

# THE WAYNE Dispatch

JANUARY 2016

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## Wayne Main Street New Year, new faces

By Lindsey Wooten

2016 is looking to be year of great progress and accomplishments for downtown Wayne. The Wayne Main Street (WMS) Board of Directors has started off by welcoming two new faces to the table: Theodora Brooks and Mary Powers. Ms. Brooks has volunteered with WMS serving on the Design Committee and managing the downtown property inventory database. Ms. Powers became involved with WMS through her interest in civic literacy and getting youth more involved with the city. She was hired by WMS to work during the summer of 2015 as the temporary Youth Coordinator. During her time on the job Powers successfully created the Junior Main Street Committee which consists of all high school students.

With the welcoming of new faces there is also the bittersweet task of saying goodbye to two of our most dedicated volunteers – Patricia Hartford and Beverly Campbell. While both Hartford and Campbell will continue to volunteer on the Promotions Committee, their terms on the Board of Directors concluded in December of 2015. Hartford and Campbell have been instrumental in the beginning of the Main Street effort.

**2016 Goals** - With recent visits from both National Main Street and Michigan Main Street, Wayne Main Street has established goals for 2016 that will be used to influence all projects completed this year. They are:

- Address commercial vacancies in downtown
- Create gathering places/generate foot traffic
- Improve perceptions of downtown

These goals are used by the WMS Board to help guide the committees and their projects toward accomplishing the “big picture” end goal, which is a vibrant and revitalized downtown Wayne. Some projects are going to see some modifications this year so that they are more effective in reaching that end goal, including the downtown flower planters and scarecrow contest. This also means the introduction of exciting new projects including but not limited to:

- Vacant Storefront Signage Campaign
- NEW Downtown Flower Planters
- Community Partner & Vacant Property Owner Roundtable Meetings
- New and Improved Promoting Vacant Spaces Event

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# Local family is looking for help from the community

By Dave Merchant

At different times in peoples' lives they may need help from the community in which they live. This is definitely the case with John VerHines and his son Bill VerHines when they were injured right after Easter of 2015.

They were stopped on a freeway and a drunk driver hit their delivery truck from behind going about 70 MPH. There was no sign the person even tried to stop. They both suffered traumatic brain injuries to their mental faculties.

Prior to the accident they both worked at Gramco Furniture Restoration on Michigan Ave. in Wayne. Both are longtime Wayne residents who recently moved to Westland.

Bill and his wife Erin have two kids, one is three and one is one and half. She recently had spinal surgery and is bedridden which makes it hard to watch the children.

John's daughter and Bill's sister Sarah Canfield has been very concerned about her relatives.

"They have both had to have lots of different therapists," Canfield said. "Bill is having vision therapy and my dad has trouble with the short term memory and remembering how much time has passed."

The different therapies with all the appointments and times has made it difficult to work. They are trying to continue keeping the store (which Bill's grandpa started) open.

According to her both have been able to get their driver's license back. She says it is a very stressful experi-



John VerHines and his son Bill VerHines when they were injured right after Easter of 2015.



ence and it is going to take a long time and a lot of different therapies, which are not currently covered by

insurance. This is why she is asking the community to come forward and help them in their greatest hour of need.

Several of the medical expenses are not paid through the insurance

that they have. They are specialized and are being paid for at the VerHine's expense.

Canfield says she hopes people will look at the Go Fund Me Page with generous hearts to help her brother and father. The page went live about three weeks ago and has been having good success. John is the other brother in the family.

According to her to say things are difficult financially at home, is an understatement.

"The generosity from our closest friends has been an answer to prayer and a real life saver in keeping us going since April," she said. "Our needs at this time are long term, 36-48 months. Even though the diminished capacity will be life long, these next few months are critical in helping Bill to establish the business success again and for John to advise and support Bill as they rebuild what has weakened since the accident in April. We believe it will take three to four years to fill the gaps and get back on track."

The site has a lot of pictures and tells an amazing story. The family asks if you can read it and possibly donate. It would help them out tremendously. As of one month in, the family has raised \$7,100 of their \$172,000 goal.

To donate to the VerHines please go to <https://www.gofundme.com/verhines> to help them reach their goal.

People who would like to make donations outside of the Internet can donate at the family business Gramco Furniture Restoration (32220 Michigan). There is a box located inside the business that can take donations in the name of the VerHines family.

**CITY OF WAYNE RENEWAL PERIOD**  
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The 2016 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 29, 2016, will be at a lesser fee.

<b>Fees during annual licensing period ending February 29, 2016</b>	
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## NEWS BRIEFS

### New council members sworn in

On December 16, two new council members were appointed by the current city council-Ryan Gabriel, 25, and Richard Sutton IV, 24. Ryan fills the council seat that was vacant after Susan Rowe became mayor; he is a mortgage banker with Quicken Loans. Richard fills the council seat left by the resignation of James Hawley on December 2. Richard, who prefers to be called Terry, is a paramedic in the Beaumont Oakwood Hospital emergency room. Both appointments expire December 2017.

### Adaptive use of current buildings

On Monday, January 11, join Wayne Main Street at 6:00 p.m. at the Wayne Fire Station as they host Elisabeth Knibbe, FAIA, Ann Arbor for "Reinventing Community Through Adaptive Use." The presentation uses completed projects in Detroit, Lansing, Jackson and Ypsilanti to illustrate the potential for the adaptive use of historic buildings to transform seemingly hopeless buildings into valuable community assets. In Detroit, examples range from small neighborhood retail buildings through abandoned offices to downtown office towers, each which found a new use. In Jackson and Ypsilanti, examples illustrate the potential to develop housing in large publically owned buildings that are no longer needed for their original uses. In Lansing, examples include an obsolete power station and long vacant downtown department store that were creatively repositioned through adaptive use.

The presentation considers not only the success of the architecture, but also the process including how architects envision the often hidden potential of obsolete buildings and how they assist the community and developers in realizing that potential.

The presentation is a Power Point presented by Lis Knibbe, an architect with over 35 years experience adapting historic buildings for new uses. She has worked with private and public developers to reposition small and large buildings creating housing, a hotel, offices and schools



Ryan Gabriel  
Wayne City Councilman

in formerly obsolete buildings. She is an expert in the use of historic preservation tax credits to help finance these projects. Her projects have won numerous state and national awards for historic preservation, and awards from the AIA Detroit and AIA Michigan.

The event is free. All in the community are invited to attend.

### Help develop a strategic plan for the schools

Wayne-Westland Community Schools is building a strategic plan that will be the stimulus for continued innovation and excellence in the district, both now and into the future. You are invited to a community meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 6:00 p.m. at Wayne City Hall to share your dreams for the future of the school district. If you would like to become a member of the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Advisory Committee or would just like to learn more, you can contact Cheryl Watson or Sue Rawson at 734-419-2010.

### Small business social media workshop

There will be a social media workshop for small businesses on Monday, February 8, at 6:00 p.m. at the Wayne Activity and Banquet Cen-



Richard Sutton IV  
Wayne City Councilman

ter on Sims St. In this workshop, attendees will learn about small busi-

ness marketing tips and trends, and how to incorporate the best social media practices for your business into an overall marketing strategy. The workshop is \$25 to attend. Contact Lindsey Wooten with Wayne Main Street if you wish to attend.

### Help of veterans needed


Several veterans who are graduates of Wayne Memorial High School want to have a Veteran's display at the Wayne Historical Museum. They are inviting veterans to loan an artifact from their service years and a short story about themselves. Contact Ann Zimmerman at the museum if you can help.

### Wayne police public meeting

The next community meeting with the Wayne Police is Thursday, January 28, at 7:00 p.m. It will be at the Wayne Police Department on Michigan Avenue. All residents are encouraged to attend.

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# Beloved Library co-director will be missed

By Carolyn Marnon

She loved Groundhog Day. It was not just another day for Paulette Medvecky, the beloved co-director of the Wayne Public Library who passed away December 21 after a long battle with cancer. Groundhog Day was a celebration. Paulette loved to decorate for the day. She had ornaments, stuffed animals, beanie babies, pictures on the wall and even a groundhog statue she placed outside. Her love was probably a result of being born on February 5; Groundhog Day is February 2. According to her daughter, Jennifer Sulfridge, Paulette loved Groundhog Day more than her own birthday or Christmas.

For Paulette's 50th birthday, her family took her to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania to see Punxsutawney Phil. Jennifer remembers that her mother was so excited, waiting to see a rodent come out of a hole. The family had a sign that read "Wayne, MI loves Phil." A journalist there saw the sign and interviewed Paulette. She told him that seeing Phil was her



Paulette Medvecky

dream and her kids gave the trip to her as a gift. Paulette was able to make another visit with her girlfriends years later.

About 5-6 years ago, Paulette

started giving memories to her family for Christmas. Besides Jennifer, she had two sons, Michael and Jeff. With children of their own, it was a large group to cater to, but Paulette always found a place that had something for every age group. Her grandchildren ranged in age from 1-11.

One year, they all went to the Double JJ Ranch in Rothbury, MI. They were able to enjoy a rodeo and a pig roast at the ranch. Even though the trip was a Christmas gift, they waited until the summer to go. Another year, they went to the Kalahari Resort in Sandusky, OH. Jennifer said that trip was hilarious because it was timed with a Rotary Convention so they were always bumping into people they knew.

Sadly, their final memory-making event as a family was a trip on the Polar Express the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Paulette rented the caboose for the family and they had their very own conductor who made hot chocolate for them on the coal stove as they travelled to the North Pole. This was the last trip the family

was able to take with Paulette. Paulette always chose the trip and paid for everything. It had become important to her to create memories with her family that everyone would always remember.

Jennifer and her mother were very close, like sisters. Jennifer laughed as she recalled the trips they had made and how much fun they had, especially the trip to see Punxsutawney Phil.

Paulette once wrote a Letter to the Editor of the Wayne Dispatch in February, 2009. "You never know how far your words will travel."

Paulette will be remembered for all she did for the people of Wayne and beyond. In addition to being the library co-director, she was also involved with Wayne Rotary, Business and Professional Women, Red Hat Society, Friends of the Public Library and Wayne Main Street. Wherever she was dashing off to, she always had a smile and a friendly greeting. Thank you, Paulette, for the memories you gave all who came to know you.

## AB Market now open

By Carolyn Marnon

"We want to be the clean store in Wayne" is what owner of the newly opened AB Market on the corner of Howe and Annapolis, Abdul Sufi, wants everyone to know.

When he first leased the space, it was dull and dingy. Since then, it has been painted, had new tile flooring installed and it even smells clean. He has had the space for several months, but the painting, changing the floor, getting electrical work done and having inspectors come in has taken time. Abdul repeated multiple times how he wants his store to be the cleanest in Wayne.

The store is quite simple, carrying the basics that anyone might need for a trip to the corner store. There is no alcohol for sale. All the refrigerated cases have drinks and dairy basics. In addition to the single serving bottles of soda pop, they carry 2 liter bottles. The prices are reasonable.

Abdul is starting slow and plans to build up as business grows. He plans to add a fresh deli section

soon. He has a few fruits on the counter; he also has a couple produce stands waiting for fresh produce.

If all goes well the first year, "is the business going to help me?" says Abdul, then he wants to add a kitchen to the back of the store where he can make hot food such as chicken fingers, wings and hamburgers.

The sign on the side of the building has "fresh dates" on it. Abdul gets his packages of dates from the Middle East. He says they are very fresh. Also, if something is not available that a customer would like to see in the store, he can get it if the customer asks.

Because of its location close to HYPE, AB Market is stocked with health bars and other items someone might like after a workout.

When you walk in, you will be greeted by either Abdul or his store manager, Bakeel Kassem. Maybe you'll be greeted by both of these friendly gentlemen. The store seems to have a little bit of everything—



AB Market is now open on Howe Road and Annapolis.

chips, pop, ice cream, health food, candy, dairy, breads, cereal, personal grooming items, household items, and more. By summer, there should be a slushie machine and an ice cream machine. They have fresh coffee available for \$1. "We're not greedy; we have good prices," stated Abdul. They also plan to take WIC once they are approved for food stamps.

The location was chosen because it was the best location for what Abdul wanted to do. He once lived in Buffalo, New York and had a store there. Although he lives in Dearborn, he has put his business dollars in the City of Wayne. Stop in, say hello, look around and see what needs this store could fulfill for you and your family. Help another new Wayne business grow and succeed.





Ready to serve you, front: Fernando, Noe, Joey, Francesco back: Coijon, Matteo, Mike, Noe and Kyle. Photo by John P. Rhaesa

## Local business stays busy

By Dave Merchant

It might not be the Indianapolis 500 for changing tires but don't tell these employees of the Tire Shop. They are quick and good at what they do.

Wayne has many businesses in the community but the Tire Stop is definitely one of the busiest. They not only do new tire installation but also specialize in having just about every used tire a customer could want on site.

Manager Francesco Ledda has been working for the company for several years. There are nine employees and one mechanic. Three of the employees are veterans who have been here over eight years and almost nine.

"With used tires we give a 30-day guarantee," Ledda said. "Our business is about 60/40 used tires. It really is almost 70/30."

They also do alignments which is very important for tire installations.

The location the store is at now has been that way for about five years. Prior to that they were across the street on Michigan Ave. They have a mechanic who can do more specialized repairs. The rest of the workers take off and put on tires.

The mechanic the store has is Mike Wilkins. He has been with them for about a year.

"I get about 25-30 customers a week," Wilkins said. "A lot of those are repeat customers. I work on tie-rods and other issues. We do not do motor or trans work."

He said it is best to make an ap-

pointment but if asked he will look at any vehicle necessary when it come in for tires or other problems.

According to Ledda the store is owned by his father Giulio Ledda and Bob Rosati who both can be seen working on different days.

"We sell low cost tires," he said. "We get a lot of repeat customers and have commercial accounts we service as well."

He said the store gets a lot of business late. They try accommodating everyone and if people come in at the last minute with an emergency they will do their best to try and take care of it.

"Fridays and Saturdays are our busiest time all year round," he said. "We really don't slow down at all. The winter brings people in when they find out they have no traction on their tires." They can get a car done and back on the road replacing four tires in approximately 15-20 minutes. So it is much less time for one or two tires.

Ledda said he loves working with people and in retail. It involves solving problems and helping people.

"We have a lot of characters that come in here from locals to dealers," he said. "The locals around here are a bit of a wild card."

The Tire Stop is located at 32449 Michigan Ave. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Saturday is 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The telephone number is 734-326-4814 and their website is [www.tirestopwayne.com](http://www.tirestopwayne.com).

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# Distinguished Women of Wayne-Westland winners

By Carolyn Marnon

Imagine how you would feel if you were standing on a stage waiting for the emcee to announce the winner of the Distinguished Young Women of Wayne-Westland (formerly Wayne-Westland's Junior Miss) and you were a teenage girl. Teenage girls giddy with excitement. Teenage girls wondering if the judges saw that one mistake they made. Teenage girls who hope their hard work will pay off (in scholarship dollars, of course).

Not one, but four, girls were named "official" winners in the Wayne Memorial High School auditorium on Friday, December 4: Antrunika Alonzo, Kelsie Wysong, Riana Hardyniec (all Wayne residents) and Kaitlyn Balko of Westland.

Because the Distinguished Young Women program is in a transition period from high school senior girls to high school junior girls, this year's program had both seniors and juniors competing. The program opened with both classes of girls (2016 and 2017) performing a dance routine to "Man! I Feel Like a Woman" while wearing jeans, white shirts and white tennis shoes. The local directors, Lauren Perry and Jodi Berry, try to encourage the girls to use what they already have in their wardrobes.

After each girl introduced herself, the judges were introduced. Prior to the event, the girls were judged in Scholastics. A panel of qualified educators reviewed and rated their transcripts of grades, scholastic test scores and college entrance examinations. Scholastics accounted for 25%



Riana Hardyniec and Kelsie Wysong, both of Wayne. Riana is 2016 Wayne Westland DYW and Kelsie is 2016 Wayne DYW.

of their score. They were also interviewed by a panel of judges. The judges looked for perception, sense of values, clarity of expression, concern and ability in human relations. The interview accounts for 25% of the score.

At the event, the girls were judged on Talent (20%), Fitness (15%) and

Self-Expression (15%). For talent, the judges look for originality, technical ability, appropriateness of selection and costume, and stage presence. For fitness, the judges look for coordination, stamina, agility, posture and carriage. Each group of girls performed a fitness routine to "Born This Way" by Lady

Gaga. Finally, for self-expression, the judges evaluate the girls based on their ability to display grace under pressure, communication, confidence, and naturalness in carriage, posture and poise. When the senior girls came onstage, many of them looked like ballerinas on a music box.

Here they are-your Distinguished Young Women of Wayne-Westland:

## 2016 Distinguished Young Woman of Wayne-Westland: Riana Hardyniec

"I was so surprised when my name was called. I think my jaw dropped because I was so surprised. I couldn't stop smiling, and I actually cried because I was so excited. That moment was one of the best moments of my life."

Riana grew up watching the older girls at her dance studio participate in the Distinguished Young Women program; she thought it was amazing. It made her excited to participate when she was old enough. She also knew the program was a good way to make friends and receive scholarships. "The fact that this program would give me many new experiences and opportunities made me want to be a part of it even more," said Riana.

Riana attends Wayne Memorial High School. She would like to attend either Grand Valley State University or the University of Michigan; she plans to study biomedical sciences as an undergraduate and then go on to become a pediatric doctor. Her modern day hero is her brother

See **Winners**, page 8



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## Winners, Continued from page 7

who is in the US Air Force. For the on-stage question, Riana was asked if she believed she learned more when she wins or when she loses. She replied that she believes she learns more when she loses because she can learn what she did wrong and how she can improve on that.

Riana loves to dance; it's her passion. She started dancing when she was 4 and has been a competitive dancer for the past 11 years. Her talent was a lyrical dance performed to "The Face."

Riana won the following scholarships: \$100 for Be Your Best Self essay, \$150 Fitness, \$250 Scholastic, \$200 Talent, \$250 Interview, \$150 Self-Expression and \$800 as the overall winner. Her scholarship total is \$1900 from the program.

### 2016 Distinguished Young Woman of Wayne: Kelsie Wysong

"When I was announced the winner, I felt so honored. I've lived in Wayne my whole life and I've given so much of my time and effort to benefit the city. I'm so happy to be able to represent it."

Kelsie wanted to better prepare herself for college. She also knew the program was a good way to get scholarships and to become a more well-rounded person. "The hardest part was committing to it. I was very worried that I was spreading myself too thin. I wanted to focus on schoolwork, dance, senate or my family. I'm happy I persevered," said Kelsie.

Kelsie attends Wayne Memorial High School. She plans to attend the University of Michigan to study bio-engineering. She received the HAIL scholarship from UofM which offers free tuition and more for high achiev-

ing, low-income kids. Her modern day hero is her Aunt Sara. For her on-stage question, she was asked what she would ask the presidential candidates if she had the opportunity to attend a debate. Her response was that she would ask what they planned to do to benefit the younger generation because the younger generation has less of a voice. However, many of the decisions made by the next president would be directly affecting them.

Kelsie loves to run and dance in her spare time. She dances for both Michigan Dance Alliance and Detroit Tap Repertory. Her talent was a tap dancing routine to "Secrets."

Kelsie won the following scholarships: \$150 Self-Expression, \$250 Scholastic, \$250 Interview, \$200 Talent, \$100 Be Your Best Self essay and \$400 as the runner-up. The runner-up is given the title of the city she lives in, while the winner gets the Wayne-Westland title. Kelsie's scholarships totaled \$1350.

### 2017 Distinguished Young Woman of Wayne-Westland: Kaitlyn Balko

"When I was announced the winner, I was so shocked. Going into the program, I wasn't expecting to win."

Kaitlyn came to the program because her best friend signed up. Her mother and her friend then talked her into joining also. "The hardest part would've had to have been the self-expression/poise routine. I had never walked in heels before until this program," stated Kaitlyn.

Kaitlyn attends John Glenn High School. She's not sure what college she will attend; some of her choices include Western Michigan University, Central Michigan University, University of Michigan and Grand Valley

State University. She is thinking of studying accounting and is hoping to play soccer in college. Her modern day hero is Emma Watson. On-stage, she was asked how technology affects her generation's ability to communicate and relate to older



Kaitlyn Balko

generations. She responded that technology is affecting her generation in the wrong way. They use their phones to talk to others so much that they struggle talking to each other in person.

In her free time, Kaitlyn is a volunteer coach for a young soccer team. She also loves to read and perform on stage (drama). Soccer is her passion. She performed a monologue as her talent.

Kaitlyn won the following scholarships: \$100 Be Your Best Self essay, \$250 Scholastic, \$150 Self-Expression, \$250 Interview and \$800 for winning the 2017 title. Her total is \$1550.

### 2017 Distinguished Young Woman-Wayne: Antrunika Alonzo

"When I heard my name announced as the 2017 Wayne-West-

land runner-up, I was overwhelmed! I had so many mixed emotions of joy and shock, and I am so thankful for the program."

Antrunika joined the program when there was an announcement at school talking about scholarships for young women. She attends Wayne Memorial High School. She plans to attend Emory University and study to become a Rehabilitation Physician. Her modern day hero is her mother. On stage, she was asked how she defines a leader. Her response included a person who takes responsibility and who takes the initiative to do something someone else wouldn't do.

Antrunika loves to swim and play the cello. She plays the cello with the symphony orchestra at Wayne Memorial. For her talent, she played "At Twilight" on her cello.

Antrunika won the following scholarships: \$100 Be Your Best Self essay, \$100 Spirit award, \$250 Scholastic, \$200 Talent, \$200 Fitness and \$400 as 2017 runner-up. Her scholarships total \$1250.

This was the 49th year that Wayne-Westland has had a local program. The four winners will now go on to the State program in Saline later this month. "It's been very helpful to come from a local program and have people around to show me the ropes instead of going in blind. I'm also very excited not only for the opportunity to go to states, but to be able to do it with Riana. We have been best friends since we were 4, and it's been great to be able to make these memories together in our senior year," stated Kelsie.

The winner of the state program will go on to represent Michigan at the 2016 National Finals to be held in Mobile, Alabama, June 23-25.

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Coach Jarvis Mitchell runs drills with the Lady Zebras basketball team.

# Wayne girls' hoop is on the rise

By Dave Merchant

The Lady Zebras basketball team is off to one of the best starts ever according to team officials. The girls are starting to play tough against league opponents as well as tough non-league opponents.

The team is currently 3-2 taking their first loss to Northville before holiday break by one point and losing to Dewitt over the break.

Jarvis Mitchell is in his second year coaching the Wayne varsity girls' and is a former college superstar and even played in the NBA. He enjoys his job very much and is a very passionate and dedicated coach.

"The difference between this year and last year's team is like night and day," Mitchell said. "The hardest thing is to get the kids to want to be part of the team. Now this year I can get them to play the way I want them to play."

He said it has been difficult to get them to play all year round in AAU and other leagues.

"I don't want to police participation," he said. "On our bench kids have a role they have to learn to be better players."

The loss against Northville was a fatal mistake he said. The team was up most of the game and they made a mistake late that cost them the win.

He said the team is going to mature and get better.

"I don't want a cupcake schedule," he said. "In the loss to Dewitt we saw we had a lot to overcome."

Mitchell said the team is led by

sophomore point guard Camree' Clegg who is a transfer from Detroit Country Day. "Cam is the floor general on the court, she truly is the extension of the coach," he said. "She can do everything; she already has four Division 1 offers with tons of interest. She is a very smart and savvy point guard who works as hard as anybody I've ever coached. She's an exciting player to watch."

Jeanae Terry according to Mitchell has raw natural ability; she can play either the point or shooting guard. She's only a freshman, so she's going to make some freshman mistakes, but she's going to be really, really good. She is already making immediate impact on this team.

Another key player is Amara Chikwe a junior who transferred from Ann Arbor Huron, Amara is a Six-Footer wing or stretch four that can rebound and run the floor very well. He said teams can't leave her open on the three-point line or they might be surprised.

Freshman Lichail James and senior Haley Scott round out the starting five players for this year's squad. The other players on the roster are senior Jekeya Brown, junior Adrianna Gonzales and Jayah Hicks.

Mitchell said the team has goals and expectations and he can't wait for them to go as far as possible.

In the past he coached an AAU girls' team where five out of the six players earned scholarships to play ball in Division 1. The other girl went to a Division 2 school.

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**ON THE COVER** - L to R: Gurpreet Singh and Gagandeep Boparai hold their newborn daughter Inaya Sidhu. All of Canton. Inaya was born at 2:34 a.m. January 1, 2016 at Beaumont Hospital - Wayne weighing six pounds ten ounces and is 19 1/2 inches long. Photo by Tony Simler

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



# Great activities always happening in Wayne

Many thanks to ICON Computer Solutions. Nasty viruses had invaded my computer, as well as my husband's. It would have cost us a bundle to eliminate them. Enter the good guys from ICON. Within a few hours they cleaned both of our computers of the 'bad stuff'. No more viruses.

Before moving to Wayne, the computer service was based in Ypsilanti. ICON has been at the Michigan Ave. location for 5 years. It is owned by Mr. Brian Ewanciw. ICON sells new and used computers. They build specialized computers for gaming or business plus all the components that go with those computers. They also sell a full line of parts and accessories for all computers. Their anti-virus repairs are guaranteed and can be done in the store or in your home. Owner Brian E. lives in Wayne and has a 19 year old daughter and a son who is 14.

Bill Turner is Mr. Ewanciw's knowledgeable employee and colleague. The service has one other employee who works part time.

Another thing--once a year during Wayne's Cruisin' US 12 road rally, ICON's parking lot becomes 'home base' for "Hearsin' Around" the ICONic club from Hell, Michigan.

How does she do it? Judy Wells is the Director of St. Mary Outreach Center and she is a real dynamo. She took time from her busy schedule, to tell me about the donors to the "John Bolden Food Depot." On her list is Wayne Rotary; Wayne 100 Club; various churches, and the Ford Retirees #182. Also contributing are; Wayne Memorial High

## Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



School. They collected 193 lbs. of food; John Glenn donated 101.5 lbs. of food; Divine Child 685 lbs. and Wayne St Mary, 857 lbs. Ms. Wells also wants to thank Aldi's Market for all the help they have given to the Outreach Center.

Along with all the work she does for the Outreach Center, recently Judy Wells had a real scare, when her husband, Dave, was rushed to the hospital for emergency surgery. It was successful and Dave is doing well.

With Thanksgiving and Christmas so close together, this is the time of year many people are in need of food and personal items.

I'm sure there will be more donors during Christmas-New Year's Holidays---and I'll tell you all about them as soon as I get a new list.

I hate "goodbyes" don't you? Our Library Board has had to say farewell to our two liaison members from City Hall. They are Mayor Jim Hawley and Councilman Albert Damitio. The two men faithfully attended our Board meetings, were always forthcoming with helpful news of the city and showed great interest in making the Wayne Library good---better---best. Add to this, a sense of humor and good ideas.



Bill Turner and Brian Ewanciw (owner) of Icon Computers have a full line of parts and accessories for all computers.

Mayor Hawley and Councilman Damitio did not run for re-election. We will miss them and thank them for their service.

Now for the good news. Recently elected Councilman Tony Miller will be our new contact with City Hall. We were so pleased to meet him at our last Board Meeting. He's very enthusiastic, and hopes to explore new ideas, especially for ways to increase the Library's revenues.

Welcome aboard Councilman Miller.

The Wayne Library's once a year book sale is history. Now they have an ongoing everyday that they're open, book sale. In the periodical room (where the fireplace is) a large amount of shelf space is now filled with used books for sale. There are 3 different prices---hardback fiction and non-fiction \$1.00. Paperbacks are \$.50 and teen and children's books are 25 cents.

And speaking of books...Mary Lindsay, who works in the City Building Department, wrote a book and won an award for it. She tells me "I belong to a writing group that meets in the Westland Library once month. They made us aware of a national challenge for the National Novel Writing Month. The challenge was to write a 50,000 word novel in the month of November.

"I took the challenge and wrote a novel with a day to spare. It's just a first draft. I may choose to pursue it and eventually submit it for publication. I enjoyed writing it and I think it is a good story." Mary told us about her book at Pam Dobrowolski's annual Christmas party.

The Biddle Street B's gathered at her home for an evening of fun, gifts, food, and spirited talk.

We also honored Barbara Wootton, who recently moved, but is still regarded as the matriarch of Biddle St.

I have a correction to make. In a recent column I referred to Nancy Wojewski Noel as the Director of Wayne's HYPE Senior Center. Actually, she is the City of Wayne's Senior Director, who's office is located in the HYPE Athletic Center. She tells me that she's not a HYPE employee, but represents ALL Senior residents who do not have to be a member of HYPE to receive her assistance or services.

Mea Culpa, Nancy---sorry about giving you the wrong title. But I'm not mistaken when I say---you really take good care of our Wayne Seniors.

Our hearts are saddened as we mourn the death of our Library Director, Paulette Medvecky.

Rest in Peace, dear friend.



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# Local auto workers give back to community

By Dave Merchant

Charity comes from the heart and it also comes from the wonderful people who work in the auto industry and are fortunate enough and willing to give back to the Wayne, Westland and surrounding communities and people who may need a little help around the holidays.

Auto workers believe in helping those less fortunate than themselves and the Christmas season proved once again that United Auto Workers Local 900 not only cares about the community but also helps give them a good holiday.

Mike Smith, Vice President of UAW Local 900, said this time of year there always seems to be a need for adults as well as children.

"It is one of our community service groups," Smith said. "We raise money on the floor (of the factory), have trees at the local for tree angels. We raised between \$100 and \$150 per child."

They get lists of the children from area churches and organizations. They try to get different names and different children each year.



Santa's UAW helpers Patty Martin (Co-Chair), Mike Smith (Vice President), Anderson Robinson Jr. (President), Bill Johnson Jr. (Financial Secretary). Back, Danita Brantley (Editor), Ulysses Edmonson, Ebony Kennedy (Chair), Fernando Merida (District Committee) and Judy Reynolds (Secretary) show off some of the gifts being donated to people in the community.

Co-person of this committee is Ebony Kennedy and her mother, who is retired from the UAW, Carolyn Kennedy. They have both been excellent on the committee for years according to Smith.

Smith said the community service group had 150 kids they donated money or gifts to last holiday season. The children and their parents had a lunch in a hall, which according to Smith was packed. They were joined by Santa and Mrs. Claus.

"The Plant Chairman and everyone dug deep to help," Smith said. "We are all fortunate to give back. The UAW as a whole likes to give back."

Smith said that Westland Councilman Bill Johnson who also works at Ford Motor Company is in charge of the local Goodfellows organization. The UAW helped the Goodfellows pass out some 900 turkeys this season and the group raised \$73,722.

"The Plant Chairman and everyone dug deep to help. We are all fortunate to give back. The UAW as a whole likes to give back."

**Mike Smith**  
UAW Vice President



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