



THE  
**Wayne Dispatch**  
NOVEMBER 2016

*Rio 2016*

**Former  
Resident  
Strikes  
SILVER  
in Rio**

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**YOUR SOURCE FOR POSITIVE COMMUNITY NEWS**

# Holiday Night



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## **TOY DRIVE for BOTTOMLESS TOY CHEST**

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**Proud Sponsor of the HOLIDAY NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM Event!  
33200 Michigan Avenue • Wayne • 734-722-9100**

# Former resident strikes Silver in Rio

By Dave Merchant

Winning a Silver medal in the Paralympics in Brazil before the age of 40 is quite an impressive feat. That is exactly what happen to one athlete who grew up in Wayne. He won the silver at 37 and just recently turned 38.

Joe Hamilton, who now lives in Sacramento, CA, competed in the sport of goalball in Rio and helped earn he and his teammates a Silver medal by defeating the host country of Brazil 10-1. In the Gold medal finals they fell to Lithuania 14-8.

"It was amazing to play in front of 10,000 people," Hamilton said. "To beat the host country was also a big deal to beat the host country. "I really liked having my mom (Barbara) there to see me."

Hamilton explained that as part of the game the crowd is expected to be silent like in tennis and golf. But they are allowed to cheer and the coach can give instructions during breaks, injuries or timeouts.

The teams at the Paralympics are put into pools of five. Teams are awarded three points for a win and one for a tie. Only eight teams make it to the finals. They beat China and Finland in pool play. In the semis that beat the #2 team in the Paralympics from Germany.

In the win in the semifinals, nine of the USA goals were scored on penalty shots which is truly amazing from Hamilton's perspective.

Hamilton has been unable to see since he was in the seventh grade. He went to school at Livonia Churchill because they had a program for students like him.

Goalball is a sport developed in the 1940's for blind athletes.

"It is very unique and it has been adapted to people with disabilities," Hamilton said. "It was to build skills and confidence to blind people."

The sport is played on a volleyball court. The net is in the back of each side and reaches the entire length of the court. There are three players on each side: a center, a left, and a right. The ball is rolled or bounced and it has bells inside it to make noise and to be audible.

Of course, it is a very simple explanation of the game because there is much strategy and skill involved. You can kick the ball on defense but



Joe Hamilton wins Silver medal in the Paralympics in Brazil. Photo by Joe Kusumoto, Courtesy of USOC



Paralympics Silver medal team (left to right) Matt Simpson, Joe Hamilton, John Kusku, Daryl Walker, Tyler Merren and Andy Jenks. Photo by Joe Kusumoto, Courtesy of USOC

it is a penalty on offense. An eye shade is required to be worn by all six athletes on the court.

Hamilton also attended Western Michigan University where he graduated with a degree in English. Some of the career highlights for this six-foot, four-inch Paralympian include being a two-time Paralympian (2000, 2016), a Silver in the 2015 ParaPan American Games, a Bronze in the

2014 IBSA World Goalball Championships and 11th place in Sydney.

As an infant, Joe had a corneal transplant after being exposed to the rubella virus in the womb. The transplant restored partial sight to the left eye but a snowboarding accident at the age of 12 left him totally blind. Just two years before the accident he was introduced to goalball.

He is looking forward to playing

in the Paralympian Games in 2020 in Tokyo. His life-partner Christella Garcia who is also totally blind and competed in the 2016 Paralympics in Rio in judo. She went up in weight class and finished with a Bronze medal, which is quite impressive because she had to gain some weight to compete.

Joe and Christella joke about who is tougher but he jokingly says he just stands in the corner when she practices Judo. Admitting she has the upper hand.

He grew up in a family that loved sports, he was very excited when he found his sport. According to him it has been his passion to train and share the sport with as many people as possible.

For him the sport represents a similar value to kids who can see and play baseball. It builds confidence and allows people who can't see to compete and enjoy something that allows them to be successful at.

Off the court, he enjoys listening to stand-up comedy before taking the court. He admits laughter keeps him relaxed and focused.

Joe's mom Barbara Hamilton lives in Redford; his dad Harold Hamilton still lives in Wayne; and he has two brothers David and Jeff.

"This game allows the seeds of confidence for kids who are blind," he said. "Goalball is so awesome."

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Christmas tree lighting in Wayne

The City of Wayne will hold their annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 3, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Wayne Historical Museum grounds. Hot chocolate, coffee and treats will be donated by local non-profits and businesses. There will be activities donated by local businesses for the kids which will include face painting, bounce house, petting zoo and a drawing for free prizes. The event will also feature the Wayne Memorial High School Choir and the Wayne Memorial High School Marching Band along with a visit from Santa Claus who will arrive on the Wayne Fire Truck with the 2016 Diamond of the Community Beverly Campbell. The kids will have an opportunity to visit with Santa and share with him what they would like for Christmas this year.

### Afternoon tea at the library

Join the Friends of the Wayne Public Library for an Afternoon Tea Fundraiser catered by Victoria's Tea Salon. The event will be held in the library's meeting room on Saturday, November 12, at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person, or you can get a table for eight for \$240. Tickets are available now at the library's front desk. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Wayne Public Library.

### Welcome Fire Chief Michael Stradtner

The City of Wayne would like to congratulate and welcome the new Fire Chief, Michael Stradtner. Chief Stradtner has proudly served as a firefighter for 22 years. The new Chief was formally introduced at the Wayne City Council meeting on October 18. Per the agreement with Westland, Chief Stradtner will serve as Fire Chief for both Wayne and Westland.

### New fire fighters hired

The City of Wayne welcomed Shaun Pek, Shane O'Neill and Andrew Loudon to the Wayne Fire Department. These three gentlemen were hired under the SAFER grant



### Karma re-opens in downtown

Karma Coffee and Kitchen opens in Downtown Wayne. Karma will be open Thursday thru Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. serving coffee smoothies, lunch, dinner and desserts. Dave, Isabella and Jennifer Romero are welcomed by Wayne Dispatch publisher John Rhaesa to their new home at 35634 W. Michigan Avenue. Photo by Natalie M. Rhaesa

and are already sworn in and have started with the Fire Department.

### Pollyanna fall play at Wayne Memorial

Wayne Memorial High School will be presenting "Pollyanna" as their fall show November 17-19 at 7:00 p.m. each evening. Tickets are \$5.00 for students/children and \$8.00 for adults. Additionally, they will be presenting Mary Poppins in the spring. Performances will be the first weekend in May. More details to follow!

### Veteran's day event

Wayne Memorial High School JROTC will be presenting a Veteran's Day event on Friday, November 11, at 11:00 a.m. at the high school's flagpole. All are welcome to attend and honor those who have served.

### New boards and commissions link on city website

If you are interested in serving on a city board or commission, there is now a link on the city's website at [www.ci.wayne.mich.us](http://www.ci.wayne.mich.us) that you can click on to get information and to apply. Although there are no positions currently open, "We'd love to have a log of people," City Manager Lisa Nocerini has said. She encour-

ages everyone to apply for something that interests them. Committees include beautification, board of review, building authority, cemetery board, commission on aging, dangerous buildings, downtown development authority, historical commission, housing commission, library board, local officers compensation commission, mechanical building construction board of appeals, personnel board, planning commission and zoning board of appeals.

### Police department receives grant

The Wayne Police Department was awarded \$3,600 for the purchase of bullet proof vests for the officers. The grant is from the 2016

Bullet Proof Vest Partnership through the United States Department of Justice Office of Justice Assistance Programs. It is a 50% matching grant and will provide enough funding for approximately 12 vests. Officers in Wayne get a new vest every five years. Any funds not spent by the grant's funding cycle end date of August 31, 2017 will need to be returned to the Department of Justice.

### Thanksgiving Buffet to support Family Service Center

All are cordially invited to the Wayne Westland Community School District Family Resource Center's Annual Fundraiser event, a Thanksgiving Buffet Lunch provided and hosted by Chef Tony and his culinary arts students at the William D. Ford Technical Center on Wednesday, November 16, from 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The event will be at the Technical Center located at 36455 Marquette in Westland. Cost is \$10 per person. Proceeds from the event will help support the Family Resource Center. This is a great time to catch up with friends and help raise funds for Wayne/Westland families in need.

### HYPE helps with Thanksgiving meal

HYPE will be continuing the annual tradition of helping local families at Thanksgiving with turkey and all the trimmings. The items to make the meal will be given out at HYPE to families that will be recommended by the Wayne Westland schools.

ARTIST MARKET

# HELIUM STUDIO

## Holiday Happenings

Extended December hours and special events  
TBD. Call or check Facebook for details.

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
6 – Falling for the Holidays show, HYPE, Wayne	2 – <b>Holiday Sip and Shop</b> at Notre Dame Lounge: <b>Eat</b> (family-friendly menu), <b>Drink</b> (full bar featuring vintage McClary Bros. Moscow Mules), and <b>Shop</b> local indie businesses for host/ess gifts
12 – <b>HAPPY 1st BIRTHDAY</b> to us! Cake and Gift Registry kick-off	9 – <b>Pop-Up Shop: Jewelry and On-site Engraving</b> by Onastazia Designs
19 – Morning of Arting Glass Mosaic Class	
25 – Black Friday <b>OPEN</b> 10-7	
26 – Small Biz Saturday <b>OPEN</b> 10-7	
28 – Cyber Monday <b>OPEN</b> 11-6	

3127 S. WAYNE ROAD, WAYNE / 734.725.3811  
[SHOPHELIUMSTUDIO.COM](http://SHOPHELIUMSTUDIO.COM) / [SHOPHELIUMSTUDIO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SHOPHELIUMSTUDIO@GMAIL.COM)

# Support your local community by shopping small

By Carolyn Marnon

Sure, you could go to those big box stores and do your holiday shopping. It might be easier to pick up a wide variety of things in that one stop. With all the hardships Wayne is going through right now, wouldn't it be nice to visit your local small businesses here in Wayne and help them also (or even instead)?

Saturday, November 26, is Small Business Saturday. Sponsored by American Express, it encourages people to support small, local businesses. After being bumped too many times, having prized sale items taken out of your cart, being smushed into doorways, standing in long lines in the cold and other holiday shopping hazards, shopping small can give you a much needed, much enjoyed shopping experience.

Get the gals (or guys) together and start your relaxing holiday shopping by going to the newly opened Karma Coffee and Kitchen, 35634 W. Michigan Ave. at 4:00 p.m. on November 26. I hear there will be live entertainment. You can pick up your free Shop Small shopping totebag and some swag, get a map of small businesses to support and indulge in a warm beverage or some food before you shop. Wayne Main Street is promoting a Small Business Saturday event 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. All participants that stop into Karma will be able to enter to win a door prize drawing. For every \$50 you spend in downtown Wayne at the event's participating businesses between November 26-December 23, you will be entered to win additional prizes including gift certificates and items donated by the businesses. To enter, you only need to stop into the Wayne Historical Museum at 1 Town Square to show your receipts and fill out a slip. Winners will be contacted directly.

Listed below are just some of the local small businesses that answered my requests for information about shopping small.

## ICON Computers

ICON is participating in Small Business Saturday, but they are not part of the Wayne Main Street event. You will still want to visit them as they usually offer 20% off accessories such as wireless mice, gaming



Celebrate Helium Studio's first birthday with cake (while it lasts) and start your holiday Wish List with them on Saturday, November 12, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

keyboards, web cameras, USB flash drives, different cables, laptop cases, cooling fans and external hard drives. If you purchase a \$50 gift certificate, you get an additional \$10 free. Brian Ewanciw, owner of ICON, says laptops and desktops will be marked down 15-40%.

## Tried and True Thrift Store

Tried and True Thrift Store is open Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. and Sundays Noon-5:00 p.m. They will be closed for the Thanksgiving weekend, but they will reopen on Monday, November 28, for their regular hours. They won't be participating in Small Business Saturday as they feel it is important for their employees to spend quality time with their families before the busy holiday season gets overwhelming.

During the holiday season, they are doing a food drive. With any purchase, you can bring in two non-perishable food items and receive 10% off your entire purchase. This is on top of their regular discount days.

Your support helps employ individuals with disabilities. This is a way to help them link in an impactful way to their community and help them learn retail skills in a supported environment. With your generous support over the years Tried and True is now able to employ 90 individuals with special needs and also offer classes at their Dearborn location.

Tried and True will be closed

Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. If you would like to get your tax-deductible donation slip for this year's tax forms, donations must be received by December 31 at 7:00 p.m.

## Helium Studio

Celebrate Helium Studio's first birthday with cake (while it lasts) and start your holiday Wish List with them on Saturday, November 12, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Similar to a bridal registry, you'll fill out a card and list your favorite artists and makers, and even specific items you'd like. When your bestie comes in to shop for you, they will pull your card and help him/her find you the perfect gift. The birthday cake will be in four flavors and was ordered from Baker's Acre, another Wayne small business.

November 19, Helium Studio is offering a Morning of Arting glass mosaic class with Michelle Guernsey 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The class will be making an original 8x10 framed stained glass mosaic using a glass on glass technique. The class is limited to the first 12 paid students. \$45 includes all supplies. You will complete the glass design in class, and Michelle will grout your piece afterwards.

Helium Studio will be participating in Wayne Main Street's Small Business Saturday event. During the event, they will have 15% off Helium Studio jewelry by Kim and Dave. They will also have holiday home

décor, scents, greeting cards, ornaments and lots of new gifts. There are also holiday gift bags for an instant gift presentation.

December 2, enjoy a Holiday Sip and Shop sponsored by Helium Studio and Knights of Columbus Notre Dame Lounge (located at 3144 S Wayne Rd) from 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. You can order off Notre Dame Lounge's family-friendly menu and/or order a drink from the full bar which features Moscow Mules made with drinking vinegars from Detroit's McClary Bros. There will be local vendors with perfect host/hostess gifts, including vintage hospitality wares. Admission is free. Drinking and shopping are all a la carte activities. Arrive anytime. There are dining tables and a bar for relaxing. The local vendor list includes McClary Bros. (vintage cocktail mixers), Mrs. Pruitt's Cha Cha Salsa and Beau Bien Fine Foods (locally-sourced artisanal jams, preserves, chutneys and mustard). If you have any questions or would like to participate, contact Helium Studio at (734) 725-3811 or shopheliumstudio@gmail.com.

December 9, Helium could be doing a pop-up shop with jewelry engraver Onastazia. Contact Helium for more information on this event.

## AKA Treasures

The week of Thanksgiving, the only day AKA Treasures will be open is Small Business Saturday where they will be giving a "draw your own discount" valued anywhere from 20-50% off. They currently have brand new cosmetics in the store. They will be closed Saturday, December 24, so don't wait until the last minute to visit!

## Baker's Acre

Baker's Acre doesn't do any special sales events. They try to keep their prices rock-bottom for their loyal customers. Give them a week's notice, and they can produce delicious cakes, pies, cookies and/or muffins for your holiday events, or you could consume them "just because." Baker's Acre is open Tuesday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This is the perfect place to get goodies for your holiday parties.

# WABC Building sale not approved

By Carolyn Marnon

In what many residents felt was a bad move, the City Council voted 4-3 to sell the WABC building on Sims Avenue and Wayne Rd. to Paladino Realty Company. However, 5 votes in favor were required to approve the sale of city property. The sale had been pending for the last five months before it was finally brought before the council. Chris Sanders, Ryan Gabriel and Mayor Pro Tem Anthony Miller were the dissenting votes.

Mr. Paladino came before the city council to tell them of how he had acquired the building that now houses Michigan Works when the building was in disrepair. He fixed it, ran it as a garden shop and as the showroom for Lower Huron Cleaning Supplies for a number of years before selling the property to Michigan Works. Lower Huron Cleaning Supplies is still in Wayne, located at 5595 Treadwell. Although Mr. Paladino originally intended to use the WABC property as office space, he recently decided he would like to operate it as a special events center that could be rented while still having a small office space inside.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller commented that he would like to wait and see how the election on November 8 turns out, alluding to the possibility of the Regional Transit Authority millage passing; downtown Wayne is a proposed stop in the transit plan. Perhaps then Wayne could get a higher price for the property.

Councilman Gabriel proposed that the building not be sold, but some type of lease agreement be worked out. At the \$150,000 that Mr. Paladino offered for the property, Councilman Gabriel commented that he might want to buy the property at that price.

Councilman Tom Porter pointed out that back in 2010, there was talk that the building was going to be sold. Nothing ever happened. Six years later, it is still for sale. Someone has now offered \$150,000 to buy the building and get it on the city's tax rolls.

Commenting on Facebook's Wayne Neighbors Discussion Board,

Jamie Lyn Stanton said, "When you hear the city is hurting for money and then something like this happens, you've just got to shake your head."

"If we don't get the rail stop, then they shut down a sale that got a city-owned property on the tax books and a perfectly good property to be used," said Kelly Staley.

Cynthia McClure stated, "They turned down \$150,000 and yearly taxes of over \$6,000, not to mention no longer having to pay maintenance costs of electric, water, gas, etc. They think they can get more. Really? Have buyers been knocking on the door for the last 6 years? Are we (the City) in such good financial shape that we can wait until a better deal comes along? The City should not be in the business of real estate speculation. We have enough vacant buildings, why turn down an opportunity to fill one? People, Pride and Progress? I think not!"

Alan Bogenschutz said, "I don't know. Sell while you can because we have heard about a rail thing before and how did that work out for us? Hello parking structure..."

"It sounds like a complete flushing of the toilet needs to be done with our elected officials. Now is not the time to have personal agendas. We have a city to get back up and running!" proclaimed David Koester II.

Former councilman Skip Monit agreed with Mrs. McClure. "We need to accept any decent offer. My experience is that hoping for the better deal costs the city money, and another offer will likely never come."



Miller



Sanders



Gabriel

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# What kid wouldn't love a bottomless toy chest

By Carolyn Marnon

You can help a kid choose a toy from the bottomless toy chest.

Mark Chevrolet, 33200 Michigan Ave, is kicking off a Season of Giving on Wednesday, November 16. They will be collecting toys in the back of a Silverado in their showroom to support Bottomless Toy Chest, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in Troy that is devoted to delivering art projects, crafts and interactive games to hospitalized pediatric cancer patients.

This year, Bottomless Toy Chest will deliver over 30,000 toys and activities. Each item they present is brand new, gift-wrapped in cellophane and ribbon and hand-delivered to a patient. The clear gift-wrap keeps the items clean and safe for children with weakened immune systems, gives them a choice in an environment where they have no choices, and gives children who are under massive physical and emotional distress the joyful experience of opening a present.

See the wish list that accompanies this article. See if anything tugs

## WISH LIST TOYS (MUST BE NEW!)

- Mr and Mrs Potato Head
- Play-Doh Activity Kits
- Infant and Toddler sight and sound activities
- Ethnically diverse Barbie and baby doll
- Art kits and drawing pads
- Super hero action figures
- Popular movie themed toys
- Building sets, play sets
- Tool kits
- Lego's (all ages)
- Matchbox cars
- Jewelry making kits
- Hats, gloves, scarves, fleece, etc
- Male and female logo wear (MSU, UM, Lions, Tigers, Pistons, Red Wings)
- Crafts for teen girls
- Nice journals and pens
- Soft and cozy blankets
- Remote control vehicles
- Gift cards (iTunes, Amazon, Xbox)

at your heart as something your inner kid might have liked to have received and consider getting and donating that item. All items must be new due to health issues a child may be facing.

According to Ashley Leslie, Program Director for Bottomless Toy Chest, they are most "in need of items for teen boys and girls. Amazon cards, sports apparel, Nerf basketball hoops and footballs. Art kits and jewelry making kits are all extremely popular at the hospitals, and we are running low on these items. For our younger kids we are in need of tool kits, rattles and ethnic baby dolls/Barbies."

If you like to shop, this is an ideal way to shop, help others and not have to find a place for it in your home! If you are not able to shop or would just like to help, Mark Chevrolet will accept cash donations with which they will go out and buy the toys.

Those people who are in the market to purchase a vehicle will get an extra surprise during the Season of Giving that runs November 16-De-



cember 2. Mark Chevrolet will be handing out a gift card from Visa, Target or Starbucks to people who purchase a vehicle during the campaign.

Showroom hours to drop off donations are Monday and Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The campaign ends on Friday, December 2. To avoid any last minute crowds that might show up at the dealership, shop and donate early. This also gives you plenty of time to browse the vehicles available for the next time you are in the market for a new one. If you would like to learn more about Bottomless Toy Chest, their website is [www.bottomlesstoychest.org](http://www.bottomlesstoychest.org).



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# Wayne and Westland get new fire chief

By Carolyn Marnon

Michael Stradtner was sworn in as the new Fire Chief for Wayne and Westland at a recent city council meeting. Chief Stradtner has been with the Westland Fire Department for 22 years. He spent one year as a paramedic for a private ambulance company and 14 years as a fire fighter. He spent three years as a sergeant operating the truck. In 2011, he made the move from firefighting to administration. He was the Fire Marshal for two years and also served as the Assistant Chief of Training/EMS Officer.

As Fire Chief, it is Chief Stradtner's duty to oversee the entire fire departments of Wayne and Westland. There are currently four fire stations in Westland and one in Wayne. He makes sure the day to day functions of the department are going well and handles the budget and political side of the department.

The administrative offices of the fire department are kept separate from the fire stations. The department tries to operate paperlessly.



"The fire department is stronger and delivering a better service than it ever has before."

**Michael Stradtner**  
Fire Chief

They are very big on recycling. They try to perform all operations electronically.

When he was growing up in Livonia, Chief Stradtner wanted to be a police officer. His grandfather was a state trooper; grandpa convinced him that he might be better suited to be a fire fighter. Once out of high school, he attended the fire academy, EMT training and paramedic training. He says those programs are longer now than they were back then. At age 20, he started applying for jobs and was hired.

Chief Stradtner is on duty 24 hours a day. Although he does have hours off, if an emergency arises that needs him, he has to be ready to roll. He can be called anytime of the day or night to a scene or to handle an issue.

He says he will go to a burning fire during the day, but will only go to one at night if it is large. His role at a fire is to handle the media and look out for the residents. He will help with support from the Salvation Army and Red Cross. He does not

interfere with the firefighting process.

Besides his technical training when he was younger, Chief Stradtner has since earned a Bachelor's degree in Public Safety Administration and is pursuing his Master's in Organizational Leadership.

In talking about the merger of the Wayne and Westland departments, he says, "The merger has worked well...The fire department is stronger and delivering a better service than it ever has before." One of his goals is to get the department accredited through the Center for Fire Accreditation International. Part of the process is finding the department's weaknesses and fixing them. It's about becoming a more professional fire department. He is just beginning the 2-3 year process. To start, he needs to make sure he has three years of solid data.

His contract as Fire Chief will be up in three years. He would like to stay another 8 years, so he can have 30 years with the fire department. "I love coming to work," he said.

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# 30th Annual Wayne Goodfellows Fundraiser

**Saturday, December 10, 2016**  
**7:00 p.m. - Midnight**



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# Piecing it all together for those in need

We live in a world of abundance!! We have everything we can possibly want, need or desire available to us at an unbelievable number and variety of stores surrounding our communities. Grocery stores are filled with every kind of food imaginable from all over the world as well as from local farms. They have prepared foods so that we do not have to cook and many will even deliver groceries to our door. A multitude of stores sell us our clothing, hardware stores sell us items to repair or remodel our homes, drugstores sell us our medicine and furniture stores sell us our furniture. Sam's Club, Home Depot, Walmart's, Target and Kohl's, to mention a few, are huge "super stores" with unbelievable inventories. And if we can't get to the store, we can go on line and order just about anything and have it delivered! Whatever you need, there is someone who makes it and will sell it to you.

It is hard to imagine life in the early days of our country and community when almost everything that you owned was hand made by you and your family or a neighbor. Early settlers built their own log or frame homes. They built their own furniture, made their own tools, plowed their fields so that they could grow their food and dug a well so that they would have water. The women made candles from tallow or animal fat so that they would have light in their homes. They made soap by boiling wood ashes and animal fat together so that they could clean their homes. They made their own bread, churned their butter, made apple cider, cheese and jerky. The men made gunpowder so that they could hunt and provide meat for their family. The women made clothing for the family. They sewed by hand, knitted, crocheted, cross stitched and quilted blankets for the family beds. We are fortunate to live so close to the world famous Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum where we can visit and enjoy real life enactments of life in rural America in authentic surroundings. It gives one a real picture of the life of our ancestors who lived long ago. Their life was hard but they were strong, creative, resilient, persistent and always worked together for the good of the



family and community.

Many of us have items in our homes that have been passed down from one generation to another and are treasured as reminders of those who have gone before us. Quilts are a good example of this. Mothers taught their daughters to sew and quilt and they would sit around the fireplace in the evening and work on these beautiful blankets as they chatted about the days happenings. They saved every scrap of material they had to make these quilts. Clothes that were outgrown or were damaged were cut up to make quilts. These quilts were extremely useful and kept them warm in the drafty homes of long ago.

Many of you may have quilts in your home today that are prized possessions that have been handed down through the years from one generation to another. Quilting is



This beautiful quilt was raffled off at the First Congregational Church.

still going on today but it has changed greatly from the early years. It has become a hobby to millions of women (and many men) around the world and is now a huge industry. Many people quilt on their own and enjoy picking out patterns and fabric and putting together beautiful quilts to be used by their family or given to friends, new brides or new mothers. Many belong to quilting clubs at churches, in communities or with friends in their homes. Patt Hartford has been teaching quilting in Wayne



St. Michaels Lutheran Church draped 270 quilts on the pews of their sanctuary to display them for their congregation, community and friends they will be packed and shipped by train to the Lutheran World Relief Center to be distributed throughout the world to those in need.

for a number of years. She claims quilting is easy and anyone can learn. She begins with a simple pattern and her students quickly graduate to more complex quilting. David Carpenter, a local businessman, decided to join his wife Lynn, an avid quilter, and has been making quilts for a number of years. He keeps his favorite ones displayed on his phone to share with others.

Today there are books and magazines on quilting, fabrics, patterns and all the equipment to go along with it and stores where you can purchase all of these products. There are quilting shows with prizes for the winning quilts, and even quilting museums. Quilts can be hand stitched, machine sewn or tied. Each of our United States has an official quilt pattern. Quilts called crazy quilts are made from odd shaped pieces of cloth with decorative stitching. Mourning quilts are made by using pieces of fabric from the clothing of loved ones who have passed, thus helping many in the grieving process.

I am not a quilter (as you may have guessed) but as I talk to those who quilt, I am fascinated by the things that I have learned about this "hobby" and the passion some have for it. Quilting is not easy! It takes an enormous amount of time, effort, creativity, persistence and money!!!!

This past week, quilts played an important part in our community. St. Michaels Lutheran Church on Glenwood and Hannan Roads draped 270 quilts on the pews of their sanctuary to display them for their congregation, community and

friends. These quilts were made by a group of the church's women and their friends who meet weekly at the church to enjoy each others company and quilt. Following this special exhibit of beautiful, colorful quilts, they are packed and shipped by train to the Lutheran World Relief Center to be distributed throughout the world to those in need. This group has been providing this service for a number of years. Material and supplies for the project are donated primarily by members of the church but some financial support is offered through a Lutheran organization called Thrivent. Thanks to Grace Tocco, a friend and member of the quilting group, who shared this information with me.

Also, the First Congregational Church in Wayne celebrated their 70th annual Church Fair on November 3rd and 4th. The community enjoyed two days of lunches, turkey dinners, shopping for Christmas decorations, hand made candy, attic treasures, hand sewn and knitted boutique items, and a raffle was held. The first prize was a beautiful hand stitched quilt made by the church quilters. The pattern depicted the values of America and the story of our country.

There are many other churches and clubs in our community and surrounding cities who have quilters working and sharing their creative talent. Pat Hartford suggested we all get together to offer a quilting show to display the work of these groups. What wonderful opportunities the art of quilting offers us!!!

# \$100,000! Take me out to the ball game!

By Carolyn Marnon

State Representative Robert Kosowski (D-Westland) presented a \$100,000 check to the City of Wayne to help with development of the parks and recreation system. "I am proud that I was able to bring home this money to my district," Representative Kosowski said. "By working across the aisle in a bi-partisan manner, residents in my district will benefit from having improvements done to our parks and recreation department."

According to Wayne's City Manager Lisa Nocerini, "The grant is from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and is a special legislative grant that has been designated specifically for a City of Wayne Sports Complex Project. The City met with the Wayne Baseball Association (WBA) several months back after the grant was received to talk about utilizing the funding at the Forest and Waltz ball parks. The ball parks are bringing in a lot of tournaments but have been left to fall into disarray despite the WBA and City's



The City of Wayne officially broke ground today on the ball fields improvement project at Forest and Waltz. Pictured are Councilman Tom Porter, DPW Assistant Director Ed Queen, Mayor Pro-Tem Anthony Miller, Councilman Chris Sanders, State Representative Robert Kosowski, Mayor Susan Rowe, Councilman John Rhaesa, Ray Lefler from the Wayne Baseball Association and Police Chief Alan Maciag. Photo by Natalie Rhaesa

best efforts. The specific details of the project are still being worked out and will require a request for proposal to go out so the City can hire an engineering firm who can help us to design it properly. I do know that the fields need new dirt, fencing,

dugouts, etc. so that will likely be the focus. A total revamp so to speak."

"I look forward to seeing the projects as they unfold," Representative Kosowski said. "One of the greatest things about being a legislator is being able to have a direct impact on

your constituents' lives. Hopefully the residents of Wayne will enjoy these improvements to our recreational areas." The Wayne Baseball Association organizes youth t-ball, coach's pitch, and baseball in the Wayne/Westland community.

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# Council extends terms, move elections to even years

By Carolyn Marnon

After a public hearing on October 18 during the city council meeting, the city council voted 5-2 to establish even year elections. Councilmen John Rhaesa and Tom Porter were the dissenting votes.

The city council had passed a resolution at the August 4 meeting to prepare a recommendation to establish even-year elections. Public Act 523 of 2012 allows the city council by resolution to extend the terms of its members by one year and change the cycle of elections to even years. According to the Act, terms can be extended but not shortened. A public hearing is required to make the change.

City Clerk Matthew Miller thought that consolidation of elec-

tions would be a benefit to the city. With staff reductions in the clerk's office and the many duties Mr. Miller is assigned, the change would allow the remaining staff to function better and more efficiently while also saving the city money. The General Fund expenditure for holding both a Primary and a General odd-year election for local officers is approximately \$40,000.

As a result of the resolution being passed, elections for local officers will now be in even-years beginning November 2018. The terms of Mayor Pro Tem Anthony Miller and Councilmen Ryan Gabriel and Terry Sutton, which would have expired in November 2017, will be extended to November 2018. The terms of Councilmen John Rhaesa, Tom Porter and Chris

Sanders, which would have expired in November 2019, will be extended to November 2020. Mayor Susan Rowe's term, which was to expire November 2017, will expire November 2018. As a result of the vote, half of the city residents will not have the opportunity to run for City Council in three years.

Although those in attendance agreed that the city needs to save money, there was concern that several councilmen were not voted into their positions by their wards. Some citizens felt they didn't have representation on the council by a member of their own ward district. Requests were made to adopt the resolution, but not until after the next election.

According to amendments to the

Wayne City Charter in 2014, the city council approved apportioning the city into six, single-member districts for the election of council members. Districts 1, 2, and 3 were instituted in 2015, and the ballot stated that districts 4, 5, and 6 shall be effective in the Primary and General election in 2017. Candidates for the districts will be required to have their principal residence in their district at the time of their election or appointment and throughout their tenure. The amendments also state that beginning in 2014, no person shall be eligible for re-election as a council member or as mayor if that person has previously served a total of 16 years or more in the position of council member or mayor or a combination thereof.

# Help Wayne Goodfellows provide kids Christmas

By Carolyn Marnon

In order to fulfill their mission of "No Child Without a Christmas," the Wayne Goodfellows will be hosting their 30th annual fundraising dinner on Saturday, December 10, 7:00 p.m.-midnight at Roma Banquets in Garden City. The cost is \$30 per person and includes dinner, desserts and yes, an open bar! There will be auction items, raffle baskets, button prizes and more. All the proceeds benefit the City of Wayne Goodfellows.

Wayne Goodfellows is a 501(c)3 non-profit that provides support to less fortunate families and children. They provide food, toys and emergency assistance for residents of Wayne. Last year, they were able to raise about \$14,000. They are usually able to help about 200 families every year.

Families have to fill out an application for assistance. If they are chosen, the Goodfellows work to give them the assistance they need. The

purpose of this assistance is to provide short term, emergency aid to individuals whom reside in the City of Wayne and have had a catastrophic event occur in their lives which prohibits them from providing for themselves in the short term, i.e. house fire, flood, etc.

Jennifer Gietzen, President, stated, "I love to see our community

come together to help the kids!...The families' privacy is very important to us so (we) limit how many people are in contact with them to keep that privacy."



The members are working very hard right now gathering raffle baskets and donations for the big dinner fundraiser. It would be great if you could gather a few of your friends together and come to the party on December 10.

If you are not able to attend the dinner, you can write a check c/o City of Wayne Goodfellows and drop it off at Henry's Service Center, Icon Computers, or mail it to PO Box 472, Wayne MI 48184. Another way to help would be to make a basket that can be raffled off at the December party.

At other times of the year, the Goodfellows encourage you to help by donating cash/checks to "City of Wayne Goodfellows" at the Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union, 500 S. Wayne Rd.

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# Thank you, Wayne

Dear Wayne Residents:

On Friday, October 14th, I gave my one month notice that I will be leaving my position as Executive Director of Wayne Main Street to accept a position as the Downtown Development Authority/Main Street Director for the City of Charlevoix. My last full day on the job is November 11th. Since it is a requirement of the National Main Street Center to employ a full-time Director a new person will be hired. The job posting for my replacement went out almost immediately with an application deadline of October 28th.

I started here in May of 2014 as the first Director of this exciting new organization and project. After two and a half years of working in this city I am humbled by the community spirit and pride. I have met so many wonderful people – volunteers, business owners/employees, city administration, elected officials, high school students, and more who made this job special to me. Having not grown up in Wayne it was an intimidating role to take on. I had no idea if the community would accept an ‘outsider’ to champion the effort of revitalizing the downtown. Thankfully all of you made me feel welcome here and very much a part of the team. Over the course of time I observed great progress made in building partnerships and focusing the conversation on the importance of our downtown’s economic health. Our victories thus far have meant so much, and it has been wonderful watching this organization become what it is today. It is difficult to walk away, because I know so many great things have yet to happen and I can’t wait to see what the future holds for



**Main Street  
Downtown  
Wayne**

**Lindsey Wooten**

downtown Wayne.

My experience here certainly prepared me for my next chapter, and my dreams have come true to return to northern Michigan to settle down and build a life with my new husband. I hope the community will welcome the new Executive Director with open arms as you did me and I have faith that 2017 will be another great year in downtown Wayne. Thanks to all for such a great couple of years!

## **Facade Grant Incentive Program Expands Boundaries**

Wayne Main Street’s Board of Directors recently approved an expansion of the boundaries for businesses that are eligible for the Façade Grant Incentive Program. The Façade Grant program was developed by the Design Committee to help improve the appearance of buildings in Wayne Main Street’s downtown district.

The Façade Grant is funded by Wayne Main Street and reimburses up to 50 percent of the project’s total cost to the recipient. Interested candidates must submit an application to the design committee for review. Grants are provided on a first-approved, first-funded basis. The funding cycle begins on Jan. 1 of every year.

The grant program was created to encourage private investment in



Business owner Paul Visingardi received the first façade grant incentive from Wayne Main Street.

historic facades by providing financial incentives. Historically sensitive rehabilitation and dramatic improvement of facades in downtown Wayne will encourage good design that will serve as quality examples to preserve the architectural character that is distinctive to Wayne. By improving the appearance of the building facades, the Program helps to improve the economic viability of the downtown.

Owners of commercial buildings in the Wayne Main Street district, used for commercial purposes, and conforming to zoning use are eligible to apply for grant funds. The approved expansion of the program provides that after June 30 of the current year, owners of buildings adjacent to the Wayne Main Street district and conforming to zoning use are eligible to apply and be considered for funding if money is still available. These applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis

and must adhere to the same guidelines as other applicants.

“This change was made because we had \$20,000 budgeted in 2016 to help up to two façade grant applicants with grants of up to \$10,000 each. Unfortunately, none of the businesses in our Wayne Main Street district have applied yet. We decided we would broaden our area for this particular grant to possibly help a business that was very close to our district make some improvements in their façade,” said Design Committee Chairperson Carolyn Marnon.

Individuals interested in learning more about the Façade Grant should visit the website, [www.downtownwayne.org/business/grant](http://www.downtownwayne.org/business/grant), where the application and more information can be found. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

For more information, contact Wayne Main Street Executive Director at (734) 629-6822 or at [director@downtownwayne.org](mailto:director@downtownwayne.org)

THE WAYNE Dispatch Celebrating 8 Years!

Thank you to all our loyal advertisers and readers! -John and Natalie Khaesa





## HYPE UP FOR HALLOWEEN EVENT

Friday, October 28th...Trick-or-Treaters by the hundreds showed up for a fun night sponsored by Hype Athletics and the local business community. Little ghosts and goblins gathered treats and trinkets as they strolled through a Halloween decorated Attwood Park with friends and family. Cold cider and doughnuts served by City employees, was a real crowd pleaser. Thank you to all who participated in this family friendly event. It was nice to see the community gather and enjoy a nice October evening with friends and neighbors.



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