



District 12

E-NEWS UPDATE

Westland, Inkster, south Livonia

March
2011



Hello Friends,

My e-newsletter should provide you with the latest updates on news and events in Wayne County and in our communities. I hope you find this edition valuable to you.

This has been an incredible month in our cities, county, nation and world. I attended the State of the City addresses in Livonia and Inkster. Although the tone was positive, I heard words like: tough, bleak, and challenging. The State Executive's Budget recommendations for revenue sharing show that all three communities in District 12 are planned to take a hit: Livonia -11.0 %, Westland -20.3 %, and Inkster -46.4 %. Wayne County is also preparing for the worst.

Certainly all of this pales in comparison to the situation of the poor people in Japan. They have it the worst - but are resilient and trying to get their lives back in order. The images on the TV screen bring us back to reality and show us how blessed we really are. We have challenges here in Wayne County, but people are trying to find their family members and just trying to survive day to day. Please keep all of them in your thoughts and prayers.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation for all the thoughtful and kind emails that we received back about our District 12 E-news Update. As always, your thoughts and comments are used to improve future editions. Please forward this to your friends and family members who may be interested in receiving my e-news updates.

Joan A. Gebhardt

SPOTLIGHT

Wayne County Public Service Department at work for you!



On the Friday before the "President's Day Storm" I met with the Wayne County Department of Public Services Director Hassan Saab, and his staff, and the Westland Department of Public Services Director Kevin Bufford. I called the meeting in order to coordinate efforts for swift and effective coverage on the county roads and the state roads that the county maintains in District 12 by the Wayne County. We are continuing to improve on our services to fill the potholes around the county. You can contact the Department of Public Services to report potholes on the hotline number 24 hours a day at 734-955-2331.



Road Safety Audit Meeting at Franklin High School

Through the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) I requested a Road Safety Audit (RSA) of the existing traffic issues at Franklin High School, St. Damian Grade School and the intersection of Joy Road and Merriman Road. These problems were brought to my attention by the citizens in the Clements Circle Community Association (CCCA) and the Devon-aire Civic Association (DACA). There were complaints about turn lanes, flooding, excess traffic and traffic accidents.

This was truly a collaborative and cooperative effort of county, cities and schools. We gathered the best of the best for the several meetings at Franklin. SEMCOG was represented by Transportation Manager Tom Bruff and Engineers Kajal Patel and Deanna Donahoo and Planner Brian Pawlik. Wayne County sent Directors Ken Kucel and Mike Rogers, Engineers Mark Merkey, and Phil McGuire. The two cities involved, Livonia and Westland, both sent their DPS Directors Kevin Maillard and Kevin Buford, respectfully. The City of Livonia also asked Sgt. John Gibbs of the Traffic Bureau and Division Head Todd Zilincik. Rounding out the group was representation from the schools involved—Gary Meldrum, Franklin's Assistant Principal and Mary Stempin, the Principal of St. Damian School.

The final recommendations have been made which will improve the overall safety performance of this road segment. With an annual average daily traffic of approximately 11,500, the road does not warrant widening upgrades. The problem with Franklin High School is that it is on land-locked property. The team felt that resolving the situation at Franklin would have benefits to the traffic situation at St. Damian as well.

The Livonia Public Schools have already worked on the drains on the north side of the road, while Wayne County cleaned out ditches on the south side of Joy Road. Mr. Meldrum reported that since this was done early in the school year, there have not been flooding problems this school year. The County has replaced the crosswalk markings with reflective painting and installed new signs at the crosswalk for each direction of traffic. Franklin has re-routed buses into one turn around area and has asked parents to use only one drop-off point.

The short term fixes cost the County approximately \$17,200, while the Livonia Public Schools have invested about \$20,000 for work on the north side of Joy Road. There are several recommendations involving Access Management Site Issues that still need to be addressed.

COUNTY NEWS

County Sponsored Household Hazardous Waste Collections

Wayne County Department of Public Services' Land Resource Management Division (LRMD) is pleased to announce the first two scheduled Countywide Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections for this year.

The HHW collections run from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and are scheduled for:



- * Saturday, March 26, 2011 at Wayne County Community College District, Western Campus located at 9555 Haggerty Road, Belleville;
- * Saturday, June 18, 2011 at Henry Ford Community College located at 5101 Evergreen Road, Dearborn.

These collections are open to Wayne County residents only. For more information, please contact Wayne County's Resource Recovery Coordinator at 734-326-3936.

Visit to Washington, DC

When Southeast Michigan Council Governments went to Washington, DC to lobby our congressman I had the opportunity as Vice Chair to talk with Congressman John Dingell about several key issues affecting Inkster. The Greenway Project, Senior Wellness Center and retaining Community Development Block Grant (CTBG) money in the national budget were Priority issues.



Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Disabled "Fuel Call" button at Michigan pumps.

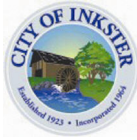
The following list was given to us by Michael F. Harris, Executive Director of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans group. There are now four gas stations in Westland that have installed the fuel call button to help the disabled to communicate with a gas station attendant from their car. You can find them at the following locations or go to www.thepumpguide.com for more locations in Michigan.

- Marathon Store - 37401 Joy Rd., *near* Newburgh Rd.
- Marathon Store - 37368 Ford Rd., *near* Newburgh Rd.
- Marathon Store - 32919 Cherry Hill Rd., *near* Venoy Rd.
- Marathon Store - 29424 Ann Arbor Trail, *near* Merriman Rd.

YOUR COMMISSIONER @ WORK IN ...



City of Westland



City of Inkster



City of Livonia

March is National Women’s History Month



The Wayne County Commission honored Beverly Kaminski this year for her leadership of the group named “Angel Wings.” Beverly and her friends donate over 15,000 items a year to premature babies and mothers in need. The items range from crocheted hats, blankets, booties, gowns and toy rattles.

Wayne Metro Annual Walk 2011

The Wayne Metro “Walk for Warmth” was at Westland Mall for the first time. Wayne Metro raised money for those that need help paying heating bills. It was a pleasure to join Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Mayor William Wild supporting this worthy event.



Women of Westland (WOW) Athena Awards 2011

Judy Ellis, Director of FirstStep received the annual Athena Award presented by the Women of Westland. She has touched the lives of around 200,000 women, children and men throughout her 30 year career.

Prom Donations are needed by: April 1, 2011

Interested in donating prom attire for young women & men? Please contact one of the following.

Susan Carpenter
Hegira Programs, Inc.
(734) 367-0469 x 137

Lori Joris
Lifespan Clinical Services
(734) 261-1842



Spring begins
Sunday, March 20th.



Staying
Connected

OFFICE INFORMATION

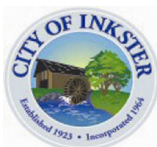
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District 12

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www.waynecounty.com

COUNTY CONTACTS

Taxpayer Assistance	(313) 224-5990
County Executive	(313) 224-0366
County Commission	(313) 224-2383
County Clerk	(313) 224-6262
Prosecutor	(313) 224-5777
Register of Deeds	(313) 224-5850
Sheriff	(313) 224-2222
Circuit Court	(313) 224-5260
Friend of Court	(313) 224-5300
Probate Court	(313) 224-5709
Birth & Death Records	(313) 224-5536
Children & Family Service	(313) 833-3464
Health Department	(734) 727-7000
Library For The Blind	(734) 727-7300
Marriage Licenses	(313) 224-5520
Parks:	(734) 261-1990
Chandler Aquatic Center	(313) 822-7665
Elizabeth Park Marina	(734) 675-8051
Huron Clinton Metro Park	(800) 477-2757
Inkster Valley Golf Course	(734) 722-8020
Warren Valley Golf Course	(313) 561-1040
Poison Control	(800) 222-1222
Potholes Hotline	(734) 955-2331
Public Service - Roads	(734)955-9920
Senior Services	(734) 727-7373
Veterans Affairs	(313) 224-5054
West Nile Virus Hotline	(888) 668-0869
WIC Program	(313) 876-4555

COFFEE HOURS



Join me on the **3rd Monday** of each month at the following.

10:00 am - YWCA, 26279 Michigan Ave. Inkster, MI 48141

12:00 noon - Panera Bread, 35300 Warren Rd. Westland , MI 48185

6:00 pm - Biggby Coffee, 11003 Middlebelt Rd. Livonia, MI 48150