



The Barberton Herald

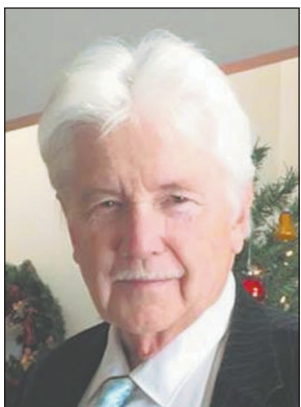


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Welcome to the Magic City



The Rev. Tim Brainard will be one of three mediums appearing at the "Magic City Mediumship Night," Saturday, Nov. 24, at Lake Anna Hall.

Karla Tipton
Herald Staff Writer

If you want to learn how to develop your intuition and increase under-

standing of the science behind connecting to your spiritual energy, "Magic City Mediumship Night," Saturday, Nov. 24, in Barberton, may be calling to you.

Three mediums, Tim Brainard, Jane Voneman-DuPerow and Ellen Bourn, will be speaking on these topics, as well as providing the conduit between audience members who want to contact loved ones who have passed on. The event starts at 7 p.m. at Lake Anna Hall, 542 W. Park Ave. Tickets are \$22 through online pre-order at EventBee (www.eventbee.com) and EventBrite (www.eventbrite.com) or \$25 at the door.

The event came together quickly after organizer Angie Agnoni became

aware that other medium nights held in Northeast Ohio had recently sold out.

Agnoni, an astrologer based in Barberton, had connections to mediums in the Great Lakes area, and found them receptive to the event. "I had mediums come up to me and say, 'I want to come to Barberton.' They like that it's called the 'Magic City,'" she said.

She hopes the event will help people get past the fear they feel about psychic phenomenon, and realize there is science behind receiving messages from the spirit world. "What we've learned is that everyone has this ability, and it's not super scary if you can understand it better."

"Everyone carries a certain vibration about them. If you raise your

vibrations, you then attract those things that match that," she said. "You just have to calm your mind and meditate, and raise your own vibrations, and you'll be able to receive messages from spirits."

She provides an example from her own life. Two family members who have died, her grandmother and nephew, had a fondness for cardinals. "When I see a cardinal, I think about them," she said. "It reminds me to keep those relationships going, even though they are deceased."

She sees cardinals in the strangest places and believes it is a message from beyond. She takes comfort in that. "We need to be more mindful in our daily lives."

(See MAGIC, Page 2)

Resident scammed for \$20K

Cierra Thompson
Herald Staff Writer

A resident was contacted by someone identifying themselves as Hanus Software offering a rebate of \$200 for the antivirus software he purchased a year ago.

The resident thought he was coming into some money, agreed and allowed the person to gain control of his laptop. He said a screen came up for him to punch in the amount of \$200 for the price of the rebate. When he did \$20,000 showed up in the box.

The resident said the person on the phone started telling him the customer service agent that was helping him is going to be fired and has a family and children to feed. The resident was told over the phone he was going to have

to get the money and send it back to them. Somehow the scammers accessed his checking account at Chase Bank by asking him for the last two digits of his account and then deposited \$20,000 in his account. When he went to Chase, he had \$20,000 more in his account. The scammers then told him to withdraw the money and send it to them, but not to withdraw more than \$10,000 or else the bank will have to call the IRS to report it.

He went to Chase on East Robinson in Barberton and withdrew \$9,900. Afterward, he went to the branch on Cleveland Massillon Road in Norton and withdrew \$8,600 for a total of \$19,500.

He was instructed to wrap the money in aluminum foil and send it through FedEx to Cheng Lee on Rancho Valley Drive in Pomona, California.

He sent the money out Nov. 7. Officers called FedEx to try to stop the delivery but it was too late. The package was delivered Nov. 8.

The resident said at one point they had him place a towel over his computer because of a radioactive thing they were going to do. He complied and looked under the towel and saw his webcam was activated.

Officers took a copy of a note the resident took as he was talking to these people along with a copy of the FedEx receipt for the delivery.

Officers spoke with the resident again and were informed the money was somehow taken from his savings account and put into his checking account. He did not notice this when he withdrew the money.

Council voices Tobacco 21 concerns

Cierra Thompson
Herald Staff Writer

During the Health Committee meeting, council discussed their concerns about Tobacco 21.

Councilwoman Shannon Conrad-Wokojance, spoke with constituents about the legislation and she said a lot of her feedback was in regards to the fee of \$150 increasing in the future.

Councilwoman Nina Angeloff, said making Tobacco 21 statewide would make it more effective.

"If Norton passed it, Barberton passed it and Wadsworth didn't, they'll just drive down to Wadsworth to get it," said Angeloff. She said the legislation needs to be stricter and if Ohioans want to keep 18- 20-year-olds from smoking it has to be statewide. "I think this would deter some, but these kids will drive to Montrose to get ice cream," she stressed.

"I would rather put it on the ballot. We can't visualize what's going to happen. Are we going to take all the blame? I think it's time

to put the public in order and let them help us out," said Councilman Elwood Palmer.

Councilwoman Patricia Zarle conducted a door-to-door survey and asked residents how they felt. The feedback she received from it was split, almost 50-50 she reported.

The second reading of the ordinance was done during the Nov. 13 regular legislative meeting.

Before the reading, citizens addressed council with their thoughts.

Corey Kendrick, Summit County Public Health, said they have no intentions of increasing the \$150 retailers fee. For them to increase the fee they would have to go through the board of health, do three readings, inform the vendors and everyone involved. Kendrick went on to explain the governmental contract with the city, "For whatever reason we broke our promise for not serving the city of Barberton with satisfaction, there is a 30-day out clause in the contract and you

(See SMOKE, Page 2)

Barber has California connection



COURTESY PHOTO
Lumber is piled near the Diamond Match plant in Barber, California.

Tree lighting ceremony highlights festival

In conjunction with the Winter Wonderland Festival in Downtown Barberton, the Magic City Kiwanis will have their annual tree lighting ceremony at the Lake Anna Gazebo beginning at 5:45 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 24. The festival is from 4-8 p.m. See Pages 11-14 for details and schedule.

When Barberton City founder and Diamond Match owner O.C. Barber was looking for a supply of lumber to be turned into matchsticks, he went to California.

In 1906 Barber purchased a forested area in the Sacramento Valley near the city of Chico, now known for being near the deadly Camp Fire.

According to the book "Ohio Columbus Barber, America's Match King" by the Barberton Historical Society, the villages of Barber and Sterling grew with homes, sawmills and lumber yards. The industrial sites are now part of a development called Barber Yard with the goals of mixing commercial, residential and other uses.

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Comedian Ketler brings stand-up talent

Karla Tipton
Herald Staff Writer

Comedian/producer Christopher Ketler likes to connect the dots. He returned to his roots in Ohio after living in Florida for years, and found his calling: stand-up comedy. Now he brings the comedians he met while touring the country to Northeastern Ohio through Funny Noizes Productions.

The next production, the “Mafia Ties Comedy Show,” is set for 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 24, at the newly renovated West Theater in Barberton. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

“I know the people and I just sort of connect the dots,” he said in an interview with the Herald. “But there are so many other people who make these shows happen. It’s a team effort.”

Ketler said the company strives to put on high quality shows, working with sound companies, radio emcees, and other industry professionals.

The company also produces local shows at the Not So Fragile Theater, the

Rialto and Barmacy. Now there are plans to produce a stand-up comedy show once a month at the West Theater.

The second show at the venue is already scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 1. “An Evening with Gary Garcia and Friends” will be headlined by Garcia, the house comedian at Caesar’s Palace, Atlantic City.

The shows are reasonably priced, too: \$12 per ticket.

The Northeast Ohio comedy scene has existed for many years, but has recently been on the rise, he said.

The “Mafia Ties Comedy Show” based on the eight-part drama about organized crime set in Youngstown, is scheduled to debut on Amazon Prime by the end of the year. Although the TV show is not comedy, many area comedians contributed their talents to the locally and independently produced series. These comedians comprise the lineup of the West Theater show, along with headliner Greg “The Greek” Kritikos, an “Old School New York” comedian.

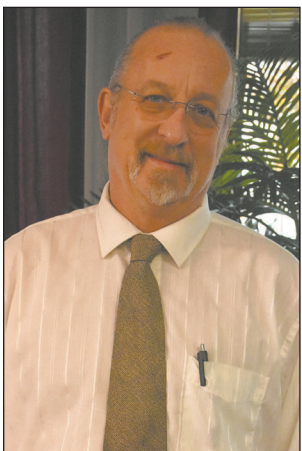
After the show, there will be a meet and greet session, when interaction between attendees and comedians is encouraged.

Ketler will also perform, as he does for all Funny Noizes productions. He takes his position in the line-up based on the caliber of the other comedians, and has never put himself at the top of the bill.

A carpenter by day, Ketler lives in rural Wayne County, and loves life in Ohio. He turned to stand-up comedy as a way to express himself, allowing him to “say things that shouldn’t be said,” after a difficult divorce and the hard times that followed. His comedic voice as “the Bitter Dude” came about because “that’s my perspective on life, and having that kind of an attitude makes it funny.”

Over the past seven years, he has performed gigs in New York City, Chicago, Detroit, and Orlando, where he met many up-and-coming comedians.

“I’m booking fresh blood,” said Keltner, adding these comedians will be “the next big thing. You’ll be saying, ‘Hey, I saw this



HERALD PHOTO/Rich Muller

Comedian Chris Ketler books nationally known stand-up comedians to local theaters. The “Mafia Ties Comedy Show” will be performed at West Theater at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

guy in this little theater in Akron that seated 100 people before he ever did that Netflix special.”

In addition to \$12 tickets, there are limited VIP tickets with special reserved seating for \$25. Order tickets online (<https://330tix.com/organizations/funny-noizes-productions>) or by calling 330-975-0072. The West Theater is at 1017 Wooster Road West. Free parking is available.

Business loans available from BCDC

Loan funds through the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Barberton Community Development Corporation (BCDC) for Barberton area businesses are available.

The BCDC is offering low interest loans for property acquisition, equipment purchases, image enhancement and working capital. “We have a wide range of financing programs that can accommodate most City of Barberton businesses” said, Scott Wagner, Executive Director. The EDA loans range from \$10,000 to \$150,000 and interest rates start as low as 4 percent depending on credit worthiness.

In addition, loan funds are available through the BCDC’s Small Business Administration (SBA) Intermediary Lending Program. The BCDC can utilize this funding source in Barberton, Norton and New Franklin. The SBA loans range from \$10,000 to \$200,000.

“Economic development is a business; we have the ability to put together packages that allow businesses to achieve their long term goals,” Wagner said. “In addition, if a company is unable to obtain traditional financing, the BCDC can review the project and make a determination on funding.” The BCDC has been offering

loans to Barberton area businesses since the mid 1980s and is committed to providing economic Development services in the City of Barberton.

The BCDC has assisted hundreds of companies throughout the Barberton area and helped to create thousands of employment opportunities.

Companies interested in financing are encouraged to contact the BCDC office to discuss the available programs or to schedule a meeting. Hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call-330-745-3070 or email scottwagner@bcdc.org or kathleensawyer@bcdc.org.

Fatherhood sessions offered

Embrace Clinic & Care Center and the Summit County Fatherhood Initiative host fatherhood classes. The 7 Habits of a 24/7 Dad program is free and runs 6:30-8 p.m., at various times throughout the year on Wednesdays at the center, 180 First St. NW. The classes are open to all dads and dad role-models in Summit County. For information or to register call 330-825-1900 or visit <http://embraceccc.org>.

FROM THE FRONT

Magic

(Continued from Front)

Mediumship events promote healing to people who have lost loved ones, said Agnoni. “It can be very comforting when a medium can give them a message from the other side that resonates with them, something that nobody else would know.”

At Magic City Mediumship Night, attendees may put their names in a hat. Ten names will be drawn by each medium, who will then “connect to the other side and give that person a message,” said Agnoni.

The mediums in attendance include the Rev. Tim Brinard, who has done readings for more than 40 years, had a radio show for 15 years, and has appeared on Fox TV. The Rev. Jane Voneman-DuPerow is a TV show host, author of “Tune into the Magic Within” and originated the app “Spirit Dice.” The Rev. Ellen Bourn is a former president of the Lily Dale Assembly and serves clients in the Western New York area.

A meet and greet after party with the mediums will be at the M and M’s Taphouse, 523 W. Tuscarawas Ave., behind Lake Anna Hall. For further information, or for those unfamiliar with online methods of purchasing tickets, call 216-832-1473.

Smoke

(Continued from Front)

can terminate service with us. So, if we would break our promise with the \$150 with no increase you could terminate the contract with us,” said Kendrick.

Shaun Jaber, owner of Rocky’s gas station said he understands cigarettes are bad but the fees are what make him apprehensive. He mentioned other cities that have changed from a one-time fee to a yearly fee. Jaber brought seven 18-year-old students and graduates to the meeting to show council they are adults who have made the decision to buy cigarettes. The legislative meeting wrapped up with the members adopting all ordinances on the agenda.

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