School board votes to move forward with $11 million bond

Proposal could be up for public vote by May if approved by state treasury

By William Axford

Fenton — The Fenton Area Public Schools (FAPS) Board of Education will try for a third bond proposal in two years. Board members voted six to one Monday to submit an application for an $11 million bond to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

According to Superintendent Timothy Jalkanen, the proposed 12-year bond will cover updates to technology, new buses, updates to the Fenton High School football field and athletic facilities, as well as upgrading and

Winter Classic makes Barnum Lake a hot spot

Governor and teachers’ union find common ground

By Tim Jagielo

The concept of a year-round school schedule is not new, but the Republican governor who made cuts to public schools and the Michigan union who represents them are agreeing on an educational concept, is.

Year-round school?

See YEAR-ROUND on 5

Highway crash snarls local traffic

Jack-knifed semi results in Tuesday closure of northbound U.S. 23

By Sharon Stone

Fenton — At 9 a.m. Tuesday morning, Fenton police and fire departments responded to a crash on northbound U.S. 23, just north of Silver Lake Road involving a jack-knifed semi truck and at least one other vehicle.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said the crash occurred after a

See CRASH on 5

Former FARR storage building demolished

City buys blighted home for $19,500, knocks it down for $10,000

By Tim Jagielo

Fenton — On Tuesday, a little after 7 a.m., contractors for the city of Fenton knocked down the former Fenton Area Resource and Referral (FARR) storage building at 112 Mill Street, near the Fenton post office.

The building, vacant for several years, and used only for storage was damaged by water and became blighted. At one time, it was used as a battered women’s shelter. FARR assists with emergency bill payments for residents, such as for utilities or prescriptions, and used to have a resale store across from the building.

In October, the city agreed to

See FARR on 9

Summary

Officials at Fenton Schools will submit an application for an $11 million bond to the Michigan Department of Treasury. It could be on the ballot as soon as May.
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(7 - 8 oz.)

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12 - 16 oz.

A.1. Steak Sauce
10 oz.

Oscar Mayer Sliced Bacon
Selected Varieties
12 - 16 oz.

Kraft String Cheese
(9 - 12 oz.) or Cheese Whiz
(15 oz.)

Kraft Parmesan Cheese
5 - 8 oz.

Velveeta
32 oz.

Prices effective through Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014
Michigan colder than Alaska, Russia this week

Subzero temperatures and record snowfall pummel state

By William Axford

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Congratulations: If you’ve survived the cold to read this article, you’ve lived through temperatures colder than people face in some parts of Alaska and Russia.

Record low temperatures and snowfall continue to hit the state, prompting the National Weather Service (NWS) to issue a wind chill warning for the week. A second round of Arctic winds from the north is blowing through states in the East and Midwest, bringing the wind chill temperature down to 30 to 35 degrees below zero.

How cold was Michigan exactly this week? On Monday, weather.com listed the temperatures for Fenton between 15 and negative 7 degrees Fahrenheit. Sochi, Russia, where the Winter Olympics will soon be held, was 54 degrees on Monday, reaching a low of 43 degrees F.

Even Fairbanks, Alaska was warmer than Fenton Monday, ranging between 31 and 20 degrees F, feeling 12 degrees overall when factoring in wind chill. The warning from the NWS included possible health risks and urged people to avoid the cold temperatures if possible.

“Fresh Arctic air will bring another episode of dangerously cold conditions,” NWS announced in a press release. “Exposure to such bitterly cold temperatures will cause frostbite in a short period of time. Prolonged exposure to these cold temperatures may also lead to hypothermia.”

NWS defines wind chill as “the rate of heat loss on the human body resulting from the combined effect of low temperature and wind. As winds increase, heat is carried away from the body at a faster rate, driving down both the skin temperature and eventually the internal body temperature.”

The term “polar vortex” has been ascribed to the harsh weather. Weather Underground explains that the polar vortex consists of low air pressure in the upper atmosphere. Jet streams traveling south have brought the Arctic winds down from Canada and into parts of America. While dangerous, See COLDER on 9

James Olmstad, 18, walks up Silver Parkway to his job at Kmart Monday afternoon in single-digit temperatures. He said the cold isn’t as bad as the un-cleared sidewalks that he has to trudge through.
E-cigarette users need love, too

As a recovering nicotine addict, the rising tide of local bans against puffing in public on electronic cigarettes makes me wonder what the lawmakers have been smoking.

By an overwhelming 45-4, Chicago’s City Council has voted to follow New York, Los Angeles and other cities that have passed or are considering limits on e-cigarettes that banish their use in restaurants, bars and most other indoor public places. Retailers also are required to sell e-cigarettes from behind the counter so it’s harder for minors, among others, to get their hands on them.

E-cigarettes are battery-powered fake cigarettes. They contain no tobacco, require no combustion and, after exhaustive health studies, appear to cause no physical harm—compared to real cigarettes, at least. You can’t even call their use ‘smoking.’ Some users call it ‘vaping’ for the vapor the devices create by heating up a liquidified nicotine mix. When puffed and inhaled, the white vapor resembles smoke—like your breath on a cold day.

By duplicating the rituals of smoking, the devices are designed to help wean users off the nasty habit. Even if the research is still inconclusive on the health risks of nicotine substitutes, anything is better than falling back into the grip of tobacco.

So what’s the problem? Kids. It is easy to see how protecting impressionable youths from the lethal lure of demon tobacco, which captures 90 percent of smokers as teens. Prevention is a cause that is tough for politicians to resist, even when the dangers of e-cigarettes is not entirely clear or present.

I am completely in favor of keeping these devices out of the hands of underage users. Our young people have more than enough dangerous temptations around them as it is. Nevertheless, I ask, how does it protect kids to ban the use of e-cigarettes in bars, for example, where minors already are prohibited?

President Barack Obama might want to join the pushback. He vowed to quit smoking in 2007, passed a sweeping anti-smoking bill in 2009 and more recently has been seen chewing nicotine gum. Some of us feel your pain, Mr. President.

LOVE THE IDEA of the Streetscape but again, where will people park? Great idea—probably horrible planning by the city. Open another reason for people to come to Fenton, but leave them driving around looking for a place to park. Will city leaders ever learn?

IT’S MINUS 1. I would like a school official to come and walk my daughter’s one-quarter-mile bus route (no sidewalks or streetlights) and wait. The new routes (walk up to one-half-mile) are not safe and until they go back, I will not vote yes on a transportation millage.

COME ON, GIVE US a break. 10 advertisements during one commercial break for a half-an-hour show this is really getting annoying. And this is what we are paying big bucks for.

IT IS OFFICIAL. Trudy Nick Snyder has come out of the closet—he is really a liberal (RINO). He wants to take your tax dollars to fund Detroit pensions (unions); Thanks Trudy, for taking my hard-earned money and giving it to others. Redistribution—Obama’s primary goal.

IT’S A PERFECT time to see the Loose Center and learn about all the great programs. Open House is Jan. 31 at 3:30 p.m. Trips, woodwork, knitting, softball, pickleball, play Euchre, yoga, line dance, learn to paint, lunch, veterans and Medicare assistance, estate planning, quilting and more. All with good friends.

WHAT IS YOUR opinion on this? I read online that a certain U.S. Representative has printed a bumper sticker, which states: “If babies had guns, they wouldn’t be aborted.” Two-fold message and I have to wonder at the irony of it. Any comments?

Jay Leno: Mr. Nice Guy

Anyone in the news business will tell you that a side benefit is the diverse number of people one gets to meet.

Jay Leno, who leaves ‘The Tonight Show’ on Feb. 6 after a 22-year run (retire is not the right word in his case), is one such person.

The circumstances surrounding our first meeting involved a column I wrote 15 years ago in support of his wife’s activism on behalf of Afghan women. Jay and Mavis Leno invited my wife and me for a visit. Things progressed from there.

Last October when we attended the show, I asked him why he wouldn’t want to move to another network after leaving NBC. He told me that after being number one for some time, a new show would always be measured by the success of ‘The Tonight Show’ and he didn’t want that. ‘Besides,’ he said, ‘I am going to be very busy.’ He said he has scores of appearances scheduled, starting the day after his departure from ‘Tonight’.

On a previous visit, I asked him why he never had a substitute host. He said, ‘Are you kidding? That’s how I got the job.’

If you saw the ‘60 Minutes’ interview Sunday night, you witnessed what seemed like genuine humility from a man at the top of his game. That is rare in entertainment and in politics.

I once asked him why the show wasn’t labeled ‘starring,’ instead of ‘with Jay Leno.’ He said, ‘You always want to underplay yourself,’ implying as Scripture does that ‘pride goes before destruction.’

One more mark of Leno’s graciousness is something Johnny Carson refused to do when he departed. Jay plans to have his replacement, Jimmy Fallon, on the show his final week. It will be a ‘pass the baton’ moment. In the ‘60 Minutes’ interview, Jay praised the talented Fallon as ‘a young Johnny Carson.’ High praise, indeed.

Jay Leno will leave ‘Tonight’ number one in total audience ratings and number one with the coveted younger demographic. He is living proof that sometimes—not often, but on occasion—nice guys can finish first.

What is your opinion of year-round schooling?
Argentine police to check on the elderly, homebound

 Residents can add neighbors, loved ones’ names to list

By Sharon Stone
sstone@ctimes.com; 810-433-6786

Based on the experience of responding to an elderly Argentine Township woman during a power outage that lasted several days in December, Argentine Township police have implemented a new service for its residents.

Det. Doug Fulton said December’s ice storm knocked power out for several days at Christmas time and a concerned resident alerted police to Anna Stecki, 91, who lives alone and was determined to get by despite having no power at her home. Together the resident and police convinced Stecki to stay at the Red Cross shelter in Flint until power was restored at her house.

Fulton said she had not known about Stecki and her situation, things could have gone badly for her.

Since December, Fulton said the police department has learned of a few other residents who live alone and need checking on occasionally.

Knowing that there could be elderly residents or others living alone who have no family or close friends in the area, the police department is implementing a plan where officers will check on these people if there is a storm, power outage or some other emergency.

If anyone knows of an Argentine Township resident who could benefit from this program, they are asked to stop by the police department at 8274 Silver Lake Road or call the office at (810) 735-5317 and have the resident added to the police department’s list.

Fulton said officers will keep a list in their patrol cars and check on these residents as needed. “We’ll see what we can do for them,” he said. “With the size of our township, we don’t know everyone.”

“Students have a chance to retain more of what they learned when moving from one grade to another with less down time.”

Wayne Wright
Superintendent, Lake Fenton Community Schools

private mailboxes provide a safe, secure place to receive mail, packages

The UPS Store sends e-mail and text alerts to mailbox customers

Have you ever wondered who would pay to have private mailbox services when mail delivery is free? With personal mailbox services from The UPS Store, there’s no need to wait at home (or anywhere else for that matter) for a package delivery or risk having valuable shipments left on your doorstep.

The UPS Store can receive packages from any carrier and hold them in a secure location for pick-up at your convenience. As an additional advantage, mailbox holders have the option to receive notifications, via e-mail or text, alerting them that their packages have been received, eliminating unnecessary trips to the center. For small-business owners, The UPS Store provides an actual street address for their businesses, which conveys a more professional touch, and if they’re running a business out of their home, they don’t have to give out their home address.

“Our 24-hour access mailbox services are a convenience that more general and small-business consumers are discovering.” said Les Beare, The UPS Store owner. “They like the fact that we provide them with a street address, not a P.O. box number, as well as the option to receive an e-mail or a text alert when they have a package waiting,” he added.

The UPS Store also provides a package only option for customers. “Package only is a great service. We can receive most packages a customer is expecting one-time or on a regular basis, without the need to purchase a mailbox,” says Beare.

Other mailbox service options include mail holding and forwarding for snowbirds or travelers—the UPS Store will hold your packages in a secure location for pick-up at your convenience or forward them to you, wherever you are.

In addition to domestic and international shipping, The UPS Store offers full-service packaging; digital printing and online printing; black-and-white and color copies; document finishing (binding, laminating, etc.); printing services (business cards, letterhead, rubber stamps, etc.); notary; custom crating and shipping for large items (furniture, artwork, motorcycles, etc.); mailbox and postal services; office and packaging supplies; and more.

The UPS Store located at 17195 Silver Parkway is offering customers 3 months free with a 3 month mailbox agreement (new boucholders only, with this ad). For more information, call 810-750-2920 x3 or visit us at www.theupsstorelocal.com/3351.

Tri-County Times | Tim Jagelko

A semi truck jack-knifed on U.S. 23 just north of North Road in Fenton on Tuesday. There were no injuries, but northbound lanes were closed for three hours.

removing the wreckage while battling the frigid temperatures. He added that Genesee County came out and spread a mixture to help with the slick road surface.

There were no reports of injuries. Northbound lanes were reopened at about noon.

YEAR-ROUND

Continued from Front Page

In the Jan. 16 State of the Address, Gov. Rick Snyder mentioned several pilot programs for Michigan schools that he would support—one of which is the idea of year-round class for under-performing schools.

Although the popular term is “year-round,” school administrators prefer the term “balanced schedule.”

The means students take more frequent short breaks, and several “inter-sessions,” which are more like a few weeks. Turrill Elementary in Lapeer has a 7.5 week summer intersession. The length is 7.5 weeks because according to Matt Wandschneider, superintendent for Lapeer Community Schools, learning retention starts to drop off at eight weeks, especially with math.

In his speech, Snyder said that under-performing schools could benefit from not having a summer break. “There’s evidence out there to show that they can lose much of what they learn because they’re not actively in learning mode,” he said.

He added that there are studies that say you can lose a grade or two by ninth grade if a class is not year-round. “Again, I’m not suggesting this for every corner of Michigan, but I think it would be appropriate to look at a pilot for low-performing schools about can we support them to look at year-round school, to help give those kids every chance to be successful, and so I’ll ask that we look at that.”

The Michigan Education Association (MEA) is a non-profit organization and teachers’ union. “It’s widely known he’s cut $1 billion for public education,” said Nancy Knight, director of communication and public affairs for the MEA. “We want to see that money restored to public education.”

This is a big issue with the MEA — but she supports his idea for a balanced schedule pilot program. “We feel that’s really a local decision,” she said. “We are not opposed to balanced scheduling or year-round schools.”

CRASH

Continued from Front Page

vehicle entering northbound U.S. 23 from Torrey Road lost control of their vehicle at approximately 9 a.m. A pickup truck hauling a flatbed trailer was able to slow down to avoid the out-of-control vehicle, however, a semi–tractor truck traveling behind the pickup truck was unable to slow down quickly enough to avoid the flatbed trailer.

The semi hit the back end of the flatbed trailer causing the trailer to disconnect from the pickup truck. The semi and the flatbed trailer veered down into the center median together and became lodged under the guardrail. The guardrail needed to be lifted in order to remove the wreckage.

The driver of the out-of-control vehicle did not stop and police do not have any information on that driver.

Traffic in the Fenton area became snarled for hours when motorists on northbound U.S. 23 were forced to exit the highway at Silver Lake Road. Police shut down entrance ramps to northbound U.S. 23 at Silver Lake Road and Torrey Road in order for emergency responders to have room to safely clear the scene.

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What happens when an appellate court finds error? Part II
When a defendant has correctly preserved a nonconstitutional error the standard that the appellate courts use is to
determine, after an examination of the entire cause, if it affirmatively appears that it is more probable than not that the error
was outcome determinative. Unless there is such a showing reversal is not
warranted.
An example of this scenario would be when evidence was improperly admitted.
Finally for situations in which there is
unpreserved nonconstitutional errors the same standard of review applies as for unpreserved constitutional errors i.e.
the "plain error rule."
As to a real life case, the Jan. 14, 2014 Court of Appeals decision in People v Roscoe shows the application of the
preserved nonconstitutional and unpreserved constitutional error rules in a first degree felony murder case.
The case arose out of the breaking and entering of a car dealership in Ann Arbor. The allegations were that the defendant
and his cousin broke into the dealership (where they had previously worked) and stole some items from inside. They
were discovered by an employee and they proceeded to strike him with a blunt object and then ran over him with his
own vehicle. Before he died, the victim identified the defendant as the attacker.
The defendant’s attorney objected to this identification at trial but was over-
ruled.
As it turns out, the attorney was cor-
rect (the identification was inadmissible) but the Court of Appeals still affirmed the conviction finding that as to both
the preserved nonconstitutional and unpreserved constitutional errors the admission of the identification testimony was not
outcome determinative. This was be-
because there was so much other evidence to support the guilty verdict the errors didn’t make a difference. Another unpreserved
error as to prosecutorial misconduct was similarly disposed of.
This is how it worked in this case and how it generally works in all criminal appeals. As one can see, there are many
possibilities and the final outcomes typi-
ically depend on an analysis of the facts
and the application of the law to those facts.

Hotline continued
If it were Hillary’s daughter who died in Benghazi instead of our am-
bassador and three other Americans, would she still say ‘What difference
does it make?’ Why is the Obama
administration still hiding the facts?

Hartland Road and Parkin Lane — It’s a no passing zone. White
Chevy, this is not the first time you have done this. Your high speed is
gonna kill someone. I have turned your plate number in to the police.
I may have saved you a trip to prison, you’re welcome. Slow down and
slow down.

Propane prices are going
through the roof. The price I’m pay-
ing has increased 54 percent since
October 2013! This is outrageous.
Something has to be done. I think an
investigation is in order.

Wow! Just saw the Lake Fenton’s
production of Beauty & the Beast.
The kids did an awesome job as did all of the supporting staff. Great
evening out with the family. You’ve got
to see it, unbelievable performance,
costumes and choreography.

They will do nothing about the
person that sold your son some hero-
in, Livingston County is the same. It’s
been 10 years. Ask me how I know.

According to the King, we have
the best healthcare system in the
world. The highest ranking I could
find in any study was 34th. Yea well
spend more than anyone else does?
This is the best?

Sunday’s edition of Street Talk
has today’s students using their
smartphones to look up answers to
questions, next page lists area teach-
er salaries being among the highest
in Michigan. I read books as a youth
to learn how to do math, reading, and
writing. Is this a good direction to
go?

Whoever wrote I would be a ‘rich’
police officer should know that
you would not be allowed to keep the
money for the tickets you write. You
don’t need heat.

The crack in your room if the
furniture around a window you
leave which in at defendant
This cracked
Smart and
one the
heating system
leave the room’s door cracked open
a bit. Inversely, if you don’t use a room,
why heat it? Shut off vents to these
rooms, and keep doors closed. This
goes for closets or pantries also. Keep
doors closed to conserve heat. If
you have a fireplace, make sure the damper
is firmly closed.
A small, energy efficient heater may
be needed for desk areas, or rooms
with lots of windows. Bottom Line Personal
recommends the Holmes Eco Smart Energy Saving Portable Heater, which
runs around $50, or less.

Lighting candles around the
house can also help main-
tain the heat — I know it helps
the furnace keep up with the
extra demands of the cold.

Easy tips
1. Find and seal all leaks, using a
candle if you can’t easily tell. Seal cracks with
caulk or tape, and fill cracks form the outside also.
2. Make sure heat registers
and radiators are clear of
cutorials or drapery.
3. Close off rooms that
don’t need heat.
4. Use space heaters and
and candles (safety) to supple-
cment furnace heat.

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 Feeling ‘rough around the edges?’

Your skin takes a beating from harsh winter temperatures and indoor dry heat

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

Winter’s harsh temperatures and the drying effects of indoor heat create a “perfect storm” of dry skin, dull complexions and scaly hands, knees and elbows.

The key words to change this winter scenario are hydration and exfoliation, to replenish the moisture that is lost in this season’s harsh conditions. When the weather gets colder and humidity levels drop, skin cells dry out and accumulate on the surface. They need to be removed to uncover smooth, fresh skin.

Exfoliation also maximizes the use of moisturizers this time of year. “No product will penetrate the build-up of dry skin,” said Bev Avery, aesthetician and laser technician at The Skin & Vein Center in Fenton. “You also need to drink more water in the winter, to help replenish the moisture in your body.”

Your skin renews itself about every 30 days. If the old cells remain on the surface and build up, they can contribute to a flat, dull complexion, blemishes and scaling. Exfoliating your face and body will create a clean and ready surface that will allow moisturizers to penetrate and maximize their performance.

For the best results in moisturizing, visit a skin care expert who can find the perfect products for you to use, based on your skin type. “After determining your needs, it’s really all about moisture and protection,” said Tracy Aubechon, owner of Rejuv Ave in Fenton. “Oil-based moisturizers are very good, because they act like a protectant. Creams or lotions that are water based will be slightly less effective because of dry air. Just like drying out the skin, they dry up the lotion faster and you will need to re-apply.”

She adds that not all oils are created equal, so it’s important to have a skin analysis done. “You may not want to add certain oils that may clog pores,” said Aubechon. “Oil-based products may also trigger a breakout for your skin type.”

Protection from the sun is important all year round, even during the winter months. Even though the temperature isn’t warm, the sun is still very intense.

“ After determining your needs, it’s really all about moisture and protection.”

Tracy Aubechon
Aesthetician/Owner of Rejuv Ave in Fenton

How to exfoliate

► Apply exfoliator to wet skin in the shower or bath.
► Take a scoop of exfoliator and work from the top of your body down, starting with the shoulders. Use a facial exfoliator on the delicate skin of your face.
► Apply exfoliator to your skin and gently rub in circular motions to buff off dead skin cells.
► Pay close attention to your elbows, knees, heels or anywhere with thicker, dryer skin. You can get an exfoliating tool or file to help with these areas.
► Rinse product completely off. Oil-based scrubs can leave your tub extra slippery so take care when getting out of the tub.
► After exfoliating, your skin is in prime condition for moisturizer. Apply an ample amount to your entire body every time you get out of the shower.
► Repeat 1 to 2 times per week for best results.
Source: skincare.about.com

BOND
Continued from Front Page
remodeling school buildings.

Jalkanan is expecting the language for the bond proposal to be approved by the state treasury in time for the board to make a decision on official ballot language by the end of February.

“There has not been a lot of conversation about the bond because we want to make sure the application is approved. Once we have that approval we’re sure that we’ll be accessing all available means of communications to all of our voters,” Jalkanan said. “I want to point out that this bond will not be a tax increase to our voters. We’ve seen some misconceptions about bond proposals and as a district, we need to do a better job of communicating all the facts and answering any questions people have.”

Board members began discussing the need for a new bond in the beginning of December when Fenton schools technology director Kevin Powers gave a presentation on the need for technology in the district. In addition to a bond, Powers told the board that technology could be updated through a leasing agreement or purchasing refurbished machinery. The board decided to try for a new bond as members discussed other district needs such as buses, security and infrastructure during meetings throughout December.

Board president Lynn Hopper told the Times in a December article that the board settled on an $11 million bond due to “the way the taxes have been structured.” The board attempted to pass two bond proposals in 2012, one for $9.6 million in May and another for $8.4 million in November. Both bonds were denied by voters in the Fenton school district.

Trustee Drew Shapiro cast the dissenting vote, believing funding for technology should be a line item in the school budget rather than being dependent on the passage of a bond. Shapiro said he feels the current $11 million bond proposal is rushed and lacks a long term plan to gain enough support from voters.

“We all preach about being a 21st century school district but I am not aware of many 21st century organizations that do not have a line item for technology in their budget,” Shapiro said. “The current bond, in my opinion, was constructed very rapidly without a lot of forethought. I want the students to have the technology but I also want to support a bond that will pass.”

Hopper countered Shapiro’s concerns by stating the newest bond proposal will distribute funding in three separate increments over a 12-year period, allowing school officials to upgrade technology as needed. Hopper echoed Jalkanan, saying there would be “no tax increase.”

“The people who have negative feelings because they don’t have kids in school should remember these kids today are tomorrow’s leaders,” Hopper said. “You can affect their futures as they advance in their senior years. (The bond) will help people in the long run.”

The board could put the bond proposal up for vote as early as May, depending if it is approved by the state treasury.
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HOT LINE CONTINUED
LET’S SEE, GEORGE Cloney gets $20 million per film and according to the news, most of Congress are millionaires, yet they have the nerve to talk about the awful state of income inequality in the country? Why don’t they take half of their money and give it to charity?

WHAT AN INFORMED argument! The Earth is going to get warmer anyway, so why should we worry about helping speed the process? How about smog and acid rain for starters? You flat-Earth believers continue to amaze me.

TO THE “OBAMA ended” blunder person! What La-la Land do you live in? Oh and all the jobs Obama created? What career field are they in and are they full-time jobs?

I AM AN expert in my field! I should be getting paid $120,000 and yet I am only getting half. I was an expert when I was in the military — at least that got me the job.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY of Abraham Lincoln is not the Republican Party of today. Between the Tea Party and Liber-tarians it is hard to tell what today’s party is. Republicans are the champions of revisionist history. The King picked out one year with a low murder rate to take a point.

I AM VERY sorry you lost your son to her-oin use. Addiction is a horrible thing. I am sure he would tell you if he felt he was responsible and has taken responsi-

LIBERALS, YOU HAD better speak out against Obama bypassing congress with executive orders. This is wrong — Obama won’t negotiate — he is a dictator. Yes, Bush and Reagan did the same but not to bypass congress. This is for your protec-

WHERE’S YOUR PROOF that man is causing global warming? Enough so that we should spend all that money and re-

I’D LIKE TO thank the person who turned in my wallet on New Year’s Eve to Holly Foods. I thank you with all my heart and may God bless you in the coming year.

WHERE’S YOUR PROOF that man is causing global warming? Enough so that we should spend all that money and re-

I HAVE TO admit the truth; on Mon-

WHAT’S YOUR PROOF that man is causing global warming? Enough so that we should spend all that money and re-

TO establish limits on the personal liabil-

WE’LL, THE CITY of Fenton doesn’t know how to plow the roads. They put the salt truck in front, he salts the road, and then the guy behind plows all of it to the side of the road so there goes the taxpayers’ money again.

I HAVE TO admit the truth; on Monday, I had an awful time sleeping because I was waiting in anticipation of Obama’s speech. Then I realized I was having a nightmare. That explained it.

MichiganVotes.org, a free, non-partisan website created by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, providing concise, non-partisan, plain-English descriptions of every bill and vote in the Michigan House and Senate. Please visit http://www.MichiganVotes.org. Michigan Votes released these votes on Friday, Jan. 24, 2014

Senate Bill 337: Revise business tax collection procedures and deadlines

To establish limits on the personal liability of a business owner or manager for taxes the firm collects from another person but then fails to pay to the state. Also, to require the Department of Treasury confirm a business’s known tax liability for a purchaser within 60 days if the owner requests this, and establish limits on a buyer’s liability for unpaid taxes.

Also, to require the department to complete audits and “clear” a taxpayer within specified time limits.

Finally, the bill would establish that if a tax overpayment refund claim is not approved within one year it can be con-

Note: After Gov. Rick Snyder vetoed Senate Bill 64 due to department objec-

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Fenton principal touts benefits of skills center

Juniors, seniors able to learn skills for career or college at GASC Technology Center

By William Axford

Fenton — Decades ago, Fenton High School Principal Mark Suchowski was told the Genesee Area Skill Center (GASC) was a place for students who weren’t ‘college material.’ In the 20 or so years since he’s been told that, Suchowski said the GASC provides for students more than it ever has in the past.

“There are probably as many if not more programs for students heading to college as there are students who are going to go right into the world of work,” Suchowski told members of the Fenton school board on Monday. “Students can either participate in these programs and gain skills that will help them when they go into the world of work right after high school, or develop skills that will help them when they go into higher education.”

GASC is a program owned and administered by the Genesee Intermediate School District for 11th- and 12th-grade students. Located on Torrey Road between Hill Road and Maple Avenue in Mundy Township, the GASC has skills programs in careers like culinary, public safety, health services and construction for juniors and seniors in Genesee County. Currently, 51 juniors and 65 seniors from Fenton High School attend GASC.

Suchowski said officials with GASC will begin to recruit students for programs beginning in late January or early February. An open house for interested parents and students will be held Feb. 6 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Programs at the GASC come at no cost to the student and busing is provided to and from GASC and Fenton High School.

Students can take GASC classes 7 to 9:20 a.m. or 11:50 a.m. to 2:10 p.m.

To enroll, students must submit an application to their high school counselor. A student’s GPA, overall attendance and discipline record is taken into consideration when GASC officials select student for various programs.

For more information about the GASC call (810) 760-1444 or visit gasctech.us.

COLDER
Continued from Page 3

experts with Weather Underground say winds from polar vortex should disappear within a week.

In addition to the blustering cold, this winter has brought record snowfall to major cities around the state. Flint had 32 inches of snow for January as of Sunday, surpassing the 1976 record of 28 inches. If the snow persists through the rest of the week, this January could set the record for the most snow ever recorded for Flint, surpassing the December 2000 record of 25 inches. Detroit’s 32 inches of snow this month breaks the previous 1978 record of 29 inches, making this month one of the snowiest for the Motor City.

Tuesday’s school closures mark the fifth day this school year that Fenton, Holly and Linden schools have canceled school due to freezing temperatures. Lake Fenton Community Schools reached six days after Monday’s school closure. The Michigan Department of Education allows up to six snow days in one academic year. Beyond that, students and teachers must make up for lost time.

For those heading out, the NWS recommends avoiding heavy exercise and keeping dry. People facing the elements should also layer clothing and change whenever clothing becomes wet.

Weather

FARR
Continued from Front Page

purchase the former home for $19,500, and then knock it down in an effort spear-headed by FARR director Lynn Hopper. It cost the city around $10,000 to knock it down. The project was paid for by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

As previously reported, Mayor Sue Osborn said there was little precedent for Fenton buying a building to knock it down, but it is more common for a city like Flint.

At the Fenton City Council meeting, City Manager Lynn Markland said they had been waiting on Consumers Energy to disconnect the gas to the house, and the building would be demolished this week.

One of the contractors handling the demolition, Troy Gross of L.A. Construction, was fired, said it took around 30 minutes to knock it down, and he had to be careful of the home next door. A person who uses the next door property as office space said they were happy to see the building safely demolished. The rest of the day was spent hauling away the debris.

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DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Both my sister and I take Synthroid. My doctor insists that I take it first thing in the morning, before I have had anything to eat. He also has told me not to eat for 30 to 60 minutes after taking the tablet. My sister didn’t get any similar instructions. She takes hers at noon with lunch. Who’s right? — L.C.

ANSWER: It’s best to take Synthroid, the most-often-prescribed thyroid hormone preparation, on an empty stomach and to wait at least 30 minutes before taking any food. I have to assume that your sister’s doctor is checking her thyroid hormone levels from time to time. If they’re OK, she’s OK and her medicine-taking is OK. If she has to increase her dose of the medicine because of low blood levels, then she should adopt your method of taking Synthroid.

BAD GRANDPA
86 year-old Irving Zisman is on a journey across America with the most unlikely companion, his 8-year-old grandson Billy in Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa.” This October, the signature Jackass character Irving Zisman (Johnny Knoxville) and his grandson Billy (Jackson Nicoll) will take movie audiences along for the most insane hidden camera road trip ever captured on camera. Along the way Irving will introduce the young and impressionable Billy to people, places and situations that give new meaning to the term “childrearing.” The duo will encounter male strippers, disgruntled child beauty pageant contestants (and their equally disgruntled mothers), funeral home mourners, biker bar patrons and a whole lot of unsuspecting citizens. R, 1 hr. 32 min.

LAST VEGAS
The ensemble comedy follows four old friends who decide to throw a Las Vegas bachelor party for the only one of them who has remained single. LAST VEGAS was produced by Laurence Mark (Julie & Julia, Dreamgirls) and Amy Baer. Nathan Kahane and Lawrence Grey served as executive producers. Good Universe’s Matt Leonetti is co-producer. PG-13, 1 hr. 45 min.

NEW DVD RELEASES

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Egyptian fertility goddess
2. Lingerie item
8. Go bankrupt
12. Less than bi-
13. Started
14. Discount-
15. Many eBay sales
17. Geometry calculation
18. Speedometer stat
19. Father
20. Rascally sort
21. Lustrous black
22. Stick out
23. New Guinea
26. Starbucks employee
30. Luke Wilson’s brother
31. Energy
32. Piece of work
33. Skirt slit
35. Pesky insects
36. Cowboy nickname
37. — de deus
38. Unadorned
41. Island neck-
42. Witness
45. Continental coin
46. Parts
48. “— go bright!”
49. Khan title
50. YouTube offering
51. Cincinnati team
52. Triumphed
53. Vortex

DOWN
1. Mosque VIP
2. First course, maybe
3. Part of the foot?
4. Drunkard
5. Become swollen
6. Tear
7. Commercials
8. One-half and three-fourths
9. Emanation
10. The same
11. Jump
16. Thought
20. South (Sp.)
21. Meeting places
22. Topper
23. Burst
24. Piercing tool
25. Shell game item
26. Piece
27. Hot tub
28. Ancient boy
29. Donkey
31. Irritate
34. Under-
35. Pace
37. Pie nut
38. Juror, in theory
39. Enticement
40. Saharan
41. Toy block name
42. Hawked
43. Oklahoma city
44. Catch sight of
46. Carpentry tool
47. Hockey venue

The tip is provided by Handbook for iPhone Lite.
Bronchos continue recent dominating ways

Holly wrestling is 14-2 since the start of January; Eagles take third at Battle Creek
By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

The Holly varsity wrestling team seems to be peaking at the right time of the year.

The Bronchos put together one of the strongest performances of the season by going 5-0 at the Oakland County versus Macomb County Tournament at the Silver Division site Saturday.

Holly defeated Utica Ford 48-21, Roseville 58-9, Utica 51-25, 10th-ranked Warren Woods Tower 52-16 and Madison Heights Lamphere 62-3 at the event. The Bronchos were named the Silver Site Most Valuable Team.

“It was an outstanding day for the Holly wrestlers,” Holly coach Don Pulta said. “Right now we are getting the most out of all the kids through the lineup.”

Holly had five wrestlers earn 5-0 records during the day. Freshman John Goodines (112) and sophomore Keegan Soles (140) had the strongest days among the 5-0 wrestlers, each earning three pinfall wins. The others to go undefeated were Jake Caldwell (103), Colton Cleaver (119) and Sam Johnson (135). Cleaver and Johnson had two pinfall wins each, while Caldwell had one.

Trevor Hatfield (125) went 3-2 with two pinfall wins.

The Bronchos are 21-6 overall, but have put together an even more impressive run since the calendar changed to 2014, going 14-2 since then.

Holly travels to Linden on Thursday.

Linden at Battle Creek Central
Invitational
The Eagles went to coach

Three headed to Holly’s HOF
McKeachie, Bravender, Dryer earning induction
By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

Bill McKeachie and Robert Bravender were at the library during a rainy day in 1938, doing what they enjoyed doing. They were playing music.

But then a thought hit one of the two Class of 1938 Holly students.

“I’m not sure who said it, but one of us said, ‘Why are we singing this Cornell University fight song? We need our own song,’” McKeachie said.

And in a matter of hours, the song was completed. “We began to put some words together and develop a tune to go with it,” McKeachie said. “It took one afternoon.”

The song McKeachie and Bravender created still remains, with a few modifications, the Holly Fight Song and is a big reason why both are going to be inducted into the Holly Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday.

Also being inducted is Class of 1946 football, basketball, baseball and track participant Bruce Dryer. He is being inducted not only for his athletic career, but his role in helping determine the Holly Bronchos’ mascot.

“It was a very interesting time back in school then,” Dryer said. “I just happened to be the president of the student council when we decided to name the team.

We sent out letters to several schools so we wouldn’t duplicate our name (with another school). We got returns on those letters, had a vote and came up with the strange naming of Bronchos.”

And, of course, the name — along with the strange spelling of the word — remains today as well.

“That’s the way it came out. The kids liked the way we spelled it,” Dryer said. “Bronco’ didn’t look right so we went with the ‘ch’.”

McKeachie and Dryer are honored to be inducted. Bravender is deceased and will be honored posthumously.

“I think it’s a great honor,” said McKeachie, who

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Fenton swimmers remain perfect in Metro, beat Kearsley/Clio

By David Troppens
detroppens@tctimes.com. 810-433-6798

The Fenton varsity boys swim team kept winning. And Kearsley/Clio wasn’t going to stop Fenton from continuing the trend. The Tigers swept the top three spots in five individual events, sparking a 106-69 victory against Kearsley/Clio in Metro League action.

The two-time defending Metro champions were expected to dominate, and did just that. Brent Cassidy was a two-time individual winner. He won the 200 freestyle (1:55.34) and the 100 butterfly (1:02.63), and also teamed with Austin Landis, Brent Nukkula, and Zahne MacKlin to win the 200 freestyle (1:35.36).

Many other individuals won events as well. They included Nukkula in the 50 freestyle (24.87), Brandon Muma in diving (152.90), Landon Mukulenas in the 100 freestyle (56.00), and Zac Miceli in the 500 freestyle (5:44.12). All three relays also earned firsts. The 200 medley relay team of Michael Fabat, Miculenas, Maklin and Luke Ido- ni (1:58.62) won to start the meet, while the 400 freestyle relay team of Miceli, Fabat, Kyle Lack and Mike Banner (3:49.50) ended the meet with a win.

HOF

Continued from Page 11

now lives close to Dexter. “It’s very nice. I’ve had quite a few honors and this one is special being from Holly originally.”

“It’s a great honor,” Dryer said. “I played several different sports in school and had a lot of good buddies on the teams.”

Dryer still lives in Holly and is known through the Dryer Funeral Home. His father established the business in 1925 and he took over ownership in 1961.

Dryer still owns many of the letters that were sent to local schools asking them their mascot name. They were sent by fellow student Cornelia Vinton, and most returned on the original letters with a response like “We are the Tigers” below.

Dryer was a pretty good athlete as well. He was on two district championship basketball teams and also played on the football team. He recalls when Holly defeated Fenton 6-0 one Thanksgiving Day during his career. He also played during the first night game in Holly football history, on Oct. 12, 1945.

“Back then we’d play football games on Friday afternoons,” Dryer said. “Most of the games started around 4 p.m. No one would go shopping because everyone was at the football games Friday afternoons.

“We played Walled Lake in the first night game. We got beat. I remember that.”

He played on the baseball team, but didn’t during his senior season. Why? Because the players decided they wanted to have a track team instead, and the school did, creating the first-ever Holly track team. The next school year the students decided to go back to baseball, and track wouldn’t return for a few more years. He also played the trumpet for Holly High School band.

After graduating, he played fastpitch softball. One of his fondest athletic memories was pitching batting practice for his daughter’s and granddaughter’s softball teams while they were at Holly High School.

He also served in the military for 18 months under the GI Bill, after World War II had just ended.

“The GI Bill was one of the reasons I was able to go to college,” Dryer said.

McKeachie played baseball, football and basketball.

“They didn’t have a gym so they converted two classrooms into a gym,” McKeachie said. “You couldn’t hit hard ground shots. The classroom roof wasn’t high enough.”

McKeachie served during WWII as a Deck and Radar Officer on the destroyer USS Guest. He was at Okinawa dealing with the Kamikaze tactics used by Japaneses pilots.

“Every ship got hit and sunk, and our ship was the only one (remaining),” McKeachie said.

McKeachie wrote to his wife if he survived the war, he’d go into psychology. He studied psychology at the University of Michigan, and was a faculty member until he retired in 1992.

“I’m very honored they still play the song,” McKeachie said. “It was very special when they did the 75th anniversary of the fight song.”

Teams compete during the third-annual Lake Fenton Winter Classic pond hockey event held at Barnum Lake last weekend.

CLASSIC

Continued from Front Page

the seven players on the team.

The event is the third-annual Lake Fenton Winter Classic pond hockey tournament, a vision in Lapham’s mind just four years ago. It is now becoming a traditional tri-county event. The third competition was hosted at Barnum Lake Friday through Sunday.

“I could not ask for anything better,” event coordinator Lapham said. “Take a look around and you see everyone having a great time. … And the community is rallying for us. This is one of those tournaments that you know isn’t going anywhere. This is pond hockey, and the people are enjoying it.”

There are six divisions of teams competing against each other. The squads battle for fun and to get their name engraved on the Des Crowley Memorial Cup, a blue version of the tourney’s Stanley Cup.

The competitors, who come from Michigan, from other Great Lake states and from Canada, agree with Lapham.

“This is my first time here. My brother-in-law told me about it. He played in it last year and said it was a good time, so we decided to come out and see how it went,” Northville Competitor Jeff Bumbaugh said. “It’s been really good. The ice could be a little better, but at the same time, it’s cold and it’s fresh. It’s a good time.”

Lapham said about 80 percent of the competitors at this year’s Winter Classic are repeat customers, symbolizing the success of the event. Vincent Finateri, and his Money Box Pawn Shop squad based in Flint, is one of the teams that has been around since the beginning.

“We’ve done it since it started, winning the championship the first year,” Finateri said. “Last year we lost in the semis and this year we are running out of gas because we are getting older.

“It’s amazing. It’s fun being out here on the pond like this when we were kids. It’s a good time being with my brothers (Tony and Nick Finateri) and friends and seeing other people we used to play hockey with.”

“I have buddies from Michigan who helped (set the tournament up), so I came,” said Ohio resident Brian Overbay. “This is beautiful. It couldn’t be any better. It’s cold, but it’s a lot of fun. … What an experience.”

There was one substance that was more abundance than in the past two events — snow. In fact, this was the first year the event used the excess snow as the boundaries for the rinks themselves. In the past, two-by-fours were used as the “boards” making passing off the “boards” possible.

“It definitely changes the dynamic of the game,” said Flint resident Ben Kirby. “I have played with the boards, you can play passes off them. Now, you have to fight it out, and there’s more battles on the edges. But it’s good to go. It’s fun.”

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WAYS

Continued from Page 11

Todd Skinner’s alma mater and placed a strong third out of 16 teams.

“This was a good showing for our team and had we been able to fill all of the weights, things may have been differ-ent,” Skinner said. “We had three in the finals, and although we did not have a champion, we battled throughout the day.”

Austin McNeil, Zach Shw and Patrick Kerr each placed second at the tournament, while Luke Zimmerman and Charlie Gergel placed third.

Other placers were Aaron Steedman and Dylan Musall in fourth, Ruben Bai- ley in fifth, Nick Siou in sixth and Dawson Blank in seventh.”
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I NEED your scrap metal, washers, dryers, water heaters, furnaces, aluminum, copper piping, etc. Please call 810-735-5910.
Kenneth M. Phelps 1927-2014
Kenneth M. Phelps - age 86, of Holly, died Sunday, January 26, 2014. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 AM Thursday, January 30, 2014 at St. Rita Catholic Church of Holly, with Father David Blazek, celebrant. Military honors and burial will be at Lakeside Cemetery, Holly. Visitation will be from 2-5 and 7-9 PM Wednesday and a Rosary will be prayed at 7 PM Wednesday at the Dryer Funeral Home, Holly. Mr. Phelps was born in Holly on April 4, 1927, the son of Robert and Gertrude (Pettit) Phelps. He was a veteran of WWII, serving in the US Coast Guard. He was a retired truck driver, and was a member of St. Rita Catholic Church and the Amel Schwartz Post #149 American Legion. He is survived by his wife Bernice Alexander, step-children, Sandy (Gary) Briggs of Cho, Kathy (Mike) Gunn of Fenton, Larry (Deborah) Alexander of NC, Thomas (Heather) Alexander of Holly, and Kelly Davis of Fenton. 13 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife June, son Michael Phelps, and step-son William Alexander. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be made to the Michigan Humane Society or American Lung Association. www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com.

Kathryn Jean Holland 1951-2014
Kathryn Jean Holland - age 63, of Fenton, died Sunday, January 26, 2013 at Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc. She was a member of the Grace Baptist Church, Genesee Township. She is survived by her husband Bobby Holland of Fenton, 3 children, Stanley Kruger, Diane Gardner, Kevin, 2 step-daughters, Nena Mansour and Bobbie Jo Holland; many grandchildren; sister, Wanda Wayman, brother, Stanley McAllister; 8 nieces and 11 nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ernest and Pearl McAllister; 4 siblings, Bobbi McAllister, Janet Smith, Alice May and Joanne Seassq, an infant son, Sidney Kruger; 1 niece and 1 nephew. Friends may share an online tribute on the obituary page www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

Lost & Found
REWARD: Cat owner offers $100 reward for information on the whereabouts and return of her 1 1/2 year old male, orange, short haired Taby cat named Gar. He has all white whiskers, with one whisker being 3/4 black. He is most likely in the area of North LeRoy Street and Kellogg Drive in Fenton. The cat is microchipped and has identifying tattoo on hind leg. Call 810-853-2085 with information.

TO A GOOD home - neutered male cat, two years old, all shots, very healthy. Small fee. Call 248-634-3071.

Legal Notices
ADULT FEMALE cat needs good home, not getting enough attention. Call 810-422-8213.

ACCESS STORAGE will dispose of contents of the following units on March 3, 2014: B4 - J. Hokanson, C4 - D. Callender, E34 - J. Williams, R43 - J. Shomaker, 3122 Grange Hall Road, Holly, MI 48442. 248-634-3533.

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THIS WEEK AT CHASSÉ BALLROOM AND LATIN DANCE STUDIO

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