

# THE WAYNE Dispatch

AUGUST 2013

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# CrossPointe Community Church offers Free Family Fest

By Jenny Johnson

It's a day full of family fun. Join the 8th Annual Family Fest from 12-5 p.m. on Aug. 24 at CrossPointe Community Church, 36125 Glenwood. The community is invited for a free day of games, rides, music, hot foods, cold foods, drinks, and a classic car show.

The kids will enjoy bounce houses, hayrides, petting zoo, face painting, crafts, pony rides and more.

Spend the day together and get to make some new friends.

"It just keeps getting bigger and better. What started out as a festival of 500 with 25 classic cars in 2006 has grown to 3500 and 350 classic cars in 2012. We are cooking for 5,000 people and fully expect 500 classic cars this year! It is now the largest single day event in the City of Wayne," said Phil DiLernia, pastor.

The car show will start at 8 a.m. and the first 500 cars will get spots on the field. There is no registration fee and participants will receive goodie bags and there will be giveaways and trophies. If you have a classic car, please plan to join the fun.

They are cooking for 5,000 people this year so bring your kids, neighbors, family, and friends. This is the largest single day event in Wayne and it is all generously offered for free. All you have to do is get a



wristband at the registration table that allows you to eat the food, play the games and enjoy the other activities.

"We really want to bless people with a day to remember. We want people to know that 'All People Matter to God' (our church motto) and that He desires nothing more than a dynamic and living relationship with everyone," DiLernia said. "There are no age, race, gender, economic status, or education barriers that stand between us and Jesus. We want all people to know that we welcome them ... just as they are ... into our church so they can hear and learn

the truth of who Jesus really is. Our heart is to serve our community here and all over the world as well."

Members of CrossPointe spend the entire year getting ready for Family Fest. It takes about 200 volunteers to put on Family Fest. They look forward to welcoming the entire community.

DiLernia said this is something his congregation looks forward to every year.

"Our people love serving the community that they live in and we have heard nothing but overwhelmingly positive responses from those who have attended. Many say that this is

the finest event they attend for the entire year!" he said. "Many others have stated that they came the first time with trepidation ... thinking that we would sneak in a financial charge here and there or preach a sermon to them. They stand amazed that neither concern was necessary. This is our chance to love others unconditionally and our people love it!"

Besides Family Fest, CrossPointe is a very active church. They have been serving the community for more than 100 years. It was formerly First Baptist Church of Wayne.

They reach out every chance they get with community dinners, a clothes closet and food pantry to help the needy. They sponsor the Marshmallow Drop at Attwood Park on Good Friday. The youth group goes on mission trips and organizes free sports leagues like floor hockey and basketball for elementary students.

Their services are at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sundays. They also have multiple studies and activities during the week. CrossPointe is located on Glenwood between Elizabeth and Newburgh. Parking will be available in the church parking lot and parking attendants will be on hand to help drivers.

For more information on Family Fest, visit [www.crosspointecommunitychurch.org](http://www.crosspointecommunitychurch.org) or go to Facebook.-[com/CrossPointeCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/CrossPointeCommunityChurch).



Kids enjoy hayrides, face painting, petting zoo and other fun activities at Family Fest at CrossPointe Church.



# Legacy

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, legacy means: "something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past." Recently I've been thinking about this word. You see, I've been doing some traveling and I went on three trips and discovered that it was easy to see what legacy had been passed down in those places I visited. I'd like to share an experience from each of my trips with you.

My first trip took me to the Dominican Republic. Mark Cornelison, who was a cast mate of mine on *Biggest Loser*, has been leading a trip there for the past decade. The purpose of the trip was to help the people of Cotui by building a structure that the community could use for school, church, and as a basketball court. While on the trip, I was part of a team that would go out every afternoon to visit with people in their homes so we could learn what life was like there and how we could serve them better. The thing that really stuck out to me was how hospitable the people were! We didn't set



## There's More to the Story

Buddy Shuh

up appointments with them. We just walked around with a translator and he would say that we were there to visit. Without exception, they invited us in and chatted with us. It reminded me to make sure that in my own life that I have time to be friendly and just visit with people. I hope that is part of my legacy!

My second trip was to the Upper Peninsula for a celebration called FinnFest. FinnFest is a five day festival to celebrate Finnish culture in the United States. The culmination of the week was a 2 mile Nordic Walk that was an attempt at breaking the world record. In order to set the record, 1027 people would have to complete the walk using Finnish walking sticks. (They resemble cross-country skiing poles, only with a rubber bottom) We only got 800 people to participate, so the world record still belongs to the Swedes.



Shelby and Buddy Shuh with their kids.

Yet I was aware of the fact that I loved being part of something bigger than myself! It's incredible when a group of like-minded people get together and decide that they want to join an endeavor that is grandiose in scale. I hope that the legacy that I leave is that I wanted to be a part of something that was more than I could do on my own!

My last trip was to Miami, Fl., where I attended my 25 year high school reunion. I was blown away by

the fact that friends from that long ago were still friends. It dawned on me that friendships are worth investing time and energy into because they last!

I want part of my legacy to be that I developed the friendships that I've been lucky enough to have!

Whether good or bad, each of us leaves a legacy. Yours will be incredible! Yours will be a story worth reading! And like always, there is always more to the story...



## 1st Annual Indoor Mini Golf Fund Raiser! August 17th 11-4pm

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Golfing at the library

The Friends of the Library is hosting a new fundraiser this year. Instead of their annual Wine and Cheese Party, they have decided to organize an Indoor Mini Golf fundraiser on from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on August 17 at the library, 3737 S. Wayne Road.

The interior of the library will be transformed into an 18-hole mini golf course. Families of all ages are invited to come and enjoy an afternoon of golf. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids 6-18 and free for kids 5 and under. Family tickets are \$15 for up to six people. An adult must accompany all child golfers.

Lunch will be available to purchase at the 19th hole. There will also be a gift basket raffle. All proceeds will be used to purchase children's books and audiovisual materials.

The Friends are still seeking sponsorships for the success of the event. The sponsorship opportunities include a \$500 official sponsorship or \$100 tee or green sponsorships. If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact Paulette Medvecky at 734-641-4627.

### Support senior Olympians

The ninth annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics will be Aug. 12-16 for Wayne County resident 50 years or older. This year's Olympics will be sponsored by Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren Township.

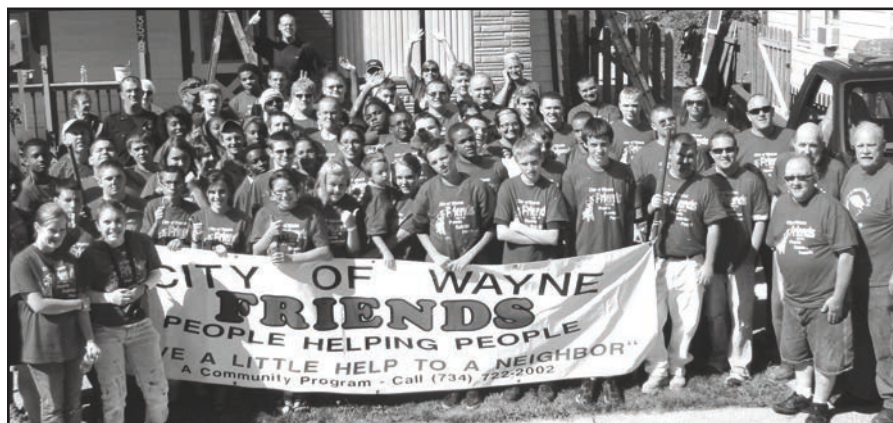
There is an event for every skill including billiards, bowling, euchre, golf, biking, baking, volleyball, trivia, bocce ball, pinochle, swimming, creative writing and much more.

If you want to cheer on the Olympians, please visit [www.WWCSO.org](http://www.WWCSO.org) for a complete list of event times and locations.

### Farmers Market

The Wayne and Westland Farmers Markets have a great selection of locally grown fruits and vegetables. The Wayne market is from 3-7 p.m. every Wednesday through October in Goudy Park. The Westland market is 3-7 every Thursday at Westland City Hall on Ford Road.

Come for the fresh produce, flowers, baked goods and crafts. Stay



Last year a total of 80 people turned out for the Friends Project. They put two coats of paint on the house in 4 hours, hung a new screen door and installed new yard gates. This year's event will take place Sept. 14.

for the chair massages, entertainment and kids activities. Remember the Farmers Market now accepts EBT and debit cards too.

### Friends needed

The annual Friends: People Helping People will take place Sept. 14 at a yet to be selected home in Wayne. Since 1998 the program has helped a homeowner who doesn't have the ability to keep up with the outside maintenance of their home. The Friends volunteers will help with lawn clean up and painting the house.

Volunteers are needed from 8:30 a.m. until about 1 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The program is also looking for donations. A \$50 donation will get your name on the Friends t-shirts.

If you would like to volunteer or make a donation, please call the Community Development Department at 734-722-2002.

### WMHS 30-year reunion

The WMHS Class of 1983 will have their 30-year class reunion on Sept. 28 at Sports Locker Bar and Grill, 30375 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Cost is \$35 per person, dinner and memory materials included. Cash bar. Checks may be made out to WMHS Class of 1983 Reunion, and mailed to 23771 Sherwood, Belleville, MI 48111-9322. To pay via pay-pal, or for questions, e-mail [WMHS1983Reunion@aol.com](mailto:WMHS1983Reunion@aol.com) or call 734-461-3308.

### Red October Run registration

The 23rd Annual Red October Run, sponsored by Oakwood Healthcare System, will be Oct. 5 through the streets of Wayne.

The run is an all ages event designed to encourage family fitness. There are 5K and 10K certified runs, a 5K walk and a 1 Mile Jr. October for children. The event will also include pre-race yoga warm up and "Oktoberfest" refreshments after the race with hot dogs, cider, doughnuts, fruit, bagels and more.

Registration is now open to all at [www.oakwood.org/redoctoberrun](http://www.oakwood.org/redoctoberrun). Race day registration and pre-registered packet pick up will be from 8-9:40 a.m. on Oct. 5 on the Oakwood Annapolis Hospital front lawn.

### Robert Smith Dedication Picnic

There will be a picnic from 6-8 p.m. on Aug. 7 at Soroptomist Park in Wayne (on John Street west of Wayne Road and South of Annapolis). At this time a bench will be dedicated in memory of Robert Smith and to celebrate his years of volunteer service to the community.

### Doug Beasley dedication

Wayne will also pay tribute to former city employee Doug Beasley who lost his battle with Leukemia this spring. From 6-8 p.m. on Aug. 21st, there will be a picnic at Civitan Park. During this time a memorial bench and tree will be dedicated in memory of Doug's contribution to the community.

Donations are being accepted for the benches and trees and may be sent to the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne, MI 48184 (payable to the City of Wayne - Adopt A Park Program).

### St. John's Lutheran School celebrates 100th anniversary

It was Sept. 1913 when St. John's Parochial School was founded. They began with 27 students and increased to 35 by the end of the school year. The first classes were held in the church.

On Oct. 21, 1917 the first school building was dedicated on Elizabeth Street in Wayne. Pastor Oscar J. Peters was the one-room school's first and only teacher for 14 years. By the congregation's 75th anniversary in 1951, a new school was dedicated on South Wayne Road in Westland, the current location.

The new building had three classrooms, a kindergarten room, an office and library.

In 1965 the church moved from their location on Elizabeth to Glenwood, next to the school. In 1966 a parish hall/gymnasium, new library, kitchen and new school entrance was added to the school. In 1976 five new classrooms were built. Today St. John's Lutheran School serves students in K-8 grades.

### Goodfellow Raffle

Are you feeling lucky? The Wayne Goodfellows "3 of Hearts" progressive raffle tickets are for sale at the Avenue Downtown Wayne and Henry's Service Center for \$1 each. Drawings are held every Monday night at 9 p.m. at the Avenue. Up to date jackpot totals can be found at [www.nfpgaming.com](http://www.nfpgaming.com). The Wayne Goodfellows thanks you for your support in making sure there is no child in Wayne without a Christmas.

### Summer Lunch

Wayne County will continue their summer lunch program through Aug. 16 from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. Monday-Friday in the back lobby of the Wayne Community Center for children under 18.



# Two caught in Leo's Jewelry robbery

Wayne police have caught two of the suspects in connection with the July 17 robbery at Leo's Jewelry on Michigan Avenue. Four subjects approached the store just after 1 p.m. Three entered the store, damaged display cases, stole property and fled on foot.

Wayne Police located a Ford Taurus that was attempting to pick up several of the fleeing subjects in Dynamite Park, which is just east of Leo's. According to police, two subjects ran from the vehicle. With the assistance of a Wayne County Sheriff K-9 Unit, one subject, Quentin Goddard, 22, of Detroit, was apprehended in the park. The vehicle fled the scene after being rammed by a Wayne Police vehicle and could not be located.

Police located another suspect, Jonathan Stalling, 20, of Battle Creek, on Fourth Street near Ash Street. He was taken into custody.

Both Stalling and Goddard were charged with Armed Robbery, Larceny from Person, and Larceny in a Building. Goddard was also charged as a Habitual Offender. No other arrests were made and this case is still under investigation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Sgt. Matthew Spunar of the Wayne Police Investigations Bureau at 734-721-1598.



Quentin Goddard



Jonathan Stalling

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# City to use new blight enforcement procedure

By Jenny Johnson

It was a different walking tour of downtown. Instead of looking at DIA art pieces or walking along the riverfront, this was a tour of blight in the downtown area.

Councilman John Rhaesa and Assistant Fire Chief John Adams pointed out the tall grass, weeds, garbage, piles of debris, broken windows or doors, unkempt buildings with peeling paint, overgrowth of grass and illegal dumping. "This is an embarrassment to our city. The condition of some of the areas of downtown are unacceptable, this needs to be addressed immediately," said Councilman John Rhaesa.

But this is not a problem without a solution. This year a new blight ordinance program was adopted in Wayne. Approved by city council this new ordinance is very similar to the program being used in Westland. The ordinance departments in Wayne and Westland now run out of the Fire Marshall's office of the Wayne-Westland Fire Department.

There is an easy way to report the blight noticed in Wayne. From the city's website [cityofwayne.com](http://cityofwayne.com), residents or business owners can click on the ordinance helpdesk to report tall grass and weeds or other blight and ordinance issues. One the problem is reported it is time stamped and complainants will receive a confirmation e-mail.

This program is available seven days a week.

(Editor's note: A concern was reported after 5 p.m. on a Friday evening. Within 10 minutes a confirmation email was sent with a few follow up questions. Within one week the issue was remedied.)

The Ordinance Enforcement Team recently did a sweep of the city to identify blight and ordinance issues. They are working with city officials, residents and business owners to build clean safe neighborhoods by providing education and enforcement.

The new ordinance "allows us to get in and make changes," Adams said.

There are three phases of the new ordinance program- identification, education and compliance.

Blight concerns are brought before city council as a Hazard and Nuisance item. Once approved, the



Overgrown weeds in the sidewalks.



Woods behind car wash on westbound Michigan Avenue will be cleaned up this fall.



The weeds in this picture have now been removed at Rex's Family Restaurant.



Parking lot dirt has turned into a 3 foot mound.



This window has been broken for several years.



Tires, tree and debris in a dumpster enclosure.

ordinance department can take action to remedy the situation by first notifying the owner. If action isn't taken in a timely manner, then the city fixes the problem and charges the cost to the properties' tax roll.

"This is a more professional and conscientious approach," Adams said.

"The ideology is all solution based."

There has been a home with a

blight issue for the past 10 years. Neighbors have complained and the file is 2" thick. The homeowner is a senior resident and cannot complete the work.

Adams said they have identified the problem and will have a solution in the next few weeks.

"This has a direct impact on neighborhoods," he said. The ordinance department worked with the homeowner to find a workable solu-

tion. Business owners are also responsible for the upkeep of their property whether their building is occupied or not.

"Every case is unique. We want to get to the root of the problem," he said.

"This is a team effort. We are all agents of the community," he said.

"Communicate to us if you see a problem. We will address it and get results."



# Wayne-Westland gains 65 students from Inkster dissolution

Wayne-Westland Schools are not merging with or taking over Inkster Public Schools. As a result of the dissolution of the Inkster Public Schools, Wayne-Westland will gain the northwest quadrant of the former Inkster School District. This area includes a small portion of Westland and Inkster.

The new Wayne-Westland Community Schools boundaries will now include the area between Avondale and Michigan Avenue from Henry Ruff on the west to Middlebelt on the east.

In total Wayne-Westland will receive 65 students from Inkster Schools. There are 34 (K-5), 13 (6-8) and 18 (9-11) students who will attend David Hicks Elementary, Adams Upper Elementary, Franklin Middle School or Wayne Memorial High School.

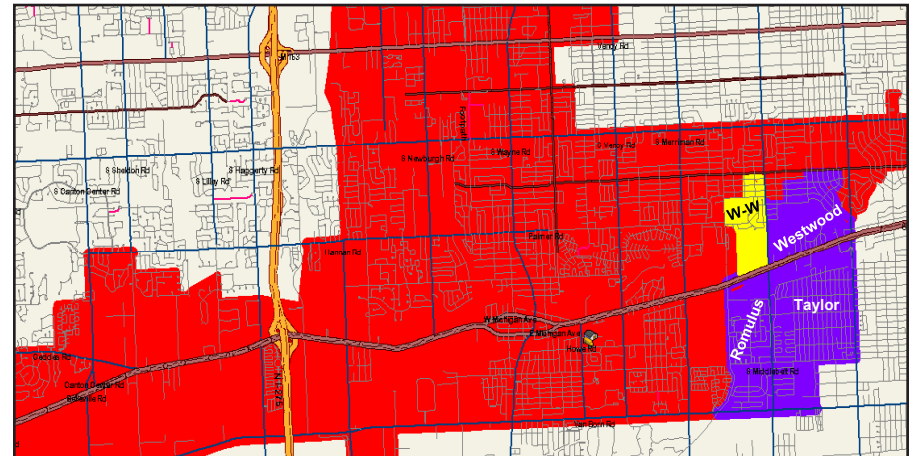
"We are going to welcome them with open arms," said Greg Baracy, superintendent, Wayne-Westland Schools. Romulus Schools will receive about 380 students, Taylor Schools 376 and Westwood Schools 133 students. There are about 900

Inkster students who came from Detroit Public Schools who will have to return to Detroit Public Schools.

An inventory of assets is being done in Inkster and will be divided up to the four districts. Wayne-Westland will also receive the one school that is located in their new quadrant, Blanchette Middle School, which will not be used by Wayne-Westland.

The receiving school districts are not taking staff, just the students and some of the inventory.

The dissolution of Inkster Public Schools is a result of a bill passed earlier this year for school districts with up to 2400 students. On July 18, 2013, State Treasurer Andy Dillon and State Superintendent Michael Flanagan determined that both Buena Vista and Inkster Public School Districts met all of the criteria required under Public Act 96 of 2013 that would require them to be dissolved. On July 23, 2013, they formally declared that both districts would be legally dissolved. Inkster Public Schools was dissolved due to its inability to obtain private financing.



The red is the Wayne-Westland School boundaries. The yellow is the quadrant of Inkster public schools that Wayne-Westland acquired. The purple is the portion of Inkster Public Schools that the other school districts acquired.

Registration for Inkster Public School students who will be attending Wayne-Westland Schools will be from 2-7 p.m. on Aug. 6 at the Meek-Baylor Media Center, Inkster.

Parents are asked to please bring the following registration information:

Child's original birth certificate with raised seal, current immunization record, a completed physical

form, parent's valid Michigan Drivers License or State ID with correct address and three proofs of residency including a mortgage or lease agreement and two pieces of business mail with the correct name and address. These may include a utility statement, bank statement, health insurance document, auto insurance document, DSS document or employment record.



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Four cities celebrate joint emergency Dispatch center

Westland Mayor William R. Wild welcomed city officials from Wayne, Garden City and Inkster to the newly operational Joint Emergency Dispatch Center.

Our municipalities must run leaner and be more efficient," Wild said. The focus of the consolidation was to do "the smart thing and the right thing."

Located in the Westland Police Station, the center fields 911 emergency calls for each of the four cities.

The center went live on June 30 with the official inauguration with city officials on July 29.

Inkster Mayor Hilliard Hampton said, "Collaborative partnerships are where we are going in municipalities. Our resources are dwindling."

This newest shared service venture will serve a combined population of 154,748 and will handle about 140,000 calls to service per year.

"In these tough times, creating efficiencies and combining resources are the way of the future and will allow cities to maintain essential services even when faced with shrinking budgets," he said.

They met the goal of reducing response time to residents while also saving the municipalities a combined \$380,000.

The project received a \$600,000 federal grant from Homeland Security to replace the dispatch counsels.

Wild said he hopes other communities look to the new combined



Mayor Al Haidous joined Westland Mayor William R. Wild, Inkster Mayor Hilliard Hampton and Garden City Mayor Randy Walker for the official opening of the combined Emergency Dispatch Center in Westland. Photo by Jenny Johnson

emergency dispatch center as a pilot program and blueprint for other municipalities.

Wayne Mayor Al Haidous said, "The 'do more for less' philosophy has been working. It will save jobs, enhance services and save tax dollars."

Garden City Mayor Randy Walker said, "This is a great day for all four communities. This is the first phase of more consolidations to come."

### Expansion approved at Mark Chevrolet

Construction will begin this fall

on an expansion and renovation of Mark Chevrolet on Michigan Avenue. There will be a complete renovation of the interior and exterior of the existing building which will include enclosing the canopy on the west side of the building that is used for service write ups. A vehicle plaza will be built on the east side of the building to display vehicles. The former site of Beehive Restaurant will be used as a customer parking lot.

Most of the work should be done before winter and the entire project will be complete by spring.

"This is a very fine improvement for the city," said Councilman Albert

Damitio.

### Save the Date-Movie Premiere in Wayne

Hollywood comes to Wayne on Sept. 28 for the movie premier of Infiltrators at the Phoenix Theaters State Wayne. The movie stars former Wayne resident Greg Jbara. All proceeds from this event will support the Champions of Wayne program at Wayne Memorial High School. For more information, please visit [championsofwayne.org](http://championsofwayne.org).

### Benefit for Brian Woehlke

The Wayne Westland professional fire fighters, Local 1279 and U.S.12 will host Woehlke-Palooza on Aug. 23 and Aug. 24 at U.S. 12, 34824 W. Michigan Ave., Wayne.

This outdoor event will be held in the parking lot of U.S.12 rain or shine beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday and 12 p.m. on Saturday.

Activities include fire fighter games like a station cook off, water ball, rolling water ball, combat challenge and corn hole. There will also be tactical demonstrations by fire fighters.

Saturday will be Family Fun Day with kids' contests including ice cream eating, Hula Hoop, musical chairs, clowns and face painting.

Live bands will start at 6 p.m. on Friday with Thrill Billies followed by Ty Stone and Headlined by Lo Cash Cowboys. Saturday's entertainment includes Juke Box Heroes, Pistol Day Parade, E5C4P3 and The Journey Tribute Band.

Food, drinks and DJ will be available all day inside and out. Please mark your calendar and come help

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# Circus comes back to town

By Jenny Johnson

Have you bought your tickets yet? The Kelly Miller Bros. Circus will be back in Wayne on Aug. 10 with two shows at 2 and 5:30 p.m. at Attwood Park. Tickets are on sale at the Wayne Community Center, Mark Chevrolet, Jack Demmer Ford, Henry's Service Center and Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for kids, ages 2-11. Kids under 2 are free. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time. Don't miss your chance to enjoy this amazing one-ring circus.

Come join in the celebration as the Kelly Miller Bros. Circus celebrates their 75th birthday. The fun will start first thing in morning around 9 a.m. when they raise the 11,000 sq ft. Big Top using elephant power. The elephants weigh more than 6500 lbs.

The circus will arrive the night before and bright and early the magic will begin when animals are unloaded, stakes are driven and the elephants lift the giant Big Top into the air.

This event is open to the public

and is free of charge. After the four main poles are raised the public is invited into the tent to see the rest of the work. A Kelly Miller circus staff member will be the tour guide and answer all questions.

Don't miss out on an afternoon of family fun. The show will include performances by Ryan Holder and his talented tigers; a musical performance by clowns Steve Copeland and Ryan Combs; acrobat Fridman Torales will perform from the top of the big top; Capt. Mike Rice and his zebras are a blaze of black and white; lightning fast juggler Raul Olivares; high speed hula hooping; a red, white and blue animal revue featuring llamas, goats and dogs.

And don't forget the biggest stars in show business, the Kelly Miller elephants. Performing with the elephants is Armando Loyal a 9th generation circus performer.

The Kelly Miller Circus has gathered a galaxy of stars from many nations, as well as an exotic display of animals, and packed it all into a two-hour performance that will warm the hearts of young and old alike.



Councilman John Rhaesa opens the elephant rides at last year's sold out circus.

## Facts about Kelly Miller Bros. Circus

The circus travels about 10,000 miles every year and performs in over 200 cities in North America from March to October.

The circus travels with over 70 staff and two-dozen animals. The seating capacity of the tent is 1100.

The tent is 120' by 120' and is 40' high and is supported by more than a quarter of a mile of heavy gauge aluminum tubing as well as several miles of rope, steel cable and chain.

Kelly Miller Bros. Circus employs 11 people to take care of all of the circus animals.

The animals receive a veterinary exam every 30 days.



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## Reinvest in Wayne

By Jenny Johnson

The Winchester Consulting Group (WCG) wants to help residents, business owners and other stakeholders Reinvest in Wayne. Hired in March, they provide grant writing, lobbying and consulting services to the city.

WCG was able to secure a six-month \$135,000 extension to the SAFER Grant for the Wayne-Westland Fire Department.

They have applied for several grants to help the city provide services for residents including the Competitive Grant Assistance Program, which is a recycling program and was written in collaboration with Garden City. If awarded, this would provide over \$1 million for curbside recycling carts.

The city's website will also get help from WCG.

"We need to get Wayne an online presence. We are in the process of redesigning the website with a page for press releases and a Facebook page," said Lisa Nocerini, WCG vice president.

WCG is working with city departments, Ford Motor Company and DTE energy to increase the energy efficiency of city buildings and streetlights and reduce the cost of the electric bill. Currently the city pays \$1 million to DTE.

Another idea suggested by WCG is a business incubator to attract start up businesses.

"It's a way to grow Wayne," Nocerini said.

The city could work with Michigan State University who would provide free assistance to help get the

"We have a lot of opportunity here."

**Lisa Nocerini**

The Winchester Consulting Group

Vice-President

program started. The city would provide a building that could be used to house several small businesses under one roof. They would share utilities, technology and support services until their businesses grew large enough to move into a larger space.

Nocerini said there are a lot of good ideas but it's all a hodgepodge.

Reinvest in Wayne is a way to get the community engaged, bring talent to the table and focus on improving housing, business retention, economic development and parks and recreation.

"We have a lot of opportunity here," she said.

Councilman Skip Monit said, "I don't think any of us realized the true ability. This city needs a direction. We stumble around and don't have that direction and what you are saying to me tonight is 'here's the direction'. I like everything I've heard."

They are able to help provide research and information for the voters on the 7 mills that will be on the November ballot. If approved, it will provide funding for 10 years for a 345 program for a police and fire retirement fund.



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# Summer fun

Ahhhhhhhhh, summer. We wait for this season all year long. Especially here in Michigan! Long, warm summer days are the best. If you think about your childhood you remember the thrill of the last days of school and the excitement and expectation of many long days of play with your siblings, friends and neighbors. Early Wayne was a wonderful place to enjoy summers. Long ago the pace was much slower and people entertained themselves in the village of Wayne in very simple ways. There were picnics along the Rouge River or Carpenter Lake on Hannan Rd. You could sit in the Public Square on summer evenings and hear a band concert. A trip to Bob-Lo was a special treat in the summer or a family reunion with relatives coming from far and near to re-connect. A horse and buggy ride on a summer afternoon was enjoyed as well as a nap in a hammock. Also, everyone looked forward to the circus coming to town in the summer. What a great time that was. Long, lazy summer days were special. Of course there were the chores to do on the farms and children were expected to help before running off for a swim in the Rouge or to play with neighbor children.

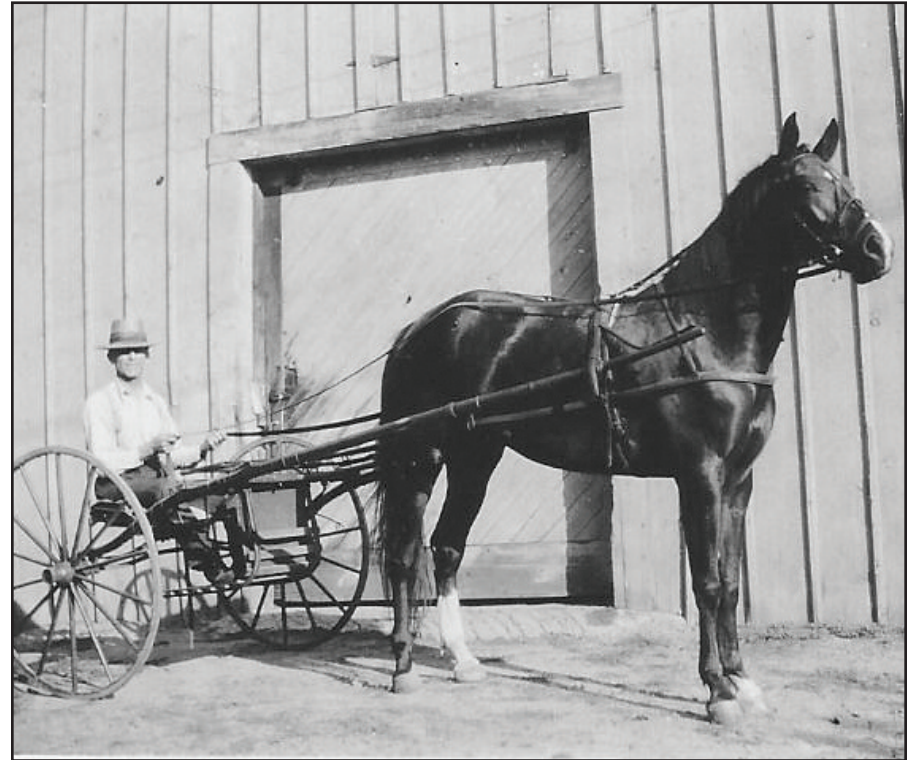
Another favorite summer pastime of the people of Wayne were the horse races at the race track in Wayne. In 1911, several area business men put up the money to build

## Memory Lane

**Darlene Hawley**



a horse race track in Wayne. It was built on part of the property owned by Ben Simmons who operated a riding stable on Sims Street. His property ran from Sims to Glenwood and the track was constructed on the property north of the Rouge in the area of the "flats" south of Wayne Memorial High School where the original football field was located in 1953. The track was an oval ½ mile 450 foot wide dirt track and was in operation until 1925. In the summers of the 1920's a rodeo would be held at the track on the Ash Street side. The caretaker of the track was Mose Duphel. He lived in a small house on the high ground next to Glenwood Cemetery. His duties were to take care of the track and the horses as well as do some farming. The old band stand was moved from the Public Square to the track to be used as a shelter. The grand stand was located on the side of the hill on the north end of the track. When there were no races, the track was used for training and working out the horses. Betting on the races was illegal but it did take place.



Tony Snyder and his horse he raced on the Wayne track. Photos courtesy of The Wayne Historical Museum

Yes, early Wayne was a wonderful place to enjoy long, lazy, warm summer days in an old fashioned way but we have a lot of opportunities to enjoy summer today right here in

Wayne and our beautiful state of Michigan. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Thanks to Museum Manager, Richard Story, for information for this article.



1911, several area business men put up the money to build a horse race track in Wayne. Photos courtesy of The Wayne Historical Museum

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# Summer Fun Fore all at the library

Play golf at the library? Sure you can! On August 17th between 11:00 am and 4:00pm the Wayne Library will be closed for regular library business. It will be transformed into a mini 18 hole golf course. This fundraiser will be a fun outing for the whole family.

Your ticket will purchase one golf ball and one putter. You'll then play golf throughout the library.

All the proceeds will be used to purchase children's books and audio-visual materials.

Student tickets (ages 6-18) are \$3. Adult tickets (ages 18+) are \$5 and a family ticket (up to 6 people) is \$15. An adult must accompany all children.

The Library Staff is so pleased with the sponsors, and want to thank those who have given money or products for this fundraiser. There is still time to contribute to our wonderful library, by donating money or another type of gift. Your company or family's name will be displayed on scorecards and promotional items. Just call Library Director Paulette Medvecky at 734-641-4627 for more information.

Donators to the Golf fundraiser include \$500.00 from The Winchester Group and from Kohl's Care. Donations of \$100.00 from the following: Uht's Funeral Home, EQ Environmental, John and Natalie Rhaesa, Northside Hardware, Jim Henley, Wayne Rotary, Langworthy-Kendall Insurance, American Jetway, Lubemart Associates, Jim Hawley, Wayne Civitans, Employment &

## Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



Training Designs, Laura Mack, The Kelly Family, Kevin M. McNamara, Imperial Press, The Staff of the Wayne Public Library, Donna and Barry McEachern and Robert Kosowski. Jack's Sports donated \$50.

Other gifts are: 2 Hair Cuts from Anything's Possible; Food Coupons from Papa Romano's and Pizza Hut; 2 Wheel Works Wash Coupons from Johnson's Car Wash; 2 \$25 Food Coupons from BaBa's; free cones from Dairy Queen and a \$25.00 gift certificate from Leo's.

Basket's to be raffled off are from: Paulette Medvecky—a basket of sport balls; Bev Woodard—a spa basket; Clare Maloney—a movie basket; Bev Blankertz—Barbie basket; Stephanie—dog basket; Lois VanStipdonk—cake basket; and Dee Ryan—wine and cheese basket.

You also can have lunch at the 19th hole. There'll be hot dogs, chips, pop and candy.

So put on your British Open Golf duds and come play golf; a fun fundraiser, which will help, support our beautiful Wayne Public Library.

Ed McMurray would like to remind you about the annual meeting of "Friends Helping Friends." You'll

meet at the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center on Sims, on September 14. Be there at 9:15 and have breakfast; then start work on a pre-selected home to paint, plant, or do another type of 'fixing up.'

For more information, please call Wayne's Department of Community Development -722-2002.

Did you have a good time at the Car Cruise in July? Did you see the display of hearses in ICON Computer parking lot? They belong to the only car club in Hell (MI.) It's called Just Hearse'n Around.

In 2011 they established a Guinness world record with the longest hearse parade ever. In 2012 they lost the record to a funeral home in Amsterdam.

One is a party hearse called "Wicked Celebration." With an all leather interior, it can be rented for proms and other celebrations. Another is Dr. Frybrain's Pumpkin Embalmer, which advises you to "Stay Creepy." If you take part in the annual hearse parade, you'll be awarded with a diploma from Damnation University. If you shorten that a little you'll come up with a phrase that I really can't use here. Oh yes, you have to eat—right? Well along with all the hearses we have hot dogs cooking on the 'caseteria.' Thanks to Bill Campbell and Frank Hudson, along with Shirley Reinhart and Amanda Whitenburg for providing the fun and the information.

The next meeting of the Just Hearsen Around club will be September

21 in Hell. Plenty of fun and screams guaranteed.

Cindy Adams, part of the Uht's Funeral Home team, broached the idea of joining the next hearse parade. According to Cindy, her suggestion was met with "great enthusiasm." Our last stop on the cruise was the parking lot in front of Radio Shack and Papa Romanos. Just as I was about to give up hope, I spotted that beautiful Ford Galaxie that I fell in love with last month. There it was in all its gleaming glory, facing Michigan Avenue and sparkling in the sunshine. It was a lovely way to end our cruise.

Big Birthday party at the Community Center. It was on August 3rd, and was Ruby Kovarik's 90th.

Ruby is the beautiful lady who is Pam Dobrowolski's Mom. Ruby has 4 children—Allen, Pam, Donna and Dan. She is the proud Grandma of 13 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren. They all came to join 'Grandma's big celebration.'

The picture Pam D. posted on the e-mail invitation, was vintage 1940's. Ruby is wearing a cute hat. Seems she worked at a photo booth as a young lady, and when business was slow, she and the other girls amused themselves by trying on different hats—then taking photos of each other.

We may be a little late with this, but we do want to wish the beautiful Mrs. Ruby Kovarik a very Happy Birthday.

Dee@TheWayneDispatch.com



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# Free Concerts in the Park returns

Thanks to the generous support of several business owners and civic organizations, Concerts in the Park are back. They will be each Wednesday from 7:30-9 p.m. from Aug. 7 to Sept. 4 at Goudy Park.

They will follow the Farmers Market, which runs Wednesday from 3-7 p.m.

## The schedule is as follows:

**Aug. 7 - The Missing Link**, blues and vintage rock, sponsored by Henry's Auto Service

**Aug. 14 - Gemini**, 1960s and Kids, sponsored by Wayne Rotary, Civitans and Ripple Effect

**Aug. 21 - Marty Viers & The Music Doctors** featuring David

**James**, Contemporary sounds like Jimmy Buffett, Johnny Cash and Neil Diamond sponsored by local realtors

**Aug. 28 - Phillip Bickford, from Crosspointe Community Church, Christian Rock**, sponsored by Wayne Rotary, Civitans and Ripple Effect

**Sept. 4 - TC & the Cats**, oldies and classics sponsored by Papa Romanos

All concerts are free and family friendly.

"I think this is something we have been missing down in our park," said Mayor Pro Tem Pam Dobrowolski.

# Council approves language for November ballot

Voters in Wayne will be asked to approve up to a 7- mill charter amendment for 10 years that would provide funding to establish a police and fire retirement system under Public Act 345.

In a 5-2 vote city council approved putting the amendment on the November ballot. Councilmen Jim Hawley and John Rhaesa voted no.

If approved, beginning with the 2014-15 fiscal year, police officers and firefighters will become members of a separate retirement system and contributions will be transferred

"I am having problems with this process and asking people for this added cost."

**Jim Hawley**  
Wayne City Councilman

to the Public Act 345 system. The 7 mills would raise about \$1.98 million.

City officials have said this would help the city's budget problems by taking the retirement cost of the police and fire departments out of the general fund. Otherwise the city will

have to cut up to \$2 million out of the budget.

Council initially discussed asking voters to levy 5 mills for five years but that motion failed.

Councilman Jim Hawley said, "I am having problems with this process and asking people for this added cost."

He said creating a Fire Authority requires a vote of the people and "I think that is more important and I don't think you can pass both of them. I'm wrestling with whether I would support this resolution or not."

It is expected that the creation of the fire authority will be on the ballot in Nov. 2014.

Councilman Albert Damitio said, "I don't want to confuse what is going to happen with the Wayne Westland fire department. 345 is separate from this issue. I think we really need to have this pass by the citizens."

He said, "Otherwise we are looking at a critical situation."

Councilman John Rhaesa said he is concerned about taxes getting higher for residents and people choosing not to move to Wayne.



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Health and Safety Fair

Don't miss the Wayne County Health and Safety Fun Fest from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. on Aug. 22, at 33030 Van Born, at Venoy, in Wayne. This popular back-to-school event is free to the public. It will offer free health services, back-to-school immunizations, health and dental screenings from local health partners, and important information about nutrition and exercise and how individuals can live healthier lifestyles.

The event also provides educational materials about Wayne County's many programs and services and features vendor booths, entertainment, giveaways, refreshments and much more! Free backpacks filled with school supplies will be provided to the first 300 school-aged children in attendance.

This year's Fun Fest will feature mobile Health on Wheels units, which will offer screenings for diabetes, cholesterol, blood pressure and other health-related checkups. There will also be Head Start information, Wayne Police and Fire, lead testing, gun safety locks and bike safety helmets and child car seat giveaways. Must be present to win giveaways.

For more information about the Wayne County Health and Safety Fun Fest, call 734.727.7000 or 734.727.7030, or visit [www.wayne-county.com](http://www.wayne-county.com).

### Blood Drive

Answer the Call and give blood in honor of everyday heroes. The Wayne-Westland Fire Department and Westland Police will hold a



Wayne County Health and Safety Fun Fest provides educational materials about Wayne County's many programs and services and features vendor booths, entertainment, giveaways, refreshments and much more!

Blood Drive from 1:00-6:45pm on Aug. 5 at the Friendship Center, located at 1119 Newburgh Rd. in Westland.

### Classic Car Show

Maple Manor, 3999 Venoy, will host a Classic Car Show from 12-4 p.m. on Aug. 4. Registration is free and there will be trophies. There will also be complimentary lunch, refreshments and live entertainment. Don't miss a great family event. For more information, please call 734-727-0440 ext. 10.

### Fall Festival

St. John's Episcopal Church in Westland will be having a Fall Festival on Saturday Oct. 12. They are looking for crafters who would like to rent a table for \$25. If you are in-

terested, please contact St. John's at 734-721-5023, or Sharon Scott at 734-722-4651.

### Scarecrows coming back to downtown

The Wayne Ripple Effect will host Scarecrow decorating again this fall on the light poles in downtown Wayne. Residents, businesses and community organizations are welcome to purchase the frames at the Wayne Farmers Market and decorate a scarecrow.

"We are extremely impressed and proud of the creativity of our residents- from whimsical to frightening and everything in between," said Sherrie Brindley, Wayne Ripple Effect. "We can't deny this kind of project. It is such a positive and always looks great," said Councilman Skip

Monit.

For more information on the scarecrow-decorating project, please visit [www.downtownwayne.org](http://www.downtownwayne.org).

### Blues, Brew and BBQ

The 3rd annual Blues, Brews & BBQ will be 6-9 p.m. on Sept. 20 and 12-10 p.m. on Sept. 21 at Westland City Hall grounds, 36601 Ford Road, Westland.

Blues, Brews & BBQ is a family friendly event that allows visitors the opportunity to taste some of the food served by the area's best local restaurants while enjoying great music by several bands and sampling micro-brewed beers all made right here in Michigan. Since it's inception in 2011, Blues, Brews & BBQ uses local community organizations to staff the event. More than \$30,000 has been donated to local charities.

For more information, please visit [www.cityofwestland.com](http://www.cityofwestland.com) or on Facebook at All American Blues, Brews & BBQ.

### Field of Dreams

It's the opportunity of a lifetime. There will be a Wayne Memorial High School Alumni Baseball game at 3:30 p.m. on Aug. 4 at the old Tiger Stadium in Detroit. Former Detroit Tiger and WMHS alumni Pat Sheridan will throw out the first pitch. Most players will be from the graduating classes of 1999-2004 and played under coach Tom Wakefield.

This is a charitable event. They will collect nonperishable food, clothes and new or gently used baseball equipment. Proceeds will benefit the Wayne Goodfellows.



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**August 14** *Gemini* 60's & Kids

**August 21** *Marty Viers & The Music Doctors*  
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Jimmy Buffet, Johnny Cash & Neil Diamond

**August 28** *Phillip Bickford*  
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