

LIFE NOTES

Class of '49 to reunite

Kenmore High School class of 1949 70th reunion will be Thursday, May 23, 1 p.m. at the Galaxy, in Wadsworth. Contact Betty Molnar 330-645-6921 or Peggy Bandy 330-848-4035 for information.

Yard sale dates announced

Barberton's city-wide yard sale is Thursday, June 13 through Sunday, June 16. Yard sale permits are not needed during these dates. Any residence in the city can participate. Place a balloon at the end of the street to indicate where sales are.

Attend line dancing

Love to line dance but don't know where to go? Classes will be offered at the Barberton Active Adult Center on Tuesday mornings beginning May 7. A beginner class will be taught from 11:15 a.m. - noon, cost is \$3 per class. A class for dancers already familiar with line dancing will be from 9:30-11 a.m., cost is \$5 per class. No dance experience is needed and no partner is required. All classes are taught by Sarah Colston. Line dancing has been shown to be especially beneficial for older adults. A 21-year study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that dancing can reduce the risk of Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. For more information, please call 330-760-7875.

Try yoga

Have you ever wanted to try Yoga? Now is your chance! Sign up today for Yoga in the Park. The Parks and Recreation Department is offering a yoga class for all levels to beat the Lake Anna Gazebo beginning Tuesday, May 7. The class will be Tuesdays for six weeks, from 6-7 p.m. for \$42. Registration must be done in advance and you may do so by calling 330-848-6740 or stop in to the Barberton Parks and Recreation Department offices at 500 W. Hopocan Ave. from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Donate food

The letter carriers food drive will be Saturday, May 11. Put your non-perishable donation in a bag by your mailbox or drop it at the Barberton Post Office, 531 Wooster Road W. They will deliver it to a local food bank.

Young musicians perform at Kave

Karla Tipton
Herald Staff Writer

Downtown Barberton is a welcoming place for young artists and musicians, with multiple venues open to showcasing their work.

Singer-songwriter Lauren Brabson, who hosts the Kave Coffee Bar's regular Thursday night open mic event, said, "I've been fortunate enough to take that position, and just keep paying it on, and make it a comfortable and safe place for musicians and all performers to come and share what they have." She credits its success to the late Mike Wilsterman, who originated the event at the 584 W. Tuscarawas Avenue coffee shop, and passed the baton to her.

On open mic night, Brabson takes the stage for a couple of songs each week, but will be putting on a longer show Saturday, May 11, at M and M's Taphouse, 523 W. Tuscarawas Ave., Barberton, with a performance from 8-10 p.m.

Anyone who regularly attends local events may have already heard Brabson's work. In addition



HERALD PHOTO/Karla Tipton

Lauren Brabson, Barberton singer-songwriter and host of Kave Coffee Bar's Thursday open mic night, will perform at M and M's Taphouse Saturday, May 11.

to her regular appearances at Kave, she has performed at coffee houses and small restaurants in Barberton, Wadsworth, Akron, the Norton Cider Festival, and twice this year at the Rialto Theatre in Kenmore.

Her sound is rooted in traditional folk and country, as well as classic rock. Having grown up hearing music her parents

listened to, she names influences as diverse as Patsy Cline, Vince Gill, John Denver and Bruce Springsteen. "My parents kept CDs in our car and for along time, I just assumed it was what was on the radio," she said. "It's funny talking to people my age sometimes, because I'll mention one of these artists, and they'll look at me like, 'who are you talking about?'"

Brabson was born and grew up in Barberton, attending St. Augustine for her early schooling, and then being homeschooled during her high school years.

Although only 21 years old, she has been writing songs since age 16, when she picked up a guitar and taught herself how to play. Her voice resonates with a traditional folk music style, and her songs echo with its roots.

From the start, she followed her own path as she developed her sound. "I (See MUSIC, Page 10)

Kids in awe of circus



HERALD PHOTO/Taylor Thompson

Anthony AKA "Shiny the Clown" entertains viewers.

Taylor Thompson
Herald Staff Writer

Though the Star Family Circus is small, it brought big smiles to many children last weekend. The show was May 3 at the Barberton Band Boosters Gym and featured acrobats and aerialists, a juggler, a Capuchin monkey, dogs performing tricks and balancing acts, a clown and a little bit of crowd participation. Children watched in awe as they were invited to sit on mats right outside the circus ring so they could get the best view.

Kathy English, owner, said she's been in love with the circus since she was 2 years old and her parents helped manage one. She was amazed by the aerialists and as she got older, she was able to practice with the performers. At 18 years old, she started working on her own with a trapeze and

an aerial rings act. After touring for 10 years, she met her husband and they had three children.

While homeschooling the children, the family of five traveled all over the U.S., performing in several different circuses before starting one of their own. Her daughter, Reyna Garcia, and grandson, Anthony (also known as "Shiny the Clown") are part of her circus today. Kathy's son now works in the rafters of buildings - hanging equipment for shows, concerts and theater productions. Her oldest daughter worked for Kathy's now ex-husband in his circus, but today, she is a dedicated stay-at-home mom.

Several families over the years have performed in the show, with every one bringing something different to the ring. "Jack" the kangaroo, who has been featured in the show (See CIRCUS, Page 10)

Carmela Milichev (Milich) celebrates 100th birthday



HERALD PHOTO/Taylor Thompson

Carmela wears a crown for her celebration.

Taylor Thompson
Herald Staff Writer

Born in Philadelphia in 1919, Carmela, nicknamed 'Millie', was a child of the depression.

Her parents, Cataldo and Filomena Palazzo, were Italian immigrants. Carmela began working when she was young as a seamstress and every penny she earned was used to help support her family of 10. She has fond childhood memories of playing with the neighborhood children and her favorite toy was a doll made of a cloth.

At age 17, Carmela met the love of her life, Perry Milichev (Milich). He was a Navy officer from Barberton and was stationed in Philadelphia. Carmela knew her father would not approve of her dating a sailor, especially one who was not Italian. With the help of her younger sister, she packed

a suitcase, climbed out her bedroom window, and ran off with Perry to Maryland where they got married.

Perry served in both World War II and the Korean War. During WW II, Carmela worked as a Rosie the Riveter, producing war supplies. Throughout his time in the service, which was about 27 years, Perry and Carmela moved all over the U.S., "basically giving birth in every state," daughter Patti Scalera said. They had a total of seven children - six girls and one boy: Phyllis Hurst, Brenda White, Kathleen Leubuff, Violet Megois, Patti Scalera, Perry Milichev and Donna Patterson.

They moved back to Barberton in 1957 and Perry helped manage the family restaurant Milich's Village Inn, with his parents, Mirko and Katy Milich, and his brothers, Rick and Dale. Perry passed away in 1996 at 80 years old. Carmela still (See MILLIE, Page 8)

'Joy in Every Moment' book review

Yalonda Griffin
Barberton Public Library

"Bah Humbug!" These are the famous words of Ebenezer Scrooge in the classic tale, "A Christmas Carol." However, that type of attitude is not only limited to Christmas time. Unfortunately, some people have that attitude all year round, which could stem from poor circumstances, physical or emotional impairments, or just a downright bad attitude. In her audiobook, "Joy in Every Moment," Tzivia Gover has developed a methodology to address that.

When challenged by a friend to find joyful moments in her childhood, Gover could only think of the bad things that

happened to her. That epiphany, as she stated about two and a half minutes into the audiobook, caused her to probe a little deeper into her depressive mindset. After recalling the words of a hiking trail guide on how to search for animals, she began working on a new mindset. The guide had advised to "place your mind's eye on a paw print, or bird or animal you are looking for and then to practice seeing it until you would recognize it when you find it." The author then set out to develop a "search engine" to extrapolate the good things in one's life versus just the bad and embarked on her journey to find joy every day in ordinary things. Her audiobook is filled with ideas to

foster joyful thinking by reciting positive affirmations, meditation, being more grateful and kind and forgiving and letting things go, even when the other person does not apologize. She also encourages listeners and readers to journal and do physical exercise to promote the wellness of finding joy by referring to many different quotes from people around the world. This makes the audiobook universal, where everyone can get something out of it.

I highly recommend one considering checking out this beautifully read audiobook or reading the hard copy. Finding "joy in every moment" is a gift one can give to themselves or others all year round that never loses its appeal.