and age, I would never let her go to a mall,” she added.


These people know how to find vulnerable individuals, such as kids from broken homes and runaways. They first gain their trust and by the time the victim knows what is happening, it is too late. It has happened here before. In 2014, Lake Spa, at 1490 Torrey Road in the city of Fenton, was under investigation by Fenton police for prostitution and possible human trafficking.

The investigation was initiated after Fenton police began receiving complaints of prostitution activity taking place there.

“A very real concern of ours is that this situation could involve a human trafficking operation involving young girls brought here for the purpose of prostitution and other exploitation,” said Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton in early 2014.

The spa, which was believed to have ties to organized crime in Chicago, was shut down.

“No matter how engaging a stranger might be, you must never lose sight of context,” said De Becker. “He is what he is — a stranger who approached you.”

What is human trafficking?

According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery involving the illegal trade of people for exploitation or commercial gain. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States.

It is estimated that human trafficking generates many billions of dollars of profit per year, second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of transnational crime.

Human trafficking is a hidden crime as victims rarely come forward to seek help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement.

Traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to lure their victims and force them into labor or commercial sexual exploitation. They look for people who are susceptible for a variety of reasons, including psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardship, lack of a social safety net, natural disasters, or political instability. The trauma caused by the traffickers can be so great that many may not identify themselves as victims or ask for help, even in highly public settings.

Signs of human trafficking

The following signs can be helpful in determining if someone or several people may be victims of human trafficking.

They include:

• Multiple people living in a cramped space
• The inability to speak to an individual alone
• When you do speak with him or her, the answers appear to be scripted and rehearsed
• The possible victim is living with his or her employer
• The employer is holding identity documents
• Poor living conditions
• There are signs of physical abuse
• The possible victim is submissive or fearful
• The person is unpaid or paid very little
• The individual is under 18 and in prostitution

Continued from Front Page

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING Continued from Front Page

the front of the car. My daughter opened her door and said ‘Mom, there is a man standing here’ and pointed at her.

“He was looking right at me and was coming toward me and asked him ‘what’s up,'” Anna said.

The man then asked Anna, “How old is your daughter?” To that she responded, “It doesn’t matter.”

Anna said she quickly hung the gas hose back and hurried around the back of the car to the driver’s side door. “He then opened the passenger side door where my daughter was,” said Anna. “She closed the door and I told her to lock it. He continued to stand outside her window and said ‘Mom, there is a man standing outside your car’ and pointed at her. He shouted, ‘I wasn’t going to rob you!'”

Anna said she wasn’t sure what the man’s intentions were. When she filed the police report, the officer said there wasn’t anything very common in that area.

“He said a similar incident happened at the Grand Blanc Walmart parking lot recently,” she said.

Anna suspected human trafficking when he asked her daughter’s age.

“I didn’t know why he was asking but thought later maybe he and his friend were looking for a certain age group,” she said. “I said something when they work in pairs one of the people is sent as a distraction. That may have been his role to distract me.”

Anna learned later that there was another man involved.

“The gas station attendant said she saw him with another man on the surveillance video,” she added. “I never saw the other man.”

The man who approached Anna and Sara is described as a black man, between the ages of 18 and 25. He had a small to medium build with black hair. He doesn’t recall what clothing he was wearing.

Anna said she is not still frightened about this incident. “I consider it a blessing that we weren’t harmed and were able to get away safely,” she said. “My daughter hasn’t mentioned it in awhile. I definitely feel like I need to be more cautious,” said Anna. “I made a lot of mistakes that night, like not locking my car while I was pumping gas and not paying attention to what he was wearing or driving. I just wanted to get out of there quickly. It was terrifying.”
**CURSIVE**

Continued from Front Page

and teachers to make decisions at the local level about to teach reading and writing so they can teach cursive if they think it’s what their students need. The decision to include cursive when teaching writing is left to states, districts, schools and teachers.”

Rebecca McCormick, a second-grade teacher at Hyatt Elementary School in the Linden school district, said all students at Linden are taught cursive.

“It is very important for a number of reasons including helping those students who learn kinesthetically to better understand how to spell and read words,” she said.

Students start learning cursive in second grade.

“It is a milestone for most of them,” McCormick said. “Once students have learned all of their letters, we work on writing cursive words and sentences. At this point most students make the transition to reading cursive.”

Familyeducation.com cited a study by Indiana University that found that children’s brains when drawing or writing on blank paper activated parts of the brain used by adults when reading and writing, and just tracing or typing letters showed much less brain activity.

Certified graphologist David Littmann of Rose Township said, “More than 3,000 nerve endings in each of our fingertips are directly connected to the brain. Executing sequential finger strokes in cursive letter formations activate massive regions of the brain involved in thinking, language, and working memory.”

He said typing on a keyboard does not involve connecting letters.

“Both right and left hemispheres of the brain are engaged in connected writings. Learning cursive has also proven to be beneficial to children with dyslexia and dysgraphia, according to cursivelogic.com. “Fluidity of cursive often helps as another modality to learn and memorize certain types of information,” McCormick said. “Not to mention, once cursive mastery is achieved students can usually write very quickly in cursive versus print. Not all, but most.”

A few years ago, the College Board, an organization that prepares and administers standardized tests used in college admission and placement, found that students who wrote in cursive on their SATs scored higher than those who wrote in print.

“Cursive handwriting, when mastered, is more likely to be associated with pupil gains in fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and focus,” Littmann said. “Many other positive attributes favor cursive writers, not the least of which is that young people who have not been taught cursive cannot read documents from the past.”

According to psychologytoday.com, cursive writing forces students to focus more on how to form letters because each letter requires different movement, as opposed to simply making straight lines with print letters.

Creating this circuitry in someone’s brain by learning cursive helps with other hand-eye coordination tasks, according to psychologytoday.com. This is why student athletes often excel at more than one sport.

“Every child is a different type of learner,” McCormick said. “I would say learning cursive is a benefit to most, if not all students.”

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**Dining Times Guide**

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**Ages 5-12:** $5

**Under 5:** Free

First Fenton Buffet: Tuesday, Oct. 25
**LAUGHTER**

Continued from Page 14A

On these shows, laugh tracks are made to make a show funnier. Actors pause after a joke so laughter can be inserted. However, there are a few videos on YouTube of scenes from “The Big Bang Theory” and “Friends” without the laugh track.

Awkward silence filled the space meant for artificial laughter, which many call “creepy.”

Some sources surmise that the attitude toward shows with laugh tracks is changing. Consumers don’t like being told when to laugh, and some think the fake laughter makes the show just that — fake.

Local resident Judy Wyatt said, “When I hear canned laughter, it’s a tip-off to me that the writers aren’t that sure of their work and are trying to manipulate us.”

“I do not like them,” said another local resident Steven Lynn. “If it is funny, I will laugh. Live audiences are best.”

Comedies are changing. Shows that "break the fourth wall," meaning the actors will speak to camera, like they’re speaking to the viewers and don’t use laugh tracks, like “The Office,” gained popularity in the 2000s, giving rise to more similar comedies like “Parks and Recreation” and “Modern Family.”

In 2015, 10 of the 15 comedies followed this style, according to nydailynews.com, possibly phasing out the artificial laughing.

---

**HOT LINE**

**CONTINUED**

TO THE ELLIPTICAL bike rider, please remember to stop at the four-way stop. If you want the same respect as a car then you have to act like one.

**IF HILLARY SHOULD become president and she became mentally unable to carry on the decision-making would this be hidden from the public so her husband could function as president?**

**ARE THERE THREE parks on Margaret Drive or eight? Call Fenton Township at (810) 629-1537 to find out if you have rights to these parks.**

**I HATE TO vote for Trump but a vote for anyone else is a vote for Hillary. I’ve seen too many soldiers and diplomats die because of her actions.**

**I AM GLAD a new building is coming at LeRoy and Silver Lake Road, but where are all of those employees at LeRoy and Silver Lake Road, but a new building is coming?**

**LAKE FENTON LIGHTHOUSE home is beautiful. Hope they plan to illuminate the magnificent flag on the point.**

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE of any U.S. Secretary of State, including emails, are supposed to be via their official government email server and are part of an official record that belongs to the U.S. government. Clinton illegally used a personal email account.**

**THE WINDOWS SCAM is going around. They are using the phone number 1-800-123-1231.**

**REGARDING HILLARY, HER new tally—33,000 emails deleted, 13 phones erased, private server wiped clean, five of her staff plead the fifth.**
We invite you to discover why millions of people have entrusted their hearing to Miracle-Ear. 

CONSTRUCTION
Continued from Front Page

increase lately in residential building permit applications. These permits are in subdivisions that had stopped building due to the recession,” Payne said.

That recession started in 2007, according to the U.S. National Bureau of Economic Research. Payne said he anticipates the increase in the building of residential housing in Linden will continue.

Saddlebrook Farms in Linden is one of those subdivisions where building slowed during the recession, and where new homes are being constructed today.

Mike Reilly, building and zoning administrator for the city of Fenton said there has been an increase in Fenton, too.

“Since January, there are seven new dwellings being constructed in the city,” Reilly said. “Additionally, Mitchell Building Company will be starting construction on the Lexington Oaks subdivision.”

Lexington Oaks is located on 17 acres on the northern east side of the city. It features 53 residential parcels.

Reilly agreed that most of the new building permits issued are for construction in subdivisions where building stopped during the recession.

Reilly said he anticipates this trend will continue. “With the increase in commercial and industrial development, residential growth will continue,” he said.

According to Holly Village Manager Jerry Walker, “The village is pretty much built out due to our age and density. So what we are experiencing is mostly commercial and industrial redevelopment.”

Not so in Holly Township, however, where new building is taking place in the former Silverman-Pulte subdivision called Riverside North.

That subdivision was fraught with controversy over the years with issues ranging from a new village water plant built to accommodate the 900 promised homes there, to unpaid taxes years later.

By the year 2007, only 200 of the 900 homes were actually built, leaving Holly Village residents stuck with the higher water bills to pay for the new plant.

Liberty Shores and McCully Lake Estates are also seeing signs of building, after a long absence in construction.

Liberty Shores, too, was not without problems. The state Department of Environmental Quality filed a lawsuit Aug. 28, 2013 against the developer at the time, claiming that it destroyed wetlands and deposited sediment in area waterways.

The 182-home subdivision gained site plan approval from the Fenton Township Planning Commission in 2005.

The McCully Lake subdivision in Fenton Township features 35 lots.

The website promoting the development dated 2008 said, “This serene and peaceful community offers you a variety of lot choices including walkout, lake view or lakesfront lots.”

Until recently, the subdivision was largely empty, with only two of the 35 lots occupied.

In 2011, Patrick Welty of Legacy Realty Professionals called the building lull a new phenomenon in the Fenton area. “It’s obviously related to the economy in general,” he said at the time.

Welty said the most common scenario was that the property was developed when the real estate market was growing, but demand dropped off sharply when the properties were finished, causing the developer to go bankrupt.

“The number of lots that were being built were based on projected growth from 2003-2005,” he said. “When that demand stopped, by the time developers realized how bad the downturn was, it was too late.”

Before being called off due to rain, carpenter Kyle Hollister prepares to secure a truss to be lifted into place onto a new home in the Liberty Shores subdivision in Fenton Township Wednesday morning. Business owner Josh Tino said he has trouble finding enough skilled laborers for more than one crew, and has to turn work away.
Yapaing Wu uses acupressure, cupping and foot reflexology massage to relieve pain and promote wellness at Vitality Acupressure Massage Therapy in Fenton.

**Interested in healing using holistic practices?**

Learn more by viewing Vitality Acupressure Massage Therapy’s new video.

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

Ancient Chinese medicine meets 21st century technology with the introduction of Vitality Acupressure Massage Therapy’s new video produced by Reel-Times Video, a division of the Tri-County Times.

This 30-second video, available to view on tctimes.com, features Yapaing Wu, certified massage therapist, who brings to Fenton the practice of many forms of Chinese holistic medicine, including acupressure, cupping and foot reflexology and massage.

These methods of healing have become popular in the U.S. “You have to take care of your quality of life,” said Wu. “Just like a car needs regular maintenance, so does your body. If you don’t take care of it, you will have health problems down the road.”

Wu spent her early lifetime practicing these methods in China, then continued her education and licensing in the U.S. She opened Vitality Acupressure Massage Therapy earlier this year at 1122 N. LeRoy St., Suite G, near Fenton Home Furnishings.

To make an appointment, call (810) 354-8800.
By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

**Tigers capture outright Metro title by one stroke**

The Fenton varisty girls golf team knew that if it wanted to win an outright Metro League championship, that every stroke truly was going to matter.

After all, in their dual match with Flushing, the Tigers’ only competition in the quest of a league championship, Fenton lost due to a tiebreaker. So when the Tigers defeated Flushing by a slim 350-351 margin at the final Metro League Meet to win the league title, it wasn’t a shock. The Tigers, who won both 18-hole Metro meets during the season, won the league crown outright after having to share it with Flushing last season.

“When we lost to them in our match this year it was a tied score and we had to go to a tiebreaker because it was that close,” Fenton varsity girls golf coach Kurt Herbstreit said. “We had gotten that lesson one time on the bad end, so we wanted to all play well as a team and be very focused.”

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2016 | PAGE 22A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS**

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**Tigers make it two in row**

**Fenton boys XC repeat first jamboree’s winning ways**

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

*Linden* — The Fenton varsity boys cross country team won the first Metro League jamboree three weeks ago.

And while second-place Holly cut the gap between them and the Tigers, the results remained the same.

The Tigers had runners finish 1-2 and also had all five of their runners finish before Holly’s fifth runner finished, earning Fenton a second straight jamboree victory during the 2016 season. Fenton scored 45 points to Holly’s 56.

Meanwhile, Linden is steadily improving as well, moving from fourth to third by posting 85 team points.

The battle between Holly and Fenton remained throughout, but as the race continued, the Tigers eventually pulled a few placings better than the Bronchos, resulting in the win.

“The guys knew what they had to do and they did it,” Fenton varsity cross country coach Jesse Anderson said. “I think Holly ran smart and within themselves. At the mile, I had the scores at 90-91 between us. From there it was just a matter of who would catch more guys, and it wasn’t decided until the last mile. It was very exciting.”

Fenton’s Dominic Dimambro won his second straight jamboree race.

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**Fenton XC girls win second jamboree**

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

*Linden* — Anyone who thought the Fenton varsity girls cross country team’s victory in the first jamboree may have been a fluke, were proved wrong on Wednesday during the second jamboree.

The Tigers held on to about the same slim lead they had against the Flushing Raiders in the first jamboree, earning a second straight Metro victory.

Fenton had three runners finish within the top six and its entire top five within the top 20 placings, making the victory possible with 43 points. Flushing was second with 47, while the Linden Eagles cut into Flushing’s gap for second a bit placing third with 64 points. The Holly Bronchos placed fourth with 88 points.

“The girls worked very hard for this,” Fenton varsity cross country coach Kristina Lachowicz said.

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**LF boys take second at second GAC meet; girls place sixth**

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

History pretty much repeated itself at the second Genesee Area Conference (GAC) jamboree on Tuesday.

The Lake Fenton varsity boys cross country team finished a solid second while the Lady Blue Devils found themselves in sixth once again as well.

In the boys’ event, it was pretty much assumed Corunna would win the race, as the Cavaliers did in the first jamboree, and they did. Corunna had 19 team points. But Lake Fenton finished a strong second, scoring 33 team points. Third-place Montrose finished with 86 points.

Thomas Mueller finished in second place for the Blue Devils, posting a time of 16:07.93. Corunna’s nationally ranked Noah Jacobs won the event in 15:18.34. Following Mueller were the Blue Devils’ other scoring runners within the top 15 overall.

Isaac Golson finished in the top 10 at 17:04.1, while a pack of three Blue Devils finished just outside the top 10. Thomas Hufston placed 13th (17:40.37), while Eric Niestroy finished about a second behind in 14th (17:41.76). Just behind Niestroy was Kyle Lewis in 15th (17:46.01). Another pack finished in the 30s.

They were Remington Clemens in 35th (19:00.93), Sam Barringer in 36th (19:01.18) and Jack Miller in 37th (19:01.47).

The Lake Fenton girls were paced by Rachel Learman, who placed 21st (22:33.16), but no one else finished in the top 30. The rest of the top five were Mackenzie Rampy in 33rd (23:46.83), Olivia Snyder in 38th (24:04.35), Salina Meuller in 40th (24:12.27) and Britney Kaiser in 44th (24:30.15).

“We have a young and inexperienced team,” Lake Fenton varsity cross country coach Chris Sobczak said. “They are starting to figure out what they are capable of. Most runners ran a personal best as a result.”

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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS**

(From left) Fenton’s Jessica Adams, Holly’s Monica Ruiz, and Linden’s Kristina Lachowicz run during the second girls Metro League jamboree.

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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS**

Fenton’s Dominic Dimambro (right) and Andrew Bond (left) finished 1-2 at the second Metro League jamboree on Wednesday. The Fenton Tigers took first while Holly finished second and Linden placed third.
Holly’s tennis ‘family’ wins another Metro championship

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

The Holly varsity boys tennis team has won 21 of the last 22 Metro League crowns. And the one the Bronchos didn’t win, they probably should have won. The Bronchos forfeited it themselves due to questions of using a player they initially thought was eligible, but wasn’t due to the concussion rule.

So, don’t blame the Bronchos if they look at it as winning 22 straight.

On Tuesday, the Bronchos continued the string with another Metro League championship by placing seven flights out of eight in the finals, en route to a Metro League tournament championship and a regular season title overall. Fenton also competed and took third at the meet and finished third in the standings.

Ask Holly varsity boys tennis coach Will Sophiea why the Bronchos have had this run of excellence and he’ll quickly tell you why it’s happened. It’s team work. And when he says teamwork Sophiea means more than the teammates.

“It was another team effort,” Sophiea said.


Lake Fenton’s Hannah Garty (right) attacks a ball while Holly’s Maddie Meszler prepares to block the attack. Holly defeated Lake Fenton in four sets on Thursday 25-10, 25-22, 21-25, 25-20.

HOLLY VOLLEYBALL

Lake Fenton’s Hannah Garty (right) attacks a ball while Holly’s Maddie Meszler prepares to block the attack. Holly defeated Lake Fenton in four sets on Thursday 25-10, 25-22, 21-25, 25-20.

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

Holly — Life on the Holly varsity volleyball team hasn’t always been easy in recent years.

But it looks like the Bronchos are changing that this year.

Some of those changes started last season, but it’s fair to say it looks like the Bronchos have continued the progression into this year, winning two of three Metro League contests so far under first-year head coach Deena Maher.

The Bronchos continued that progress winning an pretty close battle with fellow tri-county foes Lake Fenton by a 25-20, 25-22, 21-25, 25-20 score on Thursday.

Continued from Page 22A

It was another team effort,” Sophiea said.

J AMBOREE

Continued from Page 22A

Jamboree...