**PART-TIME LAWMAKERS?**

Citizens’ group collecting signatures for less costly, part-time Michigan Legislature

**By Sally Rummel**

Michigan is one of only four states in the U.S. to support a full-time legislature, and there’s a citizen-led group trying to change that.

A statewide effort by the Committee to Restore a Part-Time Legislature is now underway to collect 400,000 signatures between now and June to get this proposal on the general election ballot on Tuesday, Nov. 4. This proposal would amend Michigan’s Constitution to change to a part-time legislature, 51 years after the last attempt.

**MEDICAL MARIJUANA**

Healthcare providers may now recommend medical marijuana, but it is illegal to sell.

**By William Axford**

axford@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

State law may allow you to have a medical marijuana card but that won’t save you from being terminated from receiving unemployment benefits. Lynda Robinson, a communications specialist with the state License and Regulatory Affairs, said when it comes to drug testing for employment, exceptions are not made. "Even if a person has a registry identification card, they can still be disqualified from receiving unemployment benefits."
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FRADULENT CHARGES

On Feb. 1, a 29-year-old Davisburg woman reported to Fenton police that there had been $3,000 worth of fraudulent charges on her Target credit card. She later used it at a Fenton restaurant and 10 days later, unauthorized transactions appeared. She said Target told her she would not be liable for the charges and to file a police report.

WEDDING RING MISSING

On Feb. 6, an 18-year-old Fenton woman and her 20-year-old husband reported to Fenton police that her $1,886 wedding ring was missing from their home. They provided the name of a former friend of Mr. Morris who had access to their home who might be responsible. Police are following up on the investigation.

OPENED, DAMAGED DOOR OF HOME

On Jan. 29, Fenton police responded to the trailer park near Owen and Jennings roads to investigate a complaint. A 27-year-old female resident said that when she returned home at 8:40 p.m. she noticed that her front door was open and the doorframe was damaged. Nothing was missing from inside. The woman gave police the name of a possible suspect.

FRAUDULENT CHARGES

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“Yes, we can?” Maybe not so much

My fellow Americans, the state of the Barack Obama presidency is... cautious? Defiant? Concealed? Humbled?

How about all of the above? Compared to last year’s State of the Union address, President Obama lowered his expectations this year. I’m sure he was thinking of the meager fruits of last year’s address. The Washington Post’s fact-checkers awarded him only five “wins” out of 24 proposals he checked.

Among the most stunning losses were proposed expanded mandatory background checks and other gun safety measures. Their failure, despite bipartisan support in the wake of the Sandy Hook school shootings, spoke volumes about the strength of Obama’s conservative opposition.

This year’s speech reminded me of Bill Clinton’s agenda adjustments after his own proposed healthcare proposal collapsed and the government went through back-to-back shutdowns in his face-offs with House Republicans led by Speaker Newt Gingrich. Obama threw down his own brand of right-wing shoot-ins, spoke volumes about the strength of Obama’s conservative opposition.

If you could have a vanity plate what would it say?

“My son is responsible for taking heroin but, so is the person who gave it to him. If we didn’t have drug dealers, our loved ones would be alive.”

Joe Graves, we want our roads fixed and plowed a couple times a year. We’re failing nationally in both primary and secondary education. You can get a one-time tax fix and the solution is to reduce taxes by a miniscule amount. Fix the important things please.

What’s with this new generation of kids these days? It seems like I see more and more grandparents are raising the grandchildren. Why are these kids not being responsible for their actions?

Obama talked about protecting us from what happened at Sandy Hook from ever happening again due to guns. What about drugs Mr. President? Many of our loved ones are dying—moms, dads, kids, friends, due to the epidemic of heroin in our own neighborhoods. What can be done to protect them?

Why has the signal at Silver Parkway and Owen Road been operating as a standard four-way traffic light for the last six months? The city got a federal grant to upgrade the signal to ‘smart’ lights. It is frustrating to see the light stop traffic on Owen when no one is waiting on Silver Parkway or in the Pizza Hut driveway.

How interesting, I read online that approximately 20 million passengers take cruises in the U.S. each year. Then, I read that the norovirus affected 21 million people each year. Coincidence? Maybe I am just jealous that I cannot afford to go on a cruise. Enjoy the snow!

Regarding the Salt trucks dropping salt ahead of the plows in Fenton. I saw that happen last winter too! I couldn’t believe my eyes. Someone really needs to check into this. What a waste of money. If I see it again, I will videotape it.

Are you still out of touch with reality that it is incomprehensible that there are adults that don’t have healthcare and some even have children, some young adults that wouldn’t have healthcare? I am embarrassed, in the richest country we argue about keeping basic necessities from people.

Gov. Snyder asks Michigan’s congress for $2 billion to fix roads, to add quality preschool to our K-12 public education, Congress cuts $1 billion a year instead. What is that called? An election year, Congress, please stand up and govern.

This President said last week that marijuana is no more harmful than alcohol and since he was deserted at 8 years old, he became a pothead and later used cocaine. He should take a brain scan to see how many brains he destroyed before he was an adult.

Most people understand that Bengazi was an act of terror and know that the President labeled it as such the day after the attack. If this is to be blamed on the incumbent President, then so is September 11.

See Hot Line throughout Times.

State of the Union — 2014

Suppose a president of the United States delivered a State of the Union address and nobody cared? Isn’t that what happened Tuesday night? The increasingly irrelevant— and, yes, boring Barack Obama droned on about predictable things in a predictably way.

A new ABC News-Washington Post Poll reveals the problem for the president. After taking office with sky-high approval and popularity in all of his State of the Union addresses. He claims the economy is improving and there has been strong job growth. Yet, according to a report from Sentier Research on household income, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the average number of weeks the unemployed have been without jobs has nearly doubled during Obama’s presidency. It’s easy to give a point-by-point rebuttal to an Obama speech, but why bother? America is getting over Barack Obama. He is like a holiday houseguest who stays too long.

All of the president’s lamentations and criticisms are about conditions that exist on his watch. It is his economy, his high unemployment rate, his dysfunctional health care plan and his ineffective foreign policy.

If Republicans reclaim the Senate, the president will be more than a lame duck. Politically he will be roadkill.

If you could have a vanity plate what would it say?

“I have one. It says ‘Luv Lucy’ because I am a huge fan.”

“Quilt Lady. I love to sew and quilt it’s my hobby.”

“Something about soldiers. My brothers made it home safe after the Pearl Harbor bombing.”

“Nana! I have five grandparents and that is what they call me.”

“Ed Anderson, in case my car got lost.”

“Be there for each other,” because I don’t think people are.”

Compiled by Torrey Christopher, intern

If you could have a vanity plate what would it say? street talk

“I have one. It says ‘Luv Lucy’ because I am a huge fan.”

— Skip Getz, Fenton

“Quilt Lady. I love to sew and quilt it’s my hobby.”

— Mary Laszko, Linden

“Something about soldiers. My brothers made it home safe after the Pearl Harbor bombing.”

— Betty Wardrop, Linden

“Nana! I have five grandparents and that is what they call me.”

— Marilyn Buchlake, Fenton

“Ed Anderson, in case my car got lost.”

— Ed Anderson, Fenton

“Be there for each other,” because I don’t think people are.”

— Mary Dickenson, Linden
Holly is officially back in the black

By Amy Mayhew
news@tctimes.com 810-628-8282

Holly — After spending approximately 240 hours performing the village’s audit ending June 30, 2013, representatives of the accounting firm of Plante and Moran informed Village Council members that the village of Holly is officially back in the black.

General Fund

Certified Public Accountant Chrystal Simpson said the village’s total revenue and transfers in amounted to approximately $2.6 million for the year, adding that the primary source of revenue came from property taxes.

Total expenditures and transfers out for the village amounted to about $2.5 million, Simpson said, a decrease of about $362,000 from 2012.

At the end of 2013, Simpson said the village’s General Fund balance was about $787,000.

While the village commits monies for some governmental fund like streets, the cemetery and sidewalks, Simpson said the village has approximately $189,000 in unassigned funds.

Total revenue and transfers in for governmental funds was about $702,000, with the majority, or about $348,000, coming in the form of Act 1 dollars for street projects, followed by about $276,000 coming in from special assessments for garbage collection.

Simpson said total expenditures for these funds amounted to $710,000 with $311,000 of that representing the garbage disposal fee paid as part of the garbage contract, and $348,000 paid in street costs. Fund balance for the governmental funds was about $505,000, Simpson said.

Water and Sewer Funds

Simpson said operating revenue for the water and sewer system was about $2.2 million of which the village received about $1.2 million for sewer services, and $1 for water. The operating expense was about $2.5 million with about $1.2 million representing water treatment fees, and about $975,000 representing the depreciation expense of the system.

While the village posted an operating loss of about $285,000 for water and sewer, overall, the village was able to increase its unrestricted net position, going from $997,000 to about $1.3 million. “That was due to some additional debt service charges and other types of revenue during the year,” Simpson said.

Revenue bond coverage

Unlike last year, the village had enough revenue to pay debt service, principal and interest payments on the water and sewer bonds. “You can see in 2011 that the water and sewer fund did not have enough revenue set aside to pay that year’s debt service, but for 2012 and 2013, you were able to set enough aside to be able to pay those back,” Simpson said.

Simpson reported that overall, the village had an increase of about $175,000 for sewer services, and about $327,000 for water, leaving the sewer fund with an $811,000 fund balance, and the water fund with approximately $1.5 million.
Want to get involved in your child’s school?

Local parent-teacher groups always looking for more volunteers

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com, 810-629-8828

From pencil sharpeners to iPads, the indelible mark of strong parent-teacher organizations is evident in today’s classroom area classrooms.

Whether you call the group P.A.L.S., PTO or TEAM (plus school name), the goals of these groups are the same: to involve parents, teachers and students together in the education of local kids.

“We’re small, but very active,” said Gwynne James, on the P.A.L.S. (Parents Active in Linden Schools) board at Central Elementary.

“We do a lot of fundraising,” said James. “All our money goes toward improving technology at our school,” said James. Their efforts have brought iPads into each classroom, interactive Apple TV and they’re now working on purchasing Promethean interactive white boards for each classroom. The second annual Technology Dinner & Silent Auction will be on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Parent-teacher groups are the “glue” that helps provide supplies, playground enhancement, field trips, school assemblies and more. “We give money to each classroom for materials and help with field trips, especially banding, and other school improvements,” said Missy Taylor, president of the PTO at Tomek-Eastern Elementary.

They’re also committed to technology, saying more than $1,000 at their Fall Fundraiser to help supply each teacher with an iPad. “This year’s event will go toward playground enhancement,” said Taylor. “We’re also actively involved in promoting the passage of bond proposals through our network of parents.”

Fundraising isn’t the only goal of these groups. See INVOLVED on 9

POLICE
Continued from Page 3

Aro said police are like any other city department — there are officers up-to-standard, and others that could use some improvement. “Probably the majority of us don’t eat as well as we should,” he said.

“I think it’s important to be well-rounded. I think you have to have the aerobic fitness and strength.

This is helpful when a routine day could turn into a foot-chase, or a forcible arrest.” I’m in a pretty strong propogent for being physically fit,” said Aro. “When you look at the essential duties and functions of police, you have to be fit to accomplish these.” Climbing and forcible arrests happen — up to around 30 in a month, he said.

Samples of MCOLES fitness standards

- Males 18-29 must be able to complete 30 push-ups, 32 sit-ups, be able to leap 17.5 inches and complete a half-mile shuttle run in 4:29:06.
- Females 18-29 must be able to do 28 sit-ups, seven push-ups, leap 11 inches and run the half mile in 5:35:5.

What about the Fenton Fire Department?

According to Fire Chief Bob Cairnduff, there is no statewide standard for firefighters. Each department adopts their own policies. We have standard employee physical, drug screens, and respirator exam that all new hires must pass.

They must also pass a firefighter ability test. This tests their physical condition within a firefighting environment. They must do things like drag the rescue dummy a set distance, climb our ladder interactive and pull up a weight from the ground using a rope, climb stairs in full gear carrying a pack of fire hose, etc. They must do all of these stations consecutively.

HOT LINE
CONTINUED

HATE TO TELL you, but it’s only Fox News listeners who imagine Obama has been involved in 10 major scandals. The rest of the country doesn’t know what you’re talking about because we have no ‘standing’ under the statute.

Involuntary termination of parental rights

- Females 18
- Males 18

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Snowcoming time at Holly high

King and queen to be crowned during Friday basketball game vs. Linden

By Amy Mayhew
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Holly — Spirits are running high at Holly High School this week as students gear up for Friday’s Snowcoming basketball game against the Eagles of Linden High School.

HHS students are showing their spirit throughout the week. This year’s senior Snowcoming king and queen candidates include Paige Baker, Adrienne Cheff, Leah Moller, Brittany Flynn, Josh Scramlin, Eli Parsons, Chandler Price, Michael Marsack, and Lady and Sir Spirit, Randy Hill and Austin Jennings.

LEGISLATURE
Continued from Front Page

after the Constitution was amended in 1963 to become a full-time governing body.

Under the proposal, the Legislature would meet for 60 days and lawmakers would have their pay reduced from a base pay of $71,685 to $35,000 a year. Currently, state lawmakers also receive an expense account of $10,800.

The group is being led by Norm Kammeraad, whose goal of collecting 400,000 valid signatures is actually greater than the required 322,609 signatures to put the constitutional amendment on the ballot. The deadline for getting the signatures is July 7. His view, according to an article that appeared in the Detroit Free Press, is that legislators who live and work with their constituents rather than receiving large salaries to be with the lobbyists and special interests in Lansing would help Michigan regain its prosperity.

Cons to the part-time Legislature idea is that lawmakers who work in the private sector have potential conflicts of interest, and may find it difficult to handle the time constraints of legislative and outside business interests.

Three other states, California, Michigan and Pennsylvania, also have part-time Legislatures. Another three, including Wisconsin, Illinois and Ohio, have semi full-time Legislatures.

The Michigan Senate and House are scheduled to meet 92 days this year, but elected officials point to the hours they put on the job back in their district, meeting with local elected officials and constituents.

“When hosting regular office hours or talking with constituents around town, this (part-time Legislature) is not an issue that is brought up too much,” said State Rep. Joe Graves (R-Argentine Township).

“This is not the first time that the idea of returning to a part-time Legislature has been brought up. Several bills have been introduced in the past, but none has gotten a hearing.

For more information on the effort, go to www.parttimemi.com.

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Firefighters
Continued from Front Page

fire truck trying to make it down an 800-foot gravel driveway flanked by trees, and you’ll see why Chief Bob Cairnduff is asking for a new truck.

Cairnduff proposed a new truck, which is small and nimble and able to transport thick fire hoses up longer driveways. In the Fenton City Council work session, he brought photos, one of which was of a heavy truck stuck in a driveway on its way to a burning building. The driveway was a two-track, and 740 feet long.

The truck was able to service the fire, but it illustrates the problem with bigger trucks and narrow driveways.

Township parcels are under a special assessment for fire services, and the department is paid a flat $1,366 fee per run, of which a large chunk is for equipment replacement. “We do need to figure their needs because we are the primary fire service out there,” said Cairnduff. His department went on around 150 calls in Tyrone last year.

Replacing a truck is a revolving part of the budget — the department has more than $270,000 for the 2013-14 fiscal year, and the truck would be paid off in 15 years. The department has two smaller multi-use trucks, and one is seven years old, the other is approaching 15.

The fire department wanted to prepare to replace it with something that could better serve the rural residents of Tyrone Township.

Cairnduff estimates the new truck would cost around $110,000. It would be four-wheel drive, multi-use “mini-pumper,” for a four-person crew. It would essentially match the truck they’re replacing, but this one would just have a bed capable of transporting hose up a driveway, while a pumper truck stays at the end to supply the water.

The truck they would be replacing ran on 180 calls last year, and can be sold for around $30,000.

The city council did not take a vote, but they gave the chief the nod to prepare to request bids, which would be ready in April, as multiple departments ask for bids at the same time.

When I’m not in Lansing, I am back in our communities meeting with, and listening to the hardworking taxpayers. — Joe Graves

State Representative for the 51st District
**CHILI**

*Continued from Front Page*

person that was judged to be second best, won the popular vote.

Materials for chili were pre-cut, but the chili itself had to be cooked on-site. Sammie Gisewhite won first place last year, with his aptly named *Sweet and Sour Chili*. He hopes to repeat his past success. “I am very confident this year,” he said through his handlebar mustache.

Daniel Coldren of Pontiac, originally of North Carolina, was out with Sydney Lorey of Linden. “I’ve never been out on the ice before, all this snow, I’m in my heaven right now,” said Coldren.

All that beer led to a lot of joviality, and no negative episodes — except one quad being parked in a homeowner’s driveway, keys included. Argentine police were called and the quad was reunited with its owner.

Drawing a lot of attention was a vehicle parked in one of the channels nearby, which submerged into the ice around 3:30 p.m. It was recovered by Woody’s Towing. No one was injured.

The party was cleaned up starting early Sunday and through the rest of the day. Nowiki said the clean up was “ugly,” and it continued into Monday. He said 26, 40-gallon bags were used for garbage, and kids came and picked up the returnables. Nowiki said money gathered from the cook off is used for the July 4 fireworks. Last year, the ice was almost too thin to hold it on the lake and the year before, it was on the road. This year at 28 degrees, the conditions were almost ideal — the extra snowfall did make the already narrow streets harder to pass, and one public launch claimed several vehicles to the snow.

**WOODY’S TOWING TO THE RESCUE**

At 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 1, Woody’s Towing responded to Lobdell Lake in Argentine Township to pull out a vehicle that had fallen through the ice. Bill Wood said when he arrived on scene the occupants of a Jeep had safely exited through the windows. He learned that after the Jeep initially submerged, it bobbed back up long enough for the occupants to exit. The lake was between 8- and 10-feet deep in this area. Wood’s dive crew went down and used an air bag to lift the back end of the Jeep. They hooked the Jeep up to their trailer hitch and pulled while also cutting through ice with chain saws and moving ice to clear a 100-foot path toward safer ice. Wood said that where the Jeep broke through was only about 3 inches thick. At one point, the trailer hitch broke, but Woody’s Towing were able to regroup and pull it out. Neither the number of occupants nor identities have been released.

**CHILI COOK OFF RESULTS**

There were 40 entrants for the chili cook off, judged by a panel of experts

First place: The Venison Shack (#31)

Cooks: Missy Smith, Jake Stone, Chris Leonard and Corey Powell

Second place: The Beach ain’t Chili (#66)

Cooks: Andy and Kelli Coates, Missy Smith, Jake Stone, Chris Leonard and Corey Powell

Third place: Paul’s Chili (#69)

Cooks: Andy and Kelli Coates, Jason LaFave, Kellie Palm assisted by Danny Szalfranski

Popular vote winner: (#69) — The Beach ain’t Chili, by Andy Kelli Coates, Jason LaFave and Kellie Palm

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A Harvard University study recently revealed that 62% of all personal bankruptcies filed in the US were due to inability to pay expenses because of a disability.

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Underwritten and issued by Auto-Owners Life Insurance Company
Are your passwords secure? Probably not

If you have to write down a password to remember it, it’s not a good one.

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8828

Living in a password-driven world, that may be easier to say than to do for most people. A 2012 survey found that in one month, 70 percent of computer users had forgotten at least one password. Yet these passwords are the key to some of the most important parts of your day — whether you’re trying to access data, communicate with friends or make an online purchase.

“Create passphrases that are easy to remember but hard to guess,” said Bruce Barnett of Network Services at Fentura Financial in Fenton. “Choose words that you will be able to remember together and tie them together. For example: Dog. Barke! Loud.”

He suggests that you substitute some numbers or symbols for letters (1 for L or S for F). For example: LoveCake5.

Another “password trick” from Paul Rosenzweig from The George Washington University Law School, formerly of the Department of Homeland Security, suggests that a person select a favorite quote, then use the first letter of each word of that quote as a password.

For example, if you choose this quote from “It’s a Wonderful Life” — “Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings,” then shorten that to the password ETABRAAGHW. Even better, choose a lesser-known quote, and do upper- and lowercase letters in a pattern that you set.

If numbers are required in the password, select something only you will know. Maybe you can use your home phone number from your childhood, and use every third number within the letters of your quotation.

Barnett also advises people not to use the same password on many different websites. “Use a Password Manager ( KeePass or RoboForm) and let it create passwords and remember them for you.”

If you do use the same password everywhere and it is hacked once, it means that the person who has that information now has access to all of your online accounts. A study by BitDefender showed that 75 percent of people use their email password for Facebook as well. If that’s also your password for your Amazon and PayPal accounts, you may lose funds as well as friends.

One interesting analogy is that “Passwords should be like underwear — change often” (maybe not every day though), do not share them with others or leave them out for others to see. Keep them mysterious and to yourself.

HOW TO CREATE A STRONG PASSWORD

DON’T: use words you can find in the dictionary, use numbers or letters in the order they appear on your keyboard, use the name of relatives, your kids, favorite team, and city of your birth.

- use your birthday, anniversary, date of graduation, car license plate number — hackers would try all these first.

- use common words like god, money, love, monkey, etc.

DO: use a string of text that mixes numbers, letters (upper and lower) and special characters.

- use eight characters or a lot more.

- use characters that are random and do not follow from words, alphabetically or from your keyboard layout.

- spell a word backward.

- use a long password, which is always stronger than a short password.

TIP: to make a super strong password that you can remember for different sites, take the first three letters of the site or service you’re entering and append them to the beginning or end of your strong password.

For example, on Amazon, you’d have “Kroyw3” + “AMA” and on email it could be “Kroyw3” + “EM4.” Your Facebook account could be “Kroyw3” + “FAC.”

Source: PCMag.com

Involvement

Continued from Page 6 groups, however. They also promote family activities through movie nights, daddy-daughter dances, family nights, etc.

Team Patterson at Patterson Elementary in Holly holds monthly family events, a Boo Bash in the fall, Cookies with Santa, etc. “Some are free, while others have an admission, which helps us raise money for field trips, classroom supplies, author nights and assemblies,” said President Tania Gruber. These groups are most active at the elementary school level, and then take a more behind-the-scenes approach at middle school.

At AGS Middle School in Fenton, PTO Co-President Kim Gruber said, “It’s a great way for parents to stay involved. The level of parental involvement changes at middle school, but the need is still there.”

The AGS PTO group funds many “extra” activities, supplies and programs not otherwise allocated in the district’s budget.

“Recently, we purchased a smart TV for the school office, to be used as an informational tool for parents and guests,” said Gruber. “We also financially supported the addition of more security cameras.”

These parent groups also make the educational job of administrators easier by providing support to staff, as well as students. “A lot of things they do through the PTO enhance what we are doing in the classroom,” said AGS Middle School Principal Heidi Ciesielski.

MARIJUANA

Continued from Front Page

receiving benefits if they test positive for drugs.

In October, Gov. Rick Snyder signed a package of bills linking unemployment benefits to drug testing. Under Public Act 146 of 2013, unemployment benefits can be terminated to prospective employees who refuse or fail to take a drug test when applying for a job. Snyder said in press releases that he supported the bill because he believed it would reduce unemployment fraud.

So far, the state has not released a report on how many people have been affected by PA 146. Robinson added that due to the nature of privacy laws, such a report may never be released by the state.

The law was sponsored by Rep. Ken Goike (R-Ray Township) of the 33rd district, who heard a business owner had to turn away more than 50 applicants for a job after they failed or refused to take a drug test. Rep. Jon Switalski (D-Warren) of the 28th district spoke in opposition to PA 146 before it was signed into law, stating that state legislators do not have to submit to a drug test once they take office, despite having their salaries paid by public tax money.

We’re paid by taxpayers and held by a different standard,” Switalski said in September. “To say to them, you do drugs, prove us wrong, I think reeks of elitism. We should hold ourselves to the same standard.”

During the same time, former Florida Rep. Trey Rudel was caught with possession of cocaine, shortly after voting for laws that would allow states to drug test those receiving food stamps. According to The Washington Post, Rudel resigned in January after being arrested in November and pleading guilty. Rudel’s case has sparked debate whether state and federal legislators should be drug tested in order to hold office.

Laws regarding medical marijuana and unemployment benefits could change in the future as two terminated workers are currently challenging PA 146. Eric Mistorovich, a lawyer representing one of the workers, is hoping the case will protect future medical marijuana users.

“The argument would be the new law is inconsistent with the Medical Marihuana Act, which states a medical marijuana patient will not be subject to penalty in any manner for their usage,” Mistorovich told the Times in December. “We’re going to ask the court to uphold exactly what the law states — that someone can’t be fired for medical marijuana use when there’s no sign of use at the workplace.”

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LF, Holly wrestling capture seconds

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

In 2011, the Lake Fenton wrestling team advanced to the Division 3 state championship match before losing to Richmond.

This year’s team just accomplished something the 2011 squad couldn’t.

Lake Fenton had nine wrestlers make it to the Genesee Area Conference championship matches and had five win titles en route to a second-place team effort at the event.

New Lothrop won its sixth straight conference title by winning the meet, but the Blue Devils were a dominating second at the event and in the overall standings, collecting 207 points, compared to third-place Goodrich’s 116 points.

“Nine in the finals was a great accomplishment,” Lake Fenton coach Vince Corcoran said. “I think nine was the most any Lake Fenton team has put into the finals at one time. And with New Lothrop having 10 or 11 in the finals, us coming out with five champions is fantastic.”

The Blue Devils’ champions were Jared Corcoran (125), Tristen Nevadomski (145), Carson Whaley (160), Andy Donoho (189) and Chase Hull (215). Donoho had the toughest road to his title, winning it by beating New Lothrop’s Cody Symons 3-1 in the final. Chase Hull also had a challenge but eventually beat Montrose’s Quintin Wilbur by a 3-1 score.

“Andy had to beat the second and third-ranked kids in the state to win his championship,” Vince Corcoran said. “Chase Hull took the title.”

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

Holmes’ three-year reign atop the Flint Metro League standings ended at the Metro Meet on Saturday.

The Bronchos placed the tri-county’s only two individual champions and had four in the finals, but it was only enough to earn them third place at the meet, won by team hosts the Brandon Blackhawk.

Kearsley placed second, earning the Hornets a tie with Holly for second in the final league standings. Linden placed seventh, while Fenton took eighth, and that’s where both schools finished in the final standings as well.

“It was a rough day. We didn’t wrestle particularly well,” Holly coach Don Ptata said. “When Brandon started getting momentum, it carried them and then we started getting a little flat and it got away from us.”

The Bronchos’ two league champions were Trevor Hatfield (125) and Andrew Scott (160). Hatfield edged out Linden’s Zach Shae to win his title.

“It was the first tournament Trevor has ever won at any level,” Ptata said. “He’s never won one at high school or middle school or anywhere until this week. I was real happy for him.”

Scott won his second Metro crown by pinning Brandon’s Max Wardell 10-1 in the finals.

The tri-county area had five others, besides Shaw, who earned a spot in the finals but had to settle for second. Linden had two others. Luke Zimmerman (103) lost to Brandon’s Brendan Ladd by pinfall, while Austin McNeill (215) lost to Lapeer West’s Jake Luckett by a 6-2 decision. Holly’s

SPORTS TRIVIA

Which two tennis players volleyed over 2,000 times without a miss?

David’s Dabblings

I am looking forward to the Winter Olympics starting up.

When I was a kid, I didn’t get too excited about the Winter Olympics. If hockey was on, I’d watch it. But most of the other events were pretty boring to me. I’m not a figure skating fan. I’m not a ski fan. And after watching a few athletes go down the run, events like the luge weren’t keeping my interest either.

But now, it seems the Winter Olympics are cooler, more hip. I don’t watch the X Games, but once every four years I can enjoy watching the Generation X competitions involving an iced-up half-pipe. Watching the tricks the athletes do in the winter event is pretty entertaining, just as long as you don’t make a habit out of it.

I also love the curling. And now that I am a curler myself, I feel like I’ll be able to watch the events with more awareness than ever before.

Finally, the hockey still remains a favorite. The passion the players compete with in hockey gives you the television. Hopefully, the U.S. can avenge its loss to Canada this Olympics.

TRI-COUNTY TIMES / MARK Belden
(Top photo) Lake Fenton’s Carson Whaley (back) was one of five individual title winners the Blue Devils had at the GAC tournament. (Immediately above) Holly’s Andrew Scott (bottom) throws Fenton’s Jack Anderson during a recent meet. Scott won a league title at the Metro meet.

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Fenton’s Evo headed to Ferris State

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

Hannah Evo couldn’t have had worse timing when it came to suffering a serious injury.

The Fenton varsity girls soccer team was in a regional championship match when she went down with her injury, one of two players who did.

But it also occurred close to the start of the AAU basketball season with the Michigan Mystics.

“I tore it right when the recruiting season was supposed to start for AAU basketball,” the Fenton senior said. “I was worried because I didn’t think people would get to see me play. The whole summer coaches said ‘I’m sorry this happened to you,’ and they weren’t able to do anything because they couldn’t see me play.”

But Evo has great determination and is a fighter. Just five months after suffering her ACL, Evo was practicing and playing varsity basketball with the Fenton Lady Tigers. And, her injury didn’t bother Ferris State either, as Evo has committed to playing collegiate basketball with the Bulldogs, an animal known for great determination.

“I talked to Ferris and sent them film from years before,” Evo said. “They saw me play during basketball tryouts (in November).”

Evo’s bounce back from injury has been impressive. Evo said she was cleared in less than four months for athletic play.

“I had a really good surgeon and therapist,” Evo said. “My recovery was accelerated. I was running at four weeks, and cutting a few weeks after that. It went really fast.”

“Luckily, I was in good shape before the injury. It made my comeback quicker. I had a really good trainer, Josh (Kosier) from Fenton Fitness. He helped me maintain my shape and my ACL.”

It wasn’t supposed to be that quick at first.

“I thought I’d be out six to nine months, but the surgeon said probably four to six months, and (said) ‘for you it’ll be about four months.’ That lifted my spirits.”

Now, Evo is starting with the Fenton varsity girls basketball team and unless you see the scar from the surgery up close, you wouldn’t even know she suffered the injury. She wears no brace and doesn’t favor her injured knee mentally or physically. In fact, she plays with the same in-your-face tenacity she displays regardless if she’s playing soccer or basketball.

“Honestly, when I am playing it does not bother me at all,” Evo said.

Evo has been a vital player for any varsity team she’s competed with at Fenton. During her junior season, she helped lead the girls basketball team to a district championship. Then, during the spring she was one of the members of Fenton’s state semifinalist girls soccer team. Known for both sports, Evo had to make a decision which to play.

“I was thinking soccer for awhile. Actually, my freshman and sophomore years I didn’t know,” Evo said. “I played advanced level for soccer my sophomore year and thought I might play soccer. I could’ve done it, but I really love basketball. It’s my sport.”

On the court, Evo plays primarily guard and is one of the Tiger’s best ball distributors. She’s also made a habit of earning steals, earning many games in her career where she’s had five or more steals against the opposition.

“They liked my work ethic and how I play defense,” Evo said about Ferris State. “I’m always working hard.”

Ferris State is a Division 2 school in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC). The Bulldogs currently hold a 5-6 mark in the GLIAC and 5-8 overall. The squad was 12-0 in the GLIAC and 13-13 overall a year ago.

“I am so happy to have this opportunity to play in the GLIAC,” Evo said. “I knew I probably wasn’t going to go D1 so I really wanted to play in the GLIAC and D2. I have that opportunity, so I took it.”

Records fall in Bronchos’ victory versus Blackhawks

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

Kyle Woodruff is just a sophomore not even two full seasons through his Holly varsity boys basketball career.

Yet, Woodruff already holds a career record.

Woodruff became the all-time record holder for career three-pointers in Holly history during the Bronchos’ 76-45 victory against the Brandon Blackhawks on Friday night. Woodruff netted four three-pointers, giving him 104 for his career, eclipsing the 103 Justin Fowler made during his Bronchos’ history.

Woodruff wasn’t the only hot-shooting Broncho on Friday. Holly ended up making 30-56 shots, including 11-for-24 from the three-point arc, leading the Bronchos to the victory.

“When we are playing the way we should be playing, everyone can score,” Holly coach Lance Baylis said. “That makes passing more effective. Whoever gets the ball open, that guy on Holly can score. Most teams have to pass the ball around to find one or two guys open who can score, we have five guys that can shoot.”

“Kyle is averaging three threes a game for his career. He had 66 as a freshman and now has around 39 as a freshman. He’s on schedule to have See RECORDS on 12
Tigers swim past Bronchos, 99-80

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

The Fenton varsity swim team remained perfect in Flint Metro League action and defeated a rival in the process.

The Tigers defeated Holly 99-80 in Metro action.

The Tigers had four swimmers win individual events. Kyle Banner won the 200 freestyle (2:07.54), while Zahn Macklin took the top spot in the 100 butterfly (1:06.03). Brent Nakkula was first in the 100 freestyle (54.04) and Michael Banner was first in the 500 freestyle (5:14.92).

Fenton also won the 200 freestyle relay with the team of Nakkula, Austin Landis, Landon Mikulenas and Zac Miceli (1:38.03). They had the top time in the 400 freestyle relay with the team of Mikulenas, Brant Cassidy, Landis and Miceli (3:41.15), but swam the event exhibition.

The Tigers swept the top three spots in the 200 freestyle and the 100 butterfly. The Tigers swam many events at the end of the meet as exhibition performers.

Holly had two individuals finish with three victories. Peyton Molzahn and Thomas 28-17 in the second quarter, leading 52-22 at the break, and the rout was on.

Holly finished with eight different players scoring points, and with six scoring at least seven. Jake Daniels netted 18 points, five assists and five rebounds, while Woodruff finished with 16 points. Logan Spiker had nine points and nine boards, while Josh Simms netted nine points and five rebounds. Adam Tooley had seven points and Parker Rouse had seven points to go with his nine assists and five rebounds. Steven Redmond chipped in six rebounds and two assists.

Fenton’s Brant Cassidy took second in the 100 backstroke, and also was a member of Fenton’s 400 relay team which posted a time of 3:41.15.

Tom O’Connor won two events individually and also teamed with Ryan Osborn and Zach Zerwich to win the 200 medley relay (1:56.23). Molzahn took

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Two of her five children were bed-wetters, too. She never dwelt on it. Perhaps bed-wetting has a genetic basis. Parents ought not to grumble and blame their children. We should be thankful for such small challenges and for having normal children. — S.B.

ANSWER: Genes strongly influence bed-wetting. Bed-wetting is involuntary. The child is in no way responsible. In my opinion, punishing or humiliating a child for wetting the bed is child abuse.

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**Richard E. Harper Jr.**

Richard E. Harper Jr. - October 29, 1958-January 20, 2014 - Surviving are his parents, Richard Sr. and Rose-Marie Harper; wife, Patti Harper; daughters, Hannah and Rachel; brother, Craig Harper; sister, Rhonda Harper-Welch. We miss you so, we will love you now and forever.

**Marvin Ray Cuppernoll**

1927-2014

Marvin Ray Cuppernoll - age 86, of Linden, died February 2, 2014. Funeral services will be held 11 AM Thursday, February 6, 2014 at Linden Presbyterian Church, 119 W. Broad St., Linden. Pastor Seth Normington and Rev. Don Neville will officiate. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery. Visitation was held 5-9 PM Tuesday, and also will be held 1-4 and 6-9 PM Wednesday at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 206 E. Broad St., Linden. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make contributions to the American Cancer Society. Marvin was born August 4, 1927 in Enid, OK, the son of Percy and Nellie (Anderson) Cuppernoll. He was married to Betty Jean Lamson on November 19, 1949 in Flint. He retired from General Motors, Fisher Body Grand Blanc after 25 years of service. He was a member of Linden Presbyterian Church. He had served as President of the Village of Linden and Genesee County Sheriff’s Marine Patrol. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. Surviving are: wife, Betty; three sons, Jeff and wife Julie of Linden, Dan and wife Cindy of Byron, Tim and wife Karyn of Pinckney; grandchildren, Beth Cuppernoll of Fenton, Annie Cuppernoll of Linden, Chris Cuppernoll of Indonesia, Jenny and husband Bryan Telfner of Byron, Nicole and husband Ryan Gleason of Bettendorf, IA, Matt and wife Marla Cuppernoll of Pensacola, FL, great-grandchildren, Weston, Wyatt, Lachlan, Gars, Noela and Matthew; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Wally and Bob; in-laws, Matilda and Ralph Lamson; brother-in-law, Jack Lamson. Online condolences may be posted on the obituaries page of www.sharpfuneralhomes.com.

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