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SEPTEMBER 2016



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Wayne resident wins national contest

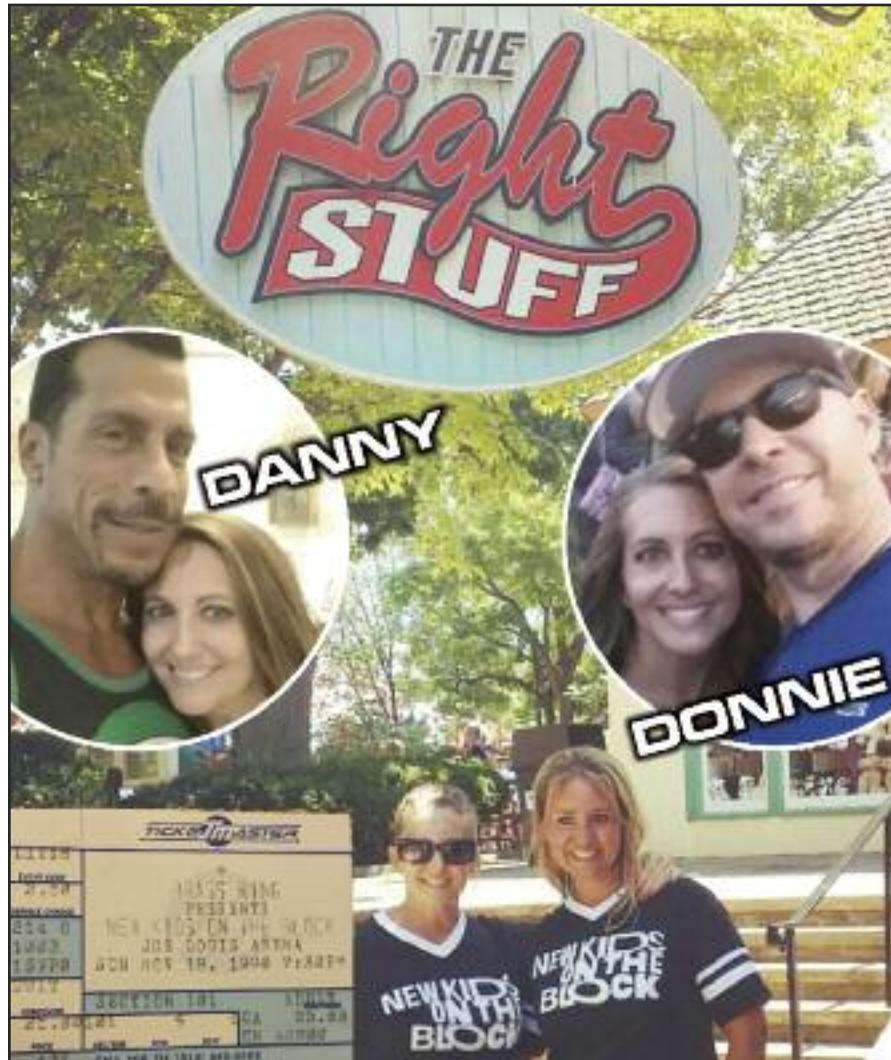
By Carolyn Marnon

It came scrolling across the bottom of the TV screen during the season finale of Rock This Boat... "Congratulations to our Total Blockhead Grand Prize Winner-Jenny S. of Wayne, MI." That is how I learned that Wayne resident Jenny Sexton had won a trip for two to Hershey, PA to attend the Mixtape Festival, a major summer music festival.

Six days before that, Jenny was at her job as an event planner when she glanced at her emails. The subject line of one of them jumped out at her: NKOTB-Congratulations You've Won! She says her eyes got huge, she covered her mouth and ran outside to call her friend, Tonya. "I won. I won," she screamed to her friend. She says it's crazy that she won this nation-wide contest. She wasn't going to enter it because she had trouble finding the link she was supposed to go to after sending a text message to #rockthisboat#entry. Once at the link, there was a question to answer. She finally found it after almost giving up. She's so glad now that she didn't.

Several weeks later, in early August, Jenny and Tonya were on their way to Hershey, Pennsylvania for an all-expenses paid weekend to the Mixtape Festival. They were picked up at the airport by a driver holding up a large card with her name on it. They were driven to The Hotel Hershey, which according to Jenny, was ritzy and huge. She says they were given chocolate bars when they checked in and had Hershey kisses left on their pillows at night. "The staff was phenomenal." Jenny also received two-day passes to Hershey Park along with shuttle rides, tickets to the Mixtape Festival which had them right next to the stage, passes to the VIP After-Party and she was given spending cash. The only expense she had was for her food.

2016 Mixtape Festival artists included Paula Abdul, Boyz II Men, 98 Degrees, O-Town, Dream, Ryan Cabrera and Jenny's favorite, New Kids on the Block. Jenny first saw NKOTB when she was 14 years old in 1990. Her favorite band member was Joey McIntyre. He is still her favorite, but she has a growing love for Donnie Wahlberg. When the Kids started touring again in 2008, her



Jenny and Tonya outside The Right Stuff at Hershey Park. The Right Stuff is also the name of a NKOTB hit song.

love for the Kids started all over again. She's been to concerts in Detroit, Toronto, Cleveland, Chicago and Erie, PA.

After spending a day at Hershey Park, Jenny and Tonya headed back to the hotel to look around the grounds, clean up and figure out what to do that evening. As they stood in the hotel lobby, NKOTB Jordan Knight walked in; he seemed to be in a hurry. NKOTB Danny Wood then entered with his family. Jenny and Tonya were wearing NKOTB t-shirts. Danny came over to them and started talking. He asked if they were getting ready for the festival Pre-Party. They told him they didn't have tickets for the event. He then invited them and got their names so he could put them on the list. They had just 20 minutes to get ready. At the Pre-Party, Jenny says the Kids answered questions and talked about

the upcoming 8th annual NKOTB cruise. The cruise, in October, sails from New Orleans to Cozumel and back. Of course, Jenny and Tonya will be sailing on the cruise for the first time. Fans asked when the theme nights would be released; they are usually released about a month before the cruise. Suggestions for theme nights were solicited which included a graffiti party where everyone wears white shirts and has markers. Tonya is hoping for a glow party. The band members took selfies with attendees. Jenny got a selfie with each member.

Before the big concert, Jenny and Tonya were able to attend the Meet and Greet. Jenny says it was almost 100 degrees outside. They were near the front of the line because they had special passes. However, they still had to endure a torrential downpour while waiting in line.

When their turn came up, they were able to meet, hug and have pictures taken with the band. She says Jonathan Knight was concerned because she didn't have sunscreen on.

During the concert, Jenny and Tonya had tickets in the Golden Circle where seats normally sell for \$800. She says they were up by the stage. The concert with all performers lasted from about 4:00 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. It was a very long, hot day and it wasn't over yet! They had tickets to the After Party where all the performers took turns coming on stage and interacting with the fans for about 20 minutes. There was also dancing to a DJ until 2:00 a.m.

Although Jenny didn't get to see everything she would have liked while she was in Hershey, there was one thing she did do that she commented on. "I went to the bathroom (at Hershey Park) and it smelled like chocolate."

After all these years, Jenny fondly remembers her first crushes. She says NKOTB gave good messages to their young fans such as following rules. Jenny says she was a squeaky clean kid, and her mom scraped up enough money for Jenny to go to her first concert at Joe Louis Arena. She says she would listen to NKOTB cassette tapes with her headphones on and fall asleep. Now she is able to travel to various cities and go on the cruise. "My husband is amazing and lets me do this stuff," she says. She and her sports and beer-loving husband have been married for 15 years and have two kids.

Jenny is one of the moderators for the facebook group Michigan (NKOTB) Blockheads. Because of the New Kids, she knows people everywhere. She has made friends with people through social media, concerts and attending other events. Blockheads, as fans are called, are a friendly and caring group. It must be because the NKOTB are very friendly and caring people. They reach out to their fans and acknowledge that they wouldn't be where they are without their fans. Jenny just turned 40 and says "We've had a really cool ride this year with the New Kids. It's just the beginning. They're fun and they adore their fans and we adore them back."

NEWS BRIEFS

Craft show looking for crafters!

The First United Methodist Church of Wayne is looking for crafters and artists for their craft show to be held Saturday, October 29, 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The show will feature all handmade items. Table rental is \$20 and is a fundraiser for the church. For an application, please contact Louanne Farmer at (734) 239-3338 or Ginger Cook at (734) 788-9542.



Some of the handmade items that will be available by a craft show vendor at the First United Methodist Church of Wayne on October 29th.

Turn the Town Teal

Independent Carpet One of Westland will be tying teal ribbons around light posts in downtown Wayne to promote awareness of ovarian cancer and its often subtle symptoms. September is National Ovarian Cancer Awareness month. Potential symptoms of ovarian cancer include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, vague but persistent gastrointestinal upsets such as gas, nausea or indigestion, difficulty eating OR feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms (urgency or frequency), unexplained changes in bowel habits, unexplained weight gain/loss, ongoing unusual fatigue, back pain, menstrual changes, and pain during intimacy. If you or someone you know has had these symptoms for 10 days to two weeks, consult a doctor.

Police community meeting in August

Chief Alan Maciag has two positions open in the department for police officers. Due to staffing levels, the lobby of

the police department will now only be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The lobby will be closed Saturday and Sunday. A phone has been installed at the front of the building to allow persons to contact the front desk if they arrive at the station outside of the posted lobby hours. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact Chief Maciag at (734) 721-1421.

The department is seeking two substitute school crossing guards, needed as soon as possible for the upcoming school year. There are applications on the city website: <http://www.ci.wayne.mi.us/index.php/available-positions>.

When called, must be available to work three shifts in the day (morning, noon, afternoon). Pay is \$8.76 per hour.

Crime statistics for August: 23 traffic crashes, 5 residential burglaries, 4 other burglaries, 18 larcenies, 5 motor vehicle thefts, 1 robbery, 10 damage to property, 0 arsons and 25 assaults (includes domestic violence).

The scarecrows are coming!

Wayne Main Street is holding their annual Downtown Scarecrow Contest starting Saturday, October 1, when the scarecrows arise on the light posts of downtown Wayne. Join the fun and create your own scarecrow using a wooden frame you can obtain from Wayne Main Street. Frames are \$20, but you can reuse your frame from last year and enter for just \$15.

The scarecrows will then hang around for the month of October, entertaining passersby. Anyone can make a scarecrow -- individual, family, business, club. You can get your frame at the Historical Museum during regular museum hours or by appointment with Wayne Main Street (734) 629-6822.

Senior Expo

There will be a Senior Expo on September 27 at HYPE Recreation Center in Wayne. The event runs 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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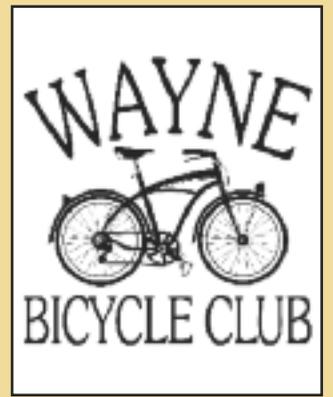
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Wayne Bicycle Club started

Wayne Bicycle Club is a newly formed group where residents can get together every Thursday evening to ride their bikes throughout Wayne with an occasional stop at local bars. If you would like to join in, meet in front of the State Wayne Theater on Michigan Avenue at 7:30 p.m. with your bike next Thursday.



VerHines benefit dinner and silent auction

The VerHines family, owners of GRAMCO Furniture Restoration Company in Wayne, continues to need support after John and Bill VerHines were hit by a drunk driver and critically injured over a year ago. Both men suffered traumatic brain injuries requiring intense therapy and medical attention. After a year of intense therapies which will continue for years, they are slowly recovering. However, because of their never-ending financial need and uncooperative insurance carriers, the family and business continue to rely on donations to keep going. A benefit dinner and silent auction will be held on Wednesday, October 19, from 7:00

p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Tony Sacco's, 1663 North Canton Center Road in Canton. Adult tickets are \$50; child tickets are \$30. Ticket includes dinner, dessert, complimentary entry into prize drawings, entertainment and Silent Auction participation. Child's ticket also includes drink and activities.

To purchase tickets, RestoringVerHinesLegacy@gmail.com or (734) 713-8620. This event is supported by Taking Action for Friends, Family and Youth (TAFFY) Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit organization that strives to improve the quality of life for Michigan families burdened with hardship.

WAYNE Dispatch
A COMMUNITY NEWS PUBLICATION

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

Wayne receives grant to add six firefighters

By Carolyn Marnon

The City of Wayne's application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a grant to fund six firefighter positions for two years was approved. \$994,848 from the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant program (SAFER) will bring the department's numbers from 12 to 18. "I am ecstatic that the City received this grant because it will allow us to properly staff our department and take the pressure off of our current personnel," said Wayne Mayor Susan Rowe.

Wayne operates a joint fire department with Westland. Currently, the understaffed Wayne Fire Department is using overtime to meet daily minimum staffing. "It is incredible to see that the Federal Emergency Management Agency recognized the critical role Wayne's firefighters play in our community's safety," said Wayne Fire Captain Fred Gilstorff. "By providing us with this essential funding over the next two years, we can properly staff the fire station."

U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow applauded the

\$994,848 in assistance for the Wayne Fire Department to support the recruitment and retention of firefighters. "When an emergency situation arises, it is imperative that we have enough first responders on the job to protect our families and communities," said Senator Peters. "This funding will help the Wayne Fire Department be fully staffed and prepared in case of an emergency and ensure the safety of the community and their firefighters." "Our firefighters put their lives on the line every day to protect our families, homes,

and communities," said Senator Stabenow. "These resources will help the Wayne Fire Department make sure there is always someone there to answer the call in an emergency."

The SAFER program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and works to strengthen communities' ability to respond to fire and fire-related hazards and improve the nation's overall level of preparedness, including maintaining 24-hour staffing.

Firefighters make concessions under new contract

By Carolyn Marnon

Wayne firefighters recently approved a three-year contract with the City and made concessions to help the city during its financial crisis. "They came to the table with the best faith a labor union can," said City Manager Lisa Nocerini.

Firefighters agreed to a 2% wage decrease. It has been over a decade since they've had a raise.

Firefighters will now pay 30% towards their health insurance; they had been paying 20%. They will now pay \$6,000 annually for health insurance with a \$2500 deductible. They will need to pay \$8500 out of pocket before they will get 100% coverage.

The pension multiplier decreased from 2.7 for current employees and 2.5 for new hires to 2.25 for all fire employees. When determining pensions, the City takes the final three years of wages and uses the highest paid year of those three in the process.

The City is plagued by upcoming

"They came to the table with the best faith a labor union can."

Lisa Nocerini
City Manager

MERS (Municipal Employees' Retirement System) payments. MERS uses outdated mortality tables in determining payments. There are approximately 200 Wayne retirees receiving pensions. Currently, Wayne has only 62 full-time employees paying into the pension fund; part-time employees do not pay into the fund. By 2022, Lisa Nocerini expects MERS payments by Wayne to be about \$6.9 million which is equivalent to about 19.5 mils.

With the increased amount to health insurance and the wage decrease, the City expects to save \$176,000 per year. Ms. Nocerini ac-

knowledges that the firefighters gave up a lot to keep their jobs and help keep the city afloat.

The City applied for a SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) grant through FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) asking for six firefighters. With the recent approval of the grant, it provides funding for six firefighters for two years. After two

years, the firefighters can be hired by the City or can be terminated. Any firefighters hired after grant approval will be hired through the SAFER grant. Wayne has one fire station which operates on 24-hour shifts. Wayne's emergency personnel work one shift on, one shift off, one shift on, one shift off, one shift on and then four days off before the rotation begins again.



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NEWS BRIEFS

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FRIENDS...people helping people

This wonderful program was started in 1998 to help a Wayne resident whose home was in need of some 'tender loving care'. Now in its 19th year, volunteers continue to help residents improve the curb appeal of a home based on the homeowners' inability to handle the work themselves, due to either financial or health constraints.

The FRIENDS committee coordinates with willing volunteers to complete whatever project is needed. If you would like to donate or volunteer; please call the Community Development department at (734) 419-0118.

Homes must be owner occupied. This program is free to the homeowner and is completely funded through donations and volunteers. This is a 'feel good' project which will take place on Saturday, September 10th (rain date September 17th). Donations are greatly appreciated. Checks can be made out to City of Wayne with Friends Helping Friends Project on the memo line.

Elder law legal services

This program is free to all Wayne County residents, 60 years and older. The program will be offered on Tuesday, September 13, at 10:00 a.m. You must pre-register through the Wayne Senior Services office. Experienced staff will discuss guardianship, conservatorship, wills, trusts, power of attorney, nursing homes, assisted living, senior housing, and Medicare/Medicaid.

Metal Mania at Goudy Park

The Westland Area Jaycees will be hosting the free family-friendly Metal Mania at Goudy Park on Saturday, September 17, Noon – 7:00 p.m. Metal Mania will include a car show and a "Keep Trucking" event where children can see and touch large trucks, such as garbage trucks, cranes, and other trucks kids are told "Do not touch" when they are in service. Local vendors will be there along with live entertainment for all ages. Trophy presentations for car show winners will take place at the close of the day.

TEARS Rock and Walk for Michigan

Join the TEARS Foundation for their 4th annual Rock and Walk on Saturday, September 17, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. There will be an opening ceremony, silent auction, activities for kids and refreshments. The event will be held at Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton. Registration is \$10. For more information, contact Shelby or Buddy Shuh at (734)765-7430.

Cemetery walk

The Wayne Historical Society will be holding its 3rd annual Cemetery Walk on Sunday, October 2, from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. A guided tour of Westlawn Cemetery (Michigan Avenue and Merriman) will highlight prominent African Americans from the Wayne community, including Jackie Wilson, Sonny Banks and Nolan Strong from the Diablos. Cider and donuts will be provided. Donations are not necessary but greatly appreciated.

Genealogy workshop

The Wayne Historical Society and the Wayne Public Library are teaming up to present a genealogy workshop. John Mills will teach a workshop on how to do family genealogy. Feel free to bring notebooks, tablets, laptops, and information to the meeting to get working on your own family history. Workshop is Wednesday, October 12, from 6:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. at the Wayne Public Library.

Downtown Wayne Fall Festival!

Mark Your Calendars – Saturday, October 1st – 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

After the scarecrows are hung it's time to celebrate! Various events/activities will be happening throughout downtown including:

- Pumpkin Painting in Derby's Alley (between GI Surplus & Flagship Boutique on Michigan Avenue)
- Food trucks/carts featuring gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches and more!
- Pop-Up Flea Market behind Helium Studio on Wayne Road
- Give-aways and deals inside downtown businesses. For more information, please call (734) 629-6822.

The bells of early Wayne

In today's world communication is almost instantaneous. Television and the internet connect us to every part of the world within minutes of a disaster, happening, phenomenon, tragedy, or happy event. Live coverage means we know every detail and live in the moment of these occurrences almost as if we were there. Our iPhones also give us instant connection to others. It boggles one's mind to see what has become of the "telephone" of our childhood. A black box with a receiver that sat on the living room end table was the family phone. It could be used to make a call if the two or three other families on the line were not using it. When it rang, you counted the rings to see if it was for you or another household. Today, iPhones seem like magic. How do they work with no cords??? About fifteen years ago my husband and I were lucky enough to take a trip to Hawaii. I sat on a beach on one of the islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and called my daughter here in Michigan and marveled at the clarity of our conversation. Today we expect to make quick clear connections to someone any place on earth. Phones today are mini computers that can answer your questions on any topic, help you find your destination, entertain you with games, take pictures and videos and much more that I haven't figured out how to use. Plus, it keeps you connected to family and friends.

If you look at the history of man, you can see how far communication has come in a very short time. Drawings on cave walls was the beginning



Memory Lane

Darlene Hawley

Smoke signals to pass along information came next and then a horn made from the horn of an animal. Then came the bell. The invention of the bell was by far the most important addition that helped people communicate with each other.

Bells date back to about 2000 B.C. in east Asia. Archaeologists have uncovered early bells in that area that were simple and made of pottery as well as more sophisticated ones made of metals. Europe began making bells in the 4th and 5th century. Early bells were made in pits by casting a copper and bronze alloy. Often, the tower was built over the pit and then the heavy bell attached to ropes and hoisted up to the top of the tower. The pitch of the bell is correlated to it's size. In general, the bigger the bell the lower the pitch and the smaller the bell the higher the pitch. Fine tuning of early bells that were cast was accomplished by chipping away at metal inside the bell. In modern times bells are fine tuned with lathes which makes it easier to remove just the right amount of material to produce a true tone with correct harmonics. Some of the most famous foundries in the United States were the McShane Bell Foundry in Baltimore, the Revere Foundry, George Holbrook Foundry,

and the Henry Hooper Foundry in Boston. There were and still are a number of bell foundries in Ohio, including The Buckeye Bell Foundry, the C.S. Bell Co., Meeks, Watson & Co. and the Verdin Co.

Not that long ago, when our little village and farming community was growing, there was only one form of communication. The bell. The church bell called us to church and the school bell called us to school. The teacher had a hand held school bell used to call the class to attention or announce the end of recess. For the wealthy, a bell was used to summon their servants. There was a dinner bell on the porch of the farm house which rang and called the men from the fields, the children from play, and the women from their quilting. Dinner was an important time for nourishment but also a time to share the happenings of the day and plan for coming days. The farmer hung a bell around the neck of the milk cow as she wandered around the farm, so he could find her when it was time for milking. If there was a fire in town or on one of the farms, the fire bell would ring loud and long to call for volunteers to come running with their buckets to help put out the fire. When the train came to Wayne it announced its arrival in the station with a bell. The conductor had a bell he used to board passengers on the train as it headed for the next station.

Today, bells are a novelty. Most churches do not use the bells housed in their towers but have chimes that are connected to their organs. They are primarily electronic. In our com-



Bell from Union School in early Wayne.



Congregational Church bell.

munity of Wayne, St. Mary's Church is the only church that still makes use of the bell hanging in its bell tower. The bell was made by the Henry McShane MFG Co. in Baltimore, Maryland in 1901. It is operated manually by someone assigned to ring the bell for mass or for a special event in the church. It has been rung to announce the death of a pope. According to Dr. Richard Schneider, the organist, choir and hand bells director for St. Mary's as well as the music teacher for all of the children attending St. Mary's

See **Bells**, page 11

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HYPE celebrates successes of their first year in Wayne

By Carolyn Marnon

"Together, We Rise" is the theme of HYPE Recreation Center of Western Wayne as they celebrate one year in the old Wayne Rec Center building.

HYPE CEO Ali Sayed spoke before the Wayne City Council recently about the changes that have already been made at the center and changes that are on the horizon. HYPE has found much success with the 3 new hardwood basketball courts that replaced the old ice rink. The ice facility was costing \$25,000 per month; the basketball courts cost 25% of that to operate.

Since HYPE has opened, they average 174 visitors per day. This does not include visitors that attend the pool and birthday parties. Although they had hoped to have 1500 membership contracts by the one-year mark, they did reach 1128 contracts with 1700-1800 members total (this includes families).

Members of HYPE can work out, swim, play basketball and participate in the social services that are offered. This fall, the after-school



Kids of all ages enjoy the pool at the Hype Recreation Center.

tutoring program will begin. They are also starting a competitive swim team and are launching a volleyball program.

HYPE is currently looking into solar energy for the center.

HYPE has faced several chal-

lenges during the last year. The first one concerns a misunderstanding of their price points. Ali asks that you call HYPE and let them determine the most affordable plan for you. Families are not all the same and you could get a rate cheaper than what

you expected. The second challenge is that the restaurant has not yet opened. It is fully equipped and ready to open; a date has not yet been set. HYPE is currently looking for cooks and kitchen staff.

HYPE is also looking for maintenance/custodial staff and for a park attendant. If you are interested in applying for any of these jobs, contact HYPE at (734) 721-7400.

At the anniversary dinner in August, HYPE presented awards to The Arc of Western Wayne, Healthy Wayne Communities and The Family Resource Center for the work they all do with the community.



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Water meters being replaced throughout community

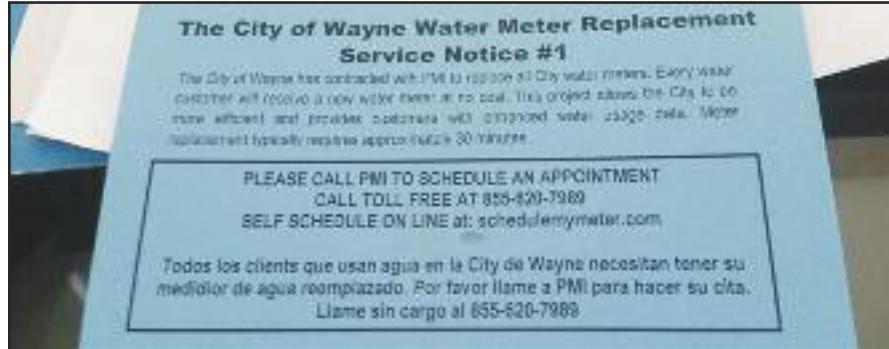
By Carolyn Marnon

Water meter replacements have started in Wayne. Etna Supply, a Michigan-based company, is finishing the replacement of water meters at commercial businesses in Wayne. Once that is complete, replacement of residential water meters will begin.

Residents will receive a letter from the City about the replacement project. PMI, a master licensed plumber, will send three letters over a period of time about one week apart, to residents asking them to schedule an appointment to have the meter replaced.

When the PMI contractor comes to the house, he will have a vehicle with PMI on the side and an ID badge that was made by the Wayne Police Department. Background checks have already been done by both Etna and the police department on these contractors coming into homes in Wayne.

Appointments will be scheduled during regular business hours. However, other accommodations can be



made if needed.

The new meters will be placed in the same spot as the current meter. There is an inside meter and an outside mount that should take 15-20 minutes to install. You are asked to move items away from the wall where your water meter is to make the replacement process easier. If the contractor cannot install the new meter because of substandard plumbing in the residence, the City will contact the owner to bring the plumbing up to standards before the meter will be replaced.

The polycarbonate meters have two warranties. The first is a 20-

year warranty on accuracy; the second is a 20-year warranty on the battery. The life span of the meters is expected to be 25 years. The old water meters were supposed to last ten years and then accuracy starts to decline.

In 2014, the Federal government mandated that water meters be lead-free; the meters being installed are zero-lead meters.

The new meters will send a signal every four hours to servers that the City can access. Wayne does not do estimates on water bills; meters are actually read. To aid in quality control during this transition process,

the company will take a picture of the existing meter read on the old meter and then take a picture of the meter read on the new meter after it has been mounted.

Residents are advised to run water for 15-30 minutes after replacement to let everything that might have been disturbed in the plumbing pipes clear out.

Residents will be able to manually read the water meter. It is advisable to read the meter on the monthly billing date. If the water bill is dated the 25th of the month, read the meter on the 25th and then compare it to the bill when it arrives to make sure the readings are comparable. If there is a spike in water charges, call the water department. They can look at the hourly system to try to determine where the problem might be. If someone tries to flip a meter or remove it, an alert will go off at the water department.

After replacement, if a resident has a discrepancy in the water bill, the resident is advised to visit City Hall and speak with the water clerk.



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Bells, Continued from page 8

school. Wednesday morning is a special time. The children are called to mass by the ringing of the bell and each week one lucky child gets to be the bell ringer. Pulling the rope at just the right speed and rhythm ensures a steady pealing of the bell. Dr. Schneider had me try ringing the bell as I visited the bell tower and then we imagined that many people in the area were perplexed as to why the bell was ringing at such an odd time.

If you look at the churches around our community you may see some large bells sitting in front of them. Each of these bells have a story to tell. The Congregational Church in downtown Wayne has a large bell sitting on its patio by the church entrance. The church was built in 1849 and a bell made by the Buckeye Bell Foundry of Ohio was placed in its tower in 1896. For many years this bell rang and called its congregation to worship. In 1970 the church burned while it was being prepared to be painted. The bell in the bell tower was cracked during the fire and could not be used again. The church was rebuilt on the same



Bell at St Michaels Church at Hannan and Glenwood.

spot and the bell was mounted on a stand outside the church on display for all to see. Today the churches chimes and bells are electronic and ring on the half hour.

St. Michaels Lutheran Church, on the corner of Hannan and Glenwood, has a bell sitting next to their main entrance. This bell has a story to tell. St. Michael's original church was built in 1962 without a bell or bell tower. In 1979 an addition was added to the church. In 1982 they opened their school. The bell sitting at their entrance was first used in a church built on a farm on Sumpter

Rd. in Belleville. When the church was torn down, the bell was left sitting in the field. It next went to St. Paul Luthern Church in Belleville. That church eventually gave the 100 year old one ton bell to a man who donated it to St. Michael's Church. Church members at first thought they would build a bell tower for it but later decided to place it where it is today. The bell was made by the C.S. Bell Company from Hillsboro, Ohio.

The Methodist Church in downtown Wayne has a bell sitting in a brick bell tower on the south east corner of its property. The Methodist Church was organized in 1826 and was Wayne's first church organization. Members met in homes and buildings and shared the Congregational Church after it was built in 1849. In 1862 they built their own church with a bell tower and bell. In 1929 this church was condemned

and torn down and a new church erected but the bell was saved. In 1983-84 a new addition was added to the church and the bell that had been ringing for many years was removed. A few years later Jim Sutcliffe, a church member, built a new bell tower to display the old bell. It was a replica of the old tower in the first church. The weather caused the wooden structure to deteriorate. In 2006 church members Izzie Leseur and Mike Szabo worked with others to rebuild the display tower in brick to house the historic bell.

On display in our Wayne Historical Museum is the bell that first called children to school in 1871 at the old Union School. It was made at a bell foundry in West Troy, New York. In 1909, when the three story Union School was demolished and a new brick building named Roosevelt School was built, the bell was moved to that building. It was used to call children to school for some 90 years until it was donated to the Historical Society around 1962 and placed in the museum.

I have not mentioned hand bells and bells used in orchestras and bands that communicate beautiful music to us but I'm afraid that is another story and I am out of space.

(Thanks to Dr. Richard Schneider for his help with this article.)



Wayne United Methodist Church bell.

Downtown Wayne Market Study findings

Join Wayne Main Street and Downtown Professionals Network for a Public Presentation of results and findings from the downtown Wayne Market Study:

Thursday, September 29th, at 6:00 p.m.

Greater Dreams Church
35118 Michigan Ave
Wayne, MI

This meeting will outline recommendations, possible implications for Wayne Main Street and businesses, and suggestions for how the study's findings, results, and proposed strategies can be implemented as part of Wayne Main Street's comprehensive, four-point approach and plan of action.

For more info: <https://downtownwayne.org/market-analysis/> or call (734) 629-6822.



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