



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Fenton Township homeowners singing the 'blues'

■ Giant, blue rolling trash and recycling carts at issue

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

More than a few Fenton Township residents are talking trash about their new solid waste and recycle bins, which they claim are too big and too blue.

Republic Services is the service provider for trash, recycling

and yard waste collection in the township. The cart-based program was approved earlier this year and implementation began over the last two weeks.

Fenton Township chose this garbage program because the carts are very easy to maneuver and they hold enough to reduce the number of trips to and from the curb, said Tom Broecker, operations manager and deputy clerk.

"The carts virtually eliminate wind-blown trash and they stop

the scavenging of birds and other animals," Broecker added. "Using a cart for recycling also eliminates wind-blown recyclables and studies have shown that residents will recycle an average of 35 percent more with a larger container."

Although township officials don't have any statistics, Broecker said it is their understanding that the use of the automated trucks will improve worker safety by eliminating the need to exit the truck and

See **BLUES** on 21A

“We are asking residents to try their 95-gallon carts for at least 90 days before calling to request smaller carts ...”

Tom Broecker
Fenton Township Operations Manager/Deputy Clerk



PAGE 3A
IT'S FARMERS MARKET SEASON IN MICHIGAN

Weekend Times SUNDAY EDITION

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

Accused killer's court appearances begin

■ Wife's remains found in burning car

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com

Erich Wilfinger, the man charged with one count of homicide-open murder in the death of his wife, Marsha (Sargent) Wilfinger, had

See **COURT** on 20A



Erich Wilfinger



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

A rainy Tuesday drives families into the recently renovated Jack R. Winegarden Library for an afternoon of playing and reading.

Local library offers something for everyone

■ Children take part in reading program to avoid the summer slide

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Fenton — From finding the classics to best sellers, to renting videos, taking part in the numerous children's programs, using the computers to check emails or research issues of importance, libraries are known for being the busiest place in town. The Fenton Jack R. Winegarden Library is no exception.

People of all ages come to the library according to Librarian Chris Heron, and older people usually arrive earlier in the day.

See **LIBRARY** on 15A

Local clergy respond to gay marriage ruling

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

On June 26, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruled that not allowing same-sex couples to be married was unlawful. Five local clergy respond to the decision.

Associate Pastor Jim Rolph of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

What do you think of the Supreme Court's decision?

The Catholic Church continues to teach that every human person deserves respect and compassion. The

experience of same-sex attraction is a reality that calls for attention, sensitivity and pastoral care. While every person is called to love and deserves to be loved, the Supreme Court's decision cannot change the truth of the Church's teaching on marriage. The Catholic Church teaches that marriage is and can only be the union of one



Pastor Jim Rolph

man and one woman. Every child has a mother and a father and each child deserves to be loved and raised by them together. The Catholic Church will continue to preach the truth in love and will promote, in the public square, this truth as what is good for our country and our world.

Have you been approached by gay couples wanting to get married before?

I have not been approached by any couples seeking a same-sex union.

See **CLERGY** on 19A

'It's not true'

■ Rumors persist about Fenton Kmart closing, but manager says it is staying open, hiring

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Kmart has been closing stores throughout the U.S. and in neighboring communities, but the Kmart in Fenton isn't one of them. That is according to the local store manager Marie Susalla, who has squelched rumors about the store since she became manager three years ago.

See **KMART** on 22A



“Had former residents visiting Fenton last week.



They were absolutely amazed at the progress we have made in the six years they have been gone. They said they are moving back when they retire. Thank you DDA and Fenton leadership.”

“Our federal government controls our cars, toilets, light bulbs, doctors and marriage. But they can't control our borders under current laws? Crime, welfare drain, school costs, jobs taken,



Ebola and pertussis coming in through uncontrolled borders are just fine with us? Really?”

“If you are against gay marriage then don't marry somebody of the same sex and if you're invited to a wedding don't go. It's as easy as that. If this issue bothers you that badly, you've got way too much free time on your hands.”



tctimes.com
COMMENT OF THE WEEK

“Using liberal logic, if the sicko who murdered nine people in the church had posted a photo of himself with an American flag we would then be required to eliminate all American flags. Yeah, that makes sense.”

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THIS WEEK'S OPEN HOUSES!



MAGNIFICENT

OPEN
SUNDAY
1-3PM

FENTON

18420 Tipsico Lake

Amazing custom built Frank Lloyd Wright inspired Prairie Style home. Incredible attention to detail in this 3600 sf home from the specially designed solid oak staircase to the custom designed window detail found in each bedroom. Fish in your 9ft deep pond stocked with bass or roam over 20 acres of walking trails. Huge kitchen with granite counters, an enviable large laundry room also with granite. Partially finished walkout basement, 5 car garage.

\$625,000

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



18TH GREEN

OPEN
SUNDAY
1-3PM

LINDEN

1205 Ripley Road

Wonderful Home on #18 Green Spring Meadows Golf Course.

3 huge bedrooms, 2.5 baths.

Enjoy your firelit great room on those chilly fall nights. Custom designed with spacious rooms.

Open loft area adds to the character of this home. Workshop off of garage, great for home business. Full basement.

All this home need is your personal updates.

Must See to appreciate.

\$185,000

Call Donna Mynatt 810-397-5779



STUNNING

OPEN
SUNDAY
1-3PM

HOLLY

1471 Oyster Lane

Imagine living on almost 5 acres of beautiful rolling property on a serene lake with over

3000 square feet

of finished space on the main level plus a finished walk-out.

Terraced landscaping with a waterfall and more. Stunning home and views plus a 25 x 100 foot building to store cars, boats, and toys.

\$485,500

Call Mark Goldsworthy 810-955-3736



NEW LISTING

FENTON

9169 Mabley Hill

All of the privacy and nature of up north living conveniently located in Tyrone Twp. Less than 2 miles from US-23. This fabulous 4 bedrm/3 bath home offers 4+ acres of trees & raspberry bushes.

Enjoy summer entertaining from your finished walk-out lower level opening to the in-ground pool & cabana. Beautiful views from every part of the home. 2 story Great Rm flows into Dining Area and kitchen. Master Bedrm Suite is on the 2nd floor offering privacy, big dressing rm area, walk-in closet plus 2 additional large closets.

\$279,900

Call Ann Hernandez-Gabler 248-240-2272



NEW LISTING

HOLLY

253 Beaver Run

Spacious 4 bedroom colonial.

Large master suite with private full master bath. 3 more bedrooms up with shared full bath. New carpet and paint throughout. Main level boasts large eat-in kitchen, sitting room and firelit family room. Walk-out basement is plumbed for a full bath and waiting for you to finish to taste. Home is centrally located to expressways, schools and quaint, historical downtown Holly.

\$224,000

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



NEW LISTING

FENTON

4406 Island View

This 3 bedroom 2 bath ranch is a wonderful family home. Open concept kitchen, dining, and firelit family room area makes for easy conversation and entertaining. Plus there is a large living room. First floor laundry, 2 car attached garage, and full basement. Park-like yard with well manicured lawn. Located in high demand neighborhood and close to expressway, schools, soccer fields, shopping, and restaurants.

\$185,000

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



NEW LISTING

MILLINGTON

3150 Huston

Great home on all-sports Murphy Lake!

Around 1400 sq. ft. of finished living space including upper level porch & lower level screen room that adds another 600 sq. ft. to chill out & enjoy amazing lake views! Home is equipped for year round living or winterize & use for summer getaway! Just a short drive from the cities you can enjoy this up-north style getaway at a great price. Two kitchens for entertaining upstairs & down...two wood burning stoves...seller has put 30k into the boathouse which contains a sauna!

\$190,000

Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



NEW LISTING

HOLLY

11001 Terrace

Awesome track for the RC car lover!

Horse barn with 2 stalls & chicken coop. Above ground pool with decking all around it. So much to see & do on this 5 acres out in the country. Add to that a roomy tri-level home with 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths. One bathroom is handicap accessible. Plenty of room for hanging out or entertaining with a firelit family room & a living room. 2 car attached garage plus extra 1 car garage.

\$225,000

Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



NEW LISTING

LINDEN

16152 Valcrest

Come and view this totally updated home and you won't be disappointed. This home has vaulted ceilings in the living room with lots of windows for natural light, gas fireplace and beautiful hardwood floors.

Granite counters in kitchen with plenty of counter space for cooking. Master bedroom and bath with bonus room that could be office or more storage. All new flooring and lighting fixtures thru out. New water heater and new water softener.

\$229,000

Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971



NEW LISTING

FENTON

12528 Saint Andrews Way

Beautiful first floor condo has been meticulously maintained with care by original owner. Updates include central air (3 yrs), hot water heater (4 yrs) and reverse osmosis system with filters replaced this past April. Large master bedroom suite complete with his & hers closets & private master bath. Kitchen offers ample storage space with extra walk-in pantry. Large living room with nook and dining room are perfect for family get-togethers. Enjoy the weather in the enclosed screen porch. Over-sized garage with workbench! All appliances included.

\$84,900

Call Lynn Rositano 810-625-7399



NEW LISTING

NOVI

22469 Ennishore

Affordable Quad-level home. Priced for quick sale. 3 enormous bedrooms, hardwood floors in Living Room & Dining Room. Parquet Floors in spacious Family Rm with fireplace. 1st Floor laundry. Kitchen designed with lots of prep space and maple cabinetry. All kitchen appliances included. Lovely private yard with mature trees and patio. Unfinished basement offers lots of storage. Big 2 car garage. Popular Meadowbrook Lake Neighborhood with park, walking trails and lake. Updates: Windows, Furnace/AC 2000, Gutters 2014, Exterior Paint 2008, Interior Paint 2015, Hot Water Heater 2012.

\$239,900

Call Ann Hernandez-Gabler 248-240-2272



NEW LISTING

FENTON

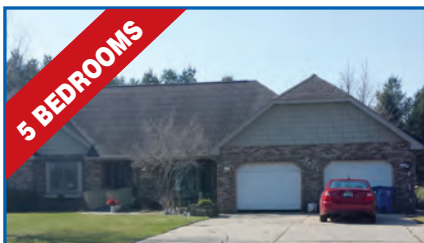
529 N. Oak

Darling bungalow in the heart of Fenton.

This 4 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom home has beautiful hardwood floors throughout the main floor and the upstairs. The updated kitchen is bright and cheery and all appliances stay. First floor master bedroom with full bath. 3 bedrooms up with another full bath. Full basement allows for plenty of storage space or could be finished for additional living space. Enjoy the summer weather on your covered porch or deck. Fenced yard and 1 car garage. Cute & clean and ready to move in.

\$124,900

Call Ann Hernandez-Gabler 248-240-2272



5 BEDROOMS

FLUSHING

7451 Potter

Great location in Flushing School district. Beautiful tudor home has tons of room w/5 bedrooms & 4 full baths. Plenty of space for everyone w/over 2400 sf. Open floor plan w/large kitchen, lots of counter space & roomy dining area. Almost 3 acres to roam around & play w/a great 2 story barn that could be used for a home business or just about anything else you can think of. New 2013 generator means you will never be without power. Home is also barrier free allowing for handicap access.

\$229,900

Call Donna Mynatt 810-397-5779



4 BEDROOMS

GRAND BLANC

5133 Spinning Wheel

Beautifully maintained home with hardwood floors in Dining and Living room, Kitchen and baths have ceramic tile. 4 bedrooms or room to have an office. All appliances included, also features natural fireplace in Family room.

Add carpeted three season room and you have plenty of space. Fenced in backyard and nice size storage shed. Located in Grand Blanc schools.

\$127,000

Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971



REDUCED - BYRAM LAKE

LINDEN

805 Byram Lake

Beautiful lakefront home on all sports Byram lake. This home features a beautifully landscaped yard with sandy beach. Covered brick patio is great for entertaining or relaxing and enjoying the cool summer breezes. This brick home has 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Plenty of space for gathering with a firelit living room and a huge family. Dining room allows for beautiful views of the water while sharing meals. All this on a park-like 1/2 acre lot.

\$329,000

Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971



DUPLEX

FENTON

613 S. Adelaide

This home has a great location

within walking distance to downtown Fenton with its lovely Mill Pond, quaint shops and restaurants. Home currently being used as rental property with one unit up and one down but it could very easily be made back into single family home. Home features very large living area, tall ceilings, and kitchen on the main floor.

\$129,900

Call Donna Fraidenburg 810-845-1971

It's farmers market season in Michigan

You'll enjoy local produce at its best, as well as other shopping opportunities



By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Farmers market season is in full swing and you'll want to take advantage of every sweet strawberry and crisp cucumber now at their Michigan best.

Shopping at farmers markets is the easiest way to eat seasonally from local sources with produce at its peak of freshness and taste.

"We have at least nine produce vendors this year," said Fenton/Linden Market Manager Sherie Peruski. "The number changes daily, but you can expect to find about 45 or 50 vendors at the Fenton market."

The Fenton Farmers Market runs every Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. through Sept. 17 in the Fenton Community & Cultural Center parking lot.

The Linden Farmers Market runs Wednesday, July 15 through Sept. 2 from 5 to 8 p.m. at its new location in the Union Block area. "It's more accessible and vis-

"Vendors are very helpful about their produce, how they grow it and they usually have great cooking ideas."

Karen Heinecke
Long-time vendor at
Fenton Farmers Market

ible," said Peruski.

New this year will be La Fresh Organic Farmers Market hosted by Gerych's Distinctive Flowers & Gifts in Fenton, beginning Sunday, July 26 through Oct. 25 in their parking area. "People are more interested than ever in organic products," said Gayle Olsen, coordinator of this market.

In addition to fresh produce, farmers markets often boast related products like grass-fed meats and cage-free eggs, natural soaps, artisan baked goods, plus jewelry and gift items.

However, it can be intimidating to walk around a market if you're not exactly sure

what you're looking for, or if shopping this way is a new experience for you.

Plan your visit when you aren't too busy so you have plenty of time to browse and buy.

"Lots of people are rushing, and they go by booths so fast they miss a lot," said veteran Fenton Farmers Market vendor Karen Heinecke of Fenton Township. "Be prepared to be inspired to buy gifts for future events, like weddings or birthdays. If you see it now, you should buy it because you might not find it again."

Come early to the market if you want the best selection, and come later if you prefer smaller crowds and don't mind if some items may already be sold out.

Don't let a few threatening clouds scare you away. The Fenton/Linden markets operate rain or shine, leaving that decision up to the vendors unless there are tornado warnings or lightning. "It might be a gray afternoon and turn out to be a

See FARMERS MARKET on 23A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The Fenton Farmers Market in the municipal lot next to the Fenton Community and Cultural Center was spared the rainy cool weather of the morning, and provided shoppers an ideal summer evening of browsing multiple craft and produce tents.

How to buy

Michigan's seasonal best:

- Apples** — July through October
- Blueberries/blackberries** — July to August
- Broccoli** — June through October
- Cabbage** — June through November
- Cherries** — June and July
- Corn** — mid-June through mid-August
- Green beans** — July through September
- Lettuce** — now through October
- Melons** — July through September
- Peaches** — July and August
- Pears** — August through October
- Raspberries** — June into August
- Zucchini** — July through October

Source: pickyourown.org



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES



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Why teens need a job

I'm going to tell you something that you already know: If you have a teen at home that is 16 years of age or older and he or she does not have a summer job, well...you are a bad parent.

A recent report titled "The fading of teen summer jobs" by the Pew Research Center pointed out that in 1978 just under 60 percent of teens age 16 to 19 had summer jobs. In 2014, that number had plummeted to just 32 percent. Pew provided a variety of possible factors, including shorter summer breaks, fewer jobs, students taking summer classes and more teens in unpaid internships or doing volunteer community work.

All of us reading this know that little, if any, of that drivel is a factor in the plum-

meting teen summer job rate. The real factor is Mom and Dad. They are the ones who think that they are doing their teenage offspring a favor by not demanding that they get a job. In reality, they are doing immeasurable harm to their child by failing to confront the reality of looming adulthood and its accompanying responsibilities. The simple truth is that teens who work at summer jobs and earn a paycheck are infinitely more prepared to enter the adult world than the kids who sleep until noon, then lounge around texting on their iPhone all day while whining that there is "nothing to do."

I managed to find a job every summer from ninth grade on. I worked for a

landscaping company laying sod (each time the boss was leaving the jobsite he would suddenly slam on the brakes of his Cadillac, roll down the window and holler out, "remember... green side up"). I worked at a car dealership, a lumber yard and one memorable summer at a GM manufacturing plant, courtesy of my best friend's white-collar father. Each experience left me more wise and worldly when I departed than I was when I arrived. I learned many lessons while working in those jobs. Chief among them was the concept of teamwork and the inherent joy of camaraderie when pursuing a common goal. I learned the value of a clean and organized work environment. I learned about responsibility when, while daydreaming, my inattentiveness allowed over 300 oil filters to catch fire in the drying furnace, resulting in a plant of 4,000+ employees having to be evacuated for two hours and me being evacuated permanently.

There is nothing that can compare to the feeling of accomplishment that accompanies a first paycheck earned by one's own efforts. It's a mental rite-of-passage into young adulthood that fosters a feeling of achievement that lasts a lifetime.

Take a tip from nature. Kick your kids into the job market the same way baby birds are kicked out of the nest at a certain age. Let them earn more than a paycheck—let them learn responsibility, teamwork and, most of all, self-respect.

I once read that there are two kinds of jobs in the world. There's the kind where you take a shower before you go to work, and there's the kind where you take a shower when you get home from work. Neither is more noble than the other, but a summer job will very likely instill in your kid the desire to work hard enough to have the former, rather than the latter.

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



Hot lines

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

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

WELCOME TO FENTON where the streets and sidewalks around the restaurant in Dibbleville are paved with gold, while the streets and sidewalks around our houses have warzone potholes.

THERE'S ONLY ONE good thing about those big, bulky trash cans. When they get knocked over, the wind won't blow them all around. If they get knocked over, they're just going to be right there for you to pick up. Your neighbor won't have to return it for you.

TO THE PERSON worried about the destruction of Christianity, traditional marriage, and the family unit. I am a single, white male. I am straight. There is no way on God's earth that I would ever consider marrying another man. I'm a Christian. Gay laws have no impact on me at all.

THE LARGE GARBAGE bins are OK for some people. But us older folks can't handle them. Let's be real and get the right size to the right people. Come and get these big ones.

WHY DO I have to pay \$170 for two giant blue bins? Bonnie Mathis, can I store them in your mansion?

WHO ARE YOU kidding? There are

several people complaining about the giant garbage bins. I called Republic and they put me on the list to exchange mine.

THEY'RE GONNA TAKE the Dukes of Hazard off TV because of the Confederate flag? Come on, let's stop being ridiculous.

I MOURN FOR the jobs of the garbage workers who will be displaced by these big blue monstrosities now cluttering our neighborhood. Perhaps an independent garbage service would find willing customers in this area.

A LADY DRIVER pulled in next to me in the Target parking lot to tell me that keys

were hanging from my trunk lock. She had been following me just to tell me. Thank you, thank you. My house keys were also on that key ring.

GOT HOME FROM work this afternoon and my wife says to me, "Well I finally hung the sheets out on the line to dry and guess what? Somebody decided to burn." It's illegal to burn in Fenton Township.

IT'S INCREDIBLY SAD to watch people like my parents drift from being moderate conservatives to raving far-right conspiracy theorists since 2008.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

Readers write

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

Banning of the Confederate flag

The picture of the murderer of the Charleston AME worshippers is revealing. Yes, he is holding a Confederate Flag. A lot of people are screaming that because "that" flag is in the picture, it is evil and must be banned. But dissect the entire picture. I see shoes that may have been produced in a country that uses child labor for \$1 a day. The pants are probably made in a foreign country that also overworks and underpays its employees, same for the shirt. So why isn't there a protest against the producers and retailers of these clothes? They are all made of cloth, just like the flag. At least some are probably made by people who work in no better conditions than those that existed during the Civil War. None of the other pieces of cloth pulled a trigger; just like the flag didn't. So someone please explain why we protest something from 155 years ago, and don't protest working conditions for things produced today? Or does the past, which we can't change, hold more importance than the present?

Scott Hardy
Linden

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Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern and Hannah Ball, staff reporter

What's your biggest social media pet peeve?

street talk



"People always complaining, because it is negative."

— Muriel Reickle
Fenton Township



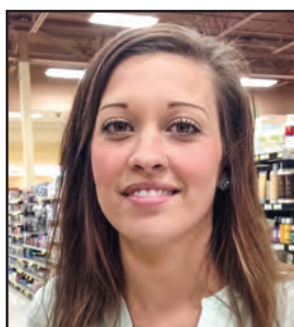
"I strongly dislike social media. I prefer to stay out of it because too much of your personal business is displayed."

— Annette Harper
Rose Township



"People always complaining because when I go on there, I go on there for fun and seeing sad things brings me down."

— Billie Ketchum
Deerfield Township



"People posting things that are two-sided stories and having a strong opinion about one side."

— Sylese Roche
Fenton Township



"The shameless over-sharing because Facebook is not your middle school diary."

— Kaleigh Conly
Fenton



"Complaints, because I am more of a person that has a positive outlook on life."

— Jamie Juhl
Tyrone Township

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IN GOD

WE TRUST

BLESSED IS THE NATION WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD-PSALM 33:12

FOUNDING FATHERS

"An appeal to arms and to the God of hosts is all that is left us! . . . Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. . . . Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. . . . Is life so dear, or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"
Patrick Henry

"To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness, which mankind now enjoys. . . . Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government – and all blessings which flow from them – must fall with them."
Jedediah Morse

"I've lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: That God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We've been assured in the sacred writings that unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. I firmly believe this, and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel."
Benjamin Franklin

EDUCATION

"Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17:3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom, let every one seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of Him (Proverbs 2, 3). Every one shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day that he shall be ready to give such an account of his proficiency therein."
Harvard: 1636 Student Guidelines

CONGRESS

"We are a Christian people . . . not because the law demands it, not to gain exclusive benefits or to avoid legal disabilities, but from choice and education; and in a land thus universally Christian, what is to be expected, what desired, but that we shall pay due regard to Christianity?"
Senate Judiciary Committee Report, January 19, 1853

"At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and the amendments, the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged. . . . In this age there can be no substitute for Christianity. . . . That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants."
House Judiciary Committee Report, March 27, 1854

PRESIDENTS

"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."
George Washington

"We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."
John Adams

"Before any man can be considered as a member of civil society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe."
James Madison

"And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever."
Thomas Jefferson

"Is it not that in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior? – that it forms a leading event in the progress of the Gospel dispensation? Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth? – That it laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity?"
John Quincy Adams

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

"The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts."
"Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."
John Jay: First Chief-Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court

"Human law must rest its authority ultimately upon the authority of that law which is Divine. . . . Far from being rivals or enemies, religion and law are twin sisters, friends, and mutual assistants. Indeed, these two sciences run into each other."
James Wilson: Original Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court

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Church of the Holy Trinity v. U.S., 1892
(Unanimous Decision Declaring America a Christian Nation) Significantly, the U.S. Supreme Court cited dozens of court rulings and legal documents as precedents to arrive at this ruling; but in 1962, when the Supreme Court struck down voluntary prayer in schools, it did so without using any such precedent.

John 14:6

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All hands 'off' deck

■ Will your balcony or upper deck hold up under pressure?

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

In less than two months, overcrowded balconies in both California and North Carolina came crashing down, injuring dozens and killing at least six.

On June 16, at a Berkeley, California birthday party, 13 Irish students fell when then the fourth-floor balcony they were standing on collapsed. Six of those students died as a result.

On July 5, the upper deck of an Emerald Isle, North Carolina beach house caved in during a family photo attempt. At least 24 people were injured with 14 of them being rushed to area hospitals. The deck at that house was reported to be about 14 feet off the ground.

In the California incident, dry rot has been listed as the cause of the balcony collapse. In North Carolina, deteriorating nails caused the crash.

There are dozens of apartment communities in the tri-county area featuring balconies for outdoor relaxation, and many private homes have second floor, or upper decks for family entertainment.

“Permits are required for any construction, alteration or addition to all decks within the city limits for just this reason.”

Michael Reilly
Fenton Building and Zoning administrator

Michigan's climate also is conducive to problems such as dry rot and deteriorating nails due to years of wear caused by the elements.

“Permits are required for any construction, alteration or addition to all decks within the city limits for just this reason,” said Fenton Building and Zoning Administrator Michael Reilly. “Rental properties are inspected every three years and the deck conditions are also monitored by the code enforcement officer. Any citizen with a question should contact my office at (810) 629-2261.”

According to deckfailure.com, many jurisdictions follow some version of the IRC (International Residence Code) and those building a new deck are usually required to get approval and permits through the local municipality.

Since most new construction will have a number of inspections, and will

be based on current codes, the chances of a balcony or deck failing are pretty slim. Older decks and balconies, however, are where most problems arise.

Condo and apartment building owners should know and clearly post the maximum capacity for balconies and decks. They should take measures through their rules and regulations to prevent overcrowding and exceeding capacity.

In 2003, building codes began prohibiting nailed-on ledger boards. Ledger boards that are not lag bolted, or through bolted (i.e., you only see nails), need immediate correction.

A second-floor balcony is a popular and attractive feature on a home, as it adds to floor space and outdoor entertaining options.

Review the possible risks associated with second-floor balconies so you can take the right safety measures to prevent accidents.

Second-floor balconies should be inspected for missing or rusted nails or fasteners and replace or repair as needed.

Whether it's an upper deck or a balcony, it should be checked for splinters, buckled or loose boards, uneven stair treads, popped nails, and discolored areas. These are all symptoms of deterioration and inspection may reveal deeper safety problems.

Examine the railing and supports for broken or missing pieces. When supports are missing, the railing is unsafe, especially for children and pets. Local codes govern railing height, a key component in preventing falls. If a deck was built a while ago, or if the builder didn't comply with code, it may be too low for safety.

Inspect posts and footings for cracks or rotted wood. Make sure post and beam connections are secure. Plus repair any washouts or soil subsidence around footings.

If there's horizontal movement, the deck may need cross-bracing to prevent sway.

Remove or consider the weight of furniture, appliances, wading pools, air conditioning compressors or other heavy items.

The deck or balcony should be clear of dirt, debris, and water. Dirt and water only speed up the decaying process of wood. Make sure runoff water from the roof is not streaming down onto your deck or in between supports, as it will cause damage after a period of time.

Even the best-constructed decks are built to last only 15 years. If it's older, it should be professionally evaluated, repaired or reinforced.



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Linden woman is champion at Michigan golf tourney

■ Donna Benford wins the 12th Michigan Women's Senior Amateur Championship

Donna Benford of Linden survived a back-nine rally by Ann Lauer of Auburn Hills Tuesday to win the 12th Michigan Women's Senior Amateur Championship presented by Golf Digest.

Benford, 55, is a doctor with a practice in Fenton and a member of Spring Meadows Country Club in Linden. She had a 4-up lead after sinking a 25-foot birdie putt at Travis Pointe Country Club's 11th hole, only to struggle as Lauer won three of the next four holes with pars and finally tied the match on the 18th hole.

“I just tried to stay in the moment, in the shot.”

Donna Benford
Michigan Women's Senior Amateur Championship winner

I just tried to hit solid shots. I finally hit two solid shots in a row on the first extra hole.”

Lauer, meanwhile, hit a 4-iron approach into a greenside bunker and left the first bunker shot in the sand, which eventually allowed Benford to win the title match in 19 holes with a closing conceded par.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Donna Benford, a member of Spring Meadows Country Club wins the 12th Michigan Women's Senior Amateur Championship.

“I didn't hit a good drive, so instead of hitting 8-iron in there like I have the last two days, I had to hit 4-iron and didn't hit it very good,” Lauer said. “Then I didn't get the first one out and that did it. Donna is tough. She lost the lead, but she kept trying just like I did.”

It was the third Golf Association of Michigan senior title for Benford, but first in the Amateur that features match play. She said Lauer started making pars and she started hitting some poor shots.

“I hit a few of them fat, just not good
See CHAMPION on 15A

Sheriff issues phone scam alert

■ Unknown caller impersonates police, demands payment on 'bogus' outstanding warrants

Intelligence information has been received which indicates that an old fraud scam may again be making the rounds through Livingston County and Southeast Michigan this summer.

According to the Livingston County Sheriff's Office, on several different occasions over the last two years phone calls were made to citizens of Livingston County by a male suspect who identified himself as either Major Paul Stephens or Lt. Ed Gable.

In each case, the caller would claim to be from the warrants division of the Sheriff's Office. The police impersonator

would ask for money in order to cancel a warrant so the person receiving the call would not be arrested. At times, the caller would become aggressive and demanding in an attempt to intimidate the citizen who received the call into giving him their credit card/bank information.

The public needs to be on guard for these types of scams and understand that at no time will a legitimate law enforcement officer contact the public by phone and demand money to clear up a warrant.

The Sheriff's Office reminds the public to be vigilant when dealing with unknown persons on the phone. Remember to use common sense and make note of the incoming phone number that the suspect(s) use and report that information to 911.

Police&Fire report

CAN YOU ID THIS MAN?

Fenton police are hoping that someone can identify this man, who they believe is responsible for a car break-in on Thursday, July 2 in Fenton. Lt. Jason Slater said a Fenton man stopped at a business in the 400 block of Rounds Drive. Apparently, while inside the business, someone entered his car and stole the man's wallet and cash. Within a short time, the man's credit card was used at Walmart, Target and Sunoco on Owen Road. This still shot from a surveillance video shows the suspect cashing in a lottery ticket at the Owen Road Sunoco station, which was purchased in Plymouth the previous day. Fenton police have also acquired a still shot of this same man purchasing the lottery ticket in Plymouth. If anyone has information about this suspect, they are to call Fenton police at (810) 629-5311.



Larceny suspect

TEEN ARRESTED FOR DRINKING, AGAIN

At 4:15 a.m. on Friday, July 10, Fenton police responded to the area of Shiawassee Avenue and Lori Lane to investigate a report of two individuals walking around, one of whom was carrying a backpack. Police made contact with the two individuals, a 19-year-old Grand Blanc male and a 17-year-old Fenton male. The older teen smelled of intoxicants. He was arrested for Under 21 consumption. Police learned that he had an outstanding warrant for the same offense from Fenton police. He was transported to the Flint City Jail on the warrant and he was issued a new ticket with an Aug. 31 court date.

View stories at
tctimes.com



Financial Q&A

How do I protect my family as a business owner?

If you own all or part of a business you should know about buy-sell agreements and how they can protect you and your family. A Buy-Sell agreement, often referred to a succession planning tool for a business is simply a document that spells out how the business will transition to a new owner in the event someone leave's the business today. In the event of an owner's death, incapacity to work, or retirement, it pays to write up a buy-sell agreement to ensure business continuity. For example, if you and your partner are running a business you might have a written agreement or a mere handshake as 50/50 partners. If your partner passes away. Do you still have a partnership? Will his wife or his children now be a part of the business as your new partner? Do you have the obligation or right to buy them out? If so, for how much and what are the terms? On the flip side what if you die? Would your family have the plan in place? If you own a business and haven't thought about a buy-sell agreement it's time to have a conversation.

If you have questions you would like answered in the Tri-County Times please feel free to send them to noahmorgan@acornwa.com.

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DENTAL TIP — OF THE WEEK —

One Day Crown

Have you ever been in a situation where you broke a tooth before an important meeting or right before a trip? So you go to your dentist and sit in the chair just to be told you need a crown to protect your tooth. However, it won't be ready for two weeks and now you have to deal with an annoying temporary tooth for the next couple of weeks -- through your meeting/vacation! New technology is making it easier for dentists to give you the look and comfort you want faster. If you've ever needed to have a permanent crown put on one of your teeth, you know it usually takes more than one appointment, more than one shot of anesthetic and more than a little bit of patience. But now technology is giving patients new, permanent crowns in just one day. With today's technology, you can improve your smile in just hours!

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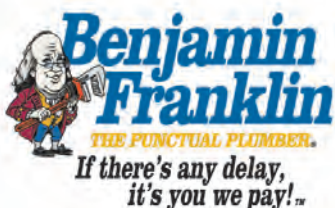
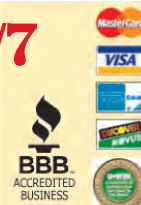
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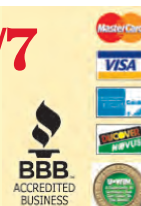
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Court not moving anytime soon

■ Judge says ‘technology’ will drive a move in future

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

It doesn't look like the Genesee County 67th District Court in Fenton is going to close — at least for a couple of years.

County Commissioner Tony Brown and Circuit Court Judge Richard Yuille attended the Fenton City Council work session last month to address the court consolidation issue. They were accompanied by Jamie Curtis and Mike Lynch of the Genesee County Board of Commissioners.

According to the minutes of that meeting, Brown said the votes do not exist on the current Board of Commissioners to close the Fenton court, but could not speak to action future boards might take.

Yuille told council members there would come a point in time when technology will drive the closure of the out-county courts. He said technology would allow tasks to be completed that now have to be done in person, and some of that technology exists now.

Mayor Sue Osborn expressed con-

cerns over citizens having to drive to downtown Flint to take care of business now handled in the local Fenton court.

Yuille said there is an option to pay tickets via a kiosk that can be placed at Fenton City Hall or some other location to be determined. He said he anticipates asking for a space locally to handle small claims cases one day a month instead of handling those cases in downtown Flint.

Osborn also expressed a concern about sending Fenton officers to Flint.

Curtis said felony cases are heard in Central Court in downtown Flint, but tickets are not handled by a district court judge, but by a magistrate.

“A lot of the issue is getting people to understand how the courts work and once that's understood, a lot of the fear about consolidation goes away,” Curtis said.

Curtis, who has served as chairman of the Board of Commissioners since 2010, gave an overview of the county's financial picture and plans to address them, including taking buildings off line, selling buildings, consolidating services, etc.

He said the county eventually plans to take four buildings offline and build a metroplex that would be a one-stop shop for county services.

See **COURT** on 19A

“A lot of the issue is getting people to understand how the courts work and once that's understood, a lot of the fear about consolidation goes away.”

Jamie Curtis
Chairman Genesee County Board of Commissioners

Still searching for Randa Jawhari



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

It's been six years and six months since Randa Jawhari's disappearance in February 2009. Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro, along with Randa's family, appealed to the public for any information that could lead to her whereabouts at a Thursday afternoon news conference in Fenton. Crime Stoppers of Genesee County is offering up to \$2,500 for information. Aro said the case will remain open “forever.” Anyone with information can call 1-800-speak-up (1-800-773-2587) to remain anonymous, or call Det. Scott Townsend directly at (810) 433-7923.

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■■■

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HOLLYWOOD BOUND!

■ St. John's fourth-grader auditions in Los Angeles

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Look out Hollywood — Damion Ketchmark, 8, of Fenton Township has big dreams of stardom.

A St. John School fourth-grader in the fall, Damion, his mother and sister just returned from Los Angeles, after a whirlwind of acting auditions.

Mother Denise Ketchmark, a Flint attorney, is doing everything she can to help make her son's dreams come true. Denise said she knew early on that something special was happening with her son. "Damion would repeat lines, and then a whole scene, from TV shows and movies," she said. "Sometimes he would act out the scenes in his own way."

In November 2013, Denise and Damion were in the car when they heard a radio commercial seeking kid talent, ages 5 to 18. They followed up and as a result, "Damion was one of 130 children chosen nationwide to participate in The Acting League in Hollywood, California, in February 2014.

"Through The Acting League, I found Damion an acting coach," Denise said. "Damion takes private acting lessons one or two times per week via Skype with Joe Lorenzo of Society Entertainment in Los Angeles."

When Lorenzo felt Damion had progressed enough to be "marketable," he suggested Damion should come to Hollywood to "sell his talent" to talent agents. The family did so and were in Los Angeles from June 29 to July 7.

"Damion had eight interviews with talent agents," said Denise. "All eight talent agents have a kids division, which includes commercials, voice overs, print ads, TV, and movies."

Denise said the feedback was very positive, with seven of them liking Damion's smile, his eyes and his teeth.

"They loved his energy," said Denise. "Four commented on how well spoken he is for an 8-year-old and that he is mature."

All seven talent agents asked when the



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Damion Ketchmark, 8, of Fenton Township, is shown here with Giovonnie Lavette Samuels, an actress best known for her role as Nia Moseby in "The Suite Life of Zack & Cody" and for being a series regular on "All That."

Ketchmarks would return to Los Angeles because commercials and print ads sometimes come with only 24 hours notice.

"I told each agent our overall game plan of traveling back and forth initially, and possibly relocating depending on the results and success of Damion."

After speaking with Damion's acting coach, they decided they would return to Los Angeles for one week

in mid-August.

"We also picked our talent agent," said Denise. "We would then return in September and again in October for longer periods. The more we come to LA the easier it is to promote and market Damion until he lands contracts."

"We are following a dream, trying to make it a reality," she added. "If our dream comes true, we will move to LA part time at first, with the possibility of a permanent move in the future."

Paint Our Town Blue

Damion Ketchmark was part of the Whaley Children's Center commercial on child abuse, during National Child Abuse Awareness month in April. The commercial can be seen in its entirety on YouTube. Damion is wearing the powder blue sweater. For more information about Paint Our Town Blue, visit paintourtowblue.com.

“Damion would repeat lines, and then a whole scene, from TV shows and movies.”

Denise Ketchmark
Mother of budding actor Damion

SUMMARY

■ Damion Ketchmark, 8, who will be a fourth-grader at St. John School this fall, spent some of his summer vacation auditioning for acting jobs in Los Angeles.

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Linden - \$389,999

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Hills of Tyrone - \$474,999

Sold in 21 Days!



Lake Fenton - \$1,399,999

Sold in 3 Days!



Fenton - \$220,000

Sold in 8 Days!



Fenton - \$225,000

Sold in 48 Days!



Crooked Lake - \$234,999

Sold in 13 Days!



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14073 Swanee Beach Dr

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2454 Cranewood Drive

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Waterfront



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1335 Butcher Road

Crooked Lake - \$461,000
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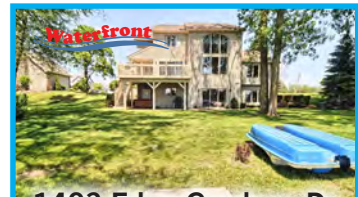
Waterfront



2324 Grove Park Rd

Lake Fenton - \$469,999
61' Frontage, 3 Beds, 3
Baths & 3,750 Sq. Ft. with
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1403 Eden Gardens Dr

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Waterfront



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Waterfront



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- Jeff Pinkston

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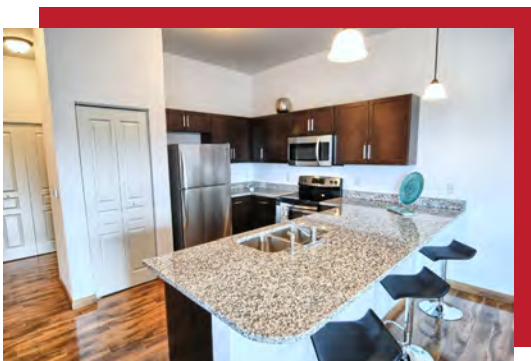
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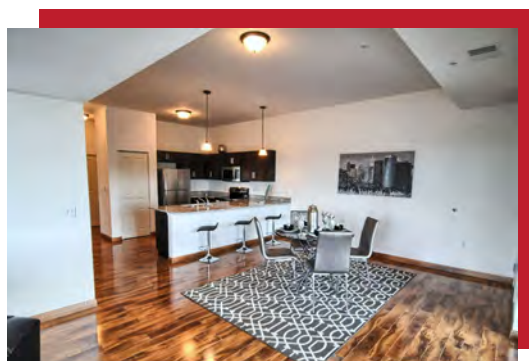
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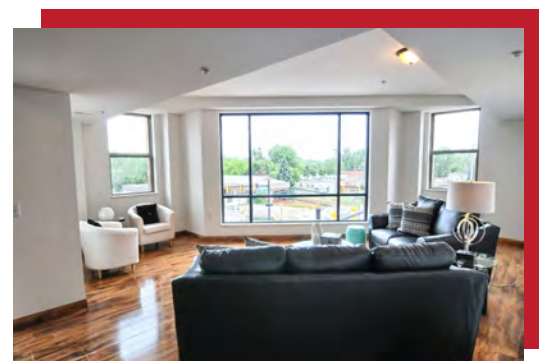
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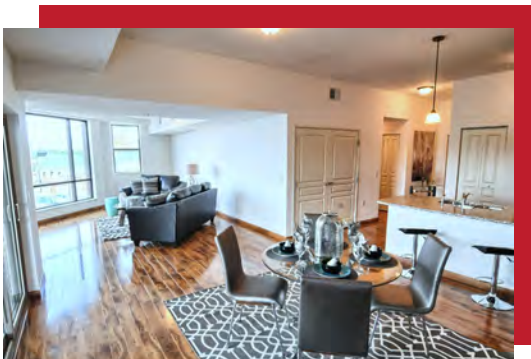
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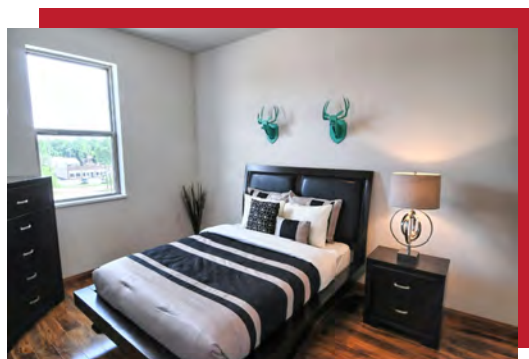
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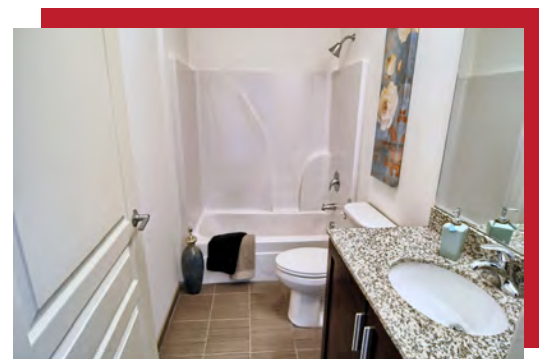
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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Pat Walters of Fenton looks up a specific author at the Jack R. Winegarden Library on Tuesday. She said the newly renovated library is "so much lighter and brighter."

LIBRARY

Continued from Front Page

Their numbers had been low for a while because of the latest renovations. The library was closed for three months. The staff worked at the Linden Library during that time, and now they're trying to get people back in the library. On Monday, July 6, however, more than 500 people entered the library, which was their average before the renovations.

Another popular aspect bringing people back to the library, and making students and parents happy, is the summer reading program.

"As of June 26, there were 430 kids signed up for our summer reading program, just for here. It's an increase from last year, so I was happy about that," Heron said. Last summer, 232 children completed the program.

Even though more than 400 local children are participating in the summer reading program, this doesn't mean adults aren't picking up the books as well.

Not everyone is reading "The Hunger Games," but it's a popular series for every age group, said Heron. One of the biggest trends she's seen in her 15 years of working there is the craze for teen fiction, which she attributes to the "Harry Potter" series.

“We try to reach kids who don't like to read, who won't read.”

Chris Heron
Jack R. Winegarden
librarian

lot of great stories written in the teen genre."

Lately, "The Hunger Games" series has been popular. Children love Geronimo Stilton, which tells the tale of a mouse. "Adults just love their best sellers, Daniel Steele, Vince Flynn," she said.

The library carries every genre, but some people don't think there's enough urban fiction. "Usually because it walks away," Heron said. She added that people have been known to steal these books.

"It (the summer reading program) usually draws a huge amount of people

and it keeps the kids going so they don't get the summer slide. We try to reach kids who don't like to read, who won't read. That's why we set that number,

SUMMARY

■ Chris Heron, librarian of Jack R. Winegarden Library, talks book trends, library cards, and the summer reading program.

it seems obtainable," Heron said. "A lot of teachers promote it in their classrooms because they know it'll help the kids with their spelling and with their penmanship and

just reading in general."

Heron has a book budget for every year. She places orders on Thursdays from Ingram, a book wholesale company. She gets suggestions from librarian journals, the New York Times Best Seller list, and word of mouth. Ordering them, acquiring the books, and cataloging them takes about three weeks.

From working as a librarian for 15 years, she's learned to be adaptable. "There's all kinds of people in the public and you never know who's going to come through your door," Heron said. "The easiest thing to do is be able to change to your surroundings."

The Jack R. Winegarden Library is the third largest circulating collection in the county. "I really like the community. I tell people I'm spoiled here because for the most part everyone is really nice," she said.

Checking out books

- Anyone can obtain a free library card with proof of address in the service area. People under 18 must have a parent sign for them.
- Once you check out a book, you have four weeks to return it. You can renew a book online, over the phone, or in the library.
- A book can be renewed two times, so readers have about three months to finish it.
- Anyone has access to the computers with a library card, and can use them as long as they need to if no one else is waiting.
- There's an ongoing book sale in the entrance of the building, which gets books from donations.

Jack R. Winegarden hours

Monday and Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday: 12 - 8 p.m.
Friday and Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Closed Sunday

CHAMPION

Continued from Page 7A

shots and I had a few tough lies, too," she said. "The lead disappeared."

Benford beat Lori Pospiech in 20 holes in a quarterfinal match Monday and then topped Claudia Cenko of Beverly Hills 1-up in the Tuesday morning semifinal round.

Lauer, meanwhile, beat two-time former champion Susan Campbell of Kalamazoo 3 and 1 in the quarterfinals, and had to go 19 holes to get past Mary Ellen Kalkhoff of Clinton Township in the semifinals.

Winners were also crowned in four other flights based on handicap index seeding.

Jeff Zielinski, head golf professional at Spring Meadows Country Club said, "Donna is a highly respected player here at SMCC and around the state. She has won our ladies Club Championship 23 times."

Bracketed results can be found under the championshipstabatwww.gam.org. Check out the photo gallery from the final match and remember to follow the GAM on Facebook and Twitter.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ABOUT THE REPUBLICANS destroying the middle and lower class. You want evidence? Let's start with the right-to-work law that was rammed through. How about pensions being taken away and leaving people with 401ks. Our rights are being taken away every day.

■■■■ **WHOEVER CAME TO** the garage sale at 13163 Torrey Road and got the sod shovel, it was not for sale. I would appreciate you returning it. It was the last gift my Dad gave me before he died.

■■■■ **THE FENTON PARADE** was awesome. Nice to see a diversity of parade participants.

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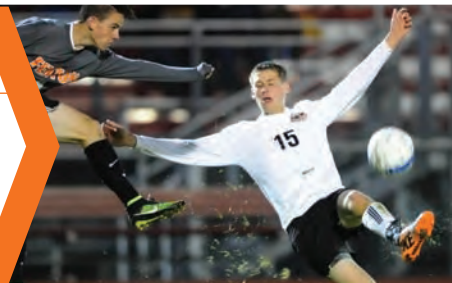
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ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

▶ Did you miss our first three stories about our Tri-County Top 16, visit tctimes.com

TRIVIA

BASEBALL

Q Who held the record for most consecutive games played in baseball before it was broken by Lou Gehrig and Cal Ripken, Jr.?

A New York Yankee Everett Scott held the record of 1,307 consecutive games, with it ending on May 6, 1925.

DAVID'S DABBLINGS

I have a joke I play on my wife just about every week night.

It's a joke I've been playing for about four months now.

It goes like this. If the television is off at night, I walk in and say "I bet I can find a soccer game to watch." And, incredibly, with probably about 90 percent accuracy, I end up being right. And that hasn't changed this summer with Major League Soccer, the women's World Cup and now the men's Gold Cup going on.

Just 10 years ago, you could go through months without seeing a soccer game on U.S. television. Now, ESPN, Fox Sports, NBC sports and a few others are desperate to show as much of the sport as they possibly can. Like I said, it seems like it's on every single night. The amazing thing is there are people that still believe no one in America watches soccer.

Maybe they don't, but someone must be watching these games. Got to go now. I have to see if there is a soccer game on TV.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | MARK BOLEN

The Fenton varsity girls soccer team celebrates with the squad's state semifinalist trophy just minutes after losing a tough 1-0 shootout contest to Richland Gull Lake in the state title contest. But was the season good enough to be our top selection for our 2014-15 Tri-County Top 16 Poll? Read on and find out.

A new team reaches the top of our Tri-County Top 16 poll

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com;

Since the sports staff has started making the Tri-County Top 16 poll to honor the best of the best for each school year, there has been quite a few constants.

One constant is what types of programs capture the top spot in our poll. In the first six years, only two types of sports have earned the top spot. Those are cross country teams and wrestling programs.

The Linden boys cross country team has been the unchallenged best team over the last seven seasons, earning the No. 1 spot in 2008-09, 2009-10 and

2012-13. Meanwhile, the Linden girls cross country team gave the sport its fourth title during our six-year run with our poll last year.

The only other sport to earn the No. 1 spot has been wrestling. In 2010-11, Lake Fenton's state runner-up squad placed first in the poll, while Holly wrestling placed second. Then during the 2011-12 season, Holly wrestling gave the sport its second straight champion in our poll.

This year we'll have a third sport to finally get to the top. But, that's not to say a cross country team didn't challenge for the top

position. In fact, until about a month ago, it looked as though cross country would earn its fifth crown in seven seasons of polls. So without killing too much time (and space), let's get to the final four teams in our 2014-15 Tri-County Top 16 Poll.

No. 4 - Linden boys soccer: Prior to the start of the 2014 fall season, Linden boys varsity soccer coach Kevin Fiebernitz wasn't terribly sure what to expect out of his squad. He knew he had a handful of outstanding players returning from the past season, a season that saw the

See TOP 16 on 17A

Spencer climbing the boxing ladder

■ Linden student will head to Russia for his next big event

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com

Boxing has opened a lot of doors for Linden resident Joey Spencer.

And through his success, the 15-year old has earned the right to compete in Russia.

Spencer has captured two key boxing titles, which should help him open doors to other boxing opportunities.

He recently returned from the Junior Olympic National Championships held in West Virginia. While there, he competed against 11 other regional champions in the 154-pound

See SPENCER on 17A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Linden resident Joey Spencer, 15, has already captured titles in two prestigious boxing tournaments in 2015.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Holly varsity boys cross country team finished the 2014-15 school year at the No. 2 spot in our Tri-County Top 16 Poll.

TOP 16

Continued from Page 16A

Eagles finish fifth in our 2013-14 poll, but he also knew he lost a bunch of starters and key contributors as well.

Quickly, it became apparent the Eagles were going to be just as good, if not better, than the prior year. Linden opened its season 11-0-1 and was as dominant as that record may suggest. They defended their Metro League crown and followed that up with a district championship. The Eagles advanced to the regional title game before losing to Cranbrook Kingswood 3-1. The Eagles ended the season with a 20-2-1 mark and seriously challenged for the top spot in our fall poll.

No. 3 - Holly girls tennis: A few years back, ex-Holly girls tennis coach Brennan Brown used to ask us at the sports staff to do a poll for the past 30 years. His point was obvious. If we did one from the last 30 years, the Holly varsity girls tennis team could very well end up No. 1, and the Holly varsity boys tennis team probably would finish pretty high as well.

The Holly girls remained their strong selves during the spring of 2015, capturing the Metro League title and a regional championship outright. They followed that success by placing 10th at the Division 2 state meet. They also found a spot at No. 3 in our final poll, the Bronchos' best ranking ever.

No. 2 - Holly boys cross country: The Holly Bronchos gave their sport another legitimate top candidate for our Tri-County Top 16 poll. And up until about a month ago, it looked like Holly was going to become the third cross country squad to end the season atop our list. But, instead, the Bronchos will have to settle for the runner-up position, the third time in four seasons a harrier squad has finished second in the final poll.

Holly was expected to have a big season and didn't disappoint. The squad won some non-league invitationals during the regular season and also dominated each of the three Metro League

competitions, easily cruising to its second straight conference crown.

Holly followed the Metro title with a regional championship and then completed the year by finishing 11th out of 27 teams at the D1 state meet. If the Bronchos were able to finish somewhere in the top 5, they'd probably be on top of this list. But it's hard to be upset with No. 2. That's pretty darn good, too.

No. 1 - Fenton girls soccer: About a month ago, it didn't appear the Tigers would even be that high on the spring charts, much less finish the season atop our entire school year poll. After losing to the Linden Eagles in the final regular season game of the year and consequently losing the Metro crown, it looked like the Tigers would finish the season as a solid but not overly spectacular team.

That image was changed once the postseason began, as the Fenton Tigers went on a historical state tourney run. They avenged their loss to Linden by defeating the Eagles 3-1 to earn a district title and then defeated Clio and Regina in the regionals to capture their third regional crown since coach Matt Sullivan has been around. In the semifinals Trenton became the next victim as the Tigers won 1-0 and advanced to their first-ever state championship game. While there, they played two-time defending state champions Richland Gull Lake to a 0-0 tie after 120 minutes of soccer, forcing the D2 state title to be decided by a shootout. Gull Lake won the shootout. However, the Tigers came a couple of crossbar shots from actually winning the state championship. In the tourney, six of the seven teams were unable to score against the Tigers during regulation or during overtime sessions, including state champion Gull Lake themselves.

The Tigers' postseason ride was clearly the top moment of the 2014-15 school year.

SPENCER

Continued from Page 16A

weight class, eventually winning his bracket. He had to win three three-round decisions to capture the title. Prior to that tournament, Spencer also competed in the United States of America Youth National Championships and Junior Open in Nevada, winning his sole match while there. The victory earns Spencer a chance to represent the United States in Russia while competing at the World Junior Open later in September.

"I've been to a couple of big tournaments and have done well," Spencer said. "I recently went to West Virginia to fight in the Junior Olympics and it was awesome. The tournament went really well. I had three fights and they went really good."

It wasn't an easy tournament for Spencer. He experienced a shoulder injury very close to the start of the tournament.

"I always have shoulder issues and I thought I could push myself and I kept fighting through it," Spencer said. "But the shoulder kept bothering me. When I got out of the ring I could not lift it."

Spencer was unable to do his normal training for the tournament due to a tear in his shoulder. He went through five weeks of physical therapy.

"I couldn't train at all," Spencer said. "All I could do is run and do what I could do to stay in shape."

Slowly he began to progress. He was able to spar twice the week before the tournament. That was only a minor victory since he typically spars four days in a row. Compounding matters, Spencer felt he was going to have his toughest

match in the opening round.

"The first match I had a very good kid. Sometimes you can have what should be the championship match during the first fight," Spencer said. "I knew he was extremely prepared, amped up and mentally focused to fight. It was hard on my body. Before that first fight I envisioned what I needed to do (physically) and mentally for the fight."

He got by that first opponent and had easier matches in the semifinal and in the title bout, capturing the victory. He said he learned about himself boxing through the injury.

"That was the first time I had to do that and I was proud of that — being able to push through when all the odds were against me," Spencer said. "I thank God I was able to do that."

However, it was the victory in Nevada in January that qualified Spencer for the event to be held in Russia.

"I am very excited," Spencer said. "We have a very good team going to Russia. We should be successful."

Spencer trains through his family boxing facility, the Immanuel Boxing Club. His father, Jason, is his primary trainer. Joey is currently the top-ranked 154 Junior Division boxer in the world.

Spencer remains as excited about boxing as he did when he first started years ago.

"I love it. I absolutely love it," Spencer said. "The more I see my dreams are coming true, the more I love it. ... I still wake up every day watching boxing when I first wake up."

"No one likes to get hit in the face. There are days when you say you don't want to get hit in the face, but you still do it because I love it."

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Nora Rodriguez, 10, teaches Cheyenne Randall, 5, about begonia plants with mom Naomi Golden during the Summer Blast Program at Patterson Elementary in Holly on Wednesday. The 10-week program helps kids to retain math and reading skills while also having fun.

Have a 'blast' this summer

■ Patterson Elementary offers Wednesday 'Summer Blast' program

Holly's Patterson Elementary School students can't say they're "bored" at least one day this summer.

A program that began on June 10 will continue through August 12, giving students a chance to come to the school from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and take part in several activities.

Each week, participating students can pick up a weekly packet, check out books, play math games, participate in outdoor learning activities, read with a teacher and use computers and iPads.

When they return their completed packets the next Wednesday, they have a chance to earn an additional raffle ticket, and either select another packet and go, or stay and learn.

There are free weekly giveaways of school supplies, outdoor activity supplies, snacks and a popsicle. There are five weekly raffles for gift cards, and three grand prizes. First- through third-place winners

will receive a Kindle Fire and a \$25 Amazon gift card.

Participating is easy. All kids need to do is check in online at patterson.summerblast@has-K12.org.

Free school supplies will be given the first day of school for each week checked in online, and raffle tickets will be awarded toward the grand prize drawing. Send an email to the same address and include the packet week number 1-10. Include the student's first and last name in the subject and body of the email. An automated response will be issued indicating the information has been received.

Students can also wait and turn in their completed packets by Friday, Sept. 11 and earn raffle tickets for the grand prize drawing.

If a packet is lost or misplaced, a replacement can be printed at the school during Wednesday check-in, or by printing them from the Patterson or Holly Area Schools website.

All Wednesday activities take place in the Patterson IMC.

RESTAURANT - AUCTION

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Tuesday, July 14 @ 10:00am

Open @ 8:00am for Early Viewing

Location/Directions: Treasures Restaurant - 109 North Washington Street, Owosso, MI 48867. Owosso is located 11 Miles north of I-69. At the intersection of M-52 and M-21 (West Main Street) you will head east .3 mile, turn left onto North Washington, Treasures is located on the corner, on your left, look for signs. Parking on side streets and parking lots to rear of buildings.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Owner has decided to close his family restaurant business and to liquidate Restaurant Equipment, Restaurant Supplies, Catering Equipment and Decorative Items. Items are clean and in operating condition. If you are in need of Restaurant Equipment, Restaurant Supplies, Catering Equipment, Large Double Sided LED Outdoor Sign, this is a must attend Auction. There are some very nice unique items also (Street Clock - Double Faced, Wooden Indians 6ft+ Tall - 2 Available, Large Wall Art (Fork, Knife and Spoon), Counter Display Case, Counter Scales, Framed Art, Traffic Light, Barbers Pole & More. Absentee & Phone Bids Welcome. All Phone & Absentee Bid Information Must Be in by 6:00pm the Day Before The Auction.

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CLERGY

Continued from Front Page

If approached, how are you going to respond?

If approached, I would respond with love and compassion by inviting the couple in for a conversation about Jesus' love for them and how we are called to share that love with those around us.



Senior Pastor Jeff Jagers of Fenton United Methodist Church

What do you think of the Supreme Court's decision on gay marriage?

I frankly think this is a good decision, as I understand it. I think it's a good idea. I think it's a good idea for same-sex partners to have equal rights.

Have you been approached by gay couples wanting to get married before?

I have not, no. In the United Methodist Church, clergy are prohibited from conducting any same-sex marriages. They are not to be conducted in our churches. I don't know if same-sex couples know that and haven't approached me. But I have been approached to do a vow renewal for a same-sex couple.

If approached, how are you going to respond?

I can't. I'm prohibited by my church law. Our bishops have said you can do this part of the ceremony but not do this part of the ceremony. I can't pronounce them husband and husband, wife and wife. I can't sign the license. I can't do the vows or the exchange of rings or pronouncement of marriage. I can read scripture, pray, and give a homily.



Pastor Jack McMaster of Faith Baptist Church of Linden

What do you think of the Supreme Court's decision on gay marriage?

No human court has the authority to re-define marriage and the verdict on June 26 does not change the God-ordained reality of marriage. Neither God nor his work was defeated in his ruling.

Have you been approached by same-sex couples wanting to get married before?

I have not.

If approached, how are you going to respond?

I will respond with talking to them about the Lord and their need of a savior, their need of God in their life. Doing it God's way is always a better idea. In this case, doing marriage God's way. God's way is clearly spelled out in his work, the Bible. It's not about what I feel, it's about what He says. Everything He says is for our good and for His glory.



Associate Pastor John White at The Rock in Fenton

What do you think of the Supreme Court's decision on gay marriage?

I think, first of all,

I'm not surprised by the decision. I think if they were surprised, they weren't paying attention to anything that's going on in the world.

Have you been approached by same-sex couples wanting to get married?

No.

If approached, how would you handle it?

If approached, I would handle it the same way as if anyone else approached us. As teachers of the Bible, we have a responsibility to our belief and to share that.

We believe the choice is in the eyes of God. It depends on the couple's choice, if they want to go through with it. You wouldn't find us doing a marriage for a couple living together. According to the work of God, we always seek to teach them through the Bible. We're not going to marry someone living under sin.

We believe that marriage is a holy institution given by God among men. We have a responsibility to God to approach that with reverence and holiness. We believe the Bible is very clear on marriage. We have a lot of people who come to us. There's no difference between the homosexual and the adulterer. That's just as sinful. We seek to show compassion to people and walk them through the Bible.



Reverend Heather Barta of St. Jude's Episcopal Church

What do you think of the Supreme Court's decision?

The Episcopal Church is a church that is open and welcoming to all. As a

clergy person in this denomination, I am happy to have the opportunity to tell the LGBT community that they are welcome in my church and in my state. At St. Jude's, there is a wide variety of views on this topic, but welcome all people into a community full of Christ's love and hope.

Have you been approached by gay couples wanting to get married before?

I have not yet, but expect that I will be approached.

If approached, how are you going to respond?

As with every couple, with a hearty congratulations, an explanation of what marriage means in the Episcopal Church, and premarital counseling. The Episcopal Church recently established liturgies for same-sex blessings.

COURT

Continued from Page 9A

"A 10-year financial plan was created and efforts are being made to control fixed costs, and the proposed metroplex can be completed for the costs of taking older buildings offline," he told the council.

Curtis said future generations will have the ability to close the courts, but it would only be done if necessary. He said the metroplex would be able to accommodate future closures, should they happen.

Yuille briefly recapped how the matter of consolidating the courts came up in the first place. He said the Supreme Court, every few years, surveys the workload of various courts. The Supreme Court suggested merging the Flint and county Circuit Courts and that suggestion was approved by the legislature, Board of Commissioners and Flint City Council.

Councilwoman Cheryl King referenced the closure of the Secretary of State's office in Fenton a few years ago and said she feels that being in the southern end of the county the city of Fenton is forgotten. She said not all residents have computers or access to modern technology.

According to Curtis, bonding for the new metroplex will go out within the next 18 months and the building will probably take two years to build.

View stories at
tctimes.com



ASK THE MECHANIC

Chris Wilkinson,
Certified Mechanic

Q: I have a 2005 Dodge Neon SRT4 commemorative edition number 111/200. My check engine light came on recently so I had my mechanic check it. They said it was the ignition coil/coil 2 or spark 2. I replace my ignition coil twice with 2 brands, my spark plugs twice and my wires once. It fixes it for a few hours and then the check engine light comes back on. When this happens, my car loses half its power and will come back but it's a constant battle with it, especially on the highway. Please help what could this be?

- Noah

A: Noah, You need to check the connector where the coil plugs in. It is possible that it looses contact intermittently, or has opened up like a wall plug in your house that is old and does not have a tight fit any longer. When this happens it will cause this type of issue and it is an easy fix. If that is not it, you may have a bad power-train control module or a wire from it to the coil shorting out or opening up somewhere. This type of problem is better diagnosed at a repair shop with specialty tools that will aide in an accurate diagnosis.

Do you have a question that you would like to have answered?
E-mail it to me at:
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COURT**Continued from Front Page**

his probable cause hearing on Friday.

The probable cause hearing involved a meeting between the prosecuting attorney and defense attorney. On Friday, the prosecuting attorney requested an adjournment on the scheduled July 17 preliminary hearing. The results of that request won't be known until Monday morning.

The Montmorency County District Court Judge Benjamin Bolser will be presiding over the case. Wilfinger is being represented by attorney Ronald Bayot.

Erich Wilfinger was arraigned Friday, June 26 in Montmorency County District Court.

Marsha Wilfinger, 54, formerly of Linden, was found in the back seat of a burning car on June 20.

Shortly before midnight, Michigan State Police Troopers responded to calls of a vehicle fire at the intersection of Sheridan Valley Road and Scenic Rte. 3 in Montmorency County's Briley Township, east of Gaylord.

When troopers arrived, they found the car burning in a ditch. When the fire was put out, investigators discovered Marsha Wilfinger's burned remains in the back seat.

Troopers learned the vehicle was registered to a leasing company. They found several car parts scattered along the road that led to the fire scene. They also believe the vehicle had been towed to the location.

That trail led detectives several miles to a house in Briley Township. Police made contact with Erich Wilfinger, who was sleeping inside the home and determined the body from the vehicle was his wife. Troopers observed signs that a domestic assault had recently taken place in the home.

Marsha Wilfinger owned and operated a cleaning business for many years. She is survived by three adult children, two sons and a daughter, and three grandchildren.

Erich Wilfinger remains in jail without bond. A preliminary examination is scheduled for July 17.



Marsha Wilfinger

News briefs**Tyrone Township Historical Society annual Potluck Picnic**

The Tyrone Township Historical Society will host its annual Potluck Picnic Monday, July 20 at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held at 10408 Center Road. The program will feature a discussion on local celebrity, "Buckskin Bill" Gallagher, taxidermist, leather tanner, and artist. The community is invited. For details, call (810) 629-2031 or email Connie at cpowell1960@aol.com.

Class Reunion

The Fenton High School Alumni All Class Reunion Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 8 at St. John Catholic Church Activity Center, 610 North Adelaide St. (behind the church). Social hour is from 5 to 6 p.m. Dinner and the program will follow at 6 p.m. Dress is casual and the Activity Center is air conditioned. For details, call (810) 629-9437.

WHAT YOU MISSED

in the

MIDWEEK TIMES

Wednesday, July 8, 2015 edition



■ **Mild, not wild**, Fourth of July celebration on Lake Fenton

■ **Two apply** for Fenton's interim superintendent job

■ **No major incidents** over holiday weekend

■ **Community park** on hold for now

■ **Police files**

■ **Fenton Freedom Festival** photo page

■ **Fenton ArtWalk** celebrates fifth year

■ **Deadline for seminary** demolition bids extended

■ **Mosquitoes be gone**

■ **Michigan Votes**

■ **Buerkel finishes** as our baseball MVP for third straight year

■ **Holly graduate** captures Frank Syron Tourney

■ **Fall sports** continue their Top 16 dominance

■ **Destination Michigan**

■ **This weekend's** garage sales

■ **Obituaries**

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Alpine Marketplace**
- CVS Pharmacy
- Holly Foods**
- Rite Aid
- Sears Hometown Stores
- Target
- VG's**
- Yes! Coupon Book**

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

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2012 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING
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2013 JEEP PATRIOT LATITUDE
\$15,985 H7388XA

2010 CHRYSLER 300
\$18,389 P2730

2013 DODGE DURANGO R/T AWD
\$29,000 H9314XA

2011 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT
\$15,000 J4332A

2011 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING-L
\$17,197 G4332A

2013 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO
\$24,115 E9365A

2013 JEEP PATRIOT LATITUDE
\$13,750 P2704

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BLUES

Continued from Front Page

manually lift heavy containers, which should reduce overall costs in the long term."

Broecker said the 95-gallon carts are a standard size for trash collection nationwide, holding the equivalent of three 32- to 35-gallon trash cans. For recycling, which is now collected on an every other week basis, the 95-gallon cart holds the equivalent of five 18-gallon recycle bins.

While people can request a smaller container eventually, Broecker said, "We are asking residents to try their 95-gallon carts for at least 90 days before calling to request smaller carts. After 90 days, any resident wishing to downsize to 65-gallon carts can do so by calling Republic Services at (888) 872-7455."

For those who are wondering why the carts are blue, rather than some neutral color that would blend in better with most houses and the environment, the reason is there was no other option.

"Blue is the standard color for Republic Services containers," said Broecker. "No other color options were presented to the township."

Fenton Township is not tracking the amount of complaint calls it

receives on this matter, said Broecker. He said the vast majority of calls received by township residents involve questions about the new program.

Broecker said cost-wise, it is difficult to compare the new contract with the previous one because there are other factors, such as fuel prices and overall inflation, which impact the total cost more than the cost of automated versus manual collection.

"Prior to the finalization of the contract with Republic Services, Fenton Township voters approved a four-year renewal of the trash collection assessment for a maximum cost of \$155 per household, per year," said Broecker. "Because the township had some cash reserves in the Solid Waste Fund, the amount assessed on the December 2014 property tax bills, to fund 2015 service, was \$144 per household."

The new contract was finalized in early 2015, with an average cost around \$140 per household, per year, Broecker added.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Blue bins line North Road in Fenton Township after pick-up on Wednesday.

SUMMARY

Fenton Township's new trash and recycling program has officially begun. Operations Manager/Deputy Clerk Tom Broecker answers questions about the new program.

How they voted

The final decision to roll out the new solid waste and recycling carts was made at the Fenton Township Board of Trustees March 2 meeting. Board members had two agreements to consider. The first was to supply each home with a large, 95-gallon cart for trash with weekly recycling using existing bins. The second agreement called for the delivery of two, 95-gallon carts, one for trash and one for bi-weekly recycling.

At that meeting, board members were asked to approve the option of using one cart and existing recycle bins. That vote failed by a vote of 5-1 against, with Trustee Shaun Shumaker casting the only vote in favor of one cart. Supervisor Bonnie Mathis, Clerk Robert Krug, Treasurer John Tucker, and trustees Robert Kesler and Vince Lorraine rejected the proposal.

A second motion was made to go with the two-cart system currently being used. The same members of the board who rejected the first proposal voted in favor of the two-cart system, with Shumaker casting the only vote against it.

Trustee Mark Goupil was absent from the meeting.



COLDWELL BANKER PROFESSIONALS EARNS PRESTIGIOUS PRESIDENT'S AWARD OF HONOR

In June 2015 Coldwell Banker Professionals with offices in (Lapeer, Fenton, Midland, Morrice, Port Huron, Richmond & Yale) was awarded the prestigious **Coldwell Banker® President's Award of Honor**, a distinction achieved by only 65 of the **Coldwell Banker** independently owned and operated affiliate companies throughout North America. This designation was given to companies who attained closed adjusted gross commission income of \$4,750,000 - \$8,999,999.99 during the 2014 calendar year.

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Fenton Farmer's Market • Concert in the Park
PRESENTS

Taste in FENTON





July 30, 2015 • 4 pm - 8 pm

FENTON COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER

In addition to great food tastes, family and friends can enjoy a Kids Zone, Music, and Raffle tickets for 1st prize of \$5,000 or a trip for 2 to Spain. (Tickets \$20 each) Back by popular demand: Kids donut eating contest and pie eating contest sponsored by The Laundry/Crust. The Stein holding contest sponsored by Fenton Winery & Brewery.

TICKETS
\$10 in advance
\$15 at the event

Advance tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce, The State Bank (Fenton/Linden), VG's Food Centers (Fenton), The Laundry, Fenton Winery & Brewery and other participating sponsors.

RESTAURANTS CONFIRMED TO DATE:

Beale St Smokehouse BBQ • Biggby
Bob Evans • Crust • Culvers • Fun With Frosting
Hungry Howies • Legends Sports Cafe
Spring Meadow Country Club • Tami's Sweet Treats • The Laundry • Tropical Smoothie Café



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HOT LINE CONTINUED

I SEE TYPICAL Clinton criticizing people for their thoughts, not by their deeds. She's going to have to answer questions that won't come from the friendly reporters she likes to talk to. Her deeds will come to the floor, not for what she thinks but for trying to cover it up.

WHY WON'T THE Fenton city hall display the true garbage cans under the

new system? The one they have is a 65 gallon that's sitting in the hallway. Let's put the real 95-gallon one out there and let people take a look at the real size of it.

MY SOUTHERN LIBERAL paper did it again. 'Clinton Rips Republicans.' What Clinton would like to rip is her emails that she has as Secretary of State, which are illegal as can be. Someday soon, she's going to have to pay for it.

PLEASE TAKE DOWN the signs after your yard sale or garage sale is over. Gas is too expensive to be following these signs to nowhere. Please take the sign down. Thanks.

AMAZING HOW RUDE some customers can be to store owners and their employees. Just witnessed a woman go crazy, yelling and throwing a tantrum when she was clearly in the wrong. I'm so glad I'm not in the retail business.



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See details on page 13 in
the Yes! Coupon Book



COUPONS AND SPECIALS FROM THESE AREA MERCHANTS



KMART

Continued from Front Page

"It's not true," she said. "I haven't heard anything about closing from corporate. I've been at this store for three years and people have been talking about it for three years."

Instead of talking about the possibility of the store closing, Susalla encourages shoppers to come in and shop. "If everyone keeps shopping here, we aren't going to close," she said. "We've got really loyal customers and we appreciate them."

Kmart has a long tradition in Michigan, including the Fenton area. This national discount chain opened its first store in Michigan in Garden City in 1962. Open since the late 1970s where the north end VG's Grocery stands today, the Fenton Kmart moved to Silver Parkway in 1995, the new plaza's first major retailer.

Kmart carries popular clothing brands of Adam Levine, Jacklyn Smith, AX Paris, Attention, Everlast Sport, Hanes, Impact by Jillian Michaels, and Joe Boxer, among others. The store also features its free Show Your Way rewards, which can also be used at Sears. The many name brands in all the departments, combined with office supplies, beauty products, automotive, lawn and garden, layaway and daily discounts remains attractive to Kmart's loyal customers.

Kmart continues to operate 57 stores in Michigan and 1,077 stores nationwide, under Sears Holdings Corporation, which operates both Sears and Kmart stores. The two retailers merged in 2005 after Kmart purchased Sears, Roebuck and Co.

The latest round of Kmart closures saw the demise of nearby stores in Grand Blanc, Flint, Burton, Waterford and White Lake Township in 2014.

"As of right now, we're staying open," said Susalla. "In fact, we're even hiring in Fenton. We employ 60 people."

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The market stalls were busy on Thursday at the Fenton Farmers Market.

FARMERS MARKET

Continued from Page 3A

good evening,” said Heinecke. “Don’t give up on the weather too soon. You might have two or three hours of great shopping and fewer crowds.”

At the Fenton market, parking spots may be at a premium because of the Streetscape project, so be prepared to take the first spot you find, advised Peruski.

Here are a few other tips:

- Be prepared for your visit before you go. Know the Michigan produce seasons so you’ll have an idea what to expect (see sidebar).
- Plan meal ideas ahead so you can shop accordingly, buying produce in the right amounts and with fresh accompaniments.

SUMMARY

■ Farmers markets are one of the joys of summer, providing fresh local produce and other fun shopping experiences.

You also need to be flexible and spontaneous, in case certain produce items aren’t available, and others are. “As an example, if there’s no spinach when you’re at the

market, you might find plenty of kale and arugula,” said Heinecke.

- Be prepared that produce comes to the market as it is in nature — there may be a bit of dirt and carrots aren’t peeled and in a package, but the superior, fresh flavor is worth the inconvenience.

- Bring your own large, sturdy produce bags to easily carry your goods. A big backpack might also work for carrying weightier items like melons. Bring plenty of small change and single dollars, to make purchases faster and easier.

- If you want to save money, be prepared to buy in volume for the best price. This might be the time you want to learn how to make freezer jam or attempt canning or preserving. Look for classes in larger markets that can teach you some of these skills, or contact your Michigan State University Extension office in Flint for information, including classes.

Most of all, have fun at the farmers market. It’s where friendships are made and renewed. “We really enjoy the personal contact with shoppers,” said Heinecke. “You don’t have to buy anything. Everyone enjoys someone stopping by and saying hello.”

Check out these local farmers markets:

TRI-COUNTY AREA

Fenton Farmers Market

@ Fenton Community & Cultural Center
Thursdays from 5 to 8 p.m.
June 25 through Sept. 17
Market Manager: Sherie Peruski
(810) 701-4611

La Fresh Organic Farmers Market

@ Gerych’s Distinctive Flowers & Gifts
Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
July 26 through Oct. 25
Market Manager: Gayle Olsen
(602) 909-9583

Linden Farmers Market

@ Union Block area
Wednesdays from 5 to 8 p.m.
July 15 through Sept. 2
Market Manager: Sherie Peruski
(810) 701-4611

DAVISON

Davison Farmers Market

@ 8110 East Court St. (next to D&W Window)
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays
8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
(810) 412-5883

FLINT

Flint Farmers Market

@ 300 East First St.
Open year ‘round
Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(810) 232-1399

GRAND BLANC

Grand Blanc Farmers Market

@ Grand Boulevard
Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Now through Oct. 25
(810) 423-5011

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Howell Farmers Market

@ 123 East Washington St.
Sundays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Now through Oct. 26

For a complete list of Michigan farmers markets, visit mifma.org/find-a-farmers-market/



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3251 Owen Rd. at US 23, Fenton | (810) 750-2234

July 21 | August 18 | September 15

BOSTON'S

| 5-8PM | 4th Tuesday |

3324 Owen Rd. at US 23, Fenton | (810) 750-5800

July 28 | August 25

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| 5-8PM |

4462 Corunna Rd., Flint Twp. | (810) 732-9700

July 23 | August 20



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Saturday, July 18, 3-10 p.m.

\$10

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Silent Auction Bounce House
Live Entertainment Doggone Good BBQ
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Also AllDay Monday & Sweet Willie

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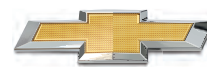
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NOW \$26,841**



2015 CHEVROLET CITY EXPRESS
STK#1698538



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2015 CHEVROLET TRAX LT
STK#1094749T



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2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500 Z71
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NOW \$38,603**



2015 CHEVROLET CRUZE LS
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NOW \$15,880**



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Vic Canever
FENTON

3000 Owen Rd. @ US-23 in Fenton
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SALES HOURS

Mon, Tues & Thurs: 8:30am - 8pm
Wed & Fri: 8:30am - 6pm
Saturday: 10am - 4pm • Sunday: CLOSED

SERVICE HOURS

Monday: 7:00am - 8pm
Tues - Fri: 7:00am - 6pm
Saturday: 8am - 2pm • Sunday: CLOSED

