Schools struggle to meet state lunch guidelines

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

For some schools, more locally grown fruits and vegetables could be coming to them via a new pilot program. Michigan was one of eight states chosen to take part in a Farm-to-School program that allows the selected states to use some of their federal funding to purchase unprocessed See LUNCH on 14A

Tri-county times submitted photos
Both of these lunches were $3 at Linden High School. One is nachos, refried beans and grapes. The other is a chicken sandwich, toppings and grapes.

In-depth look at Lake Fenton school district

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

Lake Fenton — At the high school 45 students are staying late, like they have been for most days recently. On stage, they spin shimmering chimey sweeps while choreographer Karen Whittaker troubleshoots the routine for “Anything Can Happen,” the finale of “Mary Poppins,” Lake Fenton High School’s latest theater production, opening in just a week.

The school district seated in Fenton Township always has many things going on — they’re proud of their arts, academics, buildings and ever-increasing enrollment. “Our district has a lot of great things going for it,” said Superintendent Wayne Wright.

Lake Fenton Community Schools (LFCS) is the first school district of four to be featured in the Times’ series profiling local districts.

Enrollment

For the 2014-15 school year, Wright said that LFCS increased by four students. Not a staggering amount, but important when you consider they’re the only one that didn’t lose See SCHOOL on 21A

Tri-county times | tim jagielo
Sawyer Jewelers co-owner Chip Bellnick crosses the showroom on Thursday, their first day of business in the Cornerstone building. This longtime Fenton business is the last of the four to take occupancy in the first floor of Fenton’s newest building. See story on Page 22A

Michigan road repairs one step closer

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

It is now up to voters to decide if Michigan’s roads will get the extra funding needed for improvements. This is because Gov. Rick Snyder signed legislation that will restore Michigan’s crumbling roads and bridges.

According to a press release issued from the Governor’s office, Snyder said, “Michigan’s roads and bridges petite at risk. See ROAD on 20A

Three national retailers moving to Fenton

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

Three major national retailers will soon have a new address in Fenton, following the approval of site plans from the city.

Cosmetic giant ULTA, fashion retailer rue21 and shoe retailer Shoe Show will be locating in buildings west of Target, according to a Times story. See RETAILERS on 14A

Watch for these three new retailers joining in the business growth in the city of Fenton.

Tyrone Township police and fire service could end in 2016

By Tim Jagielo

The Tyrone Township Board of Trustees is seeking input from its residents on whether to place a public safety proposal on the May 5 election ballot. In November 2014, voters turned down the renewal for the public safety assessment to pay for continued fire services and dedicated police service. Had it been approved, it would have replaced the township’s current public safety special assessment that will expire March 31, 2016. The last installment on the current See POLICE on 6A

Times file photo
Multiple fire departments including Fenton City, and Fenton, Deerfield and Hartland townships, responded to a fully engulfed home on Mabley Hill Road, near Germany/Road last October.

“So, my daughter at Holly High is required to memorize the pillars of Islam and other parts of the Quran so she can pass a class and graduate. They cannot discuss anything negative about it or the terrorist attacks that it causes. This is not learning, it is indoctrination.”

“Charter claims they have dozens of movie channels, yet I pay for HBO and it is just the same three to four movies playing on different HBO channels at the same time. No wonder they are losing customers.”

“With all the race-relations problems we have these days, why does Hollywood further fan the flames with movies like Selma? It happened over 60 years ago and just reignites anger again. I’m certainly not going to see it.”

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“The stupidest law in America is that any child born here is endowed with automatic citizenship. It’s been abused for decades. No politician has the guts to take it on because they would lose the Hispanic vote. So we, the citizens, end up paying the bill.”
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Children from Ukraine and Tanzania making their way to families in tri-county area

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

Dave Kromer of Tyrone Township posted a photo of two Ukrainian girls on Facebook in December 2013, hoping that someone would step forward to give them a home.

Kromer was concerned that these two girls would age-out of their orphanage when they turned 16, and would likely become ensnared in the sex trade, as Ukraine is one of the top eastern European countries for human trafficking.

He and his wife, Tami, are the heart of The Freedom Center’s Children of the Heart Orphan Care Ministry, a support system for adoptive and foster care families.

His post caught the attention of Pat Brady of Argentine Township, the father of two grown biological sons, as well as a 14-year-old girl, Anika, originally from Cambodia, whom he and his wife, Theresa, had adopted five years before. Brady is the pastor of Church on the Street (COTS) on Seymour Road in Argentine Township, a sister church of The Freedom Center in Fenton.

“What could I get these girls off of my heart?” said Brady, recalling those feelings of helplessness when thinking about their bleak future. He said that 60 percent of girls in their situation don’t make it past their 24th birthday.

With one successful adoption under their belt, the Bradys decided to start the process of adopting the two girls from Ukraine, visiting their country in April, May and June, finally bringing one of the two girls, Tanya, home to the U.S. last summer.

“She had biological family in Ukraine, but no one who could take care of her,” said Brady. “When we went to meet her, she was full of grief for leaving her family and her country, while we were full of joy to have a new daughter. It takes a paradigm shift of our thinking to understand their situation.”

The Bradys are leaving Jan. 19 for Ukraine to begin the month-long administrative process to bring their second daughter home. Her name is Tanya, too, but they’ve all agreed on a new name of Ashley. “They aren’t biological sisters, but they lived in the same orphanage,” said Brady.

These two girls from Ukraine are joining five other Ukrainian teens who have recently come or will soon be arriving in the U.S., to two local families.

In addition to the Bradys, the Jim and Heather Idoni family of Deerfield Township brought three Ukrainian boys home to join their five biological sons, ages 14 to 24. John, 17, Aaron, 16, and Vladimir, 12, arrived here on June 20, after Heather lived for two months in the war zone of Donetsk, Ukraine, untying the red tape to bring them home to Michigan.

Now she and Jim are adopting two brothers, Vince and Vanya, ages 10 and 13 respectively, hopefully bringing them home by April.

The Ben and Kim Green family of Rose Township have adopted 14 special needs children from as nearby as Detroit to as far away as Africa, including two infants under hospice care, who have since passed away. They are now awaiting their second adoption.

See FAMILIES on 23A

Summary

For families that are interested in international adoptions, visit The Freedom Center Children of the Heart Orphan Care Ministry link at tfc.org or Kim Green’s Facebook page, His Hands, His Feet.

Pat Brady (left) finishes prepping dinner Monday just as his wife Theresa comes home. The couple has two biological sons including Joe, 29, (back right) and two adopted daughters, Anika, 14, (back left) from Cambodia and Tanya, 16, from Ukraine.

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Living well is the best revenge

The terrorism attack in Paris last week provided another opportunity for the fear-mongering news media in America to crawl out of the holes they live in and get to work on their chronically agenda of frightening us for profit. The fear they intentionally sow is far more contagious, costly and harmful to our country than any disaster.

Example: For several weeks in 2014 the media could talk of nothing but, and I quote, “…the Ebola crisis in America.” Night after night, a Grim-faced Brian Williams began each newscast with the latest update on ‘the Ebola crisis in America.’ The result was that most Americans woke up each morning fearful that this would be the day when the Ebola virus would explode across America, likely wiping out one-third of the population.

The grand total of confirmed Ebola cases in America in 2014? Eight. The grand total of deaths from Ebola in America in 2014? Two.

Yet, during that same time frame 130,000 Americans died of a stroke and over 700,000 died from heart attacks. That means that in America, you are 465,000 times more likely to die of a stroke or heart attack than you are of Ebola or terrorism.

Two agendas are at work here. One is the ingrained human tendency to worry too much about dramatic, unusual dangers, like tsunamis, terrorism and earthquakes, and too little about commonplace ones, like heart attacks, car wrecks and falling off a ladder — events that are far more common and far more likely to kill us.

When we hear that some nutcase slaughtered a dozen people in a theater, we aren’t going to go to the movies for a month. When we hear that 2,000 Americans die each day of a heart attack, we yawn, light up a cigarette and say ‘pass the gravy.’

But, I digress. The other factor is a massive political and private network that profits greatly from stoking these fears. The bureaucratic reality is that it is politically safer to issue predictions of a hundred life-threatening dangers that never pan out than to disregard a single one; no matter how statistically obscure, that actually materializes.

The corporate reality is that it is immensely profitable to promote global-warming and fear of terrorism, even though each are very unlikely ever to occur in quantity.

The danger of life in America is not imaginary, just statistically improbable from an individual standpoint. The likelihood of anyone reading this column dying in a terrorist attack is immeasurably miniscule.

We do not live our lives avoiding far more likely ways to die, such as heart attacks or car wrecks. Then why in the hell would we do it for terrorism.

Some author once famously said, ‘Living well is the best revenge.’ I couldn’t agree more.

You should also.

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Tuesday, January 13, 2015

What do you like most/least about school lunches?

“I like the variety of food we have, but the quality of the meat scares me.” — Natalie Zdanowicz

“I like that they are healthier, but I do not like how it tastes. It reminds me of cornstarch.” — Maranda Crego

“I like that they use wheat bread, but I think that we should have more healthy food.” — Aaron Vickery

“I like that there is a lot of food. My least favorite thing about our lunch is how long it takes to get it.” — Reilly Cann

“I like the variety. For the most part it tastes good, but I think it is expensive.” — Anderson Muenzer

“I really don’t like school lunches. They are over-priced and don’t taste good.” — Chase Copeland

---

Mike’s King

Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

Hot lines

Submit at: times.com, call 810-629-9223 or text to 810-771-4036

IF YOU ARE going to spread the propaganda, you need to remember the terminology. It’s not ‘warming’ anymore, if it were there would be record highs every day, somewhere. It can’t be predicted so it now’s ‘Global Climate Change.’ That way when they are wrong, they are still right.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP of Fenton can’t even enforce their own ordinances within the township when it comes to the park on Margaret and Ruth Drive. Get a backbone!

TO THE PEOPLE who are letting their dog run wild all over town in negative degree weather, I will call animal control! You are abusing your pet. You know who you are, this is your last warning.

PEOPLE ARE NOT fighting over whose God is best. There is only one God. Prayers for peace will not go unanswered.

TO THE PERSON whining about your neighbor’s SUV parked in his drive-way — It’s in his driveway, not yours. I’m glad I don’t have neighbors like you. Get a life.

THERE IS NO doubt that many people no longer believe in the words written on the Statue of Liberty.

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The likelihood of anyone reading this column dying in a terrorist attack is immeasurably miniscule.

The Times Warm people once about a scam call from the IRS. ‘Beware, they’re crooks, just hang up.’ I know some people that got the calls. I don’t like seeing people get taken.

The Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, is the biggest governmental program in the history of the U.S. and it was passed without a single Republican vote in the house and senate. The Democrats and Obama will now be forever blamed for destroying a reasonable health care program we had. Even though it needed some work, it was working for 85 percent of the country.

Michigan spends $2 billion on prisoners each year. We need $2 billion for road repair. Maybe somebody can figure out a solution.

Exacerbate the situation’ big words for a stupid person. If you don’t want to exacerbate the situation get your and your kids vaccinated. The diseases are still out there, it’s just the vaccinations that keep you safe.

Have the people who support the sales tax increase forgotten that if it is passed, then House Bill 5477 automatically takes effect. It raises the gas tax from 19 cents to 41 cents and goes up every time the wholesale price increases. And HB 4630 raises registration fees.

See Hot Line throughout Times
Shoplifting more common in big box stores

Fenton averages only five incidents per month

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

As one would gather, big box stores are at higher risk for shoplifting or retail fraud. They are bigger stores with more places for shoplifters to stuff their pockets and purse with merchandise they do not intend to pay for.

According to Sensco.com, a security solutions company, more than $13 billion worth of retail goods are stolen annually in the U.S. That’s more than $35 million lost each day to businesses. Most of that theft comes from store employees, who steal an average of $715 worth of merchandise to customers’ $129 worth of stolen items.

Fenton Police Chief Rick Aro said, “Typically, our big box stores are affected most.” He added, “Last year, our retail fraud numbers dropped from 96 to 65. That averages out to about 1.25 per week or five a month, which sounds right about right.”

Chief Aro also said that stores that have security are able to detect and address the problem as opposed to businesses that don’t have security. “We rarely get called to those stores who, I assume, just write off the losses,” he said.

While there may be different reasons why people shoplift, Aro said, “Illegal drugs play a significant role in retail fraud.” He pointed out that individuals addicted to heroin and other illicit drugs often shoplift to obtain the cash to buy the drugs.

“We also see, less frequently, individuals and organized groups that move from store to store and exist on the proceeds from shoplifting,” he said. Less often, he sees teens and young adults who make a stupid mistake in judgment.

Suspects typically take high-dollar or popular items (electronics, music CDs, and electronic games) that can be concealed easily or just walk out with big screen TVs, or other high-dollar items. “Our policy is to lodge (jail) even for the misdemeanor charge, under most circumstances, until arraignment,” said Aro, who added that he believes this has been a factor in the reduction of their retail fraud cases.

Local businesses point out that shoplifting affects more than just the offender. Not only does it overburden the police and the courts, but it also adds to the store’s security expenses. These costs are passed on to the consumer through a higher cost of goods. On top of all of that, it also costs communities lost dollars in sales taxes.

Many stores regularly do inventory to keep track of theft. Some have surveillance cameras to catch and deter theft. Each store has different rules when it comes to apprehending shoplifters, from some not being able to detain them to others that are OK to stop a thief if they’ve seen them hide the item.

The three degrees of retail fraud

First degree
This is stealing more than $1,000 worth of merchandise from a retail store. Additionally, one may be charged with retail fraud first degree if they commit a retail fraud second-degree while having a prior retail fraud. The penalty for a retail fraud first-degree conviction is up to five years imprisonment, as well as a fine up to $10,000 or three times the value of the stolen merchandise.

Second degree
If somebody gets caught stealing more than $200 up to $1,000 of merchandise, or is caught committing a retail fraud third degree with a prior retail fraud conviction, they are guilty of retail fraud second-degree. Additionally, a conviction for a second-degree retail can result in fines up to $2,000 or three times the value of the stolen merchandise.

Third degree
One who is accused of stealing less than $200 worth of store merchandise is guilty of a misdemeanor with the possibility of a sentence of up to 90 days incarceration. This is in addition to fines of up to $500 or three times the value of the stolen merchandise, as well as potential probation. Retail fraud third degree is what is seen most often and generally takes place at stores like Walmart, Meijer, and the local malls.

Source: amberlaw.net

Last year, our retail fraud numbers dropped from 96 to 65.

Rick Aro
Fenton police chief

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO COMMENT ON THE SOUTHERN LAKES PARKS & RECREATION 5 YEAR RECREATION MASTER PLAN DRAFT

on Thursday January 22nd, at 6:15pm, in the lower level of the Fenton Community & Cultural Center. The SLPR Board of Commissioners will be considering the plan for adoption after the public input session. If you cannot attend, but wish to be heard please send an email to Contact_us@slpr.net, or contact Vince Paris, Executive Director at 810-714-2011 or at Vparis@slpr.net. Your comments and input are greatly appreciated!

Location:
Fenton Community & Cultural Center
150 South Leroy St., Fenton
Recreation Room on the Lower Level

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POLICE

Continued from Front Page

special assessment was billed on the winter 2014 taxes.

According to Clerk Keith Kremer, this means sufficient funds are not available for fire services and dedicated police services after March 31, 2016.

The public assessment paid for more than 300 fire runs in 2014 and dedicated police support during higher crime periods. When the township’s dedicated deputy is scheduled to be in the township, they will arrive 15-30 minutes faster and provide a presence in neighborhoods. Over 12 months, the Livingston County Sheriff’s Department responded to about 2,000 calls for assistance in Tyrone Township.

According to Kremer, without funds to pay for the fire and police service, there will likely be no services after March 2016. He pointed out that if a resident calls for assistance, the fire department will not respond and police response times will be longer.

In the last several years, the three fire departments the township contracts with (Fenton City, Fenton Township and Hartland) have been improving their ISO rating, providing many homeowners with a reduction in homeowners’ insurance premiums. Without fire service in the township, rates could increase dramatically. Residents are advised to check with their insurance agent.

To reduce the probability of accidental fires, the township will no longer issue burn permits; open burning will be eliminated.

Tyrone Township officials are asking residents of Tyrone Township to reconsider this issue and the possibility of a vote in May.

If a renewal of the special assessment is placed on the May 5 statewide election ballot, it will cost the township nothing because that election is being paid for by the State of Michigan.

Background on public safety

Prior to 2011, the township billed residents for all fire calls. This paid for a small percentage of the entire cost of fire and police services and the township general fund paid for the balance.

The township was in poor financial shape and could not continue to provide services using that method. The special assessment guaranteed funding for public safety services.

What's next?

The Tyrone Township Board will make a decision before Feb. 10 on whether to put the Public Safety issue to a re-vote on May 5 or to discontinue police and fire services.

Tyrone Township officials seek input from its residents. Complete the survey at www.cobaltcommunityresearch.org/tyrone or email your comments to clerk@tyronetownship.us.

ONLINE SURVEY

for Tyrone Township residents

Survey found at: cobaltcommunityresearch.org/tyrone

On Nov 4, 2014, Tyrone Township voters rejected a proposal to renew and increase their public safety assessment. The current assessment expires March 31, 2016, there are no funds to provide public safety beyond that point. For homeowners the assessment would have risen to $175/year from the current $150/year rate to keep up with the costs of inflation. Fire services receive 75 percent of the money, with the remaining 25 percent dedicated to continue faster police response times and an active presence in your neighborhood.

Did you vote in the Nov. 4, 2014 election?

At the time you voted, were you aware the current public safety assessment expires March 2016?

Were you aware the proposed public safety assessment was a renewal and not a new tax?

What are the TWO best arguments in support of the public safety assessment?

• I want to continue fire services in the township
• I want to continue dedicated police protection in the township
• I don’t want to be billed individually for fire services (approximately $1,400 per call)
• I do not want my homeowners insurance rates to increase significantly
• Other

Generally, what are the TWO best arguments against the public safety assessment?

• Police and fire protection are not important to me
• I do not want to pay an additional $25/year for public safety services
• I do not want any tax-funded fire rating, providing many homeowners
• I do not want to continue faster police response times for criminal activity and an active presence in my neighborhood. I am comfortable with an average response time of 15-30 minutes longer than the current response time
• I object giving the township the authority to increase the assessment by 10 percent
• I prefer to be billed individually for fire services (approximately $1,400 per call for service)

Which action below would you support in the future for public safety in Tyrone Township?

• Put the renewal of the public safety assessment, in its current form, up for re-vote so services continue after March 2016
• Separate the fire services and dedicated police protection assessment into two different assessments so voters can choose to support or oppose each one separately and then put up for a re-vote
• Remove the portion of the assessment that states the Township has the authority to either lower or raise the $175/year rate by 10 percent and then put up for a re-vote
• Let the public safety assessment expire. This would eliminate fire service in the township, eliminate faster police response times, and eliminate active police presence in your neighborhood.

For more information, visit www.tyronetownship.us.
New laws streamline child support system

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@ctimes.com; 810-433-6792

“Paternity, simplified system, faster prosecution for non-payment addressed in laws.”

More than a dozen new laws were signed at the end of 2014 that will help streamline the child support process in the state of Michigan. The hope is that these new laws will make it easier for the state of Michigan to collect the more than a billion dollars in child support it generally collects every year, as well as reducing the amount of past due support.

To start with, the new laws should streamline the process of establishing paternity and starting child support. In fact, according to Bob Wheaton with the Department of Human Services (DHS), “The most important laws revolve around making it easier to determine paternity.”

It will be established that a positive genetic test is a conclusive method of determining paternity, if certain conditions are met and without requiring a court determination. There will be more specific conditions under which a man can be considered a biological father of a child.

A new act, the Summary Support and Paternity Act, is being established that allows for new streamlined methods for establishing paternity and child support orders through court system. Local governments will be allowed to assign support-related functions to the same office and/or regionalize services related to paternity and support. Parents who are struggling to make child support payments will be allowed the ability to apply for alternative options for payment, which will be monitored by the courts.

Not only is the process going to be easier for parents, but it will also allow the courts to more smoothly move through the child support system. The new laws allow for prosecution for nonsupport when it can be determined that the support payer was aware of the case. The new structure will also save time for courts and law enforcement by consolidating certain child support provisions into one section of law.

One of the biggest changes for a family will be that it will be made easier for the redirecting of child support to a new relative or caregiver when a child is placed outside of the home, regardless of technical legal responsibility. As well, a couple of the biggest changes for the system are that they will be moving the authority for child support allocation and determination to the Office of Child Support, instead of the State Court Administrative Office, and updating responsibilities for child support agencies to match the state’s current structure and practices.

The changes mentioned above, and others within the new bill package, will take effect this March 17. Wheaton said, “This legislation is going to not only streamline the system, but also help make child support payments more prompt.” This will save many families from needing to sign up for temporary assistance while waiting for money to come through.

Controversial mural artists officially designated as Linden Arts Council

By Yvonne Stegall
ystegall@ctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The work of the Linden Arts Council began with the much-debated mural that was painted on the exterior wall of the Linden City hall in the summer of 2014. That was followed by numerous “Art it Up” art walks held on the third Friday of each month.

Linden Arts Council’s artistic work came to fruition Monday. The group was recognized by Linden City Council, by the city formally establishing the Linden Arts Council (LAC). At the meeting, LAC board members were also approved. They are Sue Turpen, Marcia Torrey, Carol Severn, Betty Ciesielski and Gemma Amendola.

Mayor David Lossing said, via email, “We wanted to elevate the good work they’ve been doing and make it easier to pursue grant opportunities by using the City’s governmental status and fiduciary responsibilities.” He added, “We are looking forward to some great events in 2015.”
Fenton man takes preservation skills to boardrooms, courtrooms and offices across the U.S.

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

Stewart Melrose first met William Clay Ford, Jr. in 1999, when he redid his offices at Ford Motor Company world headquarters in Dearborn.

“He specified that everything I used was to be ‘green-friendly,’ which was a first for that time,” said Melrose, a high-end furniture repair craftsman for more than 25 years. “I was thrust into it for the first time and now I’ve worked with manufacturers in developing new environmentally friendly formulas.”

Melrose, 46, of Fenton, is a master finisher and a preservation/restoration expert, whose work has taken him into some of the nation’s most esteemed courtrooms, boardrooms and high-security offices.

He began in 1992, installing office cubicles in the thousands of offices that were re-locating to Michigan during its boom business years. “I was fortunate to have worked with some of the best in the industry, and there aren’t many of us left.”

His work is considered more art than science, although there is an element of both in the jobs that he takes on. “You have to be an artist to ‘paint green,’ to make a repair that is undetectable and flawless,” he said.

Melrose travels throughout the U.S. for his work, referred by successful clients in the top echelon of businesses, government offices, etc. Counted among his clients are some of the top CEOs in the world, including those residing at Mercedes Benz North American World Headquarters, Ford World Headquarters, Toyota North American Headquarters, Federal Mogul and Dow Chemical, to name a few.

Some of his most appreciative clients are judges in the federal court system, whose chambers and courtrooms Melrose has restored and refurnished in with painstaking attention to every detail. Melrose completed restoration of the infamous “Underwear Bomber” courtroom at the Theodore Levin U.S. Courthouse in Detroit, just before his trial in 2010. At 83 years of age, it’s one of the oldest courthouses in the state.

Melrose received a 4A rating as the on-site leader for a large 1800s millwork restoration project at the U.S. Courthouse in Port Huron in 2010.”I consider it an honor and a privilege to do work in America’s public buildings,” he said.

One of the longest jobs he took on was the preservation of the 1954 paneling veneer in the Grace Dow Library in Midland. That job took him six months, working around the library’s open hours.

In addition to restoration work for businesses and public buildings, Melrose is passionate about historic preservation. One of the most interesting projects he has worked on was the 1941 Stowe-Davis desk where Thomas Francis developed the flu vaccine. Jonas Salk worked at the same desk during field trials of the vaccine at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

“I get my love of history from my dad, Howard,” said Melrose. “He and I traveled all over the U.S. together from 1972 to 1978 re-enacting different Revolutionary War battles.”

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**TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGELO**

Stewart Melrose reattaches the veneer of Generia Robinson’s security desk at Trinity Health in Livonia on Wednesday, Jan. 7. His job is a combination of chemistry and art.

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**Tri-City News**

As the go-to expert for restoration work, Melrose is in demand at some of the most prestigious locations in the country. His clients include some of the most well-known corporations, such as Ford Motor Company, Toyota North American, and General Motors.

“His work is considered more art than science,” said a satisfied client. “You have to be an artist to ‘paint green,’ to make a repair that is undetectable and flawless.”

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**The JOY of SOUP**

Making soup at home can be a fun and rewarding experience.

**Cheesy Tortilla Soup**

*By Yvonne Stegall
ysnotin@ctimes.com; 810-433-6792*

Recently, Campbell’s Soup was featured on CBS News, because of its many new styles and flavors. They are coming out with new, diverse flavors that will please nearly any palate.

Even though store bought soup might not be as good for you as a homemade bowl of soup, it remains a good alternative for those who aren’t savvy in the kitchen or just don’t have time for soup making.

One of the biggest differences between a homemade soup like your grandmother used to make and canned soup is the base ingredients. While you may still use your turkey, ham or chicken carcasses to boil down your own broth, most people just buy broth directly from the shelf, prepackaged. Homemade stock is high in nutrients such as minerals, good fatty acids and amino acids (protein).

In particular, it is high in an amino acid called glycine, which, according to Marjie Andrejciw, holistic nutritional counselor and owner of Marjie’s Gluten-Free Pantry, is very healing to the digestive tract and supports the liver in detoxification.

“This is probably one of the reasons that chicken soup is recommended when you have a cold,” she said.

Campbell’s has created soups for everyone in the family to love. Men will love the Chunky Beef N-Chesse with beef and bacon soup. Many will love the variety of packaging, as well as the flavor varieties. And, they still have the popular and traditional soups, like chicken noodle.

However, making soup from scratch at home doesn’t have to take a lot of work, and it can be a fun and rewarding experience. There are many great soup recipes, even some with limited ingredients. If you are going to spend a lot of time making soup, you might want to invest in a good crockpot, if you don’t already have one.

For people with food allergies, making soup at home may be one of the slim options you have for having a good bowl of soup.
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Lake Ponemah Waterfront

Pending In 6 Days!

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Pending In 3 Days!
Continued from Front Page

This new development is a culmination of years of planning for the parcel of land located between target and Tractor Supply Co. Building contractor will be announced in several weeks, with tentative opening date this summer.

Here’s an introduction to the three retailers:

• ULTA is the largest beauty retailer in the U.S., selling more than 20,000 products in cosmetics, fragrance, hair care, skin care, bath and body, plus salon products through retail stores and online at ulta.com. Each ULTA store also features a full-service salon, according to their website.

Headquartered near Chicago, ULTA has 765 retail stores in 47 states. Nearby stores are in Flint, Brighton, Novi and Orion Township.

• Shoe Show is a footwear retailer founded in 1960, based in Concord, North Carolina. It also operates stores under the names of Shoe Dept., Encore and Burlington Shoes, selling footwear in 1,139 locations in 41 states. Nearby stores include Flint, Saginaw, Bay City, Midland, Lansing, Bad Axe and Troy.

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LUNCH
Continued from Front Page

fruits and vegetables directly from local farmers.

At least three out of the four school districts in the tri-county area, however, do not qualify for this program. Holly schools did not respond by press time. But that hasn’t stopped them from ensuring that their students have fresh fruits and vegetables.

“We do not qualify for the Farm-to-School grants because we do not have 51 percent or more free and reduced students. We, however, participate in the Farm-to-School program through Montrose Orchards in the fall,” said Director of Food Service Karen Morris at Lake Fenton Community Schools.

“We receive fresh apples, peaches, plums and pears from them.”

Morris added that Lake Fenton has recently started using Gordon’s Food Service for our produce. They are now purchasing their produce from a local supplier, Banana Brothers Produce in Fenton.

The school district is receiving fresh red and green smith apples, ripe bananas, watermelon, red and green grapes, cantaloupe and oranges. They are also serving fresh broccolis florets, cauliflower, cucumbers, red, green and yellow peppers, white and red onions, tomatoes, sugar snap peas, celery and carrots. They use chopped romaine for their salads.

Debbie Brindle, food service director at Linden Community Schools, said they also get their food from both Banana Brothers and Gordon’s.

“We offer every kind of vegetable we can get our hands on,” said Brindle. They also offer many fresh fruits and, “Every school has a beautiful, fresh salad bar for the kids.”

They offer a wide variety, not just corn and green beans.

Anna Goss, interim food service director at Fenton Area Public Schools, said although they don’t qualify for the federal funding, the district does purchase many of its fruits and vegetables locally from Montrose Orchards in Montrose, J&T Todossuck Farm in Howell, and Banana Brothers Produce in Fenton.

Goss said, “We offer a wide variety of healthy choices daily, including a salad bar. The salad bar is self-serve and is included with all meals.”

Morris said, “All of my schools are reporting that the kids are taking more of the fruits and vegetables, they are making healthier choices, I strongly believe this is due to how fresh and colorful these choices are. In all, we are seeing a reduction in the amount of food being tossed.”

As far as cost goes, for Lake Fenton, Morris said, “Highschool lunches are $2.55 for the fresh grille line and the pizza line, which includes the main entrée, fruit and vegetables from the salad bar, juice and milk.”

Summary

Linden High School also has two premium lines. Those are the sandwich line, which includes a made-to-order sandwich, fruit and vegetables from the salad bar, juice and milk and the line that serves Panini style sandwiches or made-to-order lunches such as stir-fry, pasta primavera and nachos. Students receive the entrée, fruit and vegetables from the salad bar, juice and milk.

Lake Fenton High School has an additional premium line. This is the sandwich line, which includes a made-to-order sandwich, fruit and vegetables from the salad bar, juice and milk. This line is served by the farm-to-school program in the fall, as well as the spring and fall.

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As for Avocado – B is for Broccoli – C is for Carrot...

By Yvonne Stegall • ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

From A-Z...

BENEFITS & CHARACTERISTICS OF FRUITS and VEGETABLES

This is the first part of a series the Times will be running on healthy fruits and vegetables from A to Z. Many healthy foods out there can add something great to your daily meals, from healthy vitamins to great taste.

While this is not a comprehensive list of all fruits and vegetables that may start with an A, it is a list of some of the more well known ones, including acai berries, which have only recently started gaining attention for their health benefits.

APPLE

Experts tell you that an apple a day keeps the doctor away. According to WebMD, studies have shown that apples not only are packed with antioxidants, but they also have anticancer benefits. However, you need to eat the peel, too. Don’t peel your apples. Most of those healthy benefits are inside that peel.

Want to get more apples in your diet? Chop some up for salads or just snack on them, instead of pretzels or chips.

APRICOT

Fresh apricots are a wonderful source of vitamin C, although you can still get some health benefits out of dried apricots. They are rich in both beta-carotene and fiber. Apricots can add a great fruity flavor to salads and they make a wonderful addition to hot and cold morning cereal.

AVOCADO

Although it may not look like it from first glance, avocado is a fruit. Avocados offer nearly 20 vitamins and minerals in every serving. They contain good fats, potassium, lutein, folate, and vitamins B, C and E. They are a great source for staying healthy and fighting infection.

Guacamole isn’t the only way to get this awesome fruit into your diet. Use it as a replacement for mayonnaise in sandwiches and wraps. It’s also great chopped up in salads.

ARTICHOKE

Although it looks funny, and is covered in a hard armor, the artichoke is a cool vegetable that has a good amount of antioxidants. It also contains potassium, copper and iron. It truly is a superfood.

It is the heart of the artichoke that we eat, and this is found by cutting off the armor. Artichoke hearts are great for topping pizzas and they can be mixed with other ingredients, like spinach, to make a yummy dip for veggies and more.

ASPARAGUS

Of its long list of benefits, asparagus is a very good source of fiber, folate, vitamins A, C, E and K, as well as chromium. While many people aren’t fans of asparagus, it really is a tasty vegetable when eating in season. Try sautéing it with some olive oil and a little bit of fresh, diced garlic. Don’t overcook, or it will get stringy. Ten minutes in the pan is usually enough time.

ACAI

Like most berries, acai (pronounced ah-sigh-ee) are packed full of antioxidants. While many companies are touting them as a miracle diet food, according to WebMD there are currently no studies proving they are any healthier than any other berry.

Acai berries only stay fresh for a day or two after picking, which is why you’re likely to find acai juice or pulp when you shop for this berry. You can add the pulp into baking, and it is great on breakfast foods like pancakes and oatmeal.
Fenton/Linden Griffins pound Flushing, 8-2

Four second-period goals spark easy win

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

It looked like the Fenton-Linden hockey team’s contest against Flushing was going to be a tight game.

After all, the teams played to a tight 2-2 first period. However, the Metro League Griffins took over from that point on, scoring six unanswered goals and earning an 8-2 Metro League victory on Wednesday.

The Griffins blew the game open with four goals in the second period, all by different players. Joe Moran, Jake Thompson, Connor Phillips and Brendan Buerkel each had goals during the second period.

Fenton-Linden was forced to tie the game up twice in the first period. Trailings 1-0, Brandon Diener scored to tie it up the first time. The second time came at 2-all when Buerkel scored the first of his two goals.

In the third period, Thompson scored his second goal, while Buck Hudson scored the game’s final goal.

The Griffins (3-8-1) play the Crestwood Chargers on Saturday at Redford Ice Arena at 5:50 p.m.

Blue Devils finish strong

Miller’s 25 points sparks LF’s 70-55 win vs. Mt. Morris

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Lake Fenton — It was a great start for the Lake Fenton Blue Devils.

It was even a better finish.

It was the middle two periods that made Lake Fenton’s varsity boys basketball game a thriller against Mt. Morris on Tuesday.

But, fear not, Lake Fenton’s Jalen Miller made sure the contest had a happy ending for the Blue Devils.

Miller scored a game-high 25 points and was the Blue Devils’ strongest threat all night long, helping lead the Blue Devils to a 70-55 Genesee Area Conference Red Division victory at home against the Panthers. Miller also had a team-best 12 rebounds and swiped four steals.

In short, Miller sparked the victory.

“Jalen had a great second half,” Lake Fenton varsity boys basketball coach Jake Erway said. “When he gets his mind right and he’s mentally in the game … (Erway citing he didn’t think Miller was focused enough in the second quarter) he’s a great player. He came out mentally prepared in the second half and it helped spark us in the fourth quarter.”

Miller and the Blue Devils came out like a ball of fire at the start of the game. Miller scored eight first-quarter points as Lake Fenton cruised to a double-digit lead before some fans ever got into their seats. A driving hoop by Miller gave the Blue Devils a 19-0 lead at 4:22 of the first quarter.

Lake Fenton’s defense held its own, as it had three steals, including one by Bryce Buehler.

The Blue Devils finished strong on both ends of the floor.

Linden grapplers earn Metro League split

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

Flint — Last week the Linden varsity wrestling program posted an impressive victory by giving Brandon its first loss of the year.

On Wednesday, the Eagles had another respectable day. Despite being without five starters due to injury and illness, the Linden Eagles found a way to earn a split in Metro League action.

See LINDEN on 17A

Linden’s Luke Zimmerman (below) attempts to take down an opponent in the MTV’s dual meet split on Wednesday.
Holly not looking for excuses, aiming for progress

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

Flint — Don Pluta isn’t one to look for excuses.

In his 32 years as Holly’s varsity wrestling coach he’s never been one to cry about injuries, illness or low numbers regardless if his team is enjoying a high or a low period.

And Pluta isn’t about to start this year worrying about excuses.

Instead, the veteran mentor would rather look at the long-term health of his program, and despite what the results may end up being on a given night, if he’s seeing progress, he can be happy.

On Wednesday night, the Holly varsity wrestling team had to focus on progress instead of victories. The Bronchos lost to Kearsley 64-14 and to Swartz Creek 37-34. The Bronchos lost their match to the Dragons despite winning six of the 10 matches actually wrestled on the mat.

The greatest culprit for the Bronchos were voids. Holly had to void four weight classes, providing Swartz Creek with 24 of its 37 team points.

“We could say poor pitiful us and just lay down, but that’s not our style,” Pluta said.

“Like I told the kids, we can work on getting better every single day — it doesn’t matter if we have 50 kids or 16 kids. We gave them 24 team points and almost came away with a victory. That’s what we have to do. We have to fight every match. It’s heartbreaking and discouraging, but we have to fight that. If we are fighting for just this match, yeah then it is depressing. But if we understand our job is to get better every day and every week, it’s going to prepare us down the road as a team and as individual wrestlers for later this year, next year and the year after. We only have two seniors in the lineup, so we just have to keep battling through this. No one is going to feel sorry for us. That’s the way it goes.”

See HOLLY on 1SA

Holly’s Trevor Hatfield (left) won two matches during the Bronchos double-dual with Swartz Creek and Kearsley on Wednesday. The Bronchos lost both Metro League matches.

LINDEN

Continued from Page 16A at Kearsley High School.

Linden defeated Swartz Creek 47-30 but lost to Kearsley 42-27.

“I’m very happy with our performance tonight,” Linden coach Todd Skinner said. “We had five starters out, so we had a bunch of back-up kids competing, and it was a 42-27 score (against Kearsley). That was respectable. We are hoping to close the gap next time we wrestle. Hopefully, we will see them at team regionals.”

Against Kearsley, the Eagles never led, but remained competitive through a good chunk of the meet. A major decision victory for Cade Dickson (160), a decision win by Jaylin Steedman (215) and a pinfall victory for Austin McNeill (285) had the Eagles trailing just 15-13 six matches into the Kearsley bout. However, the Eagles were only able to win three more matches the rest of the way.

Luke Zimmermann (112) won by major decision. At the end of the match, Josh Powell (140) won by pinfall and Patrick Kerr (145) won by major decision.

In the victory against Swartz Creek, Kerr (145), Dom Wolak (170), Aaron Steedman (171) and Sojan Prasac (285) each had pinfall victories. Justin Cygnar (103) and Keilen Strauss (119) won by decision, while Zimmermann (112) won by technical fall.

Linden still holds a 3-1 Metro record and control of its own destiny for at least a co-Metro title. That would be quite a feat considering the Eagles have just one senior and one junior on their roster.

“I was very happy with what they accomplished tonight,” Skinner said. “We are looking to make some change and do some things, work on our weaknesses which we’ve been working on. We have kids with very little varsity experience who came in and wrestled really well.”

Lake Fenton vs. Mt. Morris & Montrose

The Blue Devils are young, but they proved they are a talented squad, defeating Mt. Morris 54-25 and Montrose 47-25.

“We wrestled great last night,” Lake Fenton coach Vance Corcoran said. “The kids are being more aggressive on their feet and starting to wrestle at a higher level. We lost our first match of the year to Corunna with a lot of freshmen in our lineup. Now these freshmen are settling into their high school roles and really getting after it.”

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Linden’s Cade Dickson attempts to pin an opponent in the Eagles’ match against Kearsley on Wednesday. The Eagles defeated Swartz Creek but lost to Kearsley.

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SUN-WED 12:05 3:05 6:05 9:15 11:55
THUR 12:05 3:05 6:05 9:15 11:55

*THE WEDDING RINGER (PG)
FRI-SAT 10:00 12:30 3:00 4:30 6:30 9:00 11:30
SUN-WED 12:00 3:00 4:30 6:45 9:30 11:30
THUR 12:00 3:00 4:45 6:00 9:15 11:30 11:55

*PADDINGTON (PG)
FRI-SAT 11:15 1:35 4:05 6:25 8:45 11:05

*THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF FIVE ARMIES (PG)
FRI-SAT 11:15 2:15 4:15 7:15 9:45 11:45
THUR 11:15 2:15 4:15 7:15 9:45 11:45

STARTING THUR JAN 22

*MORTDECAI (R)
THUR 7:00 9:30 12:05

*STRANGE MAGIC (PG)
THUR 7:00 9:30 12:05

*THE BOY NEXT DOOR (R)
THUR 6:00 10:15 12:05

CONTINUING

*TAKEN 3 (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*SELMAR (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*THE WOMAN IN BLACK 2 (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*ANGEL OF DEATH (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*UNBROKEN (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*THE GAMBLER (R)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*INTO THE WOODS (PG)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*BIG EYES (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*WILD (R)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB (PG)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*ANNIE (PG)
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2D THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF FIVE ARMIES (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

HORRIBLE BOSSES 2 (PG)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1 (PG13)
THUR 6:00 9:30 12:05

*Due to movie company policies no passes are accepted = No $5 rate available. • No $5 TUES evening rate.
Eagles win third straight Metro game

By David Troppens
droppens@tctimes.com

It took the Linden varsity girls basketball team some time to get clicking this year.

But once the Eagles have started, it looks like they are unstoppable.

The Eagles (2-3, 4-5) won their third straight game by defeating Flint Kearsley 43-33 on Tuesday night.

The victory didn’t come easy. The Eagles trailed 28-22 entering the fourth after scoring just two points in the third quarter.

See THIRD on 19A

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Malted Beverage Appreciation Gathering
Wednesday, January 21st • 7:00 pm
Adults 21 and over are invited to join us in the Lift Lounge for educational beer tastings. $18.00 per person includes hors d’oeuvres, a draft pint of choice and sample testing of selections of the month.

Wednesday, February 18th • 7:00 pm
Adults 21 and over are invited to join us in the Lift Lounge for educational beer tastings. $18.00 per person features beers on the darker side paired with chocolate.

Nature Valley NASTAR Series Racing
Every Saturday and Sunday at 1pm.
Register at the Mt Holly Ski School desk.

Visit our website at www.skimtholly.com or QR code for daily news, ski hill conditions, ski school, webcams, rates and more!
Eagles lose on a last-second shot, 62-59

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com

The Eagles came close, but the Linden varsity boys basketball team is still looking for their first win of the 2014-15 season.

Kearsley’s Bryce Jenkins hit a three-pointer at the end of regulation, leading the Hornets to a 62-59 Metro victory Tuesday night at Kearsley High School. Linden (0-4, 0-7) was competitive throughout the contest, leading 11-9 after one quarter and still leading 40-39 entering the final period. Prior to Jenkins’ trey, giving Kearsley the lead, Linden’s Tyler Hoeberling converted his fifth three-pointer of the contest, tying the game up. Kearsley’s first shot attempt to break the tie ended in a Kyle Korman blocked shot.

Hoeberling led the Eagles with 19 points, while Mike Gold netted 12 points, 15 rebounds and two blocks. Korman chipped in nine points, seven rebounds and two blocks, while Johnny Campbell had eight points. Screibner had seven points and three rebounds while Kevin Hoeberling had six assists and four rebounds.

Holly 69, Flushing 54

The Bronchos (5-0, 6-2) remained in first place in the Metro League by earning a key road victory at Flushing High School.

Kyle Woodruff and Jake Daniels each scored 26 points during the contest. Each also took over a particular quarter. Daniels scored 16 of Holly’s 21 points in the second period. It helped the Bronchos take a 35-31 lead into halftime. In the third quarter, Woodruff scored 16 of Holly’s 18 points, leading the Bronchos to a 53-41 lead entering the fourth period.

Fenton 81, Clio 61

The Fenton Tigers (4-1, 4-2) made it four straight Metro League victories by earning a road victory at Clio High School on Tuesday.

Fenton’s Dillon Gardner and Peyton Coffman each netted 23 points in the Tigers’ victory.

Fenton led 20-11 after one quarter, but the lead was cut to three by halftime.

In the second half the Tigers’ offense truly exploded, netting 47 second-half points, including 27 in the fourth quarter. The Tigers turned eight of nine three-pointers and four of four free throws a few times, but each time the Tigers responded and kept the lead.

Gardner and Coffman worked well in tandem as well. Gardner dished off nine assists, but six of them came on Coffman buckets.

HOLLY

Continued from Page 17A

Holly had a strong showing with the matches on the mat against Creek. Dylan Lupro (160), Bruce Burke (171) and Col-lin Dawitz (215) all won by pins. By the time Dawitz captured his pin victory, Holly led 24-4. However, Holly lost three of the next five matches, including two by voids, cutting the Holly lead to 30-22. Trevor Hatfield (130) won a 17-5 major decision verdict, raising the gap to 34-22, but Holly lost three of the next three matches, resulting in the 37-34 loss.

Also winning matches for Holly were Wyatt Scribner (112) and Carson Cuthbert (119) with decision victories. Holly had a tougher time against Kearsley, earning just three wins. Jimmy Gray (189) won by pinfall, while Hatfield (130) earned a technical fall victory. Finally, Scribner (112) had a 7-6 decision victory.

“I think our attitude and our will to win is better. We are starting to pick up some of the stuff we have been doing in the room,” Pluta said. “We have been going six minutes hard. ... Our young kids just have to do a better job of being focused and taking what we have been doing in the room and transferring it to the mat. Early on we weren’t doing that. We are starting to do a better job of that now.”

Holly returns to Metro action at Clio High School on Wednesday, facing Linden and Flushing.

TEAMWORK

Continued from Page 18A

slow start, scoring just nine first-half points. By halftime Lake Fenton trailed 27-9.

Sierra Arroyo led the Blue Devils with 10 points, two assists and two steals, while Kimberly Roe had seven points and a team-high 12 rebounds. Sydney Sheyachich netted six points and 11 rebounds.

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Linden’s Johnny Campbell (right) scored eight points in the Eagles’ 62-59 loss to Kearsley on Tuesday.
**ROAD**
Continued from Front Page
family budgets and impede job growth. But we have an opportunity to change that.

The plan makes long-term investments that will give motorists a safe, modern transportation system. It is a fair, thoughtful proposal that incorporates taxpayer protections and public transparency.

It has been nearly two decades since Michigan last updated its overall investment in roads. The last time the gas tax was adjusted was in 1997. Snyder said, “Our lawmakers deserve credit for confronting this challenge. This initiative reflects the spirit of bipartisanship and compromise that is the hallmark of Michigan’s reinvention. With the public’s support, we’ll bring our roads and bridges up to date, which means greater prosperity for our state and its families.”

The bills will take effect if voters approve the proposal in the May election. They are now Public Acts 467-477 of 2014, respectively. If approved, the Legislature’s action would raise an estimated $1.3 billion a year for transportation.

According to the press release, after the first two years when debt reduction is a priority, it will include nearly $1.2 billion going to roads and an estimated $1.27 million for public transit. More than 60 percent of the road revenue will go to counties, cities and villages for their local road and bridge needs.

The plan also protects revenue for schools and local governments.

More information on Michigan’s road needs is at michigan.gov/fixtheroads.

**TRI-COUNTY TIMES** TIM JAGIELO

**Highlights of the plan include:**
- Removing the current sales tax on fuel and switching to a new wholesale tax for motor fuels (gas and diesel) that includes the gasoline tax in addition to use tax for consumers. Snyder explained that the current sales tax on fuel is constitutionally dedicated to the support of schools and local governments. It does not go for road maintenance. The ballot proposal will ensure that all state taxes paid at the pump will go to the support of transportation.
- Protecting schools and local governments from lost revenue by asking voters in the May 5 election to approve a 1-percent increase in the state sales tax on retail purchases, taking it from 6 percent to 7 percent. The result is an additional $300 million a year for schools and $94 million a year for local governments.
- Supporting state and local harbors, boating access sites and off-road vehicle trails with an additional $26 million a year when fully implemented.
- Providing tax parity by making the wholesale tax rates on diesel and gasoline equal.
- Freezing the registration depreciation tax for current vehicles, and eliminating its applicability for new vehicles. The registration rate is increased for trucks over 26,000 pounds.
- Assisting low-income families by restoring the Earnings Income Tax Credit to its full level. The credit was reduced in 2011.
- Requiring that at least 20 percent of all maintenance contracts entered into by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) provide for payment based on performance outputs or outcomes. Michigan’s seven largest road agencies will be included in this system.
- Increasing the use of pavement warranties as much as possible, by establishing them on all projects where appropriate for state and local governments. There also is a reporting requirement under which the governmental entity must explain if it did not secure a warranty for a project over $1 million.

Source: Michigan.gov

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**FENTON AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARTICIPATES IN THE STATE 105 AND 105C SCHOOL OF CHOICE PROGRAMS**

Fenton Area Public Schools is the first school district in Michigan to receive the International Baccalaureate World School Authorization district wide!

At this time we are accepting applications for the winter semester beginning January 20, 2015. Applications will be accepted through January 21, 2015 for enrollment no later than January 23, 2015.

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

Applications available by contacting the Fenton Area Public Schools at 810-591-4708 or on the district’s website: www.fenton.k12.mi.us

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**Village of Holly sells raffle tickets for Harley-Davidson bike**

The village of Holly is raffling off a 2014 Harley-Davidson motorcycle, and every payday brings people closer to the project. The village is hoping to raise between $35,000 and $40,000 to help fund the Community Fireworks Show on the Fourth of July, the Water Bill Relief Fund and downtown revitalization in Battle Alley. The drawing for the 2014 HD Soft Tail Fat Boy will be on July 4, according to Village Manager Jerry Walker, who is coordinating the raffle with the Holly DDA and the Holly Community Fund. In addition to raising money for fireworks, the village is hoping to help some of the local house-holds with their water bill, so they don’t have to shut off their water. Any funds that are left will go to helping repair Alley Street in Battle Alley.

**Tri-county fundraisers**

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**Toastmasters of Fenton**

Toastmasters of Fenton is celebrating its 10th anniversary on Friday, Jan. 23 from 7:45-8:45 a.m. at Brown & Brown Insurance on Torrey Road in Fenton. They will host an open house that day with two speakers, John Bracey, the direc-tor of Michigan Arts Council for more than 15 years and State Rep. Joseph Gracia of the 51st House District since 2012. Speaking publicly can be very chal-lenging and very uncomfortable. Come and learn how to speak with confidence and not to use filler words such as um, ah, or so. Learn how to become more eloquent and less nervous when speaking. Share your talents so we can all learn together. See you on Jan. 23 at Brown & Brown Insurance. Help cele-brate our anniversary.

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**News briefs**

**Where did the term ‘restroom’ originate?**

After some brief research online with words like ask.com and the like, it seems that the term restroom was originally used to describe the public toilet, such as the bathroom you use at fast-food joints and other public places. It could be that the word rest was used because it can give one a sense of refreshment, and who doesn’t feel refreshed after a visit to the toilet? Although restroom is one of the more common terms, especially if you are out in public and looking for signs that the bathroom is near, but it isn’t the only term of “endeavment” we Americans use for the toilet. There is the john, the women’s or man’s room, the latrine, the toilet and some other not so pleasant names that we should avoid printing.

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**HOT LINE CONTINUED**

INOPERABLE VEHICLES, OVER-FLOWING trashcans, dogs running loose, making deposits on neighbors’ lawns, overflowing recyclable bins, just some of the signs some people have no sense of pride in themselves or their community/neighborhoods. Clean up after yourself and pick up your trash. Otherwise, it becomes our business. Get a life!

MANY PEOPLE SEEM to think the center turn lane added to Fenton Road between Butcher and Fenton City is a passing lane. They don’t even use their blinkers when passing. I have seen some hand signals though.

THE REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR of Tennessee started a program to give an opportunity for all students in his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free. The reasoning was that his state to get an associate’s degree for free.

WEEKEND TIMES

20A Sunday, January 18, 2015
tctimes.com
SCHOOL
Continued from Front Page

Lake Fenton’s School Board

- President Larry Godlewski was elected to the board in 2011. He has lived in the district for 12 years. He and his wife have two children attending Lake Fenton schools. Godlewski is a research engineer for Ford Motor Company.
- Vice President Christopher Fletcher was also elected in 2011, and has been in the district for 14 years. He and his wife have three students in Lake Fenton schools, and one who graduated last year. He currently works for Tower Oil & Technology with a background in chemical engineering.
- Secretary Bob Grubbs is in his third term, after being elected in 2006. Grubbs is a former Lake Fenton teacher, math department coordinator and coach. His late wife, Jean, was a teacher for Lake Fenton and his daughter, Shereen Garty, is a teacher at Lake Fenton Middle School.
- Treasurer Orlin Knuth was elected in 2008, and reelected in 2012. Knuth and his wife have three children, who all graduated from Lake Fenton. Retired from Delphi after 36 years, Knuth will serve on several committees outside the school board. His wife, Gail, was secretary at West Shore Elementary and Torrey Hill Elementary. His son, Kevin Knuth, is a custodian at Lake Fenton High School.
- Trustee Michael Cicalo was elected in 2014, and has lived in the district for 10 years. Cicalo is employed by General Motors, and his wife is employed as a kindergarten teacher in Waterford. They have two children in Lake Fenton Schools. His second cousin is Vince Cicalo, Lake Fenton’s athletic director.
- Trustee Heidi Howieson was also elected in 2014. Howieson has worked as a preschool and substitute teacher for Lake Fenton, directed the latchkey program, and is active as a volunteer at the Lake Fenton Education Foundation Board. She and her husband also have three children, all who will have gone through the district.
- Trustee Robert Hutchins was the third member elected in 2014. A resident of 33 years, Hutchins and his wife have had four children and one grandchild graduate from the district. He worked for General Motors for 30 years and currently works as a real estate agent.

Lake Fenton High School will perform the final musical number of their new production, “Mary Poppins” on Wednesday night. Theater is one outlet for Lake Fenton students once they reach high school. The play opens Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. at the high school.

Why should residents in the district be concerned about what the district does, even if they don’t have students in the schools? Everyone should be concerned about the quality of education our children receive whether they have children in the district or not. The children we are educating are our leaders of tomorrow and our future. Another thing is property values in a district do have a bearing on the quality of schools where the property is located. When individuals purchase a home, they often want to know what school district it is located in, and high-performing districts normally have higher values.

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Wayne Wright
Superintendent, Lake Fenton Community Schools

“With a very strong staff, it’s very positive; our standards are high for academics,” he said. Personnel used 79 percent of the budget, or $13 million of the $17 million.

“The community is very much behind the school. Things are very much going in a positive direction here,” he said.

Administration

With school districts, the superintendent is the chief administrator, but the school board approves recommendations the superintendent makes.

“They have one thing on their mind when they make decisions, and it’s the kids,” said Wright.

The seven-member board has three trustees, a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. They are paid $10 per meeting. Lake Fenton’s board includes two former teachers, and workers of various industries. Larry Godlewski is president for the Lake Fenton Community Schools Board of Education.

Lake Fenton’s Superinten- dent

Q:
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The Lake Fenton Theater at Lake Fenton High School rehearses “Anything Can Happen,” the final musical number of their new production, “Mary Poppins” on Wednesday night. Theater is one outlet for Lake Fenton students once they reach the high school. The play opens Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. at the high school.

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Last but not least — Sawyer Jewelers opens in Cornerstone

Long time Fenton business opens with double the floor space, ‘Tuscany’ feel

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

Fenton — Upon entering the new Sawyer Jewelers location, many customers were impressed with the 2,550-square-foot facility, which just opened Thursday morning.

Co-owner Chip Beltinck said the displays, cabinets, stonework, and most of everything inside, is from Michigan, some of it as close as Argentine Township. While everything is new, he said they strived to preserve the “homey” feel of the original 1,000-square-foot location on Adelaide Street.

Sawyer Jewelers is the final business to open at the Cornerstone building at the corner of North LeRoy Street and Silver Lake Road. Salon 416, Rough Draught Café & Barroom and Sagano Japanese Bistro & Steak House opened in December.

This is one more benchmark in the city project that has been in the works for years, and started construction about a year ago. The 23 residential units are under construction overhead.

On Thursday, Chip and Mary Ann Beltinck welcomed their first customers into the new expanded space, who shopped under new LED lights, including an intricate handmade fixture, and brand new cases. The cases are placed and structured with exactness, based on industry research. While the jewelry was brought over from the original location, it all looks new with so much natural light streaming through the huge plate glass windows. “Now that we’re here, we can start growing,” Chip said.

The jewelry shop features all new cases, made in Michigan, in a “bowtie” configuration. The jewelers were overcrowded in less than 1,000 square feet, and now have almost 2,600.

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• Keep your attic well ventilated. The colder the attic, the less melting and refreezing you’ll have on your roof.

• Keep the attic floor well insulated to minimize the amount of heat rising through the attic from within the home.

• As an extra precaution against roof leaks, have a contractor install a water-repellent membrane under your roof covering.

To have your insert/flyer viewable online, call Gail Grove at 810-433-6822.
The Idoni family of Deerfield Township includes five biological sons, three Ukrainian adopted sons and two more brothers being adopted from Ukraine, hopefully here by April.

**FAMILIES**

Continued from Page 3A

Adoption of two 3-year-old boys from Tanzania, one with Down Syndrome and the other with Albinism, which is heavily persecuted in Tanzania.

In addition to the everyday reality of raising young children and teens, bringing kids to the U.S. from different cultures, family backgrounds, etc. provides unique challenges.

“We tend to act like we’re ‘rescuing’ these kids, when, in fact, many have strong ties to friends and some extended family in their own country,” said Brady. “The older kids have chosen to come here, but we’re still taking them away from the friends and family they’ve known all their lives and bringing them to the other side of the world, where they’re trusting that we’re not ‘creepy people.’ Your heart is already so full of love for them, more than they fall in love with you. That all takes time.”

For the Idoni family, that means Heather cooks many of her sons’ favorite Ukrainian dishes, to bring them another taste of home. She has a heart for adoption, as she lived in an orphanage for a year when she was 14. “We always knew we wanted to adopt,” she said. “As soon as we saw their pictures, we knew they were our kids.”

Ben and Kim Green have adopted 14 children, starting in 2000. In this 2013 file photo, Ben relaxes on the lawn with many of his children before dinner, as Kim scoops their newest adopted child Jonathan up from daughter McKenna.

**TRI-COUNTY TIMES**

**FILE PHOTO**

The Idoni family of Deerfield Township includes five biological sons, three Ukrainian adopted sons and two more brothers being adopted from Ukraine, hopefully here by April.

**Dr. Jeremy M. Grove DDS**

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2015 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE LS
LEASE FOR $182/MO DM# 8652540

2015 CHEVROLET EQUINOX
LEASE FOR $105/MO DM# 8652078

2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU
LEASE FOR $135/MO DM# 8652323

2015 CHEVROLET CRUZE
LEASE FOR $122/MO DM# 8651600

2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
Regular Cab, 2WD, Stk# 1394386
WAS $30,275 NOW $21,762
SAVE $8,512

2014 CHEVROLET CAMARO
Convertible, Stk# 5315702
WAS $36,460 NOW $29,290
SAVE $7,170

2014 CHEVROLET CRUZE
Diesel, Stk# 8203401T
WAS $26,590 NOW $20,460
SAVE $6,130

2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU
LEASE FOR $135/MO DM# 8652125

2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
Crew Cab, 4WD, Stk# 1295354
WAS $43,995 NOW $31,298
SAVE $12,697

2014 CHEVROLET CAMARO
Stk# 5162664T
WAS $34,160 NOW $27,161
SAVE $6,999

2014 CHEVROLET CRUZE 2L T
Stk# 8462208
WAS $24,780 NOW $19,196
SAVE $5,584

2015 CHEVROLET CRUZE
LEASE FOR $122/MO DM# 8651800

2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
Crew Cab, 2WD, Stk# 1479484
WAS $38,915 NOW $28,698
SAVE $10,217

2014 CHEVROLET MALIBU L TZ
Stk# 6118092
WAS $34,135 NOW $25,827
SAVE $8,308

2014 CHEVROLET VOL T
Stk# 4150769
WAS $37,590 NOW $32,107
SAVE $5,483

2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB, 4WD
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2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
Crew Cab, 4WD, Stk# 1177429
WAS $38,700 NOW $33,700
SAVE $5,000

2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
4WD, Crew Cab, Stk# 1192953
WAS $49,600 NOW $36,829
SAVE $12,771

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Stk# 9589446
WAS $14,305 NOW $12,802
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2014 CHEVROLET CRUZE L TZ
Stk# 8480950
WAS $26,180 NOW $20,358
SAVE $5,822

THESE PRE-OWNED VEHICLES MUST SELL!!
BEST PRICES AROUND!!
TRUST OUR CARS, TRUST OUR PRICES!

2008 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY
DM# 8652072A
$11,200

2014 JEEP WRANGLER RUBICON
DM# 8653378B
$37,980

2009 CADILLAC CTS-V
DM# 8652047A
$28,300

2008 PONTIAC G8
DM# 8652548B
$14,300

2011 FORD FUSION SE
DM# 8652546C
$8,900

2008 PONTIAC G6 GX
DM# 8652688B
$8,900

2004 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
DM# 8652322A
$20,200

2012 CHEVROLET IMPALA LTZ
DM# 8652379A
$11,700

2002 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
DM# 8652648A
$12,500

2011 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
DM# 8652368A
$27,900

2004 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
DM# 8652322A
$20,200

24 month lease 10,000 miles per year GM pricing $2000 due at signing plus tax title plates and doc fee. Prices include GM Loyalty (own a 99 or newer GM vehicle in household).