

THE WAYNE Dispatch

DECEMBER 2015

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Christmas*

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at the Wayne Historical Museum

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Holiday Night
at the **MUSEUM**

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

December 5th, the WMHS Marching Band led the way for Santa who arrived by Fire Truck to greet the boys and girls of Wayne. Festivities included: tree lighting ceremony, hot cocoa, coffee, cookies and treats, a petting farm, pony rides, face painting, bounce house, giant Lego display, Christmas Carols performed by the WMHS Choir, pictures with Santa, Wayne Historical Museum touring, giveaways and cozy fire pit warming stations. Thank you to all involved in making this night special for the residents of Wayne.

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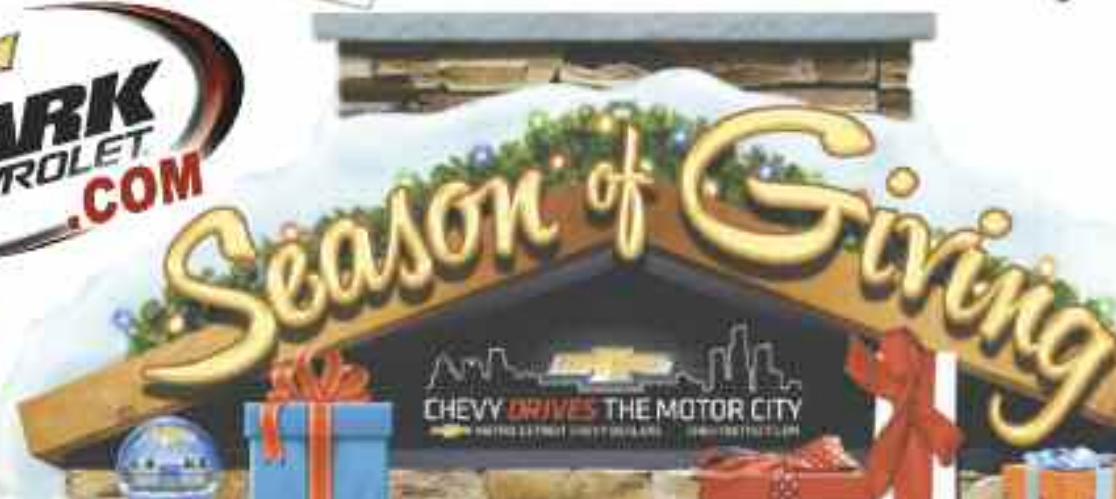


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NEWS BRIEFS

Christmas meals at HYPE

HYPE will be receiving 200 boxed turkey meals on December 18th and will have them available for distribution soon after. They are working with local organizations such as churches and schools, to collect names of Wayne families who might not otherwise have a Christmas dinner. If you or someone you know in Wayne needs a meal, go to the center and inquire about signing up.

Star Wars marathon

Starting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 17, Star Wars VII: The Force Awakens will begin playing at the State Wayne Theater. It will play on the big screen all night long and into the morning. The earlier you get your tickets, the better chance you have of getting a ticket for the time you want to see the movie.

If you ever thought you'd like to go to a movie in the middle of the night, here is your opportunity. Each showing of the movie requires a new ticket. This is not a buy-one-ticket-stay-all-night event.

Veteran receives car

Jack Demmer Ford partnered with Progressive Insurance in Livonia to give away a vehicle to a veteran on Veteran's Day. The collaboration is part of the Recycled Rides program of the National Auto Body Council. A 2009 Ford Explorer was given to a single mother who had demonstrated need and had served our country overseas. The program takes a repairable vehicle and restores it for service. The labor and repair costs were donated by Jack Demmer Ford and the employees there. Tommy Ryan of Progressive Insurance stated, "It's a special moment" to give a vehicle away to a veteran. The veteran's named could not be released.

Frosty the snowman holiday event

The Wayne Public Library invites children of all ages to join in the snowman event being held on Tuesday, December 15, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. There will be reading, music and a fun time with a warm snowball



Giving back

Volunteers L-R: Corky Hayes, Councilman John Rhaesa, Amanda Dybus, Family Resource Center; Brian Haddad; Kelly Bohl, WWCS assistant superintendent, Ali Sayed, CEO HYPE (front row third from right); Irene Ivanac, HYPE (second from right), Pat Hartford and Jenny Johnson (not pictured) helped pass out the Thanksgiving meals.

Photo by Jenny Johnson

fight. Frosty will be built right in the library! Cocoa and cookies will also be shared.

Public budget meeting

There will be a City of Wayne public budget meeting on Tuesday, December 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Wayne City Hall. The meeting will be prior to the council meeting and will provide residents and businesses with an opportunity to understand the current state of the City's finances. Input and suggestions will be appreciated.

Keep your home safe

There has been an increase in home invasions in surrounding communities. Remember to keep your doors and windows locked. Be aware of your surroundings. Report anything that appears suspicious. Tips to protect your property include not advertising new purchases, especially on social media; installing motion sensors for lights; setting timers for indoor lights; reinforcing strikeplate on doors with at least 3 inch screws; shielding windows near doors; installing deadbolts; installing and always setting an audible home alarm; knowing your

neighbors; and pruning your shrubs so they don't conceal intruders. Keep these thoughts in mind as you go about celebrating the season.

Help of veterans needed

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

Brunch with Santa

HYPE is having a Brunch with Santa event on Saturday, December 12, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There will also be arts and crafts, a dance performance and of course, Santa. Pictures with Santa will be available for an additional cost. Tickets are \$6 each for children and \$8 each for adults. Children 2 and under are free.

USE IT, DON'T LOSE IT.

Use Your FSA Health Benefits Dollars Before December 31

If you participate in a Flexible Spending Account (FSA) through your employer's "Cafeteria Plan" benefits program, time may be running out. Some plans require the money you contributed to be spent by December 31, or you risk losing it. Here is a list of vision-related services and expenses that may qualify for reimbursement:

- Eye Health Examination • Contact Lenses
- Eyeglasses • Computer Eyeglasses
- Prescription Sunglasses
- Laser Vision Correction

Note: Check with your plan administrator to determine the specific requirements of your plan. Please let our office know about your major medical or vision plan coverage when you call for an appointment. We'll help you get all the benefits you have coming to you.

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Holiday shopping in Downtown Wayne

By Carolyn Marnon

One way you can help the economy in Wayne is to do as much of your holiday shopping in Wayne as you can. Wayne may not have the big box stores and the large retail chains, but it still has plenty of options to offer.

Leo's Jewelry and Gifts, 34900 W Michigan Ave, has an assortment of fine jewelry. They have recently remodeled and have a nice area where you can sit and ponder your choices, if you need to. They are the local outlet for selling Vera Bradley luggage, handbags and accessories. One Wayne resident gets Pandora items for his wife here.

Puffer Reds, 35002 Michigan Ave, is Michigan's #1 exclusive sneaker boutique. You can find mostly men's clothing and accessories, with a little bit for the ladies thrown in. If you know someone who collects sneakers, this is the place to check out.

GI Surplus, 34932 Michigan Ave, is an Army-Navy surplus store. They carry a large selection of outdoor apparel, military artifacts and camping equipment. In case you thought you could only find items for men here, they also carry pink camouflage items for women.

Baker's Acre, 34914 W Michigan Ave, is family-owned and operated. Many people think this business is closed, but it is not. Many local groups get cookies for their functions from Baker's Acre. If you need cookies for the holidays, you can call and place an order at 722-4110. They specialize in seasonal and custom edible trims. They also offer



Look for The Wayne Main Street Downtown, Wayne Shopping Guide inside this month's Wayne Dispatch.

cakes and other edible gifts. If you want to bake something yourself, they do have a very large assortment of cake pans available for rent and items you can place on your cakes/cupcakes.

Tried and True Thrift Store,

35004 W. Michigan Ave, has helped train and employ individuals with developmental and mental disabilities at this Wayne location since 2007. This is a great place to pick up holiday décor as well as an assortment of gifts, especially if you love hunting for items for a special collector in your life. By shopping here, you not only can pick up a bargain, but you are helping the employees refine their skills.

Kicks Tae Kwon Do, 35004 W. Michigan Ave, Suite A, is Wayne's martial arts studio. It is family-owned and operated and offers a variety of programs for all ages. This might be a great "experience" gift to give someone who has everything.

AKA Sports, 34904 Michigan Ave, specializes in custom designed trophies, jackets, t-shirts, hats, pro sports apparel and more. Maybe you know someone who could use a customized shirt. This could be the place to pick up that special something for the sports fanatic in your life. Majestic Detroit Tiger Jackets (regularly \$150) are just \$75. Detroit black and white hoodies are just \$65.

Mr. Keith's Designer Fragrances, 35006 W. Michigan Ave, sells body oils, lotions and more for men and women at affordable prices. Check out the variety of fragrances they have available. They have recently been featuring some stylish hats.

Designer Wearhouse, 35028 W. Michigan Ave, showcases the latest styles in their window displays that change every week. There is clothing for men and for women in this store. There are also plenty of accessories to choose from. Jewelry, shoes, purses, belts, hats and caps, you will probably find something for the fashionista in your life here.

Icon Computer Solutions, 35858 W. Michigan Ave, is a full-ser-

vice computer repair store. For the tech-savvy person, you might find something here. They also sell refurbished computers and tablets along with items you can use to build your own computer.

Kurt's Caps, 35760 W. Michigan Ave, is the ideal place to visit if you are shopping for a truck enthusiast. Some of the great things you can find at Kurt's include window visors, floor mats and liners, mud flaps, running boards, bed liners, econo covers and of course, bed caps.

Northside True Value Hardware, 2912 S. Wayne Rd, has everything you can think of for the handyman on your gift list. However, it is not just a handyman store: you can find scarves, candles and other household items as well as tools for the ladies, holiday décor items, and other fun items. You can find a little bit of everything if you browse here long enough.

Henry's Service Center, 3041 S. Wayne Rd, offers gift certificates for the holidays. If you know someone with a car, they are going to need to get their car fixed at some point. Give them a gift certificate!

Helium Studio, 3127 S Wayne Rd, is a new business in Wayne. They offer items from over 50 different artists and makers, mostly from Michigan. If you know someone who loves handmade and/or unusual gifts, this is the place to shop. Items are available at different price points, so you could find something within your budget.

AKA Treasures Resale Shop, 3030 S. Wayne Rd, has an ever-changing array of items for those on your holiday list. You can find items with their original price tags still on. They recently received a lot of costume jewelry with boxes. There are some wonderful treasures to be found at this store.

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WAYNE Dispatch
P.O. Box 156
Wayne, MI 48184
ad@thewaynedispatch.com
734-641-6550

John P. Rhaesa
Publisher
jpr@thewaynedispatch.com

Natalie Rhaesa
General Manager
nra@thewaynedispatch.com

Writers: Courtney Connor, Carolyn Marnon, Dave Marchant
Columnists: Darlene Hawley, Dee Ryan, Lindsey Wooler

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

Main Street volunteers of the year honored

On the evening of November 10th over 30 people attended the first annual Volunteer Appreciation Event hosted by Wayne Main Street. The event was held at Helium Studio days before their grand opening to serve as a preview party and special treat for all who have worked so hard to revitalize Wayne this past year. The event was catered by a locally owned home-based business, Victoria's Tea Salon.

This past year, Wayne Main Street volunteers logged 2,715 hours of blood, sweat, and tears to make this city vibrant again, which is valued at over \$56,000.

Those efforts included the Design Committee creating the facade grant incentive program and six businesses receiving complimentary design services provided through Michigan Main Street. Other projects included relationship building with downtown business owners by hosting several free workshops, special events including Small Business Saturday, and the brand new Shopping & Dining Guide.

For this first volunteer recognition program, Main Street decided to honor not one volunteer of the year but two - Carolyn Marnon and Cynthia McClure.

"These are two individuals who have gone above and beyond. They work but also found time to do lots of volunteering," Wayne Main Street Board President, Cynthia Schofield said.

Design Committee chairperson,



Volunteers of the year Carolyn Marnon and Cynthia McClure.

Marnon was described as a driving force in the holiday window display contest and attended the National Main Street conference in Detroit last year.

Having attended multiple training sessions in other communities and a member of the Wayne Main Street Board of Directors, McClure took on the project of placing benches along Michigan Avenue, which was the number one item on the community's wish list.

Along with certificates of appreciation presented by Barbara Morocco signed by State Representative Robert Kosowski and Governor Rick Snyder, Marnon and McClure received gift certificates donated by Phoenix State Wayne Theater, Wayne Bowl, and other local businesses.



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 Tom Lynch

Resident competes at Jet Ski World Championship

By Dave Merchant

Some people like auto racing, some like racing four wheelers but for Wayne resident Larry Letke, Jr. there is nothing like taking to the water and racing jet skis.

He recently had the good fortune of racing his jet ski at the Jet Ski World Championship at Lake Havasu City in Arizona. He raced in three classes for his first year. In the Amateur 1,000 Super Stock he took seventh place. In the Pro-Am 1,000 he also took second and in the 800 limited he finished in 11th.

At the competition in Arizona there were racers from all over the world. He said he saw people from Thailand, Kuwait and even Saudi Arabia.

He bought his jet ski in 2011 for \$2,300 from a guy in Missouri and it took him two years to modify it to his liking. He is normally racing on Saturday and Sunday in the Can-Am Water Cross Tour which goes to such cities as Belle River, Caseville, Walled



Larry Letke, Jr.

Lake and other cities in both the United States and Canada.

"It is not too time consuming," he said. "I owe a lot to Amy Green who is a former World Champion in this sport and race promoter for the Ca-



Larry Letke, Jr. (713) racing in the IJSBA World Finals. Photo by Beth Hulett

Am Tour. She was one of the people who suggested I go to the National Race this year. She knows everyone in the sport."

In 2013 when Letke, Jr. decided to take racing very serious, he finished third in the Can-Am tour and a year later he was second and this past year he and his team took first place. His father Larry Letke, Sr. is also on his pit crew and attends all of his races in the water.

When he first started riding it was back in 1999 and all it was, was driving around the lake with his friends alongside him and that was not very exciting for him. His aunt who lives in Hillsdale suggested he should come watch the jet ski races. Once he did, that was all she wrote, he started racing sold his first jet ski and began his love of racing.

This past year someone attempted to steal his jet ski out of his

driveway by towing it away. He saw them doing it and chased them down the road. Eventually the thieves got out and unhooked his hauler and he got it back.


"The joke was this year after getting it back I drove faster," he said. "That is what the announcer said when he was presented with the first-place trophy this past season."

Currently Letke, Jr. works as the manager at Taormina's in Westland but you can bet on the weekend he will be racing his jet ski somewhere.

"Come out to a race and watch," he said. "Nine out of ten will be hooked on that."

Sponsors for his racing include Riva Racing, AMS Oil, ODI Grips, Go-Pro, Spy Optics, Ryno Power and Shorai Lithium Batteries.

He is a 1996 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School. His mother is Marge and his older sister is Tina.



Brunch with Santa

Saturday, December 12th
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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Changing the world by empowering kindness

By Carolyn Marnon

"You can't let bad things that happen to you define you. You have the power to change how you look at things and can make a positive difference for others," declares Emma Socia, the 11-year old CEO of Empower Kindness. Empower is Emma's nickname. She's had it since the first grade when she and her best friend were trying to come up with names for each other. Emma even jokes that she and her friend, Zoe, are going to open a law firm one day and call it E-Z Law. There is joy that radiates from this young girl as she explains how Empower Kindness came about.

Last April, Emma was riding the school bus home when a boy poured a homemade concoction made with vinegar, mustard, ketchup and what may have been bleach, over her head as he was leaving the bus. The result temporarily blinded her. Even though this boy had called her names before, and now he had assaulted her, she still chose to use the incident to spread a message of kindness. Thus, Empower Kindness was born.

In August, Emma was recognized at a Wayne City Council meeting for her efforts to stop bullying and promote kindness. One of the ways Emma tries to promote kindness is through the sale of blue/red rubber bracelets that state "Empower Kindness." She sells the bracelets on her website, www.EmpowerKindness.com, for \$4. However, if you go to Wayne City Hall or meet with Emma in person, the bracelets are only \$2. The funds she has raised have gone toward t-shirts that spread the "stop



Keith and Teri Socia with their daughter Emma are presented with a certificate from Mayor James Hawley for her anti-bullying efforts at a City Council meeting earlier this year.

bullying" message.

Emma is in 6th grade at John Marshall Upper Elementary. She has just finished a busy season of cheering with the Westland Comets. She has high school kids who are mentoring her on her journey to spread kindness. In July, they held a rally at John Marshall that attracted 250 kids. Emma was able to hand out 250 of her bracelets that day as a labor of love. Xavier Edwards, Kimari Johnson and Andre Brown, John Glenn students who had formed their own anti-bullying foundation, were speakers at the rally.

Emma's efforts to promote kind-

ness and end bullying have also included doing a t-shirt giveaway at Westland Mall. She asked young people and teenagers whether they had been bullied and what should someone do if they are bullied and videotaped it for her Facebook page. She has received a \$500 donation from the Westland Police Department to help her in her efforts.

Empower Kindness is collecting scarves to hand out to homeless people. If you would like to donate, you can send scarves to Emma at P.O. Box 851397, Westland, MI 48185.

Emma sells t-shirts on her website for \$15-\$20. With the proceeds,

Emma plans to buy toys for kids in Detroit. The Children's Center in Detroit has a Holiday Shop where a parent in need can go to pick out a toy for their child. Emma wants to donate to the shop.

Emma would like to see more programs in school about anti-bullying and would like to hold a rally at the schools. However, she and her mother, Teri Socia, have discovered that there are many rules in the school district about assemblies and programs. Kids Empowered, a program out of Birmingham, MI that teaches kids to be empowered and to not be victims, is one of the programs Teri and Emma would like to bring to the Wayne Westland School District in the future.

Emma says the good that has come out of an unfortunate experience is the creation of Empower Kindness, getting the word out about anti-bullying, creating more awareness about bullying, and also encouraging others to "pay it forward" with kindness.

At the end of the day, Emma just wants to help other people. She encourages random acts of kindness. "If you're kind, you may be able to stop the bullying," says Emma's mother. With the overwhelming community support Emma has received, Emma will continue to spread the word against bullying and about being kind. She doesn't focus on one subject-anti-bullying or kindness. She believes they are intertwined.

She's passionate for what she does and has so much support. There's no doubt Emma will reach her goal of being a lawyer one day, and a compassionate one at that.

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NEWS BRIEFS

HoliDay Camp

Want to get the kids out of your hair for a few days? Do you work full-time and need a place for the kids to go during winter break? Swimming, basketball, arts and crafts, games and other activities will be available to those who sign up for HoliDay Camp to be held at HYPE December 21-23 and December 28-30 from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The camp is available to those ages 5-13. Costs for HYPE members are \$30 per day or \$80 for a week. For non-mem-

bers, the costs are \$40 per day or \$100 for a week. Before and after care will be available for an additional price.

Trip to casino

Join the Wayne Rotary for a Fundraiser trip to FireKeepers Casino on Saturday, January 9th, at 2 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$35 and you get \$20 in slot play and \$5.00 for food. Please reserve your spot by December 23, 2015. Please contact Trish Hampton 734- 890-6934.

Human Trafficking Awareness Event

Michigan is the 2nd highest state with human trafficking after Nevada, a surprising statistic. You can learn more at the Human Trafficking Awareness Event on December 14, 6:30 p.m., at Westland City Hall.

Volunteers Needed

WANTED: Volunteers to assist at the Wayne Historical Museum! Do you enjoy history and antiques? We

are looking for volunteers to help with various jobs at our museum. Greeters, tour guides, display assistants and promotions are some of the areas that help is needed. Training will be provided. You may choose the days and number of hours that you would like to be involved. It's a great opportunity to learn more about our community, meet new people and provide a service to our city. Stop by the museum on Thursday or Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. and pick up a volunteer application or call the museum for more information at 734-722-0113.

Great deals at West Town

West Town Market, 4098 Howe Rd, has been open for over 25 years and carries a line of holiday gift liquor boxes and holiday gift accessories. They will beat or match any advertised beer, liquor or tobacco prices that other big chain stores sell to keep business here in Wayne. If you need holiday "cheer" for a party, this is a place you can stop to get it. See their ad in this paper.

Regional Transit Authority seeking help


The Regional Transit Authority is tasked with developing the plan for mass transit along several major roads, Michigan Avenue being one of them. They are planning a system along Michigan Avenue between Detroit and Ann Arbor. This means it will come right through Wayne. Do you want to take an active role in advocating for the RTA in Wayne? Do you have insight from the community you would like to bring to the RTA? If the answer is yes, you might like to join the Citizens Advisory Committee. Members will be asked to advise on transit-related issues and advocate on behalf of the RTA. The group will be critical so that the voices of the community are heard. As a member, you will be asked to participate in a monthly meeting and are expected to have five hours additionally of advocacy or community education. This means that you are talking to your neighbors, co-workers, and organizations you are involved in to help spread the word and get their feedback.

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Helium Studio

Façade renderings complete

The Wayne Main Street Program has recently received design services for proposed façade improvements for three buildings in downtown Wayne. Two of the buildings, located at 35122 and 35118 W. Michigan Avenue, are home to Greater Dreams Church and are viewed as key buildings in Wayne's efforts towards revitalizing the downtown. The other building, located at 3127 S. Wayne Road is home to the recently opened artist market, Helium Studio, where some of the elements of the design have already been implemented.

The State Historic Preservation Office's Design Specialist, Debra Ball Johnson, AIA, created renderings for façade improvements after meeting with the property owners to discuss ways to address the needs of their business while considering the historic character of the buildings. "The intent of the proposed design is to outline a long-term 'vision' for the building that will return the façade of the building back to its original appearance, improve the visibility and appearance of the business, and retain and enhance Wayne's identity as a historic community," states John-

son.

The Wayne Main Street Program received the design services from the Michigan Main Street Center, in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) as part of Wayne's participation in the Michigan Main Street program. The design services are provided at no-cost to the property owner and are just one of the benefits communities receive by being part of the Selected Level of the Michigan Main Street program.

Wayne Main Street Director, Lindsey Wooten, stated the following: "We are extremely thrilled with the services that Greater Dreams Church and Helium Studio have received. We are equally excited to work with the property owners to implement the suggested improvements and will encourage them to apply for our Façade Grant Incentive program to assist with project expenses." For more information about the design services and the Wayne Main Street Program, please visit www.downtownwayne.org.



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SATURDAYS
 9:00 p.m. - 10:20 p.m.
WAYNE WESTLAND RESIDENTS
\$6 Kids* \$7 Adult*
\$3 Skate Rental
*\$500 more for non-residents

FRIDAY NIGHTS
GlowSkate
 7:00 - 9:20 p.m.
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SUNDAYS

DROP-IN HOCKEY
 10:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.
\$15 per person

mike modano
 ice arena
 734.729.4560

Sticks and PUCKS
(Helmets required)
 11:30 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.
\$7 Kids \$10 Adult
DATES NOT AVAILABLE
 Nov. 14, 2015, Nov. 26, 2015,
 Dec. 24-25, 2015, Jan. 1, 2016,
 Jan. 9, 2016, Jan. 16-17




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Students got to choose two books to put in their new book bags.

Books for Benefits

Hoover Elementary School students were thrilled to welcome visitors from Books for Benefits. BFB is a student-led organization through University of Michigan. In its first year, their goal is to promote literacy to at-risk students.

Their mission is books, bags and bookmarks. After the group read a poem to the students and acted out a skit to Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat, they let students pick out two books. They also gave each student

a bag, bookmark, pad of paper and an eraser.

In addition to distributing book bundles, BFB also sets up literacy events and participated in reading and tutoring in the Metro Detroit area. They also work with pen-pals, book clubs and book drives.

Hoover Elementary School was the groups first Literacy Day.

For more information on Books for Benefits, please email nk-jawad@umich.edu.



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Houses in Wayne

The first home built in our community was a log house built by George M. Johnson in 1824 and was used as his home as well as a tavern which could house and feed voyagers traveling the old Sauk Trail or Chicago Road (Michigan Avenue) from Detroit westward toward Chicago. From that simple log cabin, a village grew over the years into the City of Wayne and became home to you and me. Over the years the style and architecture of our houses has changed remarkably.

Today, as you travel throughout our community shopping, running errands, visiting friends, attending church, enjoying our library and recreation center or any number of other ventures our daily lives require, you might be struck by the variety of neighborhoods and houses that fill our six square mile city. From east to west and north to south you will find many different styles of homes filling many different neighborhoods. If you could go back in time prior to the early 1960's and visit our downtown area you would be amazed at the number of beautiful large old homes which were built in the late 1800's and lined the streets of early Wayne. Otis Warner, a well known carpenter in our village was responsible for building many of the buildings and houses in early Wayne. The Moore family owned a large home in downtown Wayne which in later years became Carpenter Hospital where many Wayneites were born or received health care. The George H. Stellwagen house was located on Monroe Street facing the Village Park. This huge home had a large porch with balcony over it and a third floor which held a ballroom. Another house in town was actually three buildings that were combined to form a large home complete with picket fence. The owner eventually had a local builder duplicate the house exactly as it was on property west of town. Unfortunately, most of these beautiful houses were lost to urban renewal in the 1960's. There are still a number of one and two story frame homes in our older neighborhoods which were built well over a hundred years ago. You can observe these on streets north and south of the railroad tracks and

Memory Lane

Darlene Hawley



along Wayne Road toward Van Born as well as in the neighborhoods east and west of Wayne Rd.

Many of our large subdivisions were built in the early 1940's when there was a shortage of houses as people came to the Detroit area to work in the war plants and later as soldiers returned home from the war. The subdivisions built between Fourth Street and Howe Road and Forest and Van Born were one of these subdivisions on the south side of the city. I grew up there where many families with young children lived providing me and my siblings with many playmates. We all enjoyed the parks built for us and situated around the neighborhoods. Another similar subdivision was built to the east between Venoy and Merriman south of the railroad tracks. Later, in the 1950's, a large subdivision called Thinbark was built north west of downtown Wayne, east of Newburgh and on the south side of Glenwood. Most of the homes in these various subdivisions were frame or brick bungalows and all had about the same floor plans.

An older neighborhood in Wayne is located on the tree streets Chestnut, Elm and Ash) and is located north of the river between Clark Street and Fourth Street. Here are custom built homes built primarily in the early to mid 1900s. They are a variety of architectural styles and sizes in this area. The eastern section is called the Langworthy Subdivision after the Langworthy family who had a farm on this property long ago. Some of the homes in this area are called "kit" homes or "mail order" homes. In the early 1900's a number of companies such as Sears and Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Aladdin, Van Tine, and Lewis offered catalogues of homes which could be ordered and shipped in upwards of 30,000 pieces to your local train station. It came with a 75 page instruc-



The Stellwagen house was located on Monroe Street and faced the Village Park. The third floor housed a ballroom.

tion book which gave step by step directions on construction and a promise that "a man of average ability" could put the house together and have it ready for occupancy in 90 days. It was like a giant puzzle where each piece was stamped with the company name and a number that identified where that piece belonged in the house. These homes were sold and built all over our country. Between 1908 and 1940, Sears alone sold 70,000 of these homes across the nation. There are a number of these homes in Wayne. Several books have been written on how to find and identify these unique houses.

Another neighborhood of houses of a variety of styles and sizes is located south of the river, west of Eliz-

abeth and north of Michigan Avenue. It is a lovely neighborhood of tree lined streets and unique homes. Besides all of the many styles of houses in the neighborhoods of our community, many families live in condominiums and apartments as well. There is something for everyone in Wayne. As Christmas approaches, it is a good opportunity to travel throughout the neighborhoods of our city and observe how many homeowners decorate their homes in the spirit of the holidays showing off their lovely houses. Take a ride through our six square miles and enjoy the view this holiday season. (Some information for this article taken from "The City of Wayne" by Valerie Latzman and "Michigan's US-12 Heritage Trail" by Saborio and Kosky.)



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Great activities always happening in Wayne

Mat Mulholland gave a wonderful talk at our Library last month. It was packed with memories, pictures and articles of the store---Mulholland Dry Goods---that his family founded in Wayne. It was a loving look back at not only the store, but also Wayne in its heyday. Started by Mat's grandfather, Mulholland's was where you shopped for a special baby gift or a gift for a shower. They also outfitted the Girl and Boy Scouts.

Mat is the youngest of the 10 Mulholland children and his talk was filled with heartwarming memories.

On December 9th, The Historical Society will present "Potato Chip Manufacturing in South East Michigan." The talk will be at the Wayne Public Library starting at 6:30 p.m. in the large meeting room.

Did you know that Wayne once manufactured potato chips? The

Footprints of Wayne

Dee Ryan



Gates family (remember Gates furniture?) owned a beer store at 3113 Wayne Rd, between Ash and Elm St. In the front part of the store they sold beer, but in the back of the store they made potato chips and sold them by the bag. "Wild Bill" was just a teenager then, but still remembers his great job---helping with the manufacture of those potato chips. YUM!

Hooray! The Historical Museum is all decorated for Christmas! The Garden Club, as it does every year, made it look so festive with wreaths, red bows and a huge Christmas tree, decorated with an array of antique

ornaments.

After the decorating we adjourned to the Congregational Church Parlor for a very special luncheon. Betty Dryer was awarded a lifetime membership in the Garden Club---and after being a member for 65 years she certainly deserves the honor.

Mrs. Dryer looked lovely in a black suit adorned with swatches of lavender around the edge of the jacket.

She spoke lovingly of her late husband, Dr. Dryer, and his devotion and work at Annapolis Hospital. She was part of the hospital's Women's Auxiliary.

Pastor Chris Richards also came by to congratulate Mrs. Dryer.

The Church's yearly two day lunch and dinners event was really a community effort. Entitled "Christmas Bells are Ringing" The

Methodist Church took over the roasting of the 20 some turkeys, while our Boy Scouts collected canned goods. The Ladies of the Church not only did the additional cooking, but along with the Men's Club, did the serving.

It's always a gala affair---not only for the good food, but also the fun of seeing old and new friends.

All the funds from the "Christmas Bells are Ringing" will be spent for food baskets, which will be given to needy families.

If you didn't get a chance to shop after your meal, it's my understanding that extra shopping time will be available after the Sunday Church Service. Many beautiful gift items are for sale, for babies, grandparents and everyone in between.

I hope to see you all right here next year. Until then---"God Bless Us Everyone."

*Wishing you and your family
a Merry Christmas!*



*John, Natalie
& Shelby Rhaesa*

**THE WAYNE
Dispatch**



New mayor sworn in

Susan M. Rowe was sworn in by the Honorable Laura R. Mack as the first woman mayor of Wayne. After being sworn in, Susan had her husband come to the front of the room. "For the past three times I've been elected here in the city as council, he's always sworn me in, and I had told Laura that if I'm ever elected mayor, I'd like a woman to swear me in," said Susan. Photo by Natalie Rhaesa



Betty Dryer is awarded a Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. State Life Membership at the Wayne Garden Club's November meeting by Co-Presidents Tina Butler and Lois VanStipdonk.

Dryer receives lifetime Garden Club member

By Carolyn Marnon

As a faithful member of the Wayne Garden Club for 65 years, Wayne resident Betty Dryer was presented with a Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. State Life Membership at the Wayne Garden Club's November meeting. "I am just so thrilled," said Betty. Betty plans to frame and hang her certificate beside her Mayflower Society certificate. Her family traces their ancestry back to the Mayflower and even further to the tribes of the bible.

At the meeting, current club members shared stories of how Betty welcomed them to the garden club and held showers in her own home for the ladies as they celebrated babies and weddings. Betty joked that when she was born, she had a great great grandmother, two great grandmothers and two grandmothers still alive, that they all consumed bacon, cream and lard and they all lived to be 100. Betty is 98.

Betty has served as a Club President in the past. She has chaired the local flower shows that the club once did. She also chaired the Flowering Crab Tree Sale; the club sold crab apple trees to residents for \$2. Betty prefers to work behind the scenes and once tirelessly made holiday wreaths for the Greens Market the garden club held every couple of years. She has worked with a youth garden group, helped with the garden at Hope Nursing Home, and

helped with the Rose Garden at Goudy Park. When the club met in private homes many years ago, Betty also made numerous table setting designs.

Betty's husband was a doctor. While working in his office and raising three children, volunteering was an important part of Betty's life. Besides being involved with the Wayne Garden Club, she also served with the People's Community Hospital (Annapolis) Women's Auxiliary and as a board member for the Girl Scouts. She had also been active on several committees at First Congregational Church of Wayne.

Betty's favorite memories of the garden club are when they did the community flower shows and the people she has met. The biggest change she has seen with the garden club is that the meetings used to take place in member's homes, tables would be decorated and flowers arranged. Now the garden club holds most of its meetings at the Wayne Public Library. "I learned so much through the garden club," Betty stated.

The Wayne Garden Club began in 1916 and will be celebrating its 100th anniversary next year. Betty became a member of the garden club when it still had charter members Elizabeth Frank and Mary Stellwagen as members. After 65 years in the garden club, Betty says it is her favorite club.

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Police community meeting

By Carolyn Marnon

The most recent Police Community Meeting was held Thursday, December 3, at the Wayne Police Department. The Police Department has recently been doing interviews to hire two more officers. As of January 1, Lt. Buffa will be retiring from the department. They are also in the process of hiring a Public Service Aid.

New police radios are being purchased. The first 5 (out of 8) radios have been received. These radios have belt clips and are lighter than the current radios. Officers will have to hand these radios off to each other at shift change since they only have 8 of the new ones, but the police department has a supply of charged batteries that will be distributed at the hand-off. Chief Al Maciag hopes that all the radios will be ready for use before Christmas.

Attendees were given a tour of the Gun Range at the department. It is 25 yards long and within the building. Besides the state requirements, the Wayne Police Department does

additional training at the gun range.

Chief Maciag and Sgt. Spunar encourage all residents to use the Wayne Police Online Reporting system that can be found through the city's website, if possible. This helps keep an officer on patrol rather than doing paperwork. All reports are reviewed and acted on, as necessary.

Calls for service during the month of November:

32 traffic crashes, 7 residential burglaries, 7 other burglaries, 19 larceny crimes, 2 motor vehicle thefts, 2 robberies, 12 damage to property, 1 arson and 36 assaults.

A recent trend found in Wayne involves phone calls about IRS taxes. When a citizen receives a call, the Wayne Police Department number shows up on the caller ID. The caller says they are from the police department and if you don't pay your taxes due right now, they will come over and arrest you. The caller IS NOT from the police department. The caller is hoping you will give them your credit card number or bank account information. "We do not call



Sgt. Spunar encourages all residents to use the Wayne Police Online Reporting system that can be found through the city's website, if possible.

and collect money for the IRS," said Sgt. Spunar. Never give out your credit card or bank account information over the phone.

With the holidays, please be aware of the increased risk for package theft. It is said that some criminals are following UPS and FedEx trucks delivering packages. When the coast is clear, the criminals will swipe the package and be on their way. If you have an incident, let the police know. They cannot act on what they do not know about.

If a snow emergency is declared, there is no parking on city streets. You will get a ticket. However, the police department allows you time (four hours) to move the vehicle. If you don't move it, it will then be towed.

Vehicles are needed off the streets so the snow plows can come through and more easily do their job.

The next Police Community Meeting will be held Thursday, January 28, at 7 p.m., at the Wayne Police Department on Michigan Ave.



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