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# THE WAYNE Dispatch

NOVEMBER 2011

# Detroit Superstar

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MMA Fighter  
wins Ringside  
Championship belt



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# Be a part of November fun in Wayne

Let's hear it for the Scarecrows! What fun to see them lining both sides of Michigan Avenue. Each one was so original, and represented the artistic instincts of its creator.

The following people participated in either making or installing the scarecrows.

Avenue Sports Grille; The Brock Family; Jim and Bev Campbell; Bill Copland; Icon Computer Solutions; Mike and Sherrie Brindley; Cub Scout Pack 792—St Michael Lutheran; Curves; The Listman Family; Donna McEachern; The Easley Family; Goody's Pet Supply; J&S Portrait Studio; Jake Bacchus & Allison Gardner; John Sullivan—Attorney; JR3's Party Store; Kathie's Secret Salon; Kurt Kuban and Family; L. George's Coney Island; Lockwood Family; Mark Blackwell; Mark Chevrolet; Matt Mulholland; Mystiques West; Northside Hardware; Outdoor Fun Store; Platinum Tanning; Emily Rodler & Dwayne Davenport; Strength & Spirit; The Biddle Street Bunch; The Denning Family; The Gorman Family; The Hammons Family; The Katz Family; The Photonic Bells Network; The Porters; Jan & Wade Rickard; The Vaselys; The Wayne Public Library; John &

## Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



Natalie Rhaesa—The Wayne Dispatch, The Wayne Historical Museum; Wayne Ripple Effect; Wayne Rotary; Legal Help for Veterans—PLLC; The Wayne Chamber of Commerce; Cody Huffaker; Susan and Thomas Rodler; Richard Smith—Estate Preservation Agency; Pat Rice; Susan Rowe; Nathan Adams; and lastly—The City of Wayne Parks and Recreation Department.

Kudos to everyone who came together to create great street art, but especially to the Ripple Effect whose original ideas for our community have become more than a Ripple—more like a swift flow. Are you looking forward to what The Ripple Effect will be doing for their next project?

If you'd like more information, or would enjoy volunteering for Ripple Effect's projects—they meet at the Wayne Library ever 3rd Thursday of the month, at 6:30p.m.

November's meeting of the Wayne Historical Society will be held on the 10th of the month at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Richard Anderson will present a slide show featuring buildings of the 1800's. As always the meeting will be at the Museum and everyone is welcome to attend.

As we do each year, The Wayne Garden Club will be decorating the

Historical Museum for the Holidays, on Wednesday, November 9th.

Our Library Friends will present a History of Hudson's Department Store. The date is November 9th at 6:30 p.m. "Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus" will be the December offering by the Wayne Library, a docent from the Detroit Institute of Arts will do the presentation. That program is on December 6 at 6:30 p.m. Both programs will be in the large meeting room at the Library.

If you'd like to see a few pictures of our September Wine and Cheese Party, they can be viewed at [www.wayne.lib.mi.us](http://www.wayne.lib.mi.us).

So nice to see Kay Butler and her daughter-in-law Tina at Rex's for breakfast a few Sundays ago. Tina Butler tells me they attended The Civitan's Halloween Tea at the Wayne Library last month. The tea was a 'first' for the Civitans and according to Ms. Butler they had a good crowd and great fun. Clare Maloney adds

that the speaker, Helen Mamalakis, was entertaining as she talked of her book, "Ghosts of Dearborn and the Area." The decorations were festive, the refreshments delicious, and the theme of the evening was "Scare Up a Good Book." Seems like the Civitans hit it out of the ballpark with their first Halloween Tea. We all hope they'll do it again next year.

Birthday Greetings to Louise Johnson of Wayne. If you've lived here very long you'll remember (the gee I wish it was still there) Johnson's Bakery on Michigan Ave---about where the Curves is now. It was a great bakery and Mrs. Johnson will be celebrating her 100th Birthday this month. Wild Bill tells me he saw her recently---raking leaves. I know you all will join me in wishing the 100th year young, Louise Johnson a very Happy Birthday.

May I wish everyone a blessed and bountiful Thanksgiving.



**As always, I count on your continued support for a brighter future and continued success for this great community.**

**VOTE HAIDOUS on**

**Tuesday, November 8, 2011**

**Sincerely, Mayor Haidous**  
haidous4mayor@gmail.com

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**NOVEMBER is AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH**

November is **American Diabetes Month**, a time to communicate the seriousness of diabetes and the importance of diabetes prevention and control. For years, the American Diabetes Association has used this month as an opportunity to raise awareness of the disease and its serious complications.

In fact, 21 million Americans have diabetes and one-third don't know they have it. Because a diagnosis of diabetes can also bring with it the possibility of irreversible vision loss or total blindness, optometrists serve as a first line of detection for diabetes.

The American Optometric Association encourages the public to include optometrists in their team of healthcare professionals and to visit the optometrist regularly just as they do their primary care physician and dentist.

For more information about diabetes and your visual health, visit our website at [www.infocuseyecare.com/Keeping Your Eyes Healthy](http://www.infocuseyecare.com/Keeping Your Eyes Healthy)

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# Ringside Champion

"My Dad is my head trainer.  
He has been a martial artist  
for over 40 years.  
I've been doing martial arts  
since I could walk."

**Daron Cruickshank**  
Ringside MMA Lightweight Championship



Daron (right) in the cage with his opponent Mike Ricci. Photo by Mike Fischl of Great Fight North Productions and TopMMAnews.com.

## By Jenny Johnson

Daron Cruickshank is the 26 year old professional mixed martial artist from Wayne who won the Ringside MMA Lightweight Championship in Montreal last month. He upset favorite Mike Ricci with a unanimous decision in five rounds of MMA fighting. MMA is a full contact sport that uses boxing, wrestling and martial art techniques. He has a 9-2 professional fighting record.

The 5'8", 155 lb. Detroit Superstar is a 2004 graduate of John Glenn High School. He wrestled in both high school and Muskegon Community and Olivet College where he was a four time National Qualifier, and one time National Runner up.

"I took second in the nation my sophomore year in college," he said. Cruickshank has a bachelor degree in fitness management.

He has been a professional fighter for about 2 ½ years. Prior to that he fought for two years at the amateur level.

"This is what pays the bills," he said. "I've always been a fan of MMA. I am a competitor. Once I was done with wrestling in college, I started fighting."

He competes in 4-6 fights a year. He trains about five days a week out of his garage in Wayne.

"My Dad is my head trainer. He has been a mar-



Daron Cruickshank heads to the ring before the fight with his dad and head trainer, Dean. Photo by Mike Fischl of Great Fight North Productions and TopMMAnews.com.

tial artist for over 40 years. I've been doing martial arts since I could walk," Cruickshank said. He has incorporated a lot of it into his fighting style.

Fighting runs in the family. His mom was also a professional fighter when he was younger. He has five siblings who all fought when they were younger too.

The 26-year-old also trains at martial art and boxing facilities in Canton and Detroit and teaches at Fight Club Proving Grounds in Waterford.

He said it takes dedication to stay competitive. While he stays in fighting shape, his training intensifies about four to six weeks before each bout.

"I'll train about six days a week. One practice in the morning and one at night. The closer I get to a fight, the shorter time I spend in the gym but the more intense the practice is. I try to sharpen all of my tools," he said.

"I just train and I fight," he said.

In an interview with Top MMA News after his win in Montreal, Cruickshank said he sees himself as a true martial artist but he also can fight in different styles and rhythms. Unlike boxing, MMA fighters don't wear big gloves. Also, if a MMA fighter gets knocked out, the fight is over. At the





Daron (left) squares up in the cage with his opponent Mike Ricci in Montreal. Photo by Mike Fischl of Great Fight North Productions and TopMMAnews.com.

### MMA, Continued from page 3

professional level there are three rounds that are five minutes each with one minute in between rounds.

MMA became popular in the United States in the 1990s. Cruickshank said when the sport first started, "you could see people with different styles – just boxers or grapplers.

Now everyone can do everything.

The sport is evolving. You have to do it all."

The Detroit Superstar plans to stay in the ring for a while. He said there are professional MMA fighters like Dan Severn who is 52 and still competes in MMA fighting competitions.

Cruickshank plans to continue training with his dad in his garage, getting ready for his next fight. It's what he loves to do.



### Queen and her court

Congratulations to the WMHS 2011 Homecoming Court- (L-R): Cassidy Burns, Emily Luke, Erika Culey- Queen, Diamond Knight and Jessica Fisher. Photo by John P. Rhaesa of The Wayne Dispatch

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## Be a Champion for Wayne High students



Bill Gray and Sean Galvin with the Champions program trophy. All students who meet their goal get their named engraved on the trophy.

**By Jenny Johnson**

The investment is already paying off. For the past three years the Champions program at Wayne Memorial High School has paired students with a mentor who works with them for a semester and encourages them to improve their grade point average. At the end of the semester, if the student is successful, they can earn \$200.

Bill Gray, school psychologist, came up with this program as a way to challenge students to want to do better in school. Former WMHS graduate, Richard Heltppie has been funding the program for the past three years through the Heltppie Family Charitable Foundation.

This year the Champions program has expanded. It is now a 501c3 nonprofit organization and has hired a full time director. Sean Galvin is thrilled to have the challenge of making the Champions program grow.

He was hired in August and has about 380 students working with about 100 mentors. He is mentoring about 10 students himself.

"The goal is to try to get the students' grades up and keep them motivated," he said.

In addition to a banquet at the end of the semester that recognizes the students who have accomplished their goals and awards them with a \$200 check, Galvin would like to do smaller things at the end of every card marking to keep students encouraged. But he can't do alone. The Champions program is looking for partners who want to be a part of helping students succeed at school. They welcome support from businesses, civic organizations and individuals.

For more information on the Champions program, contact Sean Galvin at 734- 419-2200 or galvins@wwcsd.net.



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



# Help stock the shelves

By Jenny Johnson

There is still a lot of space on the shelves at the John Bolde Food Depot in Wayne. Diligent volunteers work hard every day to fill the shelves, refrigerators and freezers with food from their affiliation with Forgotten Harvest and donations by local businesses, schools, and organizations. The food is distributed to local families in need.

Families are allowed to come and get food once every two months. With an unstable job market and a cut to cash assistance programs they have seen an increase in traffic at the food depot. They can sometimes process up to 20 families a day.

The food depot is part of St. Mary Outreach Center located on the corner of Second and Sims.

They are a nondenominational organization that has affiliations with many local churches. So far this year they have distributed food to 2850 people.

Over 2400 people they have helped live in the Wayne Westland school attendance area. The schools have been very supportive of the food bank. Several in the Wayne Westland School District are holding canned food drives during the holiday season to help as well as St. Mary Catholic School and Divine Child High School.

They also get help from St. Mary Hospital, Wayne Moose, Local 182, Local 900 and the Wayne Rotary Christmas parade participants. They also have an affiliation with Meijer in Westland and on Belleville Road. It's called the Caring and Sharing program. Meijer will match all of those donations. Those donations help carry the food bank through the



Judy Wells, Director St. Mary Outreach Center, and volunteers unload the truck from Forgotten Harvest.

summer because hunger doesn't just happen during the cold months. It is a year round problem.

Even with all of the donations, the food bank still purchases eggs, butter and cheese. They also get hamburger from Norman's Market in Westland.

The Center also has a clothes area and held a back to school fair before this fall. They offered free haircuts, mobile dentist, eye doctor, 140 backpacks with school supplies and clothes to local school children. In addition to food, they also distribute personal care items like soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, shampoo and dishwashing soap. These are items they are not able to be purchased with a bridge card. They also have baby food, formula and diapers.

There are many ways you can help. If you have a child attending a school that is doing a canned food drive, please consider contributing. You can also bring non perishable food to the Wayne Rotary Christmas Parade on Nov. 19. All items will be donated to the John Bolde Food Depot. Cash donations are always welcome and you can even adopt a family for Christmas. If you would like to help, please contact the Outreach Center at 734-326-2234.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Joint services

Merging services with other communities is a way that municipalities are looking at saving money while continuing to provide services to their residents. The City of Wayne is operating the Western Wayne Central Dispatch with Garden City. The cities have combined their 911 emergency dispatch operations.

They are currently in discussions with four other cities- Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster and Westland-to have a court consolidation study.

The City has also been approached by the Wayne County Airport Authority to set up a meeting to talk about sharing police, fire or dispatch services. The City has worked with the airport as part of the Employee Benefits Cooperative that allows employees in the City to be included in a larger group to purchase benefits at a reduced cost.

### Leaf Pick Up

Remember there is no curb side leaf pick up this year. Residents have to bag their leaves and put them out on their regular trash day. Compost and leaf pick up will continue through Dec. 16.

### Hazardous Waste Day

There will be a Household Hazardous Waste collection day from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Nov. 5 at Redford Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly. They will collect household chemicals, electronics, paints, lawn care products, antifreeze, mercury products and batteries.



2011 James J. Poplin Award winner Bill Hawley and his wife Darlene (center) pictured with Mayor Haidous and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Photo by John P. Rhaesa of The Wayne Dispatch

### James J. Poplin Award

Congratulations to Bill Hawley the 2011 James J. Poplin Award winner. Hawley was recognized at a City Council meeting for his volunteer efforts with the City's Parks and Recreation Department. Hawley is a member of the Recreation Advisory Board, Recreation Foundation and Wayne Rotary Club. He coordinates several fundraising golf outings a year including the North Pole Classic and City Championship. He is a life-long Wayne resident. Hawley and his wife, Darlene, have been married for over 40 years and have four children and 10 grandchildren. He coached and taught for over 40 years in the Wayne Westland Community School District.

"He helped make Wayne a great place to live," said Janet Olszewski, Chairperson, Rec Advisory Board.

### History of Hudson's

The Wayne Public Library will host Michael Hauser, author of Remembering Hudson's: The Grande Dame of Detroit Retailing at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 9. He will offer reminiscences, photos, and memorabilia celebrating the retailing phenomenon that was Hudson's flagship store.

### Reading With Paws Dogs

On Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 22 from 6:30- 7:30 p.m. children ages 6-10 are invited to the Wayne Public Library to read to Quasi, a Paws with a Cause therapy dog. Each child will have 15 minutes to read. Please call the library at 721-7832 to schedule a time.

### Coffee Hours

Michigan Representative Kurt Heise will host Coffee Hour from 1-2 p.m. on Nov. 14 at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road.

### Vote

Voters in the City of Wayne will go to the polls on Nov. 8 to vote for mayor and city council. Two candidates are running for mayor- Mayor Al Haidous and Councilwoman Susan Rowe. Five candidates are running for three seats on city council. They are: Councilman Albert Damitio, William Long, Lorne Skip Monit, John Rhaesa and Christopher Sanders. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### Veteran's Day

Nov. 11 is Veteran's Day. The JROTC program at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth Street, will conduct a ceremony at 11 a.m. at the front of the school near the flag pole. All are welcome to attend.

### Holiday Night Out

The Wayne Chamber of Commerce is hosting Holiday Night Out from 6-8 p.m. on Nov. 10 at the Wayne Community Center. Treat yourself to a night of pampering and shopping. There will be chair massages, Tarot card reading and over 35 vendors of local and home based business. Get a jump on your holiday shopping. This event is free to attend.

### Christmas decoration begins

It will soon look a lot like Christmas in Wayne. On Nov. 9 the Wayne Garden Club will decorate the Wayne Historical Museum. Wayne resident Joan Dittmar is loaning the museum her antique Christmas decorations to display. Make sure to stop by and see them.

### Holiday Tree lighting

The annual Christmas Tree lighting ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the Wayne Historical Museum, 1 Town Square (located between the two Michigan Avenues). St. Mary's Catholic Church Youth Choir will be joining the Mayor for a few holiday songs. Get your picture taken with Santa for \$3 and enjoy cookies and hot chocolate, served by the Beautification Committee.

### Holiday Fair

The Congregational Church in Wayne, 2 Town Square, will host their 65th annual Christmas Fair Candy Cane Christmas from 9 a.m.- 8 p.m. on Nov. 3-4. There are many shops and boutiques with handmade items for sale and Christmas Decorations Booth, Country Store, Boutique, Book Store, Specialties Shop, Home Made Candy Booth, and Coffee Shop. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and dinner from 5-7 p.m. Join us for some fun at an old fashion Church Fair.



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Michael Mihalich, CEO and founder of MJR Digital Cinemas watches a trailer in one of the brand new theaters of MJR Westland. Photo by John P. Rhaesa of The Wayne Dispatch

## MJR Grand offers movie state of the art experience

By Jenny Johnson

Movie magic is back. MJR Digital Cinemas just opened in Westland. They are located on Wayne Road just south of Warren Road at the site of the former Showcase Theaters. The theater has 16 screens and stadium seating that offers an unobstructed view from all 3100 seats. The extra leg room and ever popular cup holder make it a comfortable movie going experience.

MJR quality is second to none. They have digital projection and sound. A visit to MJR is more than a movie, it's an experience. With speakers all around the theater you will see and feel the movie.

With a vast lobby and up to six ticket windows you won't have to stand outside to wait to buy tickets. There will also be four kiosks for

theater goers who buy tickets online and need to redeem them at the theater.

"We've always been on the cutting edge," said Michael Mihalich, CEO and founder MJR Digital Cinemas.

Previews of all of the latest releases will play on a giant screen above the concession stand in the lobby. Perfect way to keep you entertained while waiting for your popcorn.

"Everyone loves MJR popcorn," said Erik Gubert, General Manager MJR Westland. He said he and his 60 employees are ready to offer movie goers a great experience.

MJR offers one free refill on any size pop and popcorn. Mihalich said, "It's the best value for the money."

This will be the eighth MJR Theater in Michigan. The project broke



MJR Westland is located on Wayne Road just south of Warren Road. They open on Nov. 4. Photo by John P. Rhaesa of The Wayne Dispatch

ground on March 24 and the theater opened on Nov. 4.

"We are like a well oiled machine," Mihalich said. "Being local makes a big difference. We are hands on."

They are locally owned and operated theaters and were the first in the area to offer digital sound at their

Royal Oak Theater and were the first to install stadium seating. They have a movie rewards program that is free to join. Points are earned for each movie ticket purchased. The points can be used toward pop, popcorn or tickets. Make sure you take the time to have an MJR experience.

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# Wayne's earliest elections

In 1824 the first settlers built log homes in the wilderness that is today our City of Wayne. Forty five years later this little community became incorporated on April 12, 1869. This was the beginning of organized government in our community. The Village of Wayne elected a group of men to govern them. The election took place in the Union Hotel where William R. Corlett was elected as the first President along with a Recorder (Clerk), a Treasurer and five Trustees. Voters were generally wealthy white men. The population of the Village was about 800. It covered one square mile. It was bounded by Glenwood and Annapolis and the C&O Railroad and Fourth St. After meeting in rented rooms for seven years, the council decided to build a two story brick village hall at a cost of \$1300. The first meeting in the new building was held in November of 1878.

The same building is in the picture accompanying this article. (It shows the building being used as the Village Fire Station and Precinct 2 for voting. The building would eventually house our jail and is today our Historical Museum.) The small village of Wayne in the Township of Nankin made national news in Life magazine, a very popular news magazine in its day. The date was November 17th and the year 1952. Dwight D. Eisenhower had just won the presidential election. The article, titled "A Redecclaration of Independence", speaks to the fact that this election was very unusual in that the American people across the country went to the polls as individuals and not as puppets of politicians, unions, pollsters and newspapers and they did not vote in blocks. Even women were no longer willing to just go along. Never before in any election had so many people voted for the loser and had so many votes been cast for the winner. Behind the polling booth curtain, individual Americans acted as individuals, responsive to the personal appeal of a great America and responsible only to themselves and to their conscience. In 1952 we were proud to see our small town receive national recognition and represent small town America.

Elections are an important part

## Memory Lane

**Darlene Hawley**



of a democratic society. They give every eligible individual the opportunity to decide who will be the leaders of our local, state and national governments, how our money will be spent and the way in which we will be governed. Elections give us a voice. One of the most important elections our community faced over the years was the proposal to become a city in the early fifties. Since the small village was surrounded by townships, in order to grow, it had to become a city. It was six long years of struggle before this was accomplished. In 1954 the Village Council attempted to incorporate a ten square mile area. This was blocked and a court battle ensued. In 1958 an election was held and the proposal passed in the Village but not in the Township. After several more setbacks, the courts ruled that the election was certified and the vote carried. In July, 1960 the Village of Wayne became the City of Wayne with a Home Rule/City Manager form of government. Having Wayne become a city was well worth the work of our elected officials and dedicated citizens who made this possible.

Today we are preparing for another election. Tuesday, November 8, 2011 is the date. You may wonder why Tuesday and why the Tuesday after the first Monday in November was selected. We can look back at history to find the reasons. In 1845 Congress debated the day to set for elections. Our country was an agrarian society. The voters (wealthy, white, men) had to travel two to three days to get to the polls and back to their farms. It could not overlap with various religions so Friday, Saturday and Sunday were out. Wednesday was market day so that left Tuesday as the best day. As for the month, elections could not interfere with the harvest and winter was a dangerous time to travel by horse and wagon so November was a likely pick. Today we still get out and vote



In 1952 this photo of Wayne residents waiting in line to vote made Life Magazine.

Photo courtesy of The Wayne Historical Museum

on the day after the first Monday in November. We vote in public buildings such as city halls, schools, and fire stations. Technology has changed greatly over the years and many people vote today on computers or by absentee ballot. Communication has given all of us the opportunity to watch every facet of elections from the beginning campaigns to the broadcasted results. Sometimes we know the outcome of an election before the states on the west coast have even finished voting. Today everyone who is a US citizen, is 18 years old or older and who is mentally competent can vote regard-

less of gender or race. It is your right and your responsibility to vote. The vivid pictures we see on our TV sets of thousands of people filling the streets of foreign countries ready to fight and die for freedom from tyranny and the right to a voice in their government. How can you not vote? See you at the polls!

Come to our museum located in this historic building and learn more about the history of our community. Museum hours are Fridays and Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00. Thanks to museum director Richard Story for information supplied for this article.

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Last year Santa had some help from some superhero friends. Come see who will be in this year's Wayne Rotary Christmas Parade on Nov. 19. Photo by John P. Rhaesa of The Wayne Dispatch

## Rotary Christmas Parade will be November 19th

By **Vanessa Janowski**

It's almost that time of year again for the annual Wayne Rotary Christmas Parade to bring the holiday festivities to the city. This year the parade theme is "Bells of Christmas". The parade will be traveling north on Second St. to Glenwood, west to Wayne Rd., then south to Michigan Ave. and west to the State Wayne Theatre. The parade will be on November 19th, 2011 and will start at 10:00 a.m.

Those who are planning on watching the parade are encouraged to dress warmly and eat before arriving. If you are interested in participating in the parade or have questions, please contact Gayle Rediske at: [gaylerediske@gmail.com](mailto:gaylerediske@gmail.com) or 734-502-3202 by November 14th. There will be hot chocolate provided by the Wayne Rotary for those who are participating. It is encouraged

that floats are decorated with holiday bells and all vehicles in the parade must be decorated as well. Line up for the parade starts at 9:00 a.m. on Second St. between Sims and Ash Streets.

After the parade, Santa will be presenting trophies at the Theatre for six categories: Best Band, Best Float, Best Theme, Most Creative, Christmas Spirit, and Santa's Favorite. Santa will also meet with the children in the State Wayne Theatre lobby. Popcorn and pop will be provided.

At the parade, there will be a food donation to help those less fortunate. Canned foods will be collected to give to the John Bolde Food Depot, who will distribute them to families. Cash donations are also appreciated, which are tax deductible. Please make out checks to the John Bolde Food Dept.

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# College help comes to Wayne students

By Jenny Johnson

Still in its freshman year, Project ACE is already seeing positive results. The goal of the program is to promote a college going culture. In the year since they have been located in Wayne, Project ACE has had 851 contacts with students and 70 contacts with parents. They offer services like helping prepare for standardized tests, assistance in choosing, applying for and enrolling in postsecondary education and information on how to apply for and get financial aid. They also offer college tours for high school students.

Joy Mason said Project ACE seeks to help, "Youth that didn't even think post secondary education was an option."

But they are not doing it alone. They have partnered with several colleges and Wayne County RESA, Westland Economic Development Department, Starfish Services and Fifth Third Bank.

The Wayne Rotary Club recently donated money to sponsor college tours for 40 students from Wayne Memorial High School. They visited Eastern Michigan University, Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology and ITT Technical Institute. They are planning a second tour of University of Michigan, Schoolcraft and Henry Ford Community College.

The Wayne Lions club provide two scholarships a year to Project ACE students. More partnerships would make it possible to reach even more students.

"We are excited about the oppor-



Asia Moncada, college advisor for Project ACE helps families with college bound students.

tunities here," she said. "Kids that never thought it could be a reality we're helping through the (college) process."

Project ACE defines college broadly to include four-year colleges, two-year colleges, certificate programs and the military. By 2018 62% of Michigan jobs will require post secondary education, Mason said.

Project ACE is located at 35425 W. Michigan Ave, Suite 3693. The center has resources and technology that students and parents can use to help plan for college. One-on-one college advising is available. They also schedule workshops and college events.

For more information, please visit [www.projectACEcenter.org](http://www.projectACEcenter.org) or call (734) 629-4710.

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## OBITUARY



Billie G Raynes (Bingo Bill), 78, of Wayne passed away on September 19th, after a brief illness. He is the beloved husband of the late Maynell. He is survived by 4 children, Billie Jr (Ocie) Raynes of Wayne, Lanthia (Chet) Kiluk of Southgate, Kenneth (Lynn) Raynes of Westland and Wendy (Norman) Snook of Sumpter. He is also survived by 12 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Mr Raynes called Wayne his home for 50 years, having moved to the city in 1962. He enjoyed playing and working bingo and cherished his bingo friends affectionately referred to as his "Bingo Buddies". He was a member of the American Legion Wayne Post 111, Masonic Lodge Sunlight 600 of Dearborn, Flatlanders of Westland and Eagles of Wayne. He retired from the Cadillac Division of General Motors after over 35 years of meritorious service. One of his greatest accomplishments outside his family, was in obtaining his High School Diploma in 1976 while working at Cadillac and Wade Payne's Mobil Service Station at Howe Rd and Vanborn Road.

Services were held September 22, 2011 and interment is at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia in the Garden of Prayer.



## City of Wayne Charter Amendments

November 8, 2011

### Information

The City of Wayne is proposing two Charter Amendments on the November 8, 2011 ballot. The following is information about these proposals.

**Proposal 1** is an amendment that would remove the determination of uncontrolled noxious weeds by the City Council as a special assessment. Currently, if there are high weeds and grass at a property, the City Council has to make the determination at its twice monthly meeting. If Proposal 1 is approved, an ordinance would be enacted that would allow the staff to regulate high weeds and grass thereby shortening the time to abate the nuisance.

**Proposal 2** is an amendment that would eliminate the need for the Pension Board of Trustees to meet quarterly in each year. Since the City transferred the pension system in 2008 to the Municipal Employees Retirement System, there is no longer a need to meet regularly. If Proposal 2 is approved, the Pension Board of Trustees would schedule meetings as necessary.



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Tom Lynch



# Council approves re-opening of pool

By Jenny Johnson

Splash away. The pool at the Wayne Community Center will re-open on Feb. 12. City Council approved the request at their Oct. 18 meeting.

Nathan Adams, Parks and Recreation Director, said it cost about \$60,000 more to operate the pool than to leave it closed. Adams said the pool brings in revenue from open swim, swim classes, fitness classes, pool parties and field trips. And the busiest season is from February through August. The partnership between Wayne and Westland parks and recreation departments will also help drive traffic to the pool. Westland does not have an indoor pool and their residents get resident rates in Wayne.

"We are confident we will be able to make up that \$60,000," said Robert English, City Manager. "We have to give it a chance."

"The Aquatic Area acts as the 'Driver' of the Community Center as it has steadily increased its participa-



The Aquatic Center pool will re-open on Feb. 12.

tion rate over the past five years," Adams said.

The parks and recreation department is anticipating indirect revenue that other programs see from having the pool open. Adams said the overall value the Aquatic Area brings to the community is huge. It brings increased traffic to the Wayne Community Center. Residents from Wayne and surrounding communi-

ties are regular visitors. This ultimately helps to increase gym memberships, room rentals and participation in other programs like dance and day camp.

The community center has seen a drop in program participation since the closing of the pool. Data showed visits of young married couples with children age 4-10 have dropped 50% at the community center since the closing of the pool. Enrollment in the day camp program has dropped by more than 30 children. Adams said all of the programs suffer when they aren't getting traffic at the pool.

He also said by having people from outside Wayne come to the community center to use the pool, there is the opportunity to keep them in Wayne to shop and eat.

In addition to increasing revenue with programs like sponsorships, advertising rights, donations and fundraising, Adams said they have worked to reduce costs by becoming more energy efficient, decreasing personnel and restructuring hours of

operation.

English said with all of the panes of glass in the aquatic area, the heating bills are costly. Water in the pool will cut down on heating costs.

The Aquatic Area expenses include the pool, locker rooms, indoor track, viewing area, front parking lot light, tennis court lights and Attwood Park baseball diamond lights.

"I strongly believe that the pool holds value in operating. It serves toddlers and children in swim lessons; teenagers who utilize open swim to hang out and for a job; young married adults utilize (the pool) as a leisure function for the whole family or birthday parties, schools use it for field trips," he said. Franklin Middle School uses the pool for their swim team practice.

"Seniors use the water fitness classes for not only exercise but as a spiritual and social support network," he said.

The community center has fliers for and is currently taking registrations for all aquatic programs.

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State Senator Glenn Anderson visited Wayne to announce his candidacy for U.S Congress in the 2012 election. Photo by John P. Rhaesa of The Wayne Dispatch

## Anderson announces congressional intentions

State Senator Glenn Anderson announced he will run for U.S Congress representing Michigan's 13th Congressional District in 2012. This newly realigned district which includes part of Detroit and Dearborn Heights and the entirety of River Rouge, Ecorse, Melvindale, Redford, Westland, Garden City, Inkster, Wayne, and Romulus. In the Michigan State Senate Anderson currently represents all of Westland, Garden City and Redford, which comprise about one third of the primary voters in the new district.

Anderson made his announcement in Wayne across from the Michigan Assembly Plant where he worked for 28 years.

"This is where I started my working life 39 years ago when I became a member of the UAW building American vehicles," Glenn Anderson said. "For 54 years, thousands of workers here have received a good wage, health care and have been able to provide for their families with a better future. In turn that has allowed them to buy homes and cars and put their kids through college. Today, that future is under attack from all sides and I am deeply concerned that our leaders aren't doing enough to turn things around."

Anderson has served in the State Senate since 2006. He also served six years at a state representative and nine years on the Westland City Council.

# Standing at the Cross Roads

In just a matter of days, the residents of Wayne will be standing at a Cross Roads in their own life. Before them will lay an opportunity to put the candidates that they believe will best fulfill the needs of the residents and businesses alike and move this City forward.

We all know that the City of Wayne has been hit extremely hard by the current economic conditions and that the City Council and Administration have worked long and hard hours trying to keep the lights on while at the same time the revenue supply keeps getting cut. And though it is true that all communities in Michigan have been affected, some are fairing much better than others which begs the question.....why?

While there is no single answer, there are several things and policies in the past that helped contribute to this mess. Having weathered the storm that was created when Ford idled the Michigan Truck Plant for two years, is there anyone still out there that doesn't believe that the tax base needs to be more diverse and how foolish it was to rely so heavily on one large manufacturing facility year after year after year?

When it comes to commercial and residential development, I personally know several developers and have had at length conversations with them regarding development in and around Wayne. Those that have done work in Wayne in the past praise the City and its employees for being so professional and accommodating. One fellow even summed up his thoughts by saying that "it's nice to go where you feel wanted".

As warm and fuzzy as I feel when I hear comments like that, the City of Wayne needs to make some bold moves and aggressively seek out developers. No longer can the City afford to sit back like a Venus Fly Trap and just wait for a developer to stumble upon Wayne. Like it or not, much of metro Detroit doesn't even

## On the Bright Side

Hal Hultman



know that the City of Wayne exists. It's hard to imagine that any business would consider locating here in Wayne if they don't even know where Wayne is or anything about what it is that we have to offer.

No longer can we wring our hands and blame the empty storefronts in our downtown on the struggling economy. Most of those storefronts were also vacant during times of great economic growth. Just imagine how our downtown (uptown for some) would look if just some of all that development that we witnessed on Wayne Road just North of Wayne and Michigan Avenue just West of Wayne had been implemented here. Oh, to dream. Same economic times..... but with much different results.....

I truly hope that all registered voters will take a few minutes on election day to cast their votes for the candidates that they feel really understand the issues facing Wayne and will make a difference in the future of our City. Please make an informed decision and not merely vote for a candidate because you like their smile or because you attend the same church as them or perhaps were on the same bowling league. The people that we place in these seats have an awesome responsibility and formidable task ahead of them. It is very likely that their understanding of the issues before them and how they respond to them will have an influence on the future value of your home and the quality of life that you enjoy here in Wayne.

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