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What are  
some of your  
best memories  
from 2013?



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WEEK OF JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 8, 2014



# TELEGRAM

\*OLDEST PRIVATELY OWNED AFRICAN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER IN MICHIGAN\*

## Homelessness Increases in U.S.

By Freddie Allen - NNPA Washington Correspondent



WASHINGTON (NNPA) —The downturn in the economy and a lack of local resources have forced more Americans to live under bridges, in their cars and on the couches of other family members, according to a recent report on hunger and homelessness.

The 25-city survey, conducted by the United States Conference of

Mayors, found that more than 20 percent of homeless people that needed help over the past year didn't get it and 71 percent of the survey cities reported that their emergency shelters, stretched to capacity, had to turn homeless families with children away.

According to a 2012 report by the Institute for Children, Poverty and

Homelessness page 6A

## Here We Go, Head Coach Wanted, Again

By Butch Davis - Contributing Writer



As you now know, Jim Schwartz has been relieved of his head coaching duties. Tom Lewand and Martin Mayhew met this past Monday afternoon with Scott Linehan and Tim Lappano

and thanked them for their services and let them know that they were free to seek employment elsewhere. When Schwartz got here in

Coach Wanted page 6A

## Telegram Newspaper's 2013 Year in Review



### JANUARY

Django Unchained — Staring Jamie Foxx, Kari Washington, Christoph Waltz and bring Quentin Tarantino's love story to life on the big screen. The slave turned bounty hunter shows how a friendship can blossom and portrays a slave as a hero.



Sabrina L. Johnson sworn in as 22nd District Court Judge in Inkster.



Governor Snyder signs Kelsay's Law to protect inexperienced drivers. Senate Bill 756 bans cellphone usage for anyone driving on a Level 1 or Level 2 graduated driver's license in Michigan.



### FEBRUARY

The United States Postal Service Honors Rosa Parks on 100th Birthday with a stamp. The photo is of Parks when she was 42 years old.

Review Team finds 'Financial Emergency in Detroit



### MARCH

Former Detroit Mayor, Kwame Kilpatrick is found guilty. He along with his friend Bobby Ferguson and father Bernard Kilpatrick were found guilty after a five-month trial.

Dorothy Wall, wife of Telegram Newspaper founder joins him in heaven. She leaves us at the age of 96 years old.

YEAR IN REVIEW PAGE 3A

INFORMING \* EDUCATING \* EMPOWERING \* UPLIFTING



CALL TO ACTION

Short-term resolutions are easier to keep

By Gina Steward - Telegram Newspaper Publisher



Wow, another year is here. How will you make this year different than last year? I know many people spend time thinking about what they want to change in their life and then they make New Year's Resolutions. What's funny or interesting to me is that many people make the same resolutions year after year. However, statistics say that most people keep their resolutions less than two months.

What are your plans going to be for this year? Will you be one of the people that make a resolution and then stop trying to keep them? If you decide to make resolutions again this year, I want to encourage you to stick with it this year. The best way to make sure you are successful is to break up your resolutions into quar-

ters/three month intervals.

That will make it easier to be successful. So, instead of making a resolution to go church every Sunday this year, start by going to church every other Sunday for three months. Once you reach that goal, it could be written down as a success. Then try again for the next /second quarter. That might make your resolution more realistic to keep.

I hope more people would make resolutions to get more active in community and school activities. Make a resolution to attend at least one council or school board meeting in the first quarter of the year. The only way to find out what is going on is to attend the meetings and observe the operations of the elected officials. Whether you are twenty years old or seventy years old, you can benefit from attending the meetings. Your opinions will be appreciated.

Think about it. It will only take about two hours of your life each quarter. That's not too much to ask for, is it? Give it a shot and let me know how it went. Remember set short-term goals. They will be easier to keep.



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Thursday must be at the office of The Telegram no later  
than 4:00 on Friday.

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NEWS FROM LANSING

New laws will protect consumers against 'skimmers' that steal personal information

Laws signed also cover stolen metal, protect credit, extend DWI project



Gov. Snyder

LANSING – Gov. Snyder has signed a package of bills intended to safeguard Michiganders from devices used to steal their personal information and use it to commit fraud. The bills are included among 14 other pieces of legislation intended to help protect Michiganders and their property in a variety of ways.

The five-bill package creates criminal penalties relating to the use of a "skimmer" device used to access a person's financial information. The devices are illegally attached to automatic teller machines and record a person entering a PIN and read the information on the ATM or the debit or credit card's magnetic strip.

"These devices are used to steal from others, and we need to crack down on this problem to help protect Michiganders," Snyder said. "This is a bipartisan package of bills approved unanimously, showing the united commitment to fighting this growing issue."

HB 5050, sponsored by state Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, makes it a crime to use the devices. A person convicted of the crime could face five years in prison for a first offense, increasing to 15 years for a third and subsequent offense.

Other items in the package include:

•HB 5051, sponsored by state Rep. Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, increases the penalty for illegally using personal identifying information from a transaction without consent.

•HB 5052, sponsored by state Rep. Mike Callton, R-Nashville, includes in the sentencing guidelines the penalties proposed in HB 5051.

•HB 5053, sponsored by state Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton, D-Huntington Woods, covers potential jurisdictional issues in the prosecution of the crimes, and

•HB 5054, sponsored by state Rep. John Kivela, D-Marquette, amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to make selling or possessing a skimming device a felony.

The bills are now Public Acts 212, 213, 214, 215 and 216 of 2013, respectively.

Other public safety and con-

sumer protection-related bills include:

HB 4595, sponsored by then-Rep. Jim Ananich, D-Flint, would make it a felony for a scrap metal dealer to purchase scrap metal or an item of personal property if the dealer knows that it was stolen. It also would be a felony for a person to sell such metal items to a dealer knowing that the materials were stolen. The bill requires the approval of HB 4593 before taking effect. That bill has not yet been passed, but is a priority for next year. It is now Public Act 217 of 2013.

HB 4770, sponsored by Lipton, and HB 4771, sponsored by state Rep. Joe Graves, R-Linden, focus on the solicitation of people involved in vehicle crashes. Lipton's bill prohibits access to accident reports for 30 days to people other than those involved in the crash and others associated with the event, including journalists. Graves' bill makes it a crime to contact accident victims or their family members for solicitation within 30 days of the crash. They are now Public Acts 218 and 219 of 2013.

HB 4966-4969, 5048 and 5049 amend various statutes which permit a person to have a criminal charge dismissed due to being successfully discharged from probation. The records from the discharge and dismissal process are not public if the offender does not have an adjudication of guilt entered against them.

The bills, all approved unanimously, permit the Department of Corrections to access and use the records only in the performance of its duties and in some personnel issues.

HB 4966 was sponsored by state Rep. Aric Nesbitt, R-Lawton, HB 4967 by Cotter, HB 4968 by Heise, HB 4969 by state Rep. Margaret O'Brien, R-Portage, HB 5048 by state Rep. Charles Brunner, D-Bay City, and HB

5049 by state Rep. Sam Singh, D-East Lansing. The bills are now Public Acts 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, and 225 of 2013, respectively.

HB 5020 and 5021 extend the sunset date of the DWI/Sobriety Court Interlock Pilot Project one more year, ending Dec. 31, 2014. The bills call for the program to then continue indefinitely, without pilot designation, beginning Jan. 1, 2015. HB 5020 is sponsored by state Rep. Nancy Jenkins, R-Clayton, and HB 5021 is sponsored by state Rep. Dan Lauwers, R-Brockway. They are now Public Acts 226 and 227, respectively.

SB 94, sponsored by state Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, would prohibit state and local officials from aiding the federal government in the detention of a U.S. citizen if charges are not brought. The National Defense Act allows the federal government to detain people for an unlimited time without charges being brought against them. It is now Public Act 228 of 2013.

SB 174, sponsored by state Sen. John Proos, R-St. Joseph, allows a security freeze on a protected consumer's credit report under certain conditions. A protected consumer is defined as a child under the age of 16, an incapacitated person, or a person under the care of a guardian or conservator. The intent is to prevent loans, credit or other services from being fraudulently carried out in the protected consumer's name. It is now Public Act 229 of 2013.

SB 321, sponsored by Jones, exempts process servers from the trespass law when they are engaged in the business of serving a person on that person's property. It is now Public Act 230 of 2013.

Visit legislature.michigan.gov for more information.

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## 2016 Dream Ticket: Hillary and Michelle

By Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. - NNPA Columnist



The 2016 national elections are not that far away. It is timely and important that we not wait until then to begin having constructive discussions about who should be given the opportunity and responsibility to succeed President Barack Obama. The questions of the future of politics, economics and equal justice should never be avoided. Especially given all the voter suppression enactments in many states over the last two years, we should be more vigilant about being politically conscious and civically active. My motive, therefore, is to stimulate a proactive dialogue now about the possibilities for viable candidates for the next national elections.

Even with three more years in office, I believe that President Obama will be judged by history as one of the most effective presidents ever. He will be credited for leading the recovery and revival of the U.S. economy by encouraging the passage of the \$787 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, with Wall Street reaching its highest investment level, ending the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, getting the Affordable Care Act passed by Congress, rebooting the U.S. auto industry, signing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act ensuring equal pay for women, signing into law the Fair Sentencing Act that significantly reduced the sentencing disparities in drug laws that have been devastating for African Americans and Latino Americans, and appointing the first African Americans as Attorney General and Secretary of Homeland Security.

Therefore, any realistic speculation about who could be successful in following President Obama and Vice President Biden to the White House in 2016 should first be made in context of establishing continuity with the Obama administration's progress in economic revival, ending poverty, and providing leadership in implementing a more inclusive national agenda for the empowerment of all people who strive for a better quality of life in the United States.

It is long overdue for a qualified and experienced woman to be elected president and vice president of the United States. Here's a way to do both at one time: I propose and endorse the election of Hillary Diane Rodham Clinton as the next president of the United States and Michelle LaVaughn Robinson Obama as the next vice president of the United States in 2016.

Think about how millions and millions of voters would readily desire with great enthusiasm to have the historic opportunity to vote for two former first ladies of the U.S. to be president and vice

president. Today, Hillary Clinton and Michelle Obama are the most popular and well respected women in the nation. But this is not to be reduced to a mere popularity contest. The truth is both Hillary Clinton and Michelle Obama are very qualified, experienced and capable of leading the United States.

Hillary Clinton, a Yale law graduate, former U.S. Secretary of State and U.S. Senator is an expert on both domestic and foreign policy. The Democratic Party will be victorious in 2016 if Hillary Clinton is nominated for president. Of course, the vice presidential candidate in 2016 will be chosen by the nominee of the Democratic Party. As I have traveled recently around the country, I am pleased to report that there is a growing support for Michelle Obama to run for public office and being vice president would be a perfect fit. Michelle Obama is a Harvard Law graduate and a seasoned expert on community development and health care issues with a particular commitment to ending poverty for all people.

Let's be clear: they should not be elected because they are women; they should be elected because they are qualified to lead our nation. And those who profess to have a problem with electing two women didn't complain when we've elected two men throughout the history of this nation.

We all remember the tremendous surge in voter turnout in 2008 and again in 2012. And we know what created that enthusiasm. There are real repressive forces, however, that are now at work to increase systematic efforts to suppress voting rights and voter turnout for both the mid-term 2014 and 2016 national elections. We cannot afford to go backwards. We need to need to keep the forward thrust of the progress of the Obama-Biden administration into a Clinton-Obama administration in 2016. The future of America and the world will once again be at stake.

The political and public discourse will need a new stimulus in order to arouse a massive turnout of voters who will be committed to a progressive agenda and further socioeconomic transformation of our society and nation into a better place. What's your view? Who will you support? Who will you vote for? Let the debate begin.

"Forward ever, backward never!" This is not a time for cynicism or pessimism. We must envision the future for tomorrow out of how we see the present today. I see the Hillary Clinton-Michelle Obama ticket as a winning ticket for 2016.

Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. is President of Education Online Services Corporation and the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network and can be reached at <http://drbenjaminfchavisjr.wix.com/drbcf>



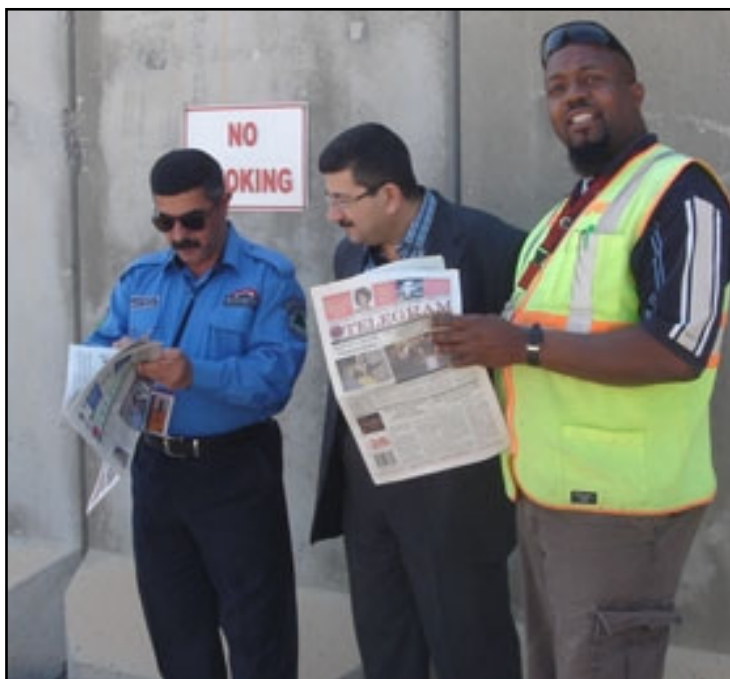
Romulus Eagles basketball team wins Class A title with a 27-1 record.



APRIL

Former columnist and community advocate, Joe Hudson dies.

The movie 42 – about the life of Jackie Robinson hits the box office. New comer Chad Boseman received rave reviews about his portrayal of Robinson



The Telegram Newspaper makes its way to Baghdad Iraq as Randall Clemons shares the newspaper with his coworkers.

**It's the New Year!!!**

**People usually start making new year resolutions around this time.**

**Did you keep yours from last year?**

**Do you plan to make one this year?**

### OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT/LEASE

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FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Don't Struggle – Get Your Peace

Cedric Dukes - Contributing Writer



As we age, life becomes demanding. What previously worked in other situations rarely works. New concepts and approaches yield obscure results. Life obstacles come and go. Our human effort intensifies but does not provide a solution. No person can give us the peace that we desire. In the center of every issue, we are going to need help from The Heavenly Father. We have a Father that cares for us similar to the

birds of the air and the lilies of the field. He specializes in furthering and assisting His children. Just because we can't see, feel or touch Him does not mean He is not working for our good. I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope (Jeremiah 29:11).

Peace is total contentment from every situation. The Father prefers us to transfer our struggles to Him. All answers in life (family, finances, jobs, etc.) are in Him. The Heavenly Father is waiting for our request. Jesus told his disciples to never stop praying and always ask. A widow woman in Luke 18 was pleading to a judge for vindication from her adversary. The judge refused her argument but finally gave up

because she continued to bother him. Jesus asked the disciples, this question, "Now won't God grant justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Is he delaying long over them? (Luke 18:7). Our peace is a request away.

Debt, bankruptcy, foreclosures and unemployment are His if you ask for peace. Striving for reconciliation among your family, friends, coworkers and boss is His if you ask. Marriage, children, sickness and family problems become His when you declare, "I give up – I need your help." Violence in our communities and schools become His when you ask for hope. We have the ability to change our situation by asking. Our weakness is perfected in what Jesus did on the cross therefore our ability is not a human effort but a heavenly request to the Father. Life is better when we don't have to worry. Don't struggle – get your peace.

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Gina C. Wilson Steward J.C. Wall Publisher Founder

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Letter Policy

The Telegram encourages letters from all readers. Submissions must include the writer's name, address and signature and phone number. Only the name will be published. Send your letters to:



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To find out more about this exciting project taking place in Inkster and the surrounding area, visit [www.nkfm.org](http://www.nkfm.org) and search for "Women's Health Initiative".

Gift cards will be given to thank you for your participation.





# Top Ladies of Distinction host Book Drive



Top Ladies of Distinction host Book Drive The Metro Chapter of The Top Ladies of Distinction are collecting books to help improve the literacy rate of youth in the City of Inkster. They have partnered with the Inkster Family Literacy Movement in this quest.

One of the members of the Top Ladies of Distinction suggested that instead of buying gifts for each other to exchange at their Annual Christmas party, they should donate books to the kids in Inkster. Each lady donated

a few books that youth between the ages of birth to 10 years old could use. Lady Betty Thomas, President of the organization said, "Literacy is one of the community projects that we have taken on. Our goal is to collect 5000 books as we continue to be a help and service to the community."

The books will be given out on January 4th at the Monthly Super Saturday event that will be held at the Booker Dozier Recreation Complex. This is the first Book Drive that they have

had to support this effort. This is just one community project that they will be focusing on during the year.

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“WHERE THE WILL OF GOD WILL BE DONE” Mark 14: 36



# Healthy Cigarettes? E-Cigarettes Poised to Reduce Tobacco Harm

by Shantella Y. Sherman - Special to the NNPA from The Washington Informer



Gina Hahn lost more than half of her friends a decade ago. Though they once bragged about their lifelong friendships, love affairs, and classic school days, when it came time to grow up – and in this case, snub out – Hahn and only a handful of the 30 or so failed to quit smoking traditional cigarettes.

Initially, Hahn, 32, said she was not particularly bothered by the newly health-conscious among her circle that affixed nicotine patches to their arms, or quit smoking cold turkey. Others, she said, developed smoking-related illnesses that made being around a smoker impossible. While Hahn missed their company, she enjoyed more the ability to smoke freely.

As a bartender, Hahn said she found it easy to work in smoke-filled environments like bars and nightclubs and once those bars, restaurants and other public spaces enacted no smoking regulations, found a ready supply of new friends huddled and idling outside the entrances of buildings, lighting up. But with the advent of the

new electronic cigarette (also known as e-cigarettes), Hahn often finds herself outside, in the cold, idling alone.

“The doorways and balconies are emptying out in a lot of spaces as this new electronic cigarette becomes popular. I refused to ‘bite’ though,” said Hahn, who smokes unfiltered Camels. “My friends have gotten older and, maybe, wiser and they’ve used the e-cigarette to stop smoking altogether.”

E-cigarettes allow users to inhale vaporized liquid nicotine through a mouthpiece. The heater also vaporizes propylene glycol (PEG) in the cartridge (used to create theatrical smoke in stage productions), and the user gets a puff of hot gas that mimics tobacco smoke. E-cigarettes contain no tobacco products; and utilize synthetic nicotine.

Hahn is among the 50 million Americans who continue to smoke, understanding fully the dangers of smoking and those who aren’t yet sold on the phenomenon. Health experts

believe the addictive nature of nicotine and other additives to tobacco provide some benefits smokers are unwilling to relinquish.

Brad Rodu, a Senior Fellow of the Heartland Institute, holds the Endowed Chair in Tobacco Harm Reduction Research at the University of Louisville’s James Graham Brown Cancer Center, and works to find safe substitutions to tobacco products that reduce what he terms “tobacco harm.” Rodu said that in addition to reducing anxiety and stress, nicotine has the ability to lower weight, and improve concentration.

“It’s time to be honest with the 50 million Americans, and hundreds of millions around the world, who use tobacco,” Rodu wrote, “The benefits they get from tobacco are very real, not imaginary or just the periodic elimination of withdrawal. It’s time to abandon the myth that tobacco is devoid of benefits, and to focus on how we can help smokers continue to derive those benefits with a safer delivery system.”

Jeff Stier, a Senior Fellow at the National Center for Public Policy Research in Washington, D.C., advises that while the nicotine present in both cigarettes and many e-cigarettes, is addictive, is not in and of itself, harmful. The danger comes from burning and inhaling tobacco, which is done with cigarettes but not e-cigarettes. Calling nicotine about as harmful as the caffeine in soda, Stier supports e-cigarettes as a tobacco harm reducer.

# Good looks may not be the only thing that runs in your family Glaucoma can too



It may be easy to see that beauty is deeply rooted in your family tree. But some things that are passed down from generation to generation are not as easily seen—like glaucoma, an eye disease that runs in families and often has no warning signs.

Glaucoma is a group of diseases that damages the eye’s optic nerve, which carries visual signals to the brain. It can lead to vision loss or blindness if left untreated. Primary open-angle glaucoma is the most common form of this disease.

Quite often, by the time people are diagnosed with glaucoma they have already begun to notice changes in their side, or peripheral, vision. It’s important not to wait until you notice vision problems to see your eye care professional.

“Studies show that at least half of all persons with glaucoma don’t know they have this potentially blinding eye disease,” said National Eye Institute (NEI) director Dr. Paul Sieving. “The good news is that glaucoma can be detected in its early stages through a compre-

hensive dilated eye exam.”

People with a family history of glaucoma and everybody at higher risk—especially African Americans age 40 and older—should get a comprehensive dilated eye exam every 1 to 2 years.

A comprehensive dilated eye exam is a procedure in which an eye care professional places drops in your eyes to dilate (or widen) the pupil to examine the back of your eyes and your optic nerve for signs of disease. This exam may help save your sight because when glaucoma is detected early, it can be controlled through medications or surgery.

Keep the vision of your beautiful family in your future. To learn more about glaucoma, visit [www.nei.nih.gov/glaucoma](http://www.nei.nih.gov/glaucoma) or call NEI at 301-496-5248. A low-cost exam may be available to you through Medicare. For more information, call 1-800-MEDICARE or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

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**MAY**  
Ecorse Financial Manager, Joyce Parker, informs Governor Snyder that the Financial Emergency in Ecorse no longer exists and management of the day to day operations will be returned to the

elected officials.  
Explosion at the Marathon plant paints the picture of non-preparedness on the part of the City of Detroit.



Ms. Talley, the oldest person in the United States turns 114 years old



**JUNE**  
Trayvon Martin's murder trial begins.

The House and Senate vote to dissolve the Inkster and Buena Vista School Districts.

River Rouge moves into the last year of its Consent Agreement. The \$2.5 Million deficit is down to (\$175.515).



**JULY**  
Rash of murders take place over the weekend in Inkster as four young lives are taken by gunshot.

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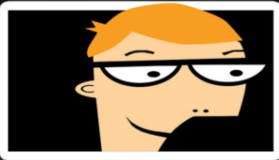
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Coach Wanted

From page 1A



2009, as you know, the Lions were coming off a 0-16 season. They have come some distance since then. The simple fact is that the team has fallen short of the expectations of their ownership and fans that paid and watched those expectations fall short.

Lewand and Mayhew said “they very strongly want to bring a consistently-winning football team to the fans of the city of Detroit. We fell short of

that and the decision that was made today was a direct reflection of falling short of that goal and quite simply, we didn’t win enough football games. We need to take the steps from this point forward to get over that hump. I have every confidence that we will.

The search has already begun for the next head coach of the Lions.” Jim Schwartz, will be remembered for a heated confrontation with San Francisco 49er coach Jim Harbaugh and yelling at his own fans during a loss just a couple of weeks ago. Schwartz’s arrogance contributed to his lack of success in Detroit. Another team may gamble on him, however, Schwartz must repair his reputation first.

Matthew Stafford, Detroit Lions’ quarterback was not

happy to see offensive coordinator Scott Linehan released, nevertheless, the Lions management have said they are looking out for their franchise player. Stafford has not improved since Detroit’s play-off season in 2011. He needs a coach to help him improve fundamentally and challenge his poor decision-making process.

Mayhew addressed this fundamental organizational weakness during a news conference Monday afternoon when he talked about the need to find a coach who can “change our culture a little bit. We have to find somebody who can bring that belief that we are going to get over the hump.” And that’s the best statement that has come out of the Lions’ headquarters in months.

Homelessness

From page 1A

Homelessness, Black families depended on homeless shelters at a rate that was seven times higher than White families.

A majority of the cities surveyed reported that unemployment, rising housing costs, and substance abuse contributed to higher homelessness rates.

Although Blacks often abuse illegal drugs at similar rates as Whites, Blacks suffer discrimination in housing and hiring that often affects how and where they live. The Labor Department reported that the jobless rate for Blacks (12.5 percent) was more than twice as high as the rate for Whites (6.2 percent) in November.

Homeless adults often presented with one or more of the following characteristics: 30 percent of homeless adults were severely mentally ill, 19 percent had jobs, 17 percent were physically disabled and 16 percent were victims of domestic violence. Thirteen percent of homeless adults were veterans and three percent were HIV positive.

The survey cities also reported that unemployment was the greatest contributor to the rise in hunger, followed by low wages and poverty. Increased food insecurity has strained local resources beyond capacity.

“Across the survey cities, emergency food assistance requests increased by an average of 7 percent,” stated the report. Eighty-three percent of the survey cities said that more families requested emergency food assistance in 2012 than 2011.

More than 25 percent of Black households don’t have enough to eat. Ten percent of White families live with food insecurity issues.

Even though the survey cities spent \$324 million and dispersed more than half a billion pounds of food, two-thirds of the cities reported turning people away, because they couldn’t keep up

with the growing demand. More than 70 percent of the survey cities said that they expect the hunger problem to get worse next year because of limited resources.

When Washington lawmakers left town for Christmas break, they left more than a million people who depend on unemployment benefits in the lurch. The deal left unemployment benefits on the cutting room floor, which means that a few days after Christmas more than a million people will lose their unemployment benefits, pushing some into poverty.

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a public policy group focused on fiscal policy and public programs that affect low- and moderate-income families and individuals, roughly 1.3 million people currently receiving unemployment insurance will be cut off shortly after the Christmas holiday. In six months, almost 2 million people

will lose their unemployment benefits.

GOP lawmakers passed legislation in the House of Representatives that will slash the food stamp program by roughly \$40 billion over the next 10 years. If passed by both the Senate and signed by the president about three million poor families would lose their benefits every year.

“The hunger and homeless issue continues to be with us,” said Tom Cochran, chief executive officer and executive director of the United States Conference of Mayors. “We have been in this fight for three decades and we will continue. The mindset of Washington does not understand what is happening in our neighborhoods and cities large and small across America.”



Chamber of Commerce Honors Outstanding Members

On Monday, January 13, 2014, the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber’s eleventh annual Member Tribute will be hosted by the Downriver Italian American Hall. In preparation for this tribute, we are asking for your help in identifying members to be recognized with the following awards:

- Corporate Citizen Award
- Community Service Award
- Image Award
- Small Business Person of the Year Award
- Three Green Leader Awards - Small Organization/Business (100 or fewer employees); Large Organization/Business (more than 100 employees); Community

Nomination criteria can be found at [www.swcrc.com](http://www.swcrc.com).

For more information, contact the Chamber at 734.284.6000 or [info@swcrc.com](mailto:info@swcrc.com)

HOROSCOPES



JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 8, 2014

**ARIES**  
Do not travel in the company of those who work against you. Move towards people with words of encouragement and an extended hand. Release the grudge that you have for someone who betrayed you. You will find liberation and lightheartedness in forgiving. Follow your heart when it comes to a love interest.  
*Soul Affirmation: Intelligent information does not have to come from intelligent sources*  
**Lucky Numbers: 5, 29, 41**

**TAURUS**  
Stay adaptable, and all will be fine. Flexibility is easy for you when you want it to be. The situation you’ll face this week will require that you alter your way of thinking about someone with whom you’re involved in business or friendship.  
*Soul Affirmation: Facing down challenges makes me feel good about myself.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 6, 29, 48**

**GEMINI**  
You’ll want to spend some time with a special friend this week just being together. If you’ve been neglecting a relationship because of work demands, this week is a wonderful week to set things to rights.  
*Soul Affirmation: I am willing to do more than my part to get the job done this week.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 8, 22, 53**

**CANCER**  
Give birth to some new impulses about love. The ones you’ve been using have led you to a place you do not wish to be. Give yourself a break. Change. Be less critical. Accept love even from those you do not completely agree with.  
*Soul Affirmation: I keep in mind the practical side of life this week.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 6, 33, 45**

**LEO**  
Lots of spirituality discussions are going on around you this week. This energy will probably last throughout the week, so expect to enjoy yourself, or pass on all social company and spend the week enjoying yourself.  
*Soul Affirmation: I am a giver of good words this week.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 1, 17, 22**

**VIRGO**  
This could turn out to be the most argument-filled week you’ve had for a while. Your feelings could be deeply hurt if you try to force your sense of rightness off on anyone else. Chill. Remember that in the past when people were cantankerous you could find pleasure in nature, or animals.  
*Soul Affirmation: I put my charm to work for me this week.*

**Lucky Numbers: 8, 39, 54,**

**LIBRA**  
Your good will and intentions towards others will reap you an inheritance of abundance and wealth. You will be blessed with many good wishes and enjoy them in the company of family and friends.  
*Soul Affirmation: I appear to others what I know myself to be.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 30, 32, 33**

**SCORPIO**  
Your dignity and composure is a sure asset this week. Be Mr. or Ms. Cool Breeze. In touchy situations you have the ability to maintain a high level of emotional balance and a calm disposition. Use these qualities to the fullest this week. You have the know-how to redirect negative feelings into a positive solution.  
*Soul Affirmation: Superficiality is often the best route to clarity.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 20, 28, 31**

**SAGITTARIUS**  
It’s best to keep your opinions to yourself this week, as many will be experiencing minor irritations and general grumpiness. Let others be who they are. You are a beacon of serenity. Others will notice.  
*Soul Affirmation: As chances come around again. I take advantage of them.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 21, 50, 54**

**CAPRICORN**  
You are often superb at exercising good judgment and rational decision-making. Yet sometimes you are rash. Flip to the observant side of your mentality this week. You will soon find yourself in a situation where there will be strife if you are not careful.  
*Soul Affirmation: A cheerful soul should be wrapped in a cheerful package.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 22, 36, 44**

**AQUARIUS**  
Just to prove to yourself once again how lucky you are you should fly into the face of bad predictions. Gamble this week in business, relationships, love -something. Remain truly confident that things will come out in a way that will satisfy you.  
*Soul Affirmation: Change is my middle name.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 5, 28, 37**

**PISCES**  
It’s a great week to tell somebody you are close to that you love them. Saying it aloud gives you energy, and of course your designated adoree will be delighted! Keep the big picture in mind this week and you’ll feel completely buoyant!  
*Soul Affirmation: I keep my eyes open for business opportunities this week.*  
**Lucky Numbers: 13, 30, 45**



# Pittsburgh grounds Bowling Green attack, 30-27

By Christian Young - Contributing Writer



All the calendars and letter-head leading up to this year's Little Caesars Pizza Bowl said 2013, but some who attended the game may have, at times, felt like they were caught in a time warp to 1953. In this age of spread offenses and hybrid defenses, spectators at Ford Field saw the Pittsburgh Panthers and Bowling Green Falcons go at it at times with some full-house backfield sets, no-receiver sets, five-and-six man lines on defense, and just pure physical play. But at any rate, football fans were not disappointed, as Pitt ran their way—literally—to a 30-27 victory. This was not only a matchup of different schools, but of different styles—Pittsburgh's old-school, downhill style versus Bowling Green's spread-the-field, read-option concepts. And it appeared that old school way carried the day. With the game tied at 27 deep into the fourth quarter, Pitt drove down the field on two pairs of fresh, freshman legs—those of true freshman running back James Conner and red-shirt freshman quarterback Chad Voytik, who ate up 51 yards in seven plays to set up a successful 39-yard field goal by Chris Blewitt with 1:17 left in the game. The Mid-American Conference champion Falcons (10-4, 7-1 MAC) made their second trip to Detroit in a month with both the top offense and defense in the MAC. But Pittsburgh (7-6, 3-5 ACC) actually grounded and pounded out more yards than the Falcons, 487 to 289—with 255 of their yards coming on the ground against a defense that usually only allowed 14 points per game. On the defensive end, Pittsburgh shut down Bowling Green's high-flying 35.4 point, 472.5 yard-per-game averaging attack, stuffing the Falcons numerous times and sacking quarterback Matt Johnson seven times. "They were very physical up

front on their offensive line, and their running back was a load to tackle," Bowling Green interim coach Adam Scheier said. "Without question, they were the most physical team we've faced this year. They just dominated us, on both lines of scrimmage." After the teams traded three-and-outs for their first two drives, the Falcons drove all the way down to Pittsburgh's five-yard line, but came away with a 28-yard field goal from Tyler Tate to make the game 3-0, Bowling Green. Pittsburgh answered in their smashmouth style, capping off a seven-play, 50-yard drive with a 15-yard touchdown run from the 6-2, 230-pound Conner (game MVP with 229 yards, 1 TD on 26 carries for a Pitt bowl record) to give the Panthers a 7-3 lead. "Throughout the game, he was just running physical and breaking tackles," Bowling Green senior safety BooBoo Gates said. "My offensive line was just doing their jobs, opening up holes for me," Conner said of his record-breaking performance. Blewitt hit a 25-yard field goal to extend the Panthers' lead to 10-3 and cap off an 11-play, 85-yard drive, and after another three-and-out by the Falcons, freshman Tyler Boyd took a punt on a winding 54-yard house call to put the Panthers up 17-3, just midway through the second quarter. Johnson hit tight end Alex Bayer on a 29-yard touchdown reception out of a double-tight formation with 1:28 left in the first half, cutting Pittsburgh's lead to 17-10 and giving the Falcons new life. The Falcons took Scheier's words to heart opening the second half with Gates busting loose on a 94-yard kickoff return touchdown to knot the game at 17, and then snatched a 20-17 lead on a 46-yard field goal from Tate. "Coming out of halftime, I kinda felt that we needed a spark and I kept telling myself 'Make a play, Gates, make a

play", he said. "I caught the ball and just followed my blockers, and nobody came free. I saw a hole and just hit my second gear." After Blewitt hit a 28-yard field goal to tie the game again at 20, the Panthers showed they had their share of explosive plays in them as well, as new Panther quarterback Voytik hit Boyd (finished with a school bowl record 173 receiving yards on eight grabs) on a 62-yard reception to get them down to the 11-yard line. Two plays later, Voytik rolled out and ran in a five-yard touchdown run to put Pittsburgh up 27-20. But Bowling Green wasn't done just yet, as Johnson navigated the Falcons on a nine-play, 75-yard scoring drive and capped it with a 15-yard scoring toss to Ryan Burbrink to knot the game at 27, before the Panthers mounted their drive. Voytik relieved injured senior quarterback Tom Savage and amassed 108 yards through the air on 5-of-9 passing, while rushing for 24 yards on two totes. For the Falcons, Johnson passed for 272 yards and two touchdowns, going 20-of-32 through the air. Travis Greene ran for 39 yards on 18 carries, and Shaun Joplin was Bowling Green's leading receiver with six grabs for 86 yards. Defensively, Pitt's All-American defensive lineman Aaron Donald earned Lineman of the Game honors with five tackles, including a sack. Senior defensive back Ryland Ward paced the Falcons with 10 tackles, followed by Gates with eight. This was an exciting—and turnover-free—edition of the Pizza Bowl, and unfortunately could be the last edition. The Big Ten Conference, ACC, and Detroit Lions have all agreed to a partnership for a college bowl game to be played in the 2014 season. However, how this affects the Pizza Bowl remains to be seen.

# Romulus hits first bump of season, falling to Bowman (IN) Academy, 76-72

By Christian Young - Contributing Writer

Big-time games in big-time matchups—that's part of how the Romulus boys' basketball program has built their strength throughout the years. The defending Class A champion Eagles have faced off against some of the state's toughest, including Detroit Pershing, Detroit Country Day and Detroit Consortium—as well as tough out of state competition as well. Friday night at Harper Woods High School was no different, as the Eagles faced off against another set of Eagles—these ones hailing from Gary (IN) Bowman Academy, themselves defending Indiana (2A) state champions. However, when one plays this many tough games, you win some and you lose some, and the locals fought Bowman tough before taking their first loss of the season, 76-72, in the Motor City Roundball Classic.

the last minute. Bowman led 72-67 deep into the fourth, before Romulus senior Kris Clyburn (MVP with 34 points, eight rebounds, and four steals) hit a triple with 1:35 left. The Eagles then attempted a shot with time running down, but it fell short. Bowman's Davon Dillard (16 points, 11 rebounds) hit a short jumper to widen the lead to 74-70, but Deonte Bell tipped the ball in on a second chance to close the lead to two again. However, Bowman's Justin King (18 points, 11 rebounds, three assists) was fouled, and knocked down both of his free throws to ice the game for the out-of-town Eagles. Bowman outrebounded the Eagles 32-28, and won the turnover battle as well, 15-14. Bowman began the third quarter on a 16-5 run to seize a 52-42 lead—and control of the game. Bowman led 61-52 at the beginning of the fourth quarter before Romulus scored seven straight points to get back within striking distance. Jaylin Walker aided the local Eagles with 12 points. Smith still saw solace in the loss. "I'd rather lose now than in March," he said. "This is a good lesson for us, and we learn that all good teams know how to finish. We're relearning how to finish." Romulus will face natural rival Belleville on Jan. 10.

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**December 12th, 2013**

At 0014hrs, officers were dispatched to 9th Street & Salliotte to assist Ecorse PD on a person being shot. Upon arrival, officers observed Health Link loading a male into their ambulance. The destination is Oakwood Hospital. River Rouge officers assisted Ecorse officers with securing the scene and collecting evidence. An officer went to the 3000 Block of 9th Street, where the alleged shooting took place. Officers went to a home and inside a 24 year old female witness. The female told officers she didn't know the victim's name, but she knew his cousin and they both had come over to hang out. The female states the cousin offered to drive her home and they went to get into his vehicle. While they were sitting in the vehicle talking, two males wearing ski mask walked up on and approached the driver's side of the vehicle. The two males asked the victim to open the door /and or let the window down. She states the driver refused and the two males opened fire and started shooting at him. She states when she seen and heard it she tried to get on the floor board. Once the shooting stopped and suspects fled she got out of the vehicle and ran to her friend's house. She states when she got out of the vehicle and ran, and heard several more gun shots. This was another "senseless act of violence", a Homicide. \*\*Note: Now that father, or brother, uncle or son is gone!

**December 15th, 2013**

At 2105hrs, officers were dispatched to the 1st Block of Alexander on a report of Domestic Violence in progress. Upon heading to the location officers were advised that the 42 year old male suspect was attempting to leave in a late model black Chevrolet pickup. When officer arrived they observed two males inside the vehicle and a 19 year old male standing in the street who appeared to be bleeding from his mouth. This male stated the passenger is the one who assaulted him. Officer advised the suspect driver to turn off the vehicle. Officer conducted a pat down and checked for weapons. The victim told officers that suspect came over to collect on a debt that is money he owed to him from a previous transaction. The victim told the suspect he didn't have any money and the suspect got angry and threw him against the van that was parked in the driveway. The suspect began choking the victim. Suspect let him go and told not to call police. The victim states he was standing on the side walk when the suspect approached and struck

him in the mouth causing him to cut the inside of his mouth. The suspect was placed under arrest for Aggravated Assault and transported to the police station. He was booked, allowed to make a phone call, and then housed. \*\*Note: Stop borrowing money if you can't pay it back.

**December 16th, 2013**

At 1513hrs, an officer was dispatched to the Linden Street on a Fraud complaint. Officer spoke to the 56 year old homeowner who states his former girlfriend stole one of his personal check from his check book. He states she may the check payable to herself for \$100.00 dollars and cashed it without his permission. The homeowner contacted his bank and he was credited the full amount and the he received a letter from Check N 'Go collection department demanding payment of \$100.00. He tried to make contact with his ex but she wouldn't answer his call. \*\*Note: She went to Check N Go twice in one day!

**December 16th, 2013**

At 1707hrs, an officer was dispatched to the police station lobby for a Larceny complaint. The 64 year old female states her prescribed medication had been stolen from her home. She states on December 14th, 2013 her grandson's 27 year old friend came to her home and asked to use the restroom. He left the home a couple of hours later. Two days later she noticed 3 bottles of medication were missing from her bedroom drawer on her night stand. She blames the grandson's friend because no one else has been in her home. The suspect stole Oxycodone, Carisoprodol and Lorcet. \*\*Note: You need a medicine cabinet with a lock & key store this type medication because street demand is so high!

**December 17th, 2013**

At 0404hrs, officers were dispatched to the area of Visger and the rail road tracks on a report of man down needing the rescue. Officers were being flagged down as they arrived on scene. The 37 year old male was wearing a red coat. He told officers he called 911 for Health Link. The officer asked the male what was the medical emergency and he told them he has been outside the last three days and he was freezing. The officer offered to place him in the patrol vehicle until the rescue arrived. The male was advised that he had to be checked for weapons before he got into the vehicle. He said ok. The officer felt a soft object when he patted his right front jacket pocket. The male hung his head down when asked what was it and he told the officer to go ahead and pulled it out. The officer removed a plastic sandwich bag containing 8 folded up lottery tickets. The officer suspected the contents of the tickets to be Heroin by the way the

tickets were folded. The officer unfolded a ticket and observed yellowish powdery substances which he believed was suspect Heroin. The officer advised the male he was under arrest for Violation of Public Health Code. He was transported to the police station and Health Link was cancelled. \*\*Note: His problem is solved; he won't be out in the cold no more. He got three hot's and a cot. "Homeless" problem solved.

**December 17th, 2013**

At 1616hrs, an officer was dispatched to the police station lobby for a Fraud complaint. A 59 year old female told officer back in November of 2013 she requested a copy of her credit report from her bank. And upon receiving the report she noticed an outstanding Comcast balance for \$98.31 from a collection agency. She made contact with Comcast and was told the account was open up at an address on Crescent Drive in Detroit. She was given an Identity Theft Victim Complaint Affidavit form to complete and mailed back to Tran Union, Equifax or Experian to get a credit adjustment.

**December 18th, 2013**

At 0953hrs, officers were dispatched to the Marathon Gas Station at 276 Visger on a customer Fail to Pay for his gas. Upon arrival the officer spoke to the 52 year old clerk who states a 21 year old identified male who lives on 19th Street, in Ecorse gave the clerk his debit card to pay for the gas. Wouldn't know it the card wasn't working, but the male promise to bring the money back later that day. The clerk hadn't seen him since that day. You know who you are pay the clerk the money you owe! \*\*Note: "You never can when you are dirty!"

**December 18th, 2013**

At 2321hrs, officers were dispatched to the 100th Block of Forest Street for a Attempt Suicide call. Upon arrival officer spoke to a 32 year old male who states his 20 year old brother had taken 20 unknown pills in attempt to kill himself. The officer asked the brother what happened for him to do that and the brother looked at him and smiled and wouldn't say a word. His brother told officer he stated he doesn't want to live anymore. He just wants to die. Officers know that the brother suffers from addiction/abuse of prescription pills and mental health issues. Health Link was notified and arrived on scene and officers would follow to commit this young man for Psychiatric Evaluation. \*\*Note: Remember, sometimes you think your problems are bad, until you hear someone else's.

**Call your local Police  
Department to report  
any crimes or  
information on the  
crime blotters.**

**Have You Seen  
Dr. Teleka Patrick?  
Young Michigan Doctor  
Disappeared December 5**



**Dr. Teleka Patrick has been missing since December 5, 2013**

\*The family of Dr. Teleka Patrick really needs your help. The 30-year-old is a first-year medical resident at Borgess Medical Center in Kalamazoo, Mich. According to her family, who spoke with ABC News, Dr. Patrick got a suspicious call that changed her demeanor, one day before she vanished. They have no idea who the call was from. "The police are working and putting together the pieces for me," Patrick's mother, Irene, said.

Dr. Patrick was last seen Dec. 5 around 8 p.m. on surveillance footage as she returned from an evening out and tried to get a room at a Kalamazoo Radisson hotel. Her parents, who say they do not know why she was at the hotel, said she was turned away because she didn't have enough money for the room. Upon leaving, she took a hotel shuttle to her car, a gold Lexus, which was found two hours and 20 minutes later in a ditch more than 100 miles away in Portage, Ind. Patrick was reported missing when

she didn't show up for work the next day.

"The Indiana State Police, they have gone out in the area looking all over, looking for any clue related to this case," Kalamazoo Sheriff Richard Fuller said. Investigators found Patrick's purse and cellphone at the medical center, only adding to the mystery and leaving her family desperate for answers. "We keep getting closer to Christmas, and it keeps getting further and further away," Patrick's sister, Tenesha, said.

There is a \$10,000 reward for information leading to Patrick's whereabouts. Those with any information are urged to call the Indiana State Police at 219-696-6242 [begin\\_of\\_the\\_skype\\_highlighting 219-696-6242](#) [FREE end\\_of\\_the\\_skype\\_highlighting](#) or the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department at 269-383-8748 [begin\\_of\\_the\\_skype\\_highlighting 269-383-8748](#) [FREE end\\_of\\_the\\_skype\\_highlighting](#).

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Telegram gives out first Volunteer and Community Advocate Award

Suspect arrested in Family Dollar killing in Dearborn

Federal judge freezes lawsuits for Detroit Bankruptcy case.

AUGUST Ecorse school district gets new superintendent.



Mike Duggan and Benny Napoleon to face off for Mayor of Detroit



Mayor Bing works to stop Petroleum Coke activity on the Detroit River



SEPTEMBER Rouge Days returns to the City of River Rouge.

Year in Review - page 14A

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Senior Citizens participate in the Senior Olympics and win



Inkster - Robichaud All-Star Game continues

Detroit Lions win opener

OCTOBER

City of Dearborn dismiss marijuana charges against HIV-Positive woman



Government Shutdown doesn't last long



NOVEMBER  
Mike Duggan is new Mayor of Detroit



DECEMBER Nelson Mandela dies at the age of 95.

Detroit Lions' head coach Jim Schwartz gets fired after losing six of their last football games to end the season

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FROM THE  
TELEGRAM NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES JANUARY 1987

Retirement banquet held for  
Vera White

Written by Mrs. Ruth DeYampert, First Lady of Triumph Missionary Baptist Church Dr. David A. DeYampert, Pastor



Holiday Inn of Detroit was the site of a lavish Retirement Banquet for Vera S. White. The affair was hosted by her co-workers, the staff of Blanchette Middle School in Inkster, Michigan. Prior arrangements by daughters, Renee and Andrea, ensured that video taping would begin upon Vera's arrival by limousine. Approximately 200 well wishers gathered to honor Mrs. White for 38 dedicated years of teaching and counseling in the Inkster Public Schools.

After the invocation by Rev. Welton T. Smith III, pastor of Union Second Baptist Church in River Rouge, a delicious buffet luncheon was served. Congratulatory remarks were given by Mr. Garnett Hegeman, Superintendent of Inkster Public Schools, Mr. Ernest Baylor and Mr. Jacob Blanchette, former principals,. Mr. Thomas Andrew, former assistant principal and Mr. Tommie Summerville, current principal of Blanchette Middle School.

Mrs. White, a former Downriver resident and a long-time member of Union Second Baptist Church, was lauded for her years of cooperative service by Rev. J. W. McCrary, Associate Pastor, Mr. Charlie Gatson, Superintendent of Sunday School and Mrs. Naomi White, President of Women Helping Youth.

Former students, Majorie Cox, Mary Moss, Manual Wilson and Dr. Nora Martin, reflected on their experiences in Mrs. White math classes. They commented on the impact that the honoree had made on their lives.

Mrs. Samantha Carter, President of the Inkster Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, brought greetings from her chapter and presented the honoree with a dozen red roses.

Renee White expressed family sentiments and gratitude to the Blanchette Middle School Staff for feting her mother in such a grand manner.

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# Slow Your Roll and Hold on to Your Biscuit: Red Lobster Restaurants Not Going Anywhere!



Good news Cheddar Bay biscuit lovers, you can continue to stuff your face at good ole' Red Lobster. Contrary to earlier news reports, the restaurant chain will not be closing.

Darden Restaurants, the owner of the chain, has been

working overtime in efforts to squash false reports since Christmas that said Red Lobster was shutting the doors of its restaurants all across the country; and on Friday afternoon the "Red Lobster closing" story was the No. 1 item trending on Yahoo.

The rumor was also the subject of multiple Tweets and Facebook posts.

"To clarify, reports that @RedLobster is closing are false," the company tweeted out Friday. "We're looking forward to your next visit!"

Darden said last week it plans to sell or spin off the Red Lobster chain into a separate company. But "we never said we were closing any restaurants," spokesman Rich Jeffers said Friday.

Jeffers said the rumors stem from a piece in LA Weekly that "was clearly being facetious" about the brand's shutdown. Other media outlets wrongly assumed the restaurants were closing and reported that, he said.

"You had a couple outlets where clearly folks weren't practicing good journalism, and no one called to verify if what they read in LA Weekly was accurate," Jeffers said. As of Friday the LA Weekly piece had been updated to say no restaurants were closing.

# Alert: Say 'Buh-Bye' to Your Traditional Light Bulbs Starting January 1st



Uh oh. Though January 1 marks the opportunity for new beginnings, for the light bulb – at least as we know it – the date will mark an end.

On this day, the production of 60 and 40 watt incandescent light bulbs will cease; and the even sadder part about this, is it will catch most Americans off guard. They don't even know its happening, according to at least one consumer survey.

The sixth annual "Sylvania

Socket Survey" was just released by Lighting manufacturer Osram Sylvania. It found that only 4 in 10 consumers were aware that 60- and 40-watt light bulbs are being phased out in 2014 as production ends.

The government began phasing out 100- and 75-watt light bulbs in 2012 and 2013 respectively. The elimination of 60- and 40-watt bulbs will have a much greater impact on U.S. consumers because they are the two most popular bulbs on the market, accord-

ing to the electronics industry research firm IMS Research. The bulbs are being phased-out because they fail to meet the standards set forth in EISA.

Osram Sylvania's survey found that 46 percent of respondents are planning to switch to CFLs, while 24 percent prefer LEDs. Thirteen percent hope to use new and improved incandescents (all pictured above).

The good news is that until all of these light bulbs are sold out, there is no law against consumers stocking up on their supply.

Ayana wants to hear from you.

Send in your story or questions to Ask Ayana at: telegram@telegram-news.net

## ASK AYANA

### New Year Brings New Family Tradition



**Dear Ayana,**  
Every year, my husband and I spend New Year's Eve and New Year's Day with his family. His five siblings and their families spend the night at his mother's home. The wives cook meals and socialize in one area of the house and the men spend their time together huddled in the den watching football and being served by the women. We've been doing this for over a decade. This coming New Year, my cousin has invited my husband and I to join her and her husband at a resort just over the state line. We recently connected on a social media site after having lost touch as teenagers when she moved to Kentucky. My husband and I are excited to go on this mini-vacation but he hasn't told his mother that we will not be gathering this year at her home to ring in the New Year. He actually seems afraid about what she will say. He's gone as far as to make up several ridiculous excuses for not being there instead of just telling her the truth. My mother-in-law can be a bit pushy at times and all of her children seem to feel like disappointing her will negatively impact their relationships with her in some way. I usually sit back and let him handle family affairs concerning his mother the way he sees fit. However, I'm afraid that if I don't step in, we won't be spending time with my side of the family; instead, I'll be baking pies in his mother's kitchen and he'll be parked on her couch watching football. I feel resentment beginning to set in the longer he waits

to break the news to her. I can't understand why spending time doing something on our own for once is such a big deal. Should I handle this my way and let my mother-in-law know that we won't be celebrating with her this year or wait for my husband to tell her? I'm afraid he'll botch the whole thing!

**New Year, New Way**

**Dear New Year, New Way,**  
It seems like both you and your husband assume that your decision to spend the New Year with your family will somehow crush your mother-in-law; but you haven't even told her yet. You may be surprised. She may wonder why it's taken this long for her children to actually plan something for themselves. If that's not the case and she wields as much power over her adult children as you say, it may be time for you to step up and do the talking. I'd say that your husband's side of the family has had more than their fair share of you and your husband's time; there's nothing wrong with sitting this year's celebration out. First, talk to your husband and clear the air with him. You don't want him to feel like he's incapable of standing up to his mother-even if that's exactly how you feel. Let him know that you'd rather talk to her woman to woman and explain to her how important it is for you to spend this year celebrating with your own family. If she's upset over your absence, so be it. At the end of the day, you all are adults. No one can make you choose how to spend your time-you have to be willing to give that time up. I think you may be surprised at your mother-in-law's reaction; obviously family is important to her so she may be excited for the two of you to have an opportunity to reconnect with your kin. I hope I'm right. If I'm not and things turn ugly with your mother-in-law, at least you've stood firm and made a decision that best suits what you and your husband have in mind for the New Year. Perhaps 2014 will bring about some new traditions for your family on both sides. Good luck and Happy New Year to you!

## NUMEROLOGY

### HOT PICKS

730	101	277
849	448	835
0413	4343	2331
7003	3045	1069

FEELING LUCKY

#### BIG MOMMA'S HITS

393	648
293	831
069	730

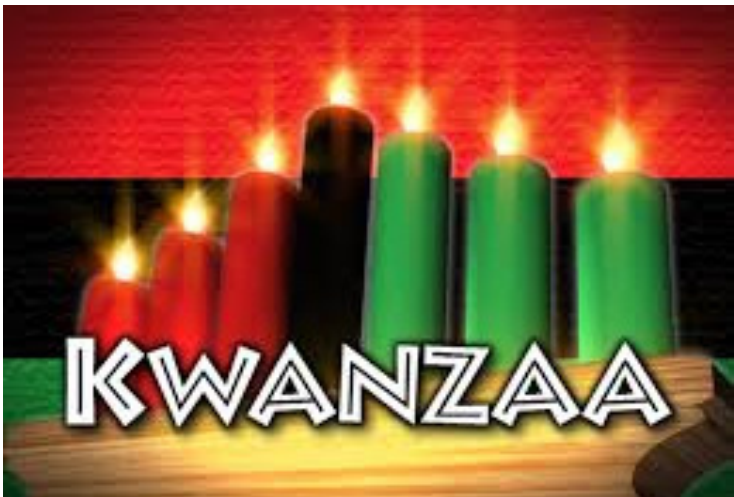
#### BIG RAY'S PICK 4

6543	3219
6810	3372
1234	1967

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Celebrating Kwanzaa



Kwanzaa is a week-long African-American celebration in the United States that honors African-American history and culture. It is observed each year from December 26 through January 1 and was first celebrated in 1966.

The name Kwanzaa derives from the kiswahiliphrase matunda ya kwanza, meaning

first fruits of the harvest. The choice of the kiswahili, an East African language, reflects its status as a symbol of Pan-Africanism.

The idea of Kwanzaa was conceived by Maulana Karenga – a scholar and pan-Africanist. The celebration of Kwanzaa is based on seven principles, each identified by a kiswahili word and dedicated on each of the seven days:

- 1. – Umoja: Which means unity. Unity of family, nation and a people.
- 2. – Kujichagulia: Which means self-determination. Representative of the African-American community's need to control their own lives, define themselves and carve their own paths.
- 3. – Ujima: Which means collective work and responsibility. The African-American community is urged to work together to resolving all issues that affect it.
- 4. – Ujamaa: Which means cooperative economics. African-American owned businesses should be developed and sustained by the community.
- 5. – Nia: Which means purpose or aims. A commitment to restoration of African-American families and by extension all African-Americans to their historical greatness.
- 6. – Kuumba: Which means creativity. Encourages African-Americans to be trailblazers, visionaries – in order to ensure that the community and nation is in a much better position socially, morally and financially.
- 7. – Imani: Which means faith. African-Americans are inspired to believe in their families, neighbors and leaders as they move forward in life.

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