

Local leaders provide mid-year updates

It is mid-July and once again time to check in with our local tri-county area leaders. Here they provide details on the current state of their communities.▶

CITY OF FENTON

By Sue Osborn
City of Fenton mayor

Numerous projects are being finalized in the downtown area of Fenton. The Horizon Building will be completed by the fall of 2018. Tenants include The Horizon Group

of Raymond James Financial Advisors, Serra Automotive and Andiamos.

The city administration is working with Corlin Builders to begin the construction of the 111 Leroy Place project sometime in 2019. The Ciao Italian Bistro will
See **UPDATES on 14A**



Sue Osborn

FILE PHOTO BY TIM JAGIELO
Workers close Silver Lake Road in Fenton for Horizon Building construction. There are two high-profile construction projects in the city, and more on the way.





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Weekend**★**Times

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What happened to ‘Riverview?’

■Property is still vacant over two years after ‘Wow’ development proposal

By Hannah Ball
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“WOW!” was the headline the Times used in the Oct. 29, 2015 article about the “Riverview” development that was planned for downtown Fenton, thanks to dance studio owner and credit union employee Michael LaJoyce.

It was going to be a six-story, mixed-use building with attractive businesses. The old Topps building at 225 W. Caroline St. was demolished to make way for the building. The land was ready for construction. Speculation spread about how a dance studio owner

See **RIVERVIEW on 11A**



TRI-COUNTY TIMES
TIM JAGIELO

The property that was slated to become the Riverview development has sat vacant for more than two years following would-be developer Michael LaJoyce’s arrest and conviction.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Welterweight boxer Joey Spencer, 18, of Linden trains at a gym in Flint on Friday, June 29. Behind him, father Jason Spencer wraps the hands of brother Mickel, 14, who is a four-time national champion boxer himself. Spencer has been rising in the ranks as a professional boxer and is undefeated after three bouts against more experienced fighters. **See story on page 18A**

\$1.4-million Lake Fenton Middle School project underway

■Upgrades include electrical system, classrooms and staff areas

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Lake Fenton — The “D-wing” halls are dim and lined with rolling tool boxes, HVAC duct work and stacks of old ceiling tiles. Power tools

drone from various rooms that are being upgraded in time for school to start.

This summer, part of Lake Fenton Middle School is receiving a variety of updates, with a
See **SCHOOL on 10A**

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
TIM JAGIELO

Zerk Construction bricklayer Bryce Eyre works on the outside of Lake Fenton Middle School on Thursday, July 12.



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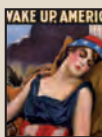


“**Attention America:** The immigration policies all you liberals are wetting your pants about were crafted and implemented by Bill Clinton. They were also adhered to by Saint Obama. Where were all the hypocrite protesters then?”



the hypocrite protesters then?”

“**One could also** say that a bank robber or burglar is also just trying to make a better life for himself and his family. America has the same immigration laws that every other country in the world enforces. Only a fool would advocate for open borders. Wake up America.”



“**What most don’t** understand is that the strongest bonds between politicians, whether local or national, are always forged by the mutual hate of things, not the mutual love of things.”



COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“**I am an adult woman** looking for some good summer reading. Can anyone out there provide me with some suggestions? Any genre will do. I am tired of buying recommended books that are just silly romance trash. Thank you.”

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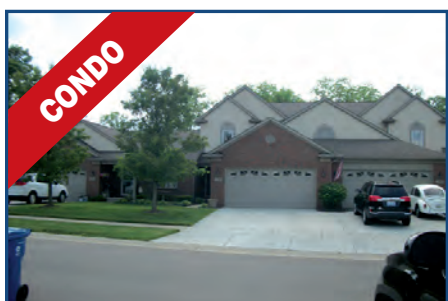
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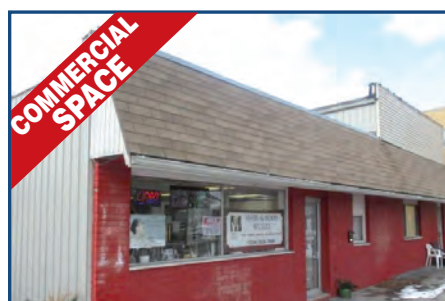
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You probably need a permit for that

■ Many homeowners don't realize you can't shingle roof without city approval

By Tim Jagielo

tjagiolo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

What might be a thorn in the side of local homeowners is designed to keep structures safe, according to Linden City Manager Paul Zelenak.

The homeowner brings project plans to the city, township or village office, pays the fee, and has the building inspector look over their project.

"We make sure it's done correctly, done to code, done safe," Zelenak said. This means safe for current and future residents.

Municipalities, including Fenton, Linden and Holly, have a fee schedule for various projects.

In Linden, it costs \$50 for a construction plan review for a new deck. Zelenak said decks and additions are the most common permit pulled for summer projects. He said the permit and plan reviews ensure the safety of the structure and that it is up to code.

Linden Building Official Jason Payne said the city issued 49 residential building permits in 2017, and have 19 so far in 2018.

The city of Fenton has issued 964 permits in the past 12 months, with a construction value of more than \$27 million, said Michael Reilly, Fenton building and zoning administrator.

Reilly said the most common permits pulled in Fenton are for windows, roofing and porch repair. He added that



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Framer Brian Simpson of Grand Blanc installs a weather barrier to the roof during the 2018 Christmas in Action workday. Projects like this require building permits be pulled before the workday.

“Municipalities require construction permits to ensure compliance with the code requirements to provide a reasonable level of public health and safety.”

Mike Reilly

Fenton building and zoning administrator

residents tend to be surprised they have to get a permit for replacing shingles on an existing building. "Only one layer of shingles may be covered and if the old roof is removed, proper underlayment must be installed," he said

Not pulling a permit for a project is a civil infraction, subject to citation, Reilly said.

Zelenak said it could also cost a homeowner twice the original permit fee if a permit isn't pulled at the beginning. If the project isn't completed properly, they may have to re-do part of the project.

SAMPLE PERMIT FEES

Many projects require site plan reviews from the building department.

In Fenton, the building department charges \$60 for site plan reviews on a garage, or an addition that is less than 50-percent the size of the original dwelling.

The city of Linden charges \$50 for a site plan review for a garage.

In the village of Holly, there is a \$75 permit fee and application for moderate plumbing projects. There is an additional charge of \$5 for fixtures, floor drains and others. The permit for electrical work begins at \$75 as well, with additional fees per outlet, for example.



Tri-County Times newspaper carrier, Braden Diehl

Young entrepreneur earns his money as Times carrier

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Braden Diehl is looking forward to his first year at Lake Fenton High School in the fall, but for now, he is focused on earning some cash to support his passion — technological devices of all description.

A valued newspaper carrier for the Tri-County Times for nearly two years, Braden has a 130-paper walking route in Whisperwood Condos in Fenton.

Asked what he likes about this job, he said, "I am liking the money and the people. I just like how nice and friendly the people are," he said.

See TIMES CARRIER on 16A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

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Andrew Heller

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Come *Heller* high water...

• **The Fourth of July** always seems like the back side of the hill for summer to me even though it's not. It's when I first think "OHMYGOD, SUMMER'S HALF OVER AND I HAVEN'T DONE (BLANK) YET!" Panic time. There will be kayaking. There will be picnics. There will be ...

• **Why doesn't the caps lock key** apply to the numbers row? Maybe only a professional typist cares.

• **Why do people** get so bent out of shape before a roundabout goes in? A month later everyone's used to it.



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

• **Today's bold policy stance:** Zucchini is not fit for human consumption. There's a reason people sneak bags of it onto your porch, and it's not because they're being generous.

• **When I was** a kid, all-star games — baseball, football and basketball — were the highlight of the season. Now they range from dull (baseball) to fake (basketball) to downright unwatchable (football).

• **In case you** thought the state of Michigan gives a rat's patoot about what citizens think, the same guy who told Flint residents to "relax" about lead in the city's water supply when he was spokesperson for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, was hired by the state this year to do communications training for health officials. Nice, huh?

• **Elon Musk is** tweeting that he'll pay to fix the water in Flint houses that are still contaminated above federal levels. That's wonderful and sad. Wonderful because, well, it's generous. As he put it, "Most houses in Flint have safe water, but they've lost faith in government test results." And sad because state government bungled the cleanup so badly that a trust issue exists and because more and more these days government at any level can't seem to rise to the occasion.

• **Settle an argument** I'm having with a friend: Are the mosquitoes this year the

size of A) Turkey vultures, B) Montana, or C) a 747? How big are they? I saw one carrying away a collie. And when I got bitten, I needed a liter of O-positive.

• **Two things I** never get enough of: Lighting wood matches and watching lawn sprinklers. Could do either or both all day long. (Oh, like YOU don't have a thing ...)

• **Can we be** done, please, with the construct that starts with "when" as in "When your dog hasn't made a peep for a half hour ..."

Really, really tiresome, folks.

• **I always think** I almost know what a political commentator means when he or she describes something as a "zero sum game." But I never really do.

• **I haven't played** softball in three years and baseball in a hundred, but I still dream at night about the diving catches my memory tells me I made and the home runs I supposedly hit.

• **Doesn't it seem** as if most of the news now is political news? It's almost like the rest of world has ceased producing newsworthy events. That's not the case, of course. There's as much news as ever, but there are fewer journalists producing it. That's the nation's biggest problem, in fact.

• **I expected a** funny or snarky answer when I asked Alexa who was prettier, her or Siri. Alas, the response was "I'm partial to all AIs." (Asking Alexa stupid questions is mostly what we use her for.)

• **"Whatever you can** do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it." — Johann von Goethe

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.

“Zucchini is not fit for human consumption. There's a reason people sneak bags of it onto your porch, and it's not because they're being generous.”

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.

IT IS SUMMER and the sunshine is delicious. Quit complaining about the heat and relish the joys of summer in Michigan. There is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather. Good ole summertime.

HAVE LIVED HERE for 14 years. Each year the taxes on my home increase dramatically. I'll be selling and moving somewhere soon. Your 'cool city' agenda is driving many of us out.

I WOULD LIKE to let some people know why I have an EBT Michigan bridge card. I'm currently getting food assistance and cash assistance. FIP only helps with food. The cash portion is to help with toilet paper, shampoo, laundry detergent. My daughter and her husband were killed by a drunk driver. The man who hit them killed two wonderful parents of twin 4-year-old little girls. I'm a single senior grandma raising my grandkids with a little bit of help from the state. So next time you're in line at Walmart please don't give me your attitude and tell me to get a job.

IT APPEARS THAT the Democrat leaders are giving in to the Marxist/Leninists in the party and are trying to create a socialist revolution. They will fail.

THE FBI STOPPED the Fourth of July attack by a Muslim who wanted to kill Americans. He'd been planning this for a long time. This further illustrates that

Trump is actually concerned about our safety, monitoring who enters the United States of America.

WE HAVE THE best economy in decades. The best job picture in decades and 90 percent of taxpayers have seen an increase in their take-home pay. Trump is strong regarding foreign policy with North Korea, Iran and Russia. His immigration plans are taking hold and improving our immigration plan. He will continue his winning ways.

COME ON PEOPLE, you do know they just arrested 110 illegals working at a landscape company. In Ohio. That's very far from California.

HELP IS NEEDED. I live near the intersection of Owen and Whitaker roads where there is a flashing yellow light for Owen Road motorists. Speed limit signs go from 35 to 55 mph in this stretch of road, which also has a hill. It's dangerous. What are officials doing about this?

AS A 70-plus, life-long, female Linden resident, I greatly resent Dan Cusson's implication in a recent Our Town article that Linden has a problem with a woman being 'in charge.' Women have held key positions in our community for many years. You owe our residents an apology.

TO THE HOT-LINER citing the Time cover of Trump standing over crying illegal kid. It has been proven fake news. No. 1, Trump never saw the kid. No. 2, as reported by her family, the kid was never separated from her family. Fake news.



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Who is your all-time favorite athlete?

Compiled by Gracie Warda, intern

streettalk



"Cristiano Ronaldo, because he's the best soccer player."

Luke Page
Linden



"Tom Brady, because he's really fast and he's good at football."

Quentin Amory
Fenton Township



"I'm a little biased, but my daughter Maureen is my favorite athlete, even though she's not professional."

Georgette Amory
Fenton Township



"LeBron James, because he's very talented, but he maintains a sense of humility about it."

Larisa Sloan
Deerfield Township



"Probably Al Kaline, because he came and spent his whole career in Detroit. It seemed like he belonged to Detroit, he made it into the hall of fame and he just fit in."

Biddy Holler
Fenton Township

Spiders — they're not the bad guys

■ 'House spiders' can provide effective home pest control

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

If you have a house, you probably have house spiders. They might live in your attic, basement or windowsills, or they might inhabit your houseplants.

Spiders haven't wandered away from home — our houses are their home. And despite their reputation as creepy invaders, there are good reasons for letting them live.

Some people think of spiders as insects, lumping them in with six-legged invaders like roaches or ants. But they're not insects, and they don't want to raid our cupboards. House spiders just want to kill the insects that do covet our food.

If anything, they're on our side, according to the Mother Nature Network (mnn.com).

That may not help with severe cases of arachnophobia, but the more we know about these misunderstood housemates, the less fodder we have for misguided fears. The following are some interesting facts that might persuade you to give spiders a chance.

PUTTING A HOUSE SPIDER OUTSIDE COULD KILL IT.

Not everyone who's afraid of spiders hates them, leading many people to try non-lethal eviction. Perhaps the most common strategy involves trapping a spider in a cup and releasing it outside, where it can presumably return to its natural lifestyle. This is a noble sentiment but it may not achieve the desired result if it is a true house spider.

You can't put something back outside that was never outside in the first place, according to the Mother Nature Network.

Although some house spider species can survive outdoors, most don't do well there, and some will perish rather quickly when removed from the protective indoor habitat. You're not doing them a favor.



PHOTO: PLANETORANGE.COM

Only about 5 percent of the spiders you see inside have ever set foot outdoors.

NOT ALL SPIDERS IN HOUSES ARE HOUSE SPIDERS.

House spiders typically colonize new buildings via egg sacs attached to furniture or building materials, but sometimes outdoor spiders also wander inside. Many of these are spiders that eschew webs in favor of active hunting, like wolf spiders, and may be seen scampering across floors or walls. If you release one of these outside, you might actually be doing it a favor. Just be sure to let the right one out.

NOT ALL HOUSE SPIDERS LOOK ALIKE.

House spiders come in many shapes and sizes. The types in your house depend largely on where you live. The most abundant spiders include the American house spider, the domestic house spider and the cupboard spider. The latter also is known as a "false black widow" because people commonly confuse it with that highly venomous spider. Not only does it lack the black widow's red hourglass, its bite is more like a bee sting.

HOUSE SPIDERS POSE VERY LITTLE DANGER.

Spiders rarely bite people, and even when they do, most species' venom causes only moderate and short-lived effects. That's true for the vast majority of house spiders, which have no incentive to bite anything they can't eat unless they think it's a matter of life or death. House spiders prey on insects and other small creatures.

HOUSE SPIDERS CAN BE HELPFUL.

Spiders feed on common indoor pests, such as roaches, earwigs, mosquitoes, flies and clothes moths. If left alone, spiders will consume most of the insects in your home, providing effective home pest control.

THERE ARE HUMANE WAYS TO MANAGE HOUSE SPIDERS.

If you still can't stand house spiders, instead of resorting to pesticides, smashing or other potentially lethal methods (like a vacuum cleaner), try to stay ahead of population booms by limiting suitable habitats. Check windows, eaves and other popular spider hangouts, and remove any cobwebs you find. This probably won't eliminate your house of spiders, but it might drive them to lower-profile haunts like a shed, garage or crawlspace.

Read what Howard Russell, an entomologist with Michigan State University, has to say about spiders with this story at tctimes.com.

Source: Mother Nature Network (mnn.com)

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ESTIMATES

Three FHS grads to be honored

■ Alumni association to hold Hall of Fame induction ceremony at class reunion

By Sharon Stone

sstone@tctimes.com; 810-433-6786

The Fenton High School Alumni Association has announced there will be three inductees into the Fenton High School Hall of Fame this year. Inductees include Brad Collins, Class of 1966, and Gregg Motter and Reed Prior, both of the Class of 1969.

The inductees will be honored at the

Fenton High School tri-annual class reunion, which will be held at Tyrone Hills Golf Course on Friday, Aug. 17, from 5 to 11 p.m. The golf course is at Center Road at U.S. 23 in Tyrone Township.

Selection into the Hall of Fame has several needed qualifications, including professional honors, awards, professional affiliations, publications, civic involvement and impact on the local community.

Tickets for the banquet may be purchased from Carla Juarez at CSJmia@yahoo.com or Nancy Parkin at NParKin11@aol.com.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE ROAD CREWS are hard at work. What is it, an election year?

TO THE HOT-LINER claiming illegal immigrants are 'running from violence.' Just because they may need to flee doesn't mean they have to come here. Costa Rica, Panama and Belize are stable, secure and a lot closer. Too bad those countries understand the importance of border enforcement.

DO THE PEOPLE who are complaining about illegal aliens know the history of our country? Ancestors came here, took the Indians and put them on reservations and took over their land. We are the United States of America, let freedom ring.

IS THAT THE only thing DDAs know how to do is tear things down? Look what they did to Fenton. Now, they're doing the same thing in Linden. We won't have a town left when they get

done.

THROWING PEOPLE OUT in the street so they could make a parking lot? Nice job, DDA.

EVERY YEAR IN America, 425,000 U.S. children are taken away from their parents for abuse, neglect, poverty, etc. Where is the public outcry over these American citizen children?

TO THE ALPHA males driving big pickup trucks, please note; I cannot go faster than the vehicle in front of me. Riding my bumper does not help to speed up traffic. Pull your face out of the cell phone and back off.

DOWNTOWN SURE IS nice, but it's a traffic and parking nightmare. There seems to be a lack of due diligence and traffic engineering protocol.

ENGLAND, A COUNTRY of fair laws, and even then it was bloody.



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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, July 11, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Chiropractor to bring new life to 'big blue'

New owner of Rockwell Assisted Living house respectful and patient as elderly residents find new homes.



Public relations firm tasked with improving communications

City of Fenton to pay Vanguard \$4,500 per month to upgrade its digital presence.

Motorists must give bicyclists 3 feet

Local lawmakers approve "Safe Passing Bill," which makes it law that motorists give at least 3 feet of space, when possible, to bicyclists on roadways. The law goes into effect in August 2019.

What are delegates?

Becoming a precinct delegate is an effective way to get involved politically.

Love of the game leads to 40,000-card collection

Local resident has acquired baseball cards since he was 10 years old.

A look back at 1968

Everyday things turn 50 years old, including beanbag chairs, lava lamps, Ziploc bags and more.

TEXT YOUR HOT LINE

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Times

**"I'm
shopping
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**Three words that will
tell your community
merchant that you
appreciate them.**

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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

JULY 15

1606: The great Dutch master Rembrandt van Rijn is born in Leiden on July 15, 1606, the son of a miller. His humble origins may help account for the uncommon depth of compassion given to the human subjects of his art. His more than 600 paintings, many of them portraits or self-portraits, are characterized by rich brushwork and color, and a dramatic interplay of shadow and light.

JULY 16

1979: Jeffrey MacDonald stands trial in North Carolina for the murder of his wife and children nearly 10 years before. Capt. MacDonald, an army doctor stationed at Fort Bragg, made an emergency call to military police in the early morning hours of Feb. 17, 1970. Responding officers found Colette MacDonald and her two children, 5-year-old Kimberley and 2-year-old Kristen, dead from multiple stab wounds. The word "pig" had been written in blood on the headboard of a bed. Jeffrey, who had a few stab wounds himself, told the officers that four hippies had attacked the family.

JULY 17

1996: Shortly after takeoff from New York's Kennedy International Airport, a TWA Boeing 747 jetliner bound for Paris explodes over the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 people aboard. Flight 800 had just received clearance to initiate a climb to cruise altitude when it exploded without warning. Because the plane was loaded with fuel for the long transatlantic journey, it vaporized within moments, creating a fireball seen almost all along the coastline of Long Island.

JULY 18

1969: Shortly after leaving a party on Chappaquiddick Island, Senator Edward "Ted" Kennedy of Massachusetts drives an Oldsmobile off a wooden bridge into a tide-swept pond. Kennedy escaped the submerged car, but his passenger, 28-year-old Mary Jo Kopechne, did not. The senator did not report the fatal car accident for 10 hours.

JULY 19

1989: The 21-year-old actress Rebecca Shaeffer is murdered at her Los Angeles home by Robert John Bardo, a mentally unstable man who had been stalking her. Schaeffer's death helped lead to the passage in California of legislation aimed at preventing stalking. She was best known for her role in the sitcom "My Sister Sam."

JULY 20

1973: Actor and martial-arts expert Bruce Lee dies in Los Angeles at age 32 from a brain edema possibly caused by a reaction to a prescription painkiller. During Lee's all-too-brief career, he became a movie star in Asia and, posthumously, in America.

JULY 21

2007: The seventh and final Harry Potter novel, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, is released, with an initial print run of 12 million copies in the United States alone. Like each of the previous Harry Potter novels, Deathly Hallows was slated to be made into a major Hollywood film.

Source: history.com

16TH ANNUAL GAINES COMMUNITY

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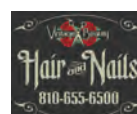
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HOT LINE CONTINUED

BEWARE FELLOW HOT line readers. Scam phone calls now use local business names and phone numbers before cutting over to the credit card scam. Give out no information. Be safe.

HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS of people in the entire third world would love to move to the U.S. or Europe. Please answer me with a specific number of how many we should welcome.

REPUBLIC: A POLITICAL order in which the supreme power lies in a body of citizens who are entitled to vote for officers and representatives responsible to them. Yes sir, we are a 'Democracy,' look it up.

THERE SEEM TO be Hot lines in almost every issue demanding that Andrew Heller or Foster Childs be removed from the paper. It's rather arrogant to want to deny access to those who enjoy either just because you don't. If you don't like them, you shouldn't read them.

I HOPE THE Fenton City Council takes a cue from Linden by seeing that you buy property and don't build on it but actually use it as a parking lot. Fenton is building on the parking lot next to Fenton United Methodist Church. When will the madness end? Use the old LaJoyce property for parking.

YEP, DDA'S IN Linden now. Say goodbye to all of our buildings.

THE REFUGEES ARE fleeing their countries because if they fought back they would just be shot on the spot.

TO THE PERSON whose grandparents came from Poland. Your grandparents came the right way. These people are not. They are crossing the borders illegally, in rafts and boats. They are not entering through the embassy, filing paperwork as should be done.

MILLIONS OF ILLEGALS have crossed the borders from Mexico to the U.S. in the years before Trump came along. Doesn't seem like anyone here cared much about that before.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO Stormy Daniels? She sure dropped off the news like a hot potato.

IN JUNE, 213,000 new jobs were added in the United States bringing Trump's jobs total creation approaching three million. This is unbelievable and is reason why Trump's approval rate went up 2 percentage points again this week.

I HAVE TO disagree with the comment made in the Hot lines regarding the column being for unemployed people. I think the Hot lines give us an excellent forum to express our informed comments.

I SEE ONE of the comments saying that it isn't President Trump who turned the economy around, but Obama. I waited eight years for Obama to turn the economy around. President Trump turned it around in a year.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

This building at 105 Washington St. in Holly has a sale pending to a private buyer. It will likely become a residential home, but has been owned by the Holly Masons since 1920.

Sale pending for Masonic lodge building

■ **Struggling financially, members selling 19th century church they have been using since 1920**

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

Holly — The building at 105 Washington St. that currently houses the Holly Masons sits quietly for most of the week. It has a well-manicured lawn and maintained exterior.

This is what next-door neighbor Sally Robinson likes. She said living next to the Masonic lodge has been, "fantastic. I like the Masons owning the building, because they were only there three hours a week, half the year."

This is likely going to change, however, as the building listed for sale on June 22 has a sale pending, said Realtor Julie LeBourdais of Century21Town & Country.

The offer was accepted on June 26. "I was constantly fielding phone calls about the building," she said. The attention prompted her to host an impromptu open house that weekend.

The building was listed at \$49,000 cash. It has a total of 2,500 square feet and a basement. LeBourdais said it is zoned residential for the village.

While the building is in good shape, the Holly Mason Lodge #134 is weathering financial difficulties, leading to the sale of the building.

Dave Cruickshank, a Mason member said, "We've been struggling to pay the bills for a while and we are out of money. It's very sad since we've had the building since the '20s."

According to the lodge website, the Masons are the longest continually running organization in Holly, and was formed in 1862.

The new location for meetings and storage has not been set.

“I was constantly fielding phone calls about the building.”
Julie LeBourdais
Realtor

BUILDING HISTORY

The building could have been constructed as early as 1854, said LeBourdais.

It was originally built as a church, and then sold to the McCabe family, who eventually sold it to the Masons in 1920.

With such an old building, finding solid records has been difficult. "The title company is having a hard time clearing it," she said.

LeBourdais spent time combing through microfiche tape to find past bills of sale, because the only physical copy is so deteriorated, and there is no digital copy.

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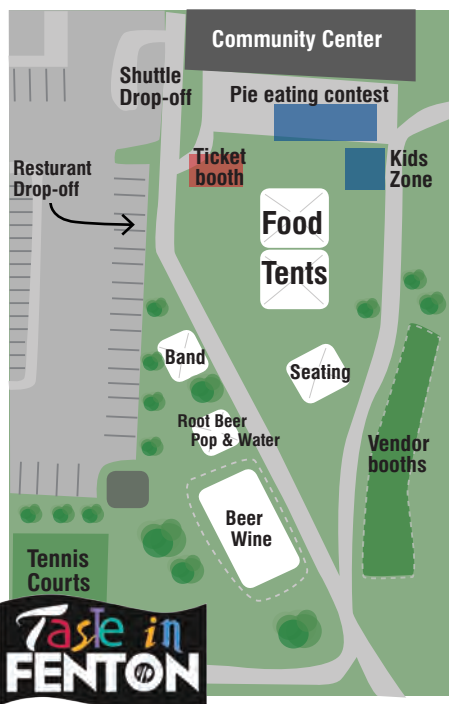
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Great food, fellowship and fun at 18th annual Taste In Fenton



■ There's something for everyone at this festive summer event

By Vera Hogan
vhogan@tctimes.com

Summertime fun in downtown Fenton continues with the annual Taste in Fenton. This year's 18th annual event will be held Wednesday, Aug. 1, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Matt Sherrow, chairman of the Chamber's Board of Directors, has been in charge of the event since 2014.

"This is my favorite event held in Fenton each year," he said. "I love that it brings together the

community in a fun atmosphere with great food, music and beverages. It always seems to have a very family friendly vibe with everybody having a great time with their family and neighbors."

The event will again take place in the park behind the Fenton Community and Cultural Center, rain or shine. If it rains, the food service will be moved inside.

Sherrow said the event usually draws between 15 and 20 participating restaurants. As in previous years, tickets will be \$10 in advance and \$15 at the event.

This year's entertainment

will be provided by, "Tie-Dyed Giants," a four or five person band that plays '50s to contemporary music.

"We will also have a stein-holding contest put on by the Fenton Winery & Brewery, plus a pie-eating contest hosted by CRUST bakery," he said.

A Kids Zone, which will include a bounce house, will be on site. CRUST will be holding a doughnut-eating contest, for the kids.

"We will be drawing for the car

raffle for a chance to win a vehicle of your choice, or \$30,000," Sherrow said. "Only 1,000 tickets are being sold."

Wine and craft beer lovers will be happy to note that Fenton Winery & Brewery and Lynchpin Brewing Company are confirmed for the event and will be providing beer. Fenton Winery & Brewery will be offering wine as well.

"While dogs are allowed at the event, we ask that they stay away from the food service area (unless, of course, they are a service dog)."



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EVENTS DATELINE

July 17
COR Nutrition Ribbon Cutting
3:30pm

July 19
Networking Around Noon
Spring Meadows Country Club
11:30am

July 23
The Cleaning Authority Ribbon Cutting
4pm

July 27
Vibe Well Ribbon Cutting
4:30pm

August 1
Taste in Fenton
Fenton Community Center
4-8pm

August 16
Networking Around Noon
Tanglewood Assisted Living
11:30am

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PRIMARY CANDIDATE MEET & GREET

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 | 5-7pm

Chamber Members please join us at Spring Meadows Country Club for an informal gathering to talk with candidates on the primary ballot

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Spring Meadows Country Club
1129 Ripley Road | Linden, MI 48451

RSVP appreciated but not required: 629-5447 ext 402

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Tracy Aubuchon, Rejuv Ave. Skin Spa; **Pastor Andrew Barancik**, Faith City Church; **Russ Ciesielski**, Linden Community Schools; **Dr. Adam Hartley**, Fenton Area Public Schools; **Joel Gibbons**, Lewis & Knopf CPA's; **Jason Matznick**, Unsalted Digital; **Kevin Messing**, Edward Jones; **Wade Pyles**, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services; **Tom Rupp**, Brown & Brown Insurance; **Mike Scully**, Sharp Funeral Homes; **Will Stiverson**, E-Core Energy Services



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Apprentice electrician Christian Kolles hands journeyman Dave Curtis a pull-fitting part for cable at Lake Fenton Middle School on Thursday, July 12.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

A significant part of the project is upgrading the electrical system to bring it up to code, and handle 22 new heating and cooling units.

SCHOOL

Continued from Front Page

budget totaling \$1.4-million. The projects are being funded through the district's sinking fund and bond money.

Superintendent Julie Williams said that they are replacing walls and windows on the north side of the "D-wing" of the building. In 2017, they completed the same project on the south side of the building.

They are also adding windows to the counseling office, and replacing old wood structures with steel. These parts of the project were completed with sinking fund dollars.

Other projects are being done with bond monies. Twenty-two classrooms are receiving vertical heating and cooling unit vents with some rooftop units. These will replace the old floor units, which also require asbestos remediation due to the tiles beneath the old units.

Electrical upgrades also are being installed to bring the building up to code and to add air conditioning to the building.

They have also added security cameras to all buildings.

Williams expects the project to be done in late August.

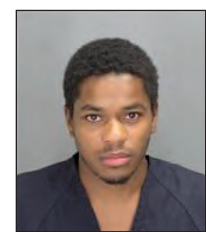
Sinking fund dollars are approved by community vote, and can only be used for facility upgrades and construction of new buildings and sites.

School bonds are also passed by vote, and are funded via millage over the course of several years.

Police&Fire report

HOLLY MAN CHARGED WITH SIMPLE ASSAULT

Holly police responded to an apartment in the 3300 block of Grange Hall Road in Holly Village at 11:56 p.m., Sunday, July 8 to

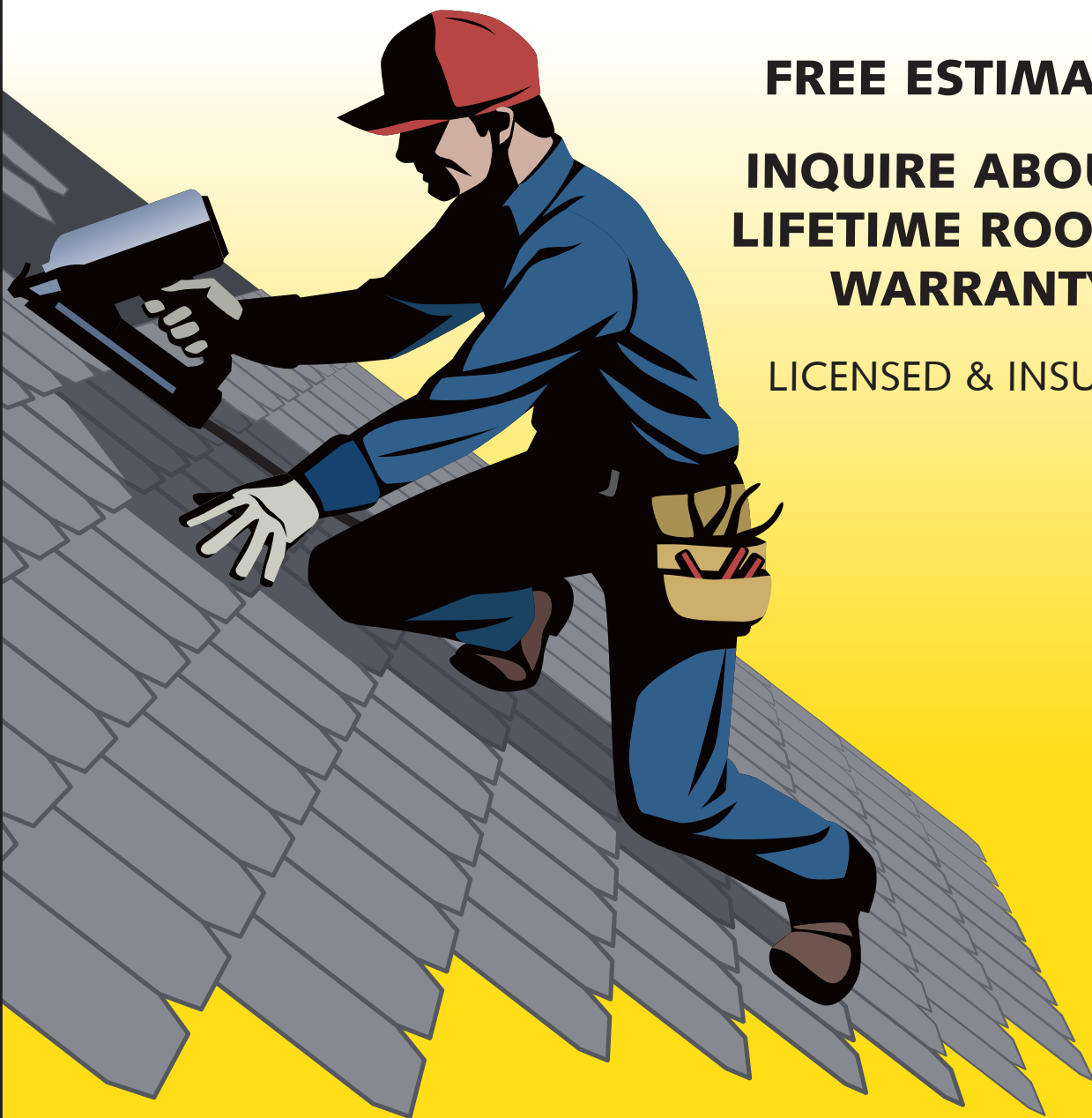


Karim Alihilton
Desjardins

investigate a domestic disturbance complaint. Dispatch advised police that a female caller was screaming that she was being beaten. Upon arrival, police located a

17-year-old female crying inside the apartment. Police also heard a male, later identified as Karim Alihilton Desjardins, 22, of Holly, screaming at the female about shoes. Desjardins was questioned outside and the female was questioned in the apartment. She said they had been arguing all night and that the man had been drinking. Verbal arguments allegedly escalated to a physical altercation. Police observed several red scratches on the female's chest. A computer check of Desjardins revealed he had an arrest warrant in Oakland County for disorderly conduct. He was arrested for the warrant and a new domestic assault charge. Desjardins was arraigned July 9 for disorderly conduct and simple assault. Bond was set at 10 percent of \$1,000.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Theatre Group of the Kaiser-Karl School from Itzehoe, Germany will perform an operetta called "Les Brigands."

German theatre groups come to Linden

Organizers, host families excited for July 17 performance at Linden High School

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

Linden is getting a taste of Germany next week with the performance of the Theatre Group of the Kaiser-Karl School from Itzehoe, Germany.

They will be performing "Les Brigands," or "The Bandits," at Linden High School on Tuesday, July 17. The performance is free, and donations will be accepted at the door.

The Linden Arts Council and Linden Dance Academy both organized this event.

"This touring troupe of high schoolers from Itzehoe are very talented in the theatre arts. The production will be accompanied by a live pianist," said Danielle Sorum, owner of the Linden Dance Academy.

Les Brigands is an operetta by James Offenbach that combines serious and light theatre. It first premiered in Paris in 1869 and received periodic revivals in France. This ensemble translated it into English.

"It has some suggestive content and use of weaponry, but the performers are all high school age students. The content is also meant to be, and is, funny," she said.

Sue Turpen of the Linden Arts Council said they're taking the group to the planetarium, the Flint Institute of Arts

and throwing a picnic for them.

"We feel it's a great gift to the community," Turpen said. "It will be rewarding and everyone will enjoy themselves. We feel it's a very good asset to the community that we're bringing this group, and opening the theatre up to not only learn about their culture, but this group."

Approximately 35 performers are being housed by host families in Fenton, Linden, Gaines and Grand Blanc while they travel the U.S. from July 12-25. Most families are taking three to five people.

Tim Draeger's Fenton Township family is hosting three of the performers. They arrive Monday. He is excited to learn about another culture, and show how great life in America is.

"The world can only benefit from making friends."

Tim Draeger
Fenton Township resident/
host of three German theatre
group performers

"Anytime we have the opportunity to experience another culture, not just meet and have a chance to talk, but welcoming you home and actually learning about how they view us, how we view them. The world can only benefit

from making friends," he said.

The event is possible due to the Blue Lake International Exchange Program. This theatre group is one of the 10 Blue Lake visiting guest groups visiting the Midwest this summer. Draeger said his daughters attended camp at Blue Lake and spoke highly of its quality.

"This is a very talented group of people and they're going to be here in our town for free," he said. "It should be an incredible performance."

HOT LINE CONTINUED

LINDEN, I THINK it's about time to check on all these homeless people hanging out down at the Eagle Wooden Park, sleeping down there at night.

I FEEL OUR entire fire department, ladies and gents, should have been named grand marshals of the parade. Then the next year we can honor the entire police department.

WHAT IS THE link between Fenton and the Great Lakes National Cemetery? Find out Sept. 8.

ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ in New York won her primary as a Socialist. I hope that this movement does not lead to more civil unrest in our country.

IN A RECENT poll of political scientists, 200 rated Donald Trump as the worst president in the history of the country.

A BIG SHOUT-out to the Fenton homeowners who put so much time, effort and funds into their beautiful, historic homes — my favorite part of Fenton.

THANK YOU, LINDEN police, for your presence around town.

RIVERVIEW

Continued from Front Page

and credit union employee could afford a multimillion-dollar building, but the excitement for the development remained.

On Jan. 4, 2016, Times Editor Sharon Stone received an anonymous phone call about a meeting at the Clarkston-Brandon Community Credit Union, where LaJoice worked. Two days later, the Times learned LaJoice turned himself in to authorities and confessed to embezzling \$18 million from the credit union.

The "WOW!" headline also accurately described the surprise everyone felt when news spread.

The Riverview project fizzled out.

What happened to the Riverview property?

The Riverview property at 225 W. Caroline St., near the Shiawassee River. It's a grassy area, full of weeds and dirt, almost untouched since the demolition of the Topps building.

Local attorney Michael Manley represented LaJoice, and prepared the sale

of all his properties to ease the burden of owing more than \$17 million in restitution. They sold many of LaJoice's properties in Fenton to Skypoint Ventures, including 225 W. Caroline,

where LaJoice had intended to build the multi-million mixed use building called "Riverview," and the houses at 229 W. Caroline St., 125 S. Adelaide St., 219 S. Adelaide St. and 116 Mill St., and the downtown building

at 108 S. LeRoy St.

Skypoint hired Colliers International, a Southfield commercial real estate firm, to sell the properties. The parcel where Riverview was to be built was sold to Peregrine Ventures Properties 2.

While the property is not owned by the city of Fenton, officials have been in talks with the current owners.

"We have had a meeting with the owners to discuss ideas for the possible development of the property. No decisions have been made," said City Manager Lynn Markland. "The property is privately owned. It is not owned by the city. However, we expect that the property will be developed into a mixed-use development."

"...we expect that the property will be developed into a mixed-use development."

Lynn Markland
Fenton city manager

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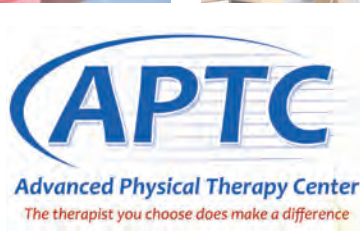
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HOT LINE CONTINUED

ACCORDING TO THE Wall Street Journal, 90 percent of all working men and women in the United States have seen increases in their paychecks and less taxes.

THIS MIGHT BE a good time for all of us to open up our minds and hearts to the abused immigrant children and have some compassion for them as their families try to escape the horrors of their own country.

SORRY, THE FOURTH of July Parade left little to be desired — no marching band, no horses, and no kids on bikes decorated for the 4th. Too much advertising. If I wanted to attend a trade show I would.

TO WOMEN AT the White House and Congress: Please be careful and maybe record all conversations with men suspected of sexual abuse. You've got two more men in your midst who have covered up allegations of abuse.

TO HOT-LINER ASKING, 'Where are the 200 sets of U.S. remains from North Korea.' They are at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii undergoing forensic identification by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command.

IF TRUMP HAS nothing to hide, why wouldn't he voluntarily testify in the Russian investigation? He doth protest too much.

FOR THOSE OF you who think it is acceptable for a 14-month-old to be returned to his mother unbathed and covered in lice after 85 days in custody of U.S. immigration all for the great crime of his parents requesting asylum, they may want to read 'The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas,' by Ursula K. Le Guin. (Source: PBS Newshour July 5, 2018)

IN YOUR CLOSED restaurants story, you forgot to mention the Lion's Den Restaurant, next to Hamady's in Locke's Shopping Center. Great food.

I KNOW THE recent construction on Grange Hall Road is frustrating, but please don't block our driveways. Thank you.

ROADS, OUR INTERSTATE highways, our public school systems, police protection, fire protection, the criminal justice system, Social Security, Medicare and our military. What do all of these things have in common? They are all staples of our society and examples of Socialism. Stop pretending Socialism is bad.

TO THE HOT line on Sunday paper about the 200 remains being returned by

North Korea. I saw just the other day a soldier was being buried with his family present here. They are being returned. Do you think the 'fake news' would carry something like this? No, and the reason for that is because they don't want people to know what Trump is doing is good.

VERY INTERESTING ARTICLE on the traffic study along the Silver Lake corridor. Why they don't look at creating a connection between North Road past the water treatment plant to Silver Lake Road at the Park and Ride lot. People could easily use the North Road interchange to access the highway.

I'M NOT TIRED of the Mueller probe. He's doing a great job forcing Trump's denials and pushing his lie rate to over 3,000 with five months to go. Right on, Mueller!

I REALLY DON'T know where people get their information on Obama's approval ratings. It was 53 percent, not 43 percent.

WHILE WE ARE fixing Fenton roads, they should be widened a little for a dedicated jogger and biker lane. This would make Fenton a trendy world class place to live, keep traffic flowing, and keep everyone safe. If you agree please post, we could make a difference.

Snowy owl spotted in Holly

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Harold Peterson of Holly took this photo of a snowy white owl perched on his neighbor's garage roof overlooking Bush Lake last week.

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Meet JANNAH GARBACK

- Singer
- Teacher
- Fenton High School graduate

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

If you've attended a Fenton event in the past few months, you've heard her voice. Jannah Garback, 25, is a singer who has performed at the Fenton Farmers Market, the Fourth of July parade and more. She works at A Joyful Noise Music Studio, where she teaches voice, piano, clarinet, and ukulele. She attended Rochester College on a scholarship, where she studied music. After graduating in 2015, she decided to pursue her masters online at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. She takes classes online in between work, and will graduate in a few months with her masters in music education with a focus in teaching artistry.

What do you like about the Fenton area?

I like that my family is close by. I'm very close with my family. I like the area; it has small-town vibes.

Do you like all the development in Fenton?



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | HANNAH BALL

Jannah Garback, 25, is a local musician, teacher and graduate student. You'll hear her sing at events around town.

I do. I'm really impressed with the new Horizon Building. It definitely makes it more of a busy area. Parking is always insane. Everybody likes to fight for a parking spot. It's kind of turning into a mini Rochester.

Who are your favorite musicians?

I would say Adele, obviously. She's just so good. I love Stevie Wonder. I like my classics. I love The Beatles, who doesn't love The Beatles? I like Lady Gaga. Some of her stuff is just out there. I dig her as an artist. Etta James. Aretha Franklin.

Where do you want your music career to go?

I am looking to be a professor of music and to record an album.

Read the book or watch the movie?

Read the book. There's a lot of details. With grad school, I don't get to read that much, but I do love rereading the

Harry Potter series.

What challenges do you think your generation will face in 10 years?

When I think of millennials, I think of social justice. That's something I'm really into, advocating for women's rights, gay rights. There's a lot of issues with police brutality and violence against African-Americans. The big thing is we need to get out and vote.

Around here, do you think the political divide is a big issue?

I think this town is mostly split. You could feel it at the Fourth of July parade. I could overhear people saying 'I'm so sick of all the politics and everything' and 'I don't want to take this flier.' That was the vibe.

What do you think about the current state of the U.S.?

I think there's a lot of division. It's kind of a hot mess. When you wake up

and you read the news, it's like 'damage report, what's new?' It makes you think about the little things in life, like positivity and music and art. It makes artistic expression really important. In Childish Bambino's 'This is America,' there's a message in that. That's our generations saying this is what's going on, with music.

Do you see people connecting through music a lot?

Absolutely. With my students for sure. Music has always been my soul. Both my parents are musicians, so music is always on in the house.

What's the funniest thing you've heard a kid say?

One of my students, she's 10 years old. She was trying to play this melody.

She takes a second, she sits up, and she goes, 'Hang on. I need to get right with Jesus to play this.' It was so funny. She played it and it was great.

If you could be on the cover of one magazine, which would you pick?

Rolling Stone would be cool because that's the big music magazine.

Would you be a super villain or a superhero?

Superhero all the way. I'd want to be able to shapeshift (ability to transform a physical form or shape).

On a Saturday night, what's your favorite thing to do?

When I'm not performing or working, I just love hanging out with friends. Let's go out and have fun, go to a restaurant. Also, I don't mind sitting in and watching Netflix and eating yummy food.

What's something a lot of people don't know about you?

One thing that not everyone knows is that I'm a twin. I have a twin sister, Jasmine. She's my best friend. I love to play video games. My dad got me into that because he got me into the Playstation.

"Music has always been my soul."
Jannah Garback
Local musician



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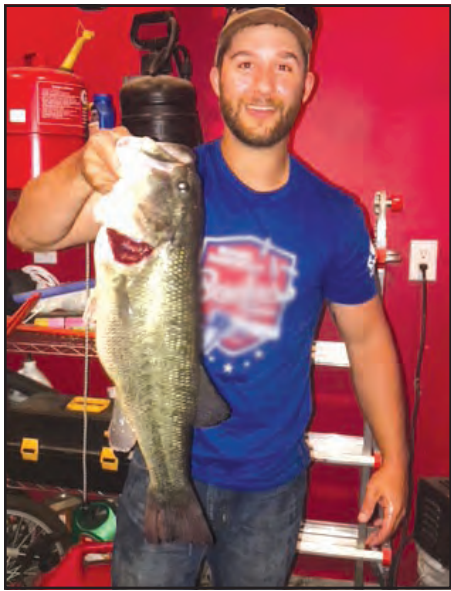
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CATCH OF THE WEEK



Zach Corcoran caught this bass. It was 24½ inches long and was 8½ pounds.

UPDATES

Continued from Front Page

be opening soon and the Fenton Hotel has expanded their seating for the summer months with a new covered porch.

Work will begin on the Butterfly Garden by Gazebo Park in the middle of July. Other areas of the city will see the Owen Shoppes under construction now and they will be offering a Starbucks, a Verizon store and others. The Meeting Place, the former Bob Evans is nearing completion, also.

A Dominos has opened in the former Olive Tree on the corner of North and N. LeRoy Street. The Goki Goki Korean BBQ opened in April. New businesses are locating in the former Kmart building, including TJ Maxx, Petco, Five Below and Michaels.

It is a very busy time for the city of Fenton with over \$27 million in new development and 964 building permits having been issued over the last 12 months in the city.

After holding the City Council's Community Forum in May, the council will be implementing many of the

requests that are financially possible during the next few years. We look forward to providing these requests to the citizens of Fenton.

FENTON TOWNSHIP

By Thomas Broecker

Fenton Township operations manager/deputy clerk

Fenton Township has seen a significant upturn in new housing starts so far in 2018. Through the first week of July, the Township has issued 76 residential building permits for new homes, as compared to 88 for all of 2017.

Fenton Township has started the second phase of a project to replace or rehabilitate aging sewer pump stations. The township upgraded 18 pump stations in the first phase of the project, which has significantly reduced expenses related to



Thomas Broecker

breakdowns, repairs and emergency calls. An additional 14 pump stations will be upgraded in phase 2, which should result in further cost savings.

The Thompson Road Regional Dog Park continues to be popular destination for dogs residing in the tri-county area (their owners, too). You can find local canines enjoying the wide-open spaces of the dog park almost any time of day (park is open daily dawn to dusk)."

HOLLY TOWNSHIP

By George Kullis

Holly Township supervisor

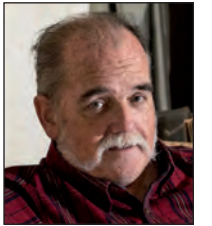
We are in the process of collecting public input for the Holly Heritage Farmstead, a 14-acre parcel located on North Holly Road, as part of the process of creating a Master Plan for development of this property.

Our goals are both historic preservation and to create a working farm with educational opportunities for our residents, both young and old. We are working with

MSU, 4-H and Oakland County Planning. North Holly Road construction engineering will begin this fall with the work to be completed in 2020. A three-year road graveling plan will begin in the next month. All roads north of Grange Hall and west of North Holly Road will be done by 2020.

Spraying for invasive species on our road right-of-ways is underway in the township.

Free mosquito repellent is available for residents at the township office.



George Kullis

HOLLY VILLAGE

By Thomas McKenney

Holly Village president

The village of Holly made strides throughout the first half of 2018 in the areas of public safety and commercial development.

On the heels of his retirement after 40 years with the Groveland Township Fire Department, Steve McGee was hired by the village as fire chief and building official. Under McGee's direction, the village began providing Advanced Life Support (ALS) service to Holly's residents.

The village acquired the blighted property at 414 N. Saginaw St. for its new fire department headquarters, facilitating an overall quicker response from the more central location.

The village improved its Insurance Service Organization (ISO) rating from a 5 to a 3.

The historic downtown is 100 percent occupied. The Lakes District (Midtown) and North Shopping District are garnering interest from developers and entrepreneurs.

The DDA closed the purchase and demolition of the former car wash at 610 N. Saginaw St., making that property available for new development.

Department of Public Works (DPW) Supervisor Brian Klaassen assumed the herculean task of filling the shoes of retiring Waste Water Treatment Plant Director Tim Stallcup. Klaassen is now utility



Thomas McKenney

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SIZZLING

summer

SAVINGS

CONTINUED on next page

director for the village.

Property values in the village continue to climb, rising 5.6 percent over the past year. While this increase in value puts additional pressure on an already tight single-family housing market, it also validates Holly as a place where people choose to live, work and play.

Looking ahead, the village will stay the course with its development of its new fire safety headquarters. Housing development activities for 'tiny homes' and multi-family developers have met with the village's administrative staff.

The Park Commission is updating and adding amenities to its five venues. Water Works Park will be the focus of improvements for accommodating an already busy kayaking venue.

CITY OF LINDEN

By Paul Zelenak

Linden city manager

We are in the midst of repaving Bridge Street. This project is 80 percent funded by the federal government. This is the beginning of a 10-year road improvement. We have surveyed the conditions of all roads in the community and identified which ones will need reconstruction and rehabilitation, and which ones will need routine maintenance. City Council is determining whether to include a road millage on the upcoming November ballot to pay for \$10 million of road work.

The new restroom facility is being installed at Eagle Wooden Park, partially paid for by a \$50,000 grant from the state of Michigan Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). We are in the third year of the restoration project of Linden's iconic landmark, the Linden Mill building. This year we are working on exterior renovations, including painting.

"We're making improvements to Triangle Park. We continue to hold our Farmers Market. We are upgrading the park with additional picnic tables, bike racks, benches and electricity.

We recently held our increasingly popular Gus Macker basketball tournament. Aug. 7, is our second annual National Night Out, which recognizes public safety employees in the area. On Aug. 8, our Back to the Bricks Tune Up event will line the streets with more than 400 classic cars.

Our fall lineup includes the Children's Halloween Parade and our Zombie Walk. Ladies Night Out has been moved to Oct. 6, to take advantage of better weather.

The Fire and Ice fundraiser for the Holiday Happening and fireworks will be held in November. Holiday Happening, with food, fun and fireworks, will attract thousands of people to start an early celebration to the holidays.

Future development in town includes added improvements of additional parking and access to the river, which will attract more visitors.



Paul Zelenak

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP

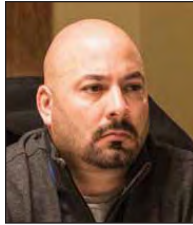
By Brian Saad

Argentine Township supervisor

The state of Argentine Township is growing and is dramatically improving. Stressing our rural roots and bedroom community charm, we have worked very hard to accomplish the following:

- State of Michigan Approved (GMPA, MDOT, MDNR & GCRC) for Argentine Pathway grant for construction in Spring of 2020
- Stopped 'leasing' the police building — Bought it and remodeled it staying under budget added this as an asset to the community
- No raised taxes, lowered fees for building permits to incentivize residents staying compliant with local ordinances
- Appointed a long-time building department employee to the position of code enforcement officer
- Adopted a program, 'Hope not Handcuffs', to assist law enforcement in helping people fight addiction
- Completed paving of two of our larger neighborhood roads, Haviland Beach Drive and Whitehead Drive, and improved professional relationship with the Genesee County Road Commission

We have many other improvements to our facilities and policy/procedure(s) to improve service to our residents. Our job isn't even close to being done. We look forward to serving our neighbors and continuing to increase the value of our community while keeping to our heritage and beauty of our rivers, lakes and land.



Brian Saad

ROSE TOWNSHIP

By Dianne Scheib-Snider

Rose Township supervisor

Many positive things are taking place in the Northern Oakland Country community called Rose Township.

I recently took a drive on the newly paved surface of Milford Road, from the Rose/Highland Township border to the Rose/Fenton border. I enjoyed the smooth, pothole-free surface through the tree-lined "S" curves. Davisburg Road is also being repaved at this time.

Our fire authority NOCFA (North Oakland County Fire Authority) has received a new Public Protection Class (PPC) Rating. Any homes and businesses in Rose Township and Holly Township that are within five miles of NOCFA Station No. 1 or Station No. 3 fall under the PPC 3. This may lower your annual homeowner insurance premiums. The letter needed for your insurance agent is available on our website rosetownship.com. Printed copies are



Dianne Scheib-Snider

available at the Rose Township offices.

In the past year, the Master Plan was updated by the Planning Commission. The new five-year plan was adopted by the Rose Township Board of Trustees. The Parks and Recreation Committee has updated a five-year Parks and Recreation Plan.

We have a new Rose Heritage Committee that shares and saves our history and plans community events. For other township new and events "LIKE" Rose Township Supervisor Dianne Scheib-Snider on Facebook.

TYRONE TOWNSHIP

By Mike Cunningham

Tyrone Township supervisor

It has been a busy and exciting year at Tyrone Township — from newly created parcels to new home builds and road improvements.

Starting with road improvements, Tyrone Township has funded and has done ditch work, tree trimming, and gravel improvements on the following roads:

- Hogan Road between Linden Road and Old U.S. 23,
- Mabley Hill Road, from Rohn Road to



Mike Cunningham

Germany Road, and

- Hartland Road, from Faussett to Parshallville Road.

We have partnered with the Livingston County Road Commission and split the cost of ditching, tree trimming and repaving of the following roads:

- Old U.S. 23, from White Lake Road to Jennings Road/Bennett Lake Road and
- Denton Hill Road, from Alcoy to Holtforth.

Lake Shannon residents circulated a petition to repave the roads around Lake Shannon and the Tyrone Township Board of Trustees approved the special assessment work will begin in August of this year.

Action Water Sports, the nation's largest Master Craft boat dealer located on Old U.S. 23, doubled the size of its showroom and service bays and added additional boat storage.

Cider Mill Crossings Manufactured Home Community on Old U.S. 23 has started phase 4 of its expansion. This will put them over 400 single family homes.

We have 44 new single family resident homes being built this year.

We have also approved Livingston County's first Green Burial Cemetery.

We have moved all the items accumulated for many years from the Old Township Hall and repaired and repainted the exterior. We are currently restoring the original wood floors.

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TIMES CARRIER

Continued from Page 3A

Like any other job, there are some challenges, but for Braden there is only one — the weather. “When it is really hot or really cold, it makes it harder to do the long route,” he said.

But he’s not complaining. The money he earns helps to pay for things like sound equipment, computers, lighting and anything else he needs to help people with their events requiring a tech guy.

“I currently own a business doing video editing, and some local audio engineering,” he said. “I put the money I earn toward buying my tech supplies and I am saving for the future.”

After he graduates from Lake Fenton High School in four years, Braden plans on going to college. He plans to pursue a degree that will help him to achieve

a future career in the entertainment business.

“I love hosting different events in our district such as our talent shows,” he said.

Where will he be in 10 years? “Hopefully, making lots of money with my business,” Braden said.

Be sure to read the interview in next week’s Weekend edition with an adult driver who has been successfully delivering the Times for years.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A TIMES CARRIER?

Anyone interested in making the Tri-County Times the first entry on their resume by becoming a route carrier should contact Jill Breitling at (810) 433-6797, email circulation@tctimes.com or stop by the office at 256 N. Fenway Drive, Fenton.

Just sayin’...

vhogan@tctimes.com

Helping kids with paper route was great fun, usually

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

In this weekend’s edition, I wrote a little story about Braden Diehl, one of our valued newspaper carriers. I appreciate Braden more than he may ever know because my sons, too,

were carriers when they were kids. It was their first job and they were so proud to be making their own money.

However, since our routes were a little too far away from our home and the boys were a little too young to drive or ride their bikes that far, I helped them. Walking these routes with my kids was kind of fun, not to mention great exercise. But there were a couple of things about working these routes with my boys that I will never forget.

One involves dogs. I love dogs, but I have to admit I’m kind of afraid of dogs that I don’t know — especially when they are huge and I am throwing something at their house (like a rolled up newspaper). My youngest son and I walked very quickly and very quietly around one house. We never actually saw their dogs, but in the front yard, there were two huge chains with two huge clips leading from the front door to the yard. We were pretty freaked out at seeing those big chains, wondering how large the dogs had to be. Plus, there were giant dog bombs all over the front yard. The size of those bombs was another indicator of monster dogs,

or so we thought.

One weekend, about nine months after we started that route, the dogs were outside. They were two cute little Chihuahuas. You would think there is no way those giant dog bombs could come from those two cute little pooches. But then I had two cute little babies and speak from experience when I tell you ... well, you get the picture.

Delivering the annual Times Source Book with the newspaper also was a challenge, but only when

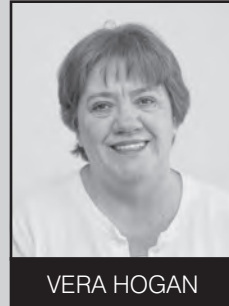
the weather did not cooperate. Since that amazing publication is delivered in January, the chances of good weather were kind of slim. My legs never got a better workout than when we had to trudge through accumulated snow and drifts from house to house. There was no way to drive to the route in my car, so

Dad drove his truck with four-wheel drive and we did the walking, or trudging should I say.

Snow was not the only thing we had to dodge on our paper routes. The Saturday morning after the Friday, Aug. 24, 2007 tornado was another exercise in patience and “dodging.” Only instead of dodging dog bombs or trudging through snow, our route was littered with downed power lines. Somehow, we managed to avoid electrocution and got the newspapers delivered.

Working those paper routes with my kids has provided us with one of our favorite memories of their childhood. Even though they are now 26 and 28 years old, we talk about how much fun we had and always remember a story that gives us a chuckle.

Opinions offered in Just Sayin’ are the author’s alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email Vera at vhogan@tctimes.com.



VERA HOGAN

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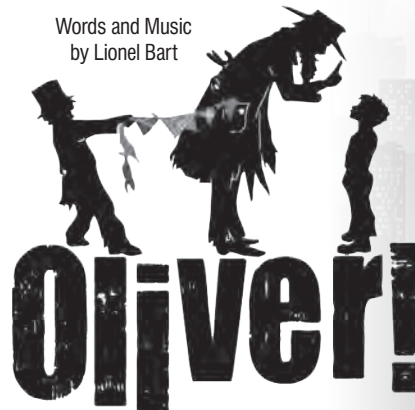
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“As Long as He Needs Me,”

“Food, Glorious Food,” and “Where is Love,”

***Oliver!* is a musical classic.**

The case for keeping mosquitoes

■ Gates Foundation recently pledged \$4 million to eliminate one malaria-spreading species

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Mosquitoes, while small and fragile, are one of the deadliest animals in the world, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

They carry diseases like malaria. The WHO reports that in 2015, mosquitoes caused 438,000 deaths. Diseases, such as Zika, dengue and yellow fever are spread by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito.

"*Aedes aegypti* does not occur in Michigan, although 61 other species of mosquitoes do live here," said Howard Russell, entomologist for Michigan State University.

In some places, mosquitoes are just a pest, something to swat at, and cause itchy summertime bumps.

In others, they cause thousands of deaths a year. Recently, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation offered \$4 million to eradicate one of the 3,000 species of mosquitoes, because it spreads malaria.

According to Russell, this is *Anopheles albimanus*, which doesn't live in the U.S.

The Gates Foundation is partnering with biotech company Oxitec to genetically engineer mosquitoes that when they reproduce, will pass on a gene that causes the mosquito to die before it can spread diseases to humans.

"There are around 3,000 species of

mosquitoes worldwide with about 175 species known to occur in the U.S., so there will always be mosquitoes," Russell said.

But what would happen if mosquitoes were eliminated? When not inadvertently infecting humans with deadly viruses, mosquitoes are just like any other insect.

They generally feed on plant nectar according to terminix.com. Only the females seek a blood meal from other animals, including humans, when they need to lay their eggs.

Russell said that the list of animals that eat mosquitoes is "essentially endless." Aquatic insect predators eat them and their larvae, which are then eaten by larger animals.

According to National Geographic, some male mosquitoes are actually important pollinators for some crops and

“They have been on earth for 100s of millions of years before people came along, and they will be here 100s of millions of years after we’re gone.”

Howard Russell
Michigan State University
entomologist



KATJA SCHULTZ/FLICKR.COM

This is a photograph of *Psorophora ferox*, shot at Heritage Island, Anacostia River, Washington, D.C. There are 175 species of mosquitoes in the U.S.

flowers, like orchids. Mosquitoes are food for fish, turtles, birds, dragonflies and bats, though many predators could eat other small insects. Removing them could cause unforeseen issues, which could be the biggest risk of all.

To Russell, the question of removing them completely is just silly. "They have been on earth for 100s of millions of years before people came along and they will be here 100s of millions of years after we're gone," he said.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

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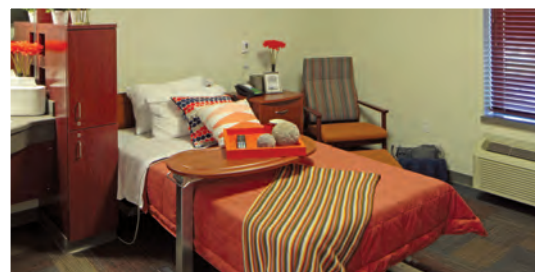
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Times

Holly's Hild headed to Findlay to play soccer

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

Sami Hild has always wanted to be a veterinarian.

She also wanted to keep playing soccer in college.

So when she was looking for colleges, the University of Findlay quickly became one of her top selections. And then when she went to a soccer camp at Findlay. It worked out that she eventually got both of her wishes — a chance to enter a pre-vet program while playing Division 2 college soccer.

“The coach that was there at the time kept asking me to come back, to come-back,” Hild said. “Finally they made an offer and I accepted.”

Hild has been one of the Holly’s most versatile athletes over the last four seasons, playing soccer, tennis, football and girls basketball. Hild was a member of Holly’s Division 2 tennis team that placed fifth at the state meet. She chose to play on the tennis team instead of the girls soccer team, but did play on the Nationals Pontiac-based squad when she was able to.

“I’m going through the fitness for

the preseason now,” Hild said. “I feel very grateful. I feel like I’ve been given an opportunity to help the program. It’s a growing program.”

**CONTINUED AT
TCTIMES.COM**

Holly's Sami Hild



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Linden resident Joey Spencer “boxes” a Haitian resident during his trip to Haiti in 2015.

Spencer making a difference outside the ring as well

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

Boxing is a big part of Joey Spencer’s life.

That’s obvious, considering he is a professional, preparing for his fourth bout of his career.

However, Spencer’s family never wanted Joey’s boxing career to be just about the sport. And through his boxing, Spencer has already become a more rounded person through other doors the sport has opened to him.

His journey began when Spencer was competing through his amateur career. During it, the Spencers began a charity called KO For Hunger. People who sponsored Spencer and his younger brother, Mickel, would donate a set amount of money for every knockout the brothers earned during their career. The money earned was given to in Key of Hope, an organization invested in helping the issues that strike those in Durbin, South Africa.

“It was my dad’s idea at the beginning,” Spencer said. “He went to South Africa with my sister and mentioned the kids and how they did a lot of work.”

Durbin is considered the worst AIDS affected area in the entire world. Key of Hope has tried to fight the issues created by the area’s poverty since 2007.

“When I saw that, we knew we wanted to support (the foundation) in any way we could,” Jason Spencer said. “There are hundreds of hundreds of kids that (Key of Hope) provides food, meals, nutrition and medication. It’s an incredible ministry.”

Joey Spencer had his own personal experience on a trip to Haiti in 2015. While there, Spencer befriended a child named Robinson. Like many children living in

See DIFFERENCE on 19A

There’s no place like home for Spencer

■ Tri-county’s most popular pro boxer prepares for next fight in his hometown

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

Flint — Driving down 12th Street in Flint, you’d never know there was a boxing gym where some of Flint’s greatest fighters train.

But after driving by a few neighborhood houses, suddenly there is an open gravel parking lot in front of what looks like a small warehouse building on the side of an older home. That’s where ex-super middle-weight IBF Interim title holder and former Olympian Andre Dirrell trains, and up-and-coming professional boxer Leon Lawson III also spars upon occasion. Many others have been in the gym as well. And it is now where Linden professional boxer Joey Spencer spends a lot of his time as he prepares for his fourth professional bout on August 4 against a yet-to-be-determined opponent.

On the walls are photos of some of the boxers who have trained there, as well as some of the legends like Mohammed Ali. There is small boxing ring for sparring and all of the punching bags you’d expect to see in a gym. A mirror, which is cracked in a few places, is located on a wall. Indeed, the small gym has everything needed to prepare a professional boxer for future fights.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Linden resident Joey Spencer (left) and brother Mickel Spencer shadow box during a recent session. Joey Spencer is preparing for his fourth professional bout on August 4.

“This place is like family to us with the Dirrells and the Lawsons,” Spencer said. “This is their private gym so this is kind of like our home.”

If one lists prospects with a lot of hype surrounding them in the professional boxing world, Spencer is near the top of that list. Three fights into his career, he’s won two bouts with first-round knockouts and won his first one with a very early second-round knockout. His last two bouts were on cable television where he impressed the viewing audience with his power one

may not expect out of an 18-year-old boxer. And for the second bout in a row, he’s training in his hometown gym, where he feels most comfortable.

“Sometimes when I go up there (up some stairs in the gym) to put on music, I’ll stay up there a little bit and act like I’m having technical difficulties,” Spencer said, probably wondering if his father and trainer Jason Spencer was within earshot distance when he made the comment. “Sometimes if I need a minute,

See SPENCER on 19A

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Wednesday Night
**CROSS COUNTRY
RACES**

Here are the results for the second and third week of the Wednesday Night Races held at Linden County Park. The final event is July 18.

JULY 11 RESULTS	
400 METER RACE	
GIRLS (AGE)	
Clara Fowler (2)	5:26.00
800 METER RACE	
BOYS (AGE)	
Max Thibodeau (5)	5:28.11
GIRLS (AGE)	
Anna-Kate Larsen (5)	5:48.35
Molly Katic (11)	8:24.53
Ella Braun (3)	8:54.26
ONE MILE RACE	
BOYS (AGE)	
Nathan Katic (13)	6:17.20
Dillon Hamilton (10)	6:24.47
Logan Thibodeau (8)	8:36.04
Abram Larsen (8)	8:36.39
Jacob Orzol (7)	8:42.46
MEN (15 & OLDER)	
Kagen Griffith	7:14.66
GIRLS (AGE)	
Kaitlyn Bowles (9)	9:21.85
Jillian Bowles (9)	10:22.78
WOMEN (15 & OLDER)	
Carrie Hamilton	8:06.02
Kate Haugh	8:43.10
TWO MILE RACE	
GIRLS (AGE)	
Kendra Kuch (10)	20:10.43
BOYS (AGE)	
Patrick Hamilton (13)	13:51.56
Carson Kuch (10)	20:14.99
WOMEN (15 & OLDER)	
Charlie B. Dobson	15:24.53
MEN (15 & OLDER)	
Jason Hamilton	16:25.60
David Troppens	19:47.73
THREE MILE RACE	
BOYS (AGE)	
Nathan Katic (13)	20:26.29
Sean Bowles (14)	28:31.23
WOMEN (15 & OLDER)	
Kate Haugh	23:50.60
Tammy Sack	29:56.45
MEN (15 & OLDER)	
Nathan Loersch	17:34.39
Clay Selby	19:22.08
Eric Larsen	20:06.06
Kagen Griffith	20:24.94
Brian Burnell	22:48.64
Tony Micallef	23:52.51
Ron Nachtigal	26:54.21
Gary Mundy	29:36.39
JUNE 27 RESULTS	
400 METER RACE	
GIRLS (AGE)	
Clara Fowler (2)	5:20.00
ONE MILE RACE	
BOYS (AGE)	
Simon Dicks (14)	6:52.76
Spencer Dicks (11)	7:03.64
Jacob Orzol (7)	8:21.52
TWO MILE RACE	
MEN (15 & OLDER)	
David Troppens	20:42.86
THREE MILE RACE	
WOMEN (15 & OLDER)	
Anna Troppens	29:36.43
Tammy Sack	31:51.01
MEN (15 & OLDER)	
Brian Burnell	23:53.01
Tony Micallef	25:30.23
Gary Mundy	31:51.61

SPENCER
Continued from Page 18A
I'll pretend it's taking awhile and just stay up there."
Being back home
Spencer loves being back home. When he turned 16, Spencer left Linden to move to California for about two years in pursuit of his professional career. It was a challenge.
"We definitely did things outside the norm to make things happen," Spencer said. "We didn't just go by the book. ... There were a lot of things that made those two years hard because it was a grind. It really was. But it was all for that goal. ... We also learned a lot and a lot of good things came out of it, and a lot of good relationships came out of it. ... There were a lot of things about that time period that was a hard stretch, but those are the things you have to do. That's the difference. People say they want to do things, but they don't do what it takes to get their goals. That's where it comes from."
On this day, about two weeks ago, Spencer was just on his first week back to training after winning his third fight with a first-round knockout. This session included his father and his younger brother, Mickel, who also aspires to eventually be a professional boxer one day. Both sons spent individual time working on their sport, eventually spending time hitting various punching bags. Then they each got in the ring and "sparring" during a five-round bout of shadow boxing. And while there is sparring involved with other opponents, there wasn't on this day. The Spencers aren't as keen on physical altercations in the ring as maybe "old school" boxers were back in the day.
"We have a more conservative, a more



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO
Joey Spencer (right) hangs out with his brother Robinson, a child he met in Haiti during a trip to the country in 2015.

DIFFERENCE
Continued from Page 20A
Haiti, Robinson was homeless. It created a tough good-bye when Spencer had to leave.
"When we left Robinson, he was crying and clutching Joey saying 'Don't leave me,'" Jason Spencer said. "So we went home and Joey was like, 'Dad, we have to do something,' so I contacted a translator and we worked with over there, they picked the kid up, found his next of kin, got permission to take him and took him home for a couple of days. That week we rented a home in Haiti, put a kid in it and within a month we had two other kids in it. We hired a host mom who was taking care of the kids and the home. Robinson still lives in the orphanage there."
CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO
Linden resident Joey Spencer (front) and brother Mickel Spencer shadow box during a recent session in a gym in Flint.

common-sense type approach," Jason Spencer said. "Boxing in many ways is still very old school in terms of how guys train and prepare their bodies. They beat the body down as much as they can to prepare and that's not always the way to do it. Athletes today are too fast and too strong. They've evolved. We are doing things different than the old way of doing things."
A family affair
Joey Spencer loves having his father as his trainer. Jason Spencer had an extensive amateur career of his own, and from an early age Joey showed an interest in the sport. He was given a pair of boxing gloves as a kid and that was the start of getting Joey to where he is now.
"Usually the best fighters have their fathers coach them because they know how to motivate us the most," Spencer said. "We are always together, so he's paid (more) attention to me that another coach may not. Another coach may be split up between four or five fighters. My dad has a looking eye on me, is seeing everything I'm doing and making sure I am doing it right."
Spencer's entire family supports his career. Younger brother Mickel, 14, provides occasional motivation for his older sibling.
"He'd always tries to beat me at everything, so that's good," Joey Spencer said.
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