

**THURSDAY**  
January 7,  
2010

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# WESTLAND OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com



**Warriors' quick start fizzles out**  
Sports, B1

## AROUND TOWN

### Tree pickup

The city of Westland will pick up Christmas trees at the curb on the regularly scheduled garbage day through Friday, Jan. 15.

No other compost will be collected until the compost season resumes April 1.

### Hawaiian luau

Take a break from winter at a Hawaiian Luau hosted by the Westland Rotary Club 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Jan. 30, at Joy Manor. The cost is \$90 per couple including an Hawaiian-style buffet, entertainment from dueling pianos, live and silent auctions and a raffle. Hawaiian attire is optional.

For tickets, contact Gary at (734) 729-6683.

Rotary will also hold a luncheon in partnership with the Westland Historical Society Thursday, Feb. 11, at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center. Historical Society president Georgia Becker will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$15 per person with proceeds benefiting the historical society.

Call Mary at (734) 812-5407 for tickets.

### Glow skating

Mike Modano Ice Arena now offers Glow Skating 5-5:50 p.m. every Wednesday and 7:30-8:50 p.m. each Friday. Come out for a unique skating experience as the lights are turned out and the music is turned up for a glowing good time.

The arena is at 6210 N. Wildwood at Jaycee Park. For more information about arena programs, call (734) 729-4560.

### Coffee hours

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold district coffee hours on Monday, Jan. 11, in Westland and Redford. No appointment is necessary.

From 9-10 a.m., Anderson will be at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. From 10:30-11:30 a.m., Anderson will talk to constituents at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with the senator but are unable to attend may contact him by mail: P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48933; Phone: (866) 262-7306; or e-mail: SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

# New council members take office

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Mayor William Wild and four council members were ceremonially sworn into office Monday by area judges, including the mother of one newcomer, and the Lord Mayor of Amherstburg, Ontario.

Wild and the incoming council members — incumbent Dewey Reeves and newcomers Christine Cicirelli Bryant, Adam Hammons and Meriem Kadi — officially took the oath of office in Clerk Eileen DeHart's office. The well-attended inaugural ceremony at the Bailey Recreation Center was a chance for family, friends, supporters and anyone interested to view the swearing in.

In their remarks, all of those taking office thanked family, friends and voters for support and expressed their goals of working together in the best interest of residents.

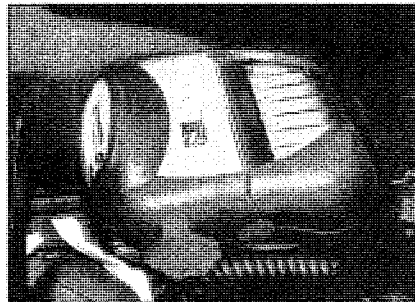
Wild, who like Hammons was sworn in by 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell, said that he appreciated the faith placed in him by voters.

"I come to work each day. I couldn't do without the department heads — they work hard for the residents," said Wild, who ran unopposed for his first four-term as mayor. "I look forward to working with the council. We have to work hard together — the next couple of years will be the toughest we've faced."

Please see **COUNCIL, A2**



Mayor William Wild was joined by his family as he was sworn in for a four-year term Monday including son Luke, who seemed to be taking the oath himself, and daughter Lily. The oath was administered by 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell.



Westland police are now issuing tickets and impound slips electronically. This is the ticket printer used by patrol officers.

## Cops start issuing e-tickets

Officers to get new laptops, Page A2

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Don't look for the traditional ticket book if you receive a citation from a Westland police officer — the department's tickets have gone electronic.

"We would generate a ticket from a laptop in the car or from a desktop PC in the station," said Lt. Scott Fetner, who is in charge of support services. "The scout car has a printer and the one copy (of the ticket) goes to the violator."

The e-citation moves to an electronic queue for approval by the shift commander before it becomes available to 18th District Court.

Along with the e-ticket, officers also produce electronic accident reports and vehicle impound slips that can be printed for citizens.

"It cuts down on paper — we pay big money for blank tickets. Sometimes if the system is down or they are doing maintenance, we can still write a hard-copy ticket," said Fetner. "It's a steady progress to be paperless."

The electronic system also allows the officer to import the personal



Westland police Lt. Scott Fetner, who heads the Support Services Bureau, works on a computer in a patrol car. The department recently moved an electronic ticket, report and impound slip system. A federal grant will fund the purchase of new laptop computers.

information of someone they checked in the Law Enforcement Information Network.

"They can use a pull down to pop in information. That eliminates errors — they don't need to physically type it in," said Fetner. "It saves a lot of time and effort. There is a drop down for important information — we used to have to search for codes."

As part of the over 100-member Court and Law Enforcement Management Information System, Westland police received the necessary software at no charge. The department was able to purchase needed in-car printers through funding from a grant and Westland 18th District Court, which worked closely with the police department on the new paperless programs.

"We had great cooperation with the court — they really collaborated with us, especially on the tickets," Fetner said. "They really had to change the way they work on this."

The court will access the tickets online and needed to make no changes in the current case management system to accommodate the e-citations, said 18th District Court Administrator Beth Cargill.

"It actually makes it more convenient. The information from the ticket can be populated into our case management system," said Cargill. "It cuts down on the data entry that has to be done by a clerk. A big plus is that it's easy to read — that's nice for the clerk who handles the ticket entry and the person who receives the ticket."

The electronic system allows people to pay their fines and also to get copies of their accident reports online.

"We're definitely working towards less storage. It's a little change at a time. We'll work through how we process it rather than eliminating paper all at once," said Cargill. "The process we use beginning to end, once the court gets the ticket, needs to be cut

in a lot of places. We are trying to ease into the process."

There will always be a need to print some tickets, Cargill said, noting citizens issued tickets will have paper copies.

"As much as we like to think we all have e-mail and go online — one option is to pay tickets online — not everyone wants to access a computer," she said. "There are people who aren't used to the system or necessarily excited about change. Soon, we'll be thinking how did we ever do without it?"

Westland police officers have been writing their incident reports electronically since 2004. The last hand-written task for officers is keeping daily activity logs.

"The last part of the puzzle is generating the activity logs electronically and we'll probably do that in January," said Fetner.

lr Rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428

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## Pay frozen for city's appointed officials

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As work begins on Westland's budget for the next fiscal year, the city's appointed officials are setting the tone by taking a pay freeze.

"Things are going to be tight for the city financially. The pay plan does a couple of things," said Mayor William Wild. "They are taking a pay freeze — they are the first employee group to step up."

The appointed officials, along with employees in the mayor's office, will give up a scheduled 2 percent pay increase that would have gone into effect July 1.

Pay grade 1 positions including the assessor, public services director, recreation director, parks and finance director, fire and police chief will remain at \$96,248.

The community development director position pay is \$91,435;

\$88,301 for deputy fire chief; and \$86,623 for positions including building director, executive assistant to the mayor, economic development director, personnel director and senior resources director.

Car allowances for the employees, most of which were \$2,000 annually, have been reduced to \$1,500. The savings from the pay freeze and car allowance reduction will total approximately \$45,000.

Additionally, these employees no longer receive longevity pay — \$100 per year of service after working three years for the city — unlike most other city staff.

New hires are also receiving their medical coverage through Community Blue, a less expensive plan for the city, and contributing 5 percent toward their pensions.

With the city projecting a \$3.5 million deficit in 2010-11 — a number expected to reach \$12 million the following fiscal year —

Wild said he has been negotiating with the city's largest city employee union, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, representing public services, parks and recreation and clerical employees.

"We still have more work to do. I'm also talking to the police and fire unions. We're also looking at savings with furlough days," said Wild. "That won't work with every type of employee, but we're definitely looking at it."

Along with approving the pay plan for appointed officials and the mayor's office, the council also approved pay packages for Clerk Eileen DeHart and Deputy Clerk Tina Stanke. Neither will be getting the scheduled 2 percent raise but both continue to receive the \$2,000 car allowance and longevity pay.

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# Officers to get new laptops

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland police officers have been using laptop computers in patrol vehicles for six years and should be getting replacements soon, thanks to a federal grant.

"When this appropriation came through, I told (Support Services Bureau Lt. Scott) Fetner to replace the laptops," said Chief James Ridener. "They are at the end of their life. All really ties together well. We hope to get the funding in the next three or four

months." Ridener was referring to the department's switch to an electronic system for tickets, reports and impound slips. The department is receiving \$200,000 for the new laptops — part of a \$141 million appropriation that will fund 150 projects in Michigan including \$3.5 million for the Ann Arbor to Detroit regional rail project, \$200,000 for a First Step Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program in Taylor and \$1 million for a firearms reduction program through the Detroit Police Department.

"We had asked for \$700,000 for the in-car computers and also 10 new police cars, a crime analyst and dispatchers," said Ridener. "By the time it came out of committee, it was pared down to \$200,000." The new computers, which sit in frames hard-wired into the patrol car, will allow officers to swipe the bar code on the back of someone's driver's license to access their personal information, Ridener said. "This provides a huge savings of what would have had to come out of our general fund to replace this technology,"

said Ridener. "The cost for us to replace our laptops will be right about \$200,000. The computers we use are a little more sturdy — they are ruggedized laptops. In day-to-day operations, we give the computers a beating in and out of the cars." Westland had also hoped to get stimulus funding to hire three additional officers. "We didn't get funding in the first round for hiring officers, but we hope to get funding in the second round," said Ridener.

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## AROUND WESTLAND

### Weight Watchers

The Friendship Center has a Weight Watchers program offered to members only. Meetings are 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday. Weight Watchers offers educational meetings to assist members in making better food choices and living a healthier lifestyle. This program can help older adults control Type II diabetes, high cholesterol and other diseases where weight may be a factor. To participate in this program, you must be 50 years or older and a member of the Friendship Center — no exceptions.

The center also offers other programs that may help you realize your weight or lifestyle goal. Check out exercise programs for supportive classes to healthier living.

### Spaghetti dinner

The monthly spaghetti dinner at the Dyer Senior Center in Westland will be 4-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and dessert, as well as entertainment, for \$6.

The center also has pinochle and euchre games at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinochle is played at 1 p.m. Fridays.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 419-2020.

### Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 11, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Citizens are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes place on the second Monday of each month. LeBlanc also invites residents to join him and Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt for refreshments and an informal fireside chat 6-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 11, at the William P. Faust Public Library.

Residents who have any comments or concerns can also contact LeBlanc toll-free at (888) 737-5325 or at (517) 373-2576 or send an e-mail to richardle-

blanc@house.mi.gov. Gebhardt represents the communities of Inkster, Westland and the southern portion of Livonia. Constituents can also contact her office at (313) 224-0902.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold local coffee hours in Westland and Redford on Monday, Jan. 11. Anderson will be at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland, 9-10 a.m. and at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48933; by phone toll-free at (866) 262-7306; or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

### Tax preparation

As the new year starts, it's not too early to start thinking about taxes. The Friendship Center will once again host the AARP Tax Preparation program for all low- and moderate-income residents.

The program is staffed by volunteers and offered free. The Friendship Center is an E-file site only. Appointments are required. Generally, the tax return service offered through AARP is for simple returns. Those individuals with lengthy returns, many rental properties or investments are encouraged to have a CPA or professional firm complete their returns.

There is no age or specific income requirement. The site manager has discretion over what returns they are willing and able to complete.

This year, taxes will be done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The preparers are only on site during the day the center offers the service so any tax question regarding a return must be taken by a staff person and returned by a preparer at their convenience.

Call (734) 722-7628 for more information and appointments.

Annual Fairy Princess Ball Celebrate Valentine's Day with your favorite princess at the annual Fairy Princess Ball. This year's event will take place on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Bailey Recreation Center. There will be dancing to disc jockey ThirDimension, Dj Group, which specializes in providing all the songs girls love best. There will be traditional "top 40" tunes as well as special dances like the Bunny Hop, the Hokey Pokey, the Cha Cha Slide, the Chicken Dance and many more.

There will be refreshments served by Fairy Godmothers. If Dad can't come, bring Grandpa, older brother, uncle, or a special family friend to accompany the princesses. All ages are welcome but pre-registration at the Bailey Center by Feb. 3 is mandatory.

There are two sessions — 3-4:30 p.m. and 5:30-7 p.m. The cost is \$20 per couple, including entrance fee, snacks, gifts and complimentary picture and \$7 per each additional daughter.

### Friends of Eloise

The Friends of Eloise meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December) at the Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. For information, call Jo Johnson, (734) 522-3918.



Returning Councilman Dewey Reeves didn't follow his colleagues in having the oath of office administered by a judge. Instead, the oath was given by his friend Wayne Hurst, Lord Mayor of Amherstburg, Ontario.

## COUNCIL

FROM PAGE A1

Despite the challenges the city will be facing, Wild said he felt good about having people of integrity in places of leadership in the city.

Bryant became emotional as she was sworn into office by her mother, 18th District Court Judge Sandra Cicirelli, a former mayor.

"I want to say a special thanks to my mom. My whole life, she has been a great role model. She always has pushed me to do my best," said Bryant. "I hope my boys will look back and be as proud of me as I am of her."

The only returning coun-



New Councilman Adam Hammons is sworn in by 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell during a ceremony at the Bailey Recreation Center Monday.

cil member, Dewey Reeves, opted to have his oath of office administered by friend Wayne Hurst, Lord Mayor of Amherstburg, Ontario.

"As we move forward, it is very important that we work together. It's going to be difficult, but we are more than capable," Reeves said. "To the residents, thanks for trusting me and electing me for another term. I see nothing but good things for the city."

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New Westland Councilwoman Christine Cicirelli Bryant poses with her mother, 18th District Court Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli, who administered the oath of office to her daughter.

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Novi, MI 48374  
(Conference Rooms A, B, & C)

**To Attend:**  
1-866-501-DOCS

**JANUARY 21**  
Thursday  
6:30 pm

**St. Mary's Mercy Hospital - Livonia**  
36475 Five Mile Road  
Livonia, MI 48154  
(Auditorium)

**To Attend:**  
1-734-655-2400

**JANUARY 28**  
Thursday  
6:30 pm

**Summit on the Park**  
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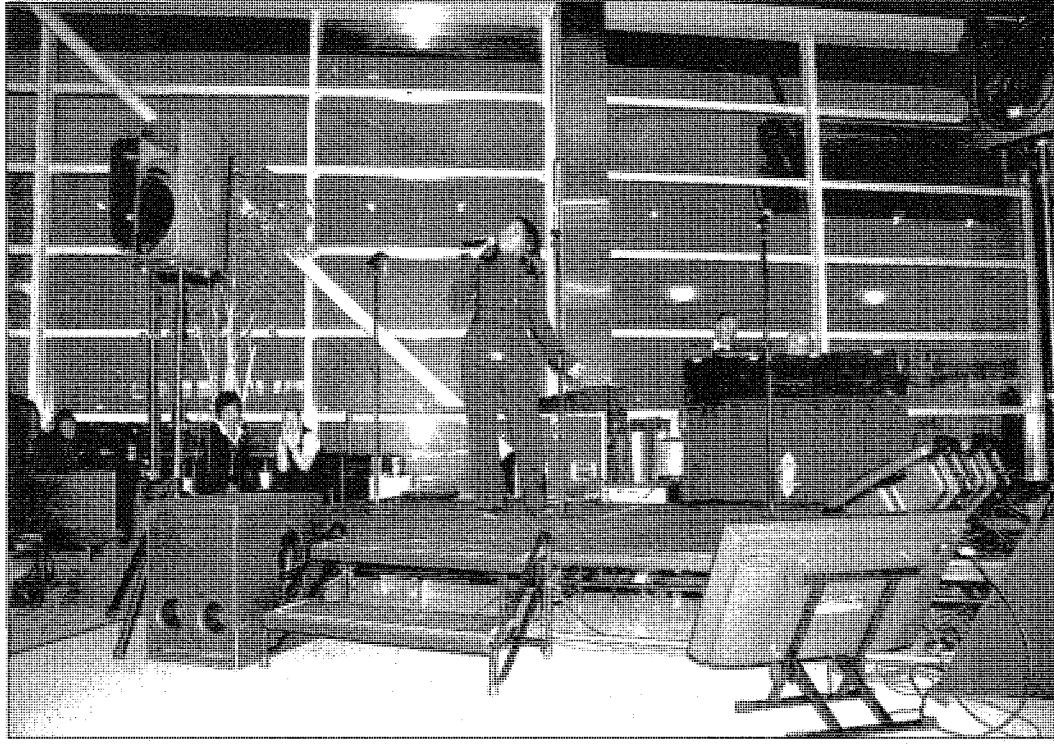
# Airport karaoke benefits W-W Salvation Army

Travelers and employees filled Detroit Metropolitan Airport's (DTW) McNamara Terminal with song this holiday season, raising more than just holiday spirits. The four-day karaoke fundraiser, "Sing Because You Care," raised \$2,655 for the Wayne-Westland Corps of The Salvation Army. The event was organized and hosted by employees of Delta Air Lines and Wayne County Airport Authority.

From Dec. 20-23, more than 700 travelers and employees in the terminal took the stage near the McNamara Terminal's iconic water feature in Concourse A to celebrate the holidays and support a good cause. Performers were asked to contribute at least \$5 per song; some gave much more, while several others contributed while just watching the free entertainment.

"This program came to be by the initiative of local Delta Air Lines and Wayne County Airport Authority employees who got together on their own to conceive of and champion an event to benefit both our customers and community," WCAA CEO Lester Robinson said. "We're very proud of these team members, as well as the entire airport community, for making this event such a success."

Andy Zarras, Delta vice-



Performers contributed at least \$5 per song to perform on stage near the McNamara Terminal's iconic water feature in Concourse A.

president of Airport Customer Service for Detroit, said Delta is proud to be Detroit's hometown airline. "We are honored to have had this chance to help support the community that has embraced us with open arms."

Said Airport Authority Public Affairs Manager Scott Wintner, "When Delta employees first approached a group of Airport Authority employees

with the idea for this event, we all agreed that simply paving the way for this kind of activity would be a success in-and-of itself. By the end of day four, travelers and employees blew past our modest expectations with an outpouring of participation and support. We had singers of all ages and backgrounds and actually discovered we have some incredible talent in this community!"

The four-day event was sprinkled with special appearances by several celebrity participants. Teen superstar Justin Bieber, who was passing through Detroit on his way home to Ontario, hopped up on stage to perform for the cause. Emerging star vocalist Jonathan Shew of New York City nearly missed his delayed flight home as passers-by kept dropping donations in the



Visitors at Detroit Metropolitan Airport listen to a performer during the four-day karaoke fundraiser.

collection box to keep him on stage. Local Detroit singer Sharon Jones took time away from the recording studio to sing, and a former American Idol contestant who happened to be passing through DTW added his support with a song as well.

Airport Authority staff also discovered during the event that "Sing Because You Care" had become the topic of conversation on social media networks such as Twitter, where customers passing through the airport would tip off passengers elsewhere in the terminals to the action. Customers and employees also posted photos and videos of the karaoke stage taken from their mobile

devices and posted them on YouTube within minutes. "Social media definitely played a role in increasing participation, and ultimately, in the event's success," Wintner added.

Select clips from the four-day event are available on the Airport's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/flydtw](http://www.youtube.com/flydtw). Photos and video are also available via the Airport's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/flydtw](http://www.facebook.com/flydtw). Follow DTW Airport on Twitter @DTWteetn.

Support for "Sing Because You Care" was also provided by The Westin Detroit Metropolitan Airport, Wings Financial and Joe Scafero.

# Bed Bath & Beyond store commits to five-year lease

Westland will have a Bed Bath & Beyond store for at least another five years.

Store officials have notified the city that the lease on the building at 35120 Central City Parkway has been extended.

"We are working hard to retain businesses. Our big boxes in that area have been vacated," Mayor William Wild said. "This is an important big box for us. The store is a

bellwether for that area. Sonic picked that area. We were worried about Bed Bath & Beyond — we knew their lease was up."

Sonic opened last fall at the corner of Wayne Road and Central City Parkway. Located immediately west are Best Buy and Bed Bath & Beyond. Further west along Central City Parkway, which has vacant big box stores, has been a long-standing concern for city

officials. "Since we first opened our doors in Westland in 1999, Bed Bath & Beyond has been committed to providing exceptional customer service, a broad and deep assortment and great value to our Westland customers," said Steven Temares, chief executive officer of Bed Bath & Beyond. "We look forward to continuing these traditions for years to come."

Wild echoed the comments of Temares, adding the popular retailer has been a valued city business for many years.

"Bed Bath & Beyond is in the heart of Westland's 'Shop & Dine District' and is a staple for Westland residents looking for high-quality household goods, seasonal items and gift and bridal registry services," the mayor said.

"Shop & Dine Westland" is a

city initiative aimed at promoting and supporting local businesses.

Bed Bath & Beyond offers an extensive line of merchandise that includes bed linens, bath accessories, window treatments, kitchen linens, as well as cookware, dinnerware, glassware, lifestyle accessories, closet and storage and juvenile items. As of Aug. 29, 2009, there were 943 Bed Bath &

Beyond stores in 49 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Canada.

"During these tough economic times, Westland values all businesses and especially those who choose to reinvest in our All-American City as Bed Bath & Beyond has elected to do. I encourage and applaud residents for supporting city businesses including this exceptional retailer," Wild said.

# Cancer fighters prepare for May 22-23 Relay for Life

BY SUE BUCK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Celebrate, remember and fight back.

That's what the leaders of the annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life effort proclaim as they enter another fund-raising year.

Teams and Planning Committee volunteers are now being accepted for the American Cancer Society fourth annual Relay For Life of Garden City.

The event will be held at the Garden City Middle School track, located at 1333 Radcliff, from 10 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday, May 22-23.

All local churches, businesses, organizations, friends and family, schools and survivors are being invited to join the fight by forming a team, join-

ing the planning committee, becoming a corporate sponsor or participating in the event.

"Relay For Life is the society's signature event, dedicated to increasing awareness and raising funds to fight cancer," said community organizer Chiara Clayton. "Teams of family, friends and co-workers camp out overnight, taking turns walking the track. During the event, participants and visitors will have a chance to celebrate the victory of area cancer survivors, remember those we have lost to the disease, and fight back against the disease that takes too many."

Last year, Relay For Life of Garden City raised \$100,000 for the society's research, services and programs, hosted 500 walkers, and celebrated more than 100 cancer survivors.

For more information on how to get involved or to sign up your team, call Clayton at (248) 663-3420 or e-mail her at [chiara.clayton@cancer.org](mailto:chiara.clayton@cancer.org).

Also visit [www.relayforlife.org/gardencitymi](http://www.relayforlife.org/gardencitymi).

The American Cancer Society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by saving lives, diminishing suffering and preventing cancer through research, education, advocacy and service. Founded in 1913 and with national headquarters in Atlanta, the society has 13 regional divisions and local offices in 3,400 communities, involving millions of volunteers across the United States.

For more information anytime, call toll-free (800) ACS-2345 or visit [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

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# PUBLIC SAFETY

## Woman arrested for shoplifting at Sears

### Retail fraud

Police were called to Sears, 35000 Warren, Jan. 3 about a Canton woman who was arrested for shoplifting \$290 worth of clothing including seven pairs of panties, gloves, bras, shirts and Hello Kitty bags, boots and a jacket.

An employee told police that she had watched the woman enter the fitting room with items and exit carrying a Sears bag containing merchandise. The woman was stopped leaving the store.

### Larceny from a vehicle

On Jan. 3, a Detroit man told police that someone had smashed a window on his vehicle while he was parked at Willow Creek Apartments, 37597 Willow Lane. Reported missing were

### WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

a pair of athletic shoes and a portable CD player valued at \$120.

### Larceny from a vehicle

A resident of an apartment at 30660 Warren told police Jan. 3 that someone had broken a window on her vehicle and stolen the power cord to her GPS unit. The cord was valued at \$20.

### Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 8500 block of North Hubbard told police Jan. 3 that someone had entered her unlocked vehicle and took \$5 from the center console. She said the car had been parked overnight and in the morning she found the car had been ransacked.

### Retail fraud

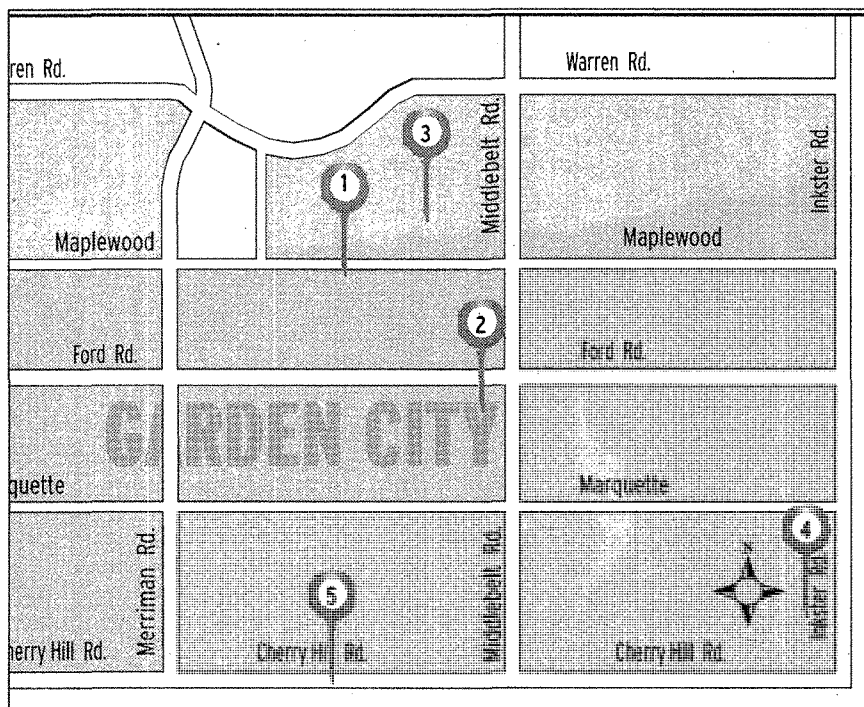
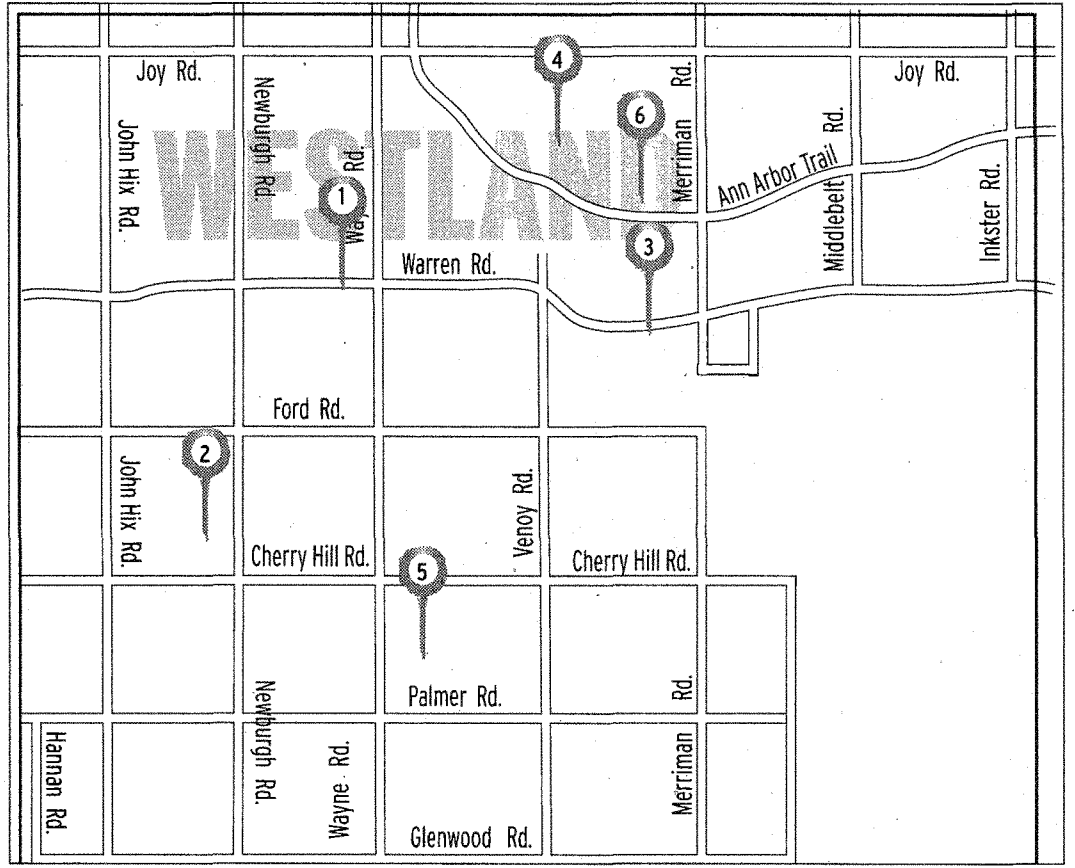
A Wayne man was arrested for shoplifting a pair of pants and earphones valued at \$42 from Kmart, 165 S. Wayne Road, Jan. 3.

An employee told police that he spotted the man removing the earphones from their packaging and concealing them. The officer said the man had no identification or money.

### Larceny from a vehicle

On Jan. 3, a resident in the 32000 block of Mackenzie told police that someone had stolen his wallet from his unlocked vehicle. He said the wallet contained \$2 cash, his driver's license, debit card and medical cards.

-Reports compiled by staff writer LeAnne Rogers.



## Homeowner reports suspicious incident

### Break-in

Garden City police found inconclusive evidence in a reported home invasion about 5:30 p.m. Jan. 4 in the 6550 block of Sunset Drive.

They found different kinds of scratches on the door but not the type of scratches which proved to have evidentiary value.

The homeowner returned home and said that she found a door open that she left locked.

### Retail fraud

Loss prevention officers reported three separate shoplifting incidents at the Kmart store located at 29600 Ford Road, west of Middlebelt.

About 6 p.m. Dec. 31, a 23-year-old Inkster man was arrested after

### GARDEN CITY POLICE BRIEFS

he didn't pay for a pack of Dr. Scholl's insoles.

A 48-year-old Garden City woman was arrested about a half hour earlier Dec. 31 after she stole two consumable items.

A 45-year-old Garden City woman was arrested about 5:30 p.m. Dec. 30 after she concealed a ballpoint pen and a hair product in her clothing.

### Stolen auto

The owner of a 2003 Ford Taurus awoke at 5 a.m. Jan. 4 to find that her car was stolen though it was parked and locked in the driveway of her home, located in the 6500 block of Henry Ruff.

She told police that she has the only

set of keys and she owes no money on the vehicle.

### Theft

Someone stole a navigational device and a radio from a Volkswagen Golf before 4 a.m. Jan. 4 in the 560 block of Arcola. The vehicle was parked unlocked in the driveway.

### Property destruction

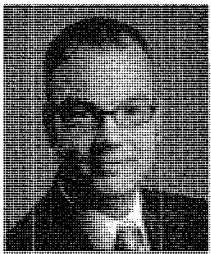
A rash of broken vehicle windows caused by unknown objects was reported in Garden City between Jan. 2-4.

The incidents occurred in the blocks of 30700 Florence, 340 and 560 Brandt, 31500 Hennepin, 27700 Bock, 18400 Lathers and 28700 Alvin.

-Reports compiled by staff writer Sue Buck.

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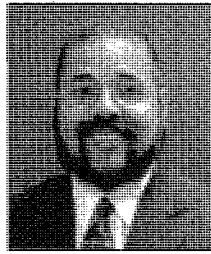
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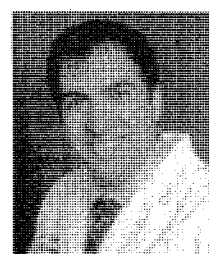
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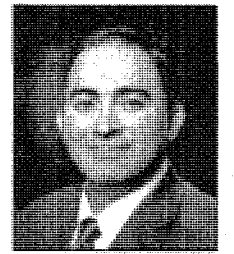
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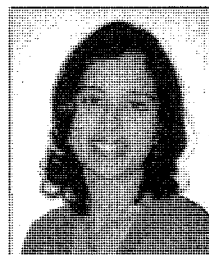
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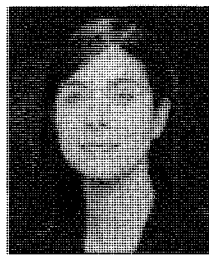
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# GC Fire Department offers home fire safety tips

BY CHIEF BILL FORBUSH  
GARDEN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

As the really cold weather descends upon our community, Garden City firefighters are seeing an increase in home heating fires. In the past week, two house fires have resulted from chimney problems, and fires caused by alternative heating devices are on the rise.

The high cost of home heating fuels and utilities has caused many residents to search for alternative home heating sources such as wood burning stoves, space heaters, and fireplaces. Heating is one of the leading causes of residential fires. Nationally, over one-quarter of these fires result from improper maintenance of equipment, specifically the failure to clean the equipment.

Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning is another danger when using heating equipment fueled by fossil fuel. It occurs most often when equipment is not vented properly. CO deaths have been on the rise across America since 1999. The Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that on average, there were 181 unintentional nonfire deaths from CO poisoning associated with consumer products per year from 2004-06 compared to 123 from 1999 to 2001. Carbon monoxide poisoning is most fatal to adults age 65 or older.

## PREVENTING HOME HEATING FIRES

In 2003-06, the leading factor contributing to home heating fires (28 percent) and deaths (46 percent) was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding. Many heating fires can be prevented by following basic safety tips when dealing with any heating equipment:

- Keep or maintain a 3-foot clearance between all heating equipment and anything that can burn.

**In 2003-06, the leading factor contributing to home heating fires (28 percent) and deaths (46 percent) was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding. Many heating fires can be prevented by following basic safety tips when dealing with any heating equipment ....**



Chief Bill Forbush

- Inspect and maintain heating equipment regularly for safety.
- Be sure to have fixed space heaters installed by a qualified technician, according to manufacturer's instructions or applicable codes. Or, make sure a qualified technician checks to see the unit has been properly installed.
- When buying a new, portable space heater, make sure it has the label showing it is listed by a recognized testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room and before going to bed.
- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn — including furniture, blankets, curtains, and paper products.
- Choose space heaters that turn off automatically if they tip over.
- Never use a space heater to dry clothing.
- Do not use your oven to heat your home.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms to avoid risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

## WOOD BURNING STOVES AND FIREPLACES

Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (3 feet) from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.

- Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction and design, and should be evaluated by

a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

- The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.

- Have your chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.

- Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.

- Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.

- Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite these materials.

- Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. NEVER close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.

- If synthetic logs are used, follow the directions on the package. NEVER break a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.

- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.

- Allow fireplace and wood stove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.

## KEROSENE HEATERS

- Read and follow the procedure in the owner's manual before you attempt to operate or service the unit.

- Learn the safety and maintenance procedures necessary to safely operate the heating unit.

- Always use water clear K-1 grade kerosene.

- Never use gasoline or any other volatile fuels in the unit.

- Never refuel the heater indoors, when it is hot, or in use.

- Do not fill the fuel tank past the full mark. The space above the full mark is there to allow expansion of the fuel when it is operated.

- Always provide adequate ventilation for the unit. Burning kerosene consumes oxygen, and produces carbon monoxide and other dangerous gases which may cause you to suffocate or have other respiratory problems.

- Garden City permits the use of kerosene heaters but firefighters urge that the above safety rules be followed closely.

## ELECTRIC HEATERS

Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from anything that can burn — including furniture, blankets, curtains, and paper products.

- Check to ensure the heater has a thermostat control mechanism.

- Choose a heater that will turn off automatically if it tips over.

- Never dry clothes or store objects on top of the heater.

- Never use extension cords with electric heaters.

- Keep anything that may burn at least 3 feet away from the heater.

- Never allow children to play with, or around, the heater.

- Never place anything inside the grill on the front of the heater.

- Never use multiple electric space heaters as circuit overload can result. If fuses or breakers trip because of space heater use, discontinue such use on that circuit. Do not install larger amperage fuses.

## CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas. Because it is impossible to see, taste, or smell the toxic fumes, CO can kill before you are aware it is in your home.

CO can come from several sources:

gas-fired appliances, charcoal grills, wood-burning furnaces or fireplaces, and motor vehicles.

Each year, unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning claims hundreds of lives and sends several thousands of people to the emergency room for treatment. At lower levels of exposure, CO causes mild effects that are often mistaken for the flu. These symptoms include headaches, dizziness, disorientation, nausea, and fatigue. The effects of CO exposure can vary greatly from person to person depending on age, overall health, and the concentration and length of exposure.

You can protect yourself and your family by following a few easy steps:

- Install at least one CO alarm with an audible warning signal evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), near sleeping areas and outside individual bedrooms. CO alarms measure levels of the gas over time and are designed to sound an alarm before an average, healthy adult would experience symptoms.

- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.

- Never use your range or oven to help heat your home and never use a charcoal grill or hibachi in your home or garage.

- Never keep a car running in a garage. Even if the garage door is open, normal circulation will not provide enough fresh air to reliably prevent a dangerous buildup of CO.

If your carbon monoxide detector alarms, or you believe that you have a carbon monoxide emergency, call 9-1-1. Garden City firefighter-paramedics will respond and check the home with more sophisticated instruments to assure your safety. If medical symptoms are present, they will provide care and transport to the hospital if needed. In many cases, firefighters work with DTE Energy crews to identify the source of any leak and correct the problem.

For guidance in using alternative heating appliances safely, please contact the Garden City Fire Marshal's office at (734) 793-1799.

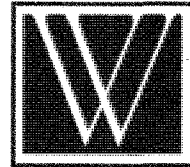


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# Legislative leaders embrace collaboration by force

BY PAT MURPHY  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Shortly after each was elected to his respective leadership position in 2006, House Speaker Andy Dillon and Senate Majority Leader Michael Bishop met quietly in an out-of-the-way setting for what was the first in a series of meetings.

They were by no means private sessions. Other people knowledgeable about the legislative process occasionally attended.

But the Democrat from Redford Township and the Republican from Rochester wanted to establish rapport and discuss their new responsibilities in settings free of distractions and interruptions. Those informal meetings continued over the next three years in Lansing, metro Detroit or elsewhere in the state, helping the leaders develop a working relationship.

In many ways, that relationship was not unlike those forged by their predecessors. The leaders in the House and the Senate, regardless of party affiliation, are expected to get along.

What makes the relationship between Dillon and Bishop worth noting are the times, arguably the worst in recent state history. Unemployment in Michigan is at near record levels, falling revenues have prompted layoffs and furloughs and K-12 education appears to need significant reform — as indicated by the legislature's recent debate on getting Michigan in position to qualify for \$400 million in federal Race to the Top funding.

With the state facing these challenges, the leaders of both houses must get along. There is a relationship of necessity, particularly going into politically charged 2010, when every member of the legislature, the governor and other state officials are up for election.

Both leaders are term-lim-



House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, left, and Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester — both lawyers in their 40s — have different political philosophies. But they've managed to work together for almost four years. It's mutually beneficial for them — and the state — that the relationship continue into the 2010 election cycle.

ited. But each is pondering political life after the legislature. Bishop has announced his bid for attorney general, and Dillon announced earlier this week he'll form an exploratory committee to explore a run for governor.

Thus, much depends on the relationship between Bishop and Dillon, even if some outside observers think the Lansing leadership — including Gov. Jennifer Granholm — hasn't done a good job.

State leadership has been less than exemplary, according to Doug Rothwell, president and CEO of Business Leaders for Michigan, a private, non-profit organization composed of senior executives from most of Michigan's largest companies and universities and dedicated to making Michigan a "Top Ten" state for job and economic growth.

"All three (Granholm, Bishop and Dillon) are bright people who care about Michigan," Rothwell said. They are competent and capable individuals,

he said, but they don't seem to have enough trust and confidence in each other to make the compromises needed to address the state's problems.

Painful decisions are needed, said the former executive director of Worldwide Real Estate for General Motors. But the governor and the two legislative leaders don't seem willing to make politically unpopular compromises — particularly in light of the upcoming election cycle.

That assessment is likely an oversimplification, said Bishop. "People think this job is easy," he said as the legislature was about to wrap up its final session of 2009. "And if I were CEO it might (be). But government (by design) doesn't work like a business. There has to be consensus."

He and the Democratic House Speaker have developed a good working relationship, Bishop insisted.

Bill Ballenger, editor of Inside Michigan Politics, agrees. Bishop and Dillon were

both new to their leadership roles in 2006, Ballenger said. Each was new to the job, and each had different philosophies on government, he said.

"They'd never be in lock step," Ballenger said. But they needed to understand each other, he said, "and today they seem to get along as well as any two leaders I've seen."

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said Dillon may be able to work with Bishop better than he can with Granholm, another Democrat. "From what I've seen," said Patterson, it's the governor who stands in the way of meaningful change.

That's not so, said Dillon, who once considered himself to be a Republican although he never ran for office on a GOP ticket. He and the governor meet or converse at least three times a week, Dillon said. "We have some areas of friction," he said. But they are nothing serious, "and we get along well."

"There might be a perception we don't get along. But that's wrong."

Any disagreement between him and Bishop is rooted in their philosophies about the

role government should play, Dillon said. "We get along socially," he said, "but that doesn't translate into meaningful compromise."

Dillon said government has a basic role in corrections (the prison system), education, Medicaid and revenue sharing (or money the state shares with local government). He thinks government must find a way to provide a core level of funding, the House Speaker said, hopefully without raising taxes — as the legislature did in 2007, when lawmakers increased the flat rate from 3.9 to 4.35 percent.

Bishop says government should be small and unintrusive to families and businesses. He opposed the recent smoking ban signed last week by the governor, for example, because he felt it infringed on individuals and businesses.

As for taxes, Bishop takes some degree of pride in saying no. "If the state can live without something," he said, "it should."

Naturally, perhaps, Bishop and Dillon consider the other to be the bottleneck.

"Bishop is very entrenched," said the speaker. "He never wants to raise revenues."

The current governor said the two leaders need to put any differences aside for the good of the state.

"We certainly hope they get along and work well together because there is a lot of work to do on behalf of citizens," said Granholm press secretary Liz Boyd.

The Senate Majority Leader considers Dillon to be a pragmatist, a quality he says is vital in government. "But as long as he supports Granholm's plans — solving problems with increased taxes or more regulation — we'll have a problem."

Some Lansing insiders say the relationship between Bishop and Dillon was strained — if not fractured — during contentious budget negotiations.

"I think the two have had some tense, terse conversations" since early December, e-mailed one insider.

Dillon declined to say the

relationship was strained. But what happened with the budget "was not in the spirit of what I thought our agreement was," he said.

Bishop admitted their relationship might have cooled. The state has been dealt a bad hand, he said. "We put our hearts and souls into what we believe," he said, "and we fight until we don't have anything left."

But if their relationship is strained, Bishop insisted, "it will work itself out." Besides being mutually beneficial, they need each other.

That need is dramatically underscored when it comes to the health care reform plan for state employees announced by Dillon in July — a proposal that alienated unions like the Michigan Education Association and convinced many that Dillon does indeed intend to run for governor.

By Dillon's account — his proposal would save an estimate \$900 million in state health care funding by bringing all government employees under one plan, something Republicans lauded as "thinking outside the box."

Critics have said the \$900 million in estimated savings is inflated — a charge Dillon dismisses.

A committee chaired by House Speaker Pro Tem Pam Byrnes (D-Chelsea) has held nearly a dozen hearings on Dillon's proposal and is expected to issue a report.

Ironically perhaps, Bishop will need Dillon's help for his pet legislative project: a part-time state legislature. It would trim the bureaucracy, said Bishop, and save money. "If a legislator didn't work, he (or she) wouldn't get paid," he said without much optimism about its passage.

A part-time legislature isn't Dillon's first preference. But if state government can't address Michigan's problems in a more effective manner, he said, "I may be willing to consider it. Our present structure may be dysfunctional," he said.

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## Denzel Washington

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This Sunday in...

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC  
NEWSPAPERS

## Dillon lauds Cherry, will announce plans later

BY PAT MURPHY  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

State Rep. Andy Dillon, D-Redford, offered praise and uncertainty Tuesday in the wake of Lt. Gov. John Cherry's decision to bow out of the governor's race.

"Michigan residents owe John Cherry a debt of gratitude for his decades of public service," Dillon said in a statement. "I respect John's decision and the tremendous work he has done for the state of Michigan."

Last month, Dillon, who is speaker of the House, acknowledge he was contemplating



Dillon

a bid for governor and said he would announce his plans sometime in January — something his office reiterated Tuesday without giving a specific date.

At least on radio newscast Wednesday said Dillon is forming an exploratory committee to assess a bid for governor, but his office declined to confirm or deny the report.

Many people close to Dillon have been urging him to run even though Cherry was believed to be the front runner, in large part because of strong support from labor unions.

Among those encouraging the speaker to run is Redford Township Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz. "He's a smart guy," she said, "and as governor he could do a lot for the state and for Redford."

Numerous polls, however, indicated Cherry would not fare well against GOP candidates Attorney General Mike Cox, U.S. Congressman Pete Hoekstra and Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard.

With Cherry out of the race, Dillon is considered to be a front runner for the Democratic nomination if he decides to run.

Other names are quickly surfacing, however, including those of former Gov. James Blanchard, former Congressman David Bonior, Sen. Debbie Stabenow and Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero.

At his press conference Monday, Cherry said he believes he had the support needed to run for governor, but he had not been successful in raising the money needed to wage a competitive campaign.

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Bill Brown Ford Sales Manager Michael Schrieber credited the customers who came from all over metro Detroit.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Bill Brown Ford: 1st in car sales, 2nd in overall numbers

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Bill Brown Ford's race to finish No. 1 in car and truck sales in 2009 fell a little short.

The Livonia car dealership reported Tuesday that it finished with 4,358 in sales, just behind the 4,372 total sold by Galpin Ford of North Hills, Calif.

"They passed us at 11:45 p.m. Monday," said Mike Schrieber, sales manager at Bill Brown Ford. "Monday was the last day to report. There was a flurry of sales they reported especially in the last half hour. They are a fantastic dealership, but we are very proud with the effort we had."

Bill Brown Ford maintained its No. 1 ranking in the country in car sales.

Nancy Wade of South Lyon has been a customer with Bill Brown Ford for about 10 years. She recently bought an Escape from the dealership. "We were really rallying for them so I did an early lease termination which was set to end in February," Wade said.

She bought the Escape after salesman Bill Beam suggested it to her. "I like Fords," Wade said. "My dad worked at Ford for 30 years, and I love the cars. I feel an obligation to my family and the community so

I buy Fords. They have good products."

Wade said she could buy the car at another dealership. "But I go there because of their service," Wade said.

Schrieber attributes the dealership's success to owner Ed Brown. "We are fortunate to work for Ed Brown," Schrieber said. "He's put together an organization of people who have been here for several years and have stayed here." Sales persons average 14 years of employment at the dealership, Schrieber said.

But Schrieber credited the customers who came from all over metro Detroit, including Downriver and Detroit's suburbs, and as far away as Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo to buy a car. "The people were really behind it," Schrieber said of the sales drive to finish first.

"Even though we finished in first (for cars) and No. 2 in overall sales, we also finished in the top three for customer satisfaction. Customers are extremely pleased with sales staff and service department.

"It's just something that your parents taught you. Treat people the way you want to be treated and at the end of the day, you will sell."

The sales staff also pushed with "significant markdowns" to move the cars, Schrieber

said. Last year's big sellers were the Fusion, Focus and Escape for the dealership. Bill Brown Ford finished No. 1 in sales for each of those vehicles, Schrieber said.

For 2010, Schrieber said he expects those cars to continue to sell well. The Fusion was just awarded the 2010 Motor Trend Car of the Year. But the Ford product that will turn heads will be the new Taurus, which a potential customer looked at the other day.

"Is there an automobile out there like the Taurus? He looked at the fuel economy and he couldn't believe it."

"Ford has done a lot of good things. The company didn't take any bailout money, and they have the right product coming out."

Schrieber wanted to thank the customers. "In the end we came up a little bit short, but we had fun trying and we made a lot of friends and happy customers," Schrieber said.

Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, said the Chamber was proud of Bill Brown Ford's success along with Ford Motor Co.'s overall success. Bill Brown Ford has operated in Livonia since 1952..

kabramcz@hometownlife.com|(313) 222-2591

## Senator recognized for 100 percent voting record

A local legislator has received a gold star for perfect attendance in 2009.

State Sen. Glenn S. Anderson has been recognized for achieving a perfect voting attendance record — one of only six members to have been present and voting for each of the 716 roll call votes cast in the 2009 Michigan State Senate session.



Anderson

The voting records were tabulated by the Michigan Votes project, a service provided by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. The full report may be viewed by visiting [www.michiganvotes.org](http://www.michiganvotes.org).

A Democrat, Anderson takes his attendance at each vote seriously because it is central to the job to which he was elected.

"Serving in the Legislature is like any job: You cannot be effective in your work if you do not show up," Anderson

said. "I believe if you don't show up for work, then you should not get paid. It is that simple." Anderson said it is a privilege to serve the people of Livonia, Redford, Garden City and Westland. "I take my job very seriously."

Looking forward to the new year, Anderson said the biggest issue the Senate must address is the state's economy and education funding, more specifically continuing to seek solutions that will spur job creation and stabilize funding for schools.

"I am committed to working with members of both parties to immediately address job creation, the economy and strengthening our schools," Anderson said.

Anderson was elected to the Michigan State Senate in November 2006, where he represents the 6th district.

He serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee and the four related sub-committees of economic development, transportation, higher education and general government. In addition, Anderson serves his caucus

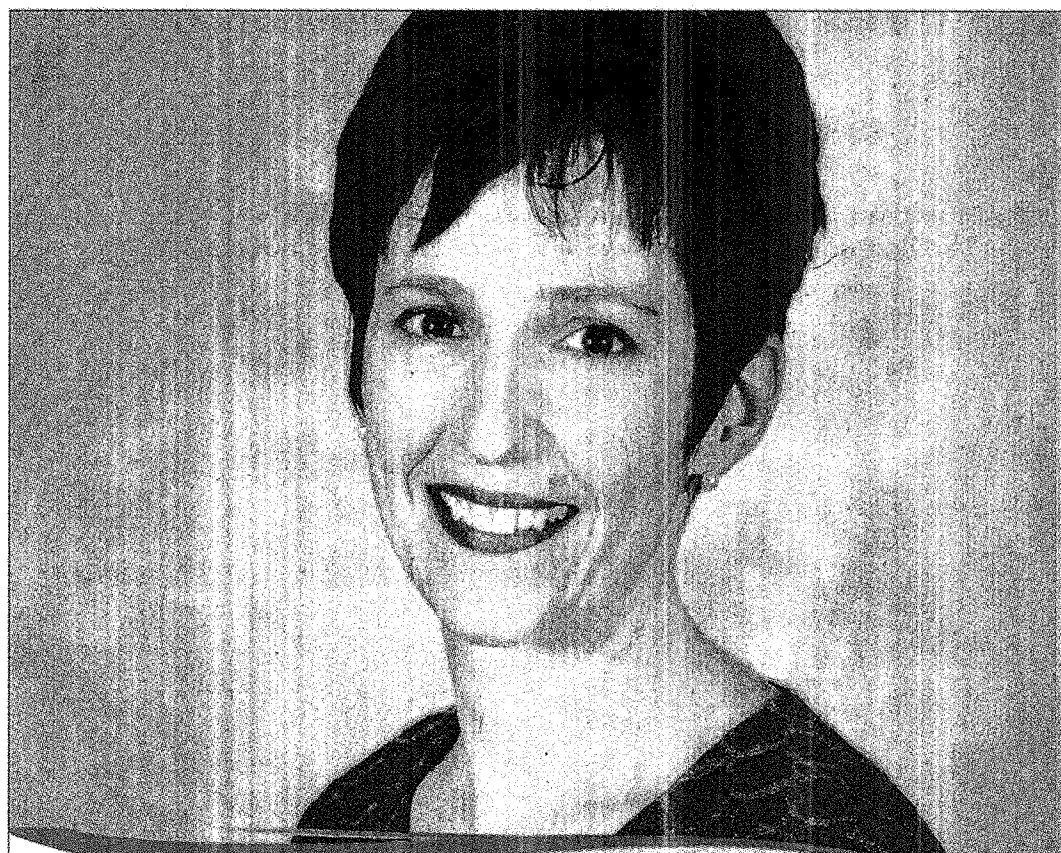
as Assistant Democratic Floor Leader.

Prior to his election to the Senate, Anderson represented Michigan's 18th District in the Michigan House of Representatives for six years. Before beginning his tenure in the Legislature, Anderson served as Councilman for the city of Westland for nine years.

Over the years Anderson has been active in a number of local organizations including the Churchill High School PTA, Western Wayne NAACP, Westland Jaycees, Goodfellows, Rouge River Rescue and Westland Hockey Association. Anderson was chosen as "Legislator of the Year" by the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police and has been recognized by numerous organizations for his legislative work.

Before entering public service, Anderson was employed by Ford Motor Co. and has been a member of the UAW since 1972. He has also been a licensed Realtor since 1979. He and his wife Gail have made Westland their home for almost 30 years.

Cheer for the hometown, read today's SPORTS section



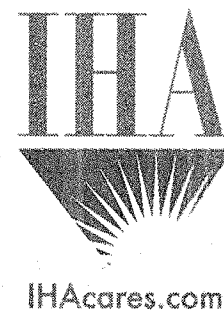
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# January a good time to get finances in shape

The new year is here and that traditionally means that we sit down and think about resolutions. This year, I decided no resolutions. Not that I don't want to improve myself but this year's resolution would have been the same as last year and, in fact, the same as they are almost every year.

The reality is that most of us who make a New Year's resolution break it by the first week of January. Why? I don't know but that's the way life is. However, another explanation is that when we make New Year's resolutions, they require us to major changes in lifestyle and that's hard to do. The key



**Money Matters**  
Rick Bloom

financial house in order. In reality, most Americans do not get passing grades when it comes to personal financial planning. We could all do better. This year, resolve to take small steps to control personal

to success may be we need to take baby steps and over time we may get to where we want to be. I bring this up because I believe everyone's New Year's resolution should be to keep his/her

finances. There are a few main areas of personal financial planning. These are estate planning, taxes, risk management, debt management and investing. These areas are all important, however, depending upon your circumstances they can take a greater importance. Look at the list and prioritize for your individual situation. When prioritizing it is important to have an understanding of each area. Estate planning is the orderly management of your affairs and disposition of your estate upon death or if you no longer are able to handle them. Estate planning also deals with the

issues surrounding medical care. Taxation is the category to make sure that tax laws — Roth IRA conversions and 529 plans — are used to your benefit. Risk management is identifying then handling risk. Some like to call this category insurance. However, insurance is a product to help cover your risks. Not everyone needs to insure every risk. Make sure that the appropriate risks are identified and if insurance is needed use the most effective and efficient type of policies. Debt management has taken greater importance in these difficult times. Make sure to

understand the terms of debt and whether it is tax deductible. In addition, for those who have a debt problem, knowing what can be restructured is essential. Maintain some sort of investment program and make sure your portfolio reflects your goals and objectives. Those who have been good investors know you just can't put investments on automatic pilot. Investments need to be monitored and adjustments made where necessary. Taking small steps to improve personal financial affairs can pay immediate dividends. We are in different times

and we must be prepared. The only way to do is to make sure personal financial affairs are in order. Instead of tackling every area of personal financial planning at once, start slow and build momentum. You will be surprised how taking little steps can take you a long way. Good luck. Have a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit his Web site at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at [smason@hometownlife.com](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com). They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Anger Seminar**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to noon  
Saturday, Jan. 9  
**Details:** LifeCare is offering a seminar, The Anger Trap: Understanding and Processing Anger, to help identify the types of anger people have and to teach people how to process anger in a healthy way.  
**Location:** 570 S. Main St., Plymouth  
**Contact:** Lillian Easterly-Smith at [info.lifecarecc@gmail.com](mailto:info.lifecarecc@gmail.com) or (734) 956-2109
- Fish Dial-A-Ride**  
**Location:** Garden City, Livonia and Westland  
**Details:** Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments

- for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times and areas they're willing to drive.  
**Contact:** Call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.
- Nominations sought**  
**Details:** Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan is asking the community to submit nominations to recognize adults who provide exemplary service to Girl Scouts. Nominations and letters of endorsement are due Feb. 1. Nomination forms are available online at [www.gshom.org](http://www.gshom.org), "Volunteers" link, or by calling 1-800-49-SCOUT. Girl Scout volunteers create opportunities for girls ages 5 - 17 to build courage, confidence and character to make the world a better place. Nominations are sought for national recognitions given by Girl Scouts of the USA, including outstanding volunteer and outstanding leader. Girl Scouts will formally honor recipients at a council-wide ceremony in Lansing on May 1 and at regional recognition events later that month.  
**Contact:** Send nominations to

- GSHOM Ann Arbor Regional Center, 1900 Manchester Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.
- Railroddiana**  
**Time/Date:** noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7  
**Location:** SS.Simon & Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, one mile west of Merriman, Westland.  
**Details:** The Ushers Club is hosting a Toys and Train Show in the church hall. There will be approximately 130 dealer tables available at \$10. To reserve a dealer table, call Norm at (734) 595-8327. Dealer set-up is 9 a.m. the day of the show. Admission to the show is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food and beverages are available. Parking is free.  
**LifeCare**  
**Time/Date:** 7-9:15 p.m. Thursday  
**Location:** 570 S. Main St., Plymouth  
**Details:** LifeCare is a care/support/recovery groups for everyone facing life's challenges.  
**Contact:** Lillian Easterly-Smith at [info.lifecarecc@gmail.com](mailto:info.lifecarecc@gmail.com) or (734) 956-2109.
- Earth Angels**  
**Details:** Earth Angels, a children's entertainment/performance non-

- profit group composed of kids ages 9 - 16 years old, is currently looking to fill spots. There's opening for girls ages 9 - 11, with at least two years of dance experience, and boys, ages 9 - 12 with no experience needed just an interest in performing. The group delivers a high energy show made up of choreographed dance routines spiced with theatrics and lip-synching to the great Oldies music of the '50s and '60s as well as some current fare.  
**Contact:** [www.earthangelsontour.org](http://www.earthangelsontour.org) or by e-mail to [eangel1986@comcast.net](mailto:eangel1986@comcast.net)
- TOPS 869 meetings**  
**Time/date:** Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.  
**Location:** Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.  
**Details:** The group is for people age 18 and older.  
**Contact:** The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.
- American Legion Post 251**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. first Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** 1217 Merriman Road, between Avondale and Palmer, Westland.  
**Details:** All veterans, male and female with a honorable discharge are welcome to join.  
**Contact:** [www.post251.org](http://www.post251.org) or call (734) 326-2607

- S. Wayne Road, Wayne  
**Details:** The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle's National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free.  
**Contact:** [www.storycircle.org](http://www.storycircle.org) or send an e-mail to [shepry@yahoo.com](mailto:shepry@yahoo.com)
- TOPS M128**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. Mondays  
**Location:** Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland  
**Contact:** Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879
- TOPS 869**  
**Time/date:** Mondays, weigh-ins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:15 p.m.  
**Location:** Adams Senior Village, 2001 Kaley Ave., south of Palmer, Westland.  
**Details:** The group is for people age 18 and older.  
**Contact:** The group which meets on Mondays is for people age 18 and older.
- Garden City Democratic Club**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June)  
**Location:** Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City  
**Contact:** Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344

- Veteran's Haven**  
**Location:** Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne.  
**Details:** Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.  
**Contact:** (734) 728-0527
- Silver Strings Dulcimer**  
**Time/date:** 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month  
**Location:** Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City  
**Details:** Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, auto-harp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass.  
**Contact:** (734) 482-2902, <http://geocities.com/ssdsociety>
- Garden City Kiwanis**  
**Time/date:** 12:15 p.m. Thursdays  
**Location:** Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City  
**Details:** Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to bettering the world one child and one community at a time. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.
- Garden City Rotary**  
**Time/date:** noon Thursdays  
**Location:** Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren Road, Garden City  
**Details:** Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed.
- Habitat for Humanity**  
**Details:** The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fundraising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided.  
**Contact:** (734) 459-7744
- Oakwood Annapolis Hospital Retirees**  
**Time/date:** 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month  
**Location:** Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Venoy at Howe in Wayne  
**Details:** All Oakwood Retirees are welcome to attend.
- Garden City Amateur Radio Club**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** The club is open to people who are interested in ham radio.  
**Contact:** Ben (W8AAA) at (734) 425-2629
- Garden City Lions**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month  
**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City  
**Contact:** Dave Fetter at (734) 425-4382
- Garden City Garden Club**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** Everyone may attend to hear guest speakers on a variety of gardening topics and plan events around the city.  
**Contact:** Della Haydon at (734) 427-9410

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## ORGANIZATIONS

- Friends of Eloise**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December)  
**Location:** Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill, Westland.  
**Contact:** Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918
- Writing Group**  
**Time/date:** 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month  
**Location:** Wayne Public Library, 3737

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A wooden bridge over the Lower Rouge River helps connect a recreation trail that winds through Canton Township.

## Bridge project connects people to nature

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Five of seven wooden pedestrian bridges crossing the Lower Rouge River have now been installed in Canton along a nature recreation trail that's connected for more than four miles between Haggerty and Sheldon roads, north of Michigan Avenue.

Work crews still have to finish bridge approaches and make them accessible for people with disabilities, but residents in Canton and elsewhere should, within weeks, be able to hike, jog, ride non-motorized bikes and go cross-country skiing along the newly connected Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail.

Two final bridges are set for installation next spring between Sheldon and Canton Center roads to create a seamless, five-mile-long, 10-foot-wide trail, which also has smaller offshoots.

With every new bridge that's installed, a project 10 years in the planning comes a step closer to being finished.

"It's a great development," said Brad Sharp, Canton parks and facilities manager.

Local officials say the recreation area is one of the best-kept secrets in Canton and, indeed, Wayne County. They hope nature enthusiasts will begin to discover the quiet, wooded trail that belies the bustling township that borders it on the north and south.

Already, the winding path can be accessed from a trail head earlier built on Morton Taylor Road north of Michigan Avenue.



Work crews haul one of the bridges into the recreation area and prepare to place it over the Lower Rouge River.

Trail users can park their vehicles in a parking lot near the site and begin to explore.

Robert Belair, assistant township engineer, has said the pedestrian bridges culminate a dream that began a decade ago. The project was made possible with \$671,654 in state, county and township funding — largely from grants — that was earlier allocated for the project.

Canton residents have long cited the need for more walking trails as among their top recreation priorities.

Township officials hired Nature Bridges, Inc., of Tallahassee, Fla., to bring in the

prefabricated bridges and assemble them over the Lower Rouge River. The bridges measure 10 feet wide and span 45 to 65 feet in length.

The bridges were brought to Michigan on large trucks and placed over the river. In coming weeks, compacted, crushed stone will be spread along the paths leading directly up to the bridges.

The four-mile length of trail between Haggerty to just west of Sheldon is expected to be ready for use within a few weeks, although the path already has been in use for a shorter stretch east and west of the Morton

Taylor trail head.

Residents interested in helping to support, maintain and champion the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail are invited to the next Friends of the Canton Trails meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, in Room "A" of the lower level of the Canton administration building, on Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

Other meetings will be held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, according to the township.

For more information, call (734) 394-5310 or log on to [www.cantonfun.org](http://www.cantonfun.org).

## Winter weather: Play it safe in the cold

Winter in Michigan is a celebrated season despite the extreme drops in temperature posing serious risks and hazards. To combat these potential dangers, the Michigan Department of Community Health has a few guidelines people can follow to stay safe and healthy throughout the cold weather months.

The MDCH recommends people be extremely careful, if using a wood stove, fireplace or space heater in their home. Always keep a multi-purpose, dry chemical fire extinguisher near the area that's being heated. Don't burn paper in a fireplace or wood stove and don't leak flue gas indoors. If using an indoor gas heater, be sure it is located in a well-ventilated space and only use the type of fuel recommended by the manufacturer.

Regardless of the type of heating device being used, be sure that it is up to date and meets all safety standards. Toxic fumes, such as carbon monoxide, from old or faulty heaters can cause unconsciousness or death from lack of oxygen.

While inside, monitor the indoor temperature carefully. Because they lose body heat much faster than adults, infants should never sleep in a cold room. It is also necessary for older adults to take extra home heating precautions, as they tend to have slower metabolisms and make and retain less heat than other adults.

If a person is caring for an infant or senior citizen, be sure to frequently check that their homes are adequately heated. If heating is not at a safe level, making alternative housing arrangements is recommended.

When the weather is extremely cold, and especially if there are high winds, try to stay indoors. Making trips outside as brief as possible can help to reduce the potential dangers associated with cold weather.

To remain healthy and safe this winter, follow these cold-weather tips while outdoors:

- Dress warmly and stay dry. Be sure to dress in layers in wind resistant clothing. Wool, silk or polypropylene inner layers will hold more body heat than cotton. If clothing is wet, go inside

as soon as possible and remove the wet clothing as soon as possible.

- Avoid exertion. Cold weather can put extra strain on the heart. A person with heart disease or high blood pressure should follow their doctor's advice about shoveling snow or other hard work in the cold. The body is already working hard to stay warm, so extra work can cause an overload.

- Cover exposed skin. Always wear a warm hat that covers ears, gloves or mittens that cover the full wrist, and a scarf or ski mask to protect face and neck.

- Be safe during recreation. A person should notify friends and family where they will be before going hiking, camping or skiing. Avoid perspiring or becoming overtired. Be prepared to take emergency shelter. Pack dry clothing, a two-wave radio, waterproof matches and paraffin fire starters. Do not use alcohol and other mood altering substances, and avoid caffeinated beverages. Carefully watch for signs of cold-weather health problems.

It is important to be aware of any changes in exposed skin during cold weather periods. Frostbite and hypothermia are very serious conditions that can be lessened by early recognition and treatment. Shivering can be a good indicator that it's time to go in, as it is the first sign that the body is losing heat.

Frostbitten skin is hard, pale, cold and has no feeling. When the frostbitten skin is in warm air, it will become red and painful. Very severe frostbite can cause blisters, gangrene (blackened dead tissue), and deep tissue damage in tendons, muscles, nerves and bones.

Hypothermia is a life-threatening condition that is caused by short exposure to extreme cold or long exposure to mild cold. Symptoms of hypothermia include trembling, stiffness of muscles, puffiness in the face, poor coordination, confusion, and low consciousness and reactivity.

If frostbite, hypothermia or other complications surrounding extreme weather are suspected, seek emergency medical care immediately.

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OUR VIEWS

Mayor, council face challenges in 2010

Monday was a day for new beginnings at Westland City Hall.

The city of Westland held an inaugural ceremony Jan. 4 in the multipurpose room of the Bailey Recreation Center behind City Hall. The council then held its first meeting of the year.

Westland Mayor William R. Wild was sworn in to his first four-year term, having already served as mayor for three years. He served a one-year term after being appointed by council members and was elected by the residents for the remaining two-year term.

The ceremony also included the swearing in of new council members — Christine Cicirelli-Bryant, who was elected to a four-year term; Adam Hammons, who was elected to a two-year term; Meriem Kadi, who was also elected to a four-year term; and incumbent Dewey Reeves, who was re-elected to a four-year term.

We congratulate the new council members and the returnees and wish them well in 2010 and beyond.

Westland faces great challenges, including the budget and ongoing issues related to the cleanup of Central City Park. Helping to stem the tide of foreclosures and keep people in their homes will be a challenge, as will dealing with issues of urban blight and attracting new businesses and retaining current ones.

These are lean times for Michigan municipalities and Westland is no exception. Mayor Wild and the council will face obstacles in terms of providing quality services at low cost to residents. The recent success of the city's curbside recycling program shows that can be done in lean times.

Partisan bickering won't get our problems solved, and the city leaders must remember the good of all and set such differences aside.

The Wayne-Westland school district is going through a painful but necessary process of closing school buildings and consolidating into the remaining schools. City leaders are working cooperatively with school officials to make that transition as smooth as possible, and that needs to continue in 2010 and beyond.

It's a new year, a new decade and times are tough.

Westland residents have that can-do spirit and are accustomed to facing obstacles head-on, working together for the betterment of the community. That will be needed more than ever in 2010.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

In response to the news story headlined, "Two men charged in Dillon recall effort"

**TheMaz wrote:**  
"The only thing Dillon accomplished all year ... beat the recall. For 2010 payback and vengeance ... because it is all about Andy, not what's best for the state of Michigan."

**Frank50 wrote:**  
"Maybe these clowns can get a job with ACORN."

**spreadthegrief wrote:**  
"If these two were Democrats, they would be new czars for NoBaMa!"

In response to the news story headlined, "Man kills himself at gun range,"

**PIZZUTI-MAN wrote:**  
"Well, at least he didn't take his depression or anger with a gun out on innocent people in a McDonald's."

**Hemi426 wrote:**  
"In conclusion ... blame the weapon. (Banning rocks coming soon.)"

In response to the editorial headlined "Let's hold state lawmakers accountable,"

**davidr6ohome wrote:**  
"Fun times are ahead for voters. I'm going to have a ball watching all these politicians scurry and wiggle to save their jobs! They are sadly mistaken if they think voter frustration is limited to a few teabaggers. The wake-up call is coming."

WESTLAND  
**OBSERVER**



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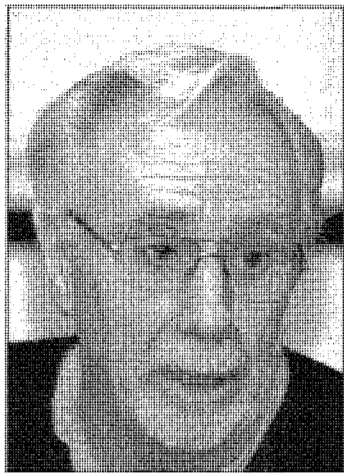
With a dismal 2009 ended, do you think 2010 will be any better? Why or why not?

We asked this question at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



"I always believe in hope so I think that there will be a better 2010."

Christina Sommer  
Garden City



"I think that it will definitely be better. I think that everybody's attitude is better. I believe that we have seen the bad part and everybody has woken up to what is going on. I believe in my mind that things will work out. We are more aware."

Bob Bennetts  
Garden City



"No, because we are going down the tubes. That's my opinion. That's how I feel."

Loretta Mahalak  
Livonia



"It definitely has to be better. Everything has sunk so far down that everything has to go up like job opportunities, the economy and everything. I think that toward the end of the year, the economy did start to go up. People were buying things."

Barbara Bridges  
Garden City

LETTERS

Won't support a recall

I know it has been a long time and I hope this finds everyone well. I know that everyone knows the issues with the schools closings and the trouble the school district is in. My heart goes out to those who schools will be closing. I can't say I understand how you feel as Taft and Roosevelt will not be closing, but as a parent and member of this community, I feel for each and every child, parent and staff member of a school that is closing.

I am writing to say this: I cannot help with any recall. Please understand that I fought for the teachers of the district in 2008 because my heart told me it was the right thing to do (and still does). However, I can't recall board members for closing schools.

The decision to close the schools wasn't an easy one to make. As much as I don't like our schools closing I believe that the education of the children must be put first. I hold my children near and dear to my heart, as every parent does, but I will fight for what is best for every child in the Wayne-Westland school district. That has never changed and never will. Change truly has to happen to ensure that our children have a quality education.

I hope that anyone having any questions or concerns will call my cell, (734) 512-9110. I will help or explain in anyway that I can.

In closing I write this: Please let's all

think about helping support each other instead of tearing each other apart. I think we have the best kids, parents, teachers and staff around. Let's show the state and other school districts that we can support each other and do what's best for our kids. After all, they are our future.

Shawn Maxwell  
Wayne

Response is disheartening

I find it disheartening that Obama has "ordered a thorough look at the shortcomings that permitted the plot," referring to the 23-year-old Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the Nigerian accused of trying to destroy Northwest Flight 253 bound for Detroit which failed not because of U.S. actions but because the would-be attacker was unable to ignite an explosive device.

Obama makes statements like this while at the same time his attorney general, Eric Holder, is seeking to prosecute the CIA members that extracted intelligence from al-Qaeda leaders and prevented further attacks on this country during the Bush administration.

How can the agency work under this type of pressure knowing that any of its associates may be imprisoned down the road for doing a job that is within the law currently

established? It cannot and that is the reason this bomber slipped through.

Obama is so hell-bent on distancing himself from the former administration that he is leaving our country weak and wide open for future attacks. He preached to us on transparency and changing the way things get done in Washington. I know many that voted for him for just those principles but are now outraged because what he is doing is not what they had hoped for.

On a daily basis the corruption continues to grow in D.C. with the payoffs to congressmen for votes on a health care plan that will crush our economy and our God-given rights; lies about climate change that has now been proven to be a hoax on all the people of the world.

Obama has continued to fill cabinet positions with people that he owes for getting him elected such as union operatives that are rewriting laws and regulations put in place to ensure minimal standards of union transparency and accountability.

His transparency has become opaque and his policies are evidence of the communistic path he wishes to take this country. Thank God for the tea partiers that have brought this to the attention of the rest of the country. If it were not for them, we may have already slid behind the iron curtain.

Phil Solarz  
Westland

Proposed tax on bottled water is bad idea

The 10-cent per container tax on bottled water proposed by Lt. Gov. John Cherry will cost Michigan more than 2,080 jobs, according to a new statistical analysis prepared for the International Bottled Water Association by John Dunham and Associates. A large number of these jobs would be in the bottled water manufacturing sector, plus many more jobs in supplier and ancillary industries.



Joe Doss

Current U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that one out of five private sector jobs has disappeared in Michigan since 2000 — a drop of 783,000 jobs (-19.6 percent). Nearly 25 percent of all private sector job losses in the U.S. have occurred in Michigan during this period; the highest rate of any state. Michigan has consistently led the nation in yearly job losses during Gov. Jennifer Granholm's administration.

The vast majority of bottled water companies in Michigan and throughout the U.S. are

truly small business — "mom and pop" family-owned companies of 5-10 employees with annual sales of \$1-10 million. These are local entrepreneurs with deep roots and strong ties within their community. The severity of Cherry's bottled water tax proposal could severely disadvantage most of these companies against their out-of-state competitors.

It appears that Cherry's bottled water tax proposals will focus only in-state groundwater withdrawals — raising the question as to why companies that are using Michigan municipal water sources for manufacturing food products, bottled water, sodas, beer and other beverages are treated differently.

Bottled water companies use extremely small amounts of groundwater. In fact, the Drinking Water Research Foundation reports that a mere 0.02 percent of groundwater is withdrawn in the United States annually by bottled water companies.

Cherry also seeks to strip property rights from Michigan businesses, which is contrary to already settled law and long-standing precedent.

The bottled water industry has a long history in Michigan of working with the Executive Branch, the Legislature and others on sound and equitable laws and public policy, and we have often gone the extra mile in accepting additional industry-specific regulations as a show of good faith and desire to remain economically viable in Michigan. IBWA's active involvement in helping to support Senate Bill 857, which established criterion for permitting for large groundwater withdrawals (enacted in 2006) and helping to pass the Great Lakes Compact is proof of that.

In 1974, the voters of Michigan approved an amendment to the State constitution that exempts food products from any sales or use tax (Mich. Const. of 1963, art. IX §8). Bottled water is a food product regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the state of Michigan. Therefore, on top of posing serious damage to Michigan's economy, Cherry's proposed tax would be unconstitutional.

The new tax as proposed would raise the cost to con-

sumers for a 24-pack case of bottled water by \$2.40. That price hike would place an additional financial burden on struggling Michiganders who purchase bottled water to help them stay hydrated and refreshed.

Michigan bottled water businesses are already strained in the current economic crisis — a tax on their products will only add further strain. Furthermore, the bottled water industry has a long history in Michigan of coming to the aid of those in distress during incidents when bad weather, floods, fires and other events have prevented municipal water systems from providing clean, safe drinking water.

For bottled water to be available in emergency situations, there must also be a viable commercial marketplace that supports its production. Reducing the commercial viability of bottled water could seriously threaten its availability during emergency situations in Michigan.

Joe Doss is the president and CEO of International Bottled Water Association.

# SACS of Life

## Plastic is out, polyester is in

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If you want to live a greener 2010, why not resolve to B.Y.O.B.? SACS of Life is making it easy and fashionable to 'bring your own bag' for travel, shopping and even tailgating.

The Walled Lake company creates a line of totes, duffels, backpacks and insulated sacks that fold up into tiny pouches and expand to hold the equivalent of up to 16 plastic bags worth of stuff.

Owner Annette Ferber Adelman invented SACS after she tired of "schlepping" things around for herself, four children and two dogs.

"I thought about all those times I was at the grocery store ... I have 16 bags, I can't find my keys, it's raining out. I figured there's got to be an easier way to shop," said Ferber Adelman, of West Bloomfield. "I couldn't sleep at night because I thought how great it would be to have systems. One thing led to another and I haven't slept in a year."

Her first design was the Clipster, a roomy shopping tote that collapses into a keychain pouch.

Since she launched the company in March 2008, SACS has grown to include 13 bag "systems," priced \$11.99-\$59.99. Among them are the Back-Packer, a backpack and tote that tuck into a cute wristlet clutch, and the Metro Bag, a stylish cross-body satchel that includes an extra tote in its front pocket.

All of the systems are made from 100 percent PVC-free polyester for minimum weight and maximum durability. They come in a range of fabrics that Ferber Adelman designed herself, from groovy psychedelic and leopard prints to neutral textures that mimic cotton ramie.

"I'm a lawyer so I was very concerned about having my own fabric designs," Ferber Adelman said. "I have one named after

my daughter Bella and I even designed my own camo."

### SOLD LOCALLY

Adelman, whose children range in age from 7 to 15, is also co-owner of HoMedics, based in Commerce Township. Although she doesn't work at the family business, it gave her background to manufacture in China, as well as provided an introduction to buyers at Bed Bath and Beyond, where her products are now sold. You can also find SACS at dozens of local markets and boutiques including Warren Drugs in Farmington Hills, Zieban Mare in Franklin and Plum Market in West Bloomfield.

buybuy Baby recently ordered a SACS of Life diaper bag system, and Ferber Adelman expects to debut her largest system yet, which holds the equivalent of 15-16 plastic bags, on QVC next month.

With her busy lifestyle, Ferber Adelman said she uses her own bags all the time. On a recent trip to Costco, she fit almost \$500 worth of merchandise into her five-bag Toterster system. When she travels, she uses the foldout bags to bring the kids' laundry home.

"I will not go to the grocery store or tailgating without my bags. You have beautiful bags that are so great and yummy and you can fold them if you want to or just smush them in like I do," she said.

### GOING GREEN

Lori Sullivan, president of One Shade Greener in Plymouth, includes the Clipster in her "Green Starter Kit" gift bags.

"I'm always promoting bringing your own bags and I really like the Clipster because I think one of the biggest challenges in using reusable bags is you get to a store and you realize you don't have the bag with you," Sullivan said. "If it's packaged really small and you have it in your purse or on your keys you never have that moment."

One Shade Greener helps busi-

nesses and homeowners take small steps to reduce their impact on the environment. Sullivan said avoiding plastic bags is something simple everyone can do to make a difference.

"The key to plastic bags is they don't biodegrade and less than one percent of them are recycled so the majority, almost all of them, are going to a landfill," Sullivan said. "I am always looking for businesses, especially Michigan-based, that have green products and services. I think SACS of Life has a great line."

Adelman, who admits a penchant for Chanel and Prada handbags, says she didn't originally set out to be "green" when she started SACS. She was simply trying to make her own life easier. But the concept has resonated with shoppers and now SACS of Life's mission is to make plastic bags—as well as bulky, ugly totes—a thing of the past.

"People are going to have to make the transition away from plastic bags no matter what, so my thought is to make it convenient and make it fun," she said. "It's all about durability and style."

She sums it up in her company's motto: "Start small, shop big."

In addition to locations mentioned above, SACS of Life are available at Sundance Shoes and Guys 'N' Gals in West Bloomfield; Sole Sisters in Rochester; and Sav-On Drugs throughout Metro Detroit. They also are included in customizable "green" gift baskets at [www.oneshadegreener.com](http://www.oneshadegreener.com). Find out more at [www.sacsoflife.com](http://www.sacsoflife.com).



The SACS of Life Metro Bag is a zippered cross-body satchel with an extra tote stowed in the front pouch, \$54.99 at [www.sacsoflife.com](http://www.sacsoflife.com).

### MALLS & MAINSTREETS

#### Super Pampering

**FARMINGTON HILLS** - Tamara Spa+Wellness will celebrate Super Bowl XLIV with special packages for couples on Feb. 10. Men can watch the game in the spa's lounge on overstuffed leather chairs while enjoying snacks and ice-cold refreshments, 'first down' neck, back and shoulder massages, and "touchdown" hand and foot massages. Meanwhile, women can score a "quarterback sack" of savings with a Super Bowl package, complete with European spa facial, Swedish body massage, manicure, pedicure and spa lunch with champagne. Call (248) 855-0474 for prices and reservations.

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#### Green Street Fair

**PLYMOUTH** - Exhibitors are being accepted for the third annual Green Street Fair, which will return to the streets of Downtown Plymouth April 30-May 2. Green Street Fair, Inc. was founded to help educate and inform people of all ages about the benefits of green, organic, and eco-friendly products and services. Highlights of the 2010 Green Street Fair will include exhibitor displays, recycling workshops, Fort Box, live entertainment, organic cooking demonstrations, street performers, interactive displays, children's activities, fitness and well-being demonstrations, art installations and more. Visit [www.greenstreetfair.com](http://www.greenstreetfair.com) or call (734) 259-2983.

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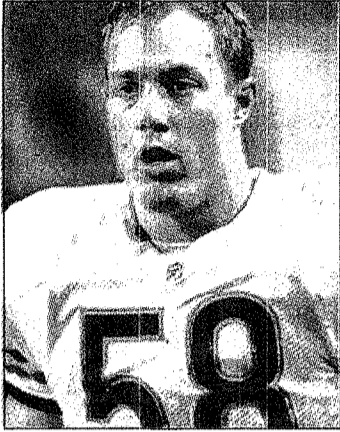
SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD

# HOMETOWN LIFE



Healthy snacks for the new year - Food, B7

## Shaw savors 'special day' with stellar effort



Shaw

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tim Shaw never could have envisioned a more blessed homecoming.

The former Livonia Clarenceville High standout and former Penn State linebacker indeed saved his best for last as he proved to be a one-man special teams wrecking crew Sunday at Detroit's Ford Field in helping the Chicago Bears to a season-ending 37-23 NFL victory over the Lions.

The 6-foot-1, 236-pound

Shaw, playing before nearly 40 family and friends, registered six tackles, including a forced fumble and takeaway on a Lions' kickoff return late in the fourth quarter with the Bears holding an 11-point lead.

On the play, Shaw wrestled former Penn State teammate Derrick Williams to the ground and stripped the ball.

The two met for pleasantries following the game.

"I really can't repeat what he (Williams) said, but basically I told him to have a good off-season," Shaw said. "I was just

going out and playing hard and things went the Bears' way."

Shaw, a third-year pro who was signed by the Bears on Sept. 14 after being released by the Jacksonville Jaguars, has proven to be quite a pickup. He set a club record for special teams tackles with 30 in 15 games.

And in a points system devised by Bears special teams coordinator Dave Toub, the 25-year-old Shaw scored 41 points in Sunday's game, surpassing the previous high of 32 set by three-time Pro Bowl performer Brandon Ayanbadejo.

In locker room afterwards, Bears teammates raved about the Livonia native's performance and kidded him about going to the Pro Bowl.

"It's the most fun I've had in a long time," Shaw said. "It's fun every week when you play, but it's even more fun when you're playing well and making big plays."

"It was amazing. I believe there was something in place that happened for me. It was a fun and a cool experience."

Please see **SHAW, B2**

## GAME WRAPS

### Boys hockey

**STEVENSON 7, SOUTH LYON 0:** Goaltender Danny Sager turned away 31 shots for his first shutout of the season Tuesday as Livonia Stevenson (7-1-1, 5-0-1) blanked the South Lyon Unified (5-5, 1-4) in a KLAAC Central Division matchup at the Kensington Valley Ice House.

"It took us awhile to get going, but Danny faced 16 shots in the first period and stood tall for us," said Stevenson coach David Mitchell, whose team led 2-0 after 17 minutes. "He kept us in there until we got going. He was big for us."

Justin Shureb led the Spartans' offense with two goals and two assists, while Cole Rochowiak had a short-handed goal and three assists.

John Strauch and Tim Pruchnik each added a goal and assist, while Matt Fox and Steve Sudek also tallied goals.

### Girls basketball

**LADYWOOD 53, DIVINE CHILD 47:** In the Catholic League Central Division opener Tuesday, Livonia Ladywood (6-2, 1-0) overcame a 29-point performance by sophomore guard Rosanna Reynolds to beat host Dearborn Divine Child (6-3, 0-1).

Senior forward Molly Gacloch paced the victorious Blazers with 15 points. Senior guard Mary Fitzgerald and senior forward Alyssa Anastos added 12 and 10, respectively.

"It was a typical Ladywood-Divine Child game, very scrappy, up-and-down," Ladywood coach Pat Cannon said. "Reynolds got to the free throw line. The players for us who needed to score were able to offset her."

Ladywood went 19-of-45 from the field (42.2 percent) and connected on 12-of-25 free throws.

The Falcons shot 15-of-42 from the floor (35.7 percent) and made 14-of-21 foul shots.

**CHURCHILL 40, W.L. WESTERN 17:** Junior guard Rachel Zukowski notched eight points to pace a balanced scoring attack Tuesday as host Livonia Churchill (4-1) rolled to an easy victory over Walled Lake Western (0-4).

Darcy DeRoo, Erin Menard, Meghan Catalano and Taylor Kerr contributed six points apiece for the victorious Chargers, who led 19-6 at halftime.

"We got off to a slow start the first quarter offensively," Churchill coach Chad Jenkins said. "We were rusty, not attacking. Our defense got us going and we were able to get some easy layups."

Churchill was 10-of-15 from the foul line, Western was 5-of-10.

**ANNAPOLIS 44, LUTH. WESTLAND 28:** Kelly Sapikowski scored 17 points and Justina Williams added 12 Tuesday to lift Dearborn Heights Annapolis (5-1) past host Lutheran High Westland (2-4) in a nonconference encounter.

Rachel Stork scored eight points and grabbed nine rebounds for the Warriors, who trailed 26-14 at halftime.

Amanda Terranella added seven points.

**HURON VALLEY 40, CALVARY 23:** On Tuesday, junior Katie Nell scored eight points and collected nine steals to spark host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-2, 1-2) by Ypsilanti Calvary Christian (0-3, 0-3) in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division matchup.

Senior Anna Schaffer added seven points and six rebounds, while senior forward Devon Linderman chipped in seven points for the victorious Hawks, who led 25-9 at intermission.

Jamie Thurmond scored 10 for the Cougars.

## Warriors' quick start fizzles out

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Strange as it may sound, the winning team had a whopping 38 turnovers and trailed 15-3 to start the game.

And when it all filtered out Tuesday night, Dearborn Heights Annapolis pulled away in the second half for a 79-62 boys basketball victory at Lutheran High Westland.

The Cougars, who improved to 4-3 with the nonconference win, made up for their shaky ball-handling and passing by nailing an astounding 67.4 percent of its shots (29-of-43) from the floor.

Annapolis, sporting a decided height advantage, converted most of its shots from prime scoring areas — mainly inside the paint.

Zackary Fields, a 6-foot-3 sophomore center, led the scoring assault with 29 points. Mallia Colton, a 6-2 sophomore, added 19, while 5-8 senior guard Eddie Bennett contributed 12.

During the first five minutes of the opening quarter, Lutheran Westland built a sizable lead with quick drives to the basket and full-court pressure.

When Austin Baglow's basket made it 15-3 with 3:01 remaining in the first period for the Warriors, Annapolis quickly responded by going on an 10-0 run sparked by the play off the bench by 6-1 sophomore guard Mark Williams, who finished with eight points.

"Mark (Williams) lit a fire under us, he did

Please see **WARRIORS, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland's Gage Flanery (11) looks for an opening and tries to avoid the block attempt of Mallia Colton of Annapolis during Tuesday's non-conference encounter.

## Committed: Glenn back MSU bound

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Michigan State's football program is starting to build quite a pipeline with Westland John Glenn High School.

All-Observer and All-State running back Jeremy Langford is the latest to commit to the Spartans.

The 6-foot-1, 190-pound senior, who rushed for 1,934 yards and 23 touchdowns for the 8-2 Rockets, will join another former Glenn standout, kick returner and wide receiver Keshawn Martin, next fall in East Lansing.

Langford, who also made an official visit prior to Christmas and was offered a scholarship by Colorado, committed to the Spartans on Sunday when he informed Glenn athletic director Brian Swinehart. Langford also had offers from Bowling



Langford

Please see **LANGFORD, B3**

## Deep in the abyss

### Depleted 2-12 Ocelot men's team routed by 51

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Third-year Schoolcraft College men's basketball coach Randy Henry succinctly summed up his team's plight following Monday's lopsided 86-35 setback at home to Kirtland Community College.

"It's going to be an uphill battle," said Henry, whose team fell to 2-12 overall and 1-4 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Ironically, the Ocelots won Nov. 18 at Kirtland, 70-63.

How did Kirtland coach Ty McGregor explain the 58-point swing?

"We're all freshman, we don't have any sophomores," McGregor said. "We're a work

in progress. We made a lot of mistakes early in the season and we're learning from it.

"We started slowly, but we're improving as the season goes along. Our concern is getting better."

The Firebirds started on fire, outscoring Schoolcraft 46-19 in the opening half thanks to seven 3-pointers.

Wade Luxford scored 11 of his team-high 15 points first 20 minutes to lead the assault for Kirtland, which featured a pair of 6-foot-9 post players from Moscow, Russia.

Guard Zachary Kaul also scored 15, while Xavier Walker and Mario Williams finished with 11 and 10, respectively, for the Firebirds, who improved to 6-9 overall and 2-1 in the conference.

Freshman guard Adam Creech was the

Please see **HOOPS, B3**

## Lady Ocelots win 15th straight

The No. 2-ranked Schoolcraft College women's basketball team set a school record to open the season Monday night with their 15th straight victory, rolling past visiting Kirtland Community College, 108-61.

The Lady Ocelots, who earned their 33rd straight MCCA Eastern Conference triumph, improved to 15-0 overall and 6-0 in the conference.

It was also Schoolcraft's 44th straight home win and 38th straight home conference victory.

Seven Ocelots reached double figures in scoring led by Angela Burrell's 18 points. She had a career-high five 3-pointers and also dished out a team-high 10 assists.

Other leading scorers for Schoolcraft including Kimberly Bee (16), Antania Shepherd (15), Amber Avery (13), Emelda Chew (12), Jasmine Brown (12) and

April Goins (10).

Avery had a team-best 10 rebounds, while Bee added nine. Chew finished with four steals. Schoolcraft led 50-27 at halftime and stretched its lead to 95-52 with 4:56 remaining after a 25-4 run.

The Lady Ocelots shot 25-of-61 from the field (47.7 percent), including 7-of-17 from three-point range (44.4 percent).

They also outrebounded the Firebirds by a whopping 56-28 margin.

Kirtland, which fell to 2-13 overall and 0-4 in the conference, got a team-high 15 points from Kirsten Ormsbee. Alex Kappen and Gina Gerow added 12 and 11, respectively.

Schoolcraft, which has won 65 of its last 67 conference encounters, returns to action 1 p.m. Saturday at home to face Delta CC (5-7, 2-2).

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Tim Horton champs

Yielding just three goals, including three shutouts in five games, the Livonia Squirt Blackhawks went undefeated, Dec. 28-30, at the Tim Horton's Compuware 2009 Holiday Classic.

HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

only Ocelot to scored in double figures with 11, while freshman guard Ron Pummill (Garden City), who migrated to the gym from the golf season, contributed nine.

"Aaron was 1-for-10 from the field and a missed three pointer," Henry said. "Four points and four rebounds — we're not going to win anything with that."

Creek). Andrews wore contrasting blue colored shorts with a white jersey top. Henry also added Cameron Mitchell, a 6-5 center from Thurston, who led with six rebounds, along with Aaron Nelson (Romulus) and Devon Easterling (Livonia Churchhill).

LANGFORD

FROM PAGE B1

Green, Eastern Michigan and Illinois State. "I talked with Keshawn a little bit," Langford said. "It came down to my family and distance. I liked all the players and the coaches. They made me feel welcome."

happy," Hardin said. "I think he was leaning before toward Colorado, but he wanted to be close to home and he liked coach (Mark) Dantonio."

Spartans. In Saturday's 41-31 loss to Texas Tech in the Alamo Bowl, Martin was outstanding with 258 all-purpose yards including four catches for 86 yards and one TD; a combined six kickoff and punt returns for 149 yards; along with a 10-yard TD pass.

WARRIORS

FROM PAGE B1

a nice job of defensive pressure," Annapolis coach Robert Yoches said. "When we settled down and got the ball inside, a lot of scoring goes in there."

wanted to do more with the ball than we should have," said Yoches, who dressed only eight players and was missing starter Alexander Calzadillas (sprained ankle).

right, it's what we wanted to do," Lutheran Westland first-year coach Doug Haller said. "There were a lot of good efforts, but rebounding and transition baskets is what it came down to. We like to try and run and get transition baskets, but we had a tough time rebounding."

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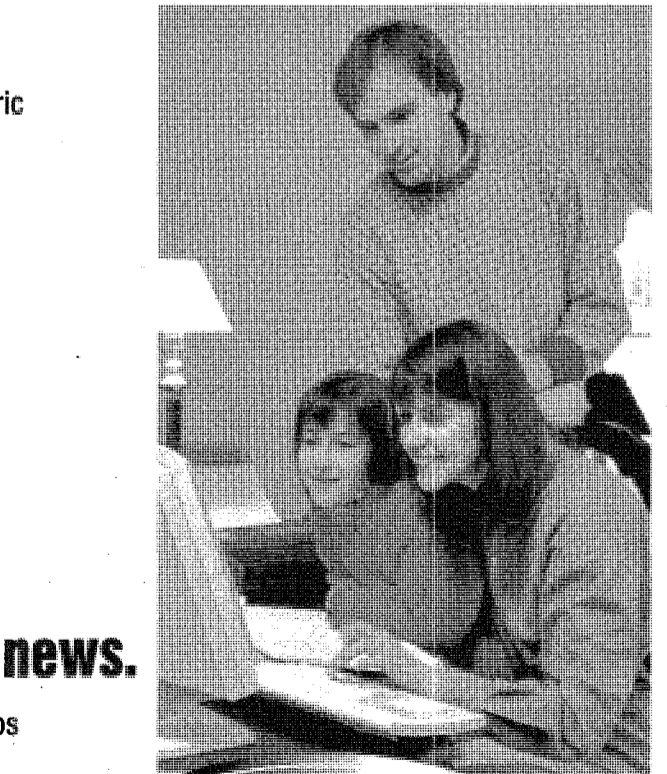
Local news.

- South Oakland Eccentric, Birmingham Eccentric, Canton Observer, Farmington Observer, Garden City Observer, Livonia Observer, Plymouth Observer, Redford Observer, Westland Observer, Milford Times, Northville Record, Novi News, South Lyon Herald.

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK. Notice of Deadline for Filing Certain Proofs of Claim. Lists creditors and property details.





# Westland-Garden City Strictly Business



Dr. R. James Gregg (left) receives the Chiropractor of the Year Award from MAC Chairman Dr. Kirk Steketee. Also receiving the award was Dr. Christopher Dolecki (right).

## Garden City doctor is Chiropractor of Year

A Garden City doctor of chiropractic has been named Chiropractor of the Year by the Michigan Association of Chiropractors (MAC).

The award is given to Dr. R. James Gregg for demonstrating the highest level of commitment to his patients and the chiropractic profession. The award was given during the MAC Fall 2009 Convention and Exhibition at the Radisson Plaza in Kalamazoo. It was granted to Gregg for his "outstanding leadership, service and dedication."

Gregg has been in practice in Garden City since 1970. He is a graduate of Fordson High School in Dearborn and attended both Detroit Methods of Engineering and Henry Ford Community College before graduating from the Logan College of Chiropractic, St. Louis, Missouri.

He has held numerous positions in Chiropractic organizations, including president of District 1, secretary, treasurer,

vice-president, president and chairman of the board of the Michigan Chiropractic Council Chiropractic. He also has been a consultant to Medicaid, Department of Social Services, State of Michigan,

Chiropractic liaison for the Chiropractic profession to Michigan Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and chairman of Insurance Relations committee of Michigan Chiropractic Council and as a state representative and co-chairman of hospital affairs for the International Chiropractors Association.

Gregg was appointed to the Malpractice Review Board of the American Arbitration Association and the Michigan Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

Among the awards he has received during his career are the Hugh B. Logan Memorial Award for Educational and Clinical Excellence, Michigan Chiropractic Council Chiropractor of the Year, Outstanding Service Award from the Michigan Chiropractic Council, 1972-

1975, 1978, 1981-1982, 1984-1989 and the President's Special Service Award, Michigan Chiropractic Council, 1979-1980, and Michigan Chiropractic Council Hall of Fame Award for Professional Achievement, 1990.

He has written numerous articles for Chiropractic publications and lectures throughout the United States of America and Canada to chiropractic associations, chiropractic colleges, laymen and professional health organizations and state government, on such subjects as chiropractic philosophy, staff motivation and training, chiropractic hospital programs, and practice management.

He is the president and CEO of Gregg Chiropractic Life Centers, serving the Detroit Metropolitan area with four locations - 1647 Inkster Road, Garden City; 33779 Five Mile, Livonia; 1079 S. Baldwin, Orion Township, and 5130 Coolidge, Royal Oak.

For more information, call the main office in Garden City at (734) 525-8422.

### BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

#### Saying good-bye

After 12 years in the United States and eight years working at the Westland Shopping Center in Westland, marketing director Denise Mills is leaving to return to her native New Zealand.

"The time has come for me and my husband to go home," Mills said in an e-mail announcing her departure, effective Dec. 31.

The Mills will be moving back to New Zealand in the first quarter of the New Year.

#### Helping community

Every Holiday season, the employees of United Home Health Services, a local not-for-profit home health care company, combine their resources to help people in need in the community. This year, with the help of Hope Healthcare Center's social work and activities department, they chose nine residents there who needed some Holiday cheer.

United's elves got busy shopping, wrapping, and sorting and were able to provide

clothes, toiletries, gift cards, movie videos, snack food, and hats according to each resident's wish list. They also made a \$100 donation to the activities department in order to purchase needed equipment.

"I am blessed to work with such generous and caring individuals," said Penny Rhein, president of United Home Health Services. "They always rally around the cause and truly make a difference!"

Karen Sandusky, Registered Dietitian and Kelly Byrne, Administrative Assistant, both members of United's Employee Satisfaction Committee, helped present the gifts to at Hope Healthcare Center in Westland on Dec. 22.

"The residents were thrilled with their gifts and so grateful that someone remembered them during the Holidays. This was certainly a special day for them. One of our ladies was in tears!" said Erin ..., social worker at Hope. "We are so thankful to everyone at United Home Health Services for helping make the Holidays brighter for our residents."

"This is what Christmas is all

about: helping others in need. We had so much fun putting all of this together! Our office looked like Santa's workshop for the past few weeks. Our staff is grateful that we had the opportunity to give to our community," said Kelly Byrne, United administrative assistant.

About United Home Health Services

United Home Health Services is not-for-profit, Medicare-certified home care company that has been serving this community for 26 years. Services include skilled nursing, therapy, home health aide, social work, and registered dietitian services in the comfort of your own home. They also provide caregiver and companion services, including personal care, Alzheimer's/dementia program, medication reminders and management, laundry, housekeeping, meal preparation, grocery shopping, errands, transportation, and respite care.

For more information, contact Mary Jane Swanson at (734) 981-8820 or visit the Web site at [www.uhhs.org](http://www.uhhs.org).

### BUSINESS MILESTONES

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

##### Ticket give-away

**What:** Sesame Street Live! ticket giveaway at Art Van Furniture stores  
**Time/Date:** Ticket entry is Jan. 12-29

**Details:** Enter for a chance to win a family four pack of tickets to see "Elmo's Green Thumb" at the Fox Theatre on Friday, January 29. Winning guests will also be treated to a meet-and-greet session with the characters. Enter at all metro Detroit stores, including the Westland Store on Wayne Road north of Warren Road. One family four pack will be awarded per store. In addition, Friday, Jan. 29, is Art Van Family Night. All tickets, excluding premium seating, are \$10, courtesy of Art Van and WJBK FOX2. Tickets can be purchased at the Fox Theatre or Joe Louis Box Office or at any Ticketmaster location.

##### 5 Star After Hours

**What:** An after hours get together of members of the Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Redford, Wayne and Westland Chambers of Commerce.  
**Time/Date:** 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 26,

**Location:** Albert's on the Alley, 5651 Middlebelt, Garden City

**Details:** The goal of the 5 Star Business Group is to provide members with tremendous networking opportunities with a larger group of people. A larger audience allows opportunities to exchange ideas and create partnership opportunities with individuals from other areas that members would not meet otherwise. Appetizers will be provided.  
**Contact:** (734) 326-7222

##### At Maxwell's

**What:** Blues & Muse X

**Date/Time:** 7-11 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 09,

#### SEND IT

Are you having a special event, a sale or just want to let people know where you are? Interested in being featured in our Business Q & A? It's as easy as sending your information to or requesting a Q & A form from Sue Mason at [smason@hometownlife.com](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com). You can also mail it to Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

**Location:** Maxwell's Arts and Treasures, 32416 Industrial, north of Ford Road, Garden City.

**Details:** Stop by for Open Mic Nite on Maxwell's stage Blues and Muse X will feature local artists playing live music. Featured artists to be announced. Maxwell also offers a variety of classes and will hold a Make It and Take It 10 a.m. to noon and a Meet the Teacher 1-3 p.m. on Jan. 9.

**Contact:** 734-427-5300, Ext. 7

#### On Sale

**What:** Winter Clearance Sale at Materials Unlimited

**Location:** 2 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti

**Time/Date:** Now through Jan. 31  
**Details:** Material Unlimited is holding its winter clearance sale. Save 20-60 percent on select items, with many deals below \$200. It has added many new items to its clearance section, as well as slashed some existing prices even more. Clearance prices are guaranteed through Jan. 31. Winter store hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Materials Unlimited features the Midwest's largest selection of architectural salvage and antiques. **Contact:** Call toll free (800) 299-9462 or shop the Web site at [www.materialsunlimited.com](http://www.materialsunlimited.com).

#### Coffee Connection

**What:** Westland Chamber of Commerce's monthly Coffee Connection

**Location:** Tim Horton's, 715 S. Wayne Road, Westland

**Time/Date:** 8-9 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 21.

**Details:** Store owners Moussa Zoarob and Marie Jeanne Kouchoukian will be the hosts. Come and get some networking done, meet fellow Chamber members and have a little breakfast. No need for a RSVP, just come by.  
**Contact:** (734) 326-7222

#### ONGOING

##### Sunday Brunch

**Time/Date:** Served from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

**Location:** Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, east of Warren Road, Westland.

**Details:** Choose from Hawthorne's vast breakfast and dinner menus. Cost is \$8.95 for adults and \$5.95 children under age 12. Children age 3 and under, free.  
**Contact:** (734) 422-3440

##### Dollar Desserts

**Location:** Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe is at 8036 N. Wayne Road, north of Warren Road, Westland.

**Details:** Do you have a sweet tooth that never seems to be satisfied without putting a dent in your wallet? At Mary Denning's, you never have to worry about that again. The shop now offers a dollar dessert menu, featuring many of its customer favorites. Cupcakes, fun-size bars, cinnamon crumb cakes, yesterday's fresh muffins, gourmet coffee, cookies (three for \$1), and a new dessert called cake butts. The dollar dessert menu enables you to take control of your sweet tooth and your wallet.  
**Contact:** (888) 715-4479.

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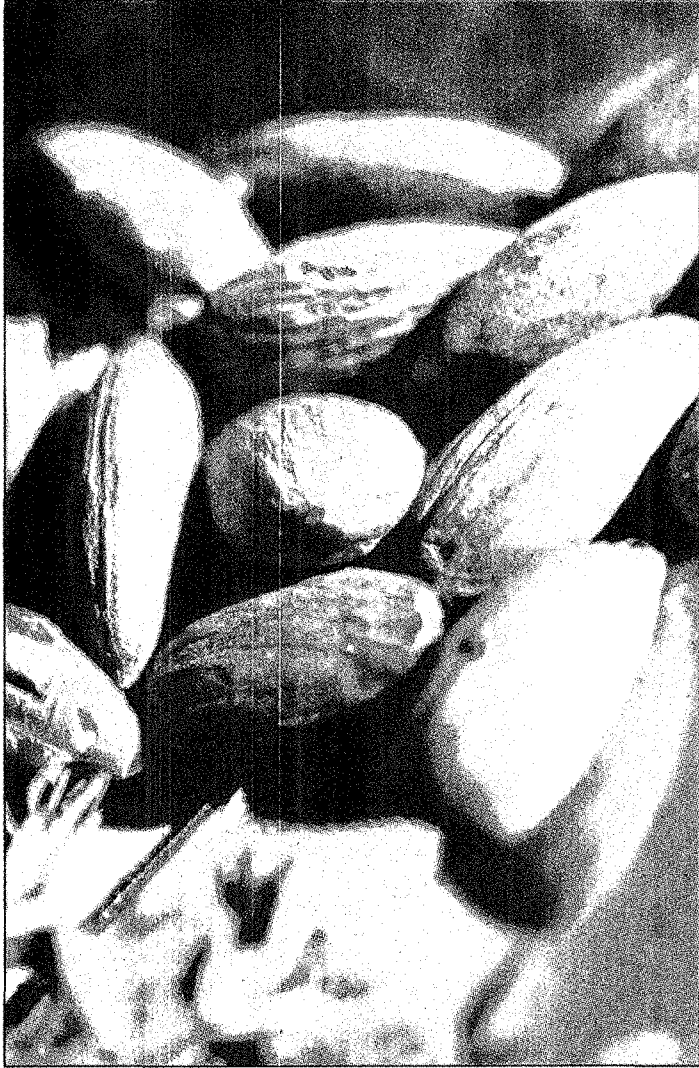


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Almonds are a healthful snack.

## Add healthy snacking to this year's resolutions

Forget diet shakes and strict meal plans. This year, pledge to eat more snacks. Healthy snacking is emerging as a new food trend for consumers who have resolved to focus on health and wellness in 2010.

Today's consumers see snacking as an integral part of their lifestyles. From stressed-out Generation Xers to comfort-seeking Baby Boomers and wellness-savvy Millennials, consumers recognize that smart mini-meals can be part of an all-day wellness plan, according to U.S. trend watcher Iconoculture.

Iconoculture reports that consumers want to bring their lives back into balance. They crave basic, comforting, filling and better-for-them foods when they snack, including nuts, seeds, fruits, popcorn and veggies.

"Consumers want their snacks to be multitasking munchies," said chef and cookbook author Tina Salter, who develops recipes for Diamond culinary nuts, Emerald snack nuts and Pop Secret popcorn. "They want snacks that provide health benefits, but that are also convenient, delicious, satisfying and taste a little indulgent."

### SNACK BENEFITS

One of the keys to healthy snacking is not just eating foods that are good for the body, Salter said, but also finding treats that are handy and leave us satisfied without the guilt. That's why so many healthy snackers are turning to nuts and popcorn. Both snacks are high in fiber, have proven antioxidant benefits and provide a whole host of benefits versus other snacks.

In fact, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration says that scientific evidence suggests, but does not prove, that eat-

ing 1.5 ounces per day of most nuts, as part of a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol, may reduce the risk of heart disease. Other facts supporting nuts as a part of a healthy diet include:

- Walnuts are one of the most concentrated sources of omega-3 fatty acids. One serving of walnuts, about 1/3 cup or 12-16 walnut halves, several times a week has been shown to lower overall cholesterol and blood pressure while reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease and fighting arthritis and other inflammatory diseases.

- Almonds are a beneficial source of vitamin E, magnesium, manganese, and a good source of fiber, copper, phosphorus, and riboflavin. A one-ounce serving, about 23 almonds, has 13 grams of good unsaturated fats, just 1 gram of saturated fat, and is always cholesterol free.

"Nuts are delicious, nutritious and portable, making them an excellent choice for today's busy consumers," Salter said. "Stash them in your desk at work, in your purse or gym bag and in your car so you always have a healthy snacking option at hand."

### MOVIE NIGHT HEALTHIER

A recent study showed that plain popcorn has the highest level of polyphenols among snack foods; polyphenols potentially reduce risk of heart disease, cancer and other diseases. With zero cholesterol or trans fats, plain popcorn is 100 percent whole grain and is an easy to prepare snack for the whole family.

An economical snack, popcorn provides a satisfying, high fiber treat with high satiety levels to aid in hunger management.

Courtesy of Family Features

### AWESOME BANANA WALNUT SHAKE

The frozen banana in this shake creates an ice cream-like consistency. The walnuts get so finely ground by the blender that you don't even know they're in there... until you taste it! It's so yummy!

- 1 medium very ripe banana, frozen
- 1/2 cup vanilla low-fat yogurt
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1-2 tablespoons honey

Place banana, yogurt, walnuts, and 1 tablespoon honey in a blender. Blend on low speed until ingredients start to mix together. Then increase to high speed and blend until smooth. For a sweeter smoothie, add another tablespoon of honey. Serve immediately. Tip: To make a frozen banana, peel and cut the banana into chunks. Wrap in plastic and place in freezer several hours or overnight. Serves two; prep time five minutes; 267 calories; 11 grams fat

### CAJUN SPICED WALNUTS

A spicy kick makes these a perfect pre-dinner nibble with drinks. Prepare them a day ahead if you can, as the flavors blend and mellow overnight.

- 1 egg white
- 1/2 teaspoons garlic salt
- 1/2 teaspoons mixed dried herbs
- 1 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 2 cups walnut halves and pieces

Preheat oven to 350°F. Coat a large, shallow baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. In a large bowl, mix egg white, garlic salt, dried herbs, cayenne pepper and paprika with a whisk or fork until blended. Add walnut halves and pieces and toss until they are evenly coated, then spread in the prepared baking pan. Bake 16-18 minutes, stirring once after about 8 minutes, until the walnuts look dry and toasted. Remove from the oven and cool completely. Store in an airtight container. Serves eight; prep time is 15 minutes; 201 calories; 20 grams fat

### APPLE AND WALNUT SPICED MUFFINS

Spicy muffins, dense with apples, raisins and walnuts are crisp outside and moist within

- hot water
- 1 cup raisins
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup oatmeal
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 4-5 small apples
- 1 egg
- 2 egg whites
- 1/2 cup canola oil or vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease muffin tins, or coat with non-stick spray.

Pour hot water over the raisins in a small bowl and let sit 10 minutes; drain well and set aside.

Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, combine the flour, oatmeal, sugar, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, allspice and nutmeg. Stir and toss to combine the ingredients, then set aside.

Peel and core the apples. Grate them coarsely - you need about 2 generous cups, lightly pressed down. Combine the grated apple with the eggs and egg white, oil and walnuts, and beat to blend.

Add to the combined dry ingredients along with the raisins and stir just until blended and moistened - the batter will be very stiff. Spoon into the prepared muffin tins, filling the cups about three-quarters full.

Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in a muffin comes out clean. Cool 5 minutes in the pan, then remove and serve warm. Makes 12 muffins; 284 calories; 9 grams fat.

Recipes courtesy of the California Walnut Board

### NUT, POPCORN SNACKS

#### MAPLE CINNAMON ROASTED ALMONDS

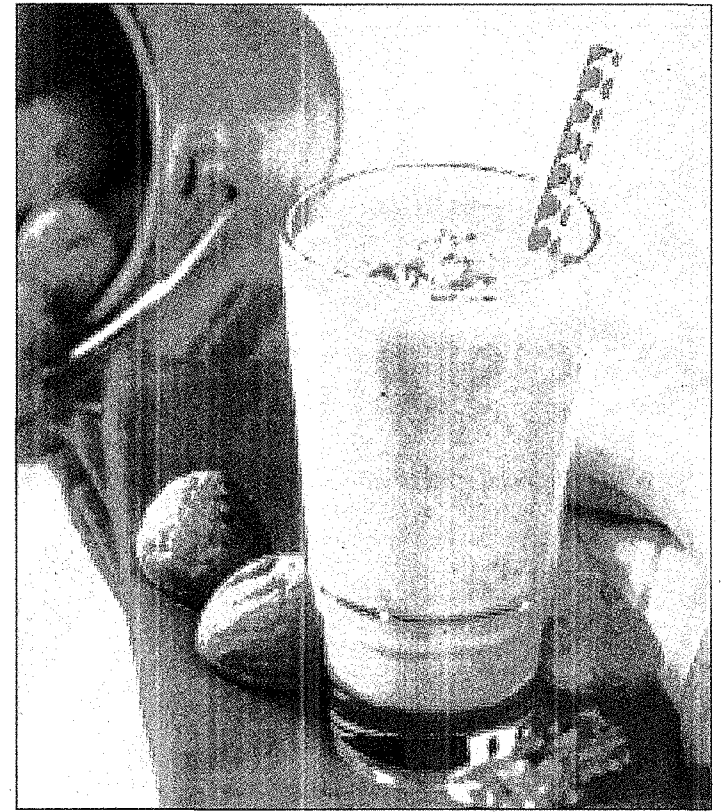
- 2 cups whole almonds
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 2 teaspoons canola oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon

Roast the almonds on a large square baking sheet at 350°F for 15 minutes. Take the almonds out of the oven. In a saucepan, mix together the maple syrup, canola oil, vanilla and cinnamon. Heat at medium just until the mixture starts to boil. Add the roasted almonds to the saucepan. Toss until the almonds are evenly glazed and covered with the syrup mixture. Cover the baking sheet with parchment paper. Spray with vegetable oil. Spread the maple almond mixture onto the parchment paper and let cool. Enjoy the same day or store in an airtight container in the refrigerator to enjoy throughout the week. Serves 8; 245 calories and 10 grams fat.

#### HEART-Y ANTIOXIDANT ALMOND SNACK MIX

- 3 cups multi-grain cereal squares, such as Chex brand
- 3 cups fiber cereal twigs, such as Fiber One brand
- 1 cup sweetened dried cranberries
- 1/2 cup dark chocolate morsels
- 1/2 cup almond butter
- 1/2 cup enriched margarine spread such as Smart Balance brand (may use butter)
- 1/2 cup almond flour
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar

Line a large sheet pan with waxed paper. Place cereal and dried cranberries in a large resealable plastic bag. In a microwaveable bowl, add chocolate chips, almond butter and enriched margarine spread (or butter). Microwave on high heat, uncovered, for 1 minute. Stir. Microwave for another 30 seconds; remove and stir until smooth. Pour chocolate mixture into plastic bag, seal and shake to coat evenly. Add almond flour, sliced almonds and confectioners' sugar. Reseal and shake to coat. Spread mixture on waxed paper and cool completely. Refrigerate in an airtight container; mix can be stored for up to 1 week. Contains 237 calories per serving and 13.3 grams of fat.



Awesome Banana Walnut Shake

#### DIAMOND PECAN AND CITRUS SWEET POTATO ROUNDS

- 2 sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch thick slices
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 cup chopped pecans, toasted
- 1 cup freshly cut orange segments, reserving 2 Tablespoons of the juice
- 6 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice
- 1 tablespoon minced green onion
- 2 teaspoons freshly grated lime zest
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 12 ounce fresh goat cheese or whipped cream cheese, at room temperature

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Generously oil a large baking sheet and sprinkle lightly with salt. Arrange sweet potato slices in a single layer on baking sheet; press each round in the oil and turn so that the oiled side is facing up. Bake until tender, about 20 minutes. Cut each orange segment into thirds. In a small bowl, combine orange pieces, cilantro, orange juice, lime juice, green onion, lime zest, salt and cayenne; add chopped pecans and toss well. To serve: Spread a thin layer of goat cheese onto each

sweet potato round; top with a teaspoon of the chopped pecan mixture. Serve immediately. Makes about 30 rounds

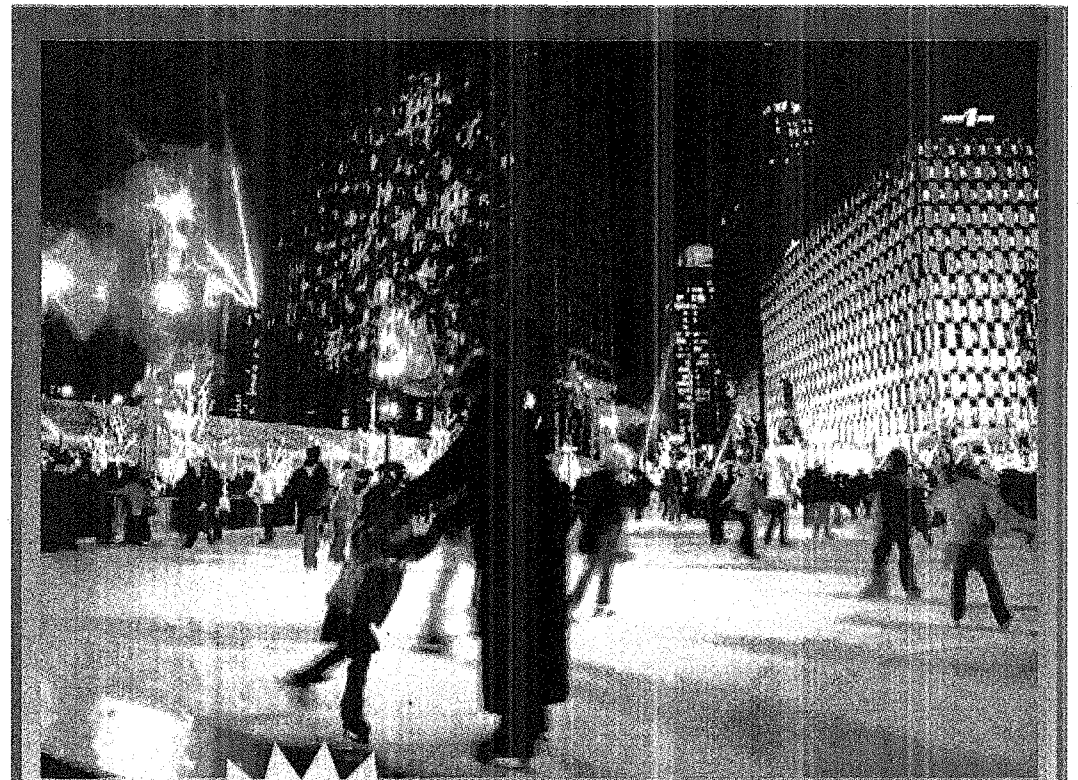
Recipe courtesy of Diamond Foods

#### MEDITERRANEAN ALMOND DIP

- 1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon toasted whole natural almonds
- 2 tablespoons olive oil or almond oil
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 can (15 1/2 oz.) garbanzo beans
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon ground red pepper (cayenne)
- 1/2 cup chopped toasted almonds (optional)

Crackers or pita bread rounds, cut into wedges  
Chop 1 tablespoon whole natural almonds for garnish; set aside. Combine remaining portion of the 1/2 cup whole natural almonds in food processor with oil and garlic. Process until well chopped. Drain garbanzo beans, reserving 1/2 cup liquid. Add beans, liquid, lemon juice and pepper to almond mixture. Process until smooth. Stir in 1/2 cup chopped almonds, if desired. Spoon into a serving bowl. Garnish with chopped almonds and serve with crackers or pita wedges. Serves eight; 133 calories and 6.7 grams fat.

Recipes courtesy of the California Almond Board



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**Auction Sales 7060**

Notice is hereby given that on 1/20/10 at 2:00pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at National Storage Center - Westland, 39205 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: Household Items, Recreational Items and/or Misc. Goods.  
Unit 095-Jerome Charles Young, Unit 227-Gregory Parks, Unit 481-Kenton Ellis, Unit 504-Craig Ellis, Unit 521-Nilda Battaglia, Unit 545-Ronald Bauman

**Auction Sales 7060**

Notice is hereby given that on January 20, 2009 at 1 pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Stor-N-Lock Self Storage, 7840 N. Wayne Road, Westland, MI 48185. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: Household Items, Recreational Items and/or Misc. Goods.  
C5-Gerri Kuck, N31-Rex B Craig, K17-Thelmetrice C Duncan, M19 Luther Thompson, L6-Keith Zion, M1A-Keisha Owens, H24-Jeffrey L Benson II, G4-William Eichelberger, D13-Daniel Brewer, B15-Theresa Griffin, D21-Danille C Fenstermaker, L2-Larry J Williams, F9-Annie Melorn, H16-Consuelo N Perkins, E12-Marionica V Merrill, P16-Martin Gray, E21-Simone Chapman, F27-Latasha Knight, K20-Brenda L Morgan, P13-Justin Guyor, F8-Patti Marleau, D8-Latoya Cordell

**Household Goods 7160**

**APPLIANCES** Washer & electric dryer, \$100 for pair. Electric glass top stove, \$150. 734-260-4283

**MATTRESS**  
New queen pillow-top mattress. Can Deliver. \$200. (734) 444-7277

**Exercise/Fitness Equipment 7215**

**SCHWINN AIRDYNE EXERCISE BIKE**  
Excellent Condition. Hardly used. \$150. 313-910-9374

**Miscellaneous For Sale 7500**

**FOR SALE-** Bugaboo Frog Stroller \$500; Pottery Barn Nursery Set - crib, changing table, rocking chair \$1,200; Peg Perigo infant car seat \$50; Brio train table \$150; Eddie Bauer jogging stroller \$100. Call Laura 989-551-8638

**Musical Instruments 7510**

**CASH FOR GUITARS/ MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**  
Any Condition. Will Pick Up. 313-424-9212

**CONSOLE PIANO**  
Excellent condition, \$350. 313-910-9374

**GEMEINHARDT MODEL3**  
open hole flute, exc cond, appraised, \$550. Cfoot \$375. 248-553-4943

**Dogs 7840**

**BERNESE MOUNTAIN PUPS**  
2 males, 2 females, 6 weeks old. Ready to go home 1/19, \$550. Kim: (734) 674-2711

**Dogs 7840**

**DACHSHUND MINI'S**  
AKC, shots, health guarantee, Creams/Reds, Wayne. Call: 734-728-3226

**DACHSHUND PUPPIES**  
Beautiful, healthy mini puppies looking for a great home. Black/tan & red/tan. 734-421-4973, (cell) 734-812-9996

**GOLDEN RETRIEVER** Male, born 10/23/09, AKC, shots/wormed, \$275 (\$350 w/crate): 734-459-5397

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