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JUNE 2018

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Front Row, left to right: Ken Dada, Christine Dewyer, Sarah Craig, Savannah Dobreff, Irisa Lico, Sarah Prough, Kaylin Scott, Oliver Gietzen, Lizbeth Cortes (Salutatorian)
Back Row, left to right: Trevor Baisa, Gabrielle Andrion, Sariah Bolden, Shivam Patel, Karim Gharib, Mikayla Wallace, Michaela Minnis, Anahi Lopez, and Alyza Hogston.

WMHS Class of 2018 Valedictorians

Wayne Memorial High School has announced 18 Class of 2018 Valedictorians and one Salutatorian.

Valedictorians in alphabetical order:

Gabrielle Nicole Andrion

Daughter of Anabelle Tombo-Andrion
Gabrielle is graduating with a 4.02 Cumulative GPA

She will be attending Michigan State University
Majoring in Supply Chain Management

Trevor Jordan Baisa

Son of Carl Baisa and Sharon Baisa
Trevor is graduating with a 4.08 GPA
He will be attending Eastern Michigan University
Majoring in Biochemistry

Sariah Marie Bolden

Daughter of Erika Smith and Ricardo Bolden
Sariah is graduating with a 4.0 GPA
She will be attending Roosevelt University
Majoring in History and Political Science

Sarah Elizabeth Craig

Daughter of Amy and George Craig
Sarah is graduating with a 4.19 Cumulative GPA
She will be attending Georgetown University's
School of Foreign Services

Ken Bachar Dada

Son of Bachar and Amal Dada
Ken is graduating with a 4.15 Cumulative GPA

He will be attending the
University of Detroit Mercy
Majoring in pre-optometry

Christine Elaine Dewyer

Daughter of Deborah and Darryl Dewyer
Christine is graduating with a 4.0 Cumulative GPA
She will be attending Wayne State University
Majoring in the Arts

Savannah Cary Dobreff

Daughter of Shannon and Ron Dobreff
Savannah is graduating with a 4.12 Cumulative GPA
She will be attending Kalamazoo College
Majoring in English and Music

Karim Ramzi Gharib

Son of Ramzi and Ronak Gharib
Karim is graduating with a 4.14 Cumulative GPA
He will be attending Wayne State University
Majoring in Biology

Oliver J Gietzen

Son of Jennifer and Christopher Gietzen
Oliver is graduating with a 4.04 Cumulative GPA
He will be attending the Wittenburg University
Majoring in Art Education

Alyza Marie Hogston

Daughter of Sabrina Harrop
and Jeremy Hogston
Alyza is graduating with a 4.14 Cumulative GPA

She will be attending the
University of Michigan- Ann Arbor
Majoring in Pre-medical studies

Javon Earl Johnson

Son of Alisa Johnson
Javon is graduating with a 4.0 Cumulative GPA
He will be attending Michigan State University
Majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering,
and Mathematics

Irisa Lico

Daughter of Asim and Mira Lico
Irisa is graduating with a 4.10 Cumulative GPA
She will be attending the University of Michigan-
Ann Arbor
Majoring in Public Health

Anahi Lopez-Espinoza

Daughter of Gerardo Lopez and Ester Espinoza
Anahi is graduating with a 4.17 Cumulative GPA
She will be attending Denison University
Majoring in Environmental
Studies and Anthropology

Michaela Elizabeth Minnis

Daughter of Michael and Marion Minnis
Michaela is graduating with a 4.10 Cumulative GPA
She will be attending the University of Michigan
Majoring in Public Health

See **Valedictorians**, page 4

NEWS BRIEFS

Outdoor game nights

Join Wayne Main Street as they present Game Nights in Derby's Alley (34924 W. Michigan Ave). You can bring your own games or choose from the selection of board and outdoor games WMS will have available. Learn a new game, challenge new opponents, swap strategies and meet like-minded people. All ages are welcome. Refreshments will be available to purchase. Game nights will be from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Wednesdays, June 13, June 20, June 27 and July 11.

Amateur Boxing Challenge Tournament

Norwayne Boxing Gym and Detroit Youth Boxing Magazine are presenting the City of Westland Boxing Challenge Tournament on Father's Day weekend, June 16 and 17, at Mike Modano Ice Arena, 6210 N. Wildwood, Westland. There will be 40 fighters and 20 bouts during the two-day event. Doors open Saturday at 4:30 p.m. with the show starting at 5:00 p.m. Doors open Sunday at 1:30 p.m. with the show starting at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are sold at the door: \$15 for adults, \$10 for children (each day).

Summer reading at the Wayne Public Library

Registration begins Tuesday, June 12, for Libraries ROCK!, the summer reading program at Wayne Public Library. Youth can win prizes for reading. There will be free weekly activities starting the week of June 19.

Programs include:



Are you ready to Rock?

Wayne Rotary Concerts in Goudy Park on Wednesday nights begin July 18th and run through August 29th. Your Generation in Concert performs on Wednesday, August 8th. See the July edition of the Wayne Dispatch for the full concert series line-up.

Tuesday, June 26, 2:00-3:00 p.m.: Legos ROCK with Chris Leach

Thursday, July 12, 2:00-3:00 p.m.: Rock and Roll Percussion with Phil Kaput

Tuesday, July 17, 6:00-7:30 p.m.: WAYNE ROCKS! Talent Show and Karaoke Night

Wednesday, July 25, 2:00-3:00 p.m.: Animal Magic with Mark Rosenthal

Visit Carpenter's Lake

Always wanted to know more about Carpenter's Lake? Join the Wayne Historical Society on Thursday, June 14, at 6:00 p.m. to learn all about Carpenter's Lake. Instead

of meeting at the museum, this "Destination Talk" will take place on the site of Carpenter's Lake at the Aigeltinger property on Hannan Road. Mr. Aigeltinger will talk about the history of the site, the lake and show the cabins that still stand on the property.

There will also be food and a bonfire. The event is free and kid-friendly. To get to the property, turn right off W. Michigan Ave onto Hannan Rd. It's about the second house on the right side. Watch for volunteers who will be guiding people where to park and where to go.

See **BRIEFS**, page 12

VALEDICTORIANS,

Continued from page 3

Shivam Tejalkumar Patel

Son of Priti and Tejal Patel
Shivam is graduating with a
4.3 Cumulative GPA

He will be attending

Duke University

Majoring in Pre-Medical Studies

Sarah Irene Prough

Daughter of Robert and
Tracie Prough

Sarah is graduating with a
4.02 Cumulative GPA

She will be attending

Michigan Technological University
Majoring in Engineering

Kaylin Scott

Daughter of Karen Scott and
Dwayne Scott

Kaylin is graduating with a
4.05 Cumulative GPA

She will be attending Michigan
State University

Majoring in Mathematics

Mikayla Lynn Wallace

Daughter of DaShawn and
Leon Wallace

Mikayla is graduating with a
4.08 Cumulative GPA

She will be attending the
University of Michigan

Majoring in Elementary Education

Salutatorian:

Lizabeth Annayeli Cortes

Daughter of Marco and
Maria Cortes

Lizabeth is graduating with a
3.97 Cumulative GPA

She will be attending

Eastern Michigan University
Majoring in Social Work

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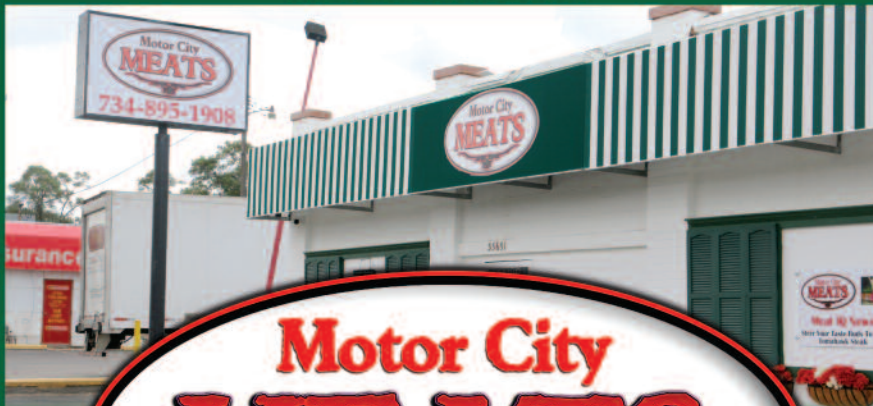
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WINDOW ON WAYNE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

PART OF WAYNE DOWNTOWN DAYS
JULY 12-14, 2018



Enter the Window on Wayne photo contest

Helium Studio is delighted to announce the 2018 "Window on Wayne" photography contest as part of the City of Wayne's Downtown Days, July 12-14.

This year's theme is "Art-omotive." To honor the history of Wayne as it related to automobile companies, this year's contest photos must include a "mobility" reference - any kind of mobility. Trains, buses, cars, strollers, bicycles, etc. It's up to you.

Start taking photos. Photos can be taken from anywhere within city limits, but must be taken during the contest time frame, May 28 - June 24, 2018. Once you have the perfect capture, email it to Helium Studio (shopheliumstudio@gmail.com) for display on the special Facebook page.

On June 25 public voting will open on submitted photos. Online voting will run through July 1. The top 10 "Liked" photos will be displayed at Karma Coffee and Kitchen during Downtown Days, July 12-14. During this time, the public will be able to view and vote at Karma Coffee and Kitchen for their favorites.

At the end of the exhibit at Karma Coffee, the top three vote-getters will be announced and three winners will receive cash prizes! Exhibit opening and awards ceremony details are still to be determined.

RULES

1. Contest dates

- The contest will run from May 28, 2018 until July 14, 2018.
- Photo submissions accepted beginning June 11 until June 23, 2018.
- Online (Facebook) voting to begin on June 24 and ends at 6:00

p.m. July 1.

- Top 10 "Liked" photos will be announced on July 2, 2018.

The artist will have until July 11 to deliver their printed and framed photo(s) to Karma Coffee for display.

- Public voting at Karma Coffee will be open during Downtown Days, July 12-14. Further times and details will be announced soon.

2. Photographer Requirements

Participants will agree to the following conditions:

- Photos must be taken during the presented time frame.
- Photos must be taken within the city limits of Wayne, Michigan.
- No illegal, pornographic or otherwise offensive images will be accepted. Helium Studio retains the right to refuse any submitted photograph. THIS IS NON-NEGOTIABLE.
- Participants are allowed to submit 2 entries.

- Participants agree to costs associated with the printing, matting and framing of images selected for display.

- By submitting photos for consideration in this contest, you give permission for Helium Studio, The City of Wayne, Karma Coffee and Kitchen and interested media outlets for the publication of your photo for promotional use during this contest. There will be no entrance fee or age requirement for participation.

3. Awards

- Photographers of the top THREE publicly-voted photos will receive the following:

- First place - \$100
- Second place - \$75
- Third place - \$50

Downtown Days returns to Wayne in July

Here in Wayne, we thrive on our amazing community spirit, so what better way to celebrate our sense of community than by throwing a great summer event! This July, our downtown will be hosting the 2nd Annual Downtown Days, which is a three-day event. Wayne Main Street, along with our partner organizations, is excited to once again bring this special event to our city. Downtown Days will take place from Thursday, July 12th, to Saturday, July 14th, and feature three days of family-friendly activities including concerts, crafts for kids (provided by the Detroit Institute of Arts), sidewalk sales, and vendor markets. These events will take place at venues and locations throughout downtown Wayne. This year's event will also feature two art competitions, our 2nd Annual Window on Wayne photography contest, and our Art-o-Motive car hood design contest.

Downtown Days was started in 2017 with a purpose of celebrating our engaging community and all the great amenities our downtown has to



Downtown Lowdown

Maxwell Cameron

offer. Businesses and organizations have the opportunity to host various events and activities at their locations, while Downtown Days works to promote those happenings to our residents and visitors from surrounding communities. This allows us to have a unique blend of activities happening all weekend long. Organizations like the Knights of Columbus, the Wayne Rotary Club, and the Wayne Historical Society, along with businesses such as Harry J. Will, Helium Studio, Icon Computer, McDonalds, and Northside Hardware will all be hosting activities during Downtown Days. We have also partnered with Nankin Transit to offer event-goers free shuttle service throughout downtown Wayne on



Wayne Rotary is bringing back by popular demand Steve King and the Dittillies to Goudy Park on Friday, July 13, for a free family concert in celebration of Wayne's Downtown Days and sidewalk sales. Be sure to save the date.

Saturday, July 14th.

This year we will also be utilizing some of Wayne's incredible public spaces for this event. For the second year, Downtown Days has partnered with the Wayne Rotary Club for the kick-off of their annual Concerts-in-the-Park series, taking place on Friday, July 13th, at 7 p.m. in Goudy Park. Our Art-o-Motive hood contest will take place in Derby's Alley (34924 W. Michigan Avenue) all

weekend. In total, more than 25 events will be happening around downtown Wayne during Downtown Days. For a full schedule of events you can visit downtownwayne.org/downtowndays. Whether you come down for just one event, like Northside Hardware's Sidewalk sale, or plan to check out multiple activities, we hope that you will join us for Downtown Days and help celebrate all that our city has to offer.



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- Dog Food Rolls: Happy Howie's
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- Dog Treats/Rawhide Chews
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- Kong® Toys
- Microfiber Cleaning Cloths
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ORIAL CLASS of 2018

HS has earned \$7 million in scholarships.

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CONGRATULATIONS
Oliver Gietzen
 we are so proud of you, especially that you were **VALEDICTORIAN!**
 Love,
 Mom, Dad & Marissa

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Roger Kormos and Brian Ewanciw tune-up a bike at the Wayne Bicycle Shop.

Free bicycle tune-ups Saturdays in June

This June, Wayne Main Street (WMS) will be partnering with the Wayne Bicycle Club and Wayne Bicycle Shop to host three bicycle safety inspection events. The events will take place Saturdays in June from 12:00 (Noon)-4:00 p.m. running from June 13 – 30 at the Wayne Bicycle Shop, located inside Icon Computer at 35858 W Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI 48184. The shop will be offering free bike tune-ups to Wayne residents who present an identification with their address. This event is open to residents of all ages.

The Wayne Bicycle Club was founded in 2016 to promote biking in Wayne. The Club hosts weekly rides beginning at the State Wayne

Theater every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Earlier this year, Bike Club founder Brian Ewanciw was inspired to open a Pop-Up bicycle shop in downtown Wayne.

Last year, WMS launched a crowdfunding campaign through the Michigan Department of Economic Development (MEDC) to purchase and install 30 bike racks in downtown Wayne. This project included hosting a number of cycling promotion events. The organization is excited to host these events in partnership with the Wayne Bicycle Club and Wayne Bicycle Shop this June and hopes to promote more pop-up events/retail in Wayne to inspire small businesses and retailers.



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The Wayne Public Library is asking for the citizens of Wayne to approve a Millage Proposal which will be voted August 7, 2018. The proposal is asking for a one mil increase, which will amount to approximately \$2.83 increase per month for homeowners in the City of Wayne.

Due to the recent recession, the City of Wayne was faced with a reduction in tax revenue which resulted in the library budget to be reduced by 50%. The millage is necessary to help restore:

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Wayne employee hits 60 year mark with city

By Carolyn Marnon

After 60 years with the City of Wayne, you would think DPW (Department of Public Works) Administration Assistant Patty Ditmore would be ready to move on to the golden years of retirement and all that retirement brings with it. It's not happening.

"I like my job and the years go by and I have my health. As long as I have my health, I'll keep on working," says Mrs. Ditmore who started working for the City as a switchboard operator for the Finance Department. She stayed with the Finance Department for the next nine years before she came to DPW. With DPW, she spent 17 years at the office on Myrtle, another 17 years in the building next door to the current building, and has been in the present office since 2003.

"I have a great boss, Ed Queen, and I like the guys I work with." Patty did note there is a female laborer who works on the roads, Barb Rose.

After growing up in Norwayne



DPW Assistant Director Ed Queen, Foreman Dave Schmidt and Rick Lawrence with 60 year DPW employee, Administration Assistant Patty Ditmore.

and graduating from St. Mary's in Wayne, Patty says she's never really left home.

Her husband, a retired Ford employee, is very supportive of her and

her decision to work. She's in the office 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. "My job isn't really exciting. I deal with the public and about 90% of them are nice."

What does she consider exciting at the DPW? The explosion at Frank's Furniture kept DPW busy as well as the incident at EQ Basin not that long ago. Also, when trees come down during storms and power is lost, she gets to coordinate clean up with the foremen.

Besides fire and police, DPW is so important to the city, Mrs. Ditmore says. Without DPW, sewers would be backed up and remain that way, streets wouldn't be plowed, and water main breaks wouldn't be attended to. She remembers when the few employees DPW has remaining had to deal with three water main breaks at one time, working 24-

hours straight, PLUS there was snow. Ten years ago, there were 28 men taking care of the City. Now there are 10. Maybe they don't take care of things as quickly as they used to, but they still take care of things. There are just priorities now.

When she's not working, Patty enjoys reading fiction, especially murder mysteries and stories of intrigue. Her favorite authors are David Baldacci and John Grisham. She claims she has never read a romance novel. She likes to do paint-by-number art and work in her yard during the summer. Of course, she also likes baby-sitting her great-grandchildren, ages 5 and 10. Even though she loves to read, she doesn't belong to a book club. "I don't belong to anything. I don't want to be tied down." She goes on speaking from her work desk after 60 years, "It's a contradiction, isn't it?"

Some other activities Patty has been involved in include reading books on cassette for the blind and teaching catechism at St. Mary's. She and her husband have taken trips and they have a cabin in Reed City where they go to commune with nature.

"Good afternoon! Public Works," she answers the phone in the DPW building reception area where she has a desk. She watches the camera that is set up to view the recently renovated recycling area. Although she says the 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. hours are inconvenient for some people, she says the revisions to keep out trash are working.

"I don't know what the future will bring," Patty concludes as she prepares to leave work for the day. "If I retired, I couldn't sit still."

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★ Special Education • 734-419-2645

NEWS BRIEFS

BRIEFS, Continued from page 4

Learn to sing barbershop

Men who like to sing are wanted. All voice ranges. All ages. You do not need to know how to read music. No audition necessary. The men of the Harmony Town Chorus invite you in the singing of Barbershop Music. Please join them for a month dedicated to welcoming new voices to their 74-year chorus. Tuesdays: June 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 7:30 p.m. No cost. All materials provided. It's fun! It's easy! Invite friends. They sincerely hope to meet you! Harmony Town Chorus meets at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill Rd, Westland, in Fellowship Hall on the lower level.

Wayne Bicycle Club bicycle show and bbq

Come out for the Wayne Bicycle Club's 1st Annual Bicycle Show and BBQ during Downtown Days on July 14 from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Show will be held at Wayne Bicycle Shop, 35858 W. Michigan Ave, Suite 1. Trophies will be offered for Custom, Classic Original and People's Choice. Judging will take place at 3:00 p.m. There will be rides all day down Michigan Avenue during Cruisin US12. Bicycle Clubs, builders, and sellers can reserve a spot for your tent and sell your products, support apparel or anything bicycle-related no charge. Bring out those sweet rides and show off what you have! The free BBQ is expected to be pulled pork sandwiches and macaroni and cheese donated by Motor City Meats.

Beware of scams

The Wayne Police Department is urging residents and businesses to be suspicious of unsolicited phone calls. A common scam is for a criminal to pose as a representative of your power company (i.e. DTE) and claim your power bill is overdue. The criminal will tell the victim to go purchase some type of pre-paid card (iTunes, pre-paid Visa) and provide the numbers to the criminal. If you are in doubt about the nature of the call, you should hang up, locate the main number of the business, and



Sworn in

The City of Wayne welcomed Firefighter Kevin M. Pietrasinski who was officially sworn in by City Clerk Matt Miller at the June 5th City of Wayne Council meeting. Firefighter Pietrasinski was hired under the SAFER grant.

call to verify. Do not call the number that comes up on your phone display.

Yearbooks needed

The Wayne Historical Museum is looking for yearbooks to add to their collection. The following are the years they are in need of from Wayne Memorial High School: anything before 1940, 1984, 1986, 1995, 1996, 1998-2003, 2016 and 2017. They need all years from John Glenn High School. They need all years from St. Mary's school.

Charity car show

Wayne Masonic Lodge, 37137 Palmer Rd, Westland, will be holding their annual Charity Car Show on Saturday, June 9, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. All cars are welcome; the entrance fee is \$15 which includes a goody bag and t-shirt. All proceeds go to benefit Rainbow Girls and Demolays. There will be raffles, prizes, music, food court and a live auction.

Make a bracelet class

Make your own stack of bangle bracelets while learning some basic jewelry assembly techniques. Learn how to open and close jump rings, as well as other techniques as you prefer, such as building your own charm with papers/metal/glass, and hand-stamping. Class will be led by Kim White-Jenkins, co-owner of Helium Studios along with her husband Dave Jenkins. There is a \$30 minimum registration fee along with piece pricing:

\$5/round bangle- Choose from tones of antique silver, antique gold, antique copper or silver plate, depending on what's available. Two bangle sizes available.

\$2-5/charm- A variety of quality fabricated and handmade charms in various metal tones will be offered.

When you register, you are guaranteed \$30 worth of materials (bangle[s] and charms of your choice, worth up to \$30). If you choose addi-

tional jewelry, you will be charged that day to make up for the difference. You will leave with your stack(s) in (a) Helium Studio gift box(es).

Two sessions are scheduled:

Saturday, June 9, drop in anytime between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 14, class will start at 6:30 p.m. sharp.

There is a no-show policy. Contact Helium Studios at (734) 725-3811 or stop by 3127 S. Wayne Rd.

Swim night for women

HYPE Recreation Center is hosting Women's Only Swim Nights on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month. Cost is \$6 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Girls and women must be age 13 or older.

No children under 13 and no boys allowed. HYPE is located at 4635 Howe Rd. For more information, call 734-721-7400.

Summer BBQ dinner

Karma Coffee and Kitchen will be hosting a Summer BBQ themed three-course dinner on Saturday, June 23.

Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 day of event. Reservations are preferred. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will include cowboy bean taco salad, meat sampler platter (beef brisket, pork rib, BBQ chicken) with sides and apple pie with ice cream. If the weather permits, outdoor seating will be available. Karma Coffee and Kitchen is located at 35634 W. Michigan Ave.

Family safety day

Beaumont Hospital-Wayne will be presenting their 3rd Annual Family Safety Awareness Day Wednesday, August 1, 2:00-6:00 p.m. at Beaumont Hospital-Wayne, 33155 Annapolis, Wayne. There will be a bike contest, ambulance tours, child identification kits, driving simulator, fire safety obstacle course, gun safety, helicopter tours, smokehouse, shooting simulator, free bicycle helmets (2-4:00 p.m. while supplies last) and a jaws of life demonstration at 4:00 p.m.

Community gathers for Derby's Alley opening

Donors, stakeholders, and members of the community joined Wayne Main Street for the official opening of Derby's Alley last month. The event was a celebration of the many renovations WMS has undertaken in the alleyway. These improvements include new benches, bistro tables, and festooned lighting. Attendees were provided refreshments, as well as a cake made and designed by Baker's Acre.

Opening remarks were made by WMS Executive Director, Maxwell

Cameron, who publicly thanked the members of the Greater Michigan Association of Realtors, Michigan Realtors, AARP, Wayne Rotary Foundation, and City and Elected officials from Wayne who were in attendance. Special thanks were also given to Pat Rice and Re/Max Classic, who were instrumental in the success of the project.

WMS Board President Juan Bradford then took the floor to discuss how the Derby's Alley project began and the progress the organiza-

tion has made over the course of the project. The funders for the project were thanked again for their contributions of over \$23,000, collectively. Other speakers included GMAR President James Iodice, Mayor Pro Tem Anthony Miller, and a special appearance from Ezra Derby himself.

"Wayne Main Street's success with Derby's Alley is a source of great pride for our organization," stated Juan Bradford, President of Wayne Main Street. "We will continue

to establish a beautified downtown for our community to enjoy."

After the ribbon cutting, attendees enjoyed refreshments and mingled in the new public space. Wayne Main Street plans to continue improving Derby's Alley throughout the next year, including the installation of a new hanging sign. The alley will be utilized for several events throughout the year and residents are encouraged to join WMS for Outdoor Game Nights, Wednesdays, from June 13th to July 11th.

Why is it called Derby's Alley?

By Carolyn Marnon

Where did the name Derby's Alley come from? Ezra Derby is considered the founder of Wayne, MI. Ezra came to Wayne in 1825 when he was 22 years old and purchased the first piece of land sold by the government in Section 12, Ypsilanti Township, Washtenaw County, Territory of Michigan. He divided the land into lots and started selling them.

In 1830, after Stephen G. Simons murdered his wife, Ezra bought Wayne's first business, a tavern. He then went into the blacksmithing business and then sold the shop in 1832. The first school of Wayne was started above that shop.

In 1834, Ezra laid out the first village plat on the north side of Michigan Avenue beginning at the east side



Left to Right: Pat Rice, Wayne Main Street President Juan Bradford, James Iodice, President of Greater Metropolitan Area Realtors, Gil White, Placemaking Lead at Michigan REALTORS, and Collin McDonough Governmental Affairs and Community Relations with Michigan REALTORS.

of the Old Cemetery and running nearly to Second St. There were 15 lots facing Michigan Avenue (then known as the Chicago Turnpike). These lots were known as Derby's Corners.

The site of Wayne's first frame house was Ezra's home located where the recently closed GI Surplus stands, right next to the alleyway

now named Derby's Alley.

Ezra Derby was once Justice of the Peace in Wayne. He had a total of five wives. His first was Sally Rugg with whom he had four children (Emma, Mary Ann, George and Henry). When Sally died, Ezra married Harriet Collins in 1834 with whom he had three children (Maria, Ezra and Harriet). When Harriet died, Ezra married Hannah Cotton Smith in 1851. They had one child, Martha, before Hannah died in 1856. Ezra then married Jane Melody. When she died, he took on a fifth wife. Ezra died in 1877. He and most of his wives are buried at the Old Cemetery in Wayne. The home he lived in during the 1870s is still standing at 34549 Norris St.

Most of this information is from an article in the Wayne Eagle dated June 24, 1959.

Dowd chosen to fill vacant council seat

By Carolyn Marnon

Kevin Dowd was chosen by the City Council at the June 5 council meeting to fulfill the 5-months remaining on the council seat vacated when Councilman Jeremiah Webster was elected to take over the seat of recalled Councilman Christopher Sanders last month.

The City Council interviewed four applicants for the position, including Michael Wilson II, Len Fisher, and Eric Cleereman.

Kevin has been a resident of Wayne for 19 years and grew up in this area. After the council meeting, Kevin expressed his delight at being chosen.



Kevin Dowd

He said he is enthusiastic to learn the process of city council operations, the constituency in Wayne and working with his neighbors on a different level. He is hoping for a positive and perhaps a long-term experience depending on the outcome of the November election.

Kevin says the first thing he is going to do as councilman is learn and understand the process of city government as it relates to his position. He is especially interested in the financial situation of the city and what part he can play in making improvements.

The swearing-in ceremony for Kevin Dowd will be at the June 19 city council meeting at 8:00 p.m. at City Hall.



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WAYNE Dispatch
2018
Graduation Special

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

Students build rain garden

Rotary Park II in the City of Wayne located on Chamberlain received a beautiful upgrade this past week funded by a five hundred dollar grant. The 4th grade students of Hoover Elementary School and their teachers Amy Morris and Andrea Demeka designed and planted a Rain Garden. To give their garden a spunky flare, students painted small boulders with cheerful artwork and uplifting words which created a retaining wall for the garden.

The project was completed on June 5th and serves a purpose far greater than just its beauty. There is a sign in the garden that reads "This Rain Garden has been planted by Hoover Elementary's 4th grade class. This garden is designed to capture, treat and infiltrate



The 4th grade students of Hoover Elementary School and their teachers Amy Morris and Andrea Demeka designed and planted a Rain Garden in Rotary Park II.

stormwater at the source before it becomes runoff. It helps prevent nonpoint source pollutants from entering nearby waterways. The plants are native to the region and attract wildlife."

The City of Wayne's DPW staff members were on hand to help students with the project by preparing the land for planting and supplying the boulders. Some of the plants used in the

design were daylilies, saw grass and sage, all native to the area. "The kids did a great job. It was a nice improvement to the park and the environment. The students should be very proud of the work they did," said Dave Schmidt, Road Foreman for the Wayne DPW.

The garden will provide beautiful blooms for the community and the environment to enjoy for many years to come.



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Let's play ball

By Carolyn Marnon

State Representative Robert Kosowski procured a \$100,000 grant from the State of Michigan to help with the development of parks and recreation in Wayne. The grant was to be used for an athletic facility; the baseball fields at Forest Park were chosen for improvement.

"We are honored to be playing on these fields. We love them," said Wayne Baseball Association board member and T-Ball commissioner Erika Cox while attending a Wednesday evening game at the new field. She said Wayne baseball is reaping the rewards from the grant.

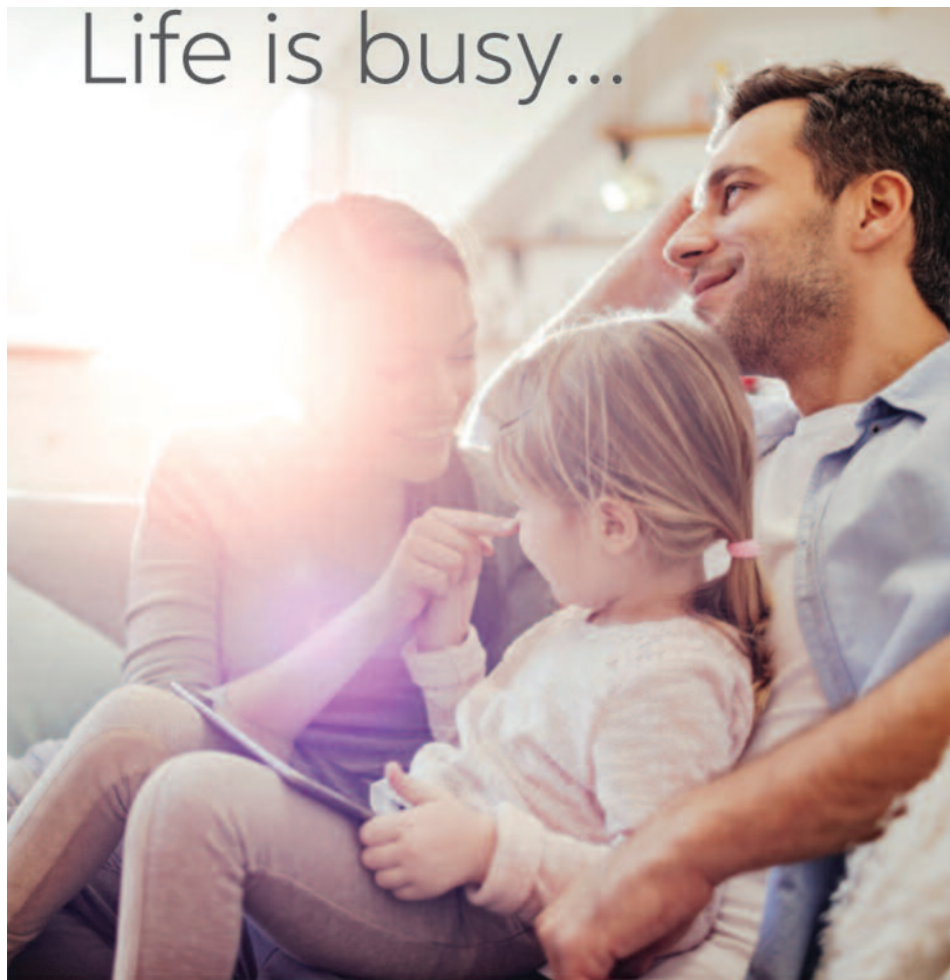
"It was an honor to get this grant for the children of Wayne. Seeing the joy they have in playing at this improved ball field is wonderful, said Rep. Kosowski. Improvements to the fields included state of the art bases and removal of 4 inches of existing material on the fields that was then refilled with new material. All three ball fields were improved. A 4th field was also added-a T-Ball field with slide safe athletic material rather than grass. There is an existing T-Ball field still within the park that has been neglected. The Wayne Baseball Association had been trying to find sponsors to make improvements at that field.

All are welcome to come out to the games. The teams will be playing through the end of the month. T-Ball and Pinto teams play on Tuesday and Thursday. Mustang, Bronco and Pony teams play on Monday and Wednesday. Games start at 6:00 p.m. and are usually over by 9:00 p.m.

There will be a Family Fun Day on Saturday, June 30, at 11:00 a.m. There will be a bouncy house, face-painting, cupcakes, walking tacos, and a raffle.



Wayne Baseball Association is now playing new fields at Forest Park. Photo by John Rhaesa



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