

Weinstein will not seek re-election for seat in Erie County Legislature

Expresses interest in Town Board

by JESSICA L. FINCH
Associate Editor

Dr. Barry Weinstein, said he has set a term limit for himself and will not seek re-election to the Erie County Legislature after 10 years.

In addition, the Republican from Amherst will not serve as minority leader during his final year in the Legislature.

Weinstein supported Legislator John J. Mills, R-13th district (Orchard Park, East Aurora), to fill the position, and the appointment

was made official during Monday's session of the Legislature.

Mills' office said he was looking forward to serving as minority leader and working with the entire Legislature for the year. He is expected to hold a press conference in the next week announcing more details.

The only other Republican serving in the County Legislature is Michael Ranzenhofer, who represents District 4 (Clarence).

"I had an agreement with (Mills) a year ago that we would split the position," Weinstein said, adding that he expects Mills will run for re-election in November 2007.

Weinstein has served as the 15th District legislator, representing Amherst and Williamsville. He will conclude his fifth term on Dec. 31, 2007.

"I believe in term limits; 10 years is long enough," he said during a press conference on Jan. 4 from his district office.

When questioned about his decision to make the announcement 10 months before the election, Weinstein said he wanted to create a level playing field for anyone interested in running for the position.

"Just turning the position over to someone else is not my style," he said.

He said he has spoken with two people who he thinks would be excellent candidates. They are Williamsville Board of Education trustee Francina Spoth and Edward Rath III, a member of the Erie County Charter Revision Commission. He is also the son of Sen. Mary Lou Rath.

Weinstein said he has reached a point of frustration and knew it was time to step down from the Legislature.

He said he felt if the Republicans had more of a voice he could have accomplished more from his agenda.

After a decade in county politics, Weinstein plans to remain a part of the political scene.

"I am seriously considering running for Amherst Town Board," he said, adding that the position would allow him to continue to practice medicine.

There will be three positions in

the 2007 election — council members William A. O'Loughlin Jr., Michael McGuire and Bill Kindel.

Weinstein also mentioned an interest in running for county executive but he said that would depend on the Republican Committee's recommendations.

"I believe in term limits; 10 years is long enough."

— Legislator Dr. Barry Weinstein



RECOGNITION — Weinberg Campus was recently awarded the 2006 William P. Gillick Quality of Life Award for adults with memory impairment, presented by the Alzheimer's Association of WNY. Weinberg Campus Garden Club staff members join Joni Williams, far right, director of development from the Alzheimer's Association as she presents the award to the Garden Club. Williams presented the award to the Garden House team, Barbara Ziemann, program coordinator, left; Mary Ann Murphy, activities assistant; Connie Henderson, activities assistant; and Nancy Ott, activities director, at a family holiday event.

Tire thefts reported in town

Amherst police are warning residents to secure the spare tires located on sport utility vehicles following a rash of thefts in the Snyder and Eggertsville areas.

Capt. Timothy Green of the Amherst Police Department said 12 cases of full-size spare tires being taken off the back of SUVs were reported between Dec. 9 and 22.

He suggested residents purchase a security or locking device to secure the tires.

The thefts are taking place overnight, and due to the parking ban, this is placing many of the thieves in the victim's driveways.

Similar cases have also been reported in the Town of Tonawanda and City of Buffalo recently.

Assessing Needs. Increasing Scores.

- Williamsville
- Orchard Park
- Kenmore
- Lancaster
- Lockport

Huntington
SAT prep
WE'RE READY FOR THE NEW SAT! ARE YOU?
Call 1-800-CAN LEARN
SAT prep for students seeking dramatic score improvements.
Huntington LEARNING CENTER

Rescue your Career

Rescue your career at Erie Community College. In just two years, you can earn an associate degree in:

Emergency Management
Fire Protection Technology

Get the training you need to respond to any local, statewide or national emergency and help keep our community safe and secure. Become one of the heroes of tomorrow, today!

Classes start January 22ND
Call: 851-1984 or www.ecc.edu

You'll love learning here!



She isn't losing her grandpa to dementia. She's finding comfort for her papa.

When Emily didn't understand what was going on with her papa, the team at Hospice really helped. She found out that Hospice isn't a place, but a type of care that focuses on living. That a team of caring people could help Emily's grandma take care of him at home. And that even though her papa forgets sometimes, he'll always remember her.

HOSPICE
BUFFALO
Where hope lives.

For information, call 686-8077 or visit callhospicenow.com.