



THE
Wayne Dispatch
AUGUST 2014

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COME TRUE**
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*Takes home an
Emmy!*

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Family Fun Fest...

A free community event

By Jenny Johnson

Family Fest is back! CrossPointe Community Church, 36125 Glenwood, is hosting their annual one-day festival from 12-5 p.m. on Aug. 23. Members of the church will provide a free day of family friendly fun for the entire community. Last year they had over 5,000 people in attendance.

They will offer games, rides, music, hot foods, cold foods, drinks, and a classic car show. The kids will enjoy bounce houses, hayrides, petting zoo, face painting, crafts, pony rides and more.

The car show will start at 8 a.m. and the first 500 cars will get spots on the field. There is no registration fee and participants will receive goodie bags and there will be giveaways and trophies. If you have a classic car, please plan to join the fun.

They are cooking for 5,000 peo-

ple this year so bring your kids, neighbors, family, and friends. This is the largest single day event in Wayne and it is all generously offered for free. All you have to do is get a wristband at the registration table and that allows you to eat the food, play the games and enjoy the other activities.

It takes about 200 volunteers an entire year to plan for Family Fest. Pastor Phil DiLernia said the members of CrossPointe look forward to welcoming visitors.

Besides Family Fest CrossPointe is a very active church. They have been serving the community for more than 100 years. It was formerly First Baptist Church of Wayne.

They reach out every chance they get with community dinners, a clothes closet and food pantry to help the needy. They sponsor the Marshmallow Drop at Attwood Park on Good Friday. The youth group



Family Fest at CrossPointe Community Church will offer games, rides, music, hot foods, cold foods, drinks, and a classic car show. The kids will enjoy bounce houses, hayrides, petting zoo, face painting, crafts, pony rides and more.

goes on mission trips and organizes free sports leagues like floor hockey and basketball for elementary students.

Their services are at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sundays. They also have multiple studies and activities during the week.

CrossPointe is located on Glen-

wood between Elizabeth and Newburgh. Parking will be available in the church parking lot and parking attendants will be on hand to help drivers. For more information on Family Fest, visit www.crosspointecommunitychurch.org or go to [Facebook.com/CrossPointeCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/CrossPointeCommunityChurch).

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The Emmy award winning crew and staff of Ackroyd's Bakery.

Wayne resident wins Emmy

Wayne has a lot of award winning residents. But this June Steve Julin added an Emmy to that collection. Julin, a Wayne resident and 1985 Wayne Memorial High School alumni won for Best Magazine Show in Michigan.

Great Lakes~Great Tastes is a half hour show that airs on WTVS (PBS). The show focuses on Exploring Michigan's culinary culture. Each episode features four or five off-the-beaten path food businesses.

From restaurants and bakeries to breweries and dairies Great Lakes~Great Tastes has spent three years highlighting the jewels in Michigan.

"It is a hobby that turned into my career and my passion is in the culinary area," Julin said. "I cook almost every night and we travel for

"It is a hobby that turned into my career and my passion is in the culinary area, I cook almost every night and we travel for food shows."

Steve Julin

food shows."

He and his wife, Sheila's last great food trip was to Scottsdale, Arizona, where they enjoyed ceviche. This dish is made from fresh raw fish and citrus juices and spices.

Julin is a self-described foodie who enjoys all of the different places his show features. In addition to producing, directing and editing Great Lakes~Great Tastes, he has been Vice President of Education at Specs Howard School of Media Art for the

past 24 years.

He is also a graduate of the Media Productions class of the William D. Ford Career Technical Center.

"I think communities need Vo-tech centers. It is unfortunate that other communities don't have the gem that Vo-tech is," Julin said. Vo-tech staff and graduates have participated in Monsters Inc. and Roger and Me.

"The Vo-tech center is a hands on experience," he said.

Labor of Love

Their Emmy award winning show was filmed in 2013 and featured The Lark restaurant in West Bloomfield; Ackroyd's Scottish Bakery in Redford Township; Founders Brewery in Grand Rapids; Boss Mouse Cheese in Kingsley; People's Piergio's in Detroit and Food Dance in Kalamazoo.

Julin said he and the crew really enjoy visiting all of the different locations and sampling the specialties. It would be nice to make money but it is more about telling the great culinary stories.

"I like that our show is more about storytelling and art. We don't have a host. The show stands on its

See **EMMY**, page 4

EMMY, from page 3

own," he said. "Each segment is its own piece of art."

Plus they are all foodies.

"It is a bunch of hungry filmmakers that go and do stories about Michigan culinary things," he said. "We love doing what we do. We have become friends with a lot of people on the show."

They have a crew of about six and a very small budget. Most of the filming is done at nights and on the weekend and the editing is done at Julin's kitchen table.

"I am producer, director editor. Editing is my foray. I have written books about it," he said. "The post production is when I excel."

They produce one 30-minute show each year. Each segment takes about five to nine hours to film and five to seven days to edit. It takes about four months to go from ideas to delivering the completed show to PBS.

"When we first pitched this to PBS they said it was the best thing to come across their desk," he said. PBS doesn't pay for shows. Each show has to come up with their own funding.

The next show will air this fall and will run seven to nine times on the PBS stations across Michigan.

Emmy Winner

In 2012 the show was first nominated for three awards. Julin and his wife were seated up front and ready to take to the stage when his name was called. But he didn't win.

"This year we were nominated for one. We sat in the back and I didn't buy a new dress," said his wife,



(Top left), Shooting meat pies being made at Ackroyd's Scottish Bakery in Redford Township. (Top right), Steve Julin editing at his home in Wayne. (Left), Steve's Media Production class at Wayne Westland Career Tech Class back in high school.

Sheila.

So when his name was called it took forever to get up to the stage. Presenters were the stars of Reality Show Hard Core Pawn that is filmed in Detroit. They weren't even sure Julin was in the audience and he did not have a speech prepared.

If they are nominated next year, they are going to follow the same pattern and even ask to stay in the same room at the hotel.

Charity Dinner

Each year Great Lakes~Great Tastes host a charity dinner to give

guests the opportunity to "eat the show." Participants of the current show will provide some of their special dishes. The proceeds from the dinner go to the Make a Wish Foundation. There have been three charity benefits so far and they have granted two wishes and are about to grant their third.

The 2014 Michigan Flavors Charity dinner will be Oct. 24 at the Great Lakes Culinary Center in Southfield.

Michigan Emmys

Michigan is one of 20 chapters of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences that awards regional Emmys. The 2013 Emmys took place at Motor City Sound Board Theater in Detroit and featured news and individual shows from around Michigan. There were 506 entries in 80 categories. Submissions were based on creativity and execution.

A total of 401 individuals received nominations.

To check out Julin's award winning show visit www.greatlakesgreattastes.com. For more information on Michigan Flavors Charity Dinner visit www.michiganflavors.com.

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NEWS BRIEFS

James fills council seat

David James was selected to fill the vacancy on the Wayne City Council. He was appointed in a 6-1 vote to fill the seat left vacant when Jim Henley resigned in July. Councilwoman Susan Rowe voted no.

James has served on the Wayne-Westland Community School board, Westland City Council and Wayne Planning Commission. He is also a real estate agent.

James will serve until the next election in November 2015. At that time voters will choose someone to fill the rest of the term, which expires in 2017.

Kelly Miller Circus

Come clown around at the Kelly Miller Circus. They will present two shows on August 9 at 2 and 5 p.m. at Attwood Park. Don't miss the raising of the Big Top with elephant power at 9 a.m. on Aug. 9. This event is free to the public. Tickets for the circus will be available at the Wayne

Community Center, Mark Chevrolet, Professional Insurance and the Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union. For more information, please call 734-721-7400.

Blues, Brew and BBQ

The 4th Annual Blues, Brews & BBQ will be 6-10 p.m. on Sept. 12 and 12-10 p.m. on Sept. 13 at Westland City Hall grounds, 36601 Ford Road, Westland.

Blues, Brews & BBQ is a family friendly event that allows visitors the opportunity to taste some of the food served by the area's best local restaurants while enjoying great music by several bands and sampling micro-brewed beers all made right here in Michigan.

Since it's inception in 2011, Blues, Brews & BBQ uses local community organizations to staff the event. More than \$30,000 has been donated to local charities.

For more information, please visit www.cityofwestland.com or on

Facebook at All American Blues, Brews & BBQ.

Mark Chevrolet Grand Re-Opening Celebration

Join the staff of Mark Chevrolet, 33200 Michigan Avenue, from 2-7 p.m. on Aug. 14 for their Grand Re-Opening. They have spent the past few month completely renovating the interior and exterior of the existing building including enclosing the canopy on the west side of the building that is used for service write ups.

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

The festivities include free food and drink and a raffle for a 32" TV! Stop by and see what's new.

Alumni baseball game

The 2nd Annual WMHS Baseball Reunion Game will be at 1:10 p.m. on Aug. 23 at the Flats at Wayne Me-

morial High School. The game will feature former WMHS baseball players. It is also a charity event and proceeds will go to the Wayne Goodfellows and the current WMHS baseball team. For more information, please email dacicotte@gmail.com

Live Theater

The First Congregational Church of Wayne, 2 Towne Square St., Wayne, will present Happy Birthday Dear Grandpa at 7 p.m. on Sept. 20. Tickets are \$12 and there will be free refreshments during intermission.

"Happy Birthday Dear Grandpa" is a hilarious two-act play about a cantankerous grandfather, ill-tempered and paranoid, who is determined to think that his grandkids, three young adults, are trying to kill him for their inheritance (\$642 and a postcard collection).

Tickets will be available at the church office and must be purchased in advance. For more information, call the First Congregational Church at 734-729-7550.



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NEWS BRIEFS

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Where the Miracles Are

This year DQ® is celebrating Miracle Treat Day with even more magic.

On Thursday August 14th, the Wayne Dairy Queen will donate \$1 from every Blizzard® Treat purchased to the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

The Children's Miracle Network helps children in need. Please help provide hope and healing to local sick and injured children.

WMHS Class of 1974 reunion

The Wayne Memorial High School Class of 1974 will celebrate their 40th reunion on Aug. 23 at the Avenue Downtown Wayne. Tickets are \$25 each. Casual dress. Members of the Class of 1973 and 1975 are also welcome. For more information, contact wmhs74reunion@yahoo.com or 734-397-8196.

H2O Zone Opens in Westland

The popular Splash Park on Central City Parkway in Westland is now open. The cost for Wayne and Westland residents is \$3 and non-residents is \$10 per person. The annual Family Pass is \$40 per resident for up to six family members and \$100 for non-residents.

Senior Olympics

The 10th Annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics will be held Aug. 18-22 for Wayne County residents 50 years or older. Two events will be held in the City of Wayne.

At 9 a.m. on Aug. 20 Wayne Bowl, 36900 Michigan Avenue will have Billiards and at 9 a.m. on Aug. 21 they will have bowling which is sponsored by the cities of Wayne and Inkster.

For a complete list of event times and locations, visit www.WWCSO.org.

Summer Lunch

The Summer Lunch Program continues at the Wayne Community Center Monday - Friday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Wayne County sponsors the free, nutritious meals for children 18 and under during the summer months.



Before



After

Wayne resident donates hair

"I want to do something nice for kids who don't have any hair," said 7-year-old Temperance Gorman. The Wayne resident and St. Mary of Wayne student donated 11 inches of her hair to Children with Hair Loss.

Share and Care

The Wayne-Westland Professional Firefighters Local 1279 and U.S. 12 American Bar and Grill will host Woehlke-Palooza beginning at 6 p.m. on Aug. 22rd and Aug. 23rd in Downtown Wayne. This event will honor fallen firefighters and police that have given the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty this year, locally and across the country.

Proceeds from this event will go to Brian Woehlke's family. The Wayne-Westland firefighter died in the line of duty last May in the fire at Marvasso's in Westland.

This outdoor event includes food, music and firefighter games and will be held at U.S. 12 American Grill, 34824 Michigan Ave, rain or shine.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please call John Goci, event coordinator, at 734-637-1430 or Kevin Tomaszewski - Secretary, Wayne Westland Fire Fighters Local 1279 at 313-505-8130.

Farmers Market

The Wayne and Westland Farmers Markets have a great selection of locally grown fruits and vegetables. The Wayne market is from 3-7 p.m. every Wednesday through October in Goudy Park. The Westland market is 3-7 p.m. every Thursday at Westland

City Hall on Ford Road.

Come for the fresh produce, flowers, baked goods and crafts. Stay for the chair massages, entertainment and kids' activities. Remember the Farmers Market now accepts EBT and Debit cards too.

Six vie for School Board

On the November ballot voters in the Wayne-Westland Community School District will elect four school board members. There will be three six-year terms and one two-year partial term on the ballot.

Incumbents Shawna Walker and Carol Middel are seeking re-election to fill the six-year terms as are Tom Froreich of Westland and Melandie Hines of Westland.

Charles "Trav" Griffin who was appointed to the board in 2012 and Adam Salam Adamski of Wayne (formerly Mario Fundarski) are seeking the partial term that expires in Dec. 2016. Adamski also ran for Wayne County Executive in the August primary.

World Hoop Day

For the second year World Hoop Day will come to Wayne on Oct. 5 at Goudy Park. This is a day of performances and classes for anyone interested in hula hooping.

WMHS 30th Class Reunion

WMHS Class of 1984 will have their 30th reunion from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Oct. 11 at Novi-Sheraton, 21111 Haggerty Rd, Livonia. The cost is \$60 per person or \$110 for a couple.

This includes elegant food stations, walking appetizers and a dessert extravaganza. Checkout the Facebook page "reunion 84" for more information or contact Liz-Arthur-Meyers at 206-423-3728.

Scarecrows coming back to downtown

The Wayne Ripple Effect will host Scarecrow decorating again this fall on the light poles in downtown Wayne. Residents, businesses and community organizations are welcome to purchase the frames at the Wayne Farmers Market and decorate a scarecrow.

For more information on the scarecrow-decorating project, please visit www.downtownwayne.org.

Turn the Town Teal

For the third year light poles, trees and mailboxes in Wayne will be adorned with teal ribbons during the month of September.

Catherine Buchanan of Independent Carpet One is helping Turn the Town Teal by tying teal ribbons throughout Wayne and Westland in an effort to raise awareness about ovarian cancer. September is National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Ovarian cancer is often known as "The Silent Disease" because the symptoms are often vague and subtle. Also, there is no early detection test. Awareness of the symptoms is the most critical factor in fighting ovarian cancer. When ovarian cancer is detected in the early stages, the survival rate is 90 to 95%.

Classic symptoms of ovarian cancer are pelvic or abdominal pain/discomfort (bloating), vague but persistent gastrointestinal upsets, frequency and/or urgency of urination, unexplained changes in bowel habits, unexplained weight gain/loss, ongoing unusual fatigue, back pain, menstrual changes, and pain during intimacy.

Council tables millage proposals

By Jenny Johnson

City Council has decided to not yet ask residents to support a 5-mill property tax levy in November. Because of the approximately \$500,000 deficit the city is facing, council had been debating the tax increase for residents to help fund a 345 millage to offset police and firefighter retirement costs.

A similar millage failed in November 2013 and some council members felt it wasn't the right time to approach residents again.

Councilman John Rhaesa said, "I am concerned about the climate of trying to do this at this time. If it fails in November, is it three years that we have to wait (until it goes on the ballot again)?"

City Manager Joseph Merucci said, "It will be two years from election time."

If the millage was put on the November ballot and was not approved, it could not be put back on, as the same questions, until 2017.

Councilwoman Susan Rowe said,

"I am concerned about the climate of trying to do this at this time. If it fails in November, is it three years that we have to wait (until it goes on the ballot again)?"

Councilman John Rhaesa

"We don't have the time to prepare a decent campaign. I don't think it would pass. We need committee involvement and we should start now but not put it on the November ballot."

Councilman Albert Damitio said, "We have had several study sessions with this year's budget and have not come up with a balanced budget. I just want each of the council people to look at themselves and ask how are you going to cut it so it is balanced. If you aren't going to ask residents where are you going to cut?"

Even if this millage did pass the city would not immediately get the money.

It would not go into effect until

the July 2015 tax roll for the 2015-16 budget. This would not help the immediate budget deficit the city is facing.

"We will balance the budget for this year but there will be nothing left for next year," Mayor Al Haidous said. "There will be no revenue coming. We will be on a cliff. If we knew money was coming in July, there would be a cushion for the future."

If we try to just push something through and don't believe it will pass, that is insanity," Rhaesa said.

Councilman Skip Monit said, "I do believe we have enough time but we can't waste time. But we have to be united and moving as one at the get go. We can't be hedging our bets.

Without this millage this is going to be a different city."

"It is a painful issue but is it good for the city- yes," said Haidous. "I am one vote and I always cast my vote in my heart by what is right for this community. We need to debate this issue very seriously. The future of the city depends on it."

Haidous added, "If we can't go with a unanimous vote then it is a waste of time. If it is not a unanimous vote then I recommend we table the issue."

Mayor Pro Tem Jim Hawley made a motion to table the proposal. Councilman David James seconded it.

Wayne resident Ron Roberts addressed the council. He said, "We are waiting for you to step up to the plate and save the city. You are not making the decisions we need to see you make. For five years you haven't really done anything. We are on the brink of bankruptcy because of the decisions that were made up there and you still aren't willing to make the tough hard decisions."

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Welcome to Wayne

A big welcome to Steven McGladdery. He's the new Co-Director of the Wayne Library. Steve started working on July 1st, and has been working 20 hours a week.

Paulette Medvecky and the staff at the Library have been taking the new Co-Director around our city and introducing him to as many people as possible.

Steve McGladdery has a B A from Grand Valley State, where he majored in Psychology. At Wayne State University he earned his Master of Library and Information Science degree.

He has been a Librarian at the Wixom Library and his duties were varied--Adult/Youth Reference Service--Computer Assistance, Programming, Collection Development, and Book Club.

As a substitute librarian at Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham, he once again did computer assistance, plus research projects. He was also a library assistant for ITT Service in Canton, Michigan.

Mr. McGladdery's additional work background includes The Home Depot -customer service--freight flow/organization, sales and loss prevention.

He worked as sales and receiving associate at Bed Bath & Beyond where once again his work was varied. He was in sales, customer service; organized and scheduled deliveries; and also freight flow and loss prevention.

Steve is married. His wife teaches school in Dearborn--they live in Westland.

Steven McGladdery's career target ---"I seek a challenging library position with strong focus on user relations and implantation of new technologies."

Once again, we say "Welcome Mr. McG."

Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



Sue and Al Damitio kindly sent me a wonderful run down of their trip to London and France. Their oldest granddaughter, Bridgette, newly graduated from Wayne Memorial High School, joined them. In London they stayed with friends, who had recently retired and returned to England, after 20 years in Michigan.

Each morning they took the bus, train, or underground to visit many of the historical sights. At Hampton Court, Henry VIII's Palace, actors in period costumes performed as if they were living in medieval times.

They found the Tower of London fascinating, with the Beefeaters giving tours and the ravens at home. The Crown Jewels were stunning, but "over the top to the point of being gaudy."

They saw the Tower Bridge and took a ride on the "London Eye" (a gigantic Ferris wheel.) They stayed 6 days in London, and each day was sunny. The previous week it had rained every day, which is usual for London.

Then it was on to Calais, France via the Chunnel. They were met by Marcel and Rose, whose two sons stayed with the Damitios as exchange students. They all went to Bruges, Belgium (a beautiful medieval city) and to see an outstanding museum in the Coupole. This was the Nazi site for launching V1 and V2 rockets. Their friends also drove them to Rouen, where Joan of Arc was tried and burned at the stake; and to Giverney to see Monet's gar-



Steven McGladdery new Co-Director of the Wayne Library.

den and house. (It was gorgeous and very crowded) They then drove into Paris.

They spent five days in Paris and went to Sunday Mass at Notre Dame Cathedral. They went to the Louvre, to the top of the Eiffel Tower, took a boat ride down the Seine, and had lunch at Jean-Paul's Chocolatier. They spent an hour in the Montmartre Art District, where Bridgette posed for an artist who drew her picture. Their highlight in Paris was having dinner with Albert's cousin, Gilles, and his family.

They left Paris on the TGV (a very fast train), and went south to Lyon. Their very first exchange student, Cedric, drove them to his house in Annonay, they then toured the Ardeche. There are many ancient walled cities and wonderful gorges and landscapes to see in the Ardeche region. The Chauvet Cave with prehistoric drawings from 32,000 years ago can be found there. They also took a trip to Orange and Avignon, where they saw the old Papal Palace, and a Roman Amphitheatre, still in

use today.

After returning to Lyon and seeing the sights they returned on the TGV for their non-stop flight to Wayne. Now it's back to work--City Council for Albert and Ladies Literary duties for Sue. Thanks again for the detailed and enjoyable summary of your trip to London and France.

Don't forget this date...August 16th from 11a.m. to 4p.m. That's the day you and your family can play golf at the Library. That's the day our Library will be transformed into an 18-hole mini golf course.

Your ticket will purchase one golf ball and one putter. You'll then play the game of golf throughout the library.

Student tickets (ages 6-18) are \$3.00. Adult tickets (ages 18+) are \$5.00, and a family ticket (up to 6 people) is \$15.00. You can also eat lunch at the 19th hole. There'll be hot dogs, chips, pop, and candy. We hope to see you there. It's a fun fundraiser, with all the proceeds going to help our Wayne Library.



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Concerts in the Park returns

Thanks to the generous support of several business owners and civic organizations Concerts in the Park are back. They will be each Wednesday from 7:30-9 p.m. from Aug. 6 to Sept. 3 at Goudy Park. They will follow the Farmers Market, which runs Wednesday from 3-7 p.m.

The schedule is as follows:

Aug. 6 - Dead in Dog Years, Classic Rock

This is a band of musical brothers living the dream. The band features Tony Ciantar-Bass/Vocals; Dan Fenech-Drums/Vocals; Curt Agne-Guitar/Vocals; Steve Pyett-Guitar/Vocals; and Dale Merrifield-Keys/Vocals

Aug. 13 - David James, Contemporary

James is a current Wayne City Council member but has performed for years. His repertoire includes classic Neil Diamond songs.



David James

Aug. 20- Gabrielle Wild, Classic Rock and Blues

Wild is a singer/ performer who has a wide variety of current and classic musical selections including Elvis, The Beatles, Madonna, The Doors, Michael Jackson, James Brown, Jennifer Lopez, Beyonce, Lady Gaga and the Steve Miller Band.



Gabrielle Wild

Aug. 27 - Brothers & Company, Modern Blues and Alternative Rock

Sept. 3 - TC & the Katz, Oldies and Classics.

All concerts are free and family friendly. Sponsors of the concerts include Henry's Service Center, Papa Romano's, Wayne Rotary Club, Wayne Civitans, Main Street Wayne, WCA Assessing Services, Professional Insurance Company, Uht Funeral Home, The Wayne Dispatch and Wayne-Westland Parks and Recreation.

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Police recognize Officer of the Year

By Jenny Johnson

Her peers recognized Stephanie Strasser, a 17-year veteran of the Wayne Police Department as Officer of the Year.

She began her career with the Wayne Police Department in June 1997 and was a patrol officer until March 2013 when she was promoted to the detective bureau.

"It is different. It is more investigating," she said. The Detective Bureau investigates all felonies and the detectives handle multiple open cases at a time. "Several times during the week you will get new cases."

The job of the detectives includes going out on the scenes, taking photographs and interviewing witnesses and suspects.

"It is completely different than the road. I did road patrol for 15 and a half years. I like this better but I miss the road," she said.

Police Chief Jason Wright said,

"Stephanie, number one is truly a leader amongst her peers. She has a tremendous amount of experience. She is a phenomenal detective."

The detective bureau used to have seven people and it is now down to three.

"Her experience on the job is really showing in that role. She is very innovative and creative and she is relentless in her cases. She resolves a lot of her cases," he said.

One of the cases Strasser worked on was the robbery at Leo's Jewelry in July 2013. A third suspect was recently charged in the crime.

"The guys on the road did a great job with Leo's. They arrested two people and I was able to get another suspect and she just pled out guilty to larceny," Strasser said.

Strasser grew up and still lives in Wayne County and graduated from the police academy in 1996.

Her father was a trooper for



Stephanie Strasser Wayne Police Department Officer of the Year.

Michigan State Police for 25 years. He also worked in the crime lab in Northville.

"So I grew up with it. We were in the crime lab quite a bit. He did some great cases," she said.

What does she like about her job?

"It is a great group of guys over the years and it has been a great department to work for. It's a close knit group," she said. "Everyone here is making a difference. The guys on the

road are the backbone of the investigation. All of us here are really stepping it up. The guys on the road are doing a great job. A lot of what I do is because of what they do."

Wright said, "She represents the department well. She is very deserving of this. This has been a tough year and I know the caliber of work she has been doing."

Strasser will be recognized at an upcoming city council meeting.



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Ripple Effect Progress Report

July has been a month of tremendous progress for the Wayne Ripple Effect. Now that our hard-working volunteers have earned Wayne the status of being a "Michigan Main Street Community," it is time to continue working on accomplishing the one thing we all want to see: a downtown that is a vibrant destination for residents and visitors to gather, shop, work, and enjoy.

So far, Ripple Effect volunteers have created a successful downtown planter program that allows businesses or interested citizens the opportunity to adopt a planter. This entails purchasing and planting the flowers, and continual maintenance throughout the spring and summer including weeding and watering. This project has been a great success in many ways: not only does it get people directly involved with keeping Downtown Wayne beautiful; it has also saved our local small business owners money! In the past, the city billed business owners each year to cover the cost of the flowers planted. Now that volunteers have taken that cost on themselves, business owners



are no longer receiving these bills. Anytime a small business can cut back on costs it is a good thing!

In addition to the flower planters, Ripple Effect has been responsible for the much-loved scarecrows that hang all over town each autumn, the spring clean-up, and most recently the post-Cruisin' US12 clean up. While these programs are going to continue, new ideas are currently in the works amongst our four committees who are determined to revitalize Downtown Wayne.

Wayne Ripple Effect's Promotions Committee is establishing a regular presence at the Wayne Farmer's Market every week. Thanks to the generosity of both the Wayne Chamber of Commerce and Growing Hope, we are able to set up a tent and table



The adopt a planter program in downtown this year is in full bloom.

each week to sell t-shirts and raffle tickets, pass out event calendars, and educate the community about what we are doing and how. We are also going to use the table as a means of promoting businesses that are located downtown to save business owners the money and time that would normally go into setting up a table at the market. We will also be helping Growing Hope with set-up and tear-down of the market in exchange for a donation towards Wayne Ripple Effect's downtown revitalization efforts.

If you are interested in helping Wayne Ripple Effect by volunteering at the Wayne Farmer's Market,

please visit our online sign-up at: <http://vols.pt/ve4mJZ>. This website enables you to sign up for varying shifts and duties that fit into your schedule from the comfort of your own home!

All volunteers will receive adequate training and will never be on a shift alone. Please be sure to bring plenty of water and sunscreen!

Lastly, I continue to invite anyone who is interested in learning more about Wayne Ripple Effect's efforts to call (734) 629-6822 to schedule a personal meeting with me. I am interested in your ideas and answering any questions you may have! Thank you.



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