



PETER BALDWIN

## Dozer tips over

A cement contractor driving a dump truck was turning a corner in Farmington Hills Friday when a rear chain slipped, causing a bulldozer to slide off the flat-bed trailer and tip over. Malcom Dedes of South Lyon was turning from westbound 10 Mile to northbound Haggerty at 8:40 a.m. when the mishap

occurred. No one was hurt. Firefighters used special pads to absorb spilled diesel fuel. The bulldozer was righted and put back on the trailer. Above, firefighters Wally Kurzeja (left) and Bob Ellis survey the scene.

## New lawmaker lands House assignments

State Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, has received several key House committee assignments, including the position of Liquor Control Committee Republican vice chair.

She also was appointed to the committees on conservation, recre-

ation and environment; consumers; and House oversight.

"I'm very pleased with all my assignments," said the first-term legislator, who represents Farmington, Farmington Hills and Southfield Township.

"Of particular significance to me are the conservation, environment and recreation committee and the consumers committee."

"At no time in our history have we faced the serious environmental problems that threaten humanity today. The decisions we make about our environment will affect Michigan's future generations. I take that responsibility very seriously."

"The consumers committee also impacts directly on Michigan citizens. As the watchdog over consumer protection laws and legislation, it plays an important role in assuring



House Republican leader Paul Hillemonds (left) meets with freshman lawmaker Jan Dolan of Farmington Hills.

justice and fair play in the marketplace."

House Republican leader Paul Hillemonds, R-Holland, praised the Farmington Hills legislator.

"As an experienced businesswoman who served 14 years on the Farmington Hills City Council, and two

terms as mayor, Jan will be bringing extensive knowledge, energy and commitment to her legislative duties," he said. "She is a valuable addition to our Republican caucus."

## Window breakers hunted by cops

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

Two week-long strings of broken window incidents along Grand River have kept Farmington public safety officers busy during the past few months.

But they haven't a clue as to who has caused the more than \$10,000 in damage occurring in 14 incidents between Nov. 9-23 and another 10 that occurred between Jan. 4-13.

The incidents involved both windows of parked vehicles and windows in commercial and residential buildings, mainly along the Grand River corridor. BBs, pellets and ball bearings — some as large as half an inch in diameter — have been confiscated as evidence.

"It's not a vendetta," Commander Chuck Lee said of the crimes, "unless they're mad at the whole city."

ALTHOUGH THE incidents seem to have subsided, public safety officials are seeking the public's help in

finding the subjects. They are also asking parents to watch for signs of "wrist rockets" or slingshots in their children's possession.

Lee said the wrist rockets, when used with half-inch ball bearings, can not only cause damage but could be deadly.

"One of those could be fatal, if someone got hit in the face," he said, holding up one of the steel balls from evidence. "Parents should say, 'I've got to ask myself why — for what purpose — is it (wrist rocket) being used?'"

The wrist rockets sell at most multi-purpose stores, including the K mart in Farmington, where they range in price from \$6.50 to \$10. Ball bearings are sold in boxes of 50, although employees at K mart told Lee no one younger than 18 is allowed to buy either the wrist rocket or bearings.

Anyone with information about the Farmington damage incidents is asked to contact Lee at 473-7263.

## WL Schools review gun safety program

By Carolyn DeMarco  
staff writer

James Geisler, superintendent of Walled Lake Schools, Jan. 27 ordered a review of the controversial firearms safety instruction for all sixth graders in the district.

Geisler instructed Hugh Davies, assistant superintendent for elementary instruction, to assemble a curriculum review committee to study the portion of the outdoor education curriculum that focuses on students shooting 10 rounds of live ammunition from a .22-caliber rifle.

The shooting is part of a four-day outdoor education program offered annually for 32 years to all sixth graders in the district.

Samuel Holzman, the father of Bradley Holzman, a sixth grader at Maple elementary, recently withdrew his son from the outdoor program, protesting the safety and educational value of using firearms.

A show-cause hearing scheduled for Jan. 27 in Oakland County Cir-

cuit Court has been rescheduled to Feb. 10.

MEMBERS OF the curriculum review committee will include a sixth grade teacher, a citizen representative, a representative of the Michigan Outdoor Education Association, a staff member from the district's outdoor education center, a child psychologist and a firearms safety expert from the field of law enforcement.

The committee will be chaired by Barbara Garbutt, former Outdoor Center director, now principal of Commerce Elementary School.

"The curriculum review is to be expeditious but thorough with a suggested timeline of 30 days or less," the superintendent's memo said.

Geisler's two-page memo was distributed to all building principals.

"No child is required to attend either the camp or firearms safety lesson," it said. "Students whose parents wish to exempt them from any portion of the camp may still accompany their classmates to camp, if desired."

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