

# THE WAYNE Dispatch

JANUARY 2015



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# Council works with departments on budget

City council is going to divide and conquer. Mayor James Hawley initiated a plan to have each council person work with a different city department to provide insight and information on that department's operation and budget.

The goal of these subcommittees is to be able to make quicker decisions about the city's budget deficit and help plan for future budgets.

Mayor James Hawley will work with the parks and recreation department to assess the future of the Wayne Community Center and the merger with the City of Westland.

Mayor Pro Tem Skip Monit will work with the Wayne-Westland Fire Department to research different types of fire services that may benefit Wayne.

Councilwoman Susan Rowe will

work with newly appointed Police Chief Al Maciag to determine the best options for the police department.

Councilman Albert Damitio will start working on next year's budget and work with the finance department to assess the city's current deficit.

Councilman John Rhaesa will focus on economic development and communication.

Councilman David James will focus on the department of public works, upcoming road and sidewalk projects and the reconstruction of the city council chambers and roof at City Hall.

The city currently has an estimated \$500,000 budget deficit this year and an estimated deficit for next year.

## Wayne City Council appoints new member

Wayne City Council appointed Anthony Wayne Miller to fill a council seat left vacant by the resignation of Mayor Al Haidous. Haidous was elected to Wayne County Commission and resigned in November. James Hawley was appointed mayor and city council had 30 days to interview and appoint a new council member.

Miller was one of three candidates who submitted a letter of interest and was interviewed by the council.

Miller said he sought the position because of "my concerns for the quality of life and our property values in the community."

He works full time as a produce manager at a Kroger in Westland and has lived in Wayne since 1988. He has been attending council meetings for the past few years and has participated in the city's study sessions.

"Now with my new assignment I look forward to expanding my civic activities," he said.

Miller said with cooperative efforts, "I hope we can accomplish a balanced budget, a vibrant downtown and a feeling that we, residents



City Clerk Matthew Miller congratulates Anthony Miller after swearing him in as a Councilman for the City of Wayne.

**"Now with my new assignment I look forward to expanding my civic activities." Councilman Anthony Miller**

and businesses, are in this together."

Miller has already been sworn in and his first council meeting will be Jan. 6. He will serve until the November 2015 election.



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# President speaks at Ford Plant

By Jenny Johnson

President Barack Obama visited the Ford Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne on Jan. 7.

This visit was his first stop on a three-city tour that will highlight proposals that will be included in his Jan. 20 State of the Union address. Building on the progress that has been made is the theme of his address this year.

While in Wayne he talked about the government's efforts to help the automotive industry and the progress that has been made in the past six years. President George W. Bush initiated the auto bailout plan before he left office but President Obama's administration approved about \$80 billion in financing to help General Motors and Chrysler.

The year before Obama took office he said one in five auto-workers were pink slipped as car sales plunged 40% and 400,000 jobs vanished in the auto industry.

"This state proves no matter how tough times get Americans are tough," he said.

But today he said the government's intervention in the auto industry officially came to an end last month when the car industry finished paying back "every dime and more" of the money they received in the bailout. Ford Motor was the only auto company to not accept a bailout.

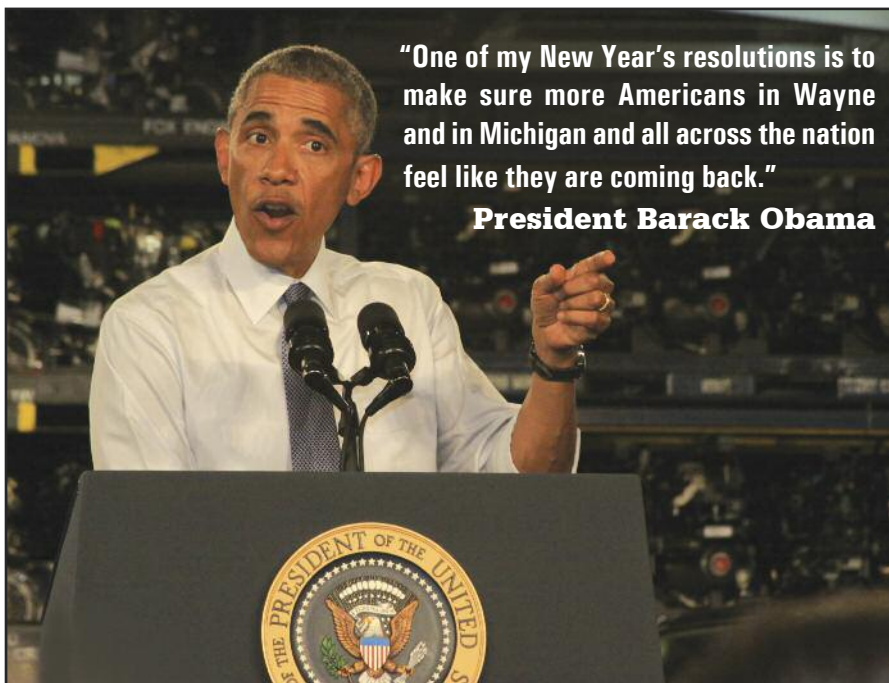
"Detroit always comes back and that is why I am here today. One of my New Year's resolutions is to make sure more Americans in Wayne and in Michigan and all across the nation feel like they are coming back," said President Barack Obama.

He said it is because of the steps his administration took early on that Americans are able to enter into the new year with confidence that American is coming back.

"It was not popular to make the decision to bail out the auto industry," Obama said. Even in Michigan there was only about a 10% approval rating.



President Barack Obama believes the American auto industry is coming back. Photo by Kathy Hansen



**"One of my New Year's resolutions is to make sure more Americans in Wayne and in Michigan and all across the nation feel like they are coming back."**

**President Barack Obama**

Photo by John P. Rhaesa

"I ran to do the right thing and saving the American auto industry was the right thing to do and that bet has paid off for America because the American auto industry is back," he said.

Last year was the strongest year job growth since 1990s, Obama said. Since 2010 America has put more people back to work than Europe, Japan and other advanced economies combined.

"And leading the way is American manufacturing," he said. "We are making more stuff and we are selling it around the world."

The past six years have been tough and have demanded hard work and sacrifice.

"You guys know that more than any," he said to the crowd of Ford employees at Michigan Assembly plant. "The point is we are moving. America's resurgence is real."

"You are helping rebuild the 21st century for middle class America," he said.

This was the president's third stop in Michigan in the past year.

After the President's speech State Representative Robert Kosowski stated, "What a truly great day for the City of Wayne. To have President Obama at the Wayne Ford Assembly Plant was totally amazing and his speech was not only memorable but so inspirational. I was moved from the first word."

The Michigan Assembly Plant first opened in 1957 and manufactured the station wagon, Ford Bronco, Ford F-Series, Expedition and Lincoln Navigator. Today they manufacture the gas-powered, battery electric, hybrid and plug in hybrid model of the Ford Focus.



Photo by Kathy Hansen

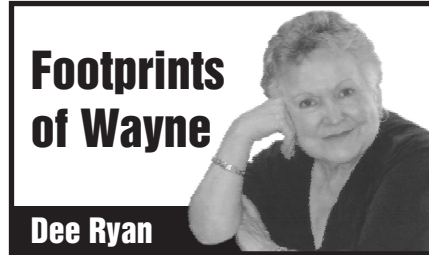
# What's everybody reading?

City Clerk, Matt Miller: "I'm reading "Ruth's Journey; The Authorized Novel of Mammy from Margaret Mitchell's "Gone with the Wind." He says "Not only do you know all about the families from "Gone With the Wind" you get a pretty accurate account of the uprisings in Saint Dominique, now called Haiti. The author is Donald McCraig.

Matt also read "Stella Bain" by Anita Shreve. It's sort of a WWI Detective type book. The main character has lost her memory. She has to trace her history back from England to France where she had volunteered as a nurse's aide, at the front in France. "It's a quick good read."

Mary Lindsay read "The Poisoners Handbook" by Deborah Blum, and "One Summer, American, 1927". It's written by one of Mary's favorite authors, Bill Bryson. Both books are about events in America that take place at the same time.

"The Taken" is Co-Director Paulette Medvecky's current read. As she described it to me, we both burst out laughing. The story features Detective Inspector Hazel Micaleff, 62, of the Ontario Provincial Police. It opens with Hazel recovering from horrific back surgery. It has forced her to take humiliating residence in the basement of her ex-husband's home, which he shares with his sunny, younger, second wife. The sunny, second wife also has to bring meals to the basement, since Hazel is incapacitated. Hazel's annoying 87 year old mother is also in the basement because she can't be left alone. There is a murder mystery in all this---but who cares, when you have characters like Hazel.



Our new Library Co-Director, Steve McGladdery, sends this list. "The Redbreast" by Jo Nesbo, "Thomas Becket", a biography by Frank Barlow. He adds today I've started "The Sound and the Fury," by William Faulkner. It's an audio book for the time he spends in his car.

Ed Marman, President of the Library Board, sends the following. "Northern Orchards---Places Near the Dead; Essays and Poems about Cemeteries", written by James Silas Rogers. "Leningrad: Siege and Symphony," the story of the great city, terrorized by Stalin, starved by Hitler, and immortalized by Shostakovich. The author is Brian Moynahan.

Carol Weyand, a member of the Library Board, is reading "Walking Across Egypt." No, not really Egypt, but a small town in North Carolina. A 78 year old, Mattie Riggsbee, has no grandchildren, but finds Wesley Benfield, a wayward teenager and orphan. Their need for each other is the basis of this warm story.

The Ladies' Literary Club has printed its book list for the year.

"The Ladies # 1 Detective Agency"--- Alexander McCall Smith; "Big Stone Gap", "Big Cherry Holler", "Milk Glass Moon"--- Adriana Tri-giani; "Inferno" --- Dan Brown; "Fifteen Minutes"---Karen Kingsberry;



The Wayne-Westland community came out for spaghetti dinner on January 4th and raised \$2,500 toward the funeral expenses of a Franklin Middle School student Raymond Patton. Pictured are Raymond's father with event organizers Lillian Easterly Smith, Buddy Shuh, Michelle Tackett-Langa and Michelle Volckaert Rowe. Photo by John P. Rhaesa

"The Girl With a Clock for a Heart"--- Peter Swanson; "Chew of Tobacco"--- Ann Tobias; "Orphan Train"--- Christina Baker Kline; "The Husband's Secret" --- Liane Moriarty; and "All the Light You Cannot See" --- Anthony Doerr.

Former Wayne resident, Betty Young, is reading "The Great Santini, by Pat Conroy. I recommend "Delicious," by Ruth Reichle. It follows the day to day trials and tribulations of a Gourmet Food Magazine. I also liked "Killing Patton"---especially his prayers. He addresses God thusly--- "Patton Here." He then goes on to ask a favor, usually begging for good weather, especially during The Battle of the Bulge. The authors are Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard.

Pam Dobrowolski hosted her annual Biddle St. Babes Christmas Gala on Dec. 19th. Good friends, and great food, plus gifts to open, always make this a memorable evening.

Their Christmas tree is always amazing. I have no idea how they

can even get it in their living room. It's huge---and just when you're sure a tree can't get any bigger---each year it does.

Good to see our old friends and meet some new neighbors. Enjoying the evening were Jean Smoes, Marilyn Sawyer, Cindy Bousley, Bridget Kelly, Phyllis Guest, Betty Spaw, Pat McCloskey, Mary Katherine Hamilton, Mary Lindsay, Sharon Gilbert, Terresa Ramsay, and lovely Ruby Kavarik, Pam's mom.

Missing for most of the evening were Barbara Wootton and her daughter, Suzie Hammons. They did make a brief appearance, with Barb's newly arrived grandson, Jeremy Frigo, home on leave from the U.S Navy. Jeremy is a Nuclear Engineer based in Norfolk VA.

On Wednesday, January 14, "US-12 a History" will be introduced and signed by the author, Gladys Scorio. Time: 6:30 p.m. at the Library.

Let us hope and pray for Peace in 2015.



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Leader dogs for the blind

Join Jan Crawford at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 7 at the Wayne Public Library as she shares her experiences as a puppy raiser for this organization dedicated to the empowerment and independence of blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind people. Learn about the rigorous training required for puppies to become qualified service dogs and meet a canine candidate aspiring to be someone's dedicated helper. This free program is being presented by The Friends of the Wayne Public Library.

### Family Story Times

The Wayne Public Library will host family story times at 2 p.m. on Jan. 13, 20, 27 and Feb. 3 and 10 for toddlers and preschool children and parents.

### Haidous Swearing in

The Wayne County Commission will start the 2015-16 term with two new commissioners: Terry Marecki (R-Livonia), who represents the 9th District, and Abdul "Al" Haidous (D-Wayne), who represents the 11th District. Commissioner Haidous previously served as the City of Wayne's mayor and Commissioner Marecki previously was the Livonia City Clerk. The ceremonial swearing-in for all 15 commissioners will be at 10 a.m. on Jan. 8, at the Guardian Building, 500 Griswold, Detroit. The public is welcome. The agenda is at [www.waynecounty.com/commission/699.htm](http://www.waynecounty.com/commission/699.htm).



The Wayne-Westland Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Ceremony at 10 a.m. on Jan. 19 at Westland City Hall Grande Ballroom, 36300 Warren Rd.

### MLK Celebration

The Wayne-Westland community is invited to attend the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Ceremony at 10 a.m. on Jan. 19 at Westland City Hall Grande Ballroom, 36300 Warren Rd. This year's keynote speaker will be Dr. Curtis Ivery, Chancellor of Wayne County Community College.

Dr. Ivery is a renowned author of several books, the recipient of the Michigan Man of the Year and the Michigan Newsmaker of the Year Awards, and was the first African American and youngest cabinet member in Arkansas state history.

City Hall's doors will open at 9:00 a.m. Light refreshments will follow the event.

### WMHS 8th grade Parent Night

Wayne Memorial High School will be hosting an 8th grade parent night for those transitioning to 9th grade or interested in getting more information about Wayne Memorial High School for the 2015-2016 school year. Students do not have to be currently attending a Wayne-Westland Community School to attend. The event will be held on February 4, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Wayne Memorial High School Stockmeyer Auditorium. Topics covered will include: scheduling, graduation requirements, testing out requirements, direct college courses, AP courses, extra-curricular activities, and much more. All are welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Parking is available in the Glenwood Street parking lot and guests should enter through the front of the auditorium. Any additional questions should be directed to the Counseling Department at 734-419-2215.

### Seniors are you being scammed??

Senior citizens are invited to a free seminar at 1 p.m. on Jan. 15 in the multi-purpose room of the Wayne Public Library. A presenter from Walgreens will provide tips to avoid being scammed.

### Northpole Classic

The Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation Department is hosting the annual Northpole Classic golf outing at 9 a.m. on Jan. 24 at Westland Municipal Golf Course. The cost is \$25 per golfer and includes two beverages, a hot dog and a t-shirt. Please pre-register at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne or call 734-721-7400 for more information.

### Daddy/Daughter Date Night

The annual Daddy/Daughter Date Night will be 7-8:30 p.m. on Feb. 11 at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne. The cost is \$12/couple and \$16 for an adult with two daughters for residents and \$13/couple for non-residents or \$18 for adult with two daughters.

Photos will be available from 6-7 p.m. Tickets are available at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne.

### Mother/Son Sports Night

Join the fun at Mother/Son Sports Night from 7-8:30 p.m. on Feb. 11 at the Wayne Community Center. The cost for residents is \$12/couple and \$16/mom and two sons. The cost for non-residents is \$13/couple and \$18/mom and two sons. The cost for each additional daughter or son is \$5. Tickets are for sale at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road.

#### CITY OF WAYNE RENEWAL PERIOD

### 2015 DOG & CAT LICENSES

The 2015 dog & cat tags are available for sale in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall. All dogs & cats four months of age or older must be licensed (certificate of rabies vaccination required) and wear a collar with current tag attached. Tags obtained by February 26, 2015, will be at a lesser fee.

#### Fees during annual licensing period ending February 26, 2015

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

#### Fees from March 1 thru December 30, 2015

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

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

Any questions please contact the Clerk's Office at 722-2204.



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

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

# New Year new progress

## Holiday Window Display Contest Winners Announced

Wayne Main Street hosted the 1st Annual Holiday Window Display Contest during the month of December. Working with businesses located in the Main Street district, this effort to light up Downtown Wayne for the holidays encouraged stores to decorate their windows to promote downtown.

On the night of the Rotary Holiday Parade of Lights a team of volunteer Judges selected the "Judge's Choice" award winner: JJ's Styling Station (3131 S. Wayne Rd.)

After the Rotary Holiday Parade, Wayne Main Street prepared a Facebook campaign displaying all entries enabling the public to view and vote on their favorite Window Display. The winning entry, Platinum Tanning (35501 W. Michigan Ave.) was awarded the "People's Choice" prize.

## Main Street General Meeting Lunch & Learn – January 15th at Noon

Wayne Main Street's Organization Committee is hosting a "Lunch & Learn" General Meeting at Community Living Services on Thursday, January 15th from 12:00 - 1:30 PM. Interested in knowing who serves on Wayne Main Street committees? Want to know what they have been working on? Here is your chance to meet some volunteers and learn about the progress that they've been making! Bring your own sack lunch and enthusiasm!

## Downtown Wayne Main Street

Lindsey Wooten



**When:** Thursday, January 15, 2015 - 12:00-1:30 PM

**Where:** Community Living Services (35425 W. Michigan Ave.)

**Who:** Public Welcome

Partner Roundtable Meeting – January 22nd.

Wayne Main Street is meeting with representatives of all service organizations and churches in Wayne for the opportunity to share information about the Wayne Main Street Program and our plans for 2015. We see endless opportunity to create vital partnerships for the revitalization of Downtown Wayne and are asking attendees to bring their 2015 Event Calendars and to share the mission and goals of their organization. Light refreshments will be provided!

vided!

**When:** Thursday - January 22, 2015 at 6:00 – 8:00 pm

**Where:** Wayne Activity and Banquet Center (35000 Sims Street)

**Who:** Leaders/Representatives from local civic organizations and churches

**Tickets:** To enter, please bring your organization's 2015 Event Calendar

**RSVP** by Friday, January 16th, by calling (734) 629-6822 or emailing [director@downtownwayne.org](mailto:director@downtownwayne.org)

## Main Street Façade Incentive Grant Program Info Meeting – February 17th

The Wayne Main Street Design Committee will host an informational meeting announcing the new Wayne Main Street Façade Incentive Grant program! This informational meeting is intended for building and business owners located within the Wayne Main Street district and will present the Main Street 4-Point Ap-



"Judge's Choice" award winner: JJ's Styling Station, 3131 S. Wayne Road.

proach, guidelines for applying, and end with an open question and answer session with Executive Director Lindsey Wooten and members of the Design Committee. Admission is free.

**When:** Tuesday, February 17th – 6:00 PM

**Where:** Wayne Fire Station (3300 S. Wayne Rd.)

**Who:** Building and business owners located in the Wayne Main Street District

## Donate

Wayne Main Street is your organization. As a non-profit, volunteer driven organization your financial gift is needed to carry out the numerous projects that will revitalize Downtown Wayne in 2015. All donations are tax deductible! Visit [www.downtownwayne.org](http://www.downtownwayne.org) and click "DONATE" for more information.



Platinum Tanning, 35501 W. Michigan Ave., was awarded the "People's Choice" in the Main Street Holiday lights contest.

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 Call (734) 721-7400 or visit us at  
 4635 Howe Road, Wayne, MI 48184!!

WAYNE/WESTLAND PARKS AND RECREATION



## Upcoming Events

### Northpole Classic

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2015**  
 at The Westland Municipal Golf Course  
**Registration Begins 9:00AM**  
**Cost: \$25.00 Per Golfer**  
 (Includes 2 beverages, hot dog and t-shirt)  
**Pre-Register** at the Wayne Community Center  
 4635 Howe Road, Wayne, MI 48184  
 or call (734) 721-7400 for more info!



### Daddy/Daughter Date Night

**Wednesday, February 11, 2015**  
 at The Wayne Community Center  
**Pictures: 6:00-7:30pm**  
**Dance: 7:00-8:30pm**  
 Tickets on sale at the  
 Wayne Community Center  
**Cost:**  
 Residents\* \$12 / couple  
 \$16 / dad & 2 daughters  
**Non-Resident\*:**  
 \$13 / per couple  
 \$18 / dad & 2 daughters  
 \*Additional Daughter: \$5 / each

### Mother/Son Sports Night



**Wednesday, February 25, 2015**  
 at The Wayne Community Center  
**Pictures: 6:00-7:30pm**  
**Games: 7:00-8:30pm**  
 Tickets on sale at the  
 Wayne Community Center  
**Cost:**  
 Residents\* \$12 / couple  
 \$16 / mom & 2 sons  
**Non-Resident\*:**  
 \$13 / per couple  
 \$18 / mom & 2 sons  
 \*Additional Son: \$5 / each

## WAYNE COMMUNITY CENTER



4635 Howe Road / Wayne, MI 48184  
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**734-721-7400**

# Norwayne Boxing Gym Grand Opening

The Norwayne Boxing Gym will celebrate its Grand Opening from 12-4 p.m. on Jan. 10 at Jefferson-Barns Recreation Center, 32150 Dorsey Street, Westland. The gym will be open to anyone who is a competitive fighter or just looking to learn the art of boxing.

Wayne Memorial High School Alumni and undefeated professional boxer Jeff Styers funded this program.

The gym will offer daily training sessions with former top contender Erskine Wade. The grand opening celebration will feature five world boxing champions including Thomas "The Hit Man" Hearns, a former Five-Time World Champion; Current Light Middleweight Champion Cornelius "K9" Bundrage, and former World Champions Milton McCrory, Jimmy Paul and Hilmer Kenty.

There will also be exhibitions by boxers from several Detroit area gyms including Hands-On Gym and



The grand opening celebration will feature five world boxing champions including Thomas "The Hit Man" Hearns, a former Five-Time World Champion; Current Light Middleweight Champion Cornelius "K9" Bundrage, and former World Champions Milton McCrory, Jimmy Paul and Hilmer Kenty.

Coleman Young Gym. This event is open to the public.

## WMHS seeks 2015 Distinguished Alumni

By **Jenny Johnson**

Wayne Memorial High School is looking for a Distinguished Alumni to be honored at the 2015 graduation ceremony on May 31.

"We have had many outstanding people graduate from Wayne Memorial," said Kevin Weber, principal, Wayne Memorial.

"Many have contributed significantly to the betterment of society on a local, state, national or international level. The Distinguished Alumni Award is our way of honoring an outstanding graduate on an annual basis."

Each winner is awarded a medal inscribed with the official school seal. They are honored with a distinguished alumni reception and speak to the graduating class at commencement.

"This is an opportunity for our current graduating class, to hear

first hand from a former alumnus who has made his/her mark on society," Weber said.

The most difficult task is to locate the many alumni who have distinguished themselves since their graduation. For that reason, Wayne Memorial is asking the community to help in its search. If any member of the community wishes to nominate a Wayne Memorial graduate, they are asked to submit a nomination letter to Mrs. Rawson, Secretary to the Principal, at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth Street, Wayne, Michigan 48184 or call 734-419-2206.

A "Distinguished Alumni" committee has been established at Wayne Memorial to decide on the recipient for 2015. An announcement of the winner will be made in mid May. Nominations are due by February 24, 2015.

# 2014 Year in Review

The City of Wayne has seen some significant changes this year. While the administration and council have seen some familiar faces leave their positions and they have continued to deal with a budget deficit, there have been some positive developments that show Wayne is ready for a comeback.

## Main Street

It began in 2011 with a group of dedicated volunteers who wanted to revitalize downtown Wayne. The Wayne Ripple Effect spearheaded efforts like downtown spring clean-up days, spring flower planting and the annual scarecrow display. They also filled out an intensive application for the Michigan Main Street Program.

In 2014 Wayne was selected as one of three communities in the state to participate in the selected level of the Michigan Main Street Program by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). There are 18 communities in Michigan that are currently at the Select or Master level.

As part of the Select Level of Michigan Main Street, Wayne will receive five years of intensive technical assistance, with a focus on revitalization strategies designed to attract new residents, business investment, economic growth and job creation to their central business districts.

"The Michigan Main Street program will help these three communities create opportunities for redevelopment, place making and economic growth just as it has in downtowns throughout Michigan for the past 10 years," said Gov. Rick Snyder. "Vibrant communities and downtowns are critical as we look to attract new investment, help local businesses grow and retain and attract the talent that is needed to reinvent Michigan."

Wayne is the first Select Main Street Community in Wayne County and the only urban community selected to date.

After Main Street came to town, the Ripple Effect committee decided to change their name to Wayne Main Street- Creating A Ripple Effect. The group was instrumental in choosing the Main Street Executive Director Lindsey Wooten.



A team of residents and elected officials at State Representative Robert Kosowski's office after their presentation in Lansing. Wayne was selected as one of three communities in the state to participate in the Select Level of the Michigan Main Street Program by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).

The Main Street office is now located at the Wayne Activity and Banquet Center and Wooten works with residents, business owners and city administration to spearhead the downtown revitalization.

## City Council

In 2014 Councilman Jim Henley and Mayor Al Haidous resigned. David James was selected to fill the vacancy left by Henley in July. James has served on the Wayne-Westland Community School board, Westland City Council and Wayne Planning Commission. He is also a real estate agent. James will serve until the next election in November 2015.

Mayor Al Haidous ran for and won a Wayne County Commission seat. He resigned his post in November and council appointed James Hawley to the mayor position.

At their December meeting council appointed Tony Miller to council. He will serve until the election in November 2015.

## Administration

City Hall has a new leader. City Council hired David Murphy as the new interim city manager in October. He was city manager in South Lyon for five years and also worked in Almont, Caro and Brighton Township. He took over for Police Chief Jason Wright who retired on Oct. 17. Wright served as interim city man-

ager after Joseph Merucci resigned in September.

Several department heads also left or retired in 2014. Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams left and Juan Bradford was appointed to the position. Library Director Paulette Medvecky retired and returned in a part time position as a co-library director with Steven McGladdery. Deputy Police Chief Al Maciag was appointed Police Chief in October after Jason Wright retired.

## City Council Chambers repair

On March 5 City Hall was evacuated because employees saw smoke coming from a heating duct. While firefighters were investigating the cause of the smoke they noticed damage to the roof above council chambers. All four trusses that support the roof show signs of distress. Council chambers have been closed since March.

The damage was caused by the excessive snowfall last winter. City council voted to pay the \$1,000 deductible to fix the roof trusses over the council chambers at City Hall. The insurance company will cover the rest of the costs, which is about \$10,000.

City Hall operations will temporarily move to Vandenberg Elementary School this spring while

City Hall is repaired.

## Fire Authority plans halted

In June Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy became chief of the Inkster Fire Department. The goal was to prepare Inkster to become part of a Fire Authority with Wayne and Westland. But this fall the cities decided not to move forward with the authority. Both Wayne and Inkster have budget deficits to manage and at the time Fire Chief Michael Reddy said, "Focus on what you need to do. We are all partners anyway under mutual aid."

## Proposals

On Nov. 3 voters in the City of Wayne approved Proposal 1, which will divide the city into six districts and have council members elected from those districts. Candidates will be required to live in the district they represent and residents of that district will only vote for a council member from their district.

The mayor is the only position that will be elected citywide.

This will be effective in the primary and general election in 2015 for Districts 1, 2 and 3 and in 2017 for Districts 4, 5 and 6.

But before voters choose council

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2014, from page 8

via districts the current council needs to create the six districts by re-drawing precinct boundaries.

The precinct boundaries need to be redrawn and reduced from seven to six. The City Code of Ordinance and City Charter needs to be amended.

Voters also approved Proposal 2 in November. This will provide 16-year term limits for elected officials.

Proposal 3 is a five-year renewal of a one-mill levy to support police and fire operations. This mill will generate about \$370,000 annually.

## Business

### McDonald's

McDonald's came to Wayne in June. Located at 35111 W. Michigan Avenue the 4200 sq. ft. restaurant features a double drive thru and has a seating capacity of 70. It is open 24 hours a day. The café style McDonald's also offers outdoor seating.

The owner operators are James and Marla Thrower. Mr. Thrower is a former Detroit Lion and Philadelphia Eagle and has been in the McDonald's business for over 25 years. The General Manager is Tammy Ramsey.

### City sells State Wayne Theater

At their July 1 meeting Wayne City Council voted 6-0 to sell the State Wayne Theater to Phoenix Theaters.

### State Wayne Theater shows The Interview

The State Wayne Phoenix Theater was among three theaters in Michi-



From welcoming new Mayor James Hawley and new Police Chief Al Maciag to officially being named a Michigan Main Street Community, 2014 brought a lot of great moments to Wayne. A favorite every year is the annual WMHS Homecoming festivities especially the crowning of the king and queen. New businesses like McDonald's opened their doors and existing businesses like State Wayne Theater had complete renovations and now offer customers a luxurious theater going experience.

gan that began showing the controversial film The Interview on Christmas Day. Sony initially cancelled the release of the film after threats from North Korea. The film, starring Seth Rogan and James Franco, is about a

plan to kill North Korea's leader.

Moviegoers were treated to brand new luxury reclining seats in all four theaters. In addition, the theater's renovations included newly installed carpet, increased screen size and up-

dates at the concession area.

### Oakwood joins Beaumont and Botsford Hospitals

Beaumont Health System, Botsford Health Care and Oakwood Healthcare combined their operations into a new \$3.8 billion health care organization following unanimous approval by their boards on June 23.

Under the terms of the definitive agreement, the three organizations are creating a new, not-for-profit Michigan health system called Beaumont Health.

The three organizations announced a letter of intent on March 21 to integrate their combined eight hospitals and 153 other patient care sites into a new comprehensive, collaborative health system focused on advancing quality and access to care throughout the region.

### Mark Chevrolet Grand Re-Opening Celebration

In August Mark Chevrolet, 33200 Michigan Avenue, celebrated their Grand Re-Opening.

They completely renovated the interior and exterior of the existing building including enclosing the canopy on the west side of the building that is used for service write-ups.

They have also added a vehicle plaza on the east side of the building to display vehicles. The former site of Beehive Restaurant is now a customer parking lot.

### Jack Demmer Ford

Construction at Jack Demmer Ford will be complete soon. City council approved a rezoning so they can transform their Affordables op-

See 2014, page 14

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**Tom Lynch**

# Highlights of what's happening in Lansing

The Lame Duck session turned in over 200 bills. The last night of Lame Duck started at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday and finished at 7:00 a.m. the next morning. Road funding was the most significant bill that was finally voted on. The approved plan includes at 1% sales tax increase that the Legislature is sending to the ballot for voters to decide on May 5. The proposed constitutional amendment, if implemented, would raise state sales tax from 6 to 7 percent. I voted yes on this proposal and feel that, quite frankly, it was the only solution that would pass both chambers. If this proposal passes it will add 1.3 billion dollars to fix our roads.

Other details on the proposal will help two areas that I have been fighting for the last two years. First it will add 300 to 400 million for our schools. The proposal also supplies a component to have a study done on what it takes to educate our children. This alone should solve exactly what is needed for our district's budgets. The other component is that 100 million will be added to Cities and Communities. Essential services such as Fire and Police should benefit if this passes. Public Safety has always been one of my areas that I want to help and protect. The last area that helped me vote yes on this proposal was the restoration of the Earned Income Tax Credit, which was slashed in 2011, to its full 20% of the federal EITC level. Officials said that could put another \$300 per year in the pockets of low-income families.

There were other components of the bill. One was to increase the cost of registrations for your car. I stated throughout the year that I was not in favor of increasing fees on registrations for individuals. I did vote "No" but it did pass. My bill HB 5453 was passed by the House of Representatives in May but was not brought up in this package. The bill doubled the fines for trucks that are overweight. I have submitted the bill again for the upcoming cycle and I hope it receives another opportunity for it to pass.

The House of Representatives took up 811 bills this past year. I am honored to say that I did not miss a vote and had both perfect attendance and 100% voting rate. The first term



Governor Snyder signs for the Delphi Worker Compensation Package bill with State Representative Robert Kosowski.



has been an extremely productive term for my team. Being the minority, I am very satisfied with the bills we have produced. I rank in the top five of the Democratic Party with the amount of Public Acts that have been signed into law. We have had five bills pass the House of Representatives, the Senate and have been signed by Governor Rick Snyder. The bills all became Public Acts and involve many different issues. From helping Veterans use service time and experience to assisting them in gaining jobs as a Boilermaker. I also had bills that helped election reform, assisting workers from Delphi to receive their workers compensation, and streamlining departments in the Department of Human Services making it easier for adoptions. I authored several other bills that passed the chamber but were stalled in the Senate; many of those will be introduced again this year.

My proudest bill was the bill to rename part of Ford Road as the "Brian Woehlke Memorial Highway." Brian made the ultimate sacrifice while fighting a fire in Westland. This was a bill that many people

worked on including Mayor William R. Wild, Former Mayor Al Haidous, Fire Chief Michael Reddy and both City Councils. More details will be coming shortly on the date of the dedication.

We have sponsored activities within the community the last two years. We offered a free movie night where over 300 people attended. Special thanks to Phoenix Theaters for helping sponsor that special event. This past Thanksgiving it was my honor to give away turkeys to Veterans of Wayne and Westland. It was my pleasure working with Mayor William R. Wild, Vic Barra from the Wayne Ford Civic Center and Meijer, so that we could pass out over 75 turkeys for our Veterans. Speaking of that event I received a thank you card from one of the Veterans who served in World War II. He and his

wife sent me a card that I will never forget. They thanked me for doing this for them. The couple has been married for 68 years and it truly touched me. I couldn't wait to write back to tell them the honor was all mine.

We are planning on hosting another movie night in the next few months as well as many other community events. Starting this year we will be recognizing the "Business of the Month". This is a new program where we will recognize businesses in Westland and Wayne and present them with a tribute as well as highlight them on our Facebook page. The business of the Month for January 2015 is My Lady's Florist. To nominate a business, please contact our Lansing Office.

My team and I are always willing to meet with constituents and have set up our "Rep on the Road" program. This is where we will meet with Service Groups, Condominium Associations, Neighborhood Organizations as well as any constituent issue. This along with my Coffee Hours hopefully will make me fully accessible to you. If you or your organization is interested in having a meeting, please call my office and we can set up a date. Most times we will bring coffee and donuts and look forward to working on issues that will make Westland and Wayne better.

Please feel free to contact my office at (517) 373-2576 or by email me at [robertkosowski@house.mi.gov](mailto:robertkosowski@house.mi.gov). I want to thank the residents of Wayne and Westland for allowing me to serve you and for re-electing me for a second term. It is a privilege to represent you in Lansing.

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# Giving Back

## K & S gives car to deserving Wayne mom

By Jenny Johnson

"Oh my God mom, you are getting a car," shrieked Rebecca Foster when her mom Frances Dudash was surprised with a 2006 Taurus donated to her by K & S Auto Service in Wayne.

It was the best Christmas gift. Frances Dudash is a Wayne resident and Wayne-Westland Community Schools employee.

K&S Auto is celebrating 30 years in business and Ray Kull, owner, decided he wanted to do something to give back to the community.

"I wanted to present a local needy resident with a car," he said. "This community has supported us for 30 years in and I wanted to give back."

Kull said he received about 25 nomination letters and it was hard to narrow down a winner.

"Frannie is a single mom with no one to help her at all. She has a young daughter and needs to get around," Kull said. "I hope it makes their life easier."

"I don't know what to say," Frannie said.

"Your welcome is good enough," smiled Kull.

The 2006 Taurus needed some body and mechanical work and K&S put in new brakes, an alternator and gave it a tune up. They will also stand behind their work for one year, he said by providing warranty work and oil changes.

Employees at the Wayne Westland Community School District transportation department nominated



Thanks to Ray Kull (right), Frannie Dudash and her daughter, Rebecca, were surprised with a 2006 Taurus donated to her by K & S Auto Service in Wayne. Photo by John P. Rhaesa

Frannie for the award. She is a bus aide there and a kitchen helper at Franklin Middle School. In addition, the Transportation Department took up a collection for a gas gift card and to help her with the cost of license tabs and car insurance.

For the past two years Frannie and her daughter, Rebecca, an eighth grader at Franklin Middle School, have walked everywhere - work, school and the grocery store.

Frannie said she was completely surprised to be standing in the parking lot of K&S Auto with the keys to a new car in her hand.

"I didn't know what to think," she said when the bus she was on pulled in to K&S instead of going to Franklin to drop her and her daughter off.

ter off.

"I was just frustrated because I was going to be late for work," she said. Bus driver Michelle Willibey had been stalling on her route until it was time to deliver Frannie to her special surprise.

"They told me I was going to be picked up by Missy and they said to wait for her. She was late so I started to walk and then Missy beeped the horn when we got to the corner," she said. Frannie thought Missy wanted to give her a ride because she was still recovering from bronchitis.

All last winter's cold and snow Frannie and Rebecca walked everywhere. Sometimes Frannie would arrive at work with wet pants from the snow and she would stay wet all day.

Director of Transportation Scherice Roark said, "I can't think of anybody who deserves this more than Frances. You will find her walking all over Wayne and Westland to get to where she has to go. She is a wonderful employee. She doesn't miss work."

Frannie was in tears and disbelief when she opened the door of her new car for the first time and started the engine.

"I didn't think it was true," she said. Frannie said she has wanted to get another car since the engine blew in hers a couple of years ago.

"I have been trying to have enough

money to pay our bills," she said. Now she will have the means to take her daughter to the doctor and go and visit a sick relative.

Both Frannie and Becky wore their seatbelts and huge smiles when Frannie started the car for the first time.

"I would like to thank everyone at the bus yard and everyone who participated in this and for making this a surprise for me," she said.

### Nomination Letter

The employees of Wayne Westland Transportation would like to nominate Frances Dudash for the vehicle giveaway. Frannie is an honest hardworking single mom who is in desperate need of a vehicle. Frannie has been without a vehicle for about three years. She has not been able to get ahead enough to purchase a vehicle.

She walks with her young daughter everywhere. They go in all kinds of weather conditions. Frannie is a resident of Wayne and is also employed by the Wayne Westland Community Schools. She works in food service and the transportation department. She also does odd jobs to make extra money.

Frannie and her daughter are truly in need and are a well deserving wonderful family. Please consider the Dudash's for your giveaway.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Sunken Ships of the Great Lakes

Join David Trotter at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 17 at the Wayne Public Library as he shares some of his sunken ship discoveries in our Great Lakes. He will provide a power point presentation of the many adventures he's had locating and exploring his finds. This is a free program sponsored by the Friends of the Wayne Public Library.

### Wayne Police Dept. Damaged Vehicles

The Wayne Police Department is currently investigating several incidents of damage to vehicles, which occurred between Dec. 20 and 21. These incidents occurred in several different neighborhoods throughout the city. The Wayne Police Department is requesting assistance in identifying the subjects responsible for the damage. Anyone with any information about these incidents is asked to contact the Wayne Police Department at 734-721-1414.

### Road to honor Woehlke

The section of Ford Road from Newburgh to Wayne Road in Westland will be renamed the Firefighter Brian Woehlke Memorial Highway. The bill was introduced by State Rep. Robert L. Kosowski (D-Westland) and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder before the holiday break.

Wayne-Westland Firefighter Brian Woehlke died fighting a fire at Marvasso's in Westland on May 8, 2013. The fire was declared an arson and Woehlke's death has been ruled a homicide and is being investigated by the state police.

### Youth day at Wayne Masonic Lodge

The Wayne Masonic Lodge, 37137 Palmer, Westland, will host an informational day for Michigan DeMolay, at 10 a.m. on Jan. 10. Michigan DeMolay is a youth movement for men ages 12-21. The event will offer a meet-and-greet and video and board games.

For more information, contact Ray Lemons at 734-552-3125 or by email at Raymond.Lemons@gmail.com.



### Coming soon

The City of Wayne will have one less vacant building when Fresh Choice Food Center opens its doors later this month.

### Maciag named Chief

Council approved City Manager David Murphy's appointment of Alan Maciag as police chief. Maciag was the former deputy police chief and was named interim chief after Jason Wright retired on Oct. 17. Maciag has worked for the Wayne Police Department for 17 years.

He has a bachelors degree in criminal justice from Western Michigan University and a masters degree in criminology from Eastern Michigan University. In 2012 he completed the FBI Academy and the Northwestern University Staff and Command School.

### Euchre Tournament

Players Guild of Dearborn will host a Euchre Tournament at 7 p.m. on Jan. 31. at 21730 Madison St., Dearborn, MI 48124.

Check-in starts at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person. Please pre-register at waysandmeans@playersguildofdearborn.org.

Prizes for the Top 3 Highest Points Total! There will also be a 50/50 raffle, food, pop, beer and wine. Must be 21 or older to play.

### History of US-12

The Wayne Historical Society and the Wayne Public Library present author Gladys Saborio at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 14 at the Wayne Public Library. She will be discussing her book: "Michigan's US-12 Heritage Trail: The Nation's Second Highway. From river fords to Henry Ford, from mastodon's footprints to Barbie Dolls, from Detroit's magnificent architecture to artwork by itinerant

Mexicans, the stories weave a tapestry. Communities are strung all along Michigan; their common history and uncommon stories connected by the highway that links them. Join us as Gladys Saborio discusses what is arguably Michigan's most famous highway. She will be on hand for a book signing after the program. This is a free program.

### Calling All Lifeguards!!!

The City of Wayne is now accepting applications for Lifeguards for the Wayne Community Center.

Applicants must possess a current Red Cross Life Guard Certification.

Applications are available at Wayne City Hall or on-line at [http://www.ci.wayne.mi.us/personnel\\_dept.shtml](http://www.ci.wayne.mi.us/personnel_dept.shtml).

### Open House

St. Michael Lutheran School (Preschool-8th Grade) is hosting an open house to current and prospective students, Monday, January 26th, between 6:00 -8:00 PM. Tour the school, meet with teachers, and learn more about how a Christian education can help your child build a successful future! St. Michael is conveniently located just 2 miles east of I-275 and 1 mile north of Michigan Avenue at 3003 Hannan Road in Wayne. Bus service is available for residents of the Wayne-Westland Community.

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# Shopping long ago

Now that Christmas is over we can sit back and relax (collapse) and ponder this holiday season. The commercial part of the season is a little overwhelming, but the time spent with family and friends is priceless along with enjoying long time family traditions and making time to attend services where we can celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. What leads up to this holiday is not for the faint of heart. Shopping for the perfect gift (or gifts) for each person on your list, planning menus and purchasing food for holiday dinners, baking and frosting, wrapping and decorating (inside and out) cooking and cleaning all make for a hectic and sometimes frantic period of time before the big day!!! But the good news is, in today's world we have plenty of resources to pull this off! We have every type of store you can imagine in which to purchase every type of gift you wish to give. The malls have it all with individual stores of all kinds, large and small selling items like make-up, hats, perfume, jeans, candy, toys, jewelry crafts, etc. They also have the large department stores with everything under one roof. Or you can shop the self-standing stores such as Meijer or Walmart who carry everything including food. On top of that, today we can order by phone or go online, order from various companies and have goods delivered to our door!!

Life was different in early Wayne.

## Memory Lane

**Darlene Hawley**



In the mid 1800's our little settlement was beginning to grow into a farming community and most of the items needed by people of that time were grown on the farm, made on the farm, ordered in a catalogue or obtained by traveling by horse or buggy to Detroit to purchase. The first store in the area was built by Ezra Derby in 1832 soon after he built his saw mill on the banks of the Rouge River on what is now Wayne Road about where the bridge is today. Another early store was built by John J. Wright around 1840 soon after the Michigan Central Railroad built tracks through Wayne. This dry goods store became a landmark in the area for many years. Mr. Wright hired Jacob D. Bunting (an old family name in Wayne) to work for him. Mr. Bunting had come to Wayne from Pennsylvania and was working for the railroad when he left that position to become a clerk for Mr. Wright and he eventually took over the running of the store in 1852. This general store carried a wide variety of merchandise including dishes, paints, dry goods, and drugs



J.D. Bunting's General store was built around 1840 and was a long time landmark in Wayne until it burned in 1907. People came from far and wide to purchase everything from flour and wood to paint and ribbons.

as well as groceries. Also, the post office was housed in the store. Later, Mr. Bunting's son John took over management of the store and operated it until 1907 when it burned down. Many old time residents told stories of receiving a bag of candy when their weekly bill was paid off. One can imagine all of the people in the area Christmas shopping at this early store to find that special gift for a loved one. Most gifts in those days were handmade but a "store bought" ribbon for a little girl or a bag of marbles for a boy or a piece of material for mother, were all prized possessions.

Competition came to the Bunting Dry Goods Store around 1848 when William Steers (a well known businessman in those days) built The Farmer's Store. It was located on the corner of Monroe and Brush Streets. They sold, "Dry Goods, Groceries, Ladies and Gents Furnishings, Crockery Sewer Pipes, Barrel Salt, Etc., Etc." (Etc. was almost always a part of the advertisement of the General Store because they sold such a variety and number of items. George Bell, Corlett & Hastings and others ran the store for short periods until it was purchased by John C. Stellwagen (an old family name in

Wayne) around 1880. Tony Snyder went to work for Mr. Stellwagen when he was 15 years old and became a partner in 1907. The Farmer's Store building remained in existence until 1960. Some records indicate the Weyand Brother's Poultry Market was the last business to use the building before it was demolished during urban renewal.

"Shopping" long ago was quite different from today. But when you read the history of our ancestors and early settlers, you find that they celebrated Christmas in much the same way we do. They attended the young churches that were forming in the mid 1840's, such as the Methodist and Congregational churches, which are still active today.

They shopped at Bunting's General Store or The Farmer's Store for gifts or crafted handmade gifts for each other. They decorated for the holidays, cooked special foods, enjoyed family traditions and spent time with family and friends, making wonderful memories, just as we do today!

(Watch for future articles in "Memory Lane" which will feature stores in our community that have serviced our residents for many years and are still in operation.)



The Farmer's Store was built in 1848 by Williams Steers but John C. Stellwagen purchased it in 1880 and ran the business until he took on a partner, Antony (Tony) Snyder, in 1907. They were in business in Wayne for many years. The building was demolished in 1960 during urban renewal.

## 2014, from page 9

eration on the northwest corner of Michigan Avenue and Newburgh into Quick Lane Auto Service Center. This new 9500 sq. ft. facility is a no appointment necessary maintenance and light repair operation. They will perform 14 different services including oil changes, tires, shocks, struts, brakes, exhaust, tune-up and alignments.

With these two improvements Jack Demmer Ford will be investing almost \$5 million in Wayne.

### American Jetway

American Jetway Corporation, an aerosol products manufacturer in the Wayne Westland Community is planning to make a \$15 million investment to expand their operation in Wayne on their property on Venoy while still operating their Myrtle St. location.

For more than 50 years American Jetway has provided environmentally friendly liquid formulas in aerosol cans to small and large businesses.

The 17 -acre parcel from Venoy to Hubbard Street will house manufac-

turing and warehouse facilities as well as offices.

There will be a 25,000 sq. ft. addition on the south side of the property. There will also be a new inside roadway to make it easier for trucks to get in and out of the location.

### Captain Nemo's grand re-opening

It's a new location but the same delicious menu. Captain Nemo's Submarine Shop, 4422 S. Wayne Road, just north of Annapolis, moved next door to Seven Star Liquor this year. Their new larger location includes a dine-in area with a television in addition to their take-out counter.

Mom and son owners Bev and Brad Wiggins have been in Wayne for six years. They said some of their more popular subs are the pizza and steak and cheese. They also offer salads, French fries, mini tacos, hot dogs, wings and drinks.

### New Urgent Care

City of Wayne officials and Chamber of Commerce members welcomed a new business to Wayne with

a ribbon cutting in November. Wayne Urgent Care is located at 34815 Michigan Avenue, Suite 1. They are open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily including weekends and holidays. No appointments are necessary. All major insurance plans are accepted. They treat strains, sprains, fractures, wounds, respiratory infections, earaches, and more. They have Digital X-Rays, EKG, Ultrasound, Lab Testing, physicals and immunizations.

### Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union celebrates 60 years

The Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union celebrated their 60th anniversary on April 4. The Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union serves the financial needs of over 10,700 members/owners. Its asset size is over \$76 million.

### People City loses long time volunteer

Art Quintal, 76, a dedicated member of the Wayne Rotary passed away on April 14. He was born in Detroit

and is survived by his wife, Patricia, children Sheri, Kimberly and William, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Visitation was at Uht Funeral Home. He was cremated and his ashes were interred at Cadillac Gardens West Cemetery in Westland.

### Church welcomes familiar face

The new senior minister at First Congregational Church of Wayne is a familiar face. In August Chris Richards was welcomed back as the church's 35th full time minister. He was also a minister for the church from 1994-1998. Richards has a BA from John Wesley College in Owasco; Masters of Divinity from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in Rochester, NY and was ordained on June 18, 1982 by the FCC of St. Johns. He and his wife, Martha, are very happy to be back in Wayne. Richards has spent the past 32 years in ministry, the past nine years at a church in West Bloomfield.

See 2014, page 15

## National Church Residences WAYNE TOWER



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2014, from page 14

### Police recognize Officer of the Year

Stephanie Strasser, a 17-year veteran of the Wayne Police Department, was named Police Officer of the Year. She began her career with the Wayne Police Department in June 1997 and was a patrol officer until March 2013 when she was promoted to the detective bureau.

### Diamond of Community winner

The Commission on Aging and Wayne Senior Services named Wayne Dispatch columnist Darlene Hawley the 2014 Diamond of Community. Since 1995 the DOC has recognized a Wayne resident, 70 years of age or older, who is still actively volunteering in the community. Darlene is an active member of the First Congregational Church where she teaches church school, directs plays and holds other leadership roles.

She is a member of the Wayne Historical Commission and implemented the "History in a Box" pro-

gram where she visits second grade classrooms in Wayne in costume to acquaint students with the value of their history and the history of Wayne.

She is President of the Wayne Garden Club and has been a member of the Literary Club since 1963.

### Schools Baracy retires

In June Dr. Greg Baracy retired after 17 years as Wayne-Westland Community School District superintendent. The Board of Education hired Dr. Michele Harmala as the new superintendent. Harmala was previously the associate superintendent for instructional services and organizational leadership in the Farmington Public Schools.

### Award Winning

Schweitzer teacher Jamie Tarhanich won Best in Class award from 94.7 WCSX radio in April.

### Sports success

After a five year losing streak Wayne Memorial High School's var-



Dr. Greg Baracy retired after 17 years as Wayne-Westland Community School District superintendent.

sity football team won two games this season under new coach Tim Finnerty.

### Distinguished Alumni

WMHS chose Jeff Styers as the 2014 Distinguished Alumni. Styers is a 1984 graduate and has been a generous supporter of the Champions of Wayne program and the Boxing gym at the Jefferson-Barns Recreation Center.

### Sports success

After a five year losing streak Wayne Memorial High School's var-

sity football team won two games this season under new coach Tim Finnerty.

### Breaking and Entering surprise

Robin DeJack, a lunch supervisor and bus supervisor at Schweitzer Elementary School, was surprised at school by Channel 955 Mojo in the Morning. They told her she was the recipient of their Breaking and Entering contest.

DeJack was nominated for this surprise by Schweitzer teacher Jen Largent because even though she has been battling cancer for nine years she still comes to work every-day except for chemo day and helps the students and staff.

Her prizes included a year of cleaning and laundry services, gift cards and much more.

This is not everything that happened in Wayne in 2014 but just a portion of all of the events, people and places we covered this year. We will continue to bring you positive community news in the New Year. On behalf of The Wayne Dispatch we wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015.



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