

Tiger Tech open house opens doors

WEBSTER – What could be argued as the best technical education department in the area wasn't created overnight. For the past 20 years, lead instructor Roy Ward has built a program at Webster High School that re-establishes vocational training and skilled trades as a viable option for his students to pursue after high school. The jobs might require some manual labor but can be obtained with little student debt and with good starting wages. On Thursday, Jan. 30, Ward and colleague Ron Dorn, along with an army of orange polo shirt-clad students and area mentors, opened the doors of the Webster School tech ed department to highlight their latest projects and skills. - *Becky Strabel*



Volunteer electrician Robert Lindberg gave Terri and Rick Estridge a tour of Tiger Tech's third student-built home. The Estridges' Copycat Hearth and Home generously donated the fireplace for the home, which was stoked up and kept the chill out of the air on Thursday, Jan. 30.

PHOTOS BY BECKY STRABEL



A large selection of Tiger Tech merchandise was available for purchase at the open house.



Students in Tiger Tech are able to create three-dimensional metal chess pieces using a CNC machine. Two complete sets were available as raffle prizes at the Jan. 30 open house.



Former Nexen plant manager Gene Stanchfield volunteers and serves as a mentor to students in Tiger Tech. At the open house, Stanchfield was seen talking to visitors Paul and Leandra Koerper and their kids, Adam and Lindi.



There is a lot to be learned from each generation. Tech student Sam Smith was happy to show his grandfather Gary Smith around the Webster High School tech ed department.



Mason Getts stands behind a table of engine parts that he reassembled during the evening of the open house. Getts came in first in the state and fifth in the nation in the power equipment technologies SkillsUSA competition.



Mason Getts reassembled this 10 horsepower Briggs & Stratton engine in 40 minutes. He was disappointed in his time. "It should have taken me only 30 minutes to get it together," he said.



Representatives from Polk Burnett, Ryan Stalsberg and Cody Engstrand, were on hand to discuss careers in utilities and showed off safety equipment they use every day to help their co-op provide electricity to members.



Ethan Ashworth, instructor Ron Dorn, and Tim Fornengo take a moment for a photo between visiting with people who attended the annual open house.