

# Goodfellows are successful, but more help still needed

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Editor

The Wayne Goodfellows are near the end of another fundraising season, and they can still use a little more help.

Not that the group suffered this year – their three main fundraising events brought in more than \$18,000 according to Goodfellows President Robert Dunn – but there is always more need, he said.

“We’re down a little bit, but we’re not down a whole lot compared to the way the economy is,” Dunn said. “You pick it up somewhere else. People call you and say, ‘I want to do something.’”

The Wayne Goodfellows does the bulk of its fundraising through annual parties. An interested group takes over a local establishment for the night and all the proceeds are donated to the organization, Dunn said. An event at the Wayne Eagles brought in more than \$6,500, an event at Jake’s Again – organized by Wayne city employees – brought in more than \$5,700 and an event at the Village Bar – put on by Dunn’s Ironworkers Local 832 at Unistrut – gathered \$6,800 for the group.

This year, the organization made sure that 168 families and many senior citizens had a good Christmas, Dunn said. The funds they raise this year will support efforts for next year, he added.

The gift baskets include vouchers for the four supermar-

kets in Wayne valued at about \$100.

“It depends on the size of the family,” he said. There are also gift cards to Toys R Us and Kids R Us for the children, rather than actual presents. Dunn said that was so that the parents could go shopping for their own children.

“We’ve been doing it that way for a few years,” he said. “We’ve found in the past that we would go out and spend \$5,600 on toys

and we’d end up with the wrong toy for the wrong age group.

“They’re always grateful,” he added, “but we thought this was a better way to do it.”

The majority of the fundraising efforts are

done for the year, but any wanting to give money still can, Dunn said. One of the fundraisers, where people ‘buy’ a paper Christmas ball and personalize it, is still under way.

The balls can be found in places like Jake’s Again, Rookie’s, The Red Apple or at the Village Pub or several hair salons, Dunn said. One dollar purchases the balls, which are then displayed throughout the end of the year.

“It’s worked out good for us,” he said.

He said that fundraiser would go on until the end of the year and would benefit the goal of the Goodfellows – to ensure No Child Without A Christmas – in the coming years.

“We’re still looking to do some more,” he said.

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**Goodfellows President  
Robert Dunn**