



## Letter to the Board

Michael Havens

Superintendent of Schools

Phone: 315-524-1001

Fax: 315-524-1049

February 27, 2009

### Board Letter

- Hackett Update:** Mr. Atseff has been assisting me with the Hackett investigation. So far we have interviewed Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Crable, Mrs. Wigent, and Mr. & Mrs. Hackett. The meeting with the Hackett's occurred Wednesday night. I thought it went fairly well. We have at least four more interviews to complete plus some follow-up interviews with some others. I expect to complete my investigation and findings next week. We should expect a 6:00 executive session on March 12 so I can report my findings.
- Predicted Tax Rates for Next year:** As Wayne Finger Lakes districts continue to finalize budgets, we have been able to garner a sense for what will happen to tax rates next year. At this time, it appears that rates will increase from 0% to 2.9%. A number of districts are shooting for the 0% (including Wayne).
- Project Update:** Yesterday I signed our application for NYSERDA funding for the windmill study. The Grant was written by our consultant, Sustainable Energy Development (SED). We talked to Carl Thurneau of the State Education Department about our OP Project. You may recall that we are asking for additional funding for the project. Carl apologized for not getting back to us (as he apologized last month). He said he had forgotten about it. We will contact him again next week.
- State Stimulus Package:** Albany is getting 3 billion dollars in the State Stabilization Fund. We have been informed that we will get the funds "*as soon as possible*" and "*pretty soon after Albany receives it.*" We weren't able to receive better definitions for what that means. There are two types of money coming to us. One is Title, and one is IDEA. The federal government is simply increasing our allocation and should come first. The second set of funding will be applied for by Albany. The intent of the money is to reduce the state cuts. It is expected that districts will receive 1.25 billion each year for two years. Districts should not count on the money for a third year (2011-2012). There are some strings attached to the state's funding. They include:
  - The state must maintain effort and not cut funds further;
  - There must be a better distribution of highly qualified teachers throughout the state;
  - There must be improvement of data collection on student achievement;
  - The state must improve standards and student achievement;
  - There must be additional support for low performing schools.

We have not included any of this funding in our budget at this time, however, we also have not expensed the proposed preschool expenses.

5. **Summer School Meeting:** On Thursday afternoon I met with the consortium districts regarding summer school options for our students. We will be offering summer school again this year. We are running our middle school program through BOCES to generate additional aid.
6. **Constellation Meeting:** On Wednesday, I met with Ed Stoltz of Constellation. There is a continuing dispute with the town and constellation over the Ginna assessment. A new firing range and offices have been added. Our meeting and the subsequent meeting were very productive. I am encouraged that we may be able to resolve the differences in a mutually agreeable manner.
7. **Walworth Library:** I have been notified (informally) by Ontario Town librarian, Sandra Hylen, that she has been informed that the Walworth Library Board has decided to go forward with their request for a \$5,000 increase to the tax levy on the school budget for the Walworth Town Library. This poses a new set of circumstances regarding the ballot wording, and the presentation of the budget. I will be providing more information once I receive confirmation on this.
8. **Student Stabbing:** As many of you may have seen on the news already, students from our district were involved in a stabbing at Galvin's Mobile Home Park on Hennessey Road Wednesday evening. The student we understand, is doing ok, and his injuries are not life threatening. Of course, this is a serious and disturbing event. The student who was stabbed is currently in 9<sup>th</sup> grade (age 16) and was charged by officers. Two students were arrested for the assault and are in grades 12 and 10, and a fourth student, also in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, was arrested for giving a false statement.
9. **Assemblyman Oaks Visit:** You all probably received letters inviting you to attend a community meeting on March 5 here at our conference room. If not, I am attaching it just to be sure. Our site will be hosting boards from Wayne and Gananda Central as well as the Towns of Ontario and Walworth. Since the topic is the State budget, I think it would be worth our while to attend. Please let me know if you have any questions.
10. **Donkey Basketball:** The Annual Donkey Basketball Game will be held this Saturday evening at the high school. The Senior class rides against each other (FE alum vs. OE alum). Come out and watch the fun.
11. **Winter Athletics Update:** I am attaching an overview of the winter athletic season.
12. **Hess Station Robbery:** Early Friday morning (4:00 a.m.) the Hess Station in Ontario, at the corner of Rt. 104 and Slocum Rd, was robbed at gun point. The attendant was tied up and put in the cooler/back room. Mr. Atseff, Trooper Chapman, Mr. Miller and I met Friday morning to discuss any precautionary actions we felt were necessary. Based on the information, we felt comfortable that there was no reason to react. However, this proves again how having a SRO on site allowed our district to have early, first hand information available to us. He is an invaluable resource to our district.
13. **Upcoming Events:**
  - 2/28 – Donkey Basketball Game @ HS Gym – 7:00 p.m.
  - 3/3-5 – NYS Grades 3-5 Math Exams
  - 3/3, 4 & 5 – MS Commended Breakfasts @ MS Cafeteria – 7:00 a.m.
  - 3/5 – Ontario Primary Open House – 6:30 p.m.
  - 3/6 – Staff Training Day – Schools Closed for Students
  - 3/8 – Daylight Savings Time – turn clocks ahead one hour
  - 3/9 – HS Parent Group Meeting – HS Faculty Room – 7:00 p.m.
  - 3/10 – TCA Friends of Music Meeting – MS Conference Room – 6:30 p.m.
  - 3/10 & 12 – Driver Improvement Class – HS Room 13D – 6:00 p.m.
  - 3/10 – OP/OE PTA Meeting @ OE Cafeteria – 3:45 p.m.

3/10 & 11 – NYS Grades 6-6 Math Exams

3/11 – HS Musical “Thoroughly Modern Milly” Senior Citizens Matinee & Dinner – 4:00 p.m.

3/12 – MS Foreign Language Dessert Night @ MS Cafeteria – 7:00 p.m.

3/12 – Board of Education meeting @ DO – 6:00 p.m.

3/13 – HS Musical “Thoroughly Modern Milly” @ PAC – 7:00 p.m.

3/14 – HS Musical “Thoroughly Modern Milly” @ PAC – 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

**14. Attachments:**

- a) Assemblyman Oaks Letter
- b) Winter Sports Update
- c) Ontario Town Board Meeting Minutes
- d) Walworth Town Board Meeting Minutes
- e) February HS Newsletter
- f) Wayne’s World



ROBERT OAKS  
Assemblyman 128<sup>TH</sup> District  
Cayuga, Oswego, and Wayne Counties

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER

COMMITTEES  
Aging  
Ethics and Guidance  
Housing  
Insurance  
Rules

February 21, 2009

Michael Havens, Superintendent  
Wayne Central School District  
6200 Ontario Center Rd.  
Ontario Center, NY 14520

Dear Superintendent Havens,

I am writing to personally invite you to my upcoming Community Meeting that I will be holding at the Wayne High School (District Office Conference Room) on March 5th at 7:30pm.

I welcome your attendance and participation. It is important to me to have your input on the issues that affect the Wayne Central School District.

The main topic of discussion will focus on the proposed 2009-2010 New York State Budget. The meeting will provide the opportunity to hear directly from constituents about their concerns as we move to address our state's crisis.

I would greatly appreciate your suggestions on any other topics that are currently priorities in your community. My e-mail address is [oaksr@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:oaksr@assembly.state.ny.us) and my district office phone number is (315) 946-5166. I look forward to seeing you at my Community Meeting if your schedule permits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RCO', written over a blue circular stamp.

**ROBERT C. OAKS**  
Member of Assembly

RCO:mlb



## Winter Sports Update 2/26/09

### Wrestling

Team - finished 16-2, 2<sup>nd</sup> in league and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Sectional V Class A Championship

Four Section V Class A Individual Champions: Al Dierna - 96 lbs, Bobby Dierna - 112 lbs, Vinny DiGravio - 130 lbs (Also Section V Class A Most Outstanding Wrestler Award ),Chris Marvin - 160 lbs

Nine wrestlers advanced to the Super Sectional State Qualifier T<sup>h</sup>ment: Al Dierna – 96 lbs, Cody Herman – 103, Bobby Dierna – 112, Frank Affronti – 119, Tory Cain – 125, Vinny DiGravio – 130, Chris Marvin – 160, Nick DiGravio – 171, Devrin Bradford – 285

Al Dierna, Bobby Dierna, and Vinny DiGravio were champions at the Super Sectional State Qualifiers. Chris Marvin was awarded a “Wild- Card” bid for the NYS State Championship. Al, Bobby, Vinny and Chris will compete in the State Championship on Friday and Saturday in Albany at the Times Union Arena. The wrestling team fundraised and donated \$350.00 to Pines of Peace.

### Girls Basketball

The team won the 2008 Pal-Mac Tip-Off Tournament. They finished the regular season 10-10. The Lady Eagles won their 1st round sectional game over Marshall advanced into the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of sectional play for the first time in 15 years. The team raised over \$2,600 for Coaches vs Cancer.

### Boys Basketball

The team won the 2008 Wayne Eagle Tip-Off Tournament. They finished the regular season 10-10 and will play against Pittsford-Sutherland on Friday night in the Section V Class A1.

### Indoor Track

Boys finished 11<sup>th</sup> in Class B.

Girls finished 5<sup>th</sup> in Class B

The following competed in the State Qualifiers at RIT.

Liz Larson – 1000 meter run, Girls 4x800 meter relay

Kelly Jones – high jump

Jesse Mintz – 1600 meter run

Tyler Ventrillo – high jump

### Bowling

Girls finished 5<sup>th</sup> in Section V Class B Championship.

Boys finished 6<sup>th</sup> in Section V Class B Championship.

### Cheerleading

The team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the FLHSAA League Championship and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Section V Class A Championship this past Sunday.

### **Alpine Skiing**

The boys team finished 12th out of 31 teams in section V for the season. Competing in Sectionals was Peter Thayer, Jonnie Orchard, Dan Aubertine, Mike Sullivan, and Joe Siracuse.

Our girls team finished 6th out of 29 teams in section V for the season. We finished behind state champ HFL, Pitt Mendon, Pitt Sutherland, Mercy, and Naples. All five of our girls achieved personal best times and the team finish was the best we have done in six years. The Girls sectional team was made up of Hannah Wyland, Becky Hess, Liz Newman, Alex McBride, and Emily Schnepf.

### **WINTER SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS**

THE FOLLOWING TEAMS EARNED THE RECOGNITION AS WAYNE CENTRAL SCHOLAR ATHLETE TEAMS BY HAVING AN OVERALL CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 90.0 OR HIGHER FOR THE DURATION OF THEIR SEASON.

Boys Basketball

Girls Basketball

Wrestling

Girls Alpine Skiing

Boys Alpine Skiing

Boys Indoor Track

Cheerleading

**WALWORTH TOWN BOARD – REGULAR MEETING  
5 FEBRUARY 2009**

Presiding Supervisor Plant called the regularly scheduled Town Board meeting, held at the Walworth Town Hall, 3600 Lorraine Drive, to order at 7:30 PM.

Present:	Thomas Yale	Councilman
	Patricia Marini	Councilwoman
	Suzi Hawkins-Mance	Councilwoman
	Susie Jacobs	Town Clerk
	Denise Munson	Attorney for the Town
	Mike Frederes	Highway Superintendent
	Robert Burns	Sewer Superintendent
	Jacqueline Van Lare	Recreation Director

Absent: Frank Maciuska Councilman

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

A resident from Church Street offered her comments about snowmobiles riding on the sidewalks. The resident stated that she tried to keep her sidewalks clean, then snowmobiles come up on the sidewalks and make a mess, then they have to be cleaned again; and keeping them clean is very hard. She asked if there was something the Town could do, because she couldn't go chasing them down at her age. She went on to say that she did not recall this being such a problem last year, but then we did not have so much snow. She was hopeful that the Town Board could resolve this problem.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini and unanimously carried.

Time: 7:33 PM.

**RECONVENE:**

Supervisor Plant reconvened the regularly scheduled Town Board meeting.

Time: 8:57 PM.

**MINUTES:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance to approve the Minutes of January 8, 2009, Organizational Meeting, as presented.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance to approve the Minutes of January 15, 2009, meeting as presented.

Seconded by Councilman Yale.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk, read the following two (2) items:

1.)“Dear Mr. Robert Plant:

We are Western Wayne Brownie Troop #978 and members of the Walworth community. Our troop consists of twelve girls in the third grade at Freewill Elementary School. As part of our journey in learning leadership essentials, we were asked to choose an issue in our community that concerns us. After much discussion, we decided that our community is in need of more sidewalks. We brainstormed the benefits of adding sidewalks to more streets in our neighborhoods.

We believe that sidewalks would be a valuable addition to our community because they would help people stay healthy by giving everyone a place to walk, jog or ride bikes safely. Unless we live within the Village of Walworth, the only place we have to enjoy these types of activities is on the side of the road, which can be very dangerous as many of our streets have higher speed limits. There are no parks with sidewalks, jogging or hiking trails, or smooth surfaces to ride our bikes. Sidewalks would also keep us safe from injury due to rocks or pot holes on the side of the road, as well as keeping children off the street on Halloween.

Adding sidewalks in Walworth would bring the people of our community together and allow everyone a healthy and safe way to get out and exercise. Thank you for your time and consideration of this issue. We look forward to your response.

Respectfully,  
Brownie Troop #978”

Kimberley Martin, Leader  
Alicia Reuter, Co-Leader  
Victoria Ingalls, Co-Leader  
Emily Bargy  
Brianna Gerhardt  
Brenna Martin  
Meghan Roberts  
Amber Taylor

Melisa Dysart  
Meghan Martin  
Alesha Griffio  
Angie Shanders  
Hailey Enright  
Miranda Ingalls  
Leithe Miller-Kramer

Supervisor Plant stated that he will respond and invite them to attend a Town Board meeting. Councilman Yale thought it was wonderful that they were taking to “civil awareness.”

Motion by Councilman Yale to accept and file.  
Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.  
Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

2.) Dated February 4, 2009  
“Robert Plant, Walworth Town Supervisor  
Walworth Town Board Members

This letter is being written to address a matter that has appeared in the Walworth Town Board Special Meeting minutes of December 8, 2008 and in publications of the Times of Wayne County and the Wayne County Mail regarding the termination of my employment as Deputy Town Clerk.

The minutes of December 8, 2008 has a statement from Councilman Maciuska noting that he would like a hard look at my employment application, that he thought there may be some improprieties or misstatements. He further stated that there was concern about whether my application was factual.

According to the Classified Ad I responded to for the position of Deputy Town Clerk, my application and resume submitted clearly revealed that I met, or exceeded the requirements for this position. Having been interview and hired by Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk, she was aware of my qualifications on my application/resume.

On Friday, December 5, 2008, my employment in the Town Clerk's office was terminated by Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk. On Monday, December 8, 2008, I continued my employment with the Town of Walworth as clerk in other departments.

In closing, I have been a resident of the Town of Walworth for more than 22 years and stand behind my reputation, many years of work experience and integrity which led to my employment with the Town of Walworth. I want to assure Supervisor Plant and the Walworth Town Board members that this professionalism will continue in all facets of my duties.

Sincerely,  
Linda Kleeman

Motion by Councilman Yale to accept and file.  
Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.  
Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays

Susie Jacobs indicated that that concluded the correspondence.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – ADVOCACY DAY ATTENDANCE REQUEST**

Motion by Councilman Yale authorizing Mike Frederes, Highway Superintendent, to attend Advocacy Days in Albany, New York, March 10-11, 2009, at a cost of \$73.00 shared room plus the amount of associated costs therein, monies to be expended from line A5010.41.  
Seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance.

Discussion: Councilman Yale stated that there was no way the Town could afford a cut of 31% in C.H.I.P.S. funding – that's a huge cut and he stood behind Mike Frederes, Highway Superintendent, and supported his efforts.  
Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

**SEWER – INSTALLATION OF EXCELSIOR BLOWER SYSTEMS, INC.**

Rob Burns, Sewer Superintendent, informed everyone that Excelsior Blower Systems, Inc. had installed the new blower and it was up and running. He went on to say that this was quite a different piece of equipment than was here previously, and he hoped this would take care of the problems

**RECREATION – GO OUT TO BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW COMPACT TRACTOR WITH QUICK ATTACH LOADER**

Motion by Councilwoman Marini authorizing the Parks Department to go out to bid for the purchase of (1) New Compact Tractor with Quick Attach Loader.  
Seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye

Motion carried.

**RECREATION - GINEGAW PARK PAVILION UPDATE**

Jacqueline Van Lare, Recreation Director, updated on the Ginegaw Park Pavilion construction – all four walls are up today. She also stated that reservations for the new pavilion for June, 2009, would begin on Monday, February 9.

**TOWN CLERK – DEPUTY CLERK BUDGET FUNDING PROPOSAL**

Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk, stated that the Town Board had asked her to present a proposal for Budget funding of Deputy Clerk I. She presented the following:

**Walworth Town Clerk  
Deputy Clerk Funding Proposal**

**Background:**

On December 8, 2008, the Walworth Town Board removed funding from the Town Clerk’s budget for Deputy I. The Town Clerk’s office has had a Deputy Clerk I since 1940. The second deputy was added in 1978. This has left the Clerk’s Office short of the manpower needed to meet the needs of our community.

**Survey:**

The Town Clerk has conducted a survey of like towns in Wayne County to measure staffing levels, including Town Clerk:

Ontario	Macedon	Walworth
4 Clerks	3 Clerks	2 Clerks
115 hours/week	112.4 hours/week	61.5 hours/week

As you can see, the Walworth Town Clerk’s office has almost 50% less staffing than the two like towns, Ontario and Macedon. We are short 50 hours weekly.

**Proposal:**

Add funding for full-time Deputy I position for 37.5 hours weekly, with additional funding for 4 hours per week for the Deputy II to work additional hours as required by busy periods.

The proposal included Deputy Clerk II duties and responsibilities for the Office of Town Clerk supplied by The Association of Towns of the State of New York.

Mrs. Jacobs stated that the amount of work demanded by the residents greatly exceeded the current funding for the office. She asked the Board to please respond to her proposal, and explained that she needed the funding to establish a person back in this position as soon as possible. Supervisor Plant thanked her and asked if the Board would like time to read this over.

Councilman Yale responded, “Yes, let’s talk about it at the next meeting.”  
Tabled and placed on the Agenda for February 19, 2009.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **SEWER COMMITTEE**

Councilwoman Marini reported that the Sewer Committee would be meeting next week with the Town Engineer.

### **TOWN AND PARKS MASTER PLAN COMMITTEES**

Councilwoman Marini reported that the committees would be re-established later in tonight's meeting; once that had been done they would be meeting the second Wednesday of the month.

### **HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE**

Councilwoman Marini gave a history with regard to where the Health Care Committee was right now. She said the Town began to look at Health Care in the fall of 2007. This was part of the budget process; it was also partly due to concerns by employees and the rising cost of Health Care. After some initial contact with different brokers, they discovered that in order to leave the Wayne County Health Care plan, one (1) year's notice had to be provided - that notice was sent last January. It was acted on by the County to give us permission to leave the program after the one-year time period, which expires March 31, 2009. In the summer, after a board approval authorizing us to go through Paychex for Health Care, we began meetings with them. However, since we couldn't leave the Plan until March, the numbers that they gave us weren't reflective of what we actually could offer to employees. We now have new figures for the current year, as we know the definite date that we can offer employees plans through the Town, and in the interim the County has changed their plan to offer a \$20.00 co-pay instead of the \$5.00/\$10.00 co-pay offered; which allowed employees to reduce their share of the Health Care cost and also the Town's share. Next week the Health Care Committee will be meeting with the representative from Paychex to review the plans that are available; the Committee will make a recommendation as to which plan we choose for the employees. Then presentations will be held either at the end of February or beginning of March to explain plans to employees and to get the enrollment process done with a target date of April for the beginning of the new Health Care Plan.

Councilman Yale stated that it was important for the public to understand how long this whole process took. The Board recognized a couple of years ago that a change needed to be made, but because of the way Health Care was administered and the required mandates and sign-on periods, it took almost two (2) years to change the Plan. He further stated that the process was finally coming to fruition and he thought it was wonderful for the Town.

### **TOWN COMPLEX STUDY GROUP PHASE II**

Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance reported that Proposals were received from ten (10) architectural firms. A small group got together and short-listed this down to four (4). Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance will contact Committee members to solidify a date when they could do a presentation to narrow the four (4) down to one (1) and have something to come before the Town Board. "We are making progress."

### **LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT LOSAP:**

Motion by Councilwoman Marini authorizing the Lincoln Fire Department LOSAP List as presented.

Seconded by Councilman Yale.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

### **DESIGN CRITERIA:**

Supervisor Plant inquired where did Council members stand on the Design Criteria?

Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance stated that she stood where she stood two meetings ago with the Design Criteria. Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance stated we could meet with them as long as they

were not going to charge us for it. Supervisor Plant stated that was an issue that we were dealing with right now because they did send in another bill that exceeded their contract price. Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance stated that we needed to have some discussion. Councilwoman Marini stated that they needed to make the corrections that were requested at the last meeting.

Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance stated, "from the original document we received and not re-inventing the wheel." Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance asked Supervisor Plant to make a phone call to Engineer for the Town. Supervisor Plant acknowledged that he would do so. Discussion was tabled.

**RE-ESTABLISH PARK & RECREATION MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE:**

Supervisor Plant stated that he was re-establishing the Park & Recreation Master Plan Committee with the following members:

Patti Marini, Chair	Joe Leone
Suzi Hawkin-Mance	Katrina Chellis
Jackie Van Lare	Aimee Phillips
John Baxter	Mike Dermady
Bill Boyd	Terri Silvestri
Karl Ambroz	Amy Dier

**RE-ESTABLISH TOWN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE:**

Supervisor Plant stated that he was re-establishing the Town Comprehensive Plan Committee with the following members:

Tom Yale, Chair	Norm Druschel
Deborah Amsler	Tony DiGravio
Karen Ambroz	

**ESTABLISH TOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:**

Supervisor Plant stated that he was establishing the Town Economic Development Committee with the following members:

Tom Yale, Chair	Phil Williamson
Mike Bagne	Dan Hall
Tom Keenan	Ray Welker

Councilman Yale invited public that may be interested in serving on either the Town Comprehensive Plan Committee or the Town Economic Development Committee to contact Supervisor Plant or him.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PREPAY FOR NORM DRUSCHEL TO ATTEND FLBOA CONFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP:**

Motion by Councilman Yale authorizing Norm Druschel to attend F.L.B.O.A. Annual Educational Conference to be held in Rochester, NY, on March 16-19, 2009, for an amount not to exceed 390.00, and Membership Dues for 2009 in the amount of \$55.00, both to be paid as a prepay from budgeted line A3620.41.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

**RESOLUTION 14-09 – ARTICLE 11 BRUSH, GRASS AND WEEDS:**

Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance offered the following resolution **14-09**, and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Yale to wit:



**BE IT RESOLVED** per Article 11 Brush, Grass and Weeds §128-3, regulation by Town Board: The Town Board may, by resolution, require a notice to be served upon owners ordering them to cut, trim or remove from the land owned by them brush, grass, rubbish or weeds, or to spray poisonous shrubs or weeds on such land pursuant to §64, Subdivision 5-a and §130, Subdivision 5, of Town Law.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Code Enforcement Official be authorized to serve notice, when required, on property owners in violation of Article 11 Brush, Grass and

Weeds per §128 – 3. However, prior authorization of mowing (which must be paid by the Town until collected with tax payment by the property owner or purchaser in the case of sale) by the Code Enforcement Official approval by the Town Supervisor would be required.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Resolution carried.

**HARRIS BEACH PLLC PRE-PAY AUTHORIZATION:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance authorizing prepayment of Harris Beach PLLC bill in the amount of \$6,766.97 from line item A1420.42.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Nay
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 15-09 NEW YORK STATE POLICE WALWORTH SATELLITE OFFICE AGREEMENT:**

Councilman Yale offered the following Resolution **15-09** and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance to wit:

**WHEREAS** an Agreement between The Town of Walworth and the New York State Police was signed February, 2006, terminating on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2007, and;

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Police are desirous of continuing to lease the office and garage space at the Walworth Town Hall, 3600 Lorraine Drive, and;

**WHEREAS**, for the term of five (5) years, beginning February 5, 2009, and shall terminate on February 4, 2014.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Walworth authorize the Town Supervisor enter into Agreement with the New York State Police be continued.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Council of the Town of Walworth adopts Resolution **15-09**.

Adopted this 5th day of February, 2009, at the meeting of the Town Council.

Discussion: Councilman Yale stated that it's to our advantage having the NYS Police on the Town's premises, they are excellent tenants; and the Town is only making it hard through a bureaucracy - let's make it easier.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Resolution carried.

**AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FOR QUOTES FOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT ON HVAC AND AUTHORIZATION TO SEND LEO J. ROTH CORPORATION LETTER THAT CONTRACT WILL NOT AUTOMATICALLY RENEW ( 30 DAY NOTICE):**

Motion by Councilman Yale authorizing Supervisor Plant to go out for Request for Quotes on preventative maintenance contracts on HVAC and authorize that a letter be sent to Leo J. Roth Corporation that the contract will not automatically renew.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Motion carried.

**AUTHORIZE PRE-PAYMENT OF NYSEG FOR ELECTRIC TO GINEGAW PAVILION:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance authorizing pre-payment to NYSEG for Electric Service for Ginegaw Park Pavilion, for an amount not to exceed \$7,107.81, from budgeted line HP8310.41.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 16-09 AUTHORIZE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN EASEMENT FOR NEW ELECTRIC SERVICE – GINEGAW PARK PAVILION:**

Councilman Yale offered the following Resolution **16-09** and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance to wit:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Walworth would like to Contract with NYSEG for; and

**WHEREAS**, an easement for the extension of the overhead electric line and the installation of a pad-mount transformer for the new pavilion at Ginegaw Park Pavilion; and

**WHEREAS** the Town Council of the Town of Walworth authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the easement, as indicated in the letter dated January 27, 2009, from NYSEG,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Walworth directs the Town Supervisor to sign the easement and the Town Clerk shall provide a Certified copy of the Resolution as indicated and return to NYSEG.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Council of the Town of Walworth adopts Resolution **16-09**.

Adopted this 5th day of February, 2009, at the meeting of the Town Council.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Resolution carried.

**AUTHORIZE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR TOWN AUDIT:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance authorizing to go out for the Request for Proposal for Town Audit.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Motion carried.

**AUTHORIZE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT FOR THE AGREED-UPON MATERIALS WITHIN THE BUDGET FOR GINEGAW PARK PAVILION:**

Motion by Councilman Yale authorizing the Town Supervisor to enter into agreement for the agreed-upon materials within the budget for the Ginegaw Park Pavilion. Anything that is a variance needs to come to the Board if it's more than was approved.

Seconded by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

**AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE "AIR NAILER GUNS" - GINEGAW PARK PAVILION:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance authorizing the purchase of "air nailer guns" for the building of Ginegaw Park Pavilion, not to exceed \$400.00.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Discussion: Councilman Yale recommended that someone put together a plan/list of other items that could be used by the Town in other ways. Discussion ensued.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION OLD TRUCK S-10 REPAIR OR DECLARE SURPLUS:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance to declare Chevy S10 Truck surplus and sent to Auction.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini.

Discussion: Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance inquired where was this truck going to be stored if it was leaking gas. Discussion ensued with no decision made at this time.

Roll call vote:	Councilman Maciuska	Absent
	Councilwoman Marini	Aye
	Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance	Aye
	Councilman Yale	Aye
	Supervisor Plant	Aye

Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS - DOG CENSUS PROJECT PROPOSAL:**

Supervisor Plant stated that Susie Jacobs, Town Clerk, had given him information regarding the fact that the Ontario County Municipal Clerks Association had formed an Enumeration Task Force to evaluate the possibility of contracting with the Ontario County Humane Society to perform dog census. Susie Jacobs brought this project to Supervisor Plant with the idea to modernize and save taxpayers money. She went on to say that a proposal in Ontario County had been drawn up for consideration by the Ontario County Municipal Clerks, with much work still to be done to get this project underway. Supervisor Plant suggested that Susie Jacobs discuss this with other Wayne County Town Clerks to see if they might be interested in a project similar to this in Wayne County. Council members agreed that having trained / experienced personnel performing the dog census would be a good thing. Susie agreed to discuss this with other Town Clerks, gather information and bring same back to the Town Board.

**SIT WITH THE SUPERVISOR:**

Saturday, February 7, 2009, at 9:00 AM, West Walworth Fire Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Councilwoman Hawkins-Mance to adjourn.

Seconded by Councilwoman Marini and unanimously carried.

Time: 9:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susie C. Jacobs  
Town Clerk

FEBRUARY 23, 2009

ONTARIO TOWN BOARD MEETING

A regular meeting of the Ontario Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Robert Kelsch at 7:00 p.m. in the Ontario Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Robert Kelsch, Council members: Jason Ruffell, James Switzer, Stephen Tobin, Sole Assessor Christine Luteyn, Water Utilities Distribution Crew Chief Rodney Peets and Town Clerk Debra DeMinck.

Absent: Council member Lori Eaton-Smith

6 residents and visitors were present at portions of the meeting.

Mr. Kelsch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Revisions to the Agenda** - A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to approve the agenda with one revision – under new business add a motion to approve allocation of \$100,000 for the next phase of Timothy Lane. 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

**Comments From the Public** – None

**Approval of Minutes** – Mr. Kelsch asked for approval of the minutes of the February 9, 2009 Town Board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Ruffell, **to approve the minutes as presented.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

**Correspondence** – None

**New Business** - A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. Tobin, **to accept the Supervisor's fiscal report for the month of January 2009 as presented.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Ruffell, **to authorize the Distribution Crew Chief of the Water Department to seek bids for a 2008 or newer 16' Aluminum Body Step Van with lift gate and to authorize the Town Clerk to post and publish the legal notice to bidders as requested by the Distribution Crew Chief and to surplus the 1983 Chevrolet Step Van as requested in memo 03-2009.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Tobin, seconded by Mr. Switzer, **to award the bid for the 2009 Spring Cleanup, to be held May 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, to the lowest responsible bidder, Alpro Recycling, Inc., 846 Macedon Center Road, Macedon, NY for \$55.00 per ton for solid materials, \$155.00 per ton for tires and \$8.00 per Freon unit, as recommended by the Superintendent of Highways in memorandum #09-03.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. Switzer, **to authorize the Town Clerk to post and publish a Legal Notice of Public Hearing to be held on March 9, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Ontario Town Hall, 1850 Ridge Road, Ontario, to consider enactment of proposed Local Law #1 of 2009 to amend Chapter 150 (Zoning) of the Town Code.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Tobin, **to authorize an emergency expenditure of \$2,922.21 for repair of a 2003 Sterling highway department snowplow truck.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Ruffell, to **approve the allocation of \$100,000 in cash or in-kind services for the next phase of Timothy Lane extending the existing Timothy Lane to the east boundary of parcels 61117-00-341810 and 61117-00-341669 (formally known as the Zimmerman property) and to approve the Wayne County IDA as lead agency.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

**Budget Transfers/Adjustments** – A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to **approve the following budget transfer/adjustments:**

**GENERAL FUND transfer \$714.00 from A9901.9 to A9061.9**

**H75-07 TIMOTHY LANE FUND transfer \$1,700 from H75-8340.201 to H75-8340.203**

**CDI ADJUSTMENT increase 510/revenue CDI 3789 (Economic Assistance) \$3,452.72 and increase 960/expense CDI 6789.4 (Other Economic Assistance Contractual)** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith)

MOTION CARRIED

**Policy** – A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to **approve the second reading and adopt Town Policy 4005 P – Rules of Order for the Ontario Town Board, as presented.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

**Appointments/Resignations** – A motion was made by Mr. Ruffell, seconded by Mr. Switzer, to **accept the resignation of Robert King from the Planning Board, effective February 28, 2009 and to direct the Town Clerk to send him a letter of thanks for his service to the town.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Ruffell, to **authorize the Sole Assessor to appoint Laurie DelleFave to the vacant part time temporary clerk position at wage grade 8, at \$11.64 per hour not to exceed 20 hours per week, with no benefits, effective January 15 through June 1, 2009 as requested in a memo from the Assessor.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

**Reports by Town Board Members** – Mr. Kelsch announced the town board workshop scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2009 has been cancelled. He is working on updating the town's policy handbook and a "Violence in the Workplace" procedure.

Mr. Tobin gave a brief summary on the Annual Association of Towns conference he attended in New York City last week.

Mr. Switzer extended condolences to Rodney Peets on the death of his sister.

**Approval of Claims** – A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to **approve the abstract of claims for February 23, 2009 including vouchers #396 through #523 with a grand total of \$116,106.81 and to authorize the Supervisor to issue payments for same.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

**Comments from the Public** – Mr. Charles Neumann asked if there was a schedule for pictures to be taken for name badges for the planning and zoning board members.

Mrs. Anne Tobin announced a Mardi Gras celebration tomorrow evening, Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> in the board room with an eight piece Dixie Land Band. All are welcome to attend.

**Adjourn** – A motion was made by Mr. Switzer, seconded by Mr. Tobin, to **adjourn at 8:17 p.m.** 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent (Smith) MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,  
Debra DeMinck





# WAYNE NEWSPAPER

WRITTEN ON OUR WALLS

JAMES A. BENEWAY HIGH SCHOOL  
Volume 1, Issue 5 • February 2009

ontheinside

## 2 News

Jaclyn Huff's Costa Rican experience continued

## Features

Masterminds demonstrate academic aptitude, Union Hill dining experience, Brittany Ambler wants your support for soldiers.

# 3

## Sports

# 4 & 5

Wayne Wrestlers send four to state meet, Indoor track advances several to state qualifiers, both basketball programs have winning seasons, ski team final standings

## Creative Corner

# 6

Black History month crossword and Oscar Award trivia.

## Entertainment

Hope's review of *Just Listen* by Sara Dessen, Rachel's review of the film *Caroline*, and Andre reviews *Street Fighter IV*.

# 8 & 9

## Eagle Forum

Love is in the Air at Wayne Central. Featured artist Brianna Cantwell

# PURA VIDA!

## The 2009 Wayne Central Trip to Costa Rica

Costa Rica 2009 was amazing beyond words. When the group first arrived in San Jose, Costa Rica on February 12, everyone was excited and ready for the festivities to start. The group did many activities on the trip. Our days were jam packed and everyone was beat by the end of the day. Some of the activities included a day time walk up to the Volcano, a night time walk through the Cloud Rainforest, zip lining, dancing and visiting elementary children at school. My favorite part of the trip was zip lining across the rainforest and doing cultural dances.

The first full day in Costa Rica the group walked up to the Volcano called Poas. We had to hike through a park to get there. The air got thinner as the altitude got higher. When we got to the top

we could see the volcano below and it was an incredible view. There were clouds around and white smoke coming from it.

From the volcano we hiked to a lake that is actually a filled in volcanic crater called Laguna Botos. It was a long day of walking but it was very worth it. Later that day we went to the hot springs where pools of water were heated by the volcano Arenal. There were two water slides that we all enjoyed going down. We created trains of people going down the slower slide to see how

fast we could go. The people in charge of the slides let us do whatever we wanted. It was fun and the pools were like bath water. That was only the beginning of the trip.

Continued on page 2

Guest Writer  
Jaclyn Huff



Wayne students are immersed in the Costa Rican culture by painting ox cart wheels.

## Ontario Community Center Promotes Healthy Lifestyle

Ontario has traditionally been a town that had limited facilities for the community to enjoy but this is not the case any more! Ontario Parks and Recreation has built an impressive Community Center for all residents to enjoy.

The buildings are located at Casey Park and were opened to the public on January 26th.



There are new programs such as youth martial arts, adult exercise classes, such as cardio kickboxing, aerobics, Pilates.

Once the field house becomes accessible, the community will be able to take advantage of the turf for area-based sports and walking track.

This amazing recreation facility will benefit our Wayne school sports' programs and give residents the opportunity to socialize while maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The building is not only for adults and students but also for senior citizens and pre-school children. With child watch services in

the pre-school room, Wayne's future students can be more fit, educated, and socialized. Prices for students and senior citizens 55+ are \$65 for district members yearly, and \$95 for non-district members yearly. There are also individual prices, family packages, and single parent family packages available.

This will truly help Ontario have a great place to interact as well as enjoy time to exercise. Come and check out Ontario's first Recreation Community Center! For more information about the new community center, please visit: <http://www.ontariotown.org/Parks%20&%20Rec/CommunityCenter/OnlineBrochure.pdf>

Staff Writer  
Andre O'Neil



## 2009 Wayne Trip to Costa Rica continued



Photograph by Jaclyn Huff

When we reached Monteverde we went on a night time walk through the cloud rainforest. We used flashlights to look at wildlife like Army Ants and different types of birds. It was interesting walking through the forest but my group did not see as much wildlife as we thought we would. We actually saw Mccaw birds at one of the rest stops and we got very close to the birds. One bird tried to nip at us when we took a group photo in front of it. We saw Howler monkeys at the stop also. They were very cute. We saw a sloth at Monteverde hotel. It was crossing the road and it was trying to find a place to sleep. It looked so



Pictured from left to right: Jenna Wylie, Jaclyn Huff, Jamie Wisner, Senora Marlowe, Liz Newman, and Ariel Gallo posing in front of a volcano on the Costa Rican trip.

cuddly. At Monteverde Juarez the cat was a pleasure to host. Jamie Wisner, Zack Smith and Kyle Stewart discovered the local and left their patio doors open for him. They received a present in the morning from the cat, a delicious mouse. After that they bought the cat Friskey's at the supermercado. Juarez will always be remembered in our hearts.

Zip lining was a thrilling experience. A harness was strapped around your legs and waist and you wore a helmet and gloves with leather on the palms for braking. The zip line coordinators took the hooks on your straps and hooked them to the line and pushed you down the cord across the tree tops of the Cloud Rainforest! The view was incredible. It literally left you breathless because one it was beautiful and two because you were going fast and the harness was strapped tight around your legs and waist. You would end up on another platform and get hooked to another line and just go flying through the trees. Jamie

Wisner tapped a video camera to his arm to try and catch some footage. After about 3 platforms he took it off; the footage will be interesting to see. There was one platform where we had to walk to on the ground to get to. I was the first one to go up the platform steps. This was the Tarzan Swing. I was unsure of what I was actually going to be doing. I got up to the top and they hooked me to a rope. They told me to hold the rope and lean back. I followed the instructors' orders. They swung open the little gate and shoved me over! I screamed as though I was being murdered. Some of the group thought I had fallen but really I was swinging on the rope

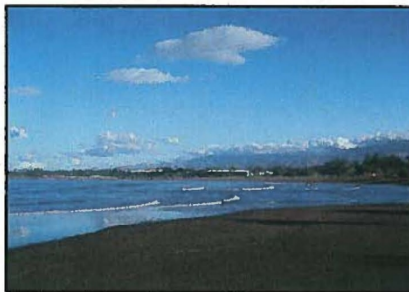


Feeding the crocodiles!

Photograph by Jaclyn Huff

like Tarzan! It was an incredible experience and definitely one of the highlights from the trip. Everyone enjoyed themselves with the zip lining. We also experienced some great cultural dancing while we were there too.

While at Puntarenas there was a Cha Cha and Meringue dance lesson by the pool area. A small group of us including myself danced. It was very fun. I got to dance with the instructor and other members of the group were paired with some Costa Rican boys and girls. Senora Marlowe was shocked at some of our new dance steps and shouted "Los Estudiantes!" She was shouting that we were students. That was comical. It was an even greater cultural experience when on the last night back in San Jose, we went to a restaurant that looked over the city and we were taught more dance steps and after dinner there were dancers that performed



Scenic beach view at Puntarenas

Photograph by Jaclyn Huff



Wayne students visit a Costa Rican school

Photograph by Jaclyn Huff

for the people at the restaurant. The girls that danced had large skirts that they twirled around in and took the corners and dipped them. The males also danced with traditional costumes and wore hats. A few times the dancers grabbed people from the audience and had them dance with them. The second time they did this I was snagged to go out on the dance floor by a man dressed in a yellow costume. The dancing was very fun and Mr. Wheaton had to shake his shimmy out on the dance floor. Not only did the group laugh at him but his lovely dance partner could not help but chuckle at him herself.

The trip was phenomenal and it was a great learning experience. Everyone got to practice their Spanish more or like Mr. Wheaton learn more Spanish such as Azucar (sugar). The group got to visit a small elementary school where we brought them school supplies. The children spoke no English so it was a great opportunity to practice speaking. In America when we take pictures the magic word to bring a smile to your face is "cheese". Well in Spanish cheese is queso so that would not really work for a smile. The little children would say "whiskey!" When we all first heard that we were shocked and then their teacher explained to us that "whiskey" makes a smiling face. The children were wonderful, they sang happy birthday to our dear Chloe Lester. They were very sweet and I know they really appreciated the school supplies. Costa Rica had very many friendly people.

Our tour guide Jose and our driver Chino really made the experience great. Chino's driving skills were impeccable, just ask anyone on the trip. Jose was a great guide and gave us a lot of information about the country and he got us great deals on prices with dinners and zip lining. The 2009 Costa Rica trip is one of the greatest experiences I have ever had and I can say that for everyone who was on the trip. It was fun and it really opened our eyes to the world to see how other cultures live and it let us see some great beauty. I would highly recommend that students take a foreign language or attend the trips because they are the experience of a life time.

Guest Writer  
Jaclyn Huff



## Spotlight: Masterminds

### The Brains of the Operation

**H**ave you ever pondered what it would be like to master intelligence? Well there's an afterschool group for that called Masterminds. The Masterminds program was created for young adults to express their brain power in the form of academic competition. Although it is considered a club, the Wayne Masterminds advisor and coach, Ms. Walzer, assured me that it's much more than that. Recently I was lucky enough to have an interview with her about this year's season.

Coach Walzer has been leading the team at Wayne for six years now, having received the position from Mrs. Timothy. It was said that Mrs. Timothy wanted to keep the position in the history department and Mrs. Walzer was just the right fit. It's clear that she loves the job and is here to stay, even if her players move on. She would also like the school to know that "Masterminds is a pretty diverse group of kids. Students with Strait A's don't necessarily do the best in the competitions. Those with well-rounded knowledge usually perform better."

There are a lot of Masterminds this year at Wayne, nine members on Varsity and ten on Junior Varsity. The Varsity team is led by Mike Rob-

binson and now Jackson Kyle who is taking over for the recently graduated Alex Scoles. Jimmy Goebel and Hannah Wyland are the captains for Junior Varsity.

Surprisingly Varsity has been experiencing a series of losses this season, their score standing at one victory and five losses, their only win having been a home match against Dundee. Coach Walzer believes that it is because competing schools have strong individuals that carry the team where Wayne's team is very well-rounded and has been doing wonderful; beating every team in the division at least once. Their score now standing at 5-1, it's obvious that Jimmy and Hannah are doing something right. Ms. Walzer also shared that Jimmy is "the future of the Masterminds program" having given the team incredible scores. She predicts that he'll be a rising mastermind in future competitions.

Now that you're more aware of Masterminds, perhaps you'll start supporting it more. They have two more matches in March so show some support for the thinkers! They're always looking for more talent so try and try-out next year if you think you can handle it. Keep it up Masterminds!

Staff Writer  
Matt Little

## Stationary Salute!

**A**s part of my Girl Scout Gold Award and the current Senior Project Graduation Requirement at Wayne Central, I've decided to create a private, non-profit organization that will support the local community members serving overseas: Stationary Salute.

Our mission at Stationary Salute is to help the brave men and women, who serve our country, to contact their friends and family back home.

While collecting research for my project, I realized that it is very difficult and expensive for our Soldiers to make telephone calls to their loved ones, and, as a result, I've offered them an alternative solution: Greeting Cards!

With the help of local area businesses and community members, I am planning to buy supplies and make greeting cards for these men and women.

In addition, I intend to create and send care packages

each month to the local community members who are currently deployed. On Saturday, March 28, 2009 Stationary Salute is hosting a "Scrapbooking Fundraiser Event."

For more information about this event and the organization visit: <http://www.stationarysalute.com>. Show your support and get involved and make a donation!



Guest Writer  
Brittany Ambeau

## Thrills From the Grill at Union Hill

**I** found my visit to Union Hill Country Grill to be reasonably enjoyable. I found the idea of the store in the front along with its small, but comfortable dining areas to be great for the small town of Ontario. This allows for someone to either stop in for a quick drink or snack or for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Their hours of operation go as follows: Monday-Thursday and Saturday 6am-9pm, Friday 6am-10pm, and Sunday 7am-8pm.

The menu included a vast amount of meals from which to choose including pizza, subs, pasta, burgers, hot dogs, and many more. As usual one can choose from appetizers, soups, and salads. There are many sides including

fries, garlic bread, onion rings, and macaroni salad. The Grill features a fish fry and several other specials depending upon the day. On my visit I had a giant meatball calzone with extra mozzarella cheese which was put together well, however I would suggest adding different or more toppings upon ordering a calzone. The Grill allows for take-out and they cater which follows a different menu that can be found at their website, [www.unionhillcountrygrill.com](http://www.unionhillcountrygrill.com), along with other information.

Overall, I enjoyed my visit to the Grill and thought the dining, store, and restroom areas were very clean. I am sure I will be visiting the restaurant again and I may even order

from their take-out menu. I give Union Hill Country Grill a 9 out of 10.



Historic Union Hill located on the corner of Ridge and County Line  
Staff Photograph

Staff Writer  
Ian Stead



## Several Winter Track Athletes Will Compete at Meet of Champs

The Wayne Indoor Track & Field team had an impressive showing at both the RIT Tiger Invitational on January 31st and later competed at the close of the season at sectionals on February 8th.



Marc Ocke and Jesse Mintz of the 4 x 800 relay team.

The team also put up some amazing performances to say the least as they competed at the Tiger Invite. Competition was fierce seeing that three long-standing section five records were broken at this competition and nationally-ranked individuals competed from schools in sections three (Syracuse area), five (Rochester

area), and six (Buffalo area).

Top performances include Lynne Fahy placing 4th in the 1500 meter dash, Jessie Mintz Placing 6th in the 1600 meter dash, Kelly Jones Placing 4th in high jump, and Tyler Ventrillo 4th in high jump at the Tiger Invite at R.I.T.

At the class 'B' sectional championship, Liz Larson placed 3rd in the 1000 meter dash, Lynne Fahy placed 4th in 1500 meter dash, the 4x800 relay team consisting of Lynne Fahy, Liz Larson, Jenna Steensma, and Jaclyn Huff placed 2nd behind Victor, and Kelly Jones placed 2nd in high jump, Kalya Young placed 6th in the 1500 meter race walk, and Kelly Jones placed 6th in triple jump. As a team, the girls placed fifth overall.

For the boys team, Jessie Mintz Placing 5th in

the 1600 meter Dash, Tyler Ventrillo 3rd in High Jump, and Andre O'Neil 5th in high jump. The men placed 11th overall in Class 'B'.

Tyler Ventrillo, Jesse Mintz, Kelly Jones, Liz Larson, Lynne Fahy, Jenna Steensma, and Jaclyn Huff have qualified to compete at the state qualification meet held on Thursday, February 26th at RIT.



Liz Larson places 3rd overall in the 1000M

Staff Writer  
Andre O'Neil

## Wayne Wrestling Advances Four to State Championship

The Wayne Wrestling team has made its way through an exceptional season under the reins of Coach Gross, Coach Hargather, and Coach Patterson.

On February 14th the NYSPHSAA Section V Class A Tournament took place and Wayne definitely stood out. Although Brighton took first at sectionals with a score of 239, Wayne closely followed them taking second with a total score of 180.5.

At the tournament Wayne placed four champions: Alec Dierna (6-2), Bobby Dierna (pin), Vinny DiGravio (pin), and Chris Marvin (pin). Other standings include the following:

placing second are Frank Affronti and Nick DiGravio, placing fourth, Devrin Bradford, and placing fifth are Cody Herman (9-3) and Tory Cain (2-0); all of whom will be going to State Qualifiers. Additionally, Vinny DiGravio, a junior at Wayne, earned the lower weight Most Outstanding Wrestling award at sectionals.

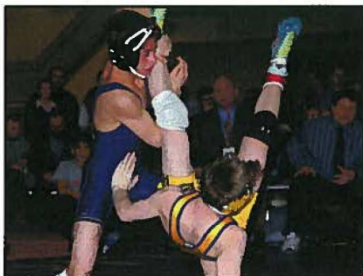
At RIT on Friday, February 20th and Saturday February 21st, Wayne wrestlers carried the winning tradition by having three section five champions for the large school division. Alec Dierna at 96lbs, Vinny DiGravio at 130lbs, Chris Marvin at 160lbs, and returning state champion, Bob Dierna at 112lbs



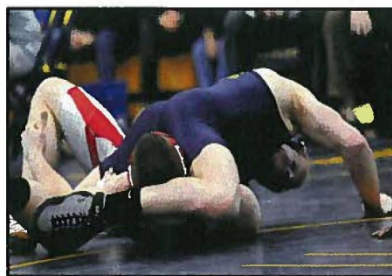
Bob Dierna takes down his opponent with a high double  
Photograph by John Sekol

will be traveling to the OnCenter in Albany to compete at the state championship competition.

Staff Writer  
Ian Stead



Al Dierna sweeps his opponent to the mat  
Photograph by John Sekol



Chris Marvin tortures his opponent before the pin  
Photograph by John Sekol



Vinny DiGravio dominating his opponent from Victor  
Photograph by John Sekol



## Wayne Boy's Basketball Season of Redemption

**T**he Varsity Wayne boys' basketball team completed season 10-10.

This is the first time since 2001 that a Wayne Boys Basketball team has won 10 games in a season. We play at Sutherland on Friday 2/27 7 PM in the sectional quarter-finals.

Wayne won their last two games to get to 10 wins. Pierce Morgan led the team on Senior Night vs. Pal-Mac with 18 points. Steve Palmer added 10 points in the 2nd half. Colin Camp hit a 3 point shot with 2 minutes

to go to put Wayne in the lead for good and help them finish the game on a 10-0 run. Wayne 54-44.

On the Tuesday over break Wayne beat Waterloo by 10 points, 57-47. This time Camp was the leading scorer with 16 points. Connor Hennessy had a big game as well with 11 points and 15 rebounds. Steve Palmer added 10; Jeff Jackson and Eric Aman scored seven points each to help Wayne earn the #7 seed in sectionals.

Guest Writer  
Coach Cotsonas



## Girl's Basketball Continue to Exceed Expectations

**T**he girls played in their first sectional game last night at Marshall High School. Entering the game Wayne was the lower seed at the 11th seed, Marshall was the 6th seed. Leading the way was Taryn Smith who had a double-double with 15 points and 16 rebounds. This led Wayne to their first sectional win in 15 years!! Laura Izquierdo also recorded 15 points along with 4 assists. Emma Baker has turned it up late in the season. The last 4 games of the regular season she averaged 14 points 5 rebounds a game. Running the point Alaina Wayland and Tarrah DeVito have consistently been great leaders both on the offensive and defensive ends. Lauren Diesenberg has been a great offensive threat in the post. She has contributed in many ways. Lastly, Jessica Panepento brings high energy to the game for us, both in practice and in games. One of our top rebounders. The girls go into the quarter finals looking to battle again away

on Thursday against HFL. HFL are sitting pretty on the third seed but knowing the Wayne Varsity Girls, they're going to work their hardest to keep making the impossible possible. The team has gone from a 2 - 18 record in the 2007-2008 to a 11-10 winning record in 2008-2009.



Girl's Basketball "Daisy Duke" Themed Practice  
Photograph courtesy of Taryn Smith

Guest Writers  
Coach Quick and Lauren Diesenberg

## Ski Team Finishes Season

**T**he Wayne Ski team had an amazing season. With 12 kids on the team, almost every participant has improved throughout the season. The team competed against six other teams; Canandaigua, Sodus, Newark, Naples, Mercy for the girls, and McQuaid for the boys and took turns hosting the races. The team is split into 6 boys and 6 girls. The boys are seniors; Mike Sullivan and Peter Sullivan, Junior: Jonnie Orchard, sophomores; Bill Milillo and Dan Aubertine, and freshman; Joe Siracuse. The girls consist of seniors; Liz Newman, Alex McBride, and Ellen Zetterberg, juniors; Becky Hess, Hannah Wyland, and Emily Schnepf. The best finishers included Peter Thayer with 8th and 9th place out of 43, Liz Newman with one 11th and two 13th place finishes out of 43, Alex McBride 11th and 12th place finishes of 43, Hannah Wyland with four top 10 finishes, her best being her 7th place finish, out of 43, and Becky Hess with two top 10 finishes her best being 9th place out of 43. Coach Marino says "Both teams have been working hard and improving every practice." During Sectionals Hannah Wyland and Peter Thayer led the teams to the girls with a sixth out of twenty eight place finish and the boys with a twelfth place finish. Hannah Finished 27th out of 106 and her other teammates; Becky Hess finished in 35th, Alex McBride 27th, Liz Newman 43rd and 35th, and Emily Schnepf 44th. The boys on the other hand had Peter Thayer with a 40 place finish out of 120, Dan Aubertine 53rd place finish, and Jonnie Orchard with a 55th place finish. Coach Marino stated, "Overall, I am pleased with the efforts of the team this season."

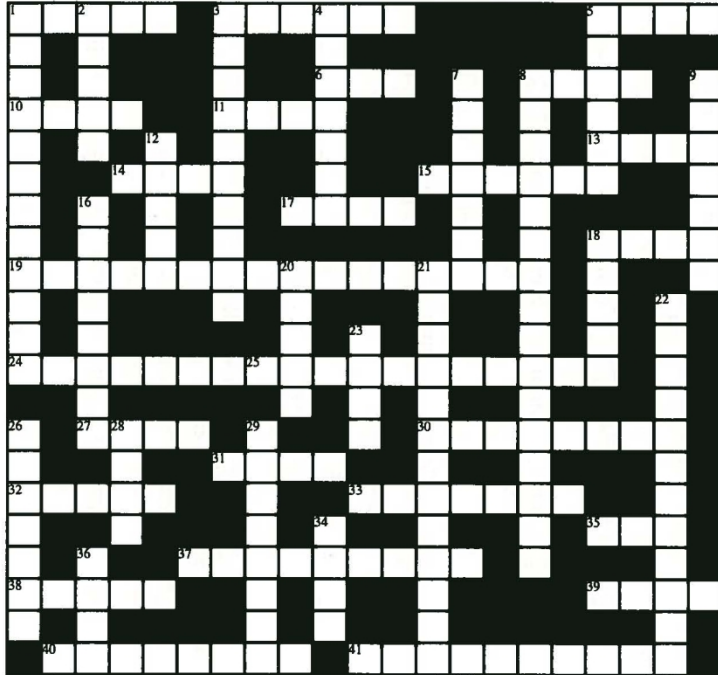
Staff Writer  
Samantha LaBarge



Photographs courtesy of Elizabeth Newman



## Black History Month Crossword



**Across:**

1. She would not sit in the back of the bus
3. Famous author Alice, writer of the acclaimed novel 'The Color Purple'
5. Music Louis Armstrong played
6. Boxing legend called 'The Greatest'
8. American educator \_\_\_ McLeod Bethune
10. Harlem or New York, for example
11. Wynton Marsalis blows one
13. Tennis great Arthur \_\_\_
14. Abolitionist \_\_\_ Brown
15. Actor Lawrence of Hollywood films
17. Poet \_\_\_ Angelou
18. Jackie Robinson's first position, second \_\_\_
19. First African-American Supreme Court Justice
24. Kweisi Mfume is the leader of this organization
25. Reason for many marches
27. Basketball star O'Neal, to fans
30. First name of the black leader who wrote 'Soul on Ice'
31. Nickname for musical legend Charlie Parker
32. Music legend \_\_\_ Basie
33. Place where Motown Records was founded
35. TV star Bernie \_\_\_
37. Comedian who had a hit show playing father Cliff Huxtable
38. Popular black magazine
39. First name of I-across
40. Black History month
41. Baseball's all-time home run champion

**Down:**

1. Emancipation
2. Famous TV mini-series and Alex Haley book
3. George \_\_\_ Carver
4. Festival featuring African-American culture
5. Basketball superstar Michael \_\_\_
7. Legendary gospel singer \_\_\_ Jackson
8. Speaker who said, 'I Have a Dream'
9. Last name of 30-across
12. Former ambassador to the United Nations and mayor of Atlanta
16. Abolitionist who escaped from slavery, Frederick \_\_\_
18. Player with a record 73 home runs in one season. Barry \_\_\_
20. Basketball legend and businessman \_\_\_ Johnson
21. She led slaves to the Underground Railroad
22. Founder of the Rainbow Coalition
23. Name for a female opera star, such as Leontyne Price
26. Best-selling musical artist \_\_\_ Jackson
28. Nickname for 41-across
29. It matched the Union against the Confederates
34. What Halle Berry does
36. Basketball superstar \_\_\_ Bryant

Crossword by Timothy E. Parker  
Universal Press Syndicate

Answers on last page 9.

## Academy Award Trivia Recap



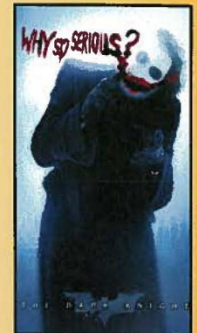
Which film featured an unknown cast and walked away with the Academy Award for Best Picture, as well as seven other Academy Awards?

Who received his second award as best actor in 2009 for his role in biopic *Milk*?



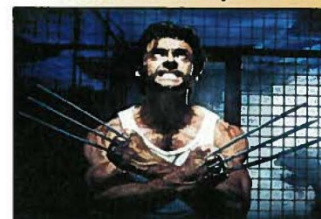
She was nominated Best Actress in 2004 but lost to Hilary Swank. She has recently won Best Actress for her work in *The Reader*.

Who was the second actor to win a posthumous Academy Award, achieved by his work in *The Dark Knight*?



Who is the first Spanish Women to win an Academy Award for her work in *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*?

He was the host for this year's Academy Award.



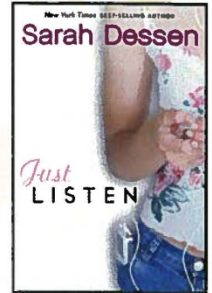
Staff Writer  
Rachel Northrop



## BOOKS

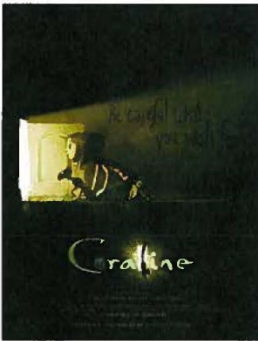
*Are You Listening?*

Have you ever read a book where you just wanted to hurt the main character? Their personality and characterization just drives you nuts? Well in *Just Listen* by Sarah Dessen, Annabel Greene does just that. You've got to give the author props though because, making a character that real is quite tricky. Don't fret because the book itself makes up for that plenty! Annabel Greene is a 16 year-old model, who's quiet, hates confrontation and now is the high school's newest outcast. Having a horrid and notoriously hated best friend and a party mis-hap can send one into isolation quickly. With a shaky home, due to her older sister's eating disorder, and lack of friends Annabel is left to internalize her problems. In comes Owen Armstrong, silent, strong, music obsessed and most likely the scary kid found in the back of the classroom. This kid becomes Annabel's only means of surviving. Owen thrives off of the truth and will tell it no matter what. How can someone who hates confrontation be close with someone who thrives off it? That's up to you to find out? This book is an amazing read. You won't be able to put it down and will cling to it till' the very end. This is one of those books that you'll be devastated to see end but will be thrilled by the surprises along the way.



*Hope's Rating: 9/10*

## MOVIES

*See You On The 'Other' Side*

In Henry Selick's stop-motion masterpiece *Coraline*, Coraline Jones is fed up with her boring new living conditions at The Pink Palace and her parent's and their busy schedule. But after receiving a curious doll from an annoying neighbor boy and discovering a hidden door in her house, Coraline's world goes straight through the looking glass. On the other side of the door, she finds an alternate reality where her "other parents" dwell, with songs and sweets and fantastic surprises. However, things aren't always as they seem which Coraline realizes almost all too late. She must fight her way through magic and mystery and songs and spiders in order to rescue the very people she holds dear to her heart-her 'real' parents!

Based on the award-winning novella by Neil Gaiman, *Coraline* shines on screen and provides spunky and upbeat characters for both the adolescent and the mature to enjoy. Though there are some frightening scenes that might be too much for young children, overall, *Coraline* is a well-directed, outstanding animated feature.

Final Report: Voice Acting 9/10 Directing 10/10 Plot 10/10 Animation 10/10

**RACHEL'S RATING 9/10**

## VIDEO GAMES

*Are You Ready? FIGHT!*

Street Fighter IV was a smash hit that was just released this February in North America. What is good about this game is that it goes back to its roots with the traditional 2D game play style. When I first played this game I was shocked to see how difficult the producers had made this game.

To some street fighters fanatics the game comes as second nature, but to others who are unfamiliar to the game it is very difficult to grasp the game. The game brought back the bonus round options and also has online game play. The PS3 version of the game is the one that I have played and to me the game is great, it has 3D backgrounds with 2D play and is closely going back to the old 1999 arcade version that was a smash hit.

Graphics I give the game an 8 out of 10; for the gameplay of the game I will give it a 9, and overall I give the game an 8.5. The only real problem I have with the game is it could be longer but overall a great game worth purchasing on either the PS3 or Xbox 360.



**ANDRE'S RATING: 8.5 OUT OF 10**



# The Things Wayne Students Love Most!



I love my best friend since before kindergarten- Jess! Love, Sam

Wayne Varsity Cheerleaders, we've been through a lot this season and I am really proud of us for all our accomplishments. Love, Megan Ventrillo



I love sham-wow!  
- Erica Quartley



I love the Yankees, baseball, and Erica Q.  
- Dan D'eleto

I love Gage Howard  
- Josh Welch

I love being senior class advisor and all my seniors  
Love, Mrs. Marlowe



I love my girlfriend Elisa the most. She puts happiness and love in my life. Happy Valentines day beautiful!  
- Alex Mikolajko



I LOVE STEPHANIE MARIE ASHKEY LINDSEY. She is beautiful and gives me butterflies in my tummy. I love staring at her. Her candles smell awesome. Love you girlfriend-Megan

Rachel Miller is the chocolate chips to my cookie and our love is the milk to our relationship!



RJ Licata rocks my world and everytime I'm with him is crazy and fun I love you moonman!

I love seniors '09! - Ali

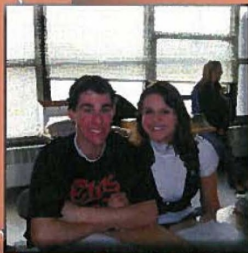


I love Emma and Emma loves me!

The person I love the most is Preston Eichner he is always open to listen and gives me the best hugs, it makes me laugh!  
- Catie Collins



- Tarrah DeVito



We love eachother!

I love my best friend and boyfriend Eric Christenson. He is amazing in so many ways! - Celi Perz



I love Claire Moran a lot because she is always there for me  
- Kelly Preston



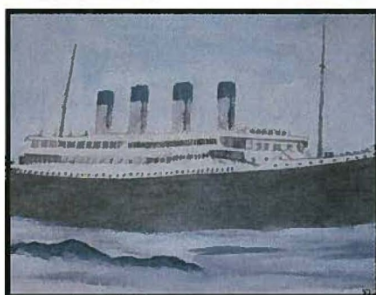
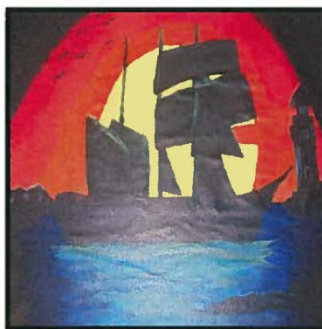
Katie and Megan - Cheer buddies for life!

I love Lake Ontario- it's a free place that shows the power of nature and the beauty of it as well  
- Alisa Lenfest



## Featured Artist

Brianna Cantwell



## SENIOR NEWS

- March 16- Mandatory Senior Trip Meeting. This meeting will be at 7pm in the PAC- Again it is MANDATORY for both you AND your parents. You must be at the meeting in order to go on the trip and will only be refunded 50% of the money paid.
- March 19- 100 days until graduation breakfast
- March 30- Mandatory luggage check. Luggage must be dropped off between 6pm and 8pm.
- March 31 until April 3- Senior Trip to New York City!

Congratulations to Wayne's Top Ten Scholars in the Class of 2009

1. Seth Amidon - 99.68
2. Alaina Wayland - 98.18
3. Peter Thayer - 98.04
4. Dan Whalen - 97.10
5. Nick Flesch - 97.00
6. Haley Ludwig - 96.82
7. Jackson Kyle - 96.24
8. Kristi Lukaszewski - 96.20
9. Brittany Ambeau - 95.64
10. Roxanne Bix - 95.63

### Crossword Answers

ACROSS	DOWN
1 PARKS	1 PROCLAMATION
2 WALKER	2 ROOTS
3 JOZ	3 WASHINGTON
4 ALL	4 KWANZAA
5 MARY	5 JORDAN
6 CITY	6 MARAJA
7 HORN	7 MARTINLUTHERKING
8 ASHE	8 CLEAVER
9 HORN	9 YOUNG
10 MARTIN	10 DOUGLASS
11 MAYA	11 BONDS
12 BASE	12 MAGIC
13 THURGOOD MAR-	13 HARRIETTURMAN
SHALL	14 JESSEJACKSON
14 NAACP	15 DIVA
15 CIVIL RIGHTS	16 MICHAEL
16 SHAG	17 HANK
17 BRIDGE	18 CIVILWAR
18 BIRD	19 ACTS
19 SOUND	20 KOBE
20 DETROIT	
21 MAC	
22 BELCOSBY	
23 EBONY	
24 ROSA	
25 FEBRUARY	
26 HENRYAARON	

### Academy Award Trivia Answers

Answer: *Slumdog Millionaire*. This film is a box-office hit and has grossed \$159,226,072 worldwide, as of today.

Answer: Sean Penn. See him in critically acclaimed films *Mystic River* and *I Am Sam*

Answer: Kate Winslet. Catch her in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, *Finding Neverland*, and the highest grossing and most award winning movie of all time - *Titanic*.

Answer: Heath Ledger. See him in *Ned Kelly* and *Brokeback Mountain*, which both earned him nominations for Best Actor.

Answer: Penelope Cruz. She walked away with the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress. You can also see her in *Volver* and *Bandidas*.

Answer: Hugh Jackman. He can be seen in the movie *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*



**Managing Editor**  
Samantha LaBarge

**News Writers**  
Hope Hollenbeck  
Rebecca Stratton  
Samantha LaBarge

**Sports Writers**  
Andre O'Neil

**Features Writers**  
Matt Little  
Hope Hollenbeck  
Andre O'Neil  
Rebecca Stratton  
Rachel Northrop

**Advisors**  
Charlie Roods  
Shelly McDonald

The Wayne Newspaper, also known as *Written On Our Walls*, is published by the Wayne Central High School Newspaper Club. The aim of this newspaper is to provide objective, factual, and entertaining information. The opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the administration, advisors, or the staff of the Newspaper Club.

The newspaper staff reserves the right to reject or suggest revisions to any material that is deemed inappropriate.

To make suggestions on how we can improve your school newspaper or to place an item in the school newspaper, including an editorial, picture, advertisement, comic, or other newsworthy item, contact Charlie Roods at:

[croods@wayne.k12.ny.us](mailto:croods@wayne.k12.ny.us)

To write a letter for our advice column "Dear Sam," contact Samantha LaBarge at:

[wayne-labargese@gaggle.net](mailto:wayne-labargese@gaggle.net)

If you would like to join our club see Mr. Roods in room 15D. We meet every Tuesday at 2:30.

# WAYNE'S WORLD

Jason Carter (FE), President  
Barb Thiele (OP), Internal VP  
Elizabeth Peters (FE), External VP  
Lisa Twitchell (HS), Treasurer  
Martha Hanley (FE), Secretary  
Doug Casey & Bob Berkowitz (HS),  
Retirement Delegates

## A WTA Newsletter

February, 2009

Volume 7, Issue 6



## President's Message

If you haven't already done so and are an elementary or middle school teacher who is involved with the Grades 3-8 ELA & Math New York State Assessments, please take the time to complete the survey from the NYS Education Department. The three areas of change that the state is exploring and seeking educators' opinions on are:

1. When the tests should be administered (which months), and if the ELA and Math assessments should be in the same or different months.
2. What scoring model should be used.
3. What format the test should be in (only multiple choice or a combination of multiple choice and open response questions).

The link for the survey is:  
[http://](http://www.forms2.nysed.gov/emsc/osa/Grades38TestingSurvey.cfm)

[www.forms2.nysed.gov/emsc/osa/Grades38TestingSurvey.cfm](http://www.forms2.nysed.gov/emsc/osa/Grades38TestingSurvey.cfm)

It can also be found on the WTA's website at [www.wayneta.org](http://www.wayneta.org). The survey will be on-line until February 27, 2009.

The Board of Regents is planning on making these changes for the 2010-2011 school year. NYSUT policy recommends that the grades 3-8 assessment results be returned to teachers in a timely manner and that the state establish a "Regents"-like test period.

Although, this has been changing on a daily basis, at the time of this article it appears that the NY State Congressional Delegation has secured more than 2.7 billion dollars in education aid through the federal stimulus plan. This will go a

long way toward alleviating some of the proposed cuts to school districts across NY State. Hopefully the federal government will come through with this funding and the state will spend it as intended to help schools. That being said the district still faces a significant decrease in funding from the state for next year. The NY State Budget is due by April 1, but recent comments from the governor indicate that it may not be done by then. Thankful, our school district has worked hard to minimize the effects of any projected budget cuts.

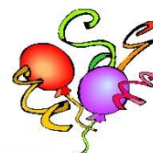
Sincerely,  
Jason Carter



### Inside This Issue:

- The 3 R's: Remarks, 2  
Tax Tips for Educators 2

### LET'S



### CELEBRATE !

#### Congratulations to:

(HS) Thomas Siembor on earning his National Board Teaching Certification.

Jessica Quick and the other coaches for both the HS girl's and boy's basketball teams in their combined efforts through Coaches vs. Cancer. They raised and donated \$1500 to the American Cancer Society! Now that's playing with motivation.

To all the teachers and staff who make a difference in the lives of their students every day!



## 6th ANNUAL FAMILY FEUD:

### Armstrong vs Beneway

Date: Thursday March 5th

Time: 7:15 pm

Location: HS Gym

Benefit for the WTA Scholarship Fund  
and for local families in need,

while providing the most entertaining athletic event possible....





## The 3 R's: Remarks, Reminders, and Relief!

**WTA 3rd Thursday –February 26th**— Documenting a Meeting ( or CYA).



### Issues acted upon/resolved:

- Resolved the hiring of retired teachers for subs.

### Issues currently being discussed /explored:

- Seeking clarification regarding transition pay for subs for teachers going on leave.
- Seniority list concerns
- APPR: observations & summatives -

following timelines.

- Staff safety concerns

**Rule of thumb #54** “People accommodate change more readily when they do not feel forced to let go of the familiar.” (Allen Mendler Ph.D.)

### Dates to Remember

**Thursday, Feb, 26th** - The NYSTRS pre-retirement planning seminar in Rochester! Register on line at [www.nystrs.com](http://www.nystrs.com)

**Friday, March 6th**—NYSUT rally downtown at the Liberty Pole @ 5PM for the Alliance for Quality Education, more info at [www.nysut.org](http://www.nysut.org)

**March 6th & 7th**—NYSUT School Health and Safety conference, Saratoga, NY.

**Saturday, March 7th**—NYSUT Legislative breakfast in Rochester.

**March 23rd**—Committee of 100 Lobby Day.

**NYSUT Field Rep:** Jeff Trout  
(585)454-5550 [jtrout@nysutmail.org](mailto:jtrout@nysutmail.org)

## Tax Tips for Educators!

As you are preparing your taxes, here are some guidelines regarding the business expenses applicable to educators. Please keep in mind that this is for informational purposes only and that you should rely on the advice of your tax professional before making any decisions. This information was summarized from handouts provided by the Legend Group.

**Professional Fess and Dues:** Dues paid to professional associations and societies related to your educational profession are deductible including your union dues! There are specific exceptions for certain types of organizations/clubs/societies, initial admission fees, etc. so please check carefully.

**Continuing Education:** Education expenses are deductible when:

- your employer requires the education in order for you to keep your job or rate of pay.
- The education maintains your skills in the education profession.

This includes courses taken by a classroom teacher to qualify as a school counselor or school administrator!

**Telephone Expenses:** While your basic telephone service is not deductible, toll

calls that are business related are. A second line that may be used exclusively for business is also deductible.

**Auto Travel:** Auto expenses based on the number of qualified business miles that you drive are deductible. Expenses for travel between business locations or between your home and temporary work locations are deductible. Your regular commuting between home and work each day are NOT considered business miles. Keep track by documenting your miles in a record book in which you record the following: Date, Purpose of trip, Place to which you traveled, and Number of miles traveled. You should also record you beginning of the year odometer reading along with your end of the year odometer reading.

**Travel Out of Town:** Expenses for traveling away from home overnight on job-related and continuing education trips are deductible. These expenses may include meals, lodging, tips, transportation, and miscellaneous items such as laundry, valet, etc. Receipts must be retained for each of these expenses unless they are under \$25, but then they must be recorded in a trip log or diary. Meals are generally 50% deductible.

**Classroom Supplies:** These items must

be ordinary and necessary to your profession as an education and not reimbursable by your employer. Items are generally books, paper, and other consumables that cost under \$100. Items over \$100 that have a useful life of more than a year are recovered differently on your tax return.

**Other Expenses:** Expenses for looking for new employment in the same line of work are deductible whether or not you obtain a new job. Out of town job seeking expenses are deductible if the primary purpose of the trip is job-seeking.

**Lifetime Learning Credit:** This is a tax credit of up to \$2,000 per taxpayer per year and is available for post-secondary educational expenses including undergraduate, graduate, and professional degree type courses.

**Interest on Educational Loans Deduction:** you can deduct up to \$2,500 of interest on qualified educational loans for college expenses based on Annual Gross Income even if you do not itemize.

**10% Penalty Exception:** Withdrawals to an IRA qualify for a penalty exception if the funds are used for medical expenses, qualified educational expenses, or a first time home purchase.

