Proposed tax would raise \$1.3 billion for Michigan roads

►Local municipalities backing the bill, controverisal election in May

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792 Anyone who spends any time driving on Michigan roads knows

that there are many crumbling roads in this state. While the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) doesn't keep



Summary Michigan roads are bad and they won't

funding.

getting any better without additional

a list of the "worst roads in Michigan," they do compile an annual rating of the overall road conditions.

Initial results from the 2014 annual report show that 38 percent of the state's

paved federal-aid system is in poor condition, which is up from 33 percent in 2013. That means our roads are getting worse each year, even though you know that See ROADS on 18A



\$**1.00** Weekend * SUNDAY EDITION

Area schools, 'cold days' and 'snow days'

No make-up days scheduled so far

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

With cold weather comes school closings and controversy. The controversy is over the fact that many people think "cold days," as opposed to "snow days," are ridiculous and that we are creating "a generation of pansies." This is according to a recent Hot line called into the Times.

However, local school superintendents don't take this decision lightly and it is made in the best interest and safety of the children. Ed Koledo, See SNOW DAYS on 16A

Pull your shanties from the lake today

DNR deadline is midnight March 1, or risk fines and jail time

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

It's still cold outside, and the ice on the lake might not be melting any time soon, but that doesn't mean you can leave your shanty out until the last minute before the ice starts to melt and break up.

See SHANTIES on 9A



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO Shanties can no longer sit on the ice all day and night, starting March 1. They may be used on the ice on a daily basis, but can't be allowed to fall into the ice.



L have no issue with paying taxes at all. Taxes for roads, garbage pick-up, police, milisridge tary, even government.

Where I have a problem Car is paying for freeloaders - unemployment, free phones, 'save the owl' campaigns, a 'bridge to nowhere.'

It's obvious the government is a poor steward of our money."

politicians have three objectives: To line their own pockets, to be loyal to their

party, and to be re-elected. It's been that way for 50 years.

We attend the meeting so you don't have to. 77

through the Times website, Facebook and

Twitter. When it's time to sit down and relax with your news, we'll deliver the print version to your doorstep or mailbox twice each week through our Midweek and Weekend editions. Here, you can turn the pages and read about

family and friends, clipping and keeping stories that are significant to your life.

We'll attend meetings, from city council and township boards to school boards and DDA, so that you don't have See TIMES on 19A





Know the facts before voting in the special election May 5th! If passed, this proposal will increase sales tax, fuel tax, vehicle registration fees and the state's Earned Income Tax Credit. Vehicle registration fees will no longer be tax deductible. The bill is 171 pages; ballot language is 100 words.





TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO Whether there's rain, snow, sleet or hail, the Times is delivered to your door each week by 55 carriers and 18 drivers

Find out something you didn't know, about someone you do know, through your hometown newspaper

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 There's nothing better than a cup of coffee enjoyed with an old and trusted friend.

This trusted old friend, your Tri-County Times, is available to you on your computer, tablet or cell phone 24 hours a day, providing you with a connection to your community that you can't find anywhere else.

as well as mailed to households every Wednesday.

Whether your hometown is Fenton, Linden or Holly, you'll read about news in your community as it happens, keeping you informed every minute of your busy day,

C Don't single out President Obama. All of the



are teaching our kids to quit instead of 2 toughing it out. Who makes these decisions?"

closed. We

IBA



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TIMES News & Features

WWW.TCTIMES.COM

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2015

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

At the Linden Sportsman Club gun range, four instructors taught 10 students the basics of rifle range safety, and ran them through several drills. They included firing from different distances, with the goal of hitting a standard size sheet of paper.

How to find the next **CPL CLASS**

Fenton Lakes Sportsmans Club Contact Daniel DiRienzo Jr. at 248-760-4964, or email at gunteacher@comcast.net. Covers beginner pistol, rifle, shotgun safety, personal protection in the home, and outside the home.

Also go to **nrainstructors.org**



Intimidated by guns? Take a CPL class

Learn stances, safety, basics and legalities of carrying a gun for personal safety

By Tim Jagielo

tjagielo@tctimes.com; 810-433-6795

Fenton Twp. — On Saturday, the weather was warm enough for personal protection class students to enjoy their time outside, learning how to safely discharge fire-

arms. "I'm not cold, today's beautiful," said Jenifer Reese, of Linden. She joined husband, Corey, and eight other students at the

44I'm not afraid of guns, I am afraid of not having knowledge. 77 **Jenifer Reese** CPL class student

Linden Sportsman Club for an all-day certification class to obtain their CPL (concealed pistol license).

For this section of the class, they got out into the fresh air to safely fire their personal weapons, and others provided by the instructors, while the cracks of rifles and a .44 revolver in the range next door punctuated the instruction.

John Hoyes is one of the instructors with the Linden Sportsman Club, and is part of the education and training team. He assists with rifle, pistol and shot gun classes. "Everybody here is concerned about their protection, their loved ones protection," he said.

The class covered basic principles, hand gun maintenance and stances for firing a gun and as Hoyes said, "Safety, safety, safety, safety.'

See GUNS on 16A





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WEEKEND TIMES

hese malapropisms will 'peek' your interest

Malapropism is defined in Websters as: 'The habit of unintentionally misusing

words ridiculously, especially when the words are similar in sound.' The English language is chock full of idioms that are mispronounced or misused on a daily basis by many people, such as my friend Bob. Here are a few examples of malapropisms that are butchered on a daily basis.

• Wrong: 'Statue of Limitations.' *Right:* 'Statute of Limitations.' There is a statue of liberty, a statue of David created by Michelangelo, and

a statue of The Thinker by Rodin, but there is no statue of limitations. A 'statute' is a legal term.

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

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

AMERICAN SNIPER WAS snubbed

by Hollywood for the simple reason

former military member, I am done

giving my hard-earned money to

SNYDER AND HIS Republican-

taxes on pensions, cut property

tax credits for most of us, is taxing

there's nothing left except overpaid

NICE HEADLINE IN the southern

clarify its roll in ISIS fight. How can

I'M OVER 70 and have been retired

for a while. I don't understand people

like Hillary Clinton who believe they are

terrific leaders, but in reality they aren't

ITHINK THAT since we are going to

have to vote in May for a tax on our

have to put their pay into the road

shouldn't get paid for it.

Compiled by Alexei Rose, intern

roads, the state administrators should

fund. They didn't do their job, so they

I GUESS THE weathermen used the

polar vortex too much last year and

even average. Their ego is too big.

liberal paper today. U.S. should clearly

government employees.

we?

controlled Michigan legislature raised

Internet sales and now wants to raise

sales tax. Go Republicans. Tax us until

those (blank)-holes.

that it honored our serviceman. As a

• Wrong: 'Mute point.' Right: 'Moot

been inexplicably left on the side of the football field, I would have 'fallen by the waste side. • Wrong: 'Self-depreciating.' Right: **'Self-deprecating.'** Self-depreciating

were tired of using it. Now they are blaming the Siberian shenanigans. Why don't you call it what it really is, 'a frigid winter.'

WHY NOT LAY off the person who's just sitting there deciding what to vote on for Michigan Votes and use their money to fix the roads.

THESE NEWS STATIONS are telling you

to let a stream run as large as a pencil. It just needs to be the size of a pencil lead to keep water pipes from freezing. TALK ABOUT DANGEROUS, just walking to get my mail I worry about getting run over. No one follows the speed limit.

tive Republican. IF YOU THINK Obama is the reason that fewer jobs are created than you

think should be, look back under the last Republican president. All those jobs were lost then, at least Obama added them. ABOUT THE OSCARS, it seems like the

RONALD REAGAN MADE a Democrat

out of me. I used to be a very conserva-

privileged people of Hollywood are award-ing themselves on a nightly basis and the minions are eating it up. When are we going to reward the people who are making life contributions?

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times



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another car, that would mean there was a collision. A 'near hit' implies that the cars nearly collided, but somehow avoided a crash at the last second. One of the more common malapropisms.

'Brothers-in-law.' Awwwwkward — but correct. The most egregious of the many examples of this rule is 'culs-de-sac,' (which is correct). Sidebar: Cul-de-sac means 'bottom of the bag' in French, first used by a savvy builder of overpriced subdivision homes to indicate the deadend, or bottom, of a street.

• Wrong: 'Peak/peek my interest.' *Right:* 'Pique my interest.' On the bright side, you only appear to be an idiot when you write it. Sidebar: pique means to 'provoke or awaken.'

If you already feel smarter, coming soon: '15 words that almost everyone (including you) uses incorrectly.⁵

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



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

Thank you, Fenton!

Dear editor,

We would sincerely like to thank every person, business and organization that contributed to the success of the Fenton Ambassadors charity concert that took place last November. With their generosity, we were able to raise over \$4,000, allowing us to purchase 100 water filters. We are deeply grateful to Ambassador Director Brad Wright for the opportunity to use the talent of his students to create an international impact. Similarly, we would like to recognize the goodwill of the Fenton Rotary and Knights of Columbus, whose initial donations gave One World Water Project momentum and purpose.

Combined, these efforts have directly altered the lives of several families and communities in Guatemala that will use the filters to decrease disease and increase productivity. As One World Water Project continues its humanitarian efforts, we are optimistic that Fenton and the surrounding communities will demonstrate this same compassion and ability to make a difference. – Michael Fabatz

streettalk What class/activity would you like to see at the Community Center?



"I want to see more community activities in the old and new building."

> - Dan Czarnecki Fenton Township



"I would like to have a yoga class for any age group, and a flexibility class for older citizens." – Mike Reillv





"I would like to see a cooking class."

– Sue Walsh Fenton



"I think a dancing class for all ages would be fun."

— Linda Davis

Fenton Township



have more plays or even a theater class."







point.' A 'mute point' would imply that means to devalue yourself. Depreciating your point possesses logic, but is unable is an economic term used to indicate that the value of something drops steadily over to articulate itself due to some type of speech impediment. time (like OJ's endorsement income). A 'moot point' indicates your Deprecating is to 'express disapproval of.' • Wrong: 'Old adage.' Right: 'Adage' point has little, if any, value. • Wrong: 'Fall by the waste Again, it's a redundancy thing. You can side.' Right: 'Fall by the waysay 'old adage,' you just don't need to. side.' To 'fall by the wayside' The word 'adage' already implies that the means that you aren't keeping saying is old. Have you ever heard anyone up with a group, such as the say 'new adage?' I rest my case. person who stopped to barf • Wrong: 'Irregardless.' Right: 'Reup Cheerios on the first day gardless.' 'Ir' is a prefix that negates of freshman football practice (which was me). Had I fallen next to a pile of trash that had

the phrase that comes after it, which is unnecessary when 'less' is already doing that. Technically, you could say 'irregard,' but you'd sound like an idiot. Sidebar: Irregardless is not a word. • Wrong: 'Near miss.' Right: 'Near hit.' The phrase 'near miss,' doesn't make

any sense. If a car were to 'nearly miss'

• Wrong: 'Brother-in-laws.' Right:

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LIBERTY TITLE LIBERTYTITLE.COM WEEKEND TIMES



WEEKEND TIMES

National

Chip & Dip

It's almost time to Spring forward

Daylight Saving Time, as you may know, is when time is adjusted to achieve longer evening daylight, especially in summer, by setting the clocks an hour ahead of the standard time.

This year Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 8, at 2 a.m. Don't forget to move your clocks forward!

HOT LINE CONTINUED

THE PRESIDENT HAS aged 20 years in just six years, and you say he doesn't care about America. If he didn't care, he wouldn't age before our eyes. Walk a mile in his shoes.

EVERYBODY HAS HEARD the saying 'when the going gets tough the tough get going.' In Tiger Woods' case, when the going gets tough, he gets going.

IT'S HARD TO imagine the leader of the U.S. just postponing a great, terrible war with ISIS for future presidents.



Ridiculous holidays of March

►'Hug a GI Day,' 'Panic Day,' 'Ear Muff Day,' to name a few

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Some recognize illnesses, presidents or even organizations. Some are just an excuse to make a normal day something more.

While we often try to avoid all of the weird holidays that have been made up over the years, this month we decided it might be fun to look at the ridiculous holidays that are out there for people to celebrate.

Some of the wacky holiday names are self-evident — such as National Anthem Day. However, some are trickier, like Waffle Day. Do they mean we should eat waffles or just waffle around?

The best of them just might be Make Up Your Own Holiday Day, but with so many holidays out there, what's left?

Without further ado, at right are the holidays of March, from normal to abnormal.

Month-long celebrations

(Source: holidayinsights.com) Music in Our Schools Month National Craft Month National Frozen Food Month National Irish American Heritage Month (designated by Congress in 1995) National Nutrition Month National Peanut Month National Women's History Month Red Cross Month Social Workers Month

Weeklong celebrations 2nd Week is National Bubble Week 2nd Week is Crochet Week

Daily celebrations

Da	lly celebrations
March 1	National Pig Day
	Peanut Butter Lovers Day
	.Old Stuff Day
	.I Want You to be Happy Day
March 3	If Pets Had Thumbs Day
	National Anthem Day
	.Peach Blossom Day
	Holy Experiment Day
	.Hug a GI Day
	Multiple Personality Day
March 6	.Dentist's Day
	National Frozen Food Day
March 7	National Crown Roast of Pork
	Day
March 6	Employee Appreciation Day (al-
	ways the first Friday in March)
March 8	ways the first Friday in March) .Be Nasty Day
March 8	. International Working Women's Day
March 9	.Panic Day
March 10	. Middle Name Pride Day
March 11	Johnny Appleseed Day
March 11	.Worship of Tools Day
March 12	.Girl Scouts Day
March 12	Plant a Flower Day
March 13	.Ear Muff Day
March 13	
	Learn about Butterflies Day
	National Potato Chip Day
	National Pi Day
March 15	.Everything You Think is Wrong
March 15	
	Day
	Ides of March
	Incredible Kid Day
	.Dumbstruck Day
	Everything You Do is Right Day
	Freedom of Information Day
	.Saint Patrick's Day
	.Goddess of Fertility Day
March 18	Supreme Sacrifice Day
March 19	Poultry Day
March 20	International Earth Day
March 20	Extraterrestrial Abductions Day
March 20	.Proposal Day
March 21	.Fragrance Day
	National Goof Off Day
	National Chip and Dip Day
	Near Miss Day
	National Chocolate Covered
	Raisin Day
March 25	2
March 25	
March 26	.Make Up Your Own Holiday Day
March 26	National Spinach Day
March 29	National "Joe" Day
	Something on a Stick Day
March 29	National Mom and Pop Busi-
	ness Owners Day
	Smoke and Mirrors Day
	National Doctor's Day
March 30	National Doctor's Day
March 30	National Doctor's Day I Am in Control Day Take a Walk in the Park Day
March 30 March 31	National Doctor's Day I Am in Control Day Take a Walk in the Park Day Bunsen Burner Day
March 30 March 31	National Doctor's Day I Am in Control Day Take a Walk in the Park Day
March 30 March 31	National Doctor's Day I Am in Control Day Take a Walk in the Park Day Bunsen Burner Day
March 30 March 31	National Doctor's Day I Am in Control Day Take a Walk in the Park Day Bunsen Burner Day National Clam on the Half Shell

Acorn Wealth Advisors offers a client-first approach

Noah Morgan, CFP[®], Private Wealth Advisor at Acorn Wealth Advisors, LLC in Grand Blanc, MI has been authorized by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards (CFP Board) to use the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLAN-NERTM and CFP[®] certification marks in accordance with CFP Board certification and renewal requirements. As the youngest Certified Financial Planner in Genesee County/Livingston/Shiawassee county, Morgan helped launch Acorn Wealth Advisors in May 2014 alongside longstanding local Financial Advisors Steven Bliss, CFP®, and Co-Founder Todd Tarrantino, CFP®. Morgan has been integral to the overall success of the new company and is responsible for working with families and local business owners to create and manage financial plans.

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PAID AVDERTISEMENT

WEALTH ADVISORS

What's your heart risk?

► New guidelines from the American Heart Association

By Emily Stocker

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

"You can't do much about your risk if you don't know what it is," said David Goff, MD, chairman of the Guideline Team of the American Heart

Association. To calculate a 10-year risk requires nothing more than a visit to your doctor and a fasting blood draw.

At the end of 2014, the AHA, in conjunction with the American College of Cardiology, published their new set of guidelines for practitioners when it comes to prevention and treatment of heart disease and stroke.

The guidelines consist of changes in treatment and prevention of obesity, lifestyle, cholesterol and risk assessment.

Again, the test is simple as a doctor's visit,

with fasting and a blood draw. The new equation uses race, gender, age, total cholesterol, blood pressure, and use of medication, diabetes status and smoking status. The assessment calculator is designed to prompt discussions between physicians and patients, deepening conversations.

It has been 15 years since federal health officials have issued guidelines for managing obesity. It is now an epidemic. Currently, one in three adults in the U.S. are obese and another third overweight.

Under the new guidelines, obesity is to be actively treated as a disease. Physicians are now treating patients for weight loss, by not only cutting calories and including an active exercise plan, but also including behavioral counseling to help patients stick with the plan.

In a news release, Gordon Tomaselli, a former president of the AHA, said, "Patients are more likely to follow a weight loss plan when guided by a trained professional in a healthcare setting." The new guideline also put to rest the idea that one plan works for everyone. There is no magic diet.

The most important message of the guideline is that, "weight loss is not just about willpower. It's about behaviors around food and physical activity, and getting the help you need to change those behaviors," said Donna Ryan, MD, co-chair of the committee writing the guidelines.

Amanda DeLandsheer, a public health systems analyst of an Ann Arbor non-profit, formerly of the Greater Flint Health Coalition and personal trainer at Genesys Athletic Club said, "Your lifestyle choices can improve your heart health. Get creative with your 30 minutes of physical activity per day. Try new activities like rock climbing or join a league for your favorite sport, and make fitness fun. Just be sure to respect your body and be sure to start where you're at, and incrementally increase your effort as you get more consistent with daily activity."

The principal take-away from the guide-

vast majority of the time and stay mindful of the big picture, we can build the cardiovascular health needed to handle the rest. So don't be troubled over satisfying your sweet tooth every now and again if your overall diet and lifestyle are heart healthy. While some patients do require medication to

line changes regarding lifestyle is that as long as we make heart-healthy decisions the

> and cholesterol, the new guidelines instruct the simultaneous prescribing of diet and exercise.

The cholesterol guidelines recommend lifestyle changes and in many cases statins to help prevent cardiovascular disease and stroke. The biggest change in the cholesterol guidelines could lead to more people taking statins. Statins have long been prescribed based on your level of "bad" LDL cholesterol, but what they really target is overall cardiovascular risk. Now, physicians are

also taking into account age, gender, race, smoking habits, diabetes, and family history. Experts reiterate that the goal is to not get more people on statins. The goal is to help people reduce their risk of cardiovascular diseases and a stroke and to live longer, healthier lives. American Heart Association Apps allow for **mobile health**

The American Heart association has several applications



available including an app to help you learn the sign of a stroke and links to a hospital near you.

Additional apps help you track your jump rope or heart walk fundraiser. There's even a first aid and CPR app with detailed instructions.

One in three Americans will die from heart disease or stroke

...and 60 percent of those will have a major vascular event before they pass. Treatment of heart disease, stroke and obesity has become a burden to public health costing over \$190 billion a year in weight-related medical bills. The resources, direction and new guidelines set by the American Heart Association may prevent millions of heart attacks and strokes within the next two decades. A shift in thinking, the consideration of a patient's overall health in treatment decisions, with a personalized assessment are cited to have a far greater success rate.

SOURCE: American Heart Association



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Dr. Juan Alvarado, O.D., Diplomate, American Board of Optometry & Dr. Cynthia L. Cupal, O.D., F.A.A.O., Diplomate, American Board of Optometry

44 Your lifestyle choices can improve your heart health. Get creative with your 30 minutes of physical

activity per day. 77

Public health analyst MSHE, CPT

Amanda DeLandsheer

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The books will read: 'In memory of Bryce Frownfelter'

Family of local grad who died in plane crash lives on with donation to Lake Fenton schools' libraries

By Alexei Rose

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Shocked, confused, heartbroken, and

torn were the feelings of the Lake Fenton

community on July 17, 2013 when they heard that classmate, friend, and former graduate Bryce Frownfelter died, along with his flight instructor, in a plane crash near northern Genesee County.

"He was learning to be a pilot," said Lake Fenton's Assistant Superintendent Julie Williams. "The community was devastated and shocked

when they heard of his death."

Frownfelter's family presented Lake Fenton Community Schools with a check in the amount of \$5,411 on Feb. 10, almost two years after the crash.

"We were surprised by the donation," said Williams. "We usually have contributions that are made into memorials at each of the schools as a remembrance for the ones that we lost. We

were not used to just getting a monetary donation.'

We always knew that we were going

Frownfelter

and after reading

books that inspired

those authors. 77

those books, he

would read the

Allison Maurer

Bryce Frownfelter's sister

to donate to Lake Fenton," said Allison Maurer, Frownfelter's sister. "When Bryce died, our funeral director suggested creating a memorial in his honor. Friends, family, strangers could all donate and pay respects."

In order for Lake Fenton to accept this donation, during the board meeting on Feb. 23, the Board of Education had to put it on the agenda and approve it.

Every year, \$1,000 will be given to West Shore Elementary and Torrey Hill Intermediate to purchase new books for their libraries. In these books, there will be a stamp that reads, "In memory of Bryce Frownfelter."

"Bryce loved to read," said Maurer, "He read all books, especially classics. He always took that extra

step and after reading those books, he would read the books that inspired those authors. We feel like this is what he would want us to do."

They will continue doing this until the money is gone.

"We are planning on higher quality books for the kids, and with more books, the more the kids can read and enjoy them," said Williams. Frownfelter left

many marks on the

people he knew and loved. Now, whenever a student opens a new book, he will leave a mark on them as well.

SHANTIES **Continued from Front Page**

According to a recent news release from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), counties of the southern Lower Peninsula, including Genesee, Livingston and Oakland, must have shanties removed by midnight March 1 — or more practically, Saturday night, Feb. 28.

After mandatory removal dates, shanties may be placed on the ice on a daily basis, but must be removed daily.

Shanty owners who allow the structures

to fall through the ice are subject to penalties of up to 30 days in jail, fines of not less than \$100 or more than \$500 or both. If a shanty is removed by a government agency, the court can require the owner to reimburse the government for an amount of up to three times the cost of removals.

According to Debbie Munson Badini, deputy public information officer for the DNR, "The deadlines for ice shanty removal and fines for any shanties that fall through the ice apply to both the Great Lakes and inland water bodies."

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

OBAMACARE BASHERS TELL me over and over we have the best health care system and don't want it ruined. Yet we are 36th in the world in life expectancy and 69th in infant mortality. We are #1 in what it costs. Just a matter of perspective I guess.

THAT'S ODD, WHEN I looked up the unemployment percents (Huff Post Business, 2-15-15) it would be 7.9 percent if 496,000 people had not dropped out of the workforce. You need to look at all the facts, not just cherry picking what suits your liberal agenda.

VAL'S TURNOVER PIZZA was the best. I miss them, too.

WAIT! DON'T FORGET that Ronald Reagan also tripled the deficit and raised taxes on the middle class 11 times. I'm sure you didn't mean to forget to write that part. Maybe you just ran out of allotted words.

IN 1960, WHITES were 85 percent of the population, today 64 percent and estimated by 2043 to be under 50 percent.

WHY ARE REPUBLICANS so afraid to let our democracy work and let the courts decide if President Obama's executive order on immigration is legal. If Congress wants, they can simply pass a new law to settle the issue. Isn't that their job?

50.000 AMERICANS WITH Hispanic heritage are turning 18 every month.' That's the lead into my new book, 'A Republican Nightmare.'

IF YOUR SMALL mindedness somehow leads you to think that those who believe in climate change are justified to be punished by bad weather then maybe your great grandchildren should be blessed with famine, drought and the wars always brought upon by the fight for resources.

REALLY ENJOYED MARK Rummel's article on the loss of restaurants in the area. In the eight short years, we have been here we have seen at least 38 of those businesses come and go. It is very sad and shows how difficult it is to be in the food business.

CAN'T THE CITY of Fenton do anything to get people to shovel their sidewalks?

WHERE WERE YOU when the Fenton area singles were holding dances and dinners and more? That's why Fenton area singles are no longer active, because no one showed up.

Fenton area native turns inventor

Former local woman creates Stair Barrier, drums up national attention

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Janelle (Lowe) Fitzpatrick grew up in Fenton on Lake Shannon, but now she is a budding entrepreneur in Milton, Georgia. A 1992 graduate of Hartland High School, her family is still spread out across the state of

Michigan. In 2007, out of necessity, Fitzpatrick decided to invent a product that would help keep her two children and two dogs out of certain areas of the house, like the stairs. "We moved into a new home and there were no gates on the market that would work for the bottom of

my stairs to keep my son from crawling up," she said. Not only was there



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO Former Fenton native Janelle Fitzpatrick is now a major inventor with The Stair Barrier.

no product out there that would suit her needs, she also wanted something that was attractive.

Her design for The Stair Barrier met her standards for attractiveness and function, as a barrier for the bottom of the stairs. She also made it so that it wasn't permanent and could easily be rolled up for storage.

"It is great for keeping kids and dogs off the stairs," said Fitzpatrick. "Response has been amazing. We have several large national magazines interested in featuring the product, customers love it, and we are in talks with several retailers."

If you have a great idea for a product, why not try to turn it into a career. Fitzpatrick did it, so can you!

News briefs

TYRONE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

The Tyrone Township Historical Society will meet on Monday, March 16 at 10408 Center Road. A potluck begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by their meeting at 7:30 p.m. The program will feature Tyrone Township Clerk Keith Kremer, who will discuss the May 2015 election. He will also address fire and police protection for the township. Bring any questions to the meeting. He will also discuss the naming of township roads. The public is invited to the open meeting. For more information, call (810) 629-2031 or email cpowell1960@aol.com.

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Janelle Fitzpatrick inventor

44 It is

great for

keeping

kids and

stairs. 77

dogs

off the

Bodybuilding vs. cerebral palsy

► Weightlifting wins in creating passion and goals for Fenton man for past 12 years

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282 Nick Karjalainen of Fenton and professional bodybuilder Lou Ferrigno, best known for his former TV role as "The Incredible Hulk," have a lot in common.

They're both passionate about the sport of bodybuilding, and each has faced

personal obstacles in getting to where they are today.

Born with cerebral palsy, Karjalainen, 34, has undergone many physical challenges in his life, including two surgeries on his legs to make walking easier for him. However, Karjalainen doesn't dwell on what he can't do as much as what he can do.

"My disability doesn't stop me from being a bodybuilder," said Karjalainen, who has worked out for the past 12 years. "Lou (Ferrigno) has a hearing disability from when he was young, but he overcame his disability, and so have I."

Karjalainen works

out with grit and determination at Powerhouse Gym in Fenton five days a week, sweating through 50 reps of the butterfly curl with 200 pounds of weights and seven or eight reps of dumbbell curls, lifting 60 pounds each time. When weather doesn't allow him to get to the gym, he gets a good workout in the basement of the Fenton home he shares with his parents, Jim and Terry Karjalainen.

He has watched himself evolve from a slender teen, graduating from Fenton High School in 1999, to a grown man with a strong, muscular physique today, boasting 16-inch biceps and clearly defined arms.

"My goal now is to lose weight, gain muscle and get 'chiseled," said Karjalainen, who's preparing for his fourth bodybuilding competition on May 30 in Maumee, Ohio.

He has already earned several bodybuilding awards, including second

place at the 2013 Toledo Glass Scepter Men's Open Medium and third place at the 2013 Toledo Glass Scepter Novice Men's Tall, plus the Michigan Challenge in 2014.

"I've been watching Lou Ferrigno for years, and he has inspired me to keep healthy, young and fit through bodybuilding and nutrition," said Karjalainen,

who eats primarily protein and vegetables as he prepares for his next competition.

Karjalainen's passion for bodybuilding and his regular workout routine help keep his muscles working well, in spite of having cerebral palsy.

Staying active at his job at VG's Grocery on Silver Parkway in Fenton, a position he has held for 15 years, also keeps him busy interacting with people.

"He's a wellknown fixture in our store," said his boss, Justin Young. "People enjoy seeing him here."

Karjalainen plans to meet his bodybuilding mentor at a

Comic Con event this August in Chicago. "We're going to have a photo shoot and I'm going to tell Lou Ferrigno how he has inspired me. I hope my story will inspire him, too."

What is cerebral palsy?

Cerebral palsy is the result of a brain injury or a brain malformation. Individuals with cerebral palsy were most likely born with the condition, although some acquire it later. Cerebral palsy affects body movement, muscle control, muscle coordination, muscle tone, reflex, posture and balance. It can also impact fine motor skills, gross motor skills and oral motor functioning. *Source:cerebralpalsy.org*



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Cerebral Palsy affects muscle control and body movement. Karjalainen has had two surgeries on his legs to make walking easier, once as an infant, and another later in life.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Nick Karjalainen prefers working out at 4:30 p.m., to avoid large crowds at Powerhouse Gym in Fenton.



www.fentonchamber.com • info@fentonchamber.com

44 I hope my story will inspire him (Lou Ferrigno), too. **77** Nick Karjalainen

Bodybuilder

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Fenton grad, resident and VG's Grocery

employee Nick Karjalainen battles

his cerebral palsy, competing in the

'lightweight class' as a bodybuilder.





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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

Divas SnowGear Ambassadors at the DSG clinic held in Copper Harbor, Michigan, atop Brockway Mountain looking out over Lake Superior.

Linden woman wins 'over the top' experience

Divas SnowGear chooses her over 1,500 others across country for sponsorship

By Yvonne Stegall

ystegall@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

Last fall, 30-year-old Linden resident Jessie Field saw a post online for Divas SnowGear (DSG) holding a competition for their ambassadorship. Field was among 1,500 applicants from the U.S. and Canada. Only 37 were chosen to represent DSG during the 2014-2015 snow season, including two from Michigan.

Field said the only requirement for the ambassadorship was to be an avid snowmobiler. According to information online from DSG, the selection committee chose the final ambassadors based on geographical region, riding experience and involvement in the sport.

DSG is a line of snowmobiling clothes that are designed for women by women. They are the only ones out there like this, as other com-

66 This

experience

over the top

Snowmobile enthusiast

has been

for me. 77

Jessie Field

panies began with men's gear and don't make their women's items as well fitted as DSG.

Field has been snowmobiling since childhood. "I rode on snowmobiles with others until I was old enough to drive myself," she said. She's been riding ever since, and it's paid off.

Benefits of being an ambassador include free products for testing, going on rides with the other ambassadors, travelling and talking to professionals in the world of snowmobiling.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jesse Field of Linden was chosen from 1500 entrants to become one of 37 brand ambassadors for women's snowmobile gear company.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO A side-by-side of Jessie with and without her gear.

"You get to test the clothes and let them know what you like and what you don't like about them," she said. "This

experience has been over the top for me. Not only do I get the opportunity to test truly great gear and represent an all-around amazing brand, I also made 30-plus new friendships from all over the U.S. and Canada."

"These women are all awesome, every single one. Wendy (Gavinski), the own-

er and creator of DSG, is the most downto-earth, fun-loving person. Her spirit and energy that she has put into this line and ride clinic has made it everything it is today."



 ${f K}$ is for kale... ${f L}$ is for lemon...

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

Part seven of an ongoing series K and L both have some great, though limited, fruit and vegetable choices, so I chose to combine the two to give you a taste of just a few more healthy goodies you can find in the

produce section of your grocery store. Fruits and vegetables have nu-

merous healthy benefits, and the aim of these articles is to share some of those benefits with our readers. This is not a comprehensive list, but it's a good place to start.

KALE

One whole cup of kale is only 33 calo-

ries. This one cup contains 3 grams of protein, a good amount of fiber, vitamins A, C, K and B, and it also is rich in Omega 3 fatty acids. Kale is a nice replacement

for spinach in some soup recipes. It's great mixed in with your common salad greens. Kale can also be added to smoothies and used to make kale chips, a healthy alternative to greasy potato chips.

KOHLRABI

Kohlrabi is immune boosting, helps

improve vision and circulation and it pretty much tastes like a cabbage heart. It is full of nutrients which include copper, potassium, manganese, iron, and

calcium, as well as vitamins, such as vitamin C, B-complex vitamins, vitamin A, and vitamin K. Chop some up and eat it on its own. Shred it up and use in salads or for coleslaw.

KIWI

Kiwis have just as much vitamin C in them as an orange. Now that makes them a pretty amazing fruit. This means that they will help boost your im-

mune system and fight off colds. Kiwis have a lightly sweet flavor. They are delicious added to salads or eaten all on their own.

KUMOUAT

Kumquats look like a strange mini orange. Just like other citrus fruits. they are full of





antioxidants, including vitamin C. Unlike oranges, it's custom to eat kumquats rind and all. They have a bittersweet taste, because of the rind. Eat them alone or slice them up in a salad or as garnish.

LEMONS AND LIMES

Lemons and limes are lumped together here because

they contain the same amount of vitamin C — 31 percent of the recommended daily allowance (RDA) — and folate (3 percent of the



RDA). They also can be used in much the same way. Both make delicious juices, whether you want a sweet lemonade or a little bittier limeade. Lemon is a great flavorful addition to water and lime is great with Mexican dishes.

LYCHEE

Lychee is a tropical fruit that you may or may not have heard of. Lychee has no saturated fats or cholesterol, but contains good amounts



of dietary fiber, vitamins, and antioxidants. This strange fruit, with a leathery exterior that you peel off to get to the white juicy insides, is great all alone, mixed in a salad or juiced for a refreshing summer drink.

LEEK

Leeks are similar to garlic and onions. They belong to a vegetable family called the Allium vegetables. They contain many of the same beneficial com-



pounds found in garlic and onions, as well; meaning that are good for your immune system, for one. Leeks can be steamed or sautéed and are great with many dishes.

LETTUCE

Lettuce is kind of a broad term, and we've covered many types of lettuce already and still have more to cover. Lettuce is a good

roughage food and most types are a good source of fiber. Lettuce is best in salads, but you can use larger pieces, like those from romaine or iceberg, for sandwich wraps in place of bread.







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WEEKEND TIMES

STORE WIDE

HOT LINE CONTINUED

ITHINK EVERYONE who understands how the unemployment rate is calculated agrees it is not a 100-percent accurate number. To imply that it is being calculated different now than under President Bush is just wrong. If it bothers you so bad, start a business and hire someone.

NOW THAT THE Republicans control both houses, the President is going to see a flood of legislation on his desk that the people want, like campaign finance reform, so elections can't be bought.

I GUESS REPUBLICANS believe if you don't put a label on ISIS that the bombs and bullets we use won't kill them. Perhaps insulting all the Muslims from Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Afghanistan who are fighting them on the ground would be good for our country also.

I HAVE TO laugh when I hear these fast food workers (and the unions) crying for \$15 an hour. Too many of them can't get a cup of coffee right even when given specific instructions.

SINGLES, 55-PLUS: this is in response to the Hot line in the Wednesday, Feb. 18 issue. I have been asking the same thing and recently meet with a local business on arranging a gathering place for a meet and greet for singles 55 and older. If interested, please respond in the Hot line with contact information.

OBAMA ONCE SAID he would fundamentally change America. That means he hates America and will change us into what he likes. That's a dictatorship.

YOU ARE SO ignorant when you say 'it's snowing in Boston, so global warming must be false.' Hello! It's called GLOBAL warming, not east coast of the U.S. warming. Get a clue.

I DON'T HAVE an agenda about the

unemployment numbers. I know it doesn't include a lot of people. But, it's the number from the Bureau of Labor and the same source that both parties use. If you can't admit that the economy is better, then you are a blind voter.

CAN THE NEIGHBORS with the wood burning stoves please put a filter on them or something. They're stinkin' up the whole neighborhood. Can't even go outside it's so bad.

YOU UNKNOWINGLY REPEAT the

rhetoric of the confederate states from the Civil War when you wish that states can supersede the Federal Government. The danger from what you are saying will destroy our country.





Trevor Myott caught this 37.5-inch pike on Lobdell Lake Saturday, Jan. 24, while he was ice fishing.



(From left) Brothers John-Patrick Shayna, 12, Landon Shayna, 9, and their dad, John Shayna, all of Fenton Township, caught this combination of walleye and pike at Poverty Lake during a June 2014 trip to Nakina, Ontario. John-Patrick attends Linden Middle School and Landon attends Hyatt Elementary.









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town Meet Michael LaJoice

- Owner of Chassé **Ballroom & Latin Dance Studio**
- Accountant
- Drum & Bugle Corps spectator

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Michael LaJoice, 36, is an accountant by day and a dance studio owner by night. As Chief Financial Officer for the Clarkston-Brandon Community Credit Union for the past 12 years, his days are spent crunching numbers, then his evenings are for spent running the studio and spending time with his wife, Ashleigh, and their three children, Michael, Jr., 5, Emma, 3, and Madelyn, 2.

How did you and Ashleigh meet? We both played trumpet in Marching Band at Linden High School. It was love at first sight for me. I can't speak for her. I was older, graduating in 1997, while Ashley graduated in 2002. I've always liked her morals and strong work ethic. She works harder than I do, running around after three kids all day.

How did you get into the dance studio business? We danced at a studio

in the Detroit area to get ready for our wedding in June 2006. We looked at their basic idea and wanted to improve on it. I've always wanted to be an accountant, but now my entrepreneurial spirit has definitely kicked in. We opened Chassé in October 2007, and Ashleigh ran it until 2010. She wanted to stay home when Michael was born, and I respected that.

Do you still dance? I used to dance. I just don't have time any more. The waltz is my favorite step. I like all music, although I'm not usually a big fan of country. We're breaking into it with line dancing at the studio and I'm warming up to it.

You're quite involved with drum and bugle corps. Can you tell me about that? I love to watch it. It's like marching band on steroids! Kids from age 15 to 21 join a corps in the summer and travel around the country, practicing 16 hours a day. They perform in NFL and college stadiums for about 25,000 people on their final night. It's a nonprofit group which I do help support.

The Chassé name is everywhere. What does the name mean? Any future plans? Chassé is a dance step where one foot leads and the other foot



love at first

sight for me.

I can't speak

for her."

Michael LaJoice

& Latin Dance

Studio

follows. Believe it or not, we've already outgrown our space. We have dancers coming to our studio from a 50-mile radius. We're now open Owner of Chassé Ballroom all day, five days a week and Saturday morning. My goal in 10 years is to open 10 more studios. Our marketing ensures that people already know who we are, as far away as Bay City, Frankenmuth, Novi, Bloom-

field Hills, etc.

What motivated you to spend \$4,000 on a pie at the St. John's Applefest? I've been going to St. John's all my life, since kindergarten. It's important that I support our church. I never intended this pie thing to happen, but it's been five years now. I have to give a shout-out to Roger Sharp, who's been buying the second place pie every year for 30 years. It helps that it tastes good, too.

What are your top five priorities in life? 1) God 2) Ashleigh 3) My kids 4) Making sure employees are well taken care of and happy 5) Trying to find new talent to work for us.

If you could live your life differently, what would you do? I'd react more calmly to things, not be such a hot head. My kids have taught me to be patient. I've made mistakes at the studio, just like any business owner.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES SUBMITTED PHOTO Michael and Ashleigh LaJoice took a trip last fall to the Island of Capri, Italy, on a group trip set up by Fr. Harvey, retired priest from St. John Catholic Church.

What is something no one knows about you? Most people think I'm private and introverted, but I'm more fun-loving than I appear.



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

- Randall

A. Randall, I would like to see the vehicle to try to help you with this. I have tried to locate service info on this system, but it does not show me where the wire connects. If you get a chance and you are in the Holly area stop in at our shop. Wilkinson Auto Repair 402 N. Saginaw right across from the Holly Doughnut Shop. I will see if I can help out.



and coupon ads for specials.



Continued from Page 3A

An attorney presented the legal side of carrying a gun. "It is huge, huge responsibility to carry a fire arm," said Hoyes. "It's even a bigger one to use it in defense."

Jenifer didn't know anything about firing a gun before her class. "I'm not afraid of guns, I am afraid of not having knowledge," she said. Corey said he learned about accurate targeting.

The couple shared a .38 Ruger revolver, with Jenifer in mind. She said she was surprised by the power of the recoil.

To attend that class, students had to be at least 20 years old, because the certification only lasts a year, and one must be 21 to apply for a CPL.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO Linden Sportsman Club President Steve Raslick instructs the students on the firing line on Saturday. Safety is numberone at the range.

"Why all the household dust?"

For years, Power Vac, Inc. has been vacuum your car with. Then there are improving the community's health one household at a time. "Did you know that half of all illnesses come directly from dirty indoor air? In fact, our indoor air is up to 90 times more polluted than the air outdoors," explained Keith Meadows, Power Vac Owner and Opera-

tor. "More than 90% of the phone calls I receive are from distraught people complaining about dust in their homes. They tell me they will dust the house Friday, but by Sunday it needs to be done again, and they're not sure where these dust piles are coming from. Let me tell you, you're not a bad housekeeper. All you need to do is have your ducts

cleaned. This simple step will drastically reduce the dust in your household. The reason for the dust is your cold air returns. You see, cold air returns suck in dirty air. Over time it builds up in your ducts until the debris resembles what you would find in your vacuum bag."

See for yourself! For an actual photo of the debris that is pulled from a typical home's ducts, visit our website www. callpowervac.com.

Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners experience excessive dust. While work was being done in the home, your cold air returns sucked all the dust through the system. It settled on the bottom of the duct lines and little by little, that debris is being blown back into your home," Keith continued.

"Here's a test. Take a walk down into your basement, and look up at the ceiling or thin sheets of tin nailed between your floor joists. These are your cold air return lines. Give them a good pounding. Do you see puffs of dust seeping out of the edges? That, my friends, is the reason you have uncontrollable dust problems, and this debris cannot be removed without the help of a professional.

"This brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use portable units, which are essentially like a Shop-Vac that you would

companies who claim they have a truckmounted system. In reality, they have a low powered portable system attached inside a van. We have the equipment powerful enough to get the job done right, and that equipment is a Power Vac truck.' Want to see the

difference between our equipment and portable or truckmounted equipment? Visit our website at www. callpowervac.com

"The Power Vac truck is the most powerful equipment in the industry," Keith explained. "Simply put, the entire truck is the vacuum, and the truck motor powers the equipment. You'll know

it's a Power Vac truck because it's the size of an ambulance and when engaged, 12 large air bags come out of the roof.

"What makes the difference in equipment? Power! To put things into perspective, your furnace moves 2,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is what you feel coming out of your register. Truckmounted equipment moves 4,000 CFMs. Well, Power Vac moves over 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, which is four times the power of most competitors.

'You need to beware of companies using cheap equipment and advertising cheap prices. Most of these companies are unlicensed, or they may advertise that they are licensed, but are not. Avoid scams by not falling for cheap, get-you-in-thedoor prices. What sets us apart from our competitors is our honest service, and, of course, our equipment. I know the importance of being on time, working with a smile and respecting people's homes and their belongings. There are a lot of duct cleaners around, but rest assured you'll receive the same quality of service I expect in my home."

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

'THE TIMES RECENTLY had a Hot line that asked, 'I wonder how the families of dead soldiers feel when they watch the Oscars and see Hollywood tearfully eulogizing dead movie stars who lived long and privileged lives.' Didn't get it then, I get it now.

GOD HAS PLACED into leadership those He has chosen. Americans received what they deserved with President Obama. We as a nation are disobedient to God's Word by allowing abortion and gay rights to become acceptable. Quit blaming President Obama, it's our fault!

PRAYERS TO THE family of the second grade State Road student who was seriously injured this past Monday. Please visit www.gofundme.com/n5q73c to help decrease the financial impact of this devastating event for this wonderful family.

THIS DATA MINING at the local level is getting out of control. Bought a battery at a local store with cash. They wanted my name and info. I told them 'no' and walked-out!

I READ WITH interest the article about the backyard Olympics held recently. I had to wonder if the person who 'pounded' a 25-ounce beer did it all in one sitting. That would be unsafe in this weather. Hopefully, it left no ill effects on that person.

IF YOU HAVE states' rights supersede that of the nation, then that state would be no longer part of the nation. Simple.

YES, IT SURE would be nice if your paper would kindly print the TV sec-tion. Flint Journal left the older people

SNOW DAYS **Continued from Front Page**

Linden schools superintendent said, "We have six days available, but it doesn't matter. We go safety first and add days only once it's all over."

So far, Linden has used five of their days. "Linden has had one 'no power' day, one 'snow day' and three 'cold days,'" said Koledo.

Wayne Wright, superintendent of Lake Fenton Community Schools (LFCS), said they've had three days off for cold weather and one for poor road conditions. The Assistant Superintendent at LFCS, Julie Williams said, "We still have two days we

could use before we have to worry about make-up days."

Fenton has also only had three days off,

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Linden Community

Schools Superintendent

Ed Koledo

with no TV section. You now have to subscribe to a TV magazine. Us older people just can't afford this. Our Times paper is really nice, the best around.

SAID IT BEFORE, but apparently needs to be said again. SLOW DOWN ON CRANE ROAD! Someone's child or pet is going to be hurt or worse. This is ridiculous. If it is Lake Shore Drive residents, how would you like it if I did 50-plus in front of your homes!

IT'S ABSOLUTELY SHAMEFUL that Netanyahu has been invited to speak to a joint session of Congress. Since when do we allow foreign leaders a platform in our own Capitol? Every congressman should boycott!

I GUESS EVERYONE is an expert now on every topic. People's idea of 'research' is Googling a topic and reading blogs and articles written by other so-called experts, instead of actually reading real research.

TO THE MAN in the green pickup truck who plowed my driveway on Rolston Road. I don't know if you got the wrong driveway, but thank you just the same.

WHAT DO YOU mean you're tired of Obama getting all the blame? I only hear Bush being blamed. Even now he's still getting blamed for all the problems.

I FOUND THE oscar show to be very entertaining and creative. There is nothing wrong with men crying when they are emotionally touched by great film making.

THE OSCAR AWARDS were a disgusting debacle of depravity. Having the emcee appear in his underwear was a juvenile act of desperation. I'm only in my 30s and I found it to be inane and boring.

for the same reasons as Lake Fenton, according to Superintendent Tim Jalkanen. Holly has used two snow days and three cold days, said Superintendent Dave Nuss.

> Winter isn't over yet, and it's likely the cold weather isn't done either. The superintendents of each district usually check around with other local schools before making their decisions, especially when it comes to the cold days.

> When it comes to missing the days, while kids might dread spending extra days in school, Koledo said, "Sometimes in extreme winters, the number has been relaxed by the state."

Even though we've broken the record for coldest days this month, it still hasn't been all that bad of a winter.





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WEEKEND TIMES





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ROADS

Continued from Front Page

road work is getting done often when you venture out during the spring, summer and fall and run into road construction at every turn.

According to the reports, the five percent change represents 3,470 additional lane miles falling into the poor category in 2014. This is the largest single-year increase in poor roads in the last seven years and the second-largest increase since 2006 when the Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) first began collecting the data.

TAMC states in their 2013 annual report that at the current funding levels for roads, the conditions would continue to deteriorate. This is why it is so important that more funding be collected for Michigan roads, and is the number one reason for the roads proposal scheduled for the May election. This proposal requests a permanent sales tax increase of one percent, making the state sales tax 7 percent. This sales tax increase would raise \$1.3 billion to go toward fixing the roads.

Local municipalities, including the Linden City Council, are backing the roads bill.

Poor road conditions cost Michigan motorists a total of \$2.3 billion annually in extra vehicle operating costs. Costs include accelerated vehicle depreciation, additional repair costs, and increased fuel consumption and tire wear, according to the January report put out by TRIP, a national transportation research group.

Of Michigan's major roads and highways, 13 percent have pavement that is in poor condition, while an additional 16 percent of the state's major roads are rated mediocre. Ten percent are rated in fair condition and the remaining 61 percent are rated in good condition.

OTHER MICHIGAN ROAD STATISTICS

tctimes.com

• The annual costs per motorist of driving on roads that are congested, deteriorated and that lack some desirable safety features in Michigan's largest urban areas are: Detroit - \$1,600; Grand Rapids - \$1,027; Lansing - \$1,032.

• A total of 27 percent of Michigan bridges are in need of repair, improvement or replacement. Twelve percent of the state's bridges are structurally deficient and 15 percent are functionally obsolete.

• If a lack of adequate revenue into the Federal Highway Trust Fund is not addressed by Congress, funding for highway and transit improvements in Michigan could be cut by \$1.1 billion for federal fiscal year 2015 beginning October 1, 2014. • Michigan's roads and highways carried 95 billion vehicle miles of travel in 2012.

Source: tripnet.org

According to the report, roads rated in poor condition may show signs of deterioration, including rutting, cracks and potholes. In some cases, poor roads can be resurfaced, but often are too deteriorated and must be reconstructed. Roads rated in "mediocre" condition may show signs of significant wear and may have some visible pavement distress. Most pavement in mediocre condition can be repaired by resurfacing, but some may need more extensive reconstruction to return them to good condition.

Currently, 7,059,509 licensed drivers in Michigan are using these roads.



Questions: Visit www.fenton.k12.mi.us or call 810-591-4700



OWI SPREE IN FENTON

Between Friday February 20, and early Sunday the 22nd, Fenton Police arrested four for drunk driving, and three were 'superdrunk,' reading more than a .17 blood-alcohol content. On Feb. 20, at approximately 10:30, a 22 year-old Fenton Township female was arrested after blowing a .17. On Saturday Feb. 21 at 1:53 a.m., a 25 year-old Holly woman was pulled over at Shiawassee

Avenue and LeRoy Street, who blew a .13. On Sunday Feb. 22, at 2:03 a.m., a 35 year-old Tyrone Township man was arrested after blowing a .25, and also having a small amount of marijuana on him. Also on Feb. 22, a 19 yearold Tyrone Township female was arrested after blowing a .13.

BE AWARE OF IDENTITY THEFT

Dep. Geno Gaticka of the Genesee County Sheriff's Department said the department has received multiple complaints from Fenton Township residents about identity theft. It is tax season and residents are urged to be vigilant with monitoring financial accounts and tax returns. One woman reported that when she filed her tax returns, she learned that someone had already filed one using her Social Security number. Another woman learned that someone attempted to open up two credit card accounts using her personal information.



TIMES **Continued from Front Page**

to. We'll keep you informed about issues that will make a difference to your community, your family and even your finances.

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HOT LINE CONTINUED

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her handbag. Detectives begin asking many questions making John rush back and forth between wives trying to untangle the marital mess he has made.

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Who ended the Connecticut women's basketball team's 99-game win streak on Feb. 18, 2012?

St. John's did by a 57-56 score. A 3-pointer with eight seconds left was the winning shot.

LFLF gymnasts keep on winning

Tri-county co-op squad defeats Vassar

By David Troppens dtroppens@tctimes.com

The Linden/Fenton/Lake Fenton gymnastics team (LFLF) has had a strong first regular season of its history.

The co-op squad completed it with some nice success as well. LFLF defeated Vassar by a 135.725-123.425 score in the team's final regular season dual of the year.

Miranda Stephens was the team's top star. She placed first in the all-around by earning first on the bars and the floor. She also placed second on the vault. Her teammate, Jessica Richert, was second in the all-around. She placed second on beam, third on bars, fourth on vault and fifth on the floor.

Blake Hutchings took first on the vault and finished third in the all-around. She also took second on the floor and the bars. Macy Mitchell earned fifth in the all-around and was third on the beam and the floor. Jordan Dawson placed sixth in the all-around, taking fourth on the

See LFLF on 23A

Times

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2015 PAGE 20A

Sports

MIRANDA STEPHENS

LAKE FENTON'S

The gymnast placed first place in the all-around against Vassar.

○ ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

▶ Read about Friday's prep basketball games at tctimes.com.

REGIONAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENTS

While prep basketball gets most of the hype, March Madness starts for another winter sport next week — prep hockey.

The Fenton-Linden Metro League Griffins begin action on Monday against Lakeland at Hartland Sports Center at 6:30 p.m.

If the Griffins get by Lakeland, the squad will face a tough Hartland Eagles team in the pre-regional final on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The winner of that contest will play either Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Northern or West Bloomfield in the regional title game at Hartland Sports Center, Saturday at 7 p.m. The winner of that contest will earn a spot in the Division 2 state quarterfinals.

KBH United, a co-op squad including players from Kearsley, Brandon and Holly, begin action Tuesday against LakeVille at Perani Arena at 7 p.m. The winner of that match will face either Swartz Creek or Grand Blanc in Thursday's preregional final at Perani Arena at 7 p.m. The Division 1 regional title contest will be Saturday at noon.

Bronchos win 13th straight

Blue Devils find it hard to keep pace with Holly's hot shooting

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 **Holly** — Morgan Baylis has seen a lot of winning during his four years on the Holly varsity boys basketball team.

In fact, he, along with teammates Isaac Casillas and Parker Rowse, have seen a recordbreaking number of victories while wearing the Bronchos' jersey.

Baylis had one of his strongest statistical quarters of his Bronchos' career on Tuesday, scoring eight first-quarter points, helping the Bronchos to a 93-63 home victory against the Lake Fenton Blue Devils. In the process, the trio of seniors won their 60th varsity game, a school record for a varsity player.

"I'm just thinking about it now and 60 wins is a lot of wins," said Baylis, who finished the game with 12 points and eight rebounds. "One, it's not over yet, and two, I don't even think about it like that. Every time I go into a game,



TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN Holly's Ian Hodges (left) attempts a shot against Lake Fenton's Jake Zielinski in the Bronchos' 93-63 victory Tuesday night.

it's a clean slate. I don't think how many games I've won in the past, how many games I've lost in the past. I go in 0-0 and just trying to be 1-0 every time we step on the court." "They deserve it," Holly head coach Lance Baylis said. "We still have games to go, and hopefully a lot of games to go, but at this time they deserve to See 13TH on 23A

It's anybody's tourney to win

Girls hoop teams prepare for districts

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com While the cold weather may not symbolize it, things are going to start heating up on area basketball courts this week.

Monday is the start of girls basketball districts, meaning March Madness is here.

And for three tri-county squads, March Madness will happen at Holly High School.

Linden, Fenton and Holly will compete in the fiveteam Class A district, while Lake Fenton will compete in the Class B Cournna district, but start action on Monday at home against Flint Southwestern.

The Holly district has a great sense of appeal because it contains four Metro League squads and appears a to be a district just about any of the five teams have a reasonable chance to win it. That doesn't shock Fen-See TOURNEY on 22A



Devils win thriller vs. Kearsley

By David Troppens dtroppens@tctimes.com

In a game that needed a couple key defensive stops, Lauren Oppenheiser stepped up in Lake Fenton's girls basketball game against Kearsley Tuesday night.

With Lake Fenton leading by just two in the waning seconds of the game, Oppenheiser came up with the two defensive plays of the contest, helping ice the Blue Devils' 47-45 road victory at Kearsley.

Kearsley's Diane Bond had just hit a shot, cutting what was at one time a 20-point Lake Fenton lead to just 47-45. Then during a time out, Lake Fenton coach Brian VanBuren announced his instructions.

"I told them we are not going to allow any inside layup opportunities. If a girl gets a jump shot, run at her like she's stealing," VanBuren said.

VanBuren said during Kearsley's next possession, the Hornets ran a play to get Bond open behind the three-point arc in one of the corners. On the first attempt, Oppenheiser recognized the play and forced Kearsley out of bounds. After the Blue Devils missed two free throws in an attempt to ice the victory, the Hornets tried to open Bond on the baseline again. This time Oppenheiser recognized the play, defended it and forced a bad shot. The two defensive plays allowed Lake Fenton to come back home with its fifth win of the season.

"Lauren made the two biggest defensive plays of the game," VanBuren said.

For a long time, it didn't look like Lake Fenton was going to need any late-second defensive heroics to win the contest. The game started reasonably stagnant for both teams, but Lake Fenton strung a couple of buckets during the second half of the first quarter, resulting in a 13-5 lead. In the second quarter, the offenses still struggled. However, the Blue Devils were able to get to the line. And while they didn't make the number of free throws VanBuren would've liked, they made enough to take a 23-10 halftime lead.

"We probably missed seven or eight free throws in the first half," VanBuren said.

In the second half, the Blue Devils (5-14) quickly raised their lead to 30-10, scoring the first seven points of the third quarter. A few minutes later, VanBuren decided to clear his bench, but that's when Kearsley changed their playing style.

"Immediately they went to a press and it worked. We turned the ball over five straight times. It was three turnovers and I called a time out, two more turnovers and another called time out," VanBuren said. "Suddenly it was 30-20 and from that moment, on, it was a dogfight. We had no momentum any more and their crowd was going crazy."

Lake Fenton turned the ball over just seven times in the first half, but had 15 in the second half. Compounding matters were the missed free throws. Lake Fenton made just 15-of-36 free throws during the night. However, through it all the Blue Devils never lost the lead. And when Kearsley threatened to take the lead, Oppenheiser's defense made sure the Hornets didn't.

Lake Fenton was paced by Autumn Beardsley's teamhigh 15 points, eight blocks and three steals. Her blocks helped keep Kearsley in check as well. Kaitlyn Begley netted 13 points and four rebounds. Kim Roe netted seven points and a team-high nine rebounds, while Sierra Arroyo had six points and three steals.

The Blue Devils have had to adjust in recent weeks to the loss of Hannah Garty to injury, but are starting to make the adjustments.

"At first a lot of the girls were thinking what do we do now instead of thinking they'll take those minutes and step up," VanBuren said. "They didn't realize how much we depended on Hannah until she was gone. But now they are adjusting." <image>

TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN

Lake Fenton's Sierra Arroyo (right) had six points and three steals in the Blue Devils' 47-45 victory against Kearsley on Tuesday. She's pictured here playing a past game against Linden.

PREP REPORT

BOYS BASKETBALL

▶ Linden freshmen 48, Fenton 40: The Eagles (15-4) made it a clean sweep of cross-town rivals Fenton on Thursday night. The Eagles jumped to a 28-18 halftime lead and held on down the stretch to earn their second victory of the season against the Tigers.

Ten Eagles scored, led by Nick Koan's 16 points. Noah Giacomantonio had seven points. He was 4-for-4 at the freethrow line in the fourth quarter. Blake Knox also chipped in six points.

Fenton's leading scorer was Peter Kennings with 21 points. John Sage added six points, while Noah Lawrence had seven.

▶ Linden freshmen 51, Swartz Creek 47: The Eagles avenged a previous loss earlier in the season by defeating Swartz Creek. The Eagles jumped to a 32-15 halftime lead, and held on from there. Nick Koan led the Eagles with 17 points, while Zach Horst had eight points. Andrew Burns chipped in seven.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

► Lake Fenton JV 40, Goodrich 25: The Blue Devils (10-2, 13-7) completed a second-place GAC Red season by defeating Goodrich on Thursday.

Renee Shaw paced the team with 11 points, while Sage Fuller netted seven. "It was a really fun year," Lake Fenton

cach Hewitt Judson said. "The girls really listened well and we beat everyone we played, and the teams we beat the first time, we played better the second time we played them. Coaches appreciate improvement like that on a consistent basis.

Lake Fenton JV 36, Kearsley 18: The Blue Devils used strong defense

to earn the victory. Sage Fuller led Lake Fenton with 14 points, while Kayla Elrich chipped in 10 points. **BOYS SWIMMING**

▶ Fenton 98, Swartz Creek 88: The Tigers won nine of the 12 events, sparking the Metro League victory. Zac Miceli took part in four victories. Individually, he won the 100 butterfly (57.93) and the 200 individual medley (2:12.13). He also teamed with Austin Landis, Ian MacPhail-Fausey and Michael Fabatz to capture first in the 200 medley relay (1:49.81). He also teamed with Kyle Banner, Fabatz and Landis to win the 400 freestyle relay (3:37.98). Two others won two individual events. Banner took the top spot in the 200 freestyle (1:57.24) and the 500 freestyle (5:16.32), while Landis won the 100 freestyle (51.79) and the 100 backstroke (59.46). The final individual winner was David Parker in diving (182.05). **COMPETITIVE CHEER**

Division 2 District at Ortonville-

Brandon: The Linden competitive cheer team led area squads by placing eighth at the event. LInden had a three-round total team score of 653.92. Holly placed right behind the Eagles in ninth with a 649.04 score. Fenton placed 11th with a 641.68.

Division 3 District at Ovid-Elsie: The Blue Devils placed fourth at districts, qualifying Lake Fonton for Division 3

qualifying Lake Fenton for Division 3 regional competition. The top four teams in each district qualify for regionals. Lake Fenton posted a three-round

Lake Fenton posted a three-round team score of 655.56, just edging out fifth-place Leslie's total of 655.44. Lake Fenton trailed entering the final round, but its score of 269.90 was just high enough above Leslie's third-round 266.60, earning the Blue Devils the final spot. Lake Fenton started with a 196.60 first round, putting them in sixth place. However, a 189.06 second round raised them to fifth place, just behind Leslie for the final regional position.

HOCKEY

Pinckney 6, Metro League Griffins 2: Joe Morran and Mitch O'Lewin scored goals for the Griffins. Brendan Buerkel, Brandon Diener and Bobby Temple had assists.





Fenton hoops teams fall to Carman-Ainsworth

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789 Becki Moore didn't think her squad played particularly bad on Tuesday night.

In fact, she thought the Fenton varsity girls basketball team played well. But one thing didn't happen for the squad — the Tigers' shots didn't fall. The end result was Fenton losing a 55-31 contest to non-league Carman-Ainsworth on Tuesday night.

"We didn't shoot very well," Fenton coach Moore said. "We got the shots we wanted but we went 11-for-68 (from the field). It was one of those nights when you couldn't get much to fall. We rebounded the ball really well. We had a number of attempts when we crashed the boards, but we couldn't get the shots to fall."

The Tigers (9-10) were outscored 19-6 in the opening quarter. In the second period, neither team created much of an offense as Fenton trailed 24-12 at the break. Carman-Ainsworth slowly added to the lead in the second half.

Fenton did have nine girls score points, but only two scored as many as six. Sarah Cummings finished with a team-high 11 points and 10 rebounds, while Emma Evo had six points and seven boards. Carly Granger grabbed five rebounds, while Madison Shegos had four assists.

The Tigers begin district action on Wednesday against Brandon at Holly High School at 5:30 p.m. Boys Basketball Carman-Ainsworth 55, Fenton 46

The Tigers managed just 23 percent shooting, and hit on just 5 of 26 three-pointers, resulting in the non-league road loss.

"We played hard," Fenton coach Tim Olszewski said. "It was a close ball game throughout and each team had opportunities to maximize the chances. They hit their shots and a couple of more bounces went their way. Our kids played hard. Our kids always play hard. Sometimes shooting woes hit us. We have been a good shooting team this year and Carman allowed us to have good looks from the outside. They are good looks we'd take any given night."

Carman-Ainsworth managed to score at least 11 points in every quarter, while Fenton had two periods when the Tigers didn't score double-digits. Still, Fenton was able to get the gap within three during the fourth quarter. However, the Carman-Ainsworth lead grew to eight quickly within a couple of possessions.

"Those are the moments we need to clean up," Olszewski said. "We are within three and we turn the ball over. Then we force a shot on our next possession and it went from three to eight in 30 seconds."

See FENTON on 23A

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Fenton's Emma Evo (left) dribbles by a defender in a past game. Evo scored six points and grabbed seven rebounds in a loss against Carman-Ainsworth.

TOURNEY Continued from Page 20A

ton varsity girls basketball coach Becki Moore.

"For the most part you can look at any district and say that," Moore said. "Especially when you have districts with mostly league teams playing one another. We are all Metro teams with the exception of Grand Blanc, but I'm sure they've seen our teams play. ... Everybody should feel like they have an opportuity to win it."

With a glance of what's happened this season, it's easy to see why this year's Holly district may be the perfect example of what Moore is talking about.

Holly (10-9) split games with Linden and Fenton this season. The Bronchos played Brandon on Friday night and beat them by eight points the first time the two teams faced. Fenton split with Holly and entered its home game with Linden with an 0-1 mark against the Eagles. However, the Tigers (9-10) have swept Brandon (5-14) both times the two teams played as well. Meanwhile, Linden (8-11) also has its split against Holly and a victory against Fenton entering Friday. The Eagles only split against Brandon. The Blackhawks may be better than their record indicates, because they are just getting healthy now and have won four straight games. Grand Blanc is only 6-13, but they play in a tougher conference, which suggests the Bobcats will be as good as any of the other four Metro teams. In a couple of words, this district is completely up for grabs.

"I agree. On any given night anybody can beat anybody," Holly coach David Hall said. "Grand Blanc plays a very difficult schedule, but they play some good teams so their record is deceiving. Plus, Becki, (Linden coach) Ben (Varner) and myself have played a pretty tough nonleague schedule. … The biggest thing will be who can be healthy and play well on those two nights, or for Grand Blanc and Linden for three nights."

"We like our chances. No one is going to want to play us," Varner said. "No one ever knows what we are going to do. If we come out and shoot the ball good, we have as good a chance as anyone."

The tournament starts on Monday with Linden facing Grand Blanc at Holly High School at 7 p.m. The winner of that contest plays Holly at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Wednesday's first semifinal contest pits Fenton against Brandon. Finally, the finals are Friday at 7 p.m.

The Blue Devils (5-14) have had some struggles, but recently won a game against Flint Kearsley and are facing Flint Southwestern, a squad that has won five games as well. The best part is Lake Fenton will be at home for Monday's 7 p.m. game. The winner of that game will play either Ovid-Elsie or Durand Wednesday's semis at 7 p.m. at Corunna High School. The other half of the bracket includes state-ranked Goodrich, Powers and Corunna

"It's almost laid out, if we play with a little confidence, take care of the ball and make a few shots we have a decent chance to do well," Lake Fenton coach Brian VanBuren said. "I'm not saying we should beat Northwestern and will be handling Durand, but that's what is in front of us. We have the goal of playing Goodrich on Friday."

13TH

Continued from Page 20A

be the all-time winningest players in the high school. They've worked hard since the first and second grade."

The Bronchos have ended up 1-0 the last 13 times they've stepped on the court, meaning Holly currently holds a 13-game winning streak. It appeared entering Tuesday night the Blue Devils could give Holly a good battle, but in reality a tight game never happened. Despite Jake Daniels missing on his first four three-pointers, the Bronchos never trailed in the contest. Lake Fenton was tied at 9 for the last time in the contest. Lake Fenton's Chris Bell made a 22-foot three-pointer, deadlocking the contest.

However, Morgan Baylis answered with a nifty underhand scoop driving layup and Adam Tooley followed with a three-pointer, giving the Bronchos a 14-9 lead. Holly always had a lead from that point on. Lake Fenton cut the gap to 14-12 on another Bell hoop, but Daniels and Scott Maki nailed treys in the final minute of the quarter, giving Holly a 20-12 lead after one period.

Lake Fenton needed to take advantage of Daniels' slow start in the opening quarter, because he was anything but cold the rest of the game. Daniels scored a game-high 31 points and netted seven treys in the next two quarters. Actually, Holly's entire squad was hot in the second quarter, nailing 7-of-11 field goals. Included in that mix were four threepointers, three by Daniels, resulting in a 45-23 Holly halftime lead.

The Bronchos (16-2) never cooled off. The Bronchos nailed six threepointers and hit on 11-of-16 field goals in the third period, helping them blow the lead to 75-41 entering the fourth. Daniels scored 15 points during the third quarter, while Ian Hodges added 10 points. And while the Bronchos played subs during the fourth quarter, they still remained in control as six different players scored during the period, leading Holly to the 30-point win.

Holly finished the night hitting 14 treys and burying 32-of-62 field goal attempts overall. Twenty-one of those buckets were assisted.





Continued from Page 22A

Dillon Gardner and Peyton Coffman led the Tigers with 10 points each. Coffman also had six rebounds, while Gardner had four boards. Ben Hajciar netted eight points, while Austin Bossenberger had five points. Alec Thomas had six rebounds, while Ross Ebert had five boards. Aaron Boulay also had a strong game.

"He got in the game and did an exceptional job defensively and grabbing some loose balls," Olszewski said.

"His hustle led to six of our points at critical times."

Fenton played Linden on Friday night. To find those results, go to www.tctimes.com, or read Wednesday's edition.

The Tigers conclude regular season action with a home contest against Flint Powers on Thursday a 7 p.m.



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TRI-COUNTY TIMES I MARK BOLEN Macy Mitchell competes in a recent meet. The LFLF gymnastics team is preparing for regionals.

LFLF

Continued from Page 20A beam and fifth on the vault and bars. Finally, Nicole Haberkamp placed fifth on the beam and sixth on the floor.

The LFLF co-op team finished the season with a 5-0 record in its dual meets this season. The squad also swept Tecumseh and Cass City in another meet, and earned its first trophy, taking second at the eight-team Tecumseh Invitational.

The squad now prepares for regionals being held at Haslett High School on March 7.



Lake Fenton's Chris Bell (right) tries to get by Holly's Scott Maki in the Bronchos' 93-63 victory against the Blue Devils on Tuesday night.

"That's what we've been working on. We have been trying to take of the ball," Daniels said. "If we take care of the ball and take good shots, we are going to win basketball games.

"I loved the defensive effort. Everything we've been working on since day one is starting to form together."

"It was fun offensively, but we do what we do," Lance Baylis said. "We run, pass and hit open shots — no contested shots. We just have to get better."

Daniels had six rebounds to go with his 31 points. Hodges netted 16 points, four rebounds and two steals, while Maki had nine points. Already with Kyle Woodruff out due to a broken collarbone, the Bronchos played Tuesday without Josh Simms. Still, 11 players scored for Holly. It was a frustrating night for the Blue Devils (11-6), who wanted to show they were on par with the Bronchos. Instead, they never led and hit on just 19-of-53 shots from the field. Isaac Golson netted 17 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter, while Andrew Foerster had 12 points and six rebounds. Chris Bell had 11 points, five rebounds and two steals.

"Very uninterested group from us in the first half," Lake Fenton coach Jake Erway said.

"We didn't do what we needed to do. The things we practiced to get ready for these guys, we didn't do. The second half I thought we did a better job of that and they miss, what, three shots in the quarter? That's great shooting by them. I'm speechless about that."

Holly's offense has left many teams speechless this year.







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