

THE WAYNE Dispatch

JUNE 2010

The Wayne Exchange

The Avenue Sports Grille

Open for business

Wayne sees increase in new businesses

Rex's Family Restaurant

Bounce N Play

Mark Chevrolet returns

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Council approves 2010-2011 budget

By Jenny Johnson

At their May 18 meeting the City Council approved a \$16.3 million budget for fiscal year 2010-2011. Because of the passage of Proposals 1 and 2, it was not the worst case scenario budget.

The passage of Proposals 1 and 2 made the job of the City Council members easier "but not a walk in the park," said Mayor Al Haidous. Because the value of a mill has decreased, one mill will now generate about \$530,000 instead of \$550,000. The funds from Proposal 1 will be used for police and fire services. It will save three jobs in each department. The police department will have 30 sworn officers after June 30. Police Chief John Williams is trying to get the justice department grant reinstated. If successful, the police department would be able to call back the two officers they initially hired as a result of that grant.

The fire department will be reduced from 20 to 17 firefighters with five person shifts. Because of training, vacations and sick days there will be four firefighters on duty at a time.

The budget also proposed the 911 dispatchers to be cut from eight to five. The City is still negotiating with the dispatcher union and the court employees.

"I'm hopeful," said City Manager John Zech. Once an agreement has been made, the council will have to amend the budget.

For the court, "The amount I recommended is about \$100,000 less than the judge asked for," Zech said.

"We have been so very lean for so very long," said Judge Laura Mack.



City Manager John Zech

No other court in the tri-county area has reduced five full time clerks to part time which is what the administration proposed in the budget.

Mack said because of the union rules they can't have part time clerks so they would have to eliminate three full time clerks. This means each clerk would go from processing 3,000 to 7,000 cases a year.

"Justice will be delayed if we lose any clerks," Mack said.

Contract negotiations have been settled with all but these two bargaining units. The other unions have agreed to either give up their scheduled 3% raise or take a 2.5% pay cut including department heads and the city manager. All employees will also take a pay freeze for two years.

Proposal 2 generated about \$245,000 for the general fund. The council voted to have about \$100,000 put into the parks and recreation department to keep the

pool and ice rink open with reduced schedules. The ice rink will operate eight months a year from Sept. to April. During the down ice time they are looking to offer floor hockey and roller blading programs.

Beginning July 1, the pool will be closed from 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to save on maintenance, staff and utility costs. Nathan Adams, Parks and Recreation Director said they are looking for ways to raise revenue including adding a third birthday party session on nights and weekends. Full time maintenance staff will be reduced to part time status and the public works department will help with some of the parks' maintenance.

The parks and recreational services rated high on the citizen's survey. "The parks mean something to people," Zech said. In fact the citizens who responded to the citizen's survey rated the quality and variety of services offered by the City of Wayne as high.

The rest of the money from Proposals 2 was put into the rainy day fund to bring that total to about \$400,000. That amount could decrease depending on the outcome of the negotiations with the dispatchers and court.

With the passage of Proposal 1 and 2, Zech said, "We're done with mills." The City is allowed to levy 15 mills. In addition they have five special mills- retirement, pool, police building, roads and sidewalks and police and fire services which were all approved by voters. The current millage rate is 20.87.

Other changes due to the new budget include the elimination of

curb side leaf pick up. Residents will have to rake and bag their leaves and Republic Waste Service will collect them along with the regular trash collection.

Employees in the public works department came up with a plan to save money this year and well into the future as well as save their employees from being laid off.

"They gave big time to save the Laborer IIs from losing their jobs," Zech said. Instead of getting paid time and a half on Saturday and double time on Sunday, they will have a flex schedule and employees will be on straight time in the future on these days. Any new hires will not get longevity pay and they will have less vacation days.

The budget includes \$25,000 to upgrade the current cable equipment the City uses to broadcast City council meetings. They are still using the same equipment they started with in the 1990s. This equipment is hard to repair because of the age. With improved equipment they will continue to be able to show meetings live and tape them for later broadcasts. They will also start to have City Council meetings available to watch on the City's website. The current budget allows \$10,000 for maintaining the City website.

About 75% of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) budget was put into the General Fund. The DDA budget has shrunk from \$6 million to just over \$3.6 million.

What about the forecast for next year? "I think we are going to have to shrink some more. I don't know how much. We can't operate in the red," Zech said.



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Open for business

Wayne sees increase in new businesses

By Jenny Johnson

It's a good indication that things are starting to look up. There have been several new business developments that have hung an "open" sign on their doors in Wayne this past year.

"I think the economy is starting to turn," said City Manager John Zech. "Obviously there are still a lot of problems on the public sector side but there are signs on the private sector side that are good." He said Chrysler just added a shift at the Jefferson plant and while credit is still tight, banks are lending money and interest rates are low.

While the number of businesses opening in Wayne this year is about the same as last year, it is still down about 20% from years past.

We still have a way to go before the state and country recover but there are positive signs and they are popping up in Wayne. City Planner Matt Miller said because Wayne is small "we can provide good service to any new business coming into town. We also try to identify any issues before they apply for approval so that we can solve the problem early on in the development process. We also strive to help small business owners through the approval process. Our goal is to provide a safe environment for the business owner and the public to shop."

Avenue Sports Grille

If you're looking for a great meal or a fun night out Karl Makky and Tony Duhani would like you to stop by Avenue Sports Grille on Elizabeth just south of westbound Michigan Avenue. When they opened their doors this spring they wanted to make sure they offered their customers a great meal. Their steak dinner rivals any steakhouse and their waffle fries are not to be missed. They



also offer salads, fish and chips, pizza, pulled pork, marinated chicken and much more. They have lunch and dinner specials everyday.

In addition to their menu they have 14 big screen televisions so you can enjoy your meal without missing any sporting events. If you are looking for a fun night out, Avenue offers Karaoke and live entertainment.

At their ribbon cutting ceremony on May 18, members of the City Council, administration, fam-

ily and customers were on hand to officially welcome Avenue Sports Grille to Wayne. Mayor Al Haidous said, "Job well done. We hope you continue to run a great business here in Wayne."

The restaurant business is not new to Tony Duhani. His dad owns L. George's Coney Island on Michigan Avenue.

"We've been in the area for over a decade," he said. They enjoy being in Wayne.

Bounce N Play

Bounce N Play, an indoor party play center, opened on June 1. Located on Michigan Avenue across the street from the Michigan Assembly Plant, it offers inflatable bouncers, games and prizes. Owner Krystal Maxwell said they offer birthday or private parties, open bounce times and a snack area. They also have a toddler area and a parents' corner with couches and a television.

Hierarchy Academy

Hierarchy Academy located on Michigan Avenue, is a mixed martial arts training facility. They are currently training about 30-35 people to compete in amateur cage fighting.

"It's picking up a lot of steam," said Richard Browe, founder. "There are a lot of quality kids fighting there with a lot of skill."

The back of the building has a mat and punching bags so people can work out on their own or with a trainer. Up front there is a fitness center and they provide one on one training with a trainer or classes in mixed martial art circuits or kickboxing. It's a great workout.

See **Business**, page 4



Mark Chevrolet

Mark Chevrolet is back. The Cabana family was thrilled when they received word in May from General Motors that their dealership will be reinstated.

Charlie Cabana bought the dealership in 1986. They sell 800-1300 new vehicles a year for GM and are the 50th largest certified GM dealership in the country.

"He rebuilt it to bring it to an excellent level and to secure a future for his sons," said Casey Cabana. Casey and his brother, Chris, are the new car managers and their brother Michael is the used car manager.

Then the rug was pulled out from under them. In May 2009, General Motors decreased their dealer base and even though Mark Chevrolet was not on the chopping block initially, three weeks later they were notified that GM had revisited their position and they were classified as a wind down dealer. This means they could continue to sell their inventory but not order any new vehicles. They had until Oct. 2010 to sell the rest of their inventory.

That's when they made an agreement with Mitsubishi and became Wayne Mitsubishi. Now they plan to operate both dealerships.

They are in the process of getting the new Chevrolet vehicles on the lot. They should arrive on the lot by mid July or early August.

But there are new cars on the lot right now. "We're buying cars from other dealers," Cabana said.

While the transition has been tough he said "We were never shut down. We sold Chevrolet and Mitsubishi the whole time."

Now they will operate Mark Chevrolet and Wayne Mitsubishi in Wayne. The Mitsubishi lot will move to another location on Michigan Avenue. Running two lots means they

will need new employees and hope they can bring back employees they had to let go during the transition.

Customers are happy to hear they will be staying. "Our phones have been ringing off the hook," he said. "We have an awesome and loyal customer base."



NY Gourmet Deli

You better be hungry if you plan to visit NY Gourmet Deli. Located on Howe and Annapolis it is the home of the Dagwood.

"The Dagwood is our signature," said owner Ed Spratt. He used high quality meat and the freshest breads and vegetables to create a delicious meal. Customer favorites include the Wayne, Annapolis or Howe specialty.

Each sandwich is made fresh when you order them and call ahead service is available. They also have wraps, salads, hot dogs and desserts including strawberry cheesecake from the Cheesecake factory.

The carryout deli is open for lunch and dinner.

Rex's Family Restaurant

They're back. Rex Mourtos and his family were thrilled to re-open

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Rex's Family Restaurant last month. After major renovations they are happy to be able to serve their customers good food and great service.

"We have always loved the area and the people," said John Mourtos.

They said former customers have been a steady stream through the door since the opened.

"We are very happy to be back and serve the community," said Rex Mourtos.

They even have most of their employees back. Stop by and get one of their daily specials, home-made soup or Greek specialties.

Wayne Exchange

Wayne Exchange on Michigan Avenue is having a direct impact on the local economy. Owner Carlos Davila of Wayne sees it everyday. They are the answer to their customers needs. When life happens sometimes you might be short on a car payment, had an unexpected medical bill or were let go from a job and can't afford groceries or diapers.

Customers are selling jewelry, tools, sports equipment, bikes- anything of value and able to get cash for their sales. It's easier then having a garage sale and faster than e-bay.

"We recycle. We are not a pawn shop. It's a buy and sell," he said. They also are commercial auctioneer and appraisers. They help liquidate businesses. Currently they have a lot of restaurant equipment.

They have been open since January and Davila said there is a story behind every item he buys and sells.

"I love this business. I've learned you can't judge a book by its cover," he said.



Zorro's Mexican Restaurant

Rommel and Nicole Rodriguez were looking for a good location for their authentic Mexican restaurant. They found one at 38910 Michigan Avenue. They offer au-mex-tic cuisine on their lunch and dinner menu.

"A lot of people don't know real Mexican food," he said. Real Mexican tacos are served open face and burritos and chimichangas are not traditional Mexican dishes. Rommel is from Mexico City and learned how to cook at 14 from his mom. He uses those recipes in his restaurant where he is the chef.



"To survive in this economy, owners have to be hands on," Rodriguez said. Another key is to have reasonably priced meals.

"People can't spend a lot of money today," he said.

These new businesses are just some of Wayne's newest editions. While times are challenging it's good news to see several businesses have chosen Wayne. They join a great group of established businesses. Welcome.

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Volunteers from AmeriCorps, parks and recreation and the 29th District Court help to plant dozens of vegetables and flowers in the City's new Community Garden. Residents will be needed all summer to help weed, water, fertilize and harvest the vegetables.

Community Garden plants seed in Wayne

Not even rain could stop the determined volunteers from AmeriCorps who showed up to help prepare the ground for a brand new Goodwill Garden in Wayne. This community garden is located on Michigan Avenue just east of the Wayne Police Department. This is a joint effort between the 29th District Court and the parks and recreation department.

Jana Gillespie, an intern from University of Michigan, and Erin Parra, an AmeriCorps volunteer, are both working with Wayne Youth Services and helped to coordinate the Goodwill Garden.

"It's the first time either of us has done this," Gillespie said.

"It's exciting to see that it's starting," said Parra.

They will plant a variety of differ-

ent vegetables and border the garden with flowers. But they won't do it by themselves. They plan to bring volunteer groups, youth service groups and community service workers from the adult and juvenile court in Wayne to help weed, water, fertilize and harvest the vegetables. All of the food will be donated to local food banks.

All supplies are being donated by Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency. The Wayne Rotary Club will provide the water for the garden and other supplies.

"Rotary is in support of any community events to help other people," said Don Nicholson, Rotarian.

Anyone who is interested in helping in the garden this summer can contact the Wayne Youth Services office at 734-721-7004.

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Do you remember when . . .

The first dial telephone was installed in Wayne? Former Wayne resident Joe Fisher worked for Michigan Bell and installed the first dial telephone in the home of then mayor Wilson McCormick for his wife in 1955.

At the time “Wayne had the best phone system,” he said. You would pick up the phone and automatically get the operator. Neighboring communities were still using crank phones.

Joe and his wife, Doris, lived in Wayne for more than 30 years before retiring to Florida. As a telephone installer, Joe said he has “been in almost every home in Wayne.”

He said, “Wayne was a great place to raise a family. Not too big and not too small. You could walk down the street and say hi to someone you know and they would say hi to you.” The Fishers have three children, six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Rouge River on road to recovery

June 5 marks Rouge Rescue Day. This annual event brings together hundreds of dedicated volunteers who are interested in restoring the mighty Rouge River to what it used to be—as beloved and respected a natural resource as we’ve ever had in Southeastern Michigan.

As chairman of the Committee on Public Services for the Wayne County Commission—and son of former Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara, who successfully pushed for \$300 million in federal funds to begin the clean-up process 20 years ago—I’m pleased and proud to report that the continued hard work and bullish attitude on the Rouge’s health is showing tangible results.

Recent tests have indicated that in four major categories of health, the Rouge River is improving greatly.

Oxygen concentrations are up, crucial to sustaining aquatic life; bugs that fish consume are reappearing after 20 years; river flows are stabilizing; and best of all, E. coli bacteria concentrations are at their lowest levels in decades.

The Rouge River can once again become a jewel of Wayne County and enhance the quality of life for all who live here.

Three years ago I began the task of removing the so-called Wayne Dam, located under Wayne Road north of Michigan Avenue. Since then, Wayne County has secured \$25,000 toward removing the dam. Two applications for federal grants have been submitted for Great Lakes



Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding to further finance the project—each with the goal of developing construction plans, obtaining permits, and performing the actual Wayne Dam removal.

The removal of the Wayne Dam will accelerate the habitation of fish in the Van Buren, Canton and Wayne streams. Brown trout west of the dam and Coho salmon east of the dam will no longer be blocked from moving eastward and westward.

A Wayne Dam removal will even allow for expanded canoeing and kayaking, further making the Rouge River a recreational destination point. Imagine pulling three-foot Coho salmon in Canton Township and fly fishing Brook Trout in the City of Wayne!

The continuing battle to save the Rouge River and return it to high esteem and the stature that it deserves is far from over. But there can be no questioning the trend of improvement.

Let’s make it all “downstream” from here.

Kevin McNamara (D-Canton) is Wayne County Commissioner for the 11th District. He chairs the Commission’s Committee on Public Services.

CITY OF WAYNE

NOTICE OF LAST DAY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION FOR PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD

AUGUST 3, 2010

A Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010, in the City of Wayne. Persons who wish to vote in this election must be registered to vote by July 6, 2010 and possess the following qualifications:

- * Citizen of the United States
- * Michigan resident for 30 days prior to August 3
- * Eighteen (18) years of age on or before August 3

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 should notify the City Clerk’s Office.

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Summer fun tips

By Erica Perdue

Summer is approaching! Kids will be out of school and looking for things to do. Parents will be trying to find ways to entertain children in between working and soaking up the sun. Here are a few suggestions on summer activities.

Swimming. Everyone loves to swim, or at least be near water, in the summer. There are several pools in the local area, including the Wayne Community Center which offers extra open swim during the summer months. There are also several outdoor water parks in the county. Just remember to apply a generous amount of sunscreen and drink plenty of water.

Another fun outdoor activity this summer is to have a picnic. Pull out an old blanket, make some sandwiches, cut up some fruit, fill up the basket and head out to your favorite park. This is a great way to spend time with your family and friends while enjoying the beautiful Michigan weather. There are plenty of parks in the City of Wayne.

The parks are not only good for picnics. They are great ways for kids to get together when they can't see each other at school.

On July 6th, the City will bury a time capsule at 5:30 p.m. in front of the Historical Museum. There will also be an old-fashioned ice cream social and a barbershop quartet. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Just a few days after the time capsule burial will be the Cruisin' Michigan Avenue event. On July 10th, the

multi-city cruise along Michigan Avenue will visit Wayne and several surrounding cities.

Visit www.cruisinmichigan.com for more information.

The Farmers Market will also take place every Wednesday from 3-7 p.m. this summer in the State Wayne Theatre's parking lot. It's a great place to meet up with old friends and see what the vendors are offering.

It's a known fact that Michigan's weather isn't always the best. But we even have a solution for those rainy days. The State Wayne Theatre is a great family setting and is now open seven days a week. Affordable tickets, good movies, and delicious concessions can make any rainy day better.

The annual Sidewalk Sales will start July 29th and continue until the 31st. Don't forget to get your \$.25 hot dogs and take advantage of all the great deals.

There will also be a new event this summer called "Park-It." It's a free family fun night on July 29th and August 26th at Goudy Park. There will be music and movies.

And of course, there is Wheelfest. From Aug. 27-29 the festival of music and fun in Goudy Park will be host to different genres of music, a carnival for the kids and an immense amount of entertainment.

For more information about any summer activities in the City, visit the website at www.ci.wayne.mi.us. Have a safe and spectacular summer!

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Tom Lynch

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- Do I use new credit or cash advances to pay bills?
- Am I over the limit on any credit cards?
- Have I received phone calls or letters about delinquent bill payments?
- Do I know how much I owe, and am I afraid to find out?
- Do I hide the true cost of purchases from my spouse?
- Do I work overtime to keep up with credit card payments?
- Do I dip into savings to pay monthly bills?
- Have I lost my job, or am I fearful that I might?

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I suppose it was love at first sight

It seems like only yesterday that she arrived at my door on that bitter cold and snowy day in December of 2008. And although a year and a half have since passed, I can still remember how just the sight of her made me feel warm all over. I used to be skeptical of people who spoke of love at first sight, but I too became a believer when I first laid my eyes upon her. I don't know if it was because she was partially clad in leather, or perhaps it was her classic curves. I was keenly aware that some other guys were also checking her out, but I knew right then and there that I had to make her mine. Admittedly, she was a little heavier than I thought she would be, but she carried her weight well and I never gave it a second thought. After all she had a great reputation.

Of course, I am talking about my Harley Davidson motorcycle. For the record, it's not my first motorcycle, but it is my first Harley. And while I would be the first to admit that the other bike manufacturers produce excellent motorcycles, there is something special about a Harley. I know



On the Bright Side

Hal Hultman

it may sound corny or cliché, but owning and riding a Harley Davidson automatically makes you part of a very large family. And honestly, it wasn't something I even expected when I purchased the bike. I certainly never experienced that feeling when I rode my little Honda CB450 back in 1976.

First I noticed the subtle hand gesture that bikers extend to one another with their left hand when they encounter another bike approaching from the opposite direction. Then there was the ever so slight nod of the helmet given by bikers to other bikers at intersections when their left hand is already preoccupied with the task of holding the clutch lever. It's funny, but when I bought my first Chevy pick-up truck, other truck

owners never acknowledged me, let alone stop to offer assistance when they see me stopped by the side of the road while making a phone call. But bikers will stop to help each other. I guess it's just a family thing!

It wasn't until September of 2009 when I finally decided to meet some of my new extended family members by participating in a charity ride with other members of the Motor City HOG Chapter #2368. HOG is an acronym for Harley Owners Group. Each chapter is sponsored by a dealership and is responsible for organizing charitable and social events throughout the year for its members to participate in. And although the membership consists of people of all ages and backgrounds, we are all united by one common bond. We all love these beautiful motorcycles and the feeling of freedom that they evoke from within. It's something that truly has to be experienced as words cannot really explain it. Of course, the occasional thumbs up or positive comments from complete strangers is also appreciated and can easily make your day.



And while some of the members may look a bit intimidating in their leather gear and patch laden vests, I can honestly say that I have never met a nicer, warmer group of people to associate with.

I look forward to many charitable rides this riding season to help raise funds and awareness for many deserving organizations and people. All that I ask in return is that when you are driving in your cars and trucks, please pay extra attention to the many motorcycles that are on the road. Let's all have a safe summer.

Wayne Café

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- Western Omelette 4.50
- Morning Melt 3.50
- Pancakes with Meat 4.75

TUESDAY

- Irish Omelette 4.50
- Breakfast Pita 3.50
- French Toast with Meat 4.95

WEDNESDAY

- Farmers Omelette 4.50
- Morning Melt 3.50
- Pancakes with Bacon, Sausage or Ham 4.75

THURSDAY

- Mushroom Swiss Omelette 4.50
- Breakfast Pita 3.50
- French Toast with Bacon, Sausage or Ham 4.95



MONDAY-SATURDAY
Until 11:00 AM
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with drink purchase
Sunday til 2 p.m.
\$2.95

FRIDAY

- Veggie Lovers Omelette 4.50
- Morning Melt 3.50
- Pancakes with Bacon, Sausage or Ham 4.75

SATURDAY/SUNDAY

- 6 oz. Steak & Eggs 6.50
- Mike's Big Bowl 5.95
- Steve's Omelette 5.95
- Eggs Benedict 5.95
- Polish Kielbasa & Eggs 5.50
- Blueberry Pancakes 4.50 with Bacon, Sausage or Ham 5.50

LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS
AVAILABLE 11AM - CLOSE. COMBOS ARE SERVED WITH FRIES, COLESLAW OR CUP OF SOUP.

MONDAY

- Santa Fe Chicken Salad & Soup 6.95
- Patty Melt Combo 4.95
- Turkey Reuben Combo 5.50
- Homemade Meatloaf 6.95
- Fish & Chips 6.95
- Half Broasted Chicken Dinner 6.95

TUESDAY

- BBQ Chicken Salad & Soup 6.95
- Chicken Sandwich Combo 4.95
- Super Burger Combo 5.50
- Homemade Stuffed Cabbage 6.95
- Country Fried Steak 7.50
- Fried Lake Perch 7.95

WEDNESDAY

- Taco Salad & Soup 6.95
- Gyro Combo 4.95
- Slimm Jimm Combo 5.50
- Roasted Turkey Dinner 7.50
- Liver & Onions 6.95
- Hickory Grilled Salmon 7.95

THURSDAY

- Chicken Finger Salad & Soup 6.95
- Turkey Burger Combo 4.95
- Reuben Combo 5.50
- 6 Piece Broasted Wings 6.50
- Homemade Meat Lasagna 6.95
- Popcorn Shrimp 7.50

FRIDAY

- Grilled Salmon Salad & Soup 7.95
- Fish Sandwich Combo 4.95
- Gyro Melt Combo 5.50
- Kielbasa & Kraut 7.50
- Potato & Cheese Pierogies 6.95
- AYCE Fish & Chips 6.99 (with drink purchase)

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NEWS BRIEFS

Looking for super seniors

The Sixth Annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics, hosted by the City of Dearborn will be Aug. 16-20. They are looking for seniors, age 50 years and older, who would like to participate. Events include: baking, ballroom dancing, basketball shoot, biking- 5 and 10 mile races, billiards, bocce ball, bowling, creative writing, Euchre, football throw, Frisbee toss, golf, horseshoes, marksmanship, pickle ball, pinochle, photo, scrabble, shuffleboard, soccer kick, softball throw, swimming, a 5K run and volleyball.

All applications are due by July 16, 2010. For more information, please call 313-943-2412.

Relay for Life raises \$1 million

Teams from Stevenson and Marshall Middle School, John Glenn and Wayne Memorial High School, and Alissa's Ambition (the family and friends of Alissa Jennings) helped the Westland Relay for Life raise more than \$100,000 during their 24-hour walk on May 22 and 23. In 10 years, Westland Relay for Life has raised over \$1 million for the American Cancer Society.

Award winning Choir performs in Wayne

The International Award Winning Land of Lakes Choirboys led by Francis Stockwell will perform at 7 p.m. on June 14 at First Congregational Church, 2 Town Square. This is a free concert. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the choir.

The Choirboys are the winners of two silver medals and two gold diplomas at the World Choir Games in 2008. They have performed throughout the United States, Europe, Iceland, New Zealand and Australia. They were inducted into the Minnesota Hall of Fame in 2009.

Fire damages home

Lightning struck and started a fire on the second floor and quickly spread to the attic in a historic home on Wayne Road south of Annapolis on Memorial Day. The homeowners escaped unharmed but did lose one of their cats.

Deputy Fire Chief Shawn Bell said most of the attic and second floor was damaged by fire and the first floor and basement sustained severe water damage.

"When our guys showed up there was heavy smoke and fire showing" Bell said. They had auto aid from Westland, Inkster and Metro Airport respond to help them.

Armed gunman surrenders

Police closed down First Street between Clinton and Annapolis on May 21 because of a suspected barricaded gunman who allegedly pointed a gun at a neighbor. Police were initially called to the scene for a noise complaint around 4:30 a.m. When they were called back later they called in the Western Wayne County Special Operations Team. Arlie Coleman surrendered and was arrested without incident. He faces felony assault and weapons charges and is being held in Wayne County Jail on \$100,000 bond.



New Police Chief named

The Wayne Police Department will have a new leader beginning July 1. When Police Chief John Williams retires, Lt. Jason Wright will take over as chief. Wright is a 17 year veteran of the Wayne Police Department. He is currently in charge of the detective and traffic bureaus and oversees all criminal and traffic investigations, the sex offender registry and all special events. He was the Police Officer of the Year in 1997 and has won several Chief's Commendations and City of Wayne Leader Awards. Wright has a Bachelor of Science degree in criminology and criminal justice from Eastern Michigan University.

Police Department retirees

In addition to Police Chief John Williams, the following police officers will retire in June: Lt. Michael Ciucci, Sgt. Brian Girouard, Sgt.

Kevin Karson, Officer Ed Johnson and K-9 Officer Terry Foley. Because Officer Foley is retiring, the City will no longer have a K-9 unit and will have to rely on help from other cities.

Win a trip to Las Vegas

You can get more than just clean clothes at The Laundry Stop, 725 S. Wayne Road in Westland. This new Laundromat offers dry cleaning services, minor alterations and mending and free drying with a wash. They have drop off laundry services too. They are also giving away a trip for two to Las Vegas. Stop by today to sign up for your chance to win.

City Council meetings available online

A link will be added to the City of Wayne website allowing people to watch the City Council meetings online. The plan is to have the meetings available online within 48 hours of the meeting date. They will be available for 90 days. The videos of the meetings will be located in the agenda and minutes section of the website.

It will soon be even easier to get the latest updates in Wayne. The City will begin using Nixle in July. Nixle is a secure community information service that gives municipalities the opportunity to alert residents to public safety and community event reminders, updates and alerts in a timely manner. Residents can sign up to get these message sent to their e-mail and/or cell phone at no cost to the City or resident. The cities of Westland and Canton are already using this system.

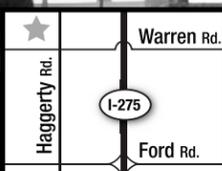
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Class of 1960 celebrates 50 years of Wayne Pride

By Jenny Johnson

It was a time of typewriters and card catalogs. No one had heard of a cell phone or CD. It was a great time to be a high school senior in Wayne.

"We are the Zebras. The mighty, mighty Zebras," said Judy Howton, 1960 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School. It was proof that Zebra pride never fades when the Wayne Memorial High School Class of 1960 spent a weekend celebrating their 50th high school reunion. It began with a tour of the current Wayne Memorial High School which is a lot different today.

The alumni arena had not been built yet and the library was in a different area. "It looked bigger and better. (You can tell) there is a lot of pride in that building. It was shiny and clean," said Margie Tomala.

Many former students remember going to football games down in the flats. Some couldn't believe Chums donuts were still there.

After the tour, the Class of 1960 joined more than 400 Wayne Memorial Alumni from 1930 to 2009 at the All Class Alumni Reunion banquet on May 14. The next morning they took a walking tour of downtown Wayne including the State Wayne Theater, Wayne Public Library and the Historical Museum. Many came from out of state- California, Florida, Missouri, Wisconsin and while they could not believe some of the changes in Wayne, one thing that didn't change was their fond memories of growing up in Wayne and graduating from Wayne Memorial.

Harold Rediske, Jr. remembers "having a viable downtown area, everything you wanted or needed was in Wayne, putting a boat on the river at the fire station and going to Hannan Road and back and riding your bike everywhere, ball fields, the pool and the Dairy Queen."

John Avery of St. Louis said, "This theater holds memories," as he stood outside looking at the new mural. He remembers seeing movies and watching live theater in the building. The group was happy to see that with all of the changes, Puff the Magic Dragon is still on the wall in Theater IV.

Others also had fond memories of the theater. Pam Hayden Ross' paternal grandparents used to manage the State Wayne Theater for Mr. Schaffer in the late 1940s. She said her grandmother would work in the cry room. She visited the theater a lot as a child.

"It's really cool being back. It's been over 30 years. Things have really changed," she said. She lives in Sheridan, MI, which is north of Lansing. Her family owned Hayden Coal Company near the lumber yard next to the railroad tracks.

The opportunity to tour Wayne Memorial and downtown Wayne was too good to pass up for many.

"The main reason I came is because of the two tours," said Sharron Post-Smith of Beaverton, Michigan.

While she looked forward to meeting up with her fellow classmates, it was the Wayne Public Library she was anxious to see. Her



Matt Miller takes the Class of 1960 on a tour of downtown Wayne.

father died during WWII, when Smith was a baby and the library had a plaque that honored the names of Wayne residents who died during the war. She remembers it hanging in the library at the corner of Sims and Second.

"I want to make sure its still there," she said.

It was a happy ending for Sharon. She was visibly moved when she found the same plaque, with her dad's name, hanging proudly in the lobby of the current Wayne Public Library. When Smith was growing up the family lived on Hayes Street near Michigan Avenue and Merriman.

Ted Martin said cruising Daly's and A&W was the thing to do on Friday and Saturday nights, after football games and proms. Both were located on Wayne Road. Rocky's Coney Island is now in the former Daly's location and A&W was in the empty lot next to Wayne Lawn and Garden.

"You wanted to see who was

there," he said.

Penny Britton Kolloff of Wisconsin and Diana Mast White of North Carolina have been friends their entire lives. Penny's dad was the minister at the First Congregational Church on Wayne Road, which used to be Main Street. She and her family lived in a house next to the church. Diana lived in a home across the street, where the Wayne Public Library is currently located.

"We grew up smack in the middle of town," said Penny.

Diana was on the synchronized swimming team in the newly installed pool.

On June 16, 1960 Wayne Memorial bid a fond farewell to the 430 graduating seniors. But many of the graduates never said goodbye to Wayne.

While they may have moved across the state or country Wayne Memorial will forever be in their heart because once a Zebra always a Zebra.



Members of WMHS Class of 1960 Diana Mast White and Penny Britton Kolloff enjoyed revisiting the State Wayne Theater and discovering all of the history on the mural. (Left), Sharron Post-Smith finds her fathers name on a plaque honoring Wayne residents who died in World War II and Korea.



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On June 5 the Wayne Memorial High School Class of 2010 will have their graduation ceremony. This year they had 11 valedictorians. They are: (l-r) front row: Brandie Jones, Megan Connolly, Ilsi Lopez, Rachel Sullivan and Xiyan Wang, back row: Nick Hounshell, Doug Malcolm, Enrique Romulo-Vargas, Stephen McNamara, Scott Goodchild and Zakkary Hardyniec.

Wayne High's newest Alumni

By Erica Perdue

On June 5th, students from the class of 2010 will walk across the stage, turn tassels and receive diplomas. Among those graduating, are 11 students who have met all of the requirements to be Valedictorian of Wayne Memorial High School.

Megan M. Connolly will graduate with a grade point average of 4.25. She will attend Albion College to major in biology and pre-medicine.

With a grade point average of 4.145, Scott Robert Goodchild is another Valedictorian. He will major in pharmacy at Ferris State University.

Zakkary J. Hardyniec has a grade point average of 4.083. He will attend Alma College to major in exercise science.

Nicholas Aaron Hounshell plans to attend the University of Michigan to major in economics. His high school grade point average is 4.078.

Also attending University of Michigan will be Ilsi Lopez. She will graduate with a grade point average of 4.02 and plans to major in biology.

Brandie Nichole Jones will graduate with a 4.0 grade point average. She will major in culinary arts at Schoolcraft College.

With a 4.25 grade point average, Douglas Haendle Malcolm will attend Cedarville University to pursue a degree in theatre with a focus on performance.

Stephen Michael McNamara will graduate with a 4.25 grade point average. He will attend Michigan State University to major in chemistry.

Also attending Michigan State University will be Xi Yan Wang. She has a career grade point average of 4.136 and will major in engineering.

Enrique Romulo-Vargas has a 4.0 grade point average and will attend Western Michigan University to major in mathematics.

Rachel C. Sullivan will attend the University of Toledo after graduating with a grade point average of 4.166. She will major in pharmacy.

We wish all of the Valedictorians, and the entire graduating class of 2010, the best of luck!

THE WAYNE Dispatch

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Open for business

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

Wayne Pride Clean Up Day

The Wayne P3 group sponsored a Wayne Pride Clean Up Day on May 22. This is the second time the citizen's group has organized a clean up effort. They were happy to get a little help from their friends.

Members of the Wayne Fire Department and Boy Scout Troop 1736 helped clean up along the railroad tracks from Second Street to Elizabeth. Why spend a Saturday morning picking up trash?

"It needs to be done and the more people the better," said Wayne Fire-fighter Cullen McKee.

Members of Boy Scout Troop 1736 from First United Methodist Church filled bags of garbage with bottles, paper and other discarded items.

The boy scouts are used to helping with beautification projects. They have adopted Michigan Avenue from Harry J. Will Funeral Home to Henry Ruff.

Eric Pohl, a freshman at Wayne Memorial High School, said they are happy to help in the City "whenever they need it."

Wayne P3 member Sherrie Pryor-



L-R: Members of Boy Scout Troop 1736 Eric Pohl, Maverick Longuski and Dakota Longuski were happy to help with Wayne Pride Day.

Brindley said organizing these clean up days not only helps clean up the City but also gives people who help a sense of pride and ownership.

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Boats, brains and brides

The Ladies Literary Club held their last meeting of the year on May 18 at Rocky's of Northville. It was the annual Scholarship Awards Dinner at which two young women are honored. From Wayne Memorial, the acclaimed student is XiYan Wang. She came to America from China when she was 13 and will be studying Chemical Engineering at Michigan State. Ms. Wang was captain of Wayne High's tennis team and was accompanied to the dinner by her mother, Mrs. Jenny Zhang. The other student given a scholarship is Justine Woodard, a John Glenn graduate. She plans a career in nursing and will be entering Schoolcraft College. Ms. Woodard was Vice President of the Senior class and also captain of the golf team. Justine's companion for the dinner was her mom, Michele Woodard. Her very proud grandparents are Bev and Art Woodard. Congratulations to the two very deserving young ladies. Your futures look bright.

One new member was recognized - Karen Healey, wife of the Rev. Thomas Healey, Minister of Wayne's First Congregational Church. A long time member was also singled out for honors - Louise Steinhauer, a member for 32 years. We shared a table with Louise, Rosemary Smith, Kathy Koveleski, her daughter Martha Richards, Betty Livingston, Jane Ellery, Caryn Parm and Gloria Rowland. Altogether, 35 Club member attended the dinner. As always, we recited "A Collect For Women" written in 1904 by Mary Stewart. If you don't mind I'll print the last few lines.

Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



"And may we strive to touch and to know the great common human heart of us all, and O Lord God, let us forget not to be kind."

Well, he hasn't given up racing altogether, but will be doing less of it than usual. Ray Kull over at K & S Auto is branching out. He bought a boat. It's a 32 ft. 1994 Regal. The original owner was Bill Crain of Crain Funeral Home in Romulus. He moved it on Friday, April 29, from Toledo Beach Marina. After a 3 hour trip up the Detroit River, it's now at Emerald City Harbor in St. Clair Shores.

Ray says although he won't be at the racetrack as much as before, his brother, Jim, and nephew, Josh, will still be at Milan Dragway every weekend.

Debbie Kull loves the boat as much as her husband, and it was she who thought up its clever name - "Rayz Hell."

By the time you read this, Jake (Jake's Again) Davidson and Kelly Gallant will be married. The ceremony took place on May 15, on the beach at Clearwater, Florida.

The bride and groom wore casual attire as they said their vows, attended by family, friends, and a few of Jake's Again wait staff. Their reception will be here in Wayne.

Kelly was in the Army, taking her basic training at Ft. Benning, Georgia. She also went to jump school in that state.

Nineteen years ago, Kelly worked at Jake's, and now all these years later she has become his wife.

Congratulations to Kelly and Jake. Much happiness to you both - now and forever.

We're happy to tell you about two long time friends and neighbors who are recovering nicely from falls they had taken. So glad to report that Mrs. Edna Wootton and Mrs. Edna Kingsbury are both feeling much better.

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50% OFF
 Of equal or lesser value.
 Excludes other offers. Expires 6/30/10

Avenue Sports Grille
Chopped Pork Sandwich
99¢
 With purchase of any drink.
 Valid Monday - Friday 11AM-4PM
 Expires 6/30/10

Avenue Sports Grille
New York Strip Dinner
\$7.95
 Expires 6/30/10

Avenue Sports Grille
PIZZA SPECIAL
 CHOOSE FROM: Roasted Vegetable, 4 Cheese, Pepperoni or BBQ Chicken
\$5.00
 With purchase of any drink.
 Valid anytime. Dine-in only.
 Expires 6/30/10

Avenue Sports Grille 734-895-7300

3632 Elizabeth Street • Wayne (Corner of Elizabeth and Michigan Avenue)

HOURS: Monday - Friday 10AM - 2AM • Saturday 11AM - 2AM • Sunday 12 Noon - 2AM