

# THE WAYNE Dispatch

SEPTEMBER 2012



# We Are One

**Lt. Governor praises Wayne-Westland Fire Department efforts**



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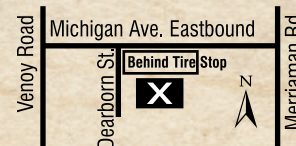
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# We are one

## Lt. Governor visits Wayne-Westland Fire Department

By Jenny Johnson

Michigan's Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley joined Wayne Mayor Al Haidous, Westland Mayor William R. Wild, Fire Chief Michael Reddy and officials from both cities for the ribbon cutting of the newly consolidated Wayne-Westland Fire Administration Building.

Calley said this consolidation is a good example of one of Governor Rick Snyder's dashboard priorities.

"The new Wayne-Westland Fire Administration headquarters represents a new way forward for local governments to reduce costs through consolidation while continuing to meet their critical public safety duties," Calley said. "Intergovernmental agreements can overcome challenges through collaborative, comprehensive and long-term approaches and we applaud Wayne and Westland for setting a great example. It's this type of teamwork that will help reinvent Michigan."

Calley said he was moved by the cooperation to make big things happen and by the strong relationship between the political leaders.

He said the two communities are poised for growth, thinking toward the future and outside the box in dealing with economic realities and how to do right by citizens.

The intergovernmental agreement between Wayne and Westland has begun the consolidation of the two fire departments. Reddy, fire chief of both cities, recently moved the Westland administration to the Wayne fire station on Wayne Road.

Reddy was the fire chief in Westland. He retired June 30 and then became an independent contractor and chief to both municipalities. He has a five-year contract but the merger is expected to be complete before that. It is not yet decided if the merged department will be a fire authority.

The goal of the consolidation is to create one sustainable department that will continue to provide top-notch advanced life support and fire



Wayne City Manager Robert English, Westland Mayor William R. Wild, Michigan's Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley, Wayne Mayor Al Haidous and Fire Chief Michael Reddy outside newly consolidated Wayne-Westland Fire Administration Building. Photo by Jenny Johnson of The Wayne Dispatch

**"Intergovernmental agreements can overcome challenges through collaborative, comprehensive and long-term approaches and we applaud Wayne and Westland for setting a great example. It's this type of teamwork that will help reinvent Michigan."**

**Michigan's Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley**

services to residents of both communities. Reddy is working toward combining best practices of both cities and creating one set of operating procedures and a full consolidation of personnel, stations, equipment and services.

The next step is to look at elimination of duplicate equipment and combine purchasing.

Reddy recognized the cooperation of both fire department unions as vital to the success of the merger.

"For other communities that want to accomplish something like this, bring the unions to the table early," Reddy said.

Reddy thanked all of the firefighters "for what they are putting forth" to consolidate.

"I am proud to be involved in such an innovative venture with Mayor Haidous and the City of Wayne. With the plan being supported by both the Westland and Wayne City Councils and Fire Unions, this is a real win-win for all," said Wild.

There are several advantages to residents in both cities. There will be more fire personnel on duty on a

daily basis without putting a burden on taxpayers.

Mayor Wild said the merger has already saved both communities money. The agreement will result in the immediate savings of \$180,000 annually for Westland and \$140,000 annually for Wayne by sharing one chief.

Wild said with declining property values it was becoming harder for each city to sustain their departments.

Wayne and Westland have a history of sharing services such as their school districts and parks and recreation departments. Both city councils voted unanimously to accept the combined parks and recreation and fire department mergers. They were both part of a group of the sanitation authority and worked jointly on the Glenwood Road project last year. They also have mutual aid agreements with their police and fire departments.

"Since Nankin Township, our cities have been working together," Wild said. "We had one goal. To create one sustainable ALS department."

"We have worked really hard and a lot of people have put forth the extra effort in making this a reality. I think you are going to see a lot more of this, not only in our communities, but across the state and we hope to be the blueprint for these future efforts," said Mayor Haidous.

"This is good for the residents and the fire departments as well," Wild said.

"Great team effort," Haidous said. "We secured the future to serve both communities with the highest quality services. I am very proud."

"Service will get better. There are more firefighters on the job. We will continue to enhance those services," Haidous said.

The Westland Fire Dept has 68 uniformed and two civilian personnel. There are four fire stations located in the 20.4 square miles of Westland. They have four engines, four advanced life support rescues and a command vehicle. Westland has been providing advanced life support since 1997. In 2011 they responded to over 9700 calls.

The Wayne Fire Dept. has one station within the six square miles of Wayne and 18 firefighter/paramedics many are trained in urban search and rescue and Haz-Mat specialties. They have two advance life support ambulances; two fire trucks and a 134-foot aerial truck. This year to date, they have responded to 1627 rescue runs and 332 fire runs.



# Act of Bravery: Rose gives life trying to save another

Longtime members of the Wayne business community have suffered a terrible loss. Master Eric Wayne Rose, 27, of Westland, died Aug. 4. He is the son of Ronald and Christine Rose and brother of Paul, Marc and Michael Rose and grandson of Wanda (Allen) Rose and the late Caroline (Henry) Ahern.

The Rose family owns and operates KICKS Tae Kwon Do and Fitness Center on Michigan Avenue in downtown Wayne. Eric was a 5th degree black belt and instructor at the facility. He was in charge of the Little Tigers program for three to six-year olds.

"Everybody loved him," said Eric's dad, Ron Rose. "He was doing a fantastic job with them."

He was also studying graphic design at the Art Institute in Novi where he made the Dean's List.

"He was a fantastic artist. He designed all of our t-shirts and medals," he said. During the Christmas event in downtown Wayne last December, it was Eric who created the scene with Santa at KICKS.

He was very dedicated and talented, his dad said. In 2001 he was a member of the Junior National Team for Tae Kwon Do. He trained at the Olympic Training Center. He also was invited to Korea for six months to teach Tae Kwon Do at a Korean martial arts school. He was also a

drummer. His dad plays guitar and the two would often play together.

Eric graduated from Plymouth Canton Schools in 2002. In elementary school he attended Taft and Hoover Elementary Schools in Wayne.

Eric and Heather Hill, 20, of Canton drown in Belleville Lake. Eric was with friends on the sand bar at Belleville Lake when it became dark. Because of a storm that moved through the area earlier in the day, lights along the shore were out.

His dad said, "Eric was a good swimmer and fit."

Hill got off track on the way back in on the sand bar.

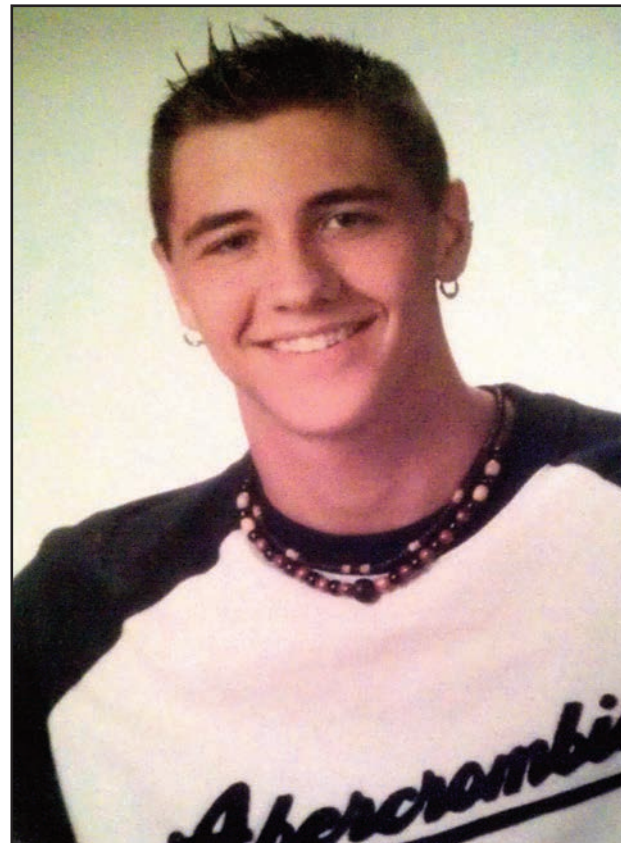
"She got caught up in the undertow," he said. The Huron River goes through there and creates an undertow. "She started yelling for help and Eric went after her."

"He died like a hero trying to save someone's life," Rose said.

Members of KICKS organized a candlelight vigil the night before the funeral in Goudy Park.

"We were surprised by how many people were there. We were really touched," Rose said.

Members of the USA and Canadian Olympic Tae Kwon Do teams sent condolences to the family. Eric was laid to rest at Michigan Memorial Cemetery.



Master Eric Wayne Rose

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# Josh Gracin performs at Blues, Brews and Barbecue

Are you ready for some good food, great music and lots of fun? The City of Westland is hosting their second annual Blues, Brews and Barbecue on Sept. 15 and 16 on City Hall grounds at 36601 Ford Road.



Josh Gracin

This free two-day event will have the areas most delicious barbecue provided by local restaurants, a car show, hand crafted beers and live music. The fun begins at 12 p.m. each day.

Because of the success of last year's event, organizers have expanded it to two days and added a headline musical act. Westland native Josh Gracin, who appeared on Season 2 of American Idol and is a current country music recording artist, will perform at 7 p.m. on Sept. 15.

What kind of show should the crowd expect?

"Very high energy, very engaging show. We move around a ton on stage. Throw drumsticks into the crowd as well as t-shirts. It's definitely a good time," said Gracin.

This will be Gracin's first performance in Westland since his appearance on American Idol.

Gracin said he is extremely excited to return to Westland.

"I've been touring for eight years now and have done many concerts in and around Michigan. To finally be able to come to my hometown and put on a show is going to be a very memorable experience," he said.

While back in town he wants to visit family, friends and "some of the old places I use to go as a teenager," he said.

Gracin graduated from John Glenn High School. He first gained public attention when he placed fourth on American Idol while still serving in the Marines. He released his first album in 2004. It received gold status and had a number one hit and two other top five singles- "I Want to Live," "Stay With Me (Brass Bed)," and "Nothin' to Lose."

In 2008 his second album We

Weren't Crazy, was released with the hits, "We Weren't Crazy," the ballad "Unbelievable (Ann Marie)," written solely by Gracin about his wife, and "Favorite State of Mind."

His newest album "Redemption" was released in 2011.

"Josh Gracin is a real country music star and he will add a nice twist to the great line-up of blues bands we have scheduled," said Mayor William Wild. "Gracin's Westland fans have been eagerly awaiting his return."

In addition to his three albums, Gracin has lent his vocals to The Disney Songbook on "When I See An Elephant Fly" with Jim Brickman and the soundtrack to Herbie: Fully Loaded on "Working for the Weekend."

Gracin said he loves singing for a living.

"The only draw back is being away from home causing me to miss out on moments and firsts with my family," he said. Josh and his wife, Ann Marie, married in 2001 and have four children. They currently live in Tennessee.

What is Gracin's advice to young people wanting to follow their dream in the music industry?

"Never ever give up no matter where you come from or what people around you say. I know it's cliché but those words are very true. Anything is truly possible," Gracin said.

Gracin said he knew he wanted to pursue music, "When I was 13 years old and sang at my Jr. High School talent show." Today he likes Garth Brooks, Eminem, John Mayer, classic rock, R&B and oldies.

Gracin will share the stage with some of Metro Detroit's most popular blues acts. Some of the other performances for Blues, Brews and Barbecue will include Sweet Willie Tea, Monsieur Guillaume and his Zydeco Hepcats, Jones'n, The Alligators, Front Street Blues Band and The Boa Constrictors.

The Blues, Brews and Barbecue will benefit over 13 charities. Each booth will be manned by volunteers from local non-profit organizations and will earn a portion of the event's proceeds. Last year's event raised more than \$10,000.

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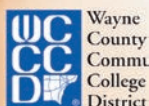
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JOSH GRACIN



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# Wayne Memorial High School - 60 years young

For those of us who attended Wayne Memorial High School, it is hard to believe the building opened 60 years ago. That just confirms our growing suspicion that we are all aging. If you are like me, the memories of the four years spent at WMHS are still vivid and bring to mind a time of carefree happiness, friends and fun along with the learning and growing pains we all experienced as teens. Football in the Flats, a packed gym and balconies for basketball games, break time in the student lounge and "walking" to school were all a part of the early days. But, in considering the history of the school, we must look at what preceded it.

Wayne's first school was a simple room over Kilborn's blacksmith shop in 1833/34. Several years later the community built a one room log cabin school to serve the few children in the area. In 1851 a two room building was built on the northeast corner of Main and Washington. As the population grew, the need for a larger school was apparent. The Union School was built on Sophia Street in 1870 and was the first graded school in Wayne. In 1876 a three year high school curriculum was introduced at this building. The Union School was torn down in 1909 with concerns that it was not structurally sound and replaced on the same site with a new school named Roosevelt which stood until 1964. Roosevelt housed all grades in the system through high school. In 1925 a new school was built on Williams Street near Michigan Avenue to house the older students and Roosevelt housed all lower grades. This new school was called Wayne High School. (The Korean Village stands on the site today.) Later, the Wayne High School building became West Junior High School and then the Board of Education Office.

That brings us to Wayne Memorial High School. The community began to see a need for a new high school building as the population in our area began to explode during the war years due to the migration of people who came to work in the plants in and around our community. The school would have to be large enough to handle an expected 2000 students. In 1945 the School Board passed a resolution to call the new school Wayne Memorial High

## Memory Lane

**Darlene Hawley**



School to honor the men and women from the Wayne area who served in World War II. The school would be located on Fourth Street and Glenwood near where North Junior High stood. A millage was passed to cover the \$2,000,000 in bonded funds needed to build the school which was designed by a Detroit architectural firm in 1934. Construction began on July 21, 1950 with estimates of completion in 540 days.

In September, 1952 a faculty of 49 teachers moved into WMHS under the direction of Principal Ray LaFrey and Assistant Principal Palmer Brown. George Bell (who later became principal) was in charge of the music program. The students followed the staff and were in awe of the beautiful new building as were parents and the community in general. It sported hand crafted mosaics in the lobby, an Oxford type library with a towering ceiling, beautiful classrooms and a gymnasium with balconies for seating. In April of 1953, an Open House was held for the community. 1800 people attended and admired the product of hard work and dedication by the citizens of the community, the School Board, faculty and local government.

Even though this beautiful new building met many needs, its shortcomings were soon apparent. No place was made in the original plans for some of the school programs such as music, art and vocational education. As a result, North Junior High School, which shared the same campus as WMHS, soon became the Annex and served to house these homeless classes.

Soon the community became aware of other shortcomings. There was no place for the band and orchestra to perform or the Drama and Thespian clubs to offer plays. It was difficult to host a swim team without a pool. A group of community and school supporters recognized the opportunity to provide the school with the facilities it needed to make it a



Wayne Memorial High School. Photo Courtesy of The Wayne Historical Museum

state of the art school. This group, led by Norman Stockmeyer, approached the School Board with a plan to finance these facilities. As a result, Wayne Memorial moved into its new swimming pool and 939 seat auditorium in 1958.

With time, more changes and improvements came. In 1963 the Practical Arts addition was built. In 1965 WMHS became the first high school in the state to install data processing and computer equipment in the Practical Arts addition. Now the school was able to teach art, drafting, metals technology, auto mechanics, electronics, wood and plastic skills and computer programming.

As the student body grew, technology increased and society changed, so did WMHS. In 1972 construction began to build a three story addition to the front of the building which would house the science and mathematics departments plus a new library with the most extensive Instructional Materials Center in the WWCS. An addition was built onto the gym with a balcony for gym activities. Renovations were also planned for the annex, and the heating, electrical and lighting systems.

More changes came in the 1980's as the Alumni Arena was built to house a new gym, upper track, fitness center and weight, training and locker rooms.

In the 1990's a complete renovation of the schools infra structure was begun as well as asbestos removal. One wing of the building was shut down at a time as work was undertaken to prepare the building for the age of technology.

In 2006, a new gym was added to the alumni arena to give more room for the physical education depart-

ment and athletic teams.

In discussing the building changes in WMHS over the years, I must mention the beautiful grounds on which the building sits. The athletic facilities and fields which surround the school are state of the art. The landscaping helps make the area look like a college campus.

Have you ever wondered where WMHS got its mascot and nickname? Well, over the years the uniforms underwent many changes. In one game in 1929 the basketball team stepped on the court with striped shirts. Someone jokingly said they looked like zebras and the name was soon adopted. When referees began wearing striped shirts and Wayne High switched to blue and gold, the nickname stuck.

Over the last 60 years our community has met the challenges of maintaining, updating and improving WMHS and all the schools in our district to meet the needs of the young people who are working to earn an education which will secure their future and prepare them to be successful adults and citizens. It is a tribute to the people of this community over the years when we see all the successful scholars, athletes, athletic teams, businessmen and women, lawyers, doctors, teachers and on and on that have walked the halls and received a diploma from WMHS. A good example is the list of Distinguished Alumni who are honored each year for their outstanding service to their community.

If space permitted, I would like to name all the teachers and administrators who have been a part of the faculty that touched the lives of so many young people over the last 60

See **Wayne**, page 7



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## District Mission Statement

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools, in cooperation with parents and the community, will educate and prepare all of our students to be knowledgeable, responsible, contributing members of a global society.



**Gregory J. Baracy, Ed. D.**  
Superintendent

# Family Fun Fest is back

**By Jenny Johnson**

Family Fest is back. For the seventh year in a row Crosspointe Community Church in Wayne will host this free community-wide one-day event from 12-5 p.m. on Sept. 8.

The car show will start at 8 a.m. and over 400 classic cars are expected to be on hand. There is no entry fee for the car show but participants will receive a goodie bag and there will be giveaways and trophies.

Crosspointe is located on Glenwood between Elizabeth and Newburgh. Parking will be available in the church parking lot and in the vacant lot across the street. Parking attendants will be on hand to assist.

Church members have spent the entire year planning this day and look forward to welcoming the com-

munity to their campus.

There will be something fun for everyone at Family Fest -- games, bounce houses, hay rides, petting zoo, remote car racing, face painting, rock climbing wall, children's craft, food, pony rides, music and much more. New this year will be two zip lines.

Family Fest began in Sept. 2006 with more than 500 people in attendance. It has grown to over 2,500 in Sept. 2011 and this year they expect around 4000 people to this free day of family fun.

"God has blessed this outreach to our community and we pray that He will continue to do so," said Pastor Phil DiLernia. "We are looking forward to providing this great day for our community."

## Wayne, Continued from page 6

years. These people are an important part of WMHS history and the memories of their students. We all owe them a debt of gratitude.

Thanks to Richard Story for his

assistance with research material from our museum including material used in this article taken from "The Evolution of Wayne Memorial High School: A Study of Secondary Education in Wayne" by Thomas R. Kroeger, a retired WMHS teacher.

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# Goci questioned

US 12 owner John Goci was arrested on Aug. 22 by the FBI on charges of lying to federal agents, a five-year felony. The charges are in connection with a federal case against Tomo Duhanaj, the owner of Bray's Hamburgers in Westland. Duhanaj was charged with being a loan shark and offering high interest loans.

Federal agents believe Goci took out a loan with Duhanaj for \$30,000.

In a statement Goci said, "I intend to fully cooperate with the FBI throughout the course of their investigation and furthermore maintain my innocence regarding this matter and expect to be vindicated of the false allegations that are being made against me."

At their Aug. 27 meeting, two school board members, Cindy Schofield and Frederick Weaver, and one resident called for Goci's resignation.

"I have thought long and hard about this. I say to Mr. Goci in light of your recent struggles with law enforcement I do call upon you to resign your seat as a Wayne Westland board member. Your personal life is your own," Weaver said. "When you are elected and put into office even your personal life becomes public."

Cindy Schofield said, "Board



John Goci

members are the face of a district. Whether right or wrong the perceived reputation of a school board member becomes intertwined with the reputation of the district.

It is for this reason I ask Mr. Goci to resign so he can concentrate on his personal issues."

Goci said the charges against him are a "direct result of my affiliation with Toma Duhanaj. Federal prosecutor has recently dismissed all charges against him. My case is still proceeding. I look forward to being vindicated of the false allegations that are being made against me."

School board trustee Tom Buckalew said, "We have a legal system that presumes innocence until guilt is determined. I look forward to Mr. Goci's vindication. I hope that is the case until I learn otherwise that is the assumption that I intend to work on."

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**Michael Korona, RD** is a dietitian at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital. He trained at Oakwood Annapolis and has a degree from Eastern Michigan University.

**Chef Michael Card** has extensive culinary experience over the last 20 years in hotels, restaurants and country clubs.

Both have a passion for food preparation and look forward to sharing some fun and interesting food preparation tips and delicious recipes.

**DATE:** Wednesday, October 17, 2012

**TIME:** 6:30 – 8 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Oakwood Annapolis Hospital  
Surgery Center Lobby  
33155 Annapolis Street  
Wayne, MI 48184

(Use the Surgical Center entrance)

*The event will include a presentation and cooking demonstration. Recipes will be provided. A complimentary light dinner will be served.*



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## Paul Franks retires

After 49 years in business and almost two years after the explosion that trapped him under rubble, Paul Franks has announced his retirement. Since the explosion on Dec. 29, 2010, his store William C. Franks Furniture has been operating out of their warehouse location on Michigan Avenue.

In September Franks announced a retirement sale at his warehouse location on Dearborn Street just south of eastbound Michigan Avenue between Merriman and Venoy.

The warehouse has been turned into a showroom and has lamps, pictures, tables, living room and bedroom furniture.

Franks said he doesn't have any plans for his retirement yet.

"This is all new. I got a lot of my health back. I will have to see what happens," he said.



The Wayne Sew Vac building was torn down last month. Photo by John P. Rhaesa of The Wayne Dispatch

## Sew Vac building demolished

The Wayne Sew Vac building at the corner of Wayne Road and Chestnut has stood vacant since the explosion at William C. Franks Furniture damaged the building almost two years ago. Last month the Sew Vac building was knocked down.

## Hope Clinic finds new home

Earlier in the year the building that housed Hope Wayne Medical Clinic was also torn down. The clinic, which primarily serves low-income residents of western Wayne County, has moved to their permanent location at 33608 Palmer in Westland. They had been leasing space at Metro Place Mall since the explosion forced them to evacuate their former location.

Hope Clinic has been offering free primary medical care to low-income, uninsured adults for five years. The 2300 square-foot facility has five examinations rooms, plus a room devoted to other activities such as providing education about management of chronic health conditions.

Clinic Coordinator Mary Dekker is looking forward to providing care for more patients in the larger clinic. "We are excited to be able to have more clinical volunteers serving together at one time. This will increase the number of patients we can see during each clinic session," she said.

Hope Wayne Clinic is a satellite of Hope Medical Clinic in Ypsilanti. The treatment they offer is provided by volunteer medical professionals, supported by a small paid staff.

For more information about hours and services at the Wayne Clinic, please call 734-710-6688 or visit [www.thehopeclinic.org/medicalclinic-wayne](http://www.thehopeclinic.org/medicalclinic-wayne).



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### WMHS Homecoming

Zebra Pride will be everywhere for the annual Wayne Memorial High School Homecoming festivities. The fun starts at 6 p.m. on Sept. 21 with the Homecoming parade. It leaves from Fourth Street at Wayne Memorial and travels west to Wayne Road and then down Glenwood to the football stadium. The football game will begin at 7 p.m. Wayne Memorial will face Livonia Franklin.

At halftime the Homecoming Queen will be crowned. For a schedule of all Wayne Memorial sporting events visit, [www.highschoolsports.net](http://www.highschoolsports.net).

### Red October Run

Get out your sneakers and get ready to race! Oakwood Hospital's annual Red October Run will be Oct. 6 at Annapolis Hospital. There is a 5K and 10K run, a 5K walk and a 1 Mile Jr. October which is geared toward children.

Race day registration and pre-registered packet pick-up is from 8 – 9:40 a.m. The Kids Jr. October Mile is at 9 a.m., the 10K run is at 9:50 a.m. and the 5K run and 5K walk is at 10:00 a.m. Registration is open at [www.oakwood.org/redoctoberrun](http://www.oakwood.org/redoctoberrun). The runners always need sideline supporters too.

### Wayne Pride Night

Wayne Memorial High School will host Wayne Pride night at 6 p.m. on Sept. 13 at 3001 Fourth Street. This free event is open to all families who live in the Wayne Memorial attendance area.



### Scarecrows coming to downtown

The Wayne Ripple Effect will be decorating downtown this fall with scarecrows decorated by residents and businesses. They will be on display from Sept. 29- Nov. 3 on the decorative lampposts throughout the downtown area. If you are interested in creating a scarecrow, contact the Wayne Ripple Effect at [waynerippleeffect@gmail.com](mailto:waynerippleeffect@gmail.com).

### JG Football Field Dedication

On Sept. 7 John Glenn High School will honor former Varsity Football Coach Chuck Gordon by dedicating the Football Field in his honor. The ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. and Lloyd Carr, former University of Michigan Football Coach will be the guest speaker. All are welcome to attend.

### Come to the Wayne Farmers Market

The Wayne Farmers Market is in full swing. Stop by between 3-7 p.m. every Wednesday at the State Wayne Theater parking lot for fresh produce, flowers, vegetables, baked goods and much more. Enjoy the entertainment, children's activities, refreshments and shopping.

### Friends Program

Friends People Helping People is looking for a few good volunteers on Sept. 8. Friends is a one day event where volunteers gather to help a local neighbor in need. This is a volunteer driven program that gives a little help to a neighbor in need. Volunteers will help a senior Wayne resident with exterior maintenance and repairs like lawn maintenance, painting, painting and general clean up. If you would like to help, please meet at the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center (corner of Sims and Wayne Rd.) at 8:30 a.m. A continental breakfast, lunch and supplies will be provided. Youth groups are welcome to participate as long as there is one adult for every five kids. For more information, please contact Peter McInerney, community development director, at 734-722-2002.

### Senior Olympics

More than 700 senior citizens from 16 communities throughout Western Wayne County participated in this year's Senior Olympics. The City of Wayne along with Inkster and Garden City hosted the games. The billiard and bowling competitions were held at Wayne Bowl and the award banquet and closing ceremony was at the Wayne Community Center.

There were 612 medals awarded. The City of Wayne Olympians won nine gold, four silver and 11 bronze medals. Next year's games will be hosted by Belleville and Sumpter Township.

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# A new beginning

My name is Buddy Shuh and if you watched the NBC show "Biggest Loser" this past season, you know me somewhat. A year ago, life was very different for me. I was topping the scales at over 400 pounds. I had difficulty walking up and down the stairs. When it snowed, I would have to shovel in shifts, concerned about over-working my heart. Then, in an instant, life changed for me. NBC selected me to be on one of their biggest shows (no pun intended) and my story was thrust into the national spotlight, out there for all to see. You may know part of my story. But true to life, there's more to the story.

Do you ever wonder if you were meant to be? Do you wonder about meaning? About purpose? About destiny? An event happened in the life of my grandfather, Oliver Shuh, that makes me think about these things. His nickname was Bud. I'm proud to share nicknames with him.

He was a WWII hero and every time I think about him, I think Tom Brokaw had it right when he said this was the greatest generation. My grandpa led a squadron of fighter pilots on D-Day. Several pilots in his squadron didn't return. When my grandfather's plane did, there were close to 200 bullet holes in his plane, "Shu-Shu Baby," that needed to be repaired. All of those bullets missed him and he lived to see another day. Since he hadn't met my grandmother yet, a slight change in any one bullet's trajectory might have resulted in his death. And I would not be here.



**There's More  
to the Story**

**Buddy Shuh**

Last year about this time, I was thinking about these things. Truth be told, I was feeling kind of down in the dumps. You see, I was voted most athletic in a high school of 3,500 kids, captain of both the football and wrestling teams. But I had let myself go. I was thinking that I had blown it. I had been given this incredible gift of life, and I was not living it. I was not eating healthy. I was not exercising. Yet something inside of me told me I shouldn't quit. I was not a failure. I could beat this thing.

When NBC called in August, wanting to fly me to CA for the taping of their show, I decided to go. I wanted to take my shot at losing weight. For me. For my wife. For my kids. For my friends and community. I wanted to succeed and come back with the message: GO FOR YOUR DREAMS! I kept my eyes on the prize, which was my health. By the live finale of the show, I had gone from 403 pounds to 230 pounds! I now know that people can live out their destiny! They can accomplish what they have in their hearts to do! This is my story. But not all of it. As you'll come to see, there's always more to the story...

## OBITUARY

### Scott, James Phillip

August 17, 2012 Age: 73 of Kingsport, TN

Beloved husband of Mary Grismer Scott. Brother of Ted Scott and his wife Sharon of Westland, and the late Jay Holman. Uncle to Sonya Scott Kowalski, Linda Scott Moore, and Rachel Scott. He loved to restore exotic sports cars. Funeral services were Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at 2:00 pm from the Roush Funeral Home, Ravenswood, WV. Interment took place at Ravenswood Cemetery. Friends may express their condolences to the family at [roush94@yahoo.com](mailto:roush94@yahoo.com), or on our website at [www.roushfuneralhome.com](http://www.roushfuneralhome.com).



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Attwood Park clean-up

From 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. on Oct. 7 members of Ekklesia Church in Westland will tackle Attwood Park. Armed with paint brushes they are going to seal Planet Playscape. They are looking for about 75 volunteers to help with this effort. They are also going to paint the pavilion and the baseball fence. All supplies will be provided. Just wear painting clothes and come help freshen up Attwood Park. Hot dogs will be served to all volunteers.

### Board member resigns

School board member Andrea Clawson resigned last month due to "a personal decision that will affect my eligibility required to serve as a trustee." The school board accepted letters of interest from residents through Sept. 5. The board will meet at 6 p.m. on Sept. 11 to interview and select a new trustee who will serve until Nov. 2014.

### Vacated facility to re open

After six years the former senior assisted residence on Van Born just west of Merriman will once again open its doors. A new owner is renovating and upgrading the 114- room facility. They are putting on a new roof, canopy, redoing the parking lot and landscaping on the outside. On the inside there will be an upgrade to the mechanical system. The facility should re-open in 6-8 months.

### School Board elections

Five people will be on the Nov. 6 ballot for the Wayne-Westland School Board. They are Chandra Cozart, Paul Futch, Jeffrey P. Hayton, Sally Madison and Frederick L. Weaver. The top two vote getters will each win a six-year school board term. Weaver is running for re-election. The other seat is currently held by Cindy Schofield. She is not running for re-election.

### Pancake Breakfast

The 15th annual Firefighter Pancake Breakfast will be from 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. on Oct. 6 at the Wayne Fire Dept. on Wayne Road. Meet the firefighters, tour the station and enjoy all you can eat pancakes. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids 10 and under. Tickets will be available at the door.

### First Step adds playground

A welcome addition is on the way for First Step. They are adding a playground to the temporary housing facility they operate in Wayne. They were able to get some donated playground equipment. Volunteers will help install it. Plans also call for a pavilion, walking path and garden. The playground will be used for families residing at the site or who use the facility's services.

### Run for the Rouge

Friends of the Rouge will host a 5K Run/Walk along the Rouge River at 9 a.m. on Sept. 29. Registration begins at 8 a.m. in the parking lot of Connections Church, 3855 South Sheldon Road, Canton. The cost is \$25 in advance, \$28.50 online and \$30 on the day of the event.

The run will follow a scenic trail along the lower branch of the Rouge River. Be prepared for mud and uneven surfaces. This will be a timed race. Awards will be presented to male and female racers by age categories. All race participants will be entered in a post-run raffle, must be present to win, and can enter the lottery to run in the Mackinac Bridge Labor Day Run. For more information or to register, visit [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org).

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# Growing relationships and more in Wayne

During the summer our book club meets in a garden, on a deck or a patio. Recently, an August storm brought us indoors. The indoors was Lynn Higgs' house where her water color paintings line the living area walls. Lynn started painting one summer when she was housebound. Her kids had mumps---not altogether, but one after another. As an antidote for not being able to camp and hike that summer, Lynn turned to painting. Her first step is taking photos of the picture she then paints. The watercolors are beautiful---pastoral in nature, and also matted and framed by Lynn. The simplicity of the narrow, gold colored frames, plus the white matting, brings all your attention to the paintings themselves. Thanks to the rain (which we needed ) for bringing us all inside to view Lynn's artistry.

Even without rain, the Community Garden has harvested more than 350 pounds of tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplant, squash, and carrots. Linda Gable, Administrator for the Court, tells me the veggies are given to St. Mary Outreach Center. Carie Vella, a probation officer with the 29th District Court, called and told me that thanks to Rotary, who put in a sprinkler system, the garden was able to get water to the garden. The Wayne Police Department paid for the water and Veolia's, an environmental concern, donated all the compost. Early in the season the Fire Department turned their hoses on for the newly planted vegetables. Ms. Gable adds "The DPW has been helping out where they can---things like putting the rain barrels out in springtime, and collecting them in

## Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



the fall". Young people are doing Community Service work in the garden, planting, weeding and harvesting. On just one day Lois Van Stipdonk says they picked 84 pounds of vegetables, and on another day Bridget Kelly, along with Lynn Higgs, picked 70 pounds.

As you can see it truly is a garden deserving of the name---Community.

The Library Board has two new liaison members. They are Councilmen Jim Hawley and Al Damitio. We are so happy to have them at our meetings, and know they will give us good advice, as we strive to keep our Library the best even in these tough fiscal times. In other Library news, congratulations to the Library's John O'Connell. Mr. O'Connell won a grant. The letter he received reads--"Congratulations! We are pleased to notify you that your site has been selected to receive a \$1,000 grant in conjunction with the Civil War 150 Exhibition, funded by the National Endowment of the Humanities. We received more than 180 applications from 44 states...."

Well done John---we're looking forward to your Civil War Exhibition.

The Library's Wine and Cheese Party date is September 29. As in previous years Dan McCarty of Cost Plus Wines in the Eastern Market

will bring many varieties of wine and beer, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic. But that's just part of the evening. He also brings an excellent assortment of appetizers and other yummy foods. To top it all off, Library Board President will bring his trays of hand made chocolate---all different varieties---all delectable! The evening is the Library's main fundraiser---it's an evening of friendship fun and food. And all this for \$20.00. Such a deal. Please mark Saturday, 9/29 on your calendar. Tickets are on sale at the library circulation desk, or at the door that night.

Now that the flag has been restored to it's proper place over the Greater Dreams Church, plans are being made to fix the clock in the empty round circle below. A clock had always been part of the building ever since it was the Wayne Savings Bank. The new clock will have the original face, but will be an atomic GPS clock. It will be linked to a satellite, will be maintenance free and if power goes out, the clock will return to the correct time.

The Wayne Rotary Foundation is taking donations for the clock---and if you donate you'll get a tax write-off. Questions? Howie Rediske at Uht Funeral Home 734-721-8555 would be happy to answer them.

Spectacular! So says Bill Copland and Susie Hammons about the Kelly Miller Circus.

The Hammons kids, Clare and Shane along with their Mom, Susie, and Grandmother, Barb Wootton, viewed the Circus and found the juggler "fantastic." Susie describes the

trapeze artists as "fearless. The Hammons also walked down to the Community Center grounds before the performance and were delighted to see the animals up close.

The circus performance lasted 2 hours. During a 20-minute intermission you could catch a ride on one of the elephants. Rumor has it---actually 'Wild' Bill told me he saw John (Mr. Wayne Dispatch) Rhaesa riding atop an elephant.

Things are good on Washington St. We're happy to report that our long time neighbor, Janet Sanderson is doing well. And after many years of a childless neighborhood, we now have kids on the block. It's so fun watching them ride bikes, skateboard, and just the happy sound of their laughter. A great addition to the 'hood.

Our community lost a valued and treasured member recently. Dr. Nicholas Chames. He was our family dentist for years.

A retired Naval Commander, he began as an enlisted man then went to dental school and practiced for many years here in Wayne. He was also a career navy reservist and often served the military at Selfridge AFB. My daughter, Maureen, also in the Navy reserves, saw him there, and remembers many conversations they had about their deployments in Sicily.

When my husband's elderly aunt needed dental care, we brought her to Dr. Chames. We'll always remember and be grateful for the gentle and kind care he, and his wife, Mary gave her.

Our condolences to Mary and the family of Dr. Nick Chames.



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Drive One 4Ur School

You can help Wayne Memorial High School earn \$6000. They need 300 test drivers to come to the school from 4-7 p.m. on Sept. 13 during Wayne Pride Night and test drive a Ford vehicle. Each driver will earn \$20 for the school. If you drive a Ford Focus you can earn an additional \$10 for the school.

### Circus success

The Kelly Miller Circus was a welcome event in Wayne. More than 2000 people enjoyed one of two shows. They were captivated by the animals, clowns, jugglers and aerialists that transformed the Anderson ball field into a one-ring circus. The circus helped raise about \$5000 for the city's special events fund. Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams said he has only heard positive comments about the event.

"This one day event was well organized. The sponsors are very happy and we look forward to doing it next year," he said.



### Willie Horton coming to Wayne

Former Detroit Tiger Willie Horton will be at the Village Bar at 1 p.m. on Sept. 16 to launch his new book. Books are \$35 and include an autograph. Village Bar is located on westbound Michigan Avenue just east of the State Wayne Theater.

### Helping Hand

Life Remodeled is heading back to Westland. The group works with local churches to build homes for families in need. The City of Westland has donated a two-bedroom home to Life Remodeled on Cascade Court. Life Remodeled is going to remodel it and give it away to a local family. In addition to the new home the chosen family will receive financial, spiritual and psychological counseling. If the family pays the taxes, insurance and maintains the property for three years, the deed is turned over to them for \$1.

### Bingo

The Wayne Golden Hour Club hosts bingo at 1 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month at the Wayne Community Center. This is Golden Hour's primary source of funding.

Refreshments are available for purchase. You must be at least 18 to play. The next dates are September 13 & 27 and October 11 & 25.

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