



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The holiday-decorated Lake Fenton High School commons area lent a festive air to the inaugural Tin Can Raffle.

'Sweet music' for Lake Fenton schools

► Tin Can Raffle raises over \$4,000 for Lake Fenton music programs

By Sally Rummel

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The Lake Fenton Music Boosters are rounding out the holiday season on a high note with a successful first-time fundraiser — the Tin Can Raffle, held during Jinglefest weekend of Dec. 6-7.

With prizes like an autographed jersey from the Detroit Red Wings, ski packages from Mt. Holly, this inaugural raffle netted more than \$4,000 to benefit the entire

school district's music programs.

Visitors to the event dropped tickets into tin cans of their favorite prizes donated by about 100 local businesses and families. Prizewinners were announced after the Jinglefest Parade. Some of the most popular items were a hot air balloon ride, a tour of Lake Fenton in an amphibious military vehicle and Blue Devils Bag-O set.

"We've never had anything like this before," said Ron Kopicko, who co-chaired this event with his wife, Amy. "Now the school wants us to do it as an annual event. This was a huge kick-off."

CAROLING

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went caroling at businesses around town on Monday, Dec. 8. Some of the businesses they went to included The Laundry, Fenton's Open Book, Fenton House Restaurant, Fire Hall, Rough Draught, Fenton Hotel, Fenton Coney Grill, John's Pizzeria and Uncle Ray's.

According to Ambassadors Director Brad Wright, 19 of the 20 Ambassadors participated, and one was home sick. He said, "We went to 15 different businesses and restaurants throughout Fenton. Every place we went we were met with enthusiasm and appreciation." The FHS Ambassadors have been doing this for the past several years. "It's been so much fun to give back to a very supportive community."

This is the third year that Todd and Monica Wood's daughter, Reagan, went caroling for her birthday. Reagan turned 13 this year, and she and 33 friends went caroling in Fenton to celebrate her birthday, Dec. 13.

"The kids love it," said Monica. "One lady cried and said she was having a bad day and we just made her day."

The adults that the kids sing to aren't the only ones who enjoy the carolers. Monica said, "One little boy was dancing and singing with them. After we left, he told his mom he wanted to go to...so a few houses later he and his mom showed up to go with us."

As a wonderful yearly tradition, Monica said, "They will remember this forever. I don't know how many houses, we just go to ones with lights on and knock and when they come the kids start singing."

Originally, singing carols started out as a celebration of the winter solstice. It was then adopted as part of the Christian celebration of Christ. Caroling received a



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | ALYSSA BRANOFF

Rebecca Roberts and Samuel Strickhouser sing Christmas carols.

Top 5 Christmas Carols

- Joy to the World
- Silent Night
- O Holy Night
- The First Noel
- Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Source: songandpraise.org

bad rap sometime in the 1600s when they were believed to be inappropriate since they didn't completely revolve around scripture. It was in the late 1500s, during the Great Reformation, that an interest in caroling was born again.



ASK THE MECHANIC

Chris Wilkinson, Certified Mechanic

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- Nick

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