

2010 WAYNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

THE  
**Wayne Dispatch**  
FEBRUARY 20

# Sweethearts

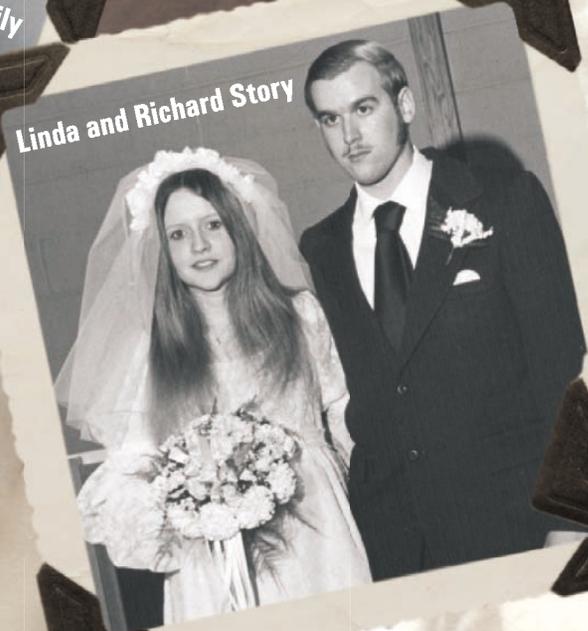
Wayne couples' love expands  
to their community



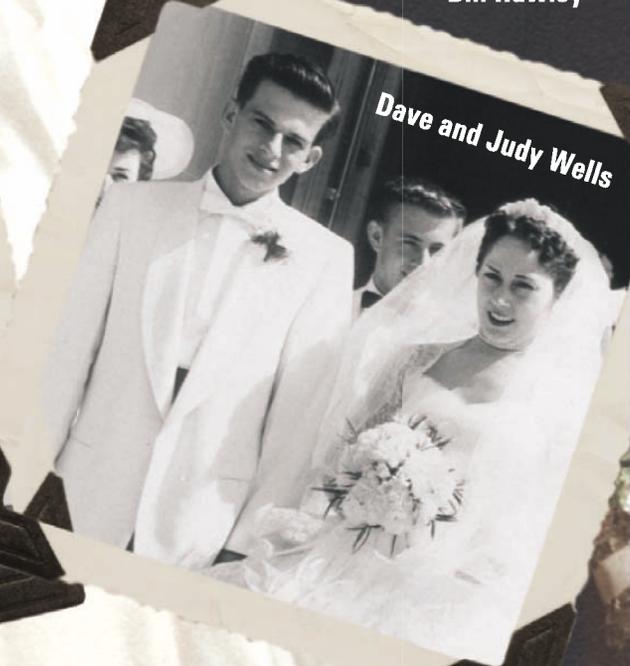
Darlene and  
Bill Hawley



Tom and  
Mary Anne Daily



Linda and Richard Story



Dave and Judy Wells

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# A tall drink of water

When I want a refreshing drink, I often grab a glass of regular old tap water. No bottles of water for me. I have been drinking tap water since before the bottled water craze (of course, I am old enough that we didn't even have bottled water) and will continue because, I think the water we get is actually pretty good. So I started to think about our water system and how did it get started.

The Village began an impressive network of waterlines beginning in 1914. The first system also necessitated the damming of the Rouge River at Wayne Road. The main goal of the water system was meant for fire protection. Eighty fire hydrants were installed throughout the Village at strategic locations to protect the entire Village. At the same time, a sanitary sewer system was installed in the Village.

As the Village began to grow, regular pressure began to be an issue. In 1920, to handle the increasing demands, a large water tower was built next to the Village Hall (now the Historical Museum). The water was drawn from the river. It was chemically treated at the Water Works

## Rearview Mirror

**Matt Miller**



Building and then at night pumped into the water tower. The pump house is now a restored building in Goudy Park. The Water Works Building was located at the present site of City Hall.

By 1939, the Village could no longer provide enough water for the growing population. An agreement was made with the Detroit Water and Sewer Department to connect to their system. The connection was paid for by Nankin Township and the Village of Wayne. New water and sewer lines were constructed along Michigan Avenue for a connection at Eloise. A large water supply elevated tank was built on Howe Road and Forest Avenue. This new tank was 133 feet tall and painted in an orange and white checkerboard pattern because of our proximity to the



Monroe Street around 1940. This shot is looking south towards Park Street. Note the Village water tower in the background. Photo by Norma Vee Proctor, courtesy of the Wayne Historical Museum.

airport.

This system performed well for many years. It provided more than 5,400 customers with more than 1,000,000 gallons per day. With further expansion to the west projected, in 1963 the Detroit Water and Sewer Department began construction of the large tanks at Merriman and Michigan. These new tanks provided the capacity for pumping 28,000,000 gallons per day for areas west of Wayne.

So the next time you take a drink of cool refreshing water you now

know a little more about the history of the Wayne water system. It is pretty amazing that our Village had the foresight to develop a system that provides water for so many people today.

I really encourage you to stop at the Historical Museum and to donate to the Window Fund. The museum is open each Friday and Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - call 734-722-0113 for an appointment. You can also contact me at [matt@thewaynedispatch.com](mailto:matt@thewaynedispatch.com) with any questions or comments.



These photos show the history of the water system development in Wayne. L-R: Construction of the Wayne Road dam in 1913. The new Wayne Road dam looking west in 1926. This is the original water works building in 1914. Photos provided courtesy of the Wayne Historical Museum.

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Tom and Mary Anne Daily



Dave and Judy Wells

# Love Stories

By Erica Perdue  
and Dee Ryan

Wayne couples committed to each other and community

**W**ayne is more than just an address for many residents. They have chosen to not only make Wayne home but to make a difference and become involved in their community. Here is a glimpse at just a few of the residents who have a love not only for each other but for their community. They are involved in many different areas- church, school, historical society, parks and recreation and civic organizations. They are committed to making a positive impact on their community.

## The Shurlows

Both are Diamonds of our Community, and with good reason. They've lived in Wayne for 51 years and have devoted much of that time to make our town a better place to live. They met while she was teaching at Michigan State Normal; later called Eastern Michigan College, and finally Eastern Michigan University. Bert was then a student, going to school on the GI Bill.

Bert taught Math at Wayne Memorial, and also data processing and computer programming. Miriam spent 12 years teaching mathematics at the Wayne Westland Adult and Community Education Dept.

Miriam works tirelessly for the First Congregational Church. She is co-chair of the Holiday Baskets program and the upcoming Blood Drive. She spends much of her time in the kitchen at the church where according to Connie Chicky, she's "The Minister of Food" putting on dinners for funerals, wedding receptions, showers, and the Church Fair.

Miriam is also part of the Hand Bells and Choir at the same church. A longtime member of Wayne's Garden Club, she also sings in the Wayne-Westland Senior Chorus.

Bert has worked as many as five days a week for Habitat for Humanity, since beginning in 1992. He also spent more than 20 years as a member of the Wayne Library Board.

Asked why they contribute so much time to the City of Wayne, Bert said, "You move into a community and help in whatever way your talents allow you to." Miriam adds, "Life's been good to us and we have to give back."

The Shurlows have 3 children: Carol, Bill and Jacquie, plus six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

## The Dailys and Wells

The love story Tom and Mary Anne Daily plus Judy and Dave Wells have with the City of Wayne is so intertwined it's almost impossible to separate. Mary Anne and Tom have been married 59 years. Her Dad was part of and employed by the Stinson Aircraft Co. Judy's Dad and Mom, Mac and Melva McAtee owned Kelly's restaurant, which was across from the Korean Village on Michigan Ave. Judy would often work at the restaurant; that's where she met Dave, who worked at Ford. Both Mary Anne and Judy remember first volunteering for William Faust; from then on volunteering became their way of life. They worked the Summer Festivals and remember the 10-cent beer nights. They remember the year there was an ox roast and someone forgot to order the ox. Now their volunteer days remain dedicated to the concerns of the city. Both work for St. Mary's Outreach Center, Ms. Wells as the center's chief co-coordinator. That entitles her to unload the trucks several days a week. Ms. Daily describes herself as being Judy's co-hort in anything

that needs to be done. Both women are long time members of the Beautification Committee, and Mary Anne is the City's newest Diamond of the Community. Tom Daily worked for the Wayne Bank before becoming Wayne's City Manager. He's now President of Wayne's 100 Club and Chairman of Wayne Parks and Recreation Board.

Although at their 50 Anniversary celebration, Tom said, "Not once in our life together did the word divorce ever come up—murder yes..." He also believes, "It takes two to make one marriage"

Mary Anne says, "Whatever you give to your community, you get back in the friends you make."

Ms. Wells has coached softball and basketball at St. Mary's. Being the mother of four boys who played hockey she also sat on the Wayne Youth Hockey Board for 8 or 10 years.

Although she calls Dave and his buddy, Chappie Reynolds "Two old men and a truck", she loves the guy

### Love, Continued from page 3

she's been married to for 54 years. She credits both Dave and Chappie for bringing the deliveries of "everything" to the Outreach Center.

Judy calls Wayne a city with a big heart, and points to the recent benefits for Franks Furniture to prove her point.

Judy and Dave—Mary Anne and Tom— four people working every day to make our small city a better place to live.

### The Monits

Loren (Skip) and Kathleen (Kitty) Monit have been active in the Wayne Westland Community School District since they were children. They both attended Wayne Westland Schools and became involved once they were out of school.

Skip has been on the school board for 12 years. He is currently the president of the school board.

"I partake in many events that are above the duties of a trustee, but I relish the opportunity to do whatever I can for the students of the district. My mantra is 'Keep kids first,' he said. "I feel that, more than anything, the school district has a major influ-



Loren (Skip) and Kathleen (Kitty) Monit

ence on all children and the community as a whole."

Kitty is the secretary for Taft Galloway Elementary School.

"For those whose think otherwise, I had my job before Mr. Monit ran for school board," she said jokingly.

The couple has three children: Justin, a Wayne Memorial High School graduate, is a certified repairman; Sean, a WMHS and Michigan State University graduate works for a leading industrial company; and Gabrielle, a WMHS graduate who will be graduating from Wayne State

University in May with a degree in nutrition and then will be entering into the physician's assistant program.

"We love the City of Wayne because it is a good community to live in. Folks help one another and pitch in when needed. As for the school district, I think our children have received a good education here. They are all successful individuals," said Kitty.

"It's the people and feeling of community that makes this city attractive. We have raised our children here and witnessed the positive environment that they and we have experienced," he said.

Kitty said that her own children went to Taft and she loves still being involved with the school. She is involved in several activities at Taft and is also a long-time CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere) advocate.

In 1998 the Monits were asked to participate in a bond initiative to improve the schools. They both acted as tri-chairs.

"We were instrumental in the passage of the bond. We have seen the district evolve into the fine district it is today," said Skip. "We were able to

take an active part in the upgrade of the district and that has blossomed into a vast commitment and love of our school district."

Monit said that his involvement in the schools and work as a school board member stems from his background as a coach and board member of Wayne Baseball Association.

"It seemed a natural progression to be able to have a larger role in doing what's best for our kids," he said.

He was also the treasurer on the 'Save Our Streets' bond initiative that is to provide this community with well-paved roads and sidewalks.

Kitty said that everyone should always try his best to make a difference.

"It's important to be active in your community because you need to make the place where you live," she said.

### The Perdues

They are both very familiar faces at the Wayne Community Center. Whether they are exercising, supporting a fundraiser or attending one of their board or commission meetings

See **Love**, page 5

## Wayne-Westland students enjoy the advantages of an award-winning school system. Wayne-Westland School District...



- Has earned 14 Golden Apple awards for MEAP scores
- Has earned two Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Awards
- Offers over 20 types of Advanced Placement courses that allow high school students the opportunity to earn college credits, along with online courses and dual enrollment college opportunities
- Equips every classroom and media center with computers and new technology to enhance students' computer skills
- Offers All Day Kindergarten at all schools
- Offers instrumental music, world language classes, and gifted/talented classes beginning at the upper elementary level
- Has been awarded 4 Educational Excellence Awards over the past two years
- Offers middle school students the opportunity to earn high school credit in mathematics and world languages

**Love, Continued from page 4**

Pam and Tim Perdue care about the well being of all Wayne residents. Tim is a graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and has lived in Wayne for more than 40 years. Pam graduated from Cherry Hill High School and has lived in Wayne since the two were married in 1987.

"We enjoy Wayne because it is a small community. A lot of people who were raised here, stay here. Everyone knows mostly everyone. When someone is in need we come



**Pam and Tim Perdue**

together and support the cause," Tim said.

Even though their day jobs- Tim as a supervisor for customer service for the US Post Office in Canton and Pam as a para pro for Wayne Westland Schools- they still find time to give back to Wayne.

"We feel that it is important for us to have an active role in our community in order for the community to thrive," Pam said.

"There are a lot of opportunities in Wayne for volunteers. We feel it is vital to participate in these organizations," Tim said.

Pam was an officer in the Vandenberg PTO and is currently an officer for the WMHS Cheerleading Booster Club. She is also a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Tim is on the Festival Commission. They have both been involved with the ACT Theater group too.

Making sure there are ample recreational opportunities in the City has been important to the couple since their daughters, Erica, 20, and Kayla, 16, were young.

"We love our Community Center and feel very fortunate to have it," Pam said.

**The Storys**

Linda and Richard Story have been married for 38 years. They went to school in the district, were married in the city, work in the city and volunteer in Wayne organizations.

Linda served on the 2020 committee and now serves on the Wheelfest Commission.

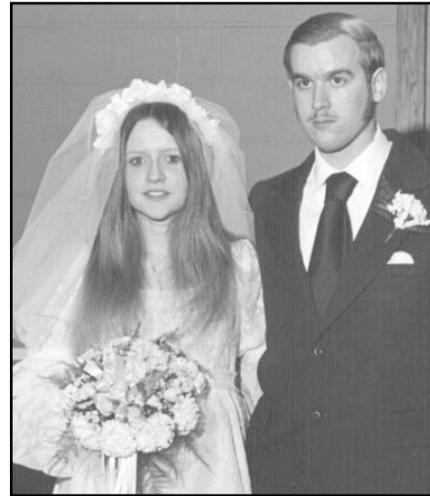
"I liked having a say-so in Wheelfest. It was a lot of fun and it's a lot of work. Everyone on there is nice and helpful," she said.

Linda is also proud of the role she played in the Farmers Market and doing a time capsule for the City of Wayne.

"I wanted something that people could open up later on and learn things from," she said.

Richard worked at Roosevelt Elementary for 20 years. He told stories about his great, great, great grandfather being the first janitor at the Union School that became Roosevelt.

He has been a member of the planning commission for seven years and the historical commission for eight years. Richard is the fourth person to ever be employed by the



**Linda and Richard Story**

Wayne Historical Museum. He has been the manager since March 2008.

"There's a lot of history in Wayne and we need to get people on the same path about it. I give tours and speak to groups about history," he said.

They have been together since high school and described what the city was like when they were teenagers.

"On Saturdays we went to the State Wayne and it would be full of people. Or we would go roller-skating at the old rec center, where City Hall is now. At that time everyone was downtown doing something," he said.

Richard is also the photographer for the Wayne Fire Department. He also wrote a book that was published in 2004 titled Wayne Fire Department.

"You have to take care of yourself and your community. You have to help," he said.

Linda agreed and said that her husband was her inspiration to start volunteering.

She runs her own sewing business out of her house and is also a

member of the Chamber of Commerce. She also won the 'Miss Wayne Contest' in 1971.

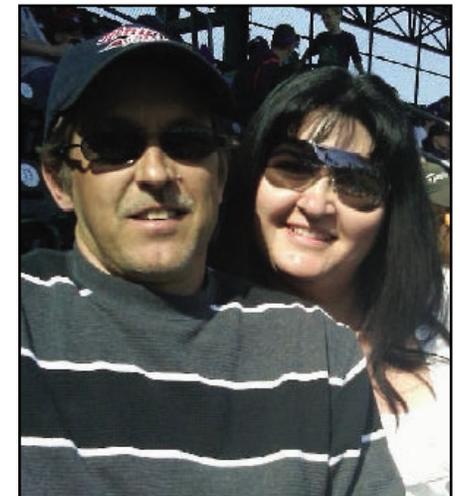
The Storys have lived in their house for 34 years. They have one son who is a fireman and two grandchildren. They plan to continue their commitment to the city and the organizations in it.

**The Balls**

After 18 years of participating with the Wayne Youth Hockey Association, Jerry and Gloria Ball are now the president and secretary of the program.

The couple has been married for 26 years and lived in Wayne for 22 years. All of their children have participated in WYHA. Jerry Jr. would have been 26 but he passed away 11 years ago from cancer.

Their daughter Falan is 25, Jacob is 23, Zachary is 12 and Carter is 8.



**Jerry and Gloria Ball**

All of their children attended Wayne Westland Schools from preschool to graduation. Jerry Ball also attended schools in the district.

"We are at the community center

See **Love**, page 6

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**Tom Lynch**

## Love, Continued from page 5

ice arena a minimum of three days a week," said Gloria.

Jerry played hockey too, when the association first started.

"When our kids got involved we thought 'what better thing to do than to volunteer our time to help,'" he said.

Every year in January there is a hockey game at the Wayne Community Center in honor of Jerry Ball Jr. The proceeds go to the Jerry Ball Jr. Memorial Scholarship and Endowment Fund.

"People really care about each other here and you just get the sense of community, especially when terrible things happen. Such as when our son was diagnosed with terminal cancer, the support we received from so many was amazing," said Gloria.

"It's a great feeling to know that you live where so many others care."

Both said that they enjoy all the time they spend volunteering.

"Community involvement is what keeps the community going," said the Balls.

Gloria said that she admires all of the fundraisers that are done and that she is so glad she has been able to host one in her son's honor for so many consecutive years.

They plan to keep helping run WYHA and continue awarding scholarships from the fundraisers they put their heart and soul into.



Bill and Darlene Hawley

## The Hawleys

Bill and Darlene Hawley have devoted their lives to working and volunteering in Wayne. Combined, they worked in the Wayne-Westland Community School District for 65 years and since retirement are part of seven organizations in the city.

Darlene taught for 25 years. Now she is a member of the Ladies Literacy Club, which is the oldest existing club in Wayne. She is also a moderator of her church, member of the Garden Club and historical commission.

"I started a program called 'History in a Box,' where I dress up in costume and take artifacts from the museum to all the second grade classrooms in the Wayne area," she said. "I miss being in the classroom and I love history so this program gave me the best of both worlds."

Bill taught physical education at junior high schools, Wayne Memorial High School and was the athletic director at WMHS for a total of 40 years working in the district.

As athletic director he was recognized as one of the best in the state. He coached baseball for 17 years and also coached track.

"I had some terrific players and outstanding individuals who have since gone on to be great," he said. "I got to do a lot of different things that were unique and rewarding."

Bill has been a member of the Recreation Advisory Board and the Wayne Rotary for over 30 years and a member of the Recreation Foundation for eight years.

"With these capacities I've been able to volunteer and give service to others. We have an awful lot of people who volunteer their time. That makes Wayne a great place," he said.

Bill runs three golf outings in the city throughout the year. He said that it pulls people together and he really enjoys it.

"We can show that this city is strong even though we're going through tough times," he said.

The Hawleys have a history in Wayne. Generations upon generations have been born here, worked here and lived here their whole lives.

They have four children and ten grandchildren. Their daughter, Cheryl, is a WWCS teacher. Steven, their son, is a principal in Riverview. Their two other sons are Robert, a banker, and Jeffrey, who works at Hewlett Packard.

"I think you always get back much more than you put into your community. It's a growing process. You're doing something that's going to help others," said Darlene.

If you know someone who makes a positive impact in Wayne, please contact the Dispatch at jenny@thewaynedispatch.com.

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**ALL CATS MUST NOW BE LICENSED IN THE CITY OF WAYNE**

The 2011 dog & cat tags are available for sale in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall. All dogs & cats four months of age or older must be licensed (certificate of rabies vaccination required) and wear a collar with current tag attached. Tags obtained by February 28, 2011, will be at a lesser fee.

Fees during annual licensing period ending February 28, 2011

Regular license	\$10.00*
License for spayed or neutered animals	\$5.00*

Fees from March 1 thru December 30, 2011

Regular/spayed or neutered animals	\$20.00
Replacement license (all year)	\$1.00

\*Dogs & cats under four months of age or owned for less than 10 days qualify for these rates at any time of the year.

Matthew K. Miller  
City Clerk

Looking for Dee Ryan and Hal Hultman's columns? We ran out of room but don't worry. They are on our Facebook page. Check them out at [facebook.com/thewaynedispatch](http://facebook.com/thewaynedispatch).

# From the heart

By **Jenny Johnson**

It's what we do best. The Wayne community knows how to pull together and help in times of need. For the past month the residents, businesses, schools and City have done just that. After the tragedy at Franks Furniture on Dec. 29 there was an immediate call to action. The Wayne Chamber of Commerce set up a disaster fund at the Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union.

"The donations keep coming in from our community and the surrounding communities. Some big, some medium and some small but, truthfully, they are all big. That's no surprise. It's what communities do. We support each other," said Thelma Dasho, CEO, Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union.

US-12, Avenue Sports Grille, Rex's House of Pancakes, Wayne Bowl and the Adult Community Theater program all hosted fundraisers.

Barbara Zolnierczak, cousin of Paul Franks, was at the fundraiser at Avenue Sports Grille. She said "It is a miracle that Paul survived." Of the fundraising benefit she said "It is just beautiful and shows Paul's spirit. He is loving and gives from his heart. We're very touched and happy to be a part of this."

The family of Leslie Machniak sent a thank you card to the Wayne Chamber of Commerce. They asked to express their thanks to everyone involved and they appreciate the generous support.

Taft Galloway and St. Mary Catholic Schools got their students involved to raise funds.

Students at Taft-Galloway are selling Helping Hearts at their school and local business. They hope to raise \$800- \$1000 so they can purchase a memorial bench to be placed in Goudy Park in memory of James Zell and Leslie Machniak.

At St. Mary Catholic School the students participated in a Dress Down Day on Jan. 21. They got to wear casual clothes or jeans if they brought in a donation. The 264 students raised \$2000 in one day.

Principal Don Lipinski said, "The response from our families was overwhelming. There was a great outpouring of support."

To date more than \$36,000 has been raised to help the victims of the Franks Furniture disaster. The funds will be distributed to the victims and the families of those affected by the explosion.

If you would still like to support this effort you can make a donation to the William C. Franks Furniture Disaster Fund at the Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union, 500 S. Wayne Road, Westland, MI 48186.

You can also stop by the Kroger store on eastbound Michigan Avenue in Wayne and make a donation right at the register through the end of February. Helping Hearts are on sale for \$1 at Taft Galloway Elementary School, Rex's House of Pancakes and Wayne City Hall through Feb. 11.

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## Families file lawsuit

The families of two victims of the explosion at William C. Franks Furniture Store on Dec. 29 have filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Consumers Energy, who owns the gas line under investigation. The families of Leslie Machniak and James Zell, who both died in the explosion, each filed a suit seeking damages.

On Jan. 28 Paul Franks, owner of William C. Franks Furniture, also filed a lawsuit in Wayne County Circuit Court against Consumers Energy saying they were negligent in investigating and evacuating the area after the smell of gas was first reported around 6:30 a.m. on Dec. 29. A second complaint from the same area was called in just after 7:30 a.m. The explosion occurred at 9 a.m. A Consumer Energy technician was in the area trying to track down the source of the gas smell at the time of the explosion. Franks was trapped in the rubble and is still in the University of Michigan Trauma Burn Unit.

Consumers Energy is aware of the lawsuit but cannot comment. The cause of the explosion has not been determined yet.

# We won't forget

The morning of Wednesday, Dec. 29 will not be forgotten anytime soon. I know I won't forget and I know the people of Wayne/Westland won't either.

The storied William C. Franks Furniture store, family owned in the City of Wayne for nearly 50 years, was destroyed by a massive gas explosion that killed two employees and severely injured owner Paul Franks. Franks, a highly-respected entrepreneur who has been a driving force behind the excellence in the business community, continues his road to recovery thanks to heroic efforts from individuals and organizations not only representing Wayne but surrounding municipalities as well.

In times of need heroes are born and Dave Gietzen, Jennifer Gietzen, Chris Gietzen and Bryan Sylvester, employees of nearby Henry's Garage, will forever retain that title. Their immediate response to the crisis at hand helped rescue Franks from the devastation and displayed the importance of looking out for your neighbor.

Unfortunately, store employees James Zell and Leslie Machniak were not as fortunate as their lives ended prematurely in anticipation of serving the public's needs one more day. The outpouring of support in the wake of this tragedy has continued as the four weeks since has spawned numerous fundraisers, es-



**The Commish**

**Kevin McNamara**

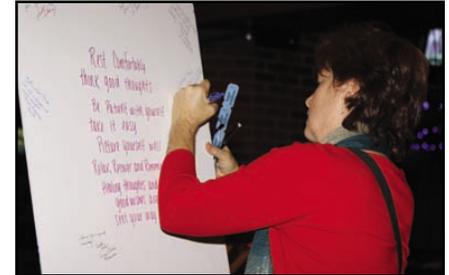
established disaster funds and proven to families directly affected they are not alone.

There is great admiration for the continued excellence of Wayne's police and fire departments, along with those brave men and women responding from neighboring communities; the Wayne County and Oakland County Urban Search and Rescue teams; staff representing Homeland Security; Michigan State Police; Department of Public Works; and recently laid off Wayne fire personnel who volunteered their unmatched expertise.

Businesses such as The Wayne Westland Credit Union, US 12, The Avenue Sports Grille, Wayne Bowl, The Wayne Community Center and Rex's House of Pancakes and Restaurant deserve a great big 'Thank You' for hosting fundraising events. Other local establishments need to be commended for their timely food contributions to disaster relief personnel and surrounding families displaced by this tragic occurrence.

It is an honor and pleasure to be serving such a caring community.

The Wayne community came out in full force to support the victims of the tragedy at Franks Furniture. From raffles, auctions, bowling and variety shows to signing get well cards and recognizing fellow neighbors who first responded to the accident, the outpouring of support has been overwhelming.



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# One step at a time

**By Jenny Johnson**

"We're moving in the right direction," said Stephanie Christesen, Vice President William C. Franks Furniture and daughter of Paul Franks. Not only is Franks condition continuing to improve but Christesen and the employees of Franks Furniture have been able to temporarily relocate to their warehouse in Wayne.

Franks is still in the BICU or burn unit at University of Michigan Hospital. While he has had a couple of setbacks and infections, Christesen said his recovery is moving in the right direction. He has begun working with a physical therapist and has even been able to take a few steps. After he is released from the Burn Unit he will move to the physical therapy unit. She said she doesn't have a timeframe for how long he will be in the hospital.

One bright spot of Frank's days are the get well cards he has received. "I have about a 2 1/2 foot pile of get well cards. Every day the routine is to go through them. We personally read all of them," Christesen said. His spirits are good and he has



his sense of humor back," she said. Franks is also being updated on the progress of his store.

"We want to stay in Wayne. We are a little crippled right now but we are on our way back," she said. While the staff is currently operating out of their warehouse on Michigan Avenue, she is looking for a temporary showroom location in Wayne.

"We are making deliveries on orders that were placed," she said.

"We do not have a location yet but we are still looking. Our intention is to stay in Wayne. This is where our roots are," she said.

Christesen said her dad is being kept abreast of all of the developments with the store. "We are keeping him updated every day. He is still the boss," she said.



Operating out of their warehouse, Franks Furniture employees are receiving furniture and making deliveries on previously ordered items. L-R: Franks Furniture employees are: Russell Brothers, Rob Gendron, Aaron Hoehing, Chris Christesen, Tim King and Matt Tomlinson.

"We will be there for our customers. We want to be able to give back for all of the support and care they have gotten during this difficult time," she said.

Christesen, Franks and the rest of the staff at Franks Furniture are doing their best to move forward even while they are still grieving for Leslie Machniak and Jim Zell who died in the explosion.

"Our hearts are heavy with the loss of two of our people. They were a big part of the Franks family and they will be missed," Christesen said.

The response of the community during this trying time has been heartwarming. "We are humbled by the outpouring of support," she said.

If you would still like to help support the victims of the Franks Furniture accident you can mail get well cards to Paul Franks, Burn Unit at 1500 East Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48109. You can also make a donation to the William C. Franks Furniture Disaster Fund at the Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union at 500 S. Wayne Road, Westland, MI 48186.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Ripple Effect Fundraiser

The Ripple Effect is a community driven effort to revitalize the downtown area. They are hosting a Hops and Schnapps fundraiser from 6-8:30 p.m. on Feb. 23 at Avenue Sports Grille. Tickets are \$20. This beer and martini tasting event will include a sampling of five Michigan beers, three specialty martinis and a buffet. All proceeds will benefit Downtown Wayne revitalization efforts. Tickets are available at Avenue Sports Grill.

### Chamber takes over Farmers Market

Fresh produce and flowers will once again come to the State Wayne Theater this spring. The Wayne Chamber of Commerce will take over the operation of the Wayne Farmers Market for the 2011 season. The market will still operate from 3-7 p.m. on Wednesdays from May – October at the State Wayne Theater parking lot. They are currently looking for volunteers. For more information, please call 734-721-0100.

### Cage fighting event

The Hierarchy Fighting Association will host a mixed martial art cage fighting event at 7 p.m. on Feb. 19 at the Wayne Community Center. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for pre sale general admission or \$25 at the door. Cage side tickets are \$30. For tickets, please call 734-363-0022.

### Dog and Cat License

If you are a cat or dog owner in the City of Wayne don't forget to apply for your pet's license. Each dog or cat four months or older by Jan. 1 must be licensed. You must have a current rabies vaccination certificate and if the animal has been spayed or neutered, a copy of that certificate too. Fees during the annual licensing period are \$10\* for a regular license and \$5\* for a spayed or neutered animal by Feb. 28. After Feb. 28 the fees are \$20.

\* Dogs and cats under four months or owned for less than 10 days qualify for these rates any time of the year. Applications are available at the City Clerk's office or online at [www.ci.wayne.mi.us](http://www.ci.wayne.mi.us).

### Chelsea Gilbert fundraiser

Friends and family of the late Chelsea Gilbert are hosting a fundraiser for the Trevor Gilbert Trust Fund from 4-11:30 p.m. on Feb. 12 at JR's Bar and Grill, 31150 Palmer in Westland. Chelsea passed away on Dec. 2 and left behind her 11 month old son, Trevor. All money raised from raffles and donations will go to the trust fund set up for him.

### Ladies Night Out

The Wayne Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Ladies Night Out from 5:30- 8 p.m. on Feb. 22 at the Wayne Community Center. This free event is a great opportunity to get away from it all and pamper yourself. There will be chair massages, shopping, light refreshments and fun. If you would like to be a vendor for this event, please contact Christine at the Wayne Chamber at 734-721-0100.

### Free Legal Presentation for seniors

Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan will be here to offer their legal assistance to seniors (Wayne County residents, 60 years and older) on Wednesday, February 23, at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Center. Assistance will be given on most civil cases including: guardianship, wills, trusts, power of attorney, nursing homes and Medicare/Medicaid. Please pre-register by Monday, February 21, by calling 734-721-7400.

### City Council packets available online

Packets for City Council meetings are now available online at [www.ci.wayne.mi.us](http://www.ci.wayne.mi.us). In addition to the City Council agenda the packet includes memos and other documents. The council meeting packet will still remain available at the City Clerk's office and the Wayne Public Library for review.

### City looking for volunteers

The City of Wayne is accepting applications of interest for Wayne residents who would like to be on a Board or Commission. The information is available at [www.ci.wayne.mi.us](http://www.ci.wayne.mi.us). You can also call the City Manager's office at 734-722-2001.

### Taft Students have Heart

Students at Taft Galloway Elementary School are selling Helping Hearts for \$1. They will use the money to purchase a bench that will be placed in Goudy Park in remembrance of the employees who lost their lives in the Franks Furniture explosion. You can help them and buy a heart at the following locations: 7-11 on Annapolis, Rex's House of Pancakes, City Hall, Wayne Chamber of Commerce and Taft-Galloway Elementary School.

### Kroger Supports Franks Disaster Fund

While shopping at the Kroger on Michigan Avenue in Wayne you have the opportunity to help the victims of the Franks Furniture disaster. Through Feb. 28 you can make a \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$20 donation to the William C. Franks Furniture Disaster Fund right at the checkout lanes.

### Vacant board seats

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education announces the following Board terms: Two (2) four (4) year terms commencing July 1, 2011 and expiring June 30, 2015. The filing deadline is Feb. 8. The election will be May 3.

Filing for the School Board position can be done through the office of the City Clerk of Westland, 36601 Ford Road or Wayne, 3355 S. Wayne Road.

### Martha Pitsenbarger resigns from board

Wayne Westland school board member Martha Pitsenbarger resigned her position last month. Due to family illness she will not be able to complete her term. She was the longest serving member on the board and served for more than 15 years. On Feb. 7 the School Board will interview candidates to fill Pitsenbarger's term which expires on June 30.

### Distinguished Alumni

Wayne Memorial High School is looking for a Distinguished Alumni. If you would like to nominate a Wayne Memorial graduate, please contact Pam Rawson at 734-419-2206. Nominations are due by Feb. 25. The winner will be honored at commencement on June 4.

### Relay for Life

The Westland-Wayne Relay for Life will be May 14-15 at Jaycee Park in Westland. The official kick off meeting will be at 7 p.m. on March 2 at the Wayne Community Center. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Last year more than 34 teams helped to raise over \$100,000 during the 24 hour walk. If you want to form or join a team, please plan to attend this meeting.

For more information, contact Marie Matuszak at [marie.matuszak@cancer.org](mailto:marie.matuszak@cancer.org), 248-663-3404.

### ABSTRACT

### WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2011-05

February 1, 2011

Regular Meeting of the City Council held Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at 8:00 p.m. at Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd. Members Present: Haidous, McEachern, Damitio, Dobrowolski, Rowe, Henley. Absent: Mulholland. Presentation of resolution to the family of Kenneth A. McKay APPROVED: Minutes of Special & Regular meeting of January 18; Minutes of Special meeting of January 25; Second reading of the ordinance for the rezoning of property on Brush St. east of Elizabeth St. from IND-1 to R-3; Traffic Control Order No. 592; negative change order for 2010 Avondale No. 6 Drainage & Street Improvement Project; sale of Fire Dept. equipment; purchase of exercise equipment; Resolution of opposition to Senate Bill 34. Received and filed Communications & Reports & Consent Calendar. Recessed to a closed session at 8:50 p.m. Reconvened in open session at 9:22 p.m., APPROVED the revised settlement documents for the 2009 & 2010 personal property taxes with Ford Motor Company. Adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller  
City Clerk

Publish: February 4, 2011

**Thank you to all who showed their support at the Franks Furniture Disaster Fund Event**



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- ENTREE (Choose One)**
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- 2.) 16 oz. New York Strip with mashed potatoes and vegetable
- 3.) Smothered Marinated Chicken Breast with mashed potatoes and vegetable
- 4.) Crusted Baked White Fish with potato and vegetable
- DESSERT (Choose One)**
- Brownie with Ice Cream and Chocolate Syrup or M&M Pie

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Megan and Matt Newport were happy with how helpful Jim Demmer was when they got their new Ford Escape.

# Escape from tragedy

By Jenny Johnson

He believes the vehicle saved his life. When Matt Newport left his house in Wayne just before 9 a.m. on Dec. 29, traveling north on Wayne Road to make a donut run, he had no idea what was about to happen. Just as he was driving in front of Franks Furniture, an explosion occurred that destroyed Franks, strewn debris all over Wayne Road and lifted Matt's car in the air. He sustained injuries to his face and neck.

But thankfully he was driving a Ford Escape. Matt and his wife, Megan, contribute the safety features of the Escape to saving Matt from being injured even more severely than he was in the accident.

Unfortunately the 2008 Escape was totaled in the accident. That's where Jack Demmer Ford came in. Jim Demmer helped the Newports find another Escape to replace the one they lost.

The Newports were grateful for the service provided to them by Jack Demmer Ford. "It exceeded our expectations," Megan said. "I knew I

wanted another Escape. Ford's got my heart now."

"They treated us really good," Matt said. "This wasn't something I anticipated (having to do)."

We tried to make a good experience out of a bad one," said Jim Demmer. He said the Escape rates five out of five in government rated safety standards. "Escape is one of the safest vehicles," he said.

With a personal safety system and Smart airbags that can sense seat position and weight of a driver and tighten up when necessary "there were a lot of things working in a split second to help Matt," Demmer said of the Escape.

The Newports new 2009 Escape has the safety features they were looking for as well as a couple upgrades including a V6 engine and the Sync system which allows for hands free phone calls and 911 assistance.

Demmer said "We are glad we had an opportunity to help him out. We wanted to make sure he had a really good experience and we did the best we could to make it happen."

# Wallet thief caught

Westland Police have confirmed that a warrant has been issued for a 27 year old Westland man for Fraudulent Use of a Financial Device. This stems from the Dec. 29 incident where a Dearborn Firefighter had his wallet stolen from his vehicle while he worked the site at the Franks Furniture explosion. The suspect is currently in Wayne County Jail. He will be arraigned in Westland on Feb. 3. The investigation is still ongoing in Wayne.



# City votes to settle suit with Ford Motor Company

In a 6-0 decision, the Wayne City Council voted to settle their suit with Ford Motor Company. The settlement will result in Ford Motor Company paying the City just under \$1 million, said Acting City Manager Robert English.

"I recommended the settlement. It's a good settlement. Now we need to look forward and move forward," he said.

The agreement is a result of the dispute between Ford and several cities regarding the revised tax tables the Michigan Tax Commission approved in Dec. 2009 after much lobbying from the Big Three. Ford used these new tables to pay their 2009 and 2010 taxes. But assessors from the municipalities did not agree with the tables and they used the former tax tables to base the value of personal property taxes.

After negotiations, Ford Motor and the City came to an agreement of revised tax tables through 2011.

"What they owe is based on the re-

vised tables," English said. The next step is to sign the agreement and English said he hopes to have the payment from Ford by the end of February.

The money will be used for the current budget year and for the 2011-2012 fiscal year budget.

"It is my recommendation to set aside as much as we can in fund balance," he said. They won't know how much until they get into the budget process.

Ford will pay their taxes on the agreed on revised tax tables for 2010 and 2011. The tables for 2012 and beyond are still up for discussion. There is a bill in the state legislature, Senate Bill 34 that is trying to abolish personal property taxes completely.

The City of Wayne relies on 16% of their budget from personal property taxes. This is currently \$1.8 million. English said the City has lost about \$700,000 in personal property tax in the last three years.

## Businesses set up shop

The businesses on the same block as Franks Furniture have not been cleared to return to their locations until a structural engineer evaluates their site. In the meantime many businesses have set up temporary locations in the city.

Cal's Signs will temporarily be located at 38500 Michigan Avenue across from the Michigan Assembly Plant. They are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. They can still be reached at 734-728-4114.

The Northwest Alano Club is working with the Chamber of Commerce to find a location in Wayne. They are having a fundraiser on Feb. 5th at the UAW Hall Local 174 at 29841 Van Born in Romulus to help raise funds for their new location. There will be entertainment, food raffles and a Euchre tournament at 8:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. cost is \$5 per person. This is an alcohol free event.

Hope Clinic is going to lease a space from Community Living Services in the Metro Place Mall next month.

"I think it is inspirational that the businesses that have lost so much due to this tragedy, have put down their temporary roots in Wayne. Many others may have run the other way but these businesses are committed to this community. We encourage everyone to continue to show their support to these businesses in their temporary locations," said Jill Rymsha, Director, Wayne Chamber of Commerce.

Franks Furniture is operating out of their warehouse on Michigan Avenue and looking for a temporary location in Wayne for their showroom. Tenisha Marie Salon, Wayne Sew Vac and ABC Chiropractor have not reopened. "We are trying to work with all of the businesses within the Franks Furniture location to try to find them temporary space within the City," said Robert English, Acting City Manager.

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Motion by McEachern, seconded by Rowe and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt Ordinance 2011-01, an ordinance to amend the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wayne, as follows:

### ORDINANCE NO. 2011-01

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAYNE THE CITY OF WAYNE ORDAINS:

Section 1: THAT THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAYNE BE AMENDED BY CHANGES TO THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF WAYNE BY THE REZONING OF THE PROPERTY SOUTH OF BRUSH STREET AND EAST OF ELIZABETH STREET FROM LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (IND-1) TO MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-3) FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES:

#### Chase and Abells Addition to Wayne

Lots 93 and 94 {35547 Brush St.  
Lot 95 {35537 Brush St.  
Lot 96  
Lot 97  
Lot 98

#### Assessors Wayne Plat No. 7

Lot 304 and 305-303 {35449 Brush St.

Section 2: That this Ordinance shall be published as required by law.

Section 3: That this Ordinance shall become effective ten days after enactment and upon publication thereof.

Adopted: February 1, 2011

Published: February 4, 2011

Matthew K. Miller  
City Clerk

Effective: February 14, 2011

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About 300 people participated in the auction held at the Salvation Army in Wayne. Photos by The Wayne Dispatch

## Wayne Salvation Army auctions Blue and Gold

By Jenny Johnson

They braved the cold and wind to do a good deed. More than 300 people showed up at the Salvation Army in Wayne to get a chance to purchase more than 400 University of Michigan items donated by former head football coach Rich Rodriguez. Rodriguez dropped off 12 bags of his personal U-M items at the Wayne store.

The Salvation Army decided to auction off 160 of the items. The rest was put up for sale in the Coach's Closet, a large tent in the store's parking lot. The sale made \$12,930 for the Salvation Army of Wayne.

Salvation Army Major John Aren said, "We are overwhelmed by the response." He said since Rodriguez donated the items to the Salvation Army in Wayne then Wayne is going to sell it.

"We're going to have some fun and do some healing," he said. "This city has been through a lot lately." Aren called for a moment of silence for Leslie Machniak and James Zell who died in the explosion at Franks Furniture on Dec. 29.

Once the auction began, items



like a blue and gold Adidas zip up sweatshirt and long sleeve t-shirts, autographed hats and sweats and shorts didn't last long.

One U-M football season ticket-holder, said he attended the auction "to see what type of gear the coach had."

Bart Bernocco of Dearborn bought a long sleeved button down shirt with the UM logo. He said he bought it to wear on casual Fridays to work.

Wayne resident David Raimer said he was standing outside for his brother's best friend who lives in Florida. He is a great friend and does everything for his brother.

And even though Raimer himself is a Spartan alumni he said, "I'm going to stand and freeze my butt off for him."



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

## City Planner takes on additional role

He began his career with the City of Wayne as City Planner in October 2000. On Jan. 1, Matt Miller added City Clerk to his title. Miller will continue to serve as planner while taking on the additional responsibilities of the city clerk's job.

"I'm excited for the challenge. I like to stay busy and we'll do that here," he said of moving to the city clerk's office. He is also looking forward to the customer service part of the clerk's job.

"I do like interacting with the public," he said.

Miller is planning a few changes in the operation of the city clerk's office. He wants to update the data management system to make it easier to access archived information. He is also looking at ways to streamline some of the office processes and he said Wayne County is also moving toward electronic poll books at each voting precinct. He will train the staff and election workers on how to use them for the May School Board election.

Miller said "My whole tenure in



On Jan. 1 Matt Miller added City Clerk to his title.

Wayne I have always worked elections."

As city planner he will still be involved in site plans, lot splits, rezoning issues and the liaison to the historical museum.

"I'll still be here for the businesses," he said.

Don't worry Dispatch fans. Miller assures us he will still have time to write his monthly historical columns for us!

## Museum needs new windows

Members of the Wayne Historical Commission and the Wayne Historical Society need your help. They would like to make an appeal to the community to help them raise money to replace the windows at the Wayne Historical Museum. They need to raise \$20,000.

"The city is just not in any position to do this so we are asking people to make donations and members of the commission are going to start approaching the clubs and make an appeal," said Sharon Arthur, of the Historical Commission.

Because the museum has been designated a historical building, there are certain specifications for the windows. Half of the windows were replaced in 1986 and the other half are original to the building from 1878. The new windows will not only help stabilize the building but will also make it more energy efficient.

"Their useful life is over," said Matthew Miller, City Clerk and City Liaison to the Wayne Historical Com-



The Wayne Historical Museum, shown here, is in need of new windows. A fund has been set up for donations.

mission. Miller said replacing the windows is part of a long term goal of the Historical Commission. As part of a 2004 grant, they did a survey of the building's strengths and weaknesses and saw the windows need to be replaced.

If you would like to make a donation, please send your payment to: Wayne Historical Society at Wayne Historical Museum, One Town Square, Wayne, MI 48184.

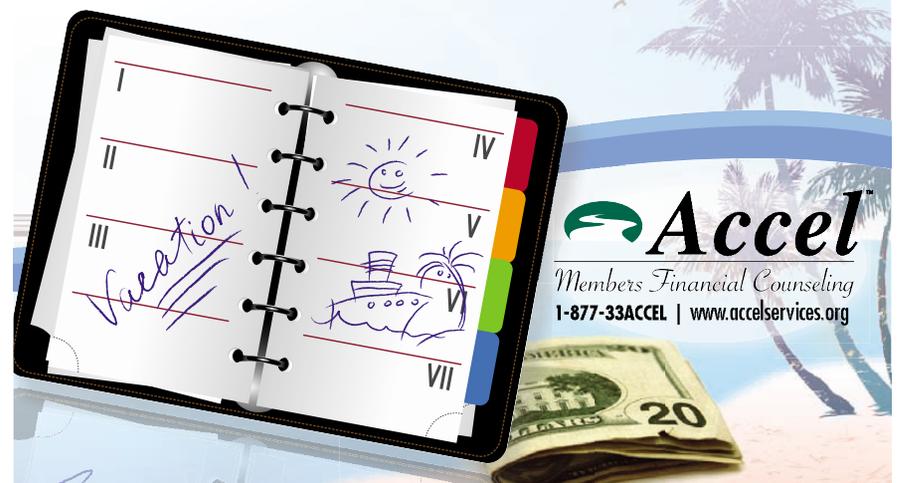
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## PLANNING A VACATION

Vacations don't have to be expensive to be memorable and fun. Here are some suggestions to plan a **successful vacation**.

- Create a vacation budget
- Involve your family
- Research your vacation options
- Plan your itinerary in advance
- Have a credit plan

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# Credit Union serves five decades of excellence

It's more than just a place to cash a check. The Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union has been a valuable member of the Wayne community for more than 50 years. It first began in September 1952 as Kaiser-Frazer Employees Credit Union in Wayne and Washtenaw counties. The first members included employees of Kaiser-Frazer in Willow Run, employees of Local 142, UAWCIO in Wayne, employees and immediate family members of the credit union.

Kaiser-Frazer Corporation agreed to print and distribute 15,000 authorization and signature cards to their employees for membership into the credit union. This is where the credit union got its strength to start growing.

No sooner did the credit union directors see positive trends for the credit union, Kaiser-Frazer Motors began its downward turn for the worst. In June of 1953, an aircraft contract was cancelled resulting in major layoffs. The Kaiser-Frazer Federal Credit Union started to experience excessive withdrawals and high loan delinquency.

Up until the cancelled aircraft contract, the credit union had grown to over 3,000 members with assets of \$615,839. Now the credit union had no choice but to eliminate and stop all withdrawals and loan applications with exceptions of proven emergencies. The credit union was not even able to pay dividends to their members in 1952.

Sooner than expected, the Kaiser-Frazer Corporation closed down, not to reopen in their current location.



The current location of the Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union is 500 S. Wayne Road in Westland.

In December of 1953, the Board of Directors discussed the benefits of a credit union. They included the acceptance by its members and their need for its services. It would be detrimental to the best interest of members to deprive them of the advantages of credit union membership. Since a substantial number of these members live in or near the Village of Wayne and the potential membership would be approximately 9,800, it was approved on March 13, 1954 for the Kaiser-Frazer Employees Federal Credit Union to convert to a community credit union called Wayne Community Federal Credit Union.

A new group of Wayne residents took over the responsibilities of the Board of Directors. During this period of crisis, the infant-new Wayne Community Federal Credit Union got much more than sympathy. It got action from almost every agency in the

state and nation which felt the challenge of the common problem of a credit union's survival.

The credit union's first office was located at 3911 Newberry in Wayne. At this time, the credit union had \$94,840.00 left in total assets and only 1,049 accounts still open. The Credit Union changed its name to Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union in 1974 after Nankin Township became the City of Westland.

In 1990, the credit union Board of Directors and the NCUA confirmed Thelma Dasho as the credit union's CEO. New board members were elected to serve and the road to recovery was once again on track. Dasho and her hard working staff improved the bottom line and almost doubled the credit union's assets to \$54 million dollars in less than twelve years.

Currently today, the credit union still owns and operates the drive up

ATM at Sims and Second Street in Wayne which averages 10,000 transactions each month. The credit union office is located on Wayne Road in Westland. The Credit Union has 29 full-time employees including management staff Tracy Whittaker, Ruth Strozeski, Dave Story, Alicia Inch, Jenny Hale and CEO Thelma Dasho.

Total assets of Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union are \$65 million with over 10,000 members. Their Capital is strong at 8.87%. As a Federal Credit Union all deposits are insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration share insurance fund. Since its inception, not one penny has been lost to any credit union member.

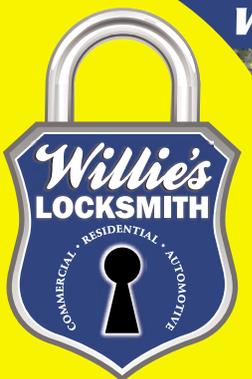
Why belong to a credit union? Credit Unions are owned and operated by their members. Credit Unions are non-profit cooperatives with a common bond field of membership. Wayne Westland FCU's common bond is a community charter.

Dasho said, "Our field of membership is all who live, work or worship within our geographical boundaries in the communities of Wayne and Westland. We are not a bank. We have no stockholders other than our members. Profits are returned to our member/owners in the form of lower loan rates and competitive dividend rates. Members have a vote on how the credit union is operated. The Board of Directors are members who volunteer their time in setting policy and monitoring the safety and soundness of the credit union."



L-R: The Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union broke ground in 1962 on the corner of Sims and Second Street. The "coming soon" sign at the new location. The credit union's first office in 1954 was at 3911 Newberry.

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