

## Changing of the Guard...WMFC Elects New Board Members

At the first board meeting of each year, the WMFC Board of Directors inducts its new slate of board members, while giving a fond farewell to the board members whose terms have expired. At the January 3, 2006 WMFC Board meeting, Bob Dostal was elected to serve as Board President in 2006 with Larry Reeves being elected Vice President.

A great many thanks go out to Greg Bergtold, William Schmidt and Win Zacharias for their years of service to this board. Members elected E.J. Herst and Carl Coons to a second term. New to the 2006 Board of Directors are Ashley Baringer and Nathan Ohle.



**Ashley  
Baringer**

Ashley Baringer is an associate attorney at the law firm of Cline Close Dyer & Gambrell PLC. Her primary practice areas include Collections, Landlord/Tenant disputes, Non-Profit Organizations, Family Law, Abuse/Neglect, and Delinquency. Ashley was raised in Midland, graduating from H.H. Dow High School in 1998. She earned a B.S.B.A. from Central Michigan University in 2001 and completed a Juris Doctor degree from RWU Ralph R. Papitto School of Law in Rhode Island. Ashley is a dedicated board member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midland County and has recently joined the Board of Directors of Coleman Community Network and Center for Independent Living. She is a member of the Midland County and State of Michigan Bar Associations. As an attorney Ashley has

observed that children have the best opportunity to thrive when they have a network of support. Baringer believes in advocating for children and families, and this has played a large role in bringing her to WMFC.



**Nathan Ohle**

Nathan Ohle is a 2005 graduate of MSU with degrees in Family Community Services and Business Management. Nathan is now employed by The Office of Governor Jennifer M. Granholm in the capacity of Advance to the Governor. Which means he arrives at all the Governor's events in advance of her arrival and assures that everything is in order. He acts as the Governor's on-site contact at these engagements. Prior to being hired at the Governor's office, he had internships for the Detroit Pistons and the Governor's office.

Nathan was involved with WMFC for five and a half years, as a Group Leader and Peacemaker for the summer program. He was a member of the Summer Program Leadership Team where his organizational skills were invaluable. He proved himself successful at grant writing by receiving funding for the WMFC climbing wall. He was a valued volunteer for both the adopt-a-family program and the family camp. He is an avid sports fan and a huge Chicago sports fan!

Nathan is engaged to be married in May.

## Homage to Diane and Roland

West Midland Family Center has recently suffered the untimely deaths of two very remarkable individuals: Diane Dauer and Roland Weaver. Both were highly dedicated to WMFC from the earliest years and both will be missed immeasurably.

On March 13, 2006 Roland passed away and Diane passed away on March 20, 2006



**Diane Dauer**

Diane Dauer was the face of West Midland Family Center and the longest serving staff member. She was the spirit and essence of everything that is good about WMFC. Diane set the bar for compassion. She began working at The Center in 1979 as the first Youth Program Director where she consistently recognized teen's accomplishments.

Diane became Building Supervisor in 1989. In this role the community felt the full expanse of Diane's kindness as she had access to all patrons. She knew by name hundreds of Center patrons and the needs of each family, because so many people trusted and talked to her. Diane made it her business to know, so she could help. When she learned of a family needing our services, she was relentless in guaranteeing their needs.

Diane coordinated the Holiday Sharing Tree requests generated for Center patrons: arranging for many dedicated volunteers (herself and her husband included) to pick-up, sort and distribute gifts. Diane worked diligently throughout the season assuring that no one went without. As a complement to this, for many years Diane coordinated a Christmas Toy Drive benefit for west Midland County children.

*Continued on page 2*



## Homage to Diane and Roland *continued from page 1*

Diane was an inspiration to all those with whom she came in contact. She always demonstrated a caring that came from genuine concern. With compassion that was deep and child-like, Diane impacted the lives of thousands of people in her twenty-six years at The Center. She will be greatly missed.



**Roland Weaver**

Longtime WMFC supporter, Roland Weaver 79, died at home unexpectedly but peacefully.

Roland had the gift of gab and he used it to benefit WMFC for many years.

In 1974, Roland was a founding member of the Board of Directors of what was then called West Midland County Community Center. He was a Board member for 18 years and after his retirement from the Board stayed active as an advisor and member of the Human Resources and Services committee. Roland's compassion was clearly evident whenever a proposed policy was discussed that could possibly have an unin-

tended negative consequence on a Center staff member or patron. Roland was a true champion of the little guy, yet he was well accepted by the movers and shakers of Midland County as well.

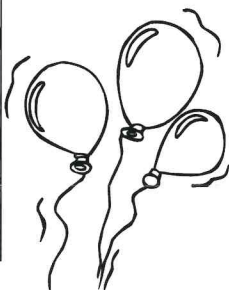
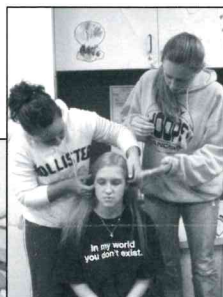
It was fitting that in 1993 Roland and long time fellow board member Laurence Wyman (of Homer Township) were the first two people given the title of Honorary Members of the Board of Directors. Since 1992 only five other individuals have been given this title.

It was said at the memorial service that Roland went quietly in his sleep. Those of us who loved him dearly will agree that he may have gone in his sleep, but we're having a hard time believing he didn't have anything to say about it!

Those of us who knew Diane and Roland were blessed by their presence in our lives. As we mourn their loss, we honor their lives by striving to reflect their kind and gentle spirits in the work that we do.....in the lives that we touch.

## Looking Back ~ A Few Highlights of 2005

### Homecoming 2005



Homecoming "Get Ready Party" volunteers assist party-goers with their hair and make-up as they prepare for Bullock Creek High School's homecoming dance.

### We Will Miss You Mrs. Fabinski



Students & their families gathered to wish Mrs. Elaine Fabinski well at a Farewell Party in her honor. Mrs. Fabinski began teaching at WMFC where it is estimated that she taught more than 500 children over the years.

### Healthy Pursuits For All!



Dow COP adds its "Stars" to the Wall of Honor. Twenty-three COP college graduates were honored at an all class reunion for the Dow COP classes of 1993-2005.



Fun Family activities abound at The Center throughout the year!



# Individual Financial Contributors 2005 & 2006

To the best of our knowledge, this listing is accurate as of publication. However...if you find you have been erroneously placed on our anonymous list ~ please contact us!

Lawrence & Sherrill Adamick, Franklyn & Gretchen Aerstin, Robert Allbee, Arnold & Terrie Allemang, Gerald & Dorothy Allen, Michael & Renee Allen, David Alsgaard, Julie Arbury, J. & B. Bandyopadhyay, Orrin & Eleanor Barrett, John & Sandra Bartos, Robert Belfit, Stuart Bender, Jeffery & Laura Bennett, Greg and Nancy Bergtold, Donald & Vicki Berry, Gary & Sally Billotti, Etcyl & Ruth Blair, Charles & Connie Blanchard, James & Diane Borin, George & Vicki Bork, James & Dorothy Bradke, James Bradley, Joseph & Janet Bradley, Bob & Jeff Brandle, Joanne Brines, Collin Broddle, J. Dee & Elaine Brooks, Nancy Brown, Joy Buchanan, Robert & Erma Burger, Linda Burgert, Gerald & Ellen Burkett, James Burlingame, Rosalie Bush, Rosella & Ann Butzler, Ruth Putnam Caldwell, Hal & Dottie Canfield, Peter & Barbara Carras, Thomas & Janice Cartmill, Ronnie Cermak, Thomas & Janice Chamberlin, Stuart & Mary Choate, Charles and Madeline Cochran, Robert & Carole Coffield, Carl Coons, Dean Cooper, Mike & Nina Cronenberger, Wayne & Karen Crosby, William & Dorothy Curry, Dolores Dauht, Marylou Dekau, Thomas Dergazarian, Thomas & Laura Dietsche, Herbert & Junia Doan, Helen Dockham, Thomas Dolan, Richard and Donna Dolinski, Benjamin & Kathrine Dollard, Norman & Maureen Donker, Greg & Robyn Dorrien, Jack & Virginia Dorrien, Keith Lathom and Lori Dostal, Robert & Mary Ann Dostal, David and Lila Drake, James & Maryanne Dreyer, Edward & Dorothy Elliott, William & Cathy Elliott, Gene and Sandra Engle, Fay English, Walter & Isabell Ewing, William & Phyllis Ferris, Arthur & Bette Fisher, Larry & Dianne Flemming, Dorothy Ann Follette, William & Kathleen Fothergill, Brian & Lynette Frankovich, Richard & Sarah Furlow, Dominick & Edith Gagliardi, Carl & Beverly Garrison, Mary Gieselmann, Ronald & Garlene Glanz, Cal & Marilyn Goeders, Roy & Karen Goethe, Roger & Virginia Gohrband, Mary Grabmeyer, Beatrice Green, Jason & Barb Green, Rick & Donna Gross, Wendy Gross, William & Marie Gross, Robert & Nancy Grubich, Lawrence & Kimberly Hale, Don & Yvonne Hall, Roger & Joyce

Halstead, Donald & Sally Hammond, James & Shirley Hampton, Leroy & Anne Hampton, Georgia Handt, Alfred & Mary Hanus, Virginia Harlow, Gilbert and Miriam Hartner, Donald and Henry Eta Hartwick, Gerald & Janet Harvey, Kurt & Jayne Heringhausen, E.J. & Jill Derry Herst, Kirk & Janet Hewlett, Robert & Nancy Hieb, John & Mary Hinson, Thomas & Peggy Hoff, Earl & Alma Hoon, James & Mary Hopfensperger, Jed Hopfensperger, John & Rita Hopfensperger, Dick & Pat Hopkins, Mark & Sarah Horness, Robert & Ann Hotchkiss, Norm & Ruth Hozak, E.R. & Patricia Humburg, Arnold & Betty Huntress, Mike & Nancy Hurtubise, Cherylee Hutter, Charles & Victoria Infante, Lawrence & Mary Jackson, Larry & Sherry Jacobs, Roger & Elizabeth Kapla, Janice Karlovich & Kenneth Foster, Robert & Betty Keil, David & Jean Kellom, W.W. & Bonnie Kennett, David & Patti Kepler II, Roger & Phyllis Kessler, James & Linda Kevra, Steven & Mary Kin, Charlene Klimpel, Warren & Ingrid Knox, Bruce & Tammy Kohnert, Marilyn Kohnert, Jeffrey & Linda Kosch, Romeo & Silvia Kreinberg, Warren Kruger, William & Jane Kuhlman, Geoffry & Jenifer Kusch, James & Sue La Bean, Norman Lake, Doug & Kathrine Lake, Bruce & Hazel LaMee, Laurence & Janet Lang, Jeff Lee, Freeman (Pete) & Gloria Lehman, Ina & Robert Lerner, Timothy Letcher, Mark & Kathy Lewis, Chris & Jackie Light, Lowell & Cathrine Lindy, Dirk & Susan Love, Walter & Marcia Lueth, Edward & Kathleen Lunt, Antionette Lyon, John Machalleck, William Markiwitz, Pedro & Beatriz Martinez-Fonts, Cathrine Maxey, Sharon Maxwell, Wallace & Lindsay Mayton, Charles & Phyllis McDonald, Jack & Rose Marie McQuaid, Richard and Catherine Merling, John & Peggy Mier, Bob & Janet Miller, Forest Minger Jr., Tom & Elsie Misner, Robert & Dorthy Monica, Donna Morris, Virginia Morrison, Joseph & Kathleen Mortensen, Mary Neely, Therese Nowak, Laura & Ryan Ohle, Alice & Fred Oonk, Franca Oreffice, Alan & Jean Ott, Christine & Micheal Owen, Betty Pankey, Paul Pankratz, Thomas & Margaret Peters, Anthony

Pierfelice, Frank & Jean Popoff, John & Mary Popp, Barbara Prewozniak, Mildred Putnam, John & Judy Rapanos, Michael Rapanos, James & Nancy Reamsma, John Reder, Larry & Patricia Reeves, James & Mary Reif, J.D. Richardson, David Rick, John and Ranny Riecker, Harriet Robbins, Tad & Sally Jean Roberson, Ed & Elyse Rogers, Joe & Joan Rogers, Harold & Helen Rossow, John & Lou Ella Saam, Laurene Kerr & Sarah Kok, Hershel and Karen Schaar, William & Bethany Schmidt, James & Mary Ellen Schroeder, Wayne & Sonja Schutt, William Schuette, Herbert & Barbara Scogg, Dean Scott, Gordon & Virginia Sears, Dorian Shank, Paul Shauger, Thomas & Roberta Sinclair, Marian Smick, Bernard & Joann Smith, Glen & Ann Smith, Robert & Aleta Smith, Donald & Jean Stagg, Bill & Linda Stavropoulos, John & Leslie Stern, Thomas & Vicki Strouse, Sally Ann Sutton, Pete & Ann Swan, Leonard & Dolores Szymanski, Edward & JoAnn Tanzini, Louise Tarn, Graham & Elizabeth Taylor, Tom & Paula Tefft, Ross & Arlene Thompson, Paul & Janet Thornsberg, Ira & Susan Thumma, Wayne & Cheryl VanConant, Betty VanderKelen, Joe and Kim VanderKelen, Enza & Isabel Vigas, Edward & Evelyn Wall, Sten & Anne Wallen, Jo Ann Waltz, Ann Ward, Gilbert & Alice Ward, Robert & Mary Warne, Richard & Patricia Waterman, Gerald and Sally Wasserman, Steven & Cheryl Weckle, Barbara Weyenberg, George Whittington, Stephen Wildes, William & Margaret Williams, John & Rosemary Wilson, John & JoAnne Winchester, Scott Winchester, Bob Wise, Gary & Janet Wittbrodt, Ginger Yarch, William & Jeanne Yost, Arnold & Sally Young, Patty Young, Win Zacharias, Gary and Deb Zellner, and many anonymous gifts.

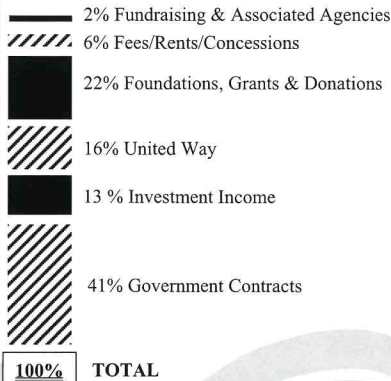
## 2005 BY THE NUMBERS

### Financial Summary (Unaudited)

Figures in Brackets represent income and expense from 2004

#### 2005 OPERATING INCOME\*

TOTAL \$1,394,264 (\$1,294,508)



#### 2005 EXPENSE

TOTAL \$1,376,711 (\$1,292,875)



\*Contributions to Restricted Endowment Fund not included.

### Organizational Donors for 2005

Government Grants	568,414.00
Herbert H & Grace A Dow Foundation	257,399.00
United Way-Midland County	218,000.00
Towsley Foundation	60,000.00
Alden & Vada Dow Foundation	50,000.00
Midland Area Community Foundation	30,000.00
WMFC Auxiliary	29,091.00
Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation	26,000.00
Allen Foundation	15,190.00
Strosacker Foundation	15,000.00
Dow Chemical Foundation	10,000.00
Snow Machines	3,000.00
Blessed Sacrament	2,500.00
1st United Methodist Church	2,500.00
Greendale Township	2,500.00
St. Johns Episcopal Church	2,000.00
Bergstein Foundation	2,000.00
The Doan Family Foundation	2,000.00
Zonta	2,000.00
Kiwanis Foundation	1,577.00
Hopfensperger Hair Design	1,000.00
Midland Rotary Club	1,000.00
Re/Max of Midland	850.00
Kiwassee Kiwanis	500.00
Comerica	500.00
Homer Methodist Church	500.00
CalTech	400.00
D&D Asphalt	250.00
Memorial Presbyterian Women	200.00
Monday Club	200.00
Midland Montessori	188.00
PEO Sisterhood	150.00
Premix Foundation	150.00
XI Alpha	150.00
Gordonville United Methodist Church	100.00
Midland Education Association	100.00
The Apothecary Shoppe	100.00
Midland Seventh Day Adven. Church	100.00
Custom Entertainment Opt.	50.00
Brandle Roofing & Sheet Metal	50.00
The Blitz - Midland	20.00



# West Midland FAMILY FACES



**Ruth Ann**

Ruth Ann ~ Spring has sprung and we have a blossoming preschooler! Ruth Ann has evolved into an excellent learner. She can identify all of the letters and sounds in her own name. She can also do the same for a few of her classmates. She is on her way to becoming an excellent reader! She also does a beautiful job writing her name. Ruth Ann is always so excited when her teacher, Mrs. Plewa points to and says each letter after she writes it.

Ruth Ann has so many special qualities that make her such an awesome young lady. She has the kindest heart and warmest smile. She greets everyone with a soft hug and she loves to giggle when playing "Duck, Duck, Goose". She is kind to everyone and is always happy. She loves learning new things and is always positively engaged in everything she does. We love her!



**Wayne**

Wayne ~ Wayne regularly attends the Positive Action after school program for teens and comes to the Center for the Saturday Night activities as well. He is in the 6th grade at Bullock Creek Middle School. Wayne is unique among teens in that he really

strives to be his own person while coping with the many stressors typical among teens. He is trying to figure out life, what he wants and where he is going. The great thing about Wayne is that he manages not to give in to peer pressure or make bad choices. He remains true to himself and his ideals. Wayne is an excellent role model for other teens. He has a fairly advanced worldview and he uses this perspective to help other teens see the bigger picture. He is looking forward to his future. He hopes to attend Delta College, and then transfer to the U of M.



**Betty**

Betty ~ Last year, Betty Pankey of Homer Township had a computer she "had tried to use". She was forced to rely on assistance from her neighbor for fear of breaking her computer without help. As such, Betty was thrilled when she read about free computer classes in the Senior Services of Midland County monthly newsletter. That network brought her to the West Midland Family Center's computer lab and into Peggy Hoff's classroom. Now Betty feels more confident as she searches the Internet more freely, saves "Favorite" sites, deletes files, and types up notes for Homer Township's Water Board. She has learned to format documents in Microsoft Word, make an address book using an Excel spreadsheet,

create labels in Publisher, and use a digital camera with photo editing software.

"I'm not so afraid to try things or worried about breaking something. I don't have to wait for people to help me," says Betty.



**Lynn**

Lynn ~ Distinctive winner of the first ever WMFC - March Madness College Basketball Tournament Pool! Lynn's tactic for winning is unconventional but effective. Her valuable tips for winning are as follows: First, while selecting teams, if you are particularly enamored of one team's mascot choose this team over the other. Another clear indicator of success is team color. Blue beats green, red over blue, works every time. According to Lynn, another fine measure of team ability is whether or not the selector has ever traveled to the college's city of origin. Lynn plans to spend her winnings on biking supplies for the Dow COP's summer bike trip across the Lower Peninsula.

Believe it or not Lynn has absolutely no previous experience with basketball and has really never won anything before. It seems that this combination of attributes was perfectly suited for this year's tournament. As Lynn said, "Sometimes ignorance is bliss."