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**WAYNE
Dispatch**

MARCH 2010

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Witness to
MIRACLES

Oakwood Doctor helps in Haiti

YOUR SOURCE FOR POSITIVE COMMUNITY NEWS

Reality TV shows lack reality

It's no wonder that there are so many reality shows on TV today. Compared to sitcoms like Everybody Loves Raymond or Seinfeld where the stars can earn over a million dollars each per episode, reality shows can be produced for pennies on the dollar. However, anyone who has ever watched a show where 8 unemployed losers live in a multi million dollar Malibu beach house can't really begin to believe that this is even close to reality. So if it's reality that you desire, turn off the TV and go talk to someone that has spent a few years on this planet. Particularly, sit down and talk with your elders.

I recall one day many years ago when I was servicing a water meter in an apartment building. Apparently the noise I was making aroused the curiosity of the elderly tenant next store who then came out to supervise my work. To break the ice, I asked him what line of work he had been in before retiring. He proudly replied that he had been an engineer. Not the type that wears tassels on his loafers, but an actual railroad engineer. We talked about trains for a few minutes and then I asked him to tell me about the most interesting day he ever had while being an engineer. He paused for a moment to collect his thoughts and then went on to describe the events of the day he was aboard a steam locomotive as it derailed and then rolled over onto its side as it slid down an embankment while all of the rolling stock piled up behind him. When I left home for work that morning, I never imagined the great story that lied ahead of me that day.

Whenever I see an elderly person struggling to walk with the aid of a cane or walker, rather than get impatient with their slow progress, I think how frustrated they must be that this

On the Bright Side

Hal Hultman



is now their reality. Who knows, perhaps 60 years ago this same person had the speed and grace of a greyhound as they helped their college track team to victory. And now it's a struggle to just get down the hall.

Sadly, I learned more about both of my Grandfathers while at their funerals than I did when they were alive. I now regret not asking them to tell me what their lives were like while growing up on a farm or living through the Depression. There are so many things that I could have asked them and never did.

I encourage you to turn off your TV and gather your family together to just talk, listen and learn about your loved ones. Ask them to be open and frank and then ask them questions that cannot be answered with a simple "Yes" or "No". Ask them to describe the best day in their life, or perhaps the worst day in their life. Ask them where they were on December 7th, 1941 or if any of their neighbors built bomb shelters in their back yards during the cold war. Ask them about their first date or the first car they ever owned. Better yet, get out the camcorder and record these conversations for future generations to enjoy.

Next time you pass by a nursing home, just think of all the great stories that lie within those walls that will be soon lost if never heard. Don't let that happen.

hal@thewaynedispatch.com



Firefighters battle structure fire on Forest

A commercial structure fire broke out around 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 23 at RL Scheckel Concrete Construction, 34904 Forest Street, located west of Second Street. It is part of a six unit industrial mall. The fire was contained to one unit but the units to the north and south received. The cause of the fire still under investigation. Photo by Richard Story

YOU'RE INVITED TO A
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Who: Participants and families of City of Wayne Residents

When: Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Wednesday, March 31, 2010, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

What: Use this invitation as your FREE one day shopping pass, valid on the above dates and times only. Please present this invitation at entrance. A special area will be reserved for City of Wayne Residents and refreshments will be served.

Note: For more information, please contact:
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10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
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Dr. Karl Bandlien, staff surgeon at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne.

Oakwood Annapolis Doctor helps in Haiti

By Erica Perdue

Miracle after miracle gave a local surgeon and a team of doctors an opportunity to go to Haiti and save hundreds of lives after the earthquake on January 12.

"It was unbelievable. We were so blessed to get into a place where it was impossible to get into," Dr. Karl Bandlien, staff surgeon at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne.

Bandlien has been a staff surgeon at Oakwood Annapolis since 1991. Before that he was on the staff at the Wayne County Hospital. He was also the Commander for the National Disaster Team for Michigan; this position took him to every earthquake, hurricane and flood for 10 years. He is now the leader of the Global Compassion Network, which brings together hundreds of compassion groups from different parts of the world.

Bandlien then took part in the Healthcare Christian Fellowship. It has been around for 70 years and is open to 150 nations. It has been the

"Oakwood's mission is to provide excellence in care, healing and health to our community, but our mission as humans is to provide for those who are less fortunate wherever they might be."

Kathleen Cronin

President and COO, Oakwood Annapolis Hospital

"backbone" of the trips taken to help "the least, the lost and the last," according to the surgeon.

He received an e-mail from St. Joseph Hospital asking if he would like to join a team that they had put together to go to Haiti the very next day. He said getting that e-mail was like having a prayer answered. "Our goal was to be there in the first week, it was real urgent...too many lives would be lost if we weren't there in the first week," Bandlien said.

"Dr. Bandlien has a missionary spirit and feels committed to this

community. He is always the first to respond to anyone in need," said Kathleen Cronin, President and COO, Oakwood Annapolis Hospital.

The St. Joseph Rapha Center keeps supplies and some equipment stocked and ready to go for trips like these. Items such as: gauze, bandages, ace bandages, antibiotics and limited surgical supplies are all kept in stock. Bandlien, the only surgeon on the team, needed more surgical equipment. He went to the administration at Oakwood Annapolis and asked for necessary supplies, the

team was granted every item asked for.

"Oakwood's mission is to provide excellence in care, healing and health to our community, but our mission as humans is to provide for those who are less fortunate wherever they might be," said Cronin.

The next obstacle was how they were going to pay for the trip. They only had 24 hours to find a way to get money. A phone call to Whirlpool granted the team's wish. A cash donation was made by Whirlpool to support the trip to Haiti. They left from Midway Airport. At the airport all of the over-weight fees were waived for the team's heavy equipment.

They flew to the Mission Flight International in Fort Pierce, Florida; an airport that has been flying to Haiti for many years and does so on a regular basis. Once they arrived they were told that the Port au Prince airport in Haiti had been damaged

See **Haiti**, page 4

Haiti, Continued from page 4

and no planes could land there. Bandlien said, "There was no way to get in and they didn't know when it would open up. We sat there and prayed."

Rick Hendrick, owner of Hendrick Motorsports, made a phone call that lifted the hopes of Bandlien and his team. He told them that he has two small jet planes that he would make available to them, including pilots and fuel, to fly to a private airport not far from the Port-au-Prince airport. "Nobody was getting into Haiti, but we got all of our people and equipment into Haiti faster than the other planes could have gotten us there," Bandlien said.

Once they were in Port-au-Prince they came across another problem; they were without communication methods. The satellite phones they took weren't working and no cell phones had reception. Bandlien said they sat and prayed. Soon, his phone activated and he was in contact with Salvation Army that they had previously spoken to.

Several SUVs and trucks came to pick them up and take them to the Salvation Army. "They whisked us through the rubble. We drove through the streets of Port-au-Prince; buildings were collapsed, we had to swerve around bodies...it was a horrific scene," Bandlien described.

City seeks your opinion in independent survey

The City of Wayne hired Cobalt Community Research Group to conduct an independent survey to determine residents' satisfaction with City services and departments. Surveys have been mailed to 1500 randomly selected registered voters. All responses will be completely anonymous.

The goal is to give the council and administration a view of the community's opinion on services the City provides and to see what services may be candidates for consolidation, privatization or elimination. The in-

formation collected will help them with the FY 2010-2011 budget.

Outside of the building were thousands of makeshift tents with Haitians who needed to be treated. Bandlien described the scene as a celebration. "We were the answer to their prayers," he said.

Within four days of the earthquake, the team was on the ground in Haiti treating patients. Bandlien set up two surgical suites. The 10 doctors and 4 nurses split into teams and treated the injured. They saw injuries such as: crushed limbs in every part of the body, open wounds with maggots, severe infections, babies that needed to be delivered and had to do many amputations. "Many limbs and lives were saved that would have otherwise been lost," said Bandlien.

They were there during the second earthquake. Bandlien described the whole building moving. People ran out of the cement and brick building terrified it would collapse, but it didn't and Bandlien continued operations. He said a "hush went through the people, they were all in fear."

The team saw several hundred patients every day. They worked from dawn until dusk. After Bandlien's team left, another team went in for a week, and another after them. Efforts are still being made. Bandlien said, "We brought them more than medical care, we gave them strength."

English said all surveys should be returned by the end of March. Results will be presented at a City Council meeting.

"This is a tool that can be used for subsequent years," said Robert English, Assistant City Manager. "This will give us a good representation of what citizens want."

The survey will ask residents what City buildings and services they use most; how satisfied they are with them; and to prioritize them.

English said all surveys should be returned by the end of March. Results will be presented at a City Council meeting.



Dr. Karl Bandlien (upper right) and other members of the medical team worked from dawn to dusk and treated as many as 300 patients a day in Haiti.

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The Wayne Dispatch is a monthly publication direct mailed to the entire City of Wayne.

Trailers for sale or for rent

Right now we are facing a huge housing crisis in Michigan but during WWII we were facing a different kind of housing crisis. Today, we have too many homes but during the war there were not enough. To answer the problem, the Federal Public Housing Authority established a trailer court and dormitories in Wayne. They were located on Howe Road, just south of the railroad tracks on the east side. This is where the Wayne Westland Community School District Bus Garage is located at Forest Park.

The location was ideal because Wayne was centrally located and most of the factories in town were producing goods for the war effort. Not to mention, the Willow Run Bomber Plant in Ypsilanti and the Ford Rouge Plant in Dearborn were both close.

This trailer court was called the "Wayne Park" and was opened on October 12, 1943. Work began in 1942 and included 150 house trailers, six dormitories and a community building. It was expected to house 1000 people in government housing and an additional 100 spaces set aside for private trailers to be parked in the court. In 1943, rent was \$3.50 per bed in a double room, \$5.00 for a single room and was paid in person at the office.

This was a tremendous strain on the local infrastructure but to accommodate the war effort the Village of Wayne came through with shining colors. The sewer system was extended and improved, bus routes changed, schools provided education and all of the local stores and restau-



Rearview Mirror

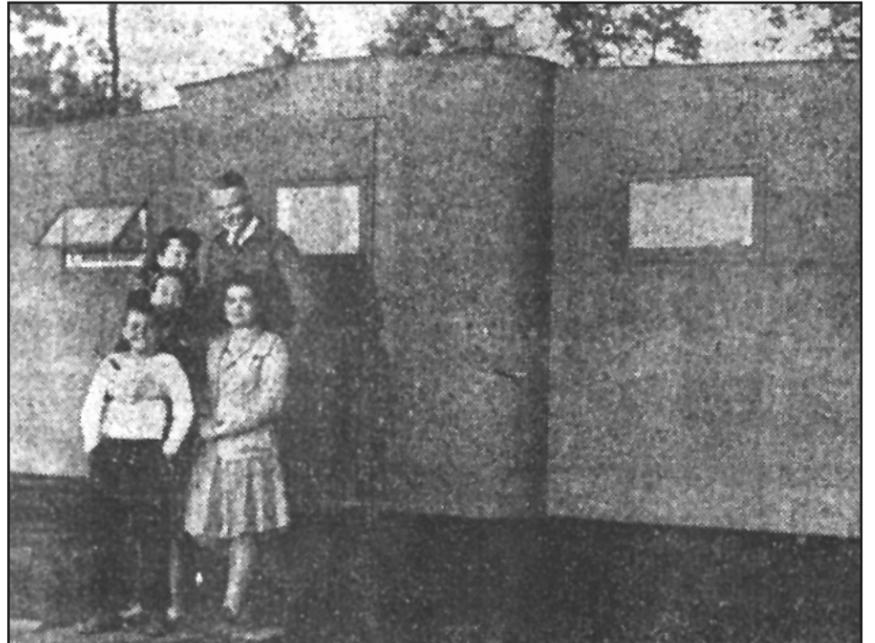
Matt Miller

rants benefited. Restaurants were especially busy places back then as there were no cooking facilities in the dormitories. All of those hungry war workers had to be fed and the restaurants extended their hours and provided lunches to go too!

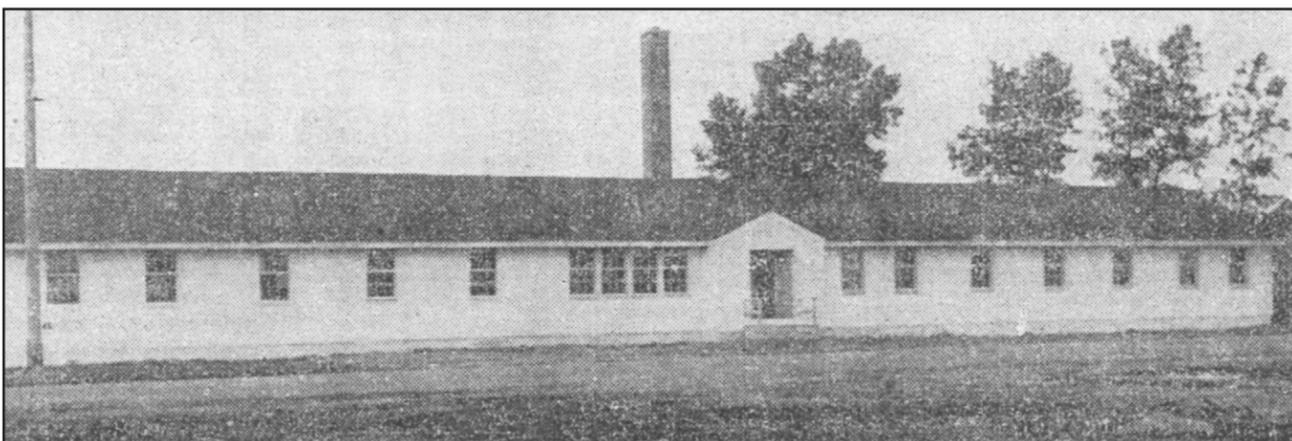
These housing projects were developed to be self-governing. The rules and regulations were developed by all of the residents and it was understood that each decision would be for the greater good. Community meetings were held, dances were planned, the playground was built and recreation events provided.

The first family to move in was the Patrick McGuire family. It included his wife, daughters Dona June and Genevieve and son, Charles. The McGuire family moved to Wayne from Florida for the war effort. Mr. McGuire worked at the Wayne Vultee-Stinson factory as a key worker. The McGuires typified the thousands of people who came to Michigan to work in the Arsenal of Democracy.

After the war, the trailers were sold off and the dormitories were demolished. Many of the families left the temporary housing and moved to Norwayne. So next time you go down Howe Road and look at the bus garage, think of the thousands of



(Top) The First Family of the Defense Project, Mr. and Mrs. McGuire, daughters Dona June and Genevieve and son, Charles. (Above) The Defense trailer park, October 1942. Photos The Wayne Dispatch Archives.



The dormitory built in Wayne for defense workers, November 13, 1942.

people who once lived there and provided all of the manpower to help win the war.

Learn more about Wayne's history by visiting the Wayne Historical Museum (734) 722-0113. The museum is open each Friday and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can also join the Wayne Historical Society. The Historical Society has interesting programs about history. Contact Gloria Rowland, President of the Wayne Historical Society at (734) 729-1277 for more information. You can also contact me at matt@thewaynedispatch.com.



Class of 2010 Michigan's Junior Misses

Front Row: Megan Griffes – Irish Hills, Shelby Gardiner – St. Clair Shores, Bethany Dickerson – White Lake, Jordan Berry – Wayne Westland, Angel Gagin – Livonia, Shaylin Laure – Vicksburg, Lindsey Piestrak – Dearborn Heights Back Row: Anne Gerrity – Wayne County, Emily Solan – Washtenaw, Jasmine Guajardo – Plymouth Canton, Amanda Fron – Isabella County, Hsin (Cindy) Lee – Muskegon, Christine Schauder – Dearborn, Rebecca Frost – Brooklyn, Alexis Smith – Inkster, Sara Burge – Branch County, Conner Potter – Saline, Kendra Mc Inerney – Alpena (missing in photo Ayanna Gray – Kalamazoo).

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City receives over \$1.2 million in grants

By Jenny Johnson

"It's a great night for the City of Wayne," said City Manager John Zech at a recent City Council meeting. On the agenda was just over \$1.2 million in grants the City received for roads, fire protection, energy efficiency and the Neighborhood Stabilization program.

The City received \$524,000 for the Newburgh Road Resurfacing and water main Replacement Project. The water main portion is underway and will be done by the Detroit Water Sewer Department to replace the 80 year old water main. They will replace the current 20" water main with a 24" water main on the west side of Newburgh Road between westbound Michigan Avenue and Glenwood. This phase of the project should be done by mid April. The second phase of this project is the replacement of the concrete on Newburgh Road between the bridge and westbound Michigan Avenue. The asphalt pavement between Glenwood and the bridge will be milled and resurfaced. This phase of the project will begin in mid April and be completed by July. There is no cost to the City. This project is being 100% funded by the America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Wayne County has awarded the City a \$540,000 grant to purchase and rehabilitate foreclosed homes that can then be sold, rented or redeveloped through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The City will focus on four city-owned homes purchased through the HUD \$1 program and three city-owned homes acquired by the Wayne County tax reversion. The goal of the program is to reduce property vacancies and reverse the decline of neighborhood housing values.

The City has also been awarded an \$88,124 en

"All of the departments have their eyes and ears open to leverage our money. If we can get grants even with a match help us do things it maximizes our tax dollars."

John Zech
City Manager

ergy efficiency grant by the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth which is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This grant will provide City Hall some "sorely needed energy updates," said Robert English, Assistant City Manager. The City will be able to make modifications to City Hall which is currently the City's most energy inefficient building. It currently uses about 32% more energy than similar buildings of its kind.

The updates will include installing a high efficiency boiler, replacing the interior fluorescent lighting and exterior lighting in the parking lot. English said this will lower energy usage by about 34% or about \$8,615 a year and reduce green house gases by about three tons a year. There will also be an upgrading of insulation above the ceiling.

The improvement projects will start in a couple weeks. There is no match from the City for this grant. If there is money left over from the grant, English said the goal is to use that money and some of the energy savings cost to move City Hall toward becoming a solar building by putting solar panels on the south side of the roof. English said to be able to ultimately operate City Hall on solar energy would not only reduce operating

costs and green house emissions but "it would be a great educational tool for us to share."

The Wayne Fire Department received a grant from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the amount of \$72,871 with a City match of \$3,835 for 15 self contained breathing units. The matching funds will be paid from the Fire Department Operating Budget.

"This is a much needed grant," said Mel Moore, Fire Chief. This will allow the Fire Department to be able to get all new SCBAs. The current SCBAs are about 2 years from expiring. They might also be able to sell the current ones to help repay the \$3,835 the City has to pay toward the grant.

The council applauded the staff for securing \$1.25 million in grants with only \$3,835 matching. "They don't give these away. This is hard work on our City employees behalf," said Matt Mulholland, Councilman.

City Engineer Ramzi El-Gharib also wrote a grant for Wayne County. They were awarded \$240,000 to repair the connectors from south Wayne Road to eastbound Michigan Avenue and from eastbound Michigan Avenue to southbound Wayne Road. These roads belong to Wayne County. The county will repair them during this construction season.

The City has received many grants over the years to help fund the boundless playground, bullet proof vests for police, and toward a new pumper for the fire department. City Manager John Zech said just about every department in the City has benefitted from being awarded grants.

"All of the departments have their eyes and ears open to leverage our money. If we can get grants, even with a match, to help us do things it maximizes our tax dollars," Zech said.

Find friends, get fit

By Erica Perdue

The Wayne Community Center offers a twist to the normal workout. Water aerobics classes are offered in the Ted D'Pulos Aquatic Area Monday through Saturday, every week.

There are nine different water fitness classes offered: Aerobics I, Aerobics II, Arthritis, Cardio Core, Circuit Training, Deep H2O Aerobics II, Deep H2O Running, Deep H2O Walking and H2O Aerobic Express.

"If you find it hard to exercise on land, water aerobics is just as much a workout and is easy on the joints," said instructor Gail Coleman.

Dolores Golles said, "I love it, I've been coming for years. I have arthritis and the movement in the water makes me feel better."

There are several instructors and

they all rotate classes. Selina Berri-man said, "I like that there are different instructors. It's nice to get different exercises from different instructors."

The length of the classes varies from 30 minutes to an hour, depending on the class.

The classes are offered at different times every day to give everyone a chance to try it out. They start as early as 8:15 a.m. and the latest class is at 7:00 p.m.

Coleman said, "There are people who have been coming together for 10 years. Some go out to breakfast afterwards, friends are made fast. It's lots of fun and there are a lot of good people."

Water fitness classes can be purchased as a day pass or as a punch



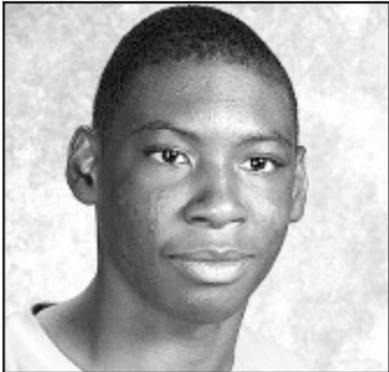
Water aerobics instructor Gail Coleman keeps things moving during her weekly classes.

card of 10 or 20 passes. During the month of March, the Wayne Community Center will be selling the water fitness passes at half-off the original

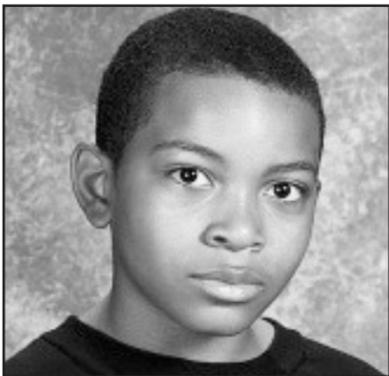
price – limit one per customer.

The schedule can be picked up at the Community Center or on the City website at www.ci.wayne.mi.us.

Mom needs your help



Xavier Williams



Blake Williams

A Westland mother lost both of her sons when they died as a result of a fire at West Pointe Apartments on Palmer in Westland. The fire broke out around 11 p.m. on Feb. 26 when a heating lamp accidentally came in contact with combustible materials. The Adams Middle School students, Xavier Williams, 13, and his brother, Blake Williams, 11, were both trapped in their bedroom by the smoke and flames. Their mom, Tasha Williams, and another adult were unable to rescue them.

The family lost most of their personal belongings and does not have the money to pay for the funerals. So the Westland Fire Department and Westland Goodfellows are accepting donations to help the family through this tragedy.

If you would like to help, you can drop off monetary donations at the Westland Fire Department Administration Office, 37201 Marquette, or Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road. Checks can be made payable to: Westland Goodfellows. You can also contact Capt. John Adams, President Westland Goodfellows at 734-467-3261.

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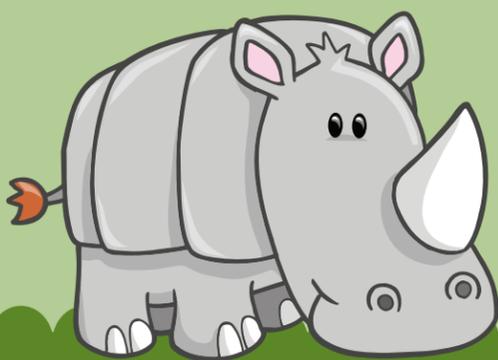


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City welcomes Karma Coffee

By Jenny Johnson

Step inside and you can instantly smell their specialty. Coffee. Karma Coffee held their ribbon cutting ceremony on Feb. 17 and they are happy to officially be open. Located on Wayne Road next to Dairy Queen they offer hot and cold coffees and teas, hot chocolate, smoothies, juices and even pop in old fashioned glass bottles. You can also get breakfast pastries, fruit and a variety of sandwiches for lunch or dinner. They will soon add soups and chili to their menu too.

Owners Dave and Jennifer Romero look forward to welcoming the community into their store. You can sink into one of several cozy couches or sit at a table and enjoy the atmosphere. They offer free Wi-Fi and are looking for musicians to play and artists to display their work.

"I would like to congratulate you. It's a happy moment for the City of Wayne and long overdue, the coffee shop everyone has been asking for," said Mayor Al Haidous at the ribbon cutting.

The Romeros said they chose Wayne because, "We really liked the small downtown community feel located near city parks, trails, and shops. We enjoy going to independent coffee shops and realized that there wasn't anything like this in the area. Wayne needed a place for people to enjoy a great cup of coffee at a reasonable price."

They have lived near Wayne for most of their lives and have always enjoyed participating in all the City has to offer. They are happy to now be able to offer some good Karma to the City.

The name Karma came from us wanting to share all of the good things that have happened to us with others. We have learned a lot from our past employers, which in turn has helped us come to this point," Jennifer said of the shop's unique name.

So far the experience has been good Karma. Customers are surprised "at how relaxing and comfortable our shop is. You can sit on one of our comfy couches and read a book or hear an im-



The Wayne City Council, The Wayne Chamber of Commerce and Dave and Jennifer Romero cut the ribbon opening Karma Coffee in the City of Wayne.

promptu performance on our house piano. Many say how nice it is to have a place to come that is so musician and artist friendly at an affordable price," Jennifer said.

So what are some of their top sellers? "Definitely the Caramel Cappuccino or Latte, our Hot Chocolate is delicious, a Vanilla Green Tea Latte and of course our smoothies! We use Ghirardelli Chocolate Sauces and 1883 syrups from France, believe me you can taste the difference," Jennifer said.

If you haven't been to Karma Coffee yet here are a few reasons to try them out in March:

They have entertainment most Friday and Saturday evenings. On March 5 the Half Past Dead Band will perform at 8 p.m. and on March 6 Aaron Lindloff and special guests will perform acoustic songs at 8 p.m. Every Thursday they have Psychic Readings from 4-8pm for \$20 for a 10 minute reading including a coffee and cookie.

On March 14, Barry Brickey, local author and singer, will have a book signing and acoustic performance from 2-5pm.

They are selling \$5 raffle tickets for a chance to win 52 regular cups of coffee, tea or hot chocolate. The drawing will be held at their St. Patrick's Day Party at 6 p.m. on March 17. They will have green drink specials, prizes and music throughout the day. They are also planning poetry nights and other musical performances during March.

"Karma Coffee would like to be a comfortable place to meet with friends while enjoying an affordable cup of great coffee. We would like to encourage kindness, being good to your environment, and promoting our local artists and musicians," said Jennifer.

There are lots of reasons to stop by Karma Coffee.

They open at 8 a.m. Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. on Saturday and 12 p.m. on Sunday.

Clean up begins at Central City Park, fundraiser planned

Central City Park in Westland is on the comeback. Clean up should begin this spring at the park located on Carlson between Ford Road and Marquette. The 33 acre park was closed in 2006 when it was discovered the soil contained lead. The park is owned by Wayne County and leased by the City of Westland. Westland Mayor William Wild said Wayne County will fund the remediation of the 12 acres on the east side of the park. They will install a Geo-textile liner over the ground and add 12 inches of soil. The top layer will consist of grass, asphalt, concrete or landscaping. Methane in the soil will be addressed by including a ventilation trench. The rest of the park will be fenced off.

"After the remediation the City will begin the restoration phase," Wild said. The redevelopment plan includes soccer fields, an outdoor pavilion, additional parking and walking path that will tie Central City Park to Tattan Park which features Play Planet play structure and the new H2O Zone Spray Ground Park. Long term plans include restrooms and a concession stand.

City and county officials have applied for grants to help with the cost of the redevelopment. Wild said the overall plan will probably cost about \$1 million. There is also a fundraiser scheduled. Mayor Wild and the Westland Wild Wings will challenge the Red Wing alumni to a charity hockey game at 7 p.m. on April 10 at the Mike Modano

Ice Arena on Wildwood, north of Ford Road in Westland. For more information call 734-729-4560.

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City looks for solutions

By Jenny Johnson

There are a lot of questions but the answers are harder to come by. The City of Wayne is facing a \$3.4 million budget deficit for the 2010-2011 budget year. They are looking into several options to help reduce the budget.

In February they laid off two police officers and effective March 1 three more were laid off. The police liaison officer position at Franklin Middle School has been eliminated. Wayne Memorial High School will retain their liaison officer.

City Manager John Zech said the City will "have to make additional reductions now as well as changes that come July 1."

They are asking all City employees to take a five percent pay cut and a pay freeze for two years. The City Council also passed a resolution to place two ballot proposals on the May 4 ballot. The proposals will ask voters to approve a one-mill, five year levy to help fund police and fire operations and the Headlee Rollback which would be a .4635 mill increase for the general fund. If both proposals pass this will generate about \$800,000 for the City budget. The cost to taxpayers varies based on the taxable value of your home. If your home is valued at \$100,000 and the taxable value is \$50,000 it would cost about \$75 a year for both mill increases. If your taxable value falls, it would be less.

Councilwoman Susan Rowe said, "Be an informed voter and know what's going on in your community. Democracy is not a spectator sport."

City administrators have also initiated talks with the Cities of Westland, Inkster and Garden City to

"It's been a couple of really bad budget years. We just want you to bear with us."

Pam Dobrowolski

Wayne City Councilwoman

form a joint operation for 911 dispatch. Westland and Inkster have already partnered on this.

Zech said, "We are evaluating if there will be some cost saving."

He said they are also discussing the formation of a fire authority. The fire department already has mutual and auto aid agreements with neighboring communities but this would be on an even more coordinated effort.

The City is already working with other cities to buy group dental, health and life insurance. "As a group we can get a better deal. We have been working on those things for awhile and have had success," Zech said.

They have also done a five year forecast of revenue and expenses "to illustrate that we have to make these changes now, otherwise we can't sustain," Zech said.

City Council has also passed a resolution supporting a bill that asks the state to realign their budget year from Oct. 1- Sept. 30 to July 1 to June 30 to get in line with most municipalities and school districts around the state.

"It's been a couple of really bad budget years. We just want you to bear with us," Councilwoman Pam Dobrowolski told the audience at a recent City Council meeting.

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Citizens offer pizza and information

The City of Wayne is facing a shortfall of \$3.4 million for the 2010-2011 budget year. The City Council is looking at several ways to help offset the cuts that will have to be made to City services. One of those ways is to ask the voters to approve two ballot proposals: a one mill levy increase for fire and police operation and the Headlee Rollback, which would provide a .4635 mill increase for the general fund, at an election on May 4.

A group called Citizens to Support Our Community has been formed "to help the citizens of Wayne get accurate information on the upcoming millage proposal and to answer any questions they might have," said Mathew Mulholland, committee co-chair.

The committee will host a Pizza Dinner from 5-8 p.m. on March 26 at the Wayne Activity and Banquet

Center, at the corner of Wayne Road and Sims. For \$10 per person there will be pizza, salad and pop. Members of the committee will be there to make a presentation, talk to the public and answer questions about proposals 1 and 2.

"By offering a forum that will allow the citizens to speak directly to the departments that can potentially be most affected by the current budget situation we are confident residents will be able to make an informed decision on May 4th. The Police and Fire Departments play a vital part in the everyday safety and security of our residents but there is not always the opportunity to sit down with these employees and speak directly to them. We want every resident of the City of Wayne to have the chance to see exactly what services these departments provide and what is potentially at risk if the

millage is not passed," Mulholland said.

Members of Citizens to Support Our Community will also be able to explain the Headlee Amendment and how it affects their taxes or the millage proposal. Co-chair Jim Henley said, "The committee was formed to help make sure the voters have good and accurate information. As we have already heard there are inaccurate rumors floating around the City. We want the citizens to be informed and hopefully feel some comfort in making their decision on May 4th."

Residents can also get answers to their questions of how the City got into this position in the first place. "The City of Wayne is not alone in regards to budget challenges these days. Virtually every municipality in the State of Michigan has experienced the same kind of decline in revenue from property taxes and/or

state shared revenues. What does set us apart however, is the fact that our largest corporate tax contributor, Ford Motor Company, has moved some of its operations out of the City at the same time. This has essentially lead to a "perfect storm" for our budget. As a City we have some difficult decisions to make, not just this year but in the years to come as well. There is no crystal ball to gaze into and see our financial future, we must act now to preserve as many jobs and services as possible," Mulholland said. "If the millage passes this will help support the budgets for public safety. I want to see the millage pass to keep as many people working as possible. We have good employees doing a great job for our City," Henley said. "Every department in the City will be affected, no question." But if the millage passes it will help to ease the burden.

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Rotary tries to set world record

The Wayne Rotary Club is hosting the world's largest Euchre Tournament at 3 p.m. on April 24 at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person at the door or \$20 if you preregister online at www.thebigcardgame.com. Cash prizes will be paid to the top 20 and the bottom five. This event will be sanctioned and judged by the Guinness Book of World Records. The goal is to have 2,000 players. If you are looking to have fun, help raise money and possibly set a world's record, register today.

All proceeds from this event will go to the Wayne Rotary Club to help the Wayne community. For more information, please call 734-721-7200. Corporate sponsors and volunteers are still needed. Players must be a minimum of 18 years old to participate.

Do you have a Secret?
Most of us share things with other people willingly, but we have other things we hope they never find out - why? Even in close relationships, people keep secrets because they are embarrassed or fearful of hostility and possible rejection. Words like fear, shame, guilt and consequences can be heavy chains that keep our secrets underground.

Is that good for us?
The chains we hope will keep our secrets from going anywhere also keep us from going anywhere. Come join us as we look into the lives of some people with secrets and let's learn together how to deal with our secrets in a healthy way.

MESSAGES

- March 7th - My Secret Ambition
- March 14th - My Secret Jealousy
- March 21st - My Secret Desire
- March 28th - My Secret Guilt

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NEWS BRIEFS

Children's storytime

Storytime for kids ages 3-5 will be on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. on March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 or Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. on March 4, 11, 18 and 25 at the Wayne Public Library. Lapsit for kids ages 18-36 month will be on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. To register for either of these free programs, please call 721-7832.

Looking for Good Kids

The Wayne Civitan Club and the Wayne Public Library are sponsoring the Good Kids, Good Citizens, Good Community awards. They are looking for nominees in grades four through twelve who displays good citizenship behavior. Applications for nominations are available at the Wayne Public Library. The reception honoring the recipients will be on May 5, in the library meeting room.

Register to vote

Residents will be asked to go to the voting booths for a Special Election on May 4. Only registered voters will be able to vote in this election. To register to vote you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old by election day, a resident of Michigan and the City of Wayne. You must register at least 30 days before an election. The last day to register to vote for the May 4 election is April 5.

To register you can get an application at City Hall from the City Clerk's office or any Secretary of State office or online at www.michigan.gov/sos. You will need to show your driver's license or personal identification card. Once you have

completed the application, you will be sent a voter registration card that tells you your voting precinct. Bring this with you when you go to vote.

Tax assistance for seniors

Free tax services are available for senior citizens, people with disabilities or those with incomes lower than \$20,000 every Wednesday until April 14. Income taxes will be prepared and e-filed by AARP volunteers. You must have an appointment. Please call the Senior Services Office at 721-7460 or stop by our office located in the Community Center. Preparations are done at the Wayne Activity & Banquet Center (former Senior Activity Center) located at Sims and Wayne Road.

Marshmallow Drop

The 31st Annual Marshmallow Drop will be at 10 a.m. on April 2 at Attwood Park. There will be three drops. First Drop: walking toddlers to age 4 and children with a disability; Second Drop: Ages 5-7; Third Drop: Ages 8-10. This is a free event. Please bring your pop cans to help raise funds for the Play 4 All Playground.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

After the Marshmallow Drop hop on over to the Wayne Community Center for Breakfast with the Easter Bunny from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on April 2. Tickets are now on sale and are \$4 for residents and \$5 for non residents. This includes pancakes, sausage, juice, arts and crafts

and clowns. Photos with the Easter Bunny are \$2. Children 2 and under are free. Limited to the first 200 people.

Summer Day Camp

Summer Day Camp will be June 14- August 27 at the Wayne Community Center. Registration begins April 1. The camp is for children ages 5-13. The cost for residents is \$26/daily and \$130/weekly; and \$33/daily and \$165/weekly for non-residents. A 10% discount is given to additional children in the same household. Activities include group games, special events, weekly field trips, swimming, ice skating, arts and crafts, and more. Registration packets are available at the Wayne Community Center. For more info, please call Steve Winkelman at (734) 721-7400 ext 1306.

Helping Haiti

The First United Methodist Church had a successful dinner fundraiser that raised \$2000 to send to victims of the Haiti earthquake. Life Church of Canton held a benefit concert for Ebenezer Glenn Orphanage in Haiti and raised \$5000. Both organizations are grateful to everyone who supported their efforts

You Count

"People have to be rightfully represented," said Ahmad Nassar of the United States Census Bureau. That's why it is so important for everyone to accurately complete their Census form when they receive them in the mail this month.

There are \$400 billion in funding

that states, counties and cities get from the federal government based on census results. It helps to fund roads, schools and programs for senior citizens, he said. The census bureau has to do an actual count every 10 years. Census forms will be mailed around March 15. Residents are asked to fill it out and return it. If you do not receive a form in the mail, they will be available at City Hall.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

There will be a Household Hazardous Waste Day for all Wayne County residents on March 27 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Redford Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly Rd., south of I-96. Items they will accept include: paint, stains, dyes, floor wax, floor care products, carpet cleaners, polishes, stain removers, solvents, pharmaceutical waste - non-controlled substances only - nail polish, glue, fertilizer, garden chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline, batteries, florescent bulbs, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, mercury thermometers, thermostats and elemental mercury. They will also accept: computers, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mice, cell phones, fax machines, copiers and televisions.

Unacceptable items include: commercial/industrial waste, radioactive material, 55 gallon drums, explosives, ammunition, shock-sensitive materials, household trash, refrigerators, microwaves, other appliances and tires.



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The Wayne Dispatch is proud to present...

SOLDIER of the Month

By Erica Perdue

Franklin Middle School and Wayne Memorial High School. He is currently deployed to Iraq for a second tour, leaving all of his family in Wayne.

Kevin's parents have lived in Wayne since 1979. His father, John, works at the Wayne Assembly Plant and his mother, Lorrie, is a teacher for Wayne-Westland schools.

He is married to Andrea Cottingham, also from Wayne, and they have three children: Luke, Naudia and Max.

All of Kevin's sisters and brother still live in Wayne. His sister Melissa is a dance instructor at the Wayne Community Center.

Kevin has competed many different Army classes and programs. His mother Lorrie said, "Kevin is a great soldier and his family is very proud of him."

Kevin would greatly appreciate receiving letters, snacks and other items (no liquids!) to be sent to him to remember how much he loves the City of Wayne!

Kevin's address is:
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Enjoy coffee, coney and Clemme in town

How great is this? To get a call from Sandy Birch. You'll remember her as Sandy Popek, the premier member of Adrienne Clemme's brilliant 1979 drama class at Wayne High. Sandy's days as the featured actor at Jeff Daniel's Purple Rose Theater are now replaced with teaching, teaching, teaching. She's taught at Eastern Michigan University, at U of M, Albion and most recently at Oakland University. Her classes are in voice and movement techniques for the stage. Sandy is currently teaching at Detroit's Mosaic Youth theater. This theater for inner city kids, not only teaches them acting, but helps them find paths to future successes in all their endeavors. Sandy says..."working with these kids, I've found the children I never had." Sharon Popek, Sandy's mom who used to write a popular column for the Wayne Eagle, is loving life in Greensboro, NC. Tim, Sandy's brother, home from the military after serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Bosnia is also in North Carolina.

Want to see Sandy in a performance? She'll be in Ann Arbor until the end of March at Ann Arbor's Performance Network Theater in "It Came from Mars", a comedy based on Orson Welles' "War of the Worlds." The theater is at 120 W. Huron St. (734) 663.0681.

Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



Now it can be told...Bridget and Tom Kelly thought they were just going out to dinner with Lynn and Jerry Higgs. But when they got to Claddagh's Pub, they found a room full of their friends, happy to celebrate the Kelly's 50th wedding anniversary. Along with the Higgs, were Tom and Pam Dobrowolski, Lois and John Van Stipdonk, the Honorable duo, Laura and Milt Mack, Jack Wotring and Janice Weslin, County Commissioner, Kevin McNamara, and his wife Aida, JoAnne Hanson, Mary Lindsey and Ed Marman.

Talking about Tom Dobrowolski...he's home and recovering from some very serious surgery on his big heart. You gave us all a scare Tom.

So where are you going to eat breakfast? My guess -- it'll be the Wayne Café. There aren't too many places that will offer you an All American breakfast for \$1.99 That means 2 eggs, a choice of meat, toast, and

hash brown potatoes made from scratch.

Owner Julie Savich is proud of the restaurant that she and her husband Melenko (Mike) started 35 years ago. Julie says she told John Zech recently... "John you and I have been here the longest."

The restaurant has 20 employees and Steve Blake, the cook, has been king of the kitchen for 20 years.

Julie Savich came from Serbia when she was 16. She and Mike married soon after and have 3 children, Marianna, Robert and Steven. Steven is married to Sandra and they have one daughter, Milla.

The Wayne Café has an extensive menu and recently expanded hours. The new hours are: Friday - 7am to 9pm; Monday thru Thursday and Saturday the hours are 7am to 8pm. On Sunday the Wayne Café is open from 7am to 2pm. There you have it...Good food, friendly hosts and a handsome banquet room for your meetings.

Jennifer and David Romero are the new folks in town. They've started their first business venture... Karma Coffee Shop, on Wayne Rd. next to the Dairy Queen. In addition

to regular coffee, Karma offers espresso, cappuccino, latte, mocha, and hot chocolate. You can also order chai or regular tea, plus smoothies and a variety of pastries. Soon there'll be sandwiches on the menu. Along with the usual tables are comfortable lounge chairs, couches and oh yes, a piano. The Romero's plan to have a guitarist and other acoustical music, along with poetry reading and an open mic night. Their grand opening was February 16. After the ribbon cutting, and the picture taking, the cake was sliced. And what a cake it was...a huge coffee cup, with the shop's name KARMA spelled out in icing. To quote Jennifer's mom, "Good coffee, good friends, good Karma."

Jake's Again has ordered 300 pounds of corned beef for St. Paddy's Day. Or as Bill Sexton says (affirmed by Suzie Friend) "Jake always orders his weight." Scott Gocaj over at U.S. 12 will have corned beef and cabbage, a bag piper, and 25 cent green beer, starting at 10am, with progressive pricing every hour. And at the Karma Coffee Shop they'll have mint cappuccino an Irish scones.

Dee@thewaynedispatch.com

CITY OF WAYNE

NOTICE OF LAST DAY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION FOR CITY OF WAYNE/WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ELECTION

May 4, 2010

A City of Wayne/Wayne-Westland Community Schools Election will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, in the City of Wayne and the Rudgate Clubhouse in the City of Romulus (School District only). Persons who wish to vote in this election must be registered to vote by April 5, 2010 and possess the following qualifications:

- * Citizen of the United States
- * Michigan resident for 30 days prior to May 4
- * Eighteen (18) years of age on or before May 4

Voter registration application can also be made at an office of the following agencies:

- Secretary of State
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Public Health
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services

City of Wayne electors who have moved to a new address within Wayne or City of Romulus electors who have moved to a new address within Romulus, should notify their respective City Clerk's Office.

Mary E. Carney
City Clerk



Spelling champ

Franklin Middle School eighth grader Andrew Davis won the 32nd Annual Earle Chorbagan District Spelling Bee. Franklin Middle School Principal Sandra Brock and Davis' parents were on hand to cheer him on.

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- Seafood Pasta Salad

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734-721-8721

Wayne Rotary seeks new members

The Wayne Rotary Club is hosting an Orientation meeting on March 30th at 7 p.m. at the Wayne Public Library for anyone who is interested in joining the Rotary organization. For more information, please contact Art Quintal at 734-722-8925.