

LaJoice's sentencing postponed again

■ **Admitted embezzler could get 12-year prison sentence**

By **Hannah Ball**

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Sentencing for Michael LaJoice, 37, formerly of Tyrone Township, was scheduled for Tuesday, March

14 in United States District Court in Detroit. However, Tuesday's hearing was cancelled and rescheduled for March 23.

LaJoice has been lodged in the Oakland County Jail since January 2016 after turning himself in for embezzling \$18.6 million from the credit union where he worked.



Michael LaJoice

He pleaded guilty in federal court to one count of bank fraud, which comes with a sentencing guideline of 121 to 151 months and a maximum fine of \$1 million. He faces a statutory maximum term of 30 years imprisonment.

Both parties submitted recommendations for sentencing to Judge

Gershwin Drain, who is presiding over the federal case.

The U.S. Attorney's Office recommended 132 months, or 11 years, of imprisonment.

The recommendation states, "LaJoice used the stolen funds to live a lavish lifestyle — purchasing and
See LAJOICE on 16A

PAGE 1B
NEW FAMILY
SPRING BREAK
TRENDS

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2016 NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

'Tobacco 21' burning out before it starts

■ **Elected officials say citations will be thrown out**

By **Vera Hogan**

vhogan@tctimes.com

The "Tobacco 21" resolution passed by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners by a vote of 7-2 on Feb. 14, may go into effect on May 15. Making violations stick, however, could be another matter.

The new ordinance prohibits the sale of cigarettes and all other tobacco products to 18- to 20-year-olds in Genesee County.

Commissioner Drew Shapiro of Fenton (District 6), one of the commissioners that cast dissenting votes, referenced Attorney General Bill Schuette's opinion 7292 dated Feb. 2 and said, "The county tobacco ordinance is in clear

See TOBACCO on 19A

'Everything we do is American made'



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Miller Industries shareholders and siblings Jennifer Sage, Matt Miller and Chad Miller (right) stand atop the mezzanine in their 106,000-square-foot Fenton Township facility on Thursday. They, along with their father, Tom, and brother, Mike (not pictured), own the companies that operate under the Miller Industries name. **See story on page 15A.**



USPS sees 36 percent decrease in first-class mail in past decade

TRI-COUNTY TIMES

TIM JAGIELO

The United States Postal Service is dealing with a significant decrease in first-class mail volume due to the advancement of digital technology.

By **Hannah Ball**

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The United States Postal Service (USPS) might be in trouble.

Mail volume is at a 29-year low, according to USAtoday.com, and the USPS has recorded annual

losses as high as \$15.9 billion in the last 10 years.

The reason is likely that people are sending less mail. In 2007, the USPS processed 212 billion volumes of mail. In 2015, that number was 154 billion.

See MAIL on 14A

“People don't necessarily send letters like they used to.”

Mike Clabuesch
Goin' Postal owner

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“If Trump is going to be the president he says he is, then he should insist that any health care plan crafted by politicians should also be applicable to those politicians and their families. Every American citizen will thank him.”



“Top three things in the area. Hot breadsticks, homemade ice cream, and Tri-County Times Hot lines, not necessarily in that order. What's on your list?”



“Historians of the future, when they look back on our times, may be completely baffled when trying to understand how Western civilization welcomed vast numbers of people hostile to the fundamental values of Western civilization, people who had been taught that they have a right to kill those who do not share their beliefs.”

**COMMENT
OF THE WEEK**

“What this country needs are more unemployed politicians and bureaucrats. Keep slashing the staffs of the worthless and unnecessary government agencies, Donald.”



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mount Kilimanjaro is in sight in the background as Peabody begins Day 4 of her trek to the summit.

'I made it, I can't believe it!'

Local chiropractor Erica Peabody makes it to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa

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

Just putting one foot in front of the other and trying to breathe is what got Erica Peabody, D.C. to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa last Thursday.

The owner of Café of Life Chiropractic Center in Fenton, Peabody says that summiting to the top of the highest free-standing mountain in the world is the most demanding feat she has ever accomplished.

"I made it, I can't believe it," said Peabody, the tears freely flowing on a YouTube video she took on Day 6 at the summit (see the YouTube link online with this story).

In the background, you can hear the

SUMMARY

Erica Peabody, D.C. returned home Saturday after a life-changing climb to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Erica Peabody enjoys a break at the top of her climb on Day 2.

songs in Swahili that the 60 support staff people are singing to the climbers at the end of each day's climb. "It's the most amazing thing I've ever experienced," said Peabody, 39. The support staff included porters, guides, cooks, even people to help with daily hygiene and toilets.

She was part of a 30-woman climb, knowing only one other person, Kelly Luck, the woman who had invited her last April to consider the climb. The group trekked together at a pace everyone could keep, which enabled them to acclimatize as they were ascending.

She admits that the climb was especially hard in the beginning. "My feet were just screaming," she said. "My feet, and the fact I couldn't sleep because of altitude insomnia. In the first 48 hours, I only slept about six (hours)."

"It was grueling and painful, a real test of my endurance," said Peabody, an active fitness enthusiast who trained hard for this event. "My brother has created a high altitude gym south of town and I'd work out there at the equivalent of 8,000

See **AFRICA** on 17A

WATCH THE VIDEO



AT TCTIMES.COM WITH THIS STORY

“My feet were just screaming. My feet, and the fact I couldn't sleep because of altitude insomnia.”

Erica Peabody, D.C.

Quick facts about Mount Kilimanjaro

- **Mount Kilimanjaro** is the highest mountain in Africa and the highest free-standing mountain in the world.
- **The mountain** is actually a dormant volcano.
- **The summit** is called Uhuru Peak and stands at 19,341 feet.
- **Approximately 35,000** people attempt to climb Mount Kilimanjaro every year. Success rates are usually about 85 percent.
- **There are** approximately three to seven deaths reported a year from climbers on Mount Kilimanjaro, usually from altitude sickness, falls and hypothermia.

Source: Climbkilimanjaroguide.com

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WITH THIS STORY

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Mi-Kwan-Dahn "Mike" Jewell of Rose Township tells the story of Nanabozho, an anishinaabe (native people) story about the discovery of maple syrup, to tour visitors at Kensington Metropark in Milford on Saturday, March 4. Maple syrup taps are in all around Michigan, and guests can learn all about the process this month.

Area man with Native American roots shares sweet folklore

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

For most of Michigan, March is the heart of maple syrup season.

If you love the thick, sweet taste of maple syrup, you have Native Americans to thank for discovering that the sap from maple trees could be boiled into sugar.

That's why Michael Jewell, a Rose Township resident with strong Native American roots, shares the Indian legends of "Maple's Sweet Story" at Kensington Metropark, near Milford, every weekend in March.

These demos take place at the Metroparks Farm Center on weekends through March 25 and 26, every half hour

from 12 to 4 p.m. A \$10 daily Metroparks Vehicle Entrance Fee will get you into the park (or a \$35 yearly pass), and it's a \$5 fee for the demo (\$3 for children).

If you know Jewell from his volunteer work through his church, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Fenton, you might not recognize him as he appears at the demo. He is fully dressed in his authentic Native American garb, which he has made himself, as he relays the Maple Syrup Legend (see sidebar).

Visitors also will take a guided walk of the farm's sugar bush, identify the perfect tree and watch how trees are tapped to get the sap.

See MAPLE SYRUP on 21A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Another part of the presentation includes the more advanced, but not quite modern techniques for evaporating maple sap into syrup, brought by European explorers.



Tool Box Tip #9

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Come *Heller* high water

andrewheller@tctimes.com

March on out of here

If I were asked to say something nice about the month of March at its funeral, I'd have to decline.

What's there to say?

'March was like a girlfriend I once had — usually cold and frosty but with an occasional glimpse of warmth.'

'March? Well, it was good for connecting February to April, I guess.'

'March was always there to remind us that every other month was a whole lot better.'

That's not much of a eulogy.

And, by the way, lest you think I'm kidding about that 'every month is better' thing, let me assure you I am not. Let's take them one by one.



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

April is the first true month of spring here in Michigan. The crocuses pop, the tulips burst, the Tigers play ball — usually amid snow flurries, but still. Even the snowbirds begin to return.

They come to escape Florida's impending humidity. But they also come seeking hope and renewal. That's what April is, a great big heaping helping of good things to come.

May? Well, May certainly doesn't need me to defend it. May is spring. May is the diving board into summer. And it's my birthday month, and, honestly, where would the world be without me, so clearly it's an epic month.

June, July, August, September, I'll just lump them in together because everyone agrees they're fantastic — four months of Michigan heaven. I'd put our summers up against summers anywhere. They are simply divine.

October. Red, orange and yellow leaves. And cider mill doughnuts. 'Nuff said.

November? OK, not my favorite month. November is like the music in the movies that begins just before something horrible happens. In this case, that horrible thing is winter. But in the end this largely wretched month is saved by two things — Thanksgiving (who can't get behind a holiday centered around gluttony?) and the run-up to the holidays. Both keep you distracted.

December? December is the hustle,

bustle month. Snow is still new and novel. And late in the month, there's that nice changing of the guard feeling — we've completed another trip around the sun and beginning another.

January. The first couple of weeks, you're still in the glow of the holidays, you're still focused on not following the resolutions you made, and the novelty hasn't worn off winter yet. January is do-able. But just barely.

February? I'm not going to lie. Awful month. The weather is so bad it makes you wonder why anyone settled here in the first place when nearly everywhere else on the continent is nicer. What little allure winter held is long gone. You're just counting the days until the first sign of spring, which usually happens in March, which would seem to say that February, not March, is the worst month of the year.

But not so. For February is what it is. It doesn't lie to you. It's honest. It says, "I suck, deal with it."

Whereas March is a tease. It gives you one or two days where you can almost think spring might be right around the corner then, WHAM, it snaps you right back into the depths of winter, and suddenly the full weight of a long winter feels twice as heavy.

And that, my friends, is when March laughs at you.

I'll be glad when it's over.

Opinions offered in Come Heller High Water are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the Andrew at andrewheller@tctimes.com.

Hotlines

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.

THE AMOUNT OF money in tax dollars from budget items like education, infrastructure and health care have drained the budgets for such things. Now, roads, bridges and power lines are failing.

AFTER REVIEWING TRUMPCARE, I emailed my representative and requested that my name be removed and never contact me again. I got the fastest response ever.

HEY PRESIDENT TRUMP, how about this? In addition to two regulations go away for every new regulation passes, how about two or more laborers or teachers get hired for every one bureaucrat or appointee that gets fired.

THE STOCK MARKET is at an all time high, the economy is up and increasing, jobs are up 253,000 with the lowest unemployment in over eight years, wages are up, small business optimism is up and illegal immigration is down 40 percent. All of this since Trump took office.

FIRST TIME I visited southern California, I was impressed by the oil wells and pumping stations along the beach on the Pacific coast. With Trump in charge, you'll be able to see that at every one of our national parks.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S Day was nothing about empowering women. It was actually about left-wing liberal fanati-

cism, funded by George Soros who gave \$246 million to Planned Parenthood, moveon.org. LGBT groups, and climate change groups to stage the so-called women's march.

I WENT TO the Expo in Fenton and I spun your wheel. I received a free year of Tri-County. I have been buying the paper for 16 years. I enjoy the paper immensely, and now I have a free year. It came at a very good time. Thank you very much. I've told everybody. Love you guys.

TO THE TEACHERS who shut down our schools and the protestors who clogged our streets, here's some facts they should know about women in the U.S. We are number eight in terms of gender equality in the world, 46 percent of firms are women-owned and 43 percent of senior management positions are held by women.

THE NUMBER OF Americans joining the labor force reached an all-time high last month. It's surprising what can be done when you remove needless restrictions, regulations, and unnecessary taxes from corporations so that they can expand their payrolls.

TRUMPCARE BILL 1313 completely takes away protections of the existing law. Twenty-two Republicans have voted to support allowing companies to require employees to undergo genetic testing or risk paying thousands of dollars. Google it.

THAT'S INTERESTING HOW everything that was wrong under the Democratic administration is suddenly OK under the Republican administration. Unemployment numbers were bogus before but now they're right on the money.

HAVE ANY OF you watched the movie Conspiracy Theory? That's the way things really are. You should watch it.

TRUMP WON THE election, but Putin was the big winner. In less than 60 days, our State Department and CIA have been severely weakened, something Putin's been after for 17 years.

GOODBYE BIG BOY, to another strip mall which will sit half-empty all the time, like the rest of them. Go to Flint, all the strip malls are sitting half-empty. That's what Fenton is beginning to look like.

WHILE CELEBRATING MY 85th birthday at IHOP, a lady came to our table and said 'I saw you two come in, watched and was reminded so much of my parents' and gave us a gift certificate to IHOP. That's a birthday I will cherish and remember forever.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

What is your most memorable spring break?



"We lived in Florida and were pretty much on the beach every day."

— **Mindy Leichty**
Fenton Township



"When we went to Florida with 10 other families and all of their kids."

— **Debbie Cryer**
Fenton Township



"My family and I went up to the Mt. Morris Mounds. We spent the whole day on the main trail, stuck. We had a great time."

— **Patrick Stanis**
Argentine Township



"I was living in California, and my dad surprised me in school on my last day before spring break."

— **Kamarin Kovacs**
Fenton Township



"Probably riding around on the dirt bike as a child up north."

— **Mike Cummings**
Rankin

street talk



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13185 Torrey Rd. • Fenton
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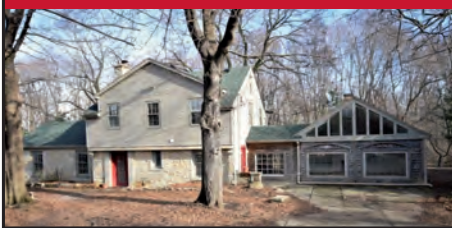
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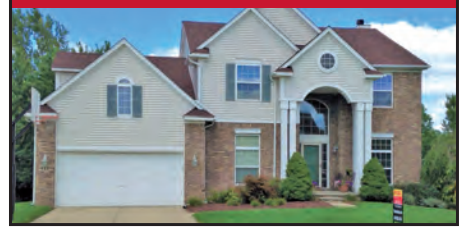
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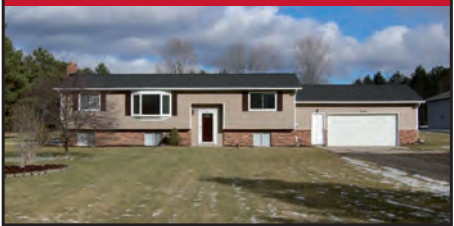
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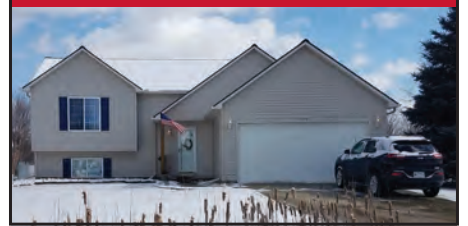
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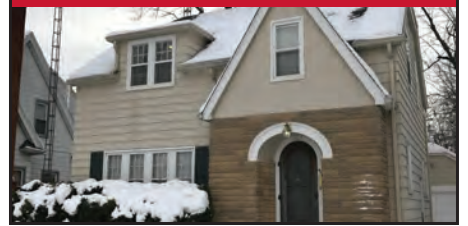
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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

MARCH 19

2003: The United States, along with coalition forces primarily from the United Kingdom, initiates war on Iraq. Just after explosions began to rock Baghdad, Iraq's capital, U.S. President George W. Bush announced in a televised address, "At this hour, American and coalition forces are in the early stages of military operations to disarm Iraq, to free its people and to defend the world from grave danger."

MARCH 20

1854: In Ripon, Wisconsin, former members of the Whig Party meet to establish a new party to oppose the spread of slavery into the western territories. The Whig Party, which was formed in 1834 to oppose the "tyranny" of President Andrew Jackson, had shown itself incapable of coping with the national crisis over slavery. A meeting of the Whig Party in Wisconsin on March 20, 1854, is generally remembered as the founding meeting of the Republican Party.

MARCH 21

1963: Alcatraz Prison in San Francisco Bay closes down and transfers its last prisoners. At its peak period of use in 1950s, "The Rock, or "America's Devil Island" housed over 200 inmates at the maximum-security facility. Alcatraz remains an icon of American prisons for its harsh conditions and record for being inescapable.

MARCH 22

1947: In response to public fears and Congressional investigations into communism in the United States, President Harry S. Truman issues an executive decree establishing a sweeping loyalty investigation of federal employees. Of most concern to the Truman administration were persistent charges that communists were operating in federal offices.

MARCH 23

2011: Actress Elizabeth Taylor, who appeared in more than 50 films, won two Academy Awards and was synonymous with Hollywood glamour, dies of complications from congestive heart failure at a Los Angeles hospital at age 79. The violet-eyed Taylor began her acting career as a child and spent most of her life in the spotlight. Known for her striking beauty, she was married eight times and later in life became a prominent HIV/AIDS activist.

MARCH 24

1998: Mitchell Johnson, 13, and Andrew Golden, 11, shoot their classmates and teachers in Jonesboro, Arkansas. Golden, the younger of the two boys, asked to be excused from his class, pulled a fire alarm and then ran to join Johnson in a wooded area 100 yards away from the school's gym. As the students streamed out of the building, Johnson and Golden opened fire and killed four students and a teacher. Ten other children were wounded.

MARCH 25

1967: The Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., leads a march of 5,000 antiwar demonstrators in Chicago. In an address to the demonstrators, King declared that the Vietnam War was "a

Police&Fire report

SWARTZ CREEK MAN CHARGED WITH FIRST-DEGREE HOME INVASION

Zachary Birt, 26, of Swartz Creek was arraigned on one count of first-degree home invasion on March 10. He remains lodged on a \$10,000 cash surety bond. The Genesee County Sheriff's Office responded to a home invasion complaint at a home in the 5000 block of Pine Lake Forest Drive in Fenton Township on March 7. D/ Sgt. Tom Zak said the suspect, later identified as Birt, was taken into custody at the scene and was taken to the Genesee County Jail pending charges for first-degree home invasion. He has a probable cause hearing on March 21.

SWARTZ CREEK WOMAN CHARGED WITH SECOND-DEGREE HOME INVASION

Lori Ann Weber, 53, of Swartz Creek was arraigned on one count of second-degree home invasion on March 14. Deputies with the Genesee County Sheriff's Office received a home invasion complaint from a resident in the 14000 block of Torrey Road in Fenton Township. Weber is accused of breaking into the unoccupied residence. She was arrested at the scene by deputies and was transported to Genesee County Jail for second-degree home invasion. She was released on a \$7,500 bond and has a probable cause hearing on March 23.

DON'T FALL FOR PHONE SCAMS

The Genesee County Sheriff's Office has received multiple complaints of phone scams throughout Genesee County, including Fenton Township. The most popular scam right now is the IRS scam where the victim receives a call from someone claiming to be the IRS and then telling them they owe back taxes and need to pay over the phone or they will be arrested, according to D/Sgt. Tom Zak. The sheriff's office also learned that a Fenton Township resident fell for the "grandchild in jail" scam. An elderly woman received a phone call on March 7 from a male claiming to be her grandson and being held in a jail in Indiana. The phone scammer was able to convince the elderly woman to send money, via Western Union, to an address the victim believed to be a county courthouse in Indiana. Zak said these cases are almost impossible to prosecute because the suspect is using a spoofed telephone number.

blasphemy against all that America stands for." King first began speaking out against American involvement in Vietnam in the summer of 1965. In addition to his moral objections to the war, he argued that the war diverted money and attention from domestic programs to aid the black poor. He was strongly criticized by other prominent civil rights leaders for attempting to link civil rights and the antiwar movement.

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For the 2017-2018 school year, Fenton Area Public Schools will accept applications from non-resident students at all grade levels through the state's school of choice program. A release from the student's resident district is not required. There are no tuition fees to enroll in Fenton Area Public Schools; however, transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the student's family.

Applications for fall enrollment will be accepted beginning Thursday, March 16, 2017 through Wednesday, September 6, 2017 for enrollment into the district no later than the end of the first week of school which is Friday, September 8, 2017.

Applications are available by contacting the Fenton Area Public Schools at **810-591-4708** or on the district's website:

www.fentionschools.org/pages/Fenton_Area_Public_Schools/Resources/Enrollment

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Hotels aren't the only option when traveling

■ Several AirBnB options available in Fenton area

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Would you rent out part of your home to a stranger for a night or two? Hundreds of thousands of people are doing it worldwide as hosts for the popular AirBnB travel site.

AirBnB is an alternative option for people traveling. It's like a hotel, except users stay in someone's home or rented-out apartment. The conditions depend on the host.

One Holly resident, Jesse Torres, and his girlfriend, Alexis Burton, have stayed at 14 AirBnBs — one in Grand Rapids, one in Hollywood, Florida, two in Portugal, four in Spain, one in Barbados, two in Martinique and three in Maui.

"AirBnB is a much more personal experience and overall better quality than a hotel as most the time other things are included such as breakfast, rides to the airport, and even once we got a car," Torres said.

AirBnBs are gaining in popularity. Over 100 million people have used the service for travel accommodations, and the company has a valuation of \$30 billion. According to a survey conducted by David Binder Research, 84 percent of AirBnB users said they have a favorable impression of the service. Most people ages 18-34 support it and a sharing economy. According to the survey, 66 percent of Americans and 76 percent of millennials think AirBnB is a good idea.

One search for an AirBnB in Fenton finds dozens of options. You can stay at one of the Cornerstone condos, two bedroom and two bathrooms, for \$138 a night. An entire house on Lake Fenton is an AirBnB spot.

One benefit to booking an AirBnB instead of a hotel is they are usually cheaper and users can sometimes have an entire house to themselves.

"You get to meet real people and locals and they give us tips on what to do," he said.

Torres said the biggest difference between an AirBnB and a hotel is the personal experience with locals.

Torres said the biggest difference between an AirBnB and a hotel is the personal experience with locals.

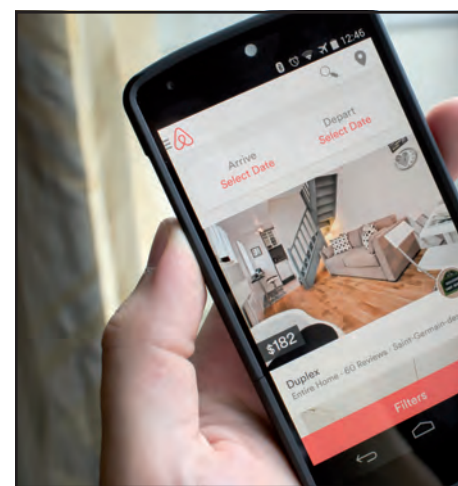


PHOTO: ANDROIDCENTRAL.COM

AirBnB is an online service that connects travelers with people who open their homes like a hotel.

"When we travel internationally they help us get around the area, have given us private tours in their car, have waited for us to check in at 1 a.m., and they can tell us about their country and give us cool insight," he said. "One time a lady dropped us off at a restaurant at 11 a.m. and picked us up after dinner. People are amazing."

On AirBnB.com, you search the location you want to stay in and look at the different options. Hosts have a maximum number of people allowed, plus all the fees listed. There's a cost generator on the site that lets you see how much the room

would cost with a certain number of people.

"Most are insta-book so once you pay they don't even have to approve you, and then you message them telling your situation and when you will arrive," he said. "You have filter options such as entire house, private room, shared room and plenty of other filters if you so choose."

Many locations have hundreds of AirBnB options.

Torres said, "10/10 would recommend. Great service, very trustworthy, everyone is vetted, and you can save money and have a much better experience than just hotel check in. A trip should be about people and culture and that's what AirBnB helps to provide," Torres said, adding that you can also simply check in and never meet the host.

You can stay at one of the Cornerstone condos, two bedroom and two bathrooms, for \$138 a night. An entire house on Lake Fenton is an AirBnB spot.

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Grieving students offered counseling at school

■ When a friend or family member dies, young ones have trouble processing what happened

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

The tri-county area has seen its share of tragedies over the past year, tragedies involving the untimely deaths of young people.

The most recent include the death of 15-year-old Victoria Lane, the Fenton High School freshman who was struck and killed by a CN train as it passed through Fenton on Nov. 14, 2016.

More recently, on Saturday, March 4, Brady Morris, 18, of Fenton Township was shot in the back of the head and killed. His friend, Abdurrahman (Abdu) Ahmed Akl, 16, is believed to be responsible and has been charged with open murder.

The next day, Sunday, March 5, a young man named Troy Stilwell, 20, suffered a fatal heart attack while playing basketball at The River Church in Holly.

These are just a few examples of the deaths of young people reported over the years. The deaths of the Quasarano family from carbon monoxide poisoning in their home in February 2016 was particularly heartbreaking, since the parents and their three young children all perished.

Tragedies like this are especially hard on the children, but when they occur, the local school districts are on the ready with grief counseling immediately available to students.

Ellen Lounds, director of special services and supervisor of special education for Holly Area Schools, said grief counseling is addressed by the district's counselors and/or school social workers.

"We will send more counseling staff to a building to support students based on the type of crisis we have experienced," said Lounds. "The staff are all licensed counselors/social workers with various levels of experience and training in grief counseling."

"We utilize a process called TECIP — Traumatic Event Crisis Intervention Plan," she said. "Each building has a crisis plan and an outline on how to prepare for grieving students or a crisis."

The plan includes how and when to notify staff, determining a safe location where concerned students may go and support staff are located, a sign-in and out process to monitor distraught students, and de-briefing and sharing resources, Lounds said.

"Most students need time to process the loss. They prefer to be with their peers,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Most students prefer to be with their peers during the grieving process.

cry, write letters, draw, and at times share stories of happier times," she said. "Many times they do not want to talk one-on-one on the day the loss is first shared."

Staff offer this time and monitor how students are processing the situation and their emotions.

"Most students that access the school support are close friends, others may know the student but are also reacting to another loss/death that brings back emotions due to the current crisis," Lounds said.

That could include unresolved grief. All staff are asked to monitor students that are teary eyed, crying, trying to leave campus or isolating themselves so the counseling staff can monitor their needs.

"Many times with social media the students know about events before the adults," said Lounds. "The accuracy of their information is not always aligned with the data we have on the situation. We address being mindful of what is said, or shared, and when details are not known."

"We emphasize the importance of respecting the family and honor the student by not spreading inaccurate data."

The level of communication with the parents depends on the age of the student, the student's reaction and processing of the event and the level of crisis, said Lounds.

"Parents need to let their children know the emotions they feel are expected, that there is a range of emotions and that guilt and anger are common," she said. "It is important to find an outlet through talking, music or drawing and/or counseling. Parents should attend the viewing or memorial services with their children or make sure they talk about this process."

Lounds said many books have age-appropriate themes that address death for various age groups.

"These are helpful for starting and maintaining conversations," she said.

Counseling may be recommended if the loss is a peer versus a family member as the need and type of services will vary.

"Families experiencing grief may participate in family counseling," said Lounds.

Where parents can seek help

An agency like Ele's Place (Flint has one of their four locations) at 1227 E. Bristol Road, Burton. Phone (810) 2332-3040, or visit their website at elesplace.org.

"They offer free counseling for children and their families," said Lounds. "The process is tailored to the age of the child as well as parent groups."

Sand Castles is another agency as well as private practice clinics. Reach them at aboutsandcastles.org.

Grief counseling is handled by our district counselors, said Wayne Wright, superintendent for Lake Fenton schools. "They are trained to work with children in times when they have special needs and are grieving. When issues occur in a district where many students are affected other schools will send their counselors to districts to support the children. Normally the ISD and neighboring districts will offer and send counselors if needed. It is hard to say how many counselors will be sent as that depends on the number of students that are affected by the situation. Many times the students need someone to talk with and connect with and be heard."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

HERE'S AN IDEA. Turn the parking area at Red Fox Outfitters into a skateboard park with walls to climb and all sorts of things. Build some nice looking bridges from the tennis area to the skateboard park, have a small fee of some kind, all the kids can go down and skateboard. Even the adults will have a great time.

■■■■ **TRUMPCARE TAKES CARE** of everything that Obamacare didn't, unless you're elderly, a woman, middle-class, poor or you're really sick, then you're in trouble.

■■■■ **IN THE FIRST** election after Obamacare was stuck up our (posterior), every politician that voted to exempt themselves should have lost their re-election bid. Voters with short memories are their own worst enemy.

■■■■ **IF YOU CAN'T** handle Daylight Saving Time moving your clock forward and back one hour, you really have bigger problems and they aren't Daylight Saving Time.

■■■■ **I FEEL SORRY** for that boy who was killed. My neighbor was killed last year and the state police won't do a decent job of investigating it, so I know what the family feels like.

■■■■ **IT'S KIND OF** sad that politicians spend so much time pontificating and talking about things that just don't matter. I like legislators who will reduce those laws and solve problems.

■■■■ **IF THE GENESSEE** County Commission can waste the taxpayers' time, except for Drew who voted no, to pass a resolution that discriminates against 18, 19 and 20 year olds and contradicts state government and federal law, who's the real problem now?

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PHOTO: THEEMOTIONMACHINE.COM

Nearly all humans subconsciously rely on body language to understand what someone is communicating, even during job interviews.

What your body is saying

■ Non-spoken language is large part of communication

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Most people can identify when people are nervous without saying a word, or when someone is obviously in a good mood without verbalizing it. This is because humans are usually very attentive when it comes to picking up subtle cues called body language.

Catherine Priebe, who worked locally as a staffing coordinator and supervisor for 10 years, taught people how to interview for jobs. She said body language is a “pretty large percentage” of communication.

“I think the way a person behaves, the nonverbals and paraverbals, are more important really than the answers that they give to the questions. What they say isn’t as important as how they’re saying it,” she said.

Body language is an important factor in everyday communication. The term describes what our bodies are saying without the help of our voices. It looks at facial expressions, head and gaze movements, body contact and orientation, gestures, clothes and appearance, physical proximity and often tone of voice. Paraverbal refers to how we say words.

If someone has a slouched posture, they look either tired or bored or both. If someone walks with their head up, eyes forward, and shoulders back, they seem confident.

Priebe said people seem like good candidates for a job if they’re leaning forward in their chair, but not leaning too much, and they’re paying attention to the questions. Maintaining eye contact, but not with a fixed stare, is also very important.

“That’s a big one,” she said.

Body language also lets her know when someone isn’t a good candidate.

“A lot of things let us know, like they’re not paying attention, looking around the room, they’re not making appropriate eye contact, they’re slumped in their chair,” she said.

Some of these nonverbal cues are indicative of certain cultures, but some are universal.

According to psychologytoday.com, basic emotional features, like happiness, fear, surprise, anger, disgust, and sadness, are expressed the same way throughout the world, and people recognize them without hesitation.

Not all body language is obvious, or controllable. Some messages are sent and received better than others, and some can be contradictory.

Because nonverbal cues often replace positive or negative verbal affirmations, like a head nod instead of saying “yes,” they can express the opposite in a kinetic slip. A kinetic slip is a contradictory signal when the verbal message doesn’t match the nonverbal message. For example, someone telling you they’re not angry, but their rigid and tough body posture, paired with a hard tone of voice, tells you the opposite.

This is when the phrase “actions speak louder than words” comes into play, because while people can control what they say, body language is often subconscious and uncontrollable to a point. A few emotions that are particularly hard to hide are sexual attraction, guilt, and anxiety.

Priebe said that because she has so much experience in interviewing people and studying body language, she picks up cues when someone might be lying.

“Eye contact, pulling back. If they’re being dishonest, they are really good with looking away, holding their body at a different angle. Their demeanor will change,” she said.

“What they say isn’t as important as how they’re saying it.”

Catherine Priebe
Past employment supervisor



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O.D.

Diplomate, American Board
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O.D., F.A.A.O.

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WHAT YOU MISSED in the MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, March 15, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

How does your favorite restaurant rate?

Most area schools and eateries pass Genesee County inspections with flying colors.



Few leads in attempted child abduction case

Crime Stoppers offering \$1,000 reward for information leading to arrest of person attempting to abduct a child from her E. Ellen Street home.

Linden City supports increased 911 surcharge

Surcharge, if passed, is expected to generate \$2.6 million for 911 operations. Vote will be on May 2 ballot.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

FORMER OBAMA CABINET member, Kathleen Sebelius, said in an interview that the debacle known as Obamacare is financially killing people. Nice to see the Obama people are admitting what a terrible plan it was. The Republican plan will increase competition, choices, and decrease costs.

■■■
LET'S SAY YOU'VE got a budget and your necessities include housing, food, clothing, transportation to work, health, and other expenses like dining out, insurance to protect your home and car. It's ridiculous to have an affordable care act that exceeds 20, 25 percent of someone's income. Other countries have solved this by nationalization.

■■■
LET'S MOTIVATE OUR legislators to take care of affordable health insurance. Trump could sign an executive order saying all legislators must be on the affordable care act. They can forfeit their federally supplied health insurance and go to the market right now and buy their own health insurance.

News briefs

HIGHLAND EQUESTRIAN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Applications must be postmarked on or before March 31, for the Highland Equestrian Conservation (HEC) Trails and Conservation Program. The HEC will provide financial assistance toward trail and conservation projects, which will further the goals of their mission including trail creation, maintenance and enhancement. Visit their website at www.highlandequestrians.org for an application form to submit details of your local group's project.

our town

Meet DENISE KEIPERT

- Advocate for abuse victims
- Mary Kay senior sales director
- Golfer

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Denise Keipert, 59, of Fenton, is the local face of the Zonta Club, which strives to empower women through service and advocacy. She is an area director, leading 10 clubs from Flint to Grand Rapids and as far south as Troy. She is also well-known for her Mary Kay cosmetics business, which she has had for 28 years, fulltime for the past 18 years.

How did you get involved in the Zonta Club?

I moved to Fenton 18 years ago, after marrying my husband, Marty. I had left a marriage before that, that was a verbally abusive and financially abusive relationship. People think abuse is all physical, black eyes and broken bones, but there's an emotional side, too. I joined the (Fenton) Chamber to meet people. I was looking for a women's organization and Chamber

"If you think something is wrong, it's wrong. We have that instinct for a reason. You need to make that call."

Denise Keipert
Fenton resident



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Denise Keipert is well known in the tri-county area for her work with the Zonta Club and many Fenton Regional Chamber of Commerce activities.

recommended Zonta.

Two years after moving here, Marty died very unexpectedly of a heart attack. He was 59 and I was 43. I was devastated. Marriage defines you and when that's gone, you have to re-invent yourself. I got super involved in the community; that's what kept me afloat.

How did you meet your husband, Dale?

He was on the Chamber board of directors; that's how I met him. He was also widowed. We've been married five years. Our family is a 'yours, mine and ours' blend with my daughter, Darcy, and stepson, Scott, from my first marriage, Dale's daughter Ann, and his son, Dean, and his wife, Kelly. Together, we have got six grandchildren.

Why are you so passionate about your work with the Zonta Club and the YWCA Safe House in Flint?

One out of four women are in an abusive relationship. So when you're at your office, or at church or school, look around you. Every fourth woman is being abused. Our job is to educate the community and be a voice for these issues. As human beings, we aren't meant to be alone. We're here to care for each other.

Know the signs. If you think something is wrong, it's wrong. We have that instinct for a reason. You need to make that call. Everyone should know these numbers: 810-238-SAFE for Safe House (domestic violence) and 888-3737-888 to report human trafficking (sex or labor). I'm on the board of directors for YWCA of Greater Flint. You can also call the local police.

On a lighter note, have you ever earned a "Pink Cadillac" from your Mary Kay business?

I've actually earned nine cars over the years, one of them was pink. I led a unit of 50 women. It's a great income and the perks are amazing. The best part of my job is doing a make-over for a woman and seeing the results. It changes a woman's confidence level and how she feels about herself.

What is something most people don't know about you?

I'm a charcoal pencil artist. I like to draw in my spare time. It's very relaxing.

What's your favorite thing to do to relax?

I love to golf, boat and draw. Our favorite vacation destination is Sandals in the Bahamas. We try to go every year.

How would you most like to be remembered?

As a person who helped other people and made a difference.

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2393 DAVIS RD, FENTON

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\$749,999

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9850 BURNING TREE DR, GRAND BLANC

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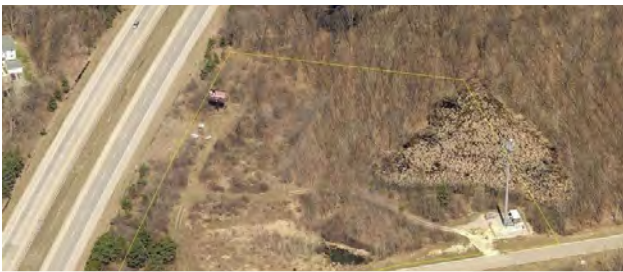


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7450 MCGUIRE RD, FENTON

LAKE SHANNON

\$57,500

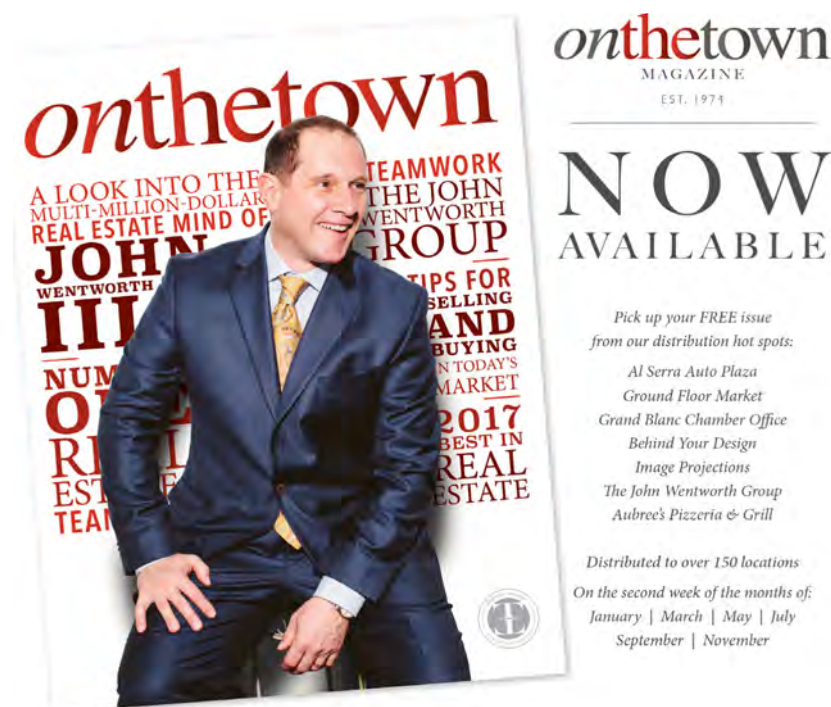
Beautiful build-able lot, over 1 acre with access to private Lake Shannon. Lake Shannon is a private all sports lake community located west of US-23 and North of M-59 between Ann Arbor and Flint.

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MAIL

Continued from Front Page

Elizabeth Najduch, communications programs specialist for the U.S. Post Office said, "Since fiscal year 2007, total mail volume has declined by 27 percent. First-Class mail — our most profitable product — declined by 36 percent since 2007 and is expected to continue to decline as a result of changes to digital forms of communications and the increase in online transactions."

She said First-Class mail is transactional mail, payments, bills and statements. They also deal with marketing mail, which are advertisements, and packages.

Les Beare, owner of The UPS Store in Fenton, said while they haven't seen a "dramatic" decrease in daily incoming mail, they have seen a slight decline in recent years.

"More and more of our society is going paperless. They receive online statements and invoices and then login to their bank accounts and pay them online. Click, click, click. You're done," he said.

Goin' Postal in Fenton, which is owned by Mike Clabuesch and Lucy Valeriano, is "absolutely" seeing a decline in people sending letter mail, Clabuesch said.

There are many reasons for this.

"People don't necessarily send letters like they used to. One (reasons) is pricing. It's become more pricey to send out packages across the country or internationally," he said.

Another big factor is the internet. Instead of mailing a handwritten letter, you can send that person an email or message them on Facebook. Social media sites allow people to share their lies instantaneously, decreasing the need to send people letters about their families.

"You used to run to Walmart or Best Buy or Kohl's and you would buy Christmas gifts for your family and you would ship those across the country," Clabuesch said. "Now those companies have their own website, as well as Amazon, and you can just buy the item and they'll ship it for free or at a low cost. You can just click and ship."

Beare said the shipping of gifts is also declining, and it's especially noticeable during holidays.

"With online shopping and shipping direct to your gift recipients, it can't get any easier," Beare said. "Gift cards also cause a decline in shipping packages. In years past we used to fill multiple large boxes of gifts and ship them. The boxes are getting smaller and fewer as time goes on."

The UPS Store's option of pack and ship option, where the office will even pack everything, guarantees delivery. If not, the sender gets the declared value of the item with proof of value, and all the packaging and shipping fees back.

"A lot those factors made it so you don't have the need of the shipping industry in general. You just don't have the need for it like you used to," Clabuesch said.

Goin' Postal is unique because they're independent.

"We have continued to see growth. It's a different kind of growth than you would see say at the post office," he said.

At Goin' Postal, there's a growing need for companies to ship things to other companies.

"I would attribute that to the economy that's in Michigan and the economy just in general that has been getting better over the last couple years," Clabuesch said.

At the U.S. Post Office, Najduch said the amount of packages sent has increased 70 percent since 2010, which is due to the growth in e-commerce, improved tracking, competitive pricing, and effective product development and marketing.

"We project this growth to continue. Marketing mail has remained relatively stable as businesses continue to see a strong return on their investment in the mail," she said.

In order to adjust to the decline in letter mail, Najduch said, "We have also focused our efforts on developing new products and enhancing existing product offerings to meet the needs of our customers."

Upcoming Meetings

Tyrone Township Board of Trustees will hold its regular meeting at **6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20** at the township hall.

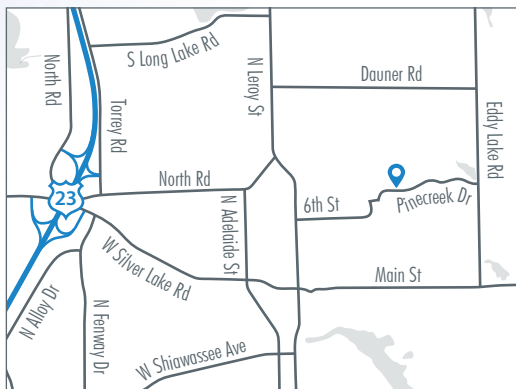
Fenton Township Board of Trustees will hold its regular meeting at **7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20** at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center.

Fenton City Council will hold its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20 at Fenton City Hall. Postponed from March 13.

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'Everything we do is American made'

■ Miller Industries has three companies under one roof, with 98 employees

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton Twp. — Throughout the vast warehouse-like facility, laborers are cutting, grinding, and assembling products in a complex web of industrial logistics.

Several fabricators are working on large industrial turntables for auto manufacturers like Chrysler and Volvo, while others assemble parts for a new painting facility.

"Miller Industries" is the holding company for three other businesses within the same 106,000-square-foot structure. The building is the largest in Fenton Township,

dominating the corner of Torrey and Thompson roads.

"Everything we do is American-made and everything we do is made in Fenton," said Matt Miller, a principal shareholder with the company. "It's awesome, not only do we manufacture here in Michigan, but we've been in the manufacturing community here in Fenton for almost 40 years."

The business is family owned and operated. Matt, along with siblings Jennifer Sage and Mike and Chad Miller, with father Tom, are all shareholders of at least one of

“Not only do we manufacture here in Michigan, we’ve been in the manufacturing community in Fenton for almost 40 years.”

Matt Miller
Miller Industries
Principal Shareholder

these companies they own and operate.

Two of these companies, Performance Fabricating and Flex Air LLC, design and manufacture industrial equipment and components. The third business, Miller Industries Representatives, sells laboratory, medical and

higher education equipment built by other companies.

Miller Industries employs 98 people, including administrative roles, engineering and hands-on manufacturing. Certain parts of the process are automated, such as painting and metal stamping/punching.

Miller said that every employee is offered full benefits, and a retirement incentive plan, which may be a rare opportunity in 2017. "We really focus on family atmosphere; we have good open communication. I think the morale is excellent."

About their products

Flex Air LLC engineers and manufactures equipment for industrial facilities. For example, custom HVAC equipment, as well as, modular electrical and mechanical skids for powering a building which would be requested by a contractor, which the company designs and builds.

A "modular skid" is basically a pre-engineered and manufactured piece of equipment, like a small power plant or water chiller, built into a steel



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Fabricator Blake Miller of Flint grinds metal on a piece of the new wash booth for the automated paint process within the plant.

structure resembling a large shipping container. The company that orders it simply has to bring it in and hook it up to utilities instead of building it into the facility itself.

Performance Fabricating builds and fabricates structural platforms, conveyors and automation system components for industrial companies, warehouse parcel-and-post companies and airports.

They have indirect clients like Amazon, FedEx, UPS, Chicago O'Hare Airport, LAX and Boston Logan airports, "...any major airport," said Miller.

Their clients are nationwide, with many centered in Michigan and the Midwest.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The Miller Industries building on Thompson Road in Fenton Township is easily visible. Two engineering and manufacturing companies and one sales company, all owned by the Miller family, are located inside the building.

WATCH THE VIDEO



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LAJOICE**Continued from Front Page**

furnishing a large, luxurious home, acquiring expensive vehicle, traveling by private jet, and enjoying various other trappings of wealth and comfort. The theft of these funds had serious consequences for the credit union."

The Clarkston Brandon Community Credit Union became insolvent from the embezzlement and joined with the Michigan State University Federal Credit Union.

The statement reads, "The scope of LaJoice's theft is shocking, and reflects a level of greed that is difficult to fathom... The crime was not the result of a momentary lack of judgment. Indeed, it persisted for years, and was the product of premeditation, calculation, and an utter indifference to the consequences of the crime to others."

Michael Manley, LaJoice's defense attorney, recommended 60 months, or five years imprisonment, which is the amount LaJoice is asking for.

Manley said LaJoice's acceptance of responsibility has been "exceptional," and cites how he turned himself in even

when it was possible he could have continued the scheme. The defense attorney also pointed out that LaJoice has agreed to pay restitution in full. He also has avoided going to trial and costing the courts several hundreds of thousands of dollars in fees by pleading guilty.

"He will do the same in the state case in the near future," the statement reads.

In the statement, Manley said LaJoice has already paid back several million dollars by liquidating his family's home, other personal property, and his business holdings.

He said LaJoice "intends to make MSUFCU whole" and that his family had no idea he was embezzling millions.

"For LaJoice, this has been the most painful part; having the shame and hurt of what he has done to his family and the dire financial straits he has stranded them

in. Without the grace and benevolence of MSUFCU and the state and federal governments, Mrs. LaJoice and her children would be penniless," the statement reads.

Manley said that the recommendation by the U.S. of 132 months, or 11 years, is "simply too high."

"'Warehousing' LaJoice for 11 years at public expense is overkill. LaJoice is ruined. He is disgraced. He will never be offered employment where trust is involved. For a person with LaJoice's lack of criminal history and violent

tendencies, 60 months is just punishment," Manley's statement reads.

LaJoice committed bank fraud from October 2007 to December 2015.

In federal court, LaJoice said he committed check fraud by addressing cashier checks out to himself, along with a few other methods. As chief financial officer (CFO), he was able to write large

“Indeed, it persisted for years, and was the product of premeditation, calculation, and an utter indifference to the consequences of the crime to others.”

U.S. Attorney's Office

deposits, and then approve them with no oversight.

According to U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade, to conceal the fraud, LaJoice created fictitious investments in certificates of deposit and bonds, and represented to auditors and bank examiners that the money he stole had in fact been invested in these vehicles.

Why did he turn himself in?

LaJoice turned himself in Jan. 6, 2016.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office recommendation statement, on Jan. 5, 2016, LaJoice was confronted by regulators at the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services about discrepancies in the credit union's books. This prompted him to turn himself in the day after.

He has been lodged at Oakland County Jail since.

The plea deal in federal court was agreed upon by Manley and Philip Ross, the assistant U.S. attorney with the Asset Forfeiture

Unit, along with John Neal, chief of the White Collar Crime Unit.

LaJoice was also ordered to pay restitution of \$17,748,380.

LaJoice's properties, including his multi-million dollar home in Tyrone Township, were sold to help pay restitution. Skypoint Ventures executed a purchase agreement to acquire the Fenton City commercial properties last summer.

The properties that Skypoint Ventures has purchased include 225 W. Caroline St., the now-vacant lot where LaJoice planned to construct a multi-million dollar, mixed development called "River-view."

LaJoice also faces embezzlement charges in Oakland County Circuit Court. Manley said he will plead guilty March 27 during his pretrial at 1:30 p.m.

“Warehousing’ LaJoice for 11 years at public expense is overkill. LaJoice is ruined.”

Michael Manley

Michael LaJoice's defense attorney

Police&Fire**report****TEEN ARRESTED FOR SELLING DRUGS**

A 19-year-old Fenton male was arrested on March 15 at 4:40 p.m. for having three outstanding warrants following a controlled drug buy, involving FANG (Flint Area Narcotics Group). Sgt. Dave Reinfelder said Fenton police assisted FANG, which had the teen under surveillance, on the controlled buy, where the teen sold drugs to a FANG member. Following his arrest for selling drugs, Fenton police learned that the teen had three outstanding arrest warrants. The teen was transported to the Flint City Jail, where he took care of his warrants.



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AFRICA

Continued from Page 2A

to 12,000 feet. For six weeks, I slept there on a cot three nights a week, just to acclimate myself to the high altitude."

Peabody left Fenton for Africa on March 1 and after 24 hours of travel, reached Tanzania the next day. They started their hike on March 3, starting at 4,000 feet, ascending to 10,000 feet the first day, then 13,000 feet, and 15,000 feet to Kosovo Base Camp.

They got to base camp on the fifth day, where they left their bags, tents and other supplies before making their final trek to the summit of Uhuru Peak, waking at midnight for the 1 a.m. final hike to the summit.

It was a very emotional experience for Peabody, who says that the sheer physicality of the climb stripped her right down to the core, where all she could concentrate on was the next step, her next breath.

"It was a once in a lifetime experience, for sure," said Peabody. "When all of the layers of life kind of fall away, and you can only rely on your breath alone, life gets really, really quiet. It was the most incredible and most eye-opening experience for the simplicity of how life can be when we don't have all these layers."

The trip to the top was only part of the journey; it still took a full two days to descend. "The last day was eight solid hours of downhill," said Peabody. "It was just grueling. It took everything to keep moving."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Peabody performed a chiropractic adjustment on one of the guides. They carry all of the gear for the climb on top of their heads.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

She made it to the summit of Kilimanjaro, marked with a bright yellow sign.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

WHAT HAS HUGE tax cuts for those earning over \$250,000 have to do with health care? Seems every piece of GOP legislation has a tax cut on it.

■■■■
I DON'T SUPPORT releasing tax returns before someone runs for office. It'd be nice to see the millions they make while and after they get out of office. I'd much rather that all candidates have to pass a simple American history exam. If you're already in office and you can't pass it, you're fired.

■■■■
SOMEBODY AT THE IRS released Trump's tax form. What a big surprise. Another good reason to trust the IRS.

■■■■
IF A MAN speaks out loud in the desert where no woman can hear, is he still wrong?

■■■■
TO THE RIGHT-winger who doesn't think he has time to take advantage of the Affordable Care Act. I meant you paid for certain items that can be done every year, like a physical. If you're not going to do that, then you don't need a medical insurance company, you need a death insurance company.

■■■■
UNTIL MY GOVERNMENT exposes the Warren report cover-up, I along with many friends over 60, will always look upon our government with a jaundice eye as 'I'm just a patsy' rings in our ears.

■■■■
TRUMP'S NEW HEALTH care plan should require every legislator to pay for their own health care premiums. Why should us taxpayers pay their premiums? Maybe then, they will take this serious issue seriously.

Academic Achievements

Congratulations



Katherine R. Collins, daughter of Gary and Carrie Collins received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Summa Cum Laude from Saginaw Valley State University on Dec. 17, 2016.

She is a 2012 Linden High School graduate. She accepted a position as an Emergency Room Nurse in Texas.

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Why virtual bariatric surgery is better

This is the best long term weight loss option

Bariatric surgery seems like the perfect solution. And it might be, if it weren't for the failure rate. Importantly, according to an NIH study, lap-band surgery only has a 65 percent success rate.

Side effects are the problem. According to Pharmacy Times, approximately 40 percent of bariatric patients develop "Dumping Syndrome." During or immediately after a meal, patients report nausea, bloating, cramping, diarrhea, dizziness and then vomiting.



Other problems include fecal incontinence. More than a third develop gallstones. Alarming, according to the New York Times, one study calculated suicide rates for patients at five times more than normal.

Virtual Bariatric Surgery, is different. Clients go into hypnotic trance and have imaginary bariatric surgery. Once out of trance, they eat like they've had the surgery, but with zero side effects. And the cost is tiny by comparison to the real surgery. But insurance does not cover it. The great news is this: It has a 74 percent success rate.

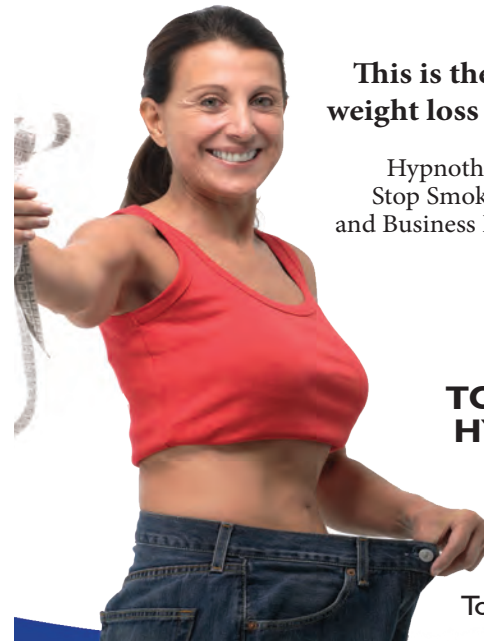
Dr. Tomlinson, certified in the procedure, believes hypnosis allows clients to do more. Weight problems are psychological. As such, his eight-week program helps clients with the deep-seated issues that keep clients from losing weight.

Diets fail due to defiance. If we're told we have to - we don't want to. If told we can't, we want it more. Tomlinson Medical Hypnotherapy does it differently: Biochemically, bodies make extra fat four ways. When clients stop, they can easily lose 1-2 pounds per week.

Trim Down Forever! VIRTUAL Bariatric Surgery

Using revolutionary Virtual Gastric Surgery, our eight-week program helps you trim down and get mentally, physically and spiritually healthy so as to promote permanent weight reduction.

Diets only work on the outside. But all the scientific research shows that what goes on in your mind is far more determinate in your ultimate success than what you eat. Remember, it's much easier to change your mind and have that change your body than to try and change your body and hope that it changes your mind.



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Ask about our #1 in the state, STOP SMOKING PROGRAM with an 88.8% success rate

Popularity of podcasting soaring

■ Approximately 2.6 billion podcasts were downloaded in 2014

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

At about 6 p.m. every Sunday night, two local men can be found getting ready to talk about their favorite topics for an hour-long show — hunting and fishing. After they record the audio, it's uploaded to iTunes, their Facebook page, Twitter, and other sites, where people can download them for free. The final product is called a podcast.

Mike Adams of Linden and Dan DeFauw of Fenton, just hosted their 405th podcast, called the Up North Journal Podcast, where they discuss anything pertaining to outdoor topics like hunting and fishing.

"We talk about our hunts, our trips. We



PHOTO: DIGITALTRENDS.COM

Anyone can listen to a podcast from their smart phone, computer, tablet or other electronic devices.

interview people in the industry, gear specialists. Anything that has to do with the outdoors, we'll talk about," Adams said.

This last Sunday, they talked to a man in the deer hunting industry who's known statewide about managing the deer herd. Adams also runs a podcast channel, called Outdoor Podcast Channel, which puts out a new show every day. These focus on more specific topics related to hunting and fishing.

While podcasting has been around for years, its popularity has soared in the past decade. The Pew Research Center reported that 2.6 billion podcasts were downloaded in 2014. Podcasts are online radio shows, typically lasting about an hour, specializing on certain subjects. One of the most popular shows, Serial, is about a murder.

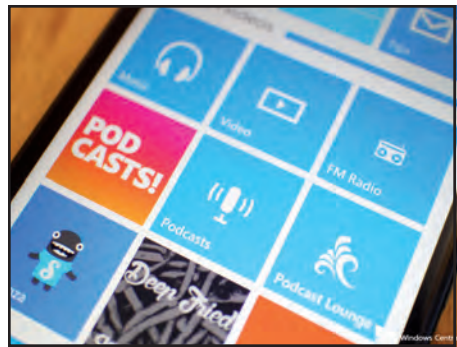


PHOTO: WINDOWS CENTRAL.COM

A few popular sites to find podcasts are iTunes, Google Play and stitcher.com.

WHERE TO FIND THESE PODCASTS

All of these podcasts are available on iTunes, Google Play, and Stitcher.

Up North Journal
upnorthjournal.com

Outdoor Podcast Channel
outdoorpodcastchannel.com

Genesis to John the Revelator
genesistojohntherevelator.com

Nerding Out
nerdingoutpodcast.com

Bakowski and his two co-hosts, Pastor Herb Bruss, and a lifelong Christian, Scott Mullins, record once a month and split the show into two.

The second podcast, which he hosts with Dan Stehle, is called Nerding Out with Sandshoes and Grandad, is about nerdy topics.

"We talk about Star Wars, we talk about Dr. Who, we talk about Star Trek. Whatever it is we love and are passionate about," he said. He's currently trying to arrange for an actor who plays zombies on "The Walking Dead" to be on the show.

Bakowski likes podcasting because it's a different kind of format than what people are used to.

"Listening to regular radio stations, you get the same thing on every channel. It's always the exact same format. It's boring. With a podcast you can go onto the Google Play

store, put in the genre you want to listen to and you can find a thousand podcasts," he said.

Bakowski said he's met many people through podcasting, and it's helped him grow as a person.

"If people are interested in podcasting they should try it. I think everyone should have a podcast. All you need is a microphone and laptop," he said.

"I think it's really catching on with younger people. The millennials already adhere to that concept," he said. "The older people who listen to our show, I get constant feedback from them."

According to businessinsider.com, about 20 percent of people ages 18 to 49 listen to at least one podcast a month. Listening to a podcast is easy because of technology. People can listen to a show using earbuds at work, or while they're driving or doing chores.

"Because it's so easily accessible and it's a genre that they really like, they can just pick it up and go," he said.

Another local podcaster from Linden, Jason Bakowski, acknowledged there's a good amount of people in the Fenton, Linden and Flint areas who podcast.

"The good thing about being a podcaster is there's no real competition. We want to make each other better," he said.

Bakowski produces two podcasts — one is a faith-based show called Genesis to John the Revelator, which focuses on Christianity.

He started Genesis around the time he became a Christian because he had a lot of questions no other podcasts could answer.

“Because it’s so easily accessible and it’s a genre that they really like, they can just pick it up and go.”

Mike Adams
Linden podcaster

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TOBACCO

Continued from Front Page
violation of state statute.

Commissioner David Martin (District 9) cast the other dissenting vote.

Schuetz's opinion states, "... that the Age of Majority Act, 1971 PA 79, MCL 722.51 *et seq.*, preempts a city ordinance that provides 'a person shall not sell, give or furnish a tobacco product in any form to a person under 21 years of age.'

"The ordinance directly conflicts with state law by barring the sale or furnishing of tobacco products to 18- to 20-year-olds because the Age of Majority Act prohibits treating these young adults differently from persons 21 years and older with respect to their legal capacity to purchase tobacco products."

Shapiro said, "Any individual, merchant or customer ticketed by the Genesee County Health Department, can take that AG opinion into court and the courts are going to throw out the citation immediately. It is totally unenforceable. If a business takes it to court, the court is going to throw it out."

Senator Dave Robertson said he spoke with the attorney general's office the morning of Wednesday, March 15. Robertson, too, referenced the AG's opinion 7294, dated Feb. 2, which was in response to a request by Senator Rick Jones, chair of the Senate Judiciary Commission.

"In my conversation with the legislative liaison office, the county's resolution/ordinance is unenforceable," said Robertson. "A presentation of the AG's opinion in a court of law would result in the citation being immediately thrown out."

Robertson said this should not be

surprising since it appears the county Board of Commissioners acted contrary to the recommendation of their own legal counsel.

The AG's opinion 7294 was issued on Feb. 2. The Board of Commissioners voted on the resolution on Feb. 14.

"To take this action after the attorney general's Feb. 2 opinion was issued ... they are clearly out of step here. The opinion is clear," he said.

Robertson said, "I will also point out as an aside that I was lobbied last year in the late summer or early fall from folks advocating the same change in law, moving the legal age to purchase from 18 to 21 on tobacco. I would point out the contradiction of their coming to me as a legislator for this change. They must clearly understand that the law is not with them.

"They can't very well argue the ordinance has validity at the county level when they acknowledge they need action at the state level as well," he added. "There is no question, the AG has opined they are out of step and it can't be enforced.

Shapiro said as much after the Board of Com-

missioners' vote in February. "I agree that smoking is a problem, but the place for this decision is at the state level," he said at the time.

"I honestly am trying my best to make this world a better place," said Shapiro. "I think people will respect me more knowing that I'm willing to take the hits in order to promote my compassionate, conservative agenda. I am not afraid to be unpopular with other commissioners in order to fight for my constituents and the rule of law."

“They can’t very well argue the ordinance has validity at the county level when they acknowledge they need action at the state level as well.”

Senator Dave Robertson

News briefs

TYRONE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETS MONDAY

The Tyrone Township Historical Society meeting is Monday, March 20 at the Tyrone Township hall. Please join them for a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by an informative talk about the Columbian Exposition, better known as the 1894 Chicago World Fair. The fair celebrated the 400th anniversary of Columbus's arrival in the new world. Everyone is welcome to attend.

DIXIE CLEANERS REMAINS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Dixie Cleaners at 218 First St. in Fenton, is still in business as your local dry cleaners. Owner Tom Moleski has been partnering with Jan's Professional Dry Cleaners in Clio for the past year, providing a convenient drop-off and pick-up point for all dry cleaning and alteration services. On-site in Fenton, Dixie Cleaners continues to offer alterations, shirt laundry and pressing. For more information, call Dixie Cleaners at (810) 629-7651.

Police&Fire report

DISORDERLY INTOXICATION

Fenton police arrested a 46-year-old Fenton man at 2:13 a.m. on Saturday, March 11. Sgt. Dave Reinfelder said police responded to a restaurant in the 200 block of S. LeRoy St. on a report of a male patron bothering numerous female patrons. A group of males ordered the male, who had drunk a few alcoholic beverages at the restaurant, to leave. The man exited, however he was observed taking photos of cars in the parking lot. The man was then observed cornering and yelling at a couple walking into the restaurant. At this time, police arrived. The man was uncooperative with police and he fought while being handcuffed. The man became more combative at the police station, which resulted in him being transported to the Genesee County Jail, where he spent the night and following day. Upon his release, he was issued a court appearance ticket for disorderly intoxication. He blew a .22 percent on the Breathalyzer.

FOUR OWI ARRESTS IN FOUR DAYS

From March 11 to 14, Fenton police made four drunk driving arrests. Sgt. Dave Reinfelder said the arrests of all men took place on March 11, March 12 and March 14, all between the hours of 1 and 3 a.m.



ASK THE MECHANIC

Chris Wilkinson,
Certified Mechanic

Q: I have a 2011 Silverado LTZ with a rear sliding window. The wire is off on one side. It looks as if there is a small ball at the end of the wire, but it isn't long enough to reach to the slot of the window. Any ideas as to how I fix this?

- Randall

A: Randall, I would like to see the vehicle to try to help you with this. I have tried to locate service info on this system, but it does not show me where the wire connects. If you get a chance and you are in the Holly area stop in at our shop.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

At the maple syrup production station at Kensington Metropark, a modern syrup evaporator can be viewed by the public.

MAPLE SYRUP

Continued from Page 2A

What also makes Jewell's story unique is that he accomplishes all of his work, including demos, re-enactments, camping, hunting, volunteering at St. John's and more, while being legally blind.

There is actually one thing Jewell can't do; he can't drive, because of his vision. His wife of 27 years, Ronda, gets him everywhere he needs to go.

While none of the many legends regarding maple syrup are actually confirmed, the first written descriptions of maple sugaring appear in letters or journals of early Europeans in North America.

"We were the people who had it first," said Jewell, 58. He is a passionate supporter of Native American rights and culture, learning at his grandfather's knee many of the skills that he still uses today.

"He taught me how to hunt and fish," said Jewell. "He also taught me beadwork, even though at the time, I thought that was woman's work. I was raised like I was one of the tribe, and my goal today is to keep the Chippewa culture alive and carry on the traditions."

Jewell is a little concerned about this year's maple syrup run, because of the relatively mild winter. "This is going to be a tough year; the sap has already started to run. It could shut off at any time. It could run for a week or it could run for a month. You just don't know."

Michigan ranks fifth in the U.S. when it comes to maple syrup production. Over the past four years, our state has produced anywhere from 90,000 gallons to 148,000 gallons a year.

"It takes 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup," said Jewell. "This year, because of the warm temperatures, the sap is already running. 'It's best when temperatures are above freezing during the day and below freezing at night.'"

Jewell is reminded of the legend that taught man a lesson about how special maple syrup is. "The legend told us about how a village took maple syrup for granted and drank it all up in gluttony. Our Creator had to teach a lesson by making us now have to work so hard to get it."



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The tour included displaying traditional forester tools.

The Legend of Maple Syrup

Long ago, the Creator made and gave many gifts to man to help him during his life. The Creator made the lives of the people very good, with plenty of food to gather, hunt and grow. The maple tree was one of these special gifts. The sap was as thick and sweet as honey and ran all year.

One day, the spirit of Nanabozho came upon a village without any people present. He searched and searched and finally found all the men, women, children, even dogs in a nearby grove of maples, lying under the trees, allowing syrup to drip into their wide-open mouths.

He decided to bring water in a birch bark bucket from the nearby lake and pour it into the trees until the syrup became thin and runny.

Calling out to the people, he told them what he had done and warned them that the syrup would stop flowing. Furthermore, he said that in the future, it would run only in late winter when food was scarce, so they should

return to farming, fishing and hunting.

To work with this new sap, he told them to gather it in birch bark buckets and collect stones and firewood. The stones should be heated in a fire and dropped into the sap, which has been collected in buckets, until it boils and turns into syrup.

Source: firstpeople.us

“I was raised like I was one of the tribe, and my goal is to keep the Chippewa culture alive and carry on the traditions.”

Michael Jewell
Who gives maple syrup demos during March weekends at Kensington Metropark

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Linden seniors end careers with a huge positive

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Grand Blanc — Life on the Linden varsity boys basketball team hasn't been easy in recent years.

When the current senior class began roaming the hallways at Linden High School during the 2013-14 school year, the varsity boys basketball team posted a 3-18 season, and it had been five years

since the Eagles had won a district basketball game, much less won a district tournament.

As the seniors entered the varsity program, the team's progress, if any, couldn't be termed anything more positive than slow. Their sophomore seasons — which included Tyler Hoerberling and Hunter Michael — was a 3-17 season, ending during their first district contest. And last season, the

squad showed a little progress, improving to 5-15, but the squad still lost in the opening round of districts.

Their senior seasons looked to be on a rocky start when coach Anthony Wright left the varsity coaching position in the fall in pursuit of other professional opportunities.

CONTINUED ONLINE AT
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SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017 | PAGE 22A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM

Times Sports



Linden's
Cole Sarkon

Devils are headed to the state quarterfinals

■ Lake Fenton plays complete game, crushes Frankenmuth, 68-52

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Corunna — Last season the Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball team didn't exactly know if they 'belonged' in a Class B regional championship game.

Sure the Blue Devils earned the right to play New Haven, but there remained questions if they truly could hang with a squad of that caliber. The end result was a super competitive 53-50 loss.

This season there was no question in the Blue Devils' minds that they deserved to be one of the top 16 teams playing for a Class B regional championship on Wednesday. They knew they belonged and proved it to Frankenmuth convincingly for four quarters. Lake Fenton led for the entire contest except for about a minute, crushing the Frankenmuth Eagles 68-52 in the Class B regional championship game held at Corunna High School.

Up next

Game: Class B state quarterfinal contest at Bay City Central.

Foe: Ludington

Tip-off: 7 p.m.

Next: The winner advances to the Class B state semifinals, playing either Williamston or River Rouge at the Breslin Center on Friday at 7:50 p.m.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

(Above) Jalen Miller holds the Class B regional trophy, the first in Lake Fenton boys basketball history. (Right) Lake Fenton's Luke Tomczyk and Isaac Golson help up Andrew Foerster after he fought for a loose ball.

The Blue Devils' defense slowed down Frankenmuth's potent transition game and dominated the boards. Meanwhile, on offense Lake Fenton's top three scoring options — Jalen Miller, Isaac Golson and Andrew Foerster — each had huge games. In short, the Eagles never had a chance against the driven Blue Devils, determined

See **DEVILS** on 23A



David's Dabblings



A few thoughts about the area's sports scene and others not dealing with sports at all.

LET'S CHEER ON THE BLUE DEVILS, EAGLES AND THE REFS

March Madness has been pretty awesome this year in the tri-county area.

We experienced a little history in the tri-county area last week. In the 14 years I've been at the Tri-County Times, this was the first time we've ever had two area boys hoops teams capture district titles during the same season when Linden and Lake Fenton won championships.

Lake Fenton also recorded a first in the 14 years I've been here. On Tuesday, I'll be covering my first-ever state quarterfinal contest with this paper for a boys basketball team when the Blue Devils face Ludington at Bay City Central High School. Whew, it's been a long time coming. I'm glad it's finally happening. Congratulations, Blue Devils. This has been a process you could see coming for the last couple of years. It's great to see your potential shine through.

Let's also give props to the Linden Eagles. Yeah, the Holly Class A district wasn't the toughest one of all time, but someone had to win it, and the Eagles flat out deserved to win the trophy. It's easy to forget in late September the program didn't even have a varsity coach. It was a great way to cap first-year coach Chris Root's season.

Let's give props to the officials

I'm going to do something that is rarely done. I'm going to credit the prep basketball officials for doing an outstanding job this winter.

I think basketball is one of the toughest sports to officiate, yet I can hardly remember a time I left a game this winter and thought "those refs were awful." In fact, it was pretty much the direct opposite. I thought I saw more well officiated games this season than ever before. Congratulations officials for a Final Four type season with the whistle.

Basketball rule changes

If I could snap my fingers and change two prep basketball rules I know immediately which two I'd change.

First, I'd change who can call a time out rule during a live ball. I would change it back to only the person holding possession of the ball can do so.

See **CHEER** on 23A

MEET Mama Kat

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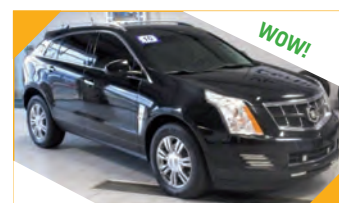
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