

Especially  
FOR MOM

Pages 16-17

# The Barberton Herald



© 2019 Vespoint Publishing Company, Inc.

Thursday, May 9, 2019

www.barbertonherald.com

## Bridge over Wolf Creek closed indefinitely



HERALD PHOTO/Jim Eritano

Signs announce the bridge's closing on the south end of the closed portion of Cleveland Massillon Road.

**Jim Eritano**  
Herald Staff Writer

When the Cleveland Massillon Road bridge over Wolf Creek was closed April 19, the word was that the closure was indefinite.

Maintenance crews sent to repair a hole in the bridge found that the outer beams had severely deteriorated, and one of them was gone.

The Summit County Engineer's office called on bridge experts from E. L. Robinson Engineering to inspect the bridge in more detail. At first, engineers

recommended immediate placement of traffic barrels to keep vehicles away from the outer beams, and that asphalt be removed to evaluate how much the inside beams had deteriorated.

Concerned about the possibility of the bridge collapsing if an unexpectedly heavy vehicle attempted to pass over it, county officials decided to close the bridge immediately and indefinitely.

The original bridge was built in 1922. It was (See BRIDGE, Page 12)

## Court rules chalking tires unconstitutional

**Karla Tipton**  
Herald Staff Writer

As innocuous as it might seem, the marking of a car tire with chalk to enforce parking regulations has been ruled unconstitutional.

Before this April 22 ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit in Cincinnati, the city of Barberton used this method to track how long a vehicle had been occupying a city street parking space without being moved.

"We don't go looking for these issues," said Barberton Police Chief Vince Morber. "We will respond to complaints about parking issues and take enforcement action."

Parking is part of the Barberton police department's assigned job duties, and officers on patrol shifts follow enforcement actions provided for in the Barberton Codified Ordinances.

Lisa Okolish Miller, the city's law director, said, "We are not chalking tires, and other methods of enforce-

ment are in practice now." "I'm very disappointed but we will continue to enforce because it's very important to the businesses downtown. Their customers won't have places to park because people would park downtown for days."

In response to the ruling, Morber stated in an email to the Herald, "We plan on chalking the street before and after the tire, as opposed to the tire itself. The curb may also be chalked as well. Officers are always encouraged to document what they do and may take a picture with their cruiser digital cameras or even use their body cams. They don't need to take a picture, but it helps when someone wants to challenge their ticket."

The federal case was originally filed in Saginaw, Michigan, by a citizen who had received 15 citations after the chalking of her tires between 2014 and 2017 by the same parking enforcement officer. The Fourth (See TIRES, Page 12)

## Mayor's wage could hit \$118k

Officials believe mayor should make more than subordinates

**Cierra Thompson**  
Herald Staff Writer

A motion was made to call for an ordinance that will increase the salary for several elected officials including the mayor, finance director, law director and members of council at the Barberton City Council Meeting.

"It's our legislative duty to set the elected

officials pay for the next four-year term slated to begin January 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2024," said Councilwoman Carla Debevec.

During the May 6 gathering, Debevec explained how the elected official won't receive payment unless they call for the legislation and in order for it to go three

readings they had to make that decision. She said in doing so, it doesn't mean they agree or disagree.

If it is passes without changes the mayor will earn \$118,000, finance director \$112,000, law director \$112,000 and members of council \$12,500 by 2023.

The top 10 salaries for city workers in 2018 excluding police and fire were Service

Director Michael Vinay (appointed), \$90,765, Director of Human Resources Elizabeth Daugherty (appointed), \$90,360, Mayor William Judge (elected), \$88,961, Director of Planning Joe Stefan (appointed), \$83,776, Interim Director of Utilities Dennis Weaver (appointed), \$82,265, (See COUNCIL, Page 12)

## Merchant's prepare for summer

Barberton Merchant's Association releases the dates for summer events. Alter'd Relics will have a Shop, Sip, Stroll event Friday, May 10 at 554 W. Tuscarawas Ave. from 4-8 p.m. There will be live music, jewelry classes and vendors.

The Merchant's second Cookie Crawl is Saturday, June 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Participants can sample cookies and place a monetary vote based on their favorite. The proceeds will benefit the Barberton Area Relay For Life.

The Summer Mart is Friday, July 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Vendors will set up along West Tuscarawas Avenue. In addition to arts and craft vendors, food trucks and live music will be present.

The first annual Downtown Car Cruise-In is Saturday, Aug. 17, 2-7 p.m. They plan to have cars around Lake Anna. Merchant's are encouraged to wear clothing inspired by the '50s.

Another new event in the works is Restaurant Week, a week-long event that they plan to have in June. Participating restaurants will be encouraged to offer meal specials. Having it over the span of a week will allow people to try a variety of restaurants. Details will be updated when they are finalized.

## All inclusive cheer squad coming

**Cierra Thompson**  
Herald Staff Writer

Barberton Elementary West teacher Jennifer Monroe is starting an all-inclusive cheer team for Barberton students, through the organization, Sparkle Effect.

She is recruiting for the 2019-2020 school year and

she said the team is open to students who have special needs, typical peers, boys and girls. No experience is required.

Monroe noted every participant is at an even level. She said the program is not meant to be a volunteer opportunity because everyone is viewed as equals on the squad. They

will perform at 10 home events where the typical cheer team does not.

She's seeking students without disabilities between ninth and 12th grade and students with disabilities in fifth through 12th grade. There will be a maximum of 20 kids, so space is limited and applicants will be

(See SPARKLES, Page 12)

EMPLOYEE	JOB TITLE	GROSS WAGES YTD
<i>(Salaries listed are the top 10 wage earners for the city excluding police and fire)</i>		
VINAY, MICHAEL E.	SERV DIRECTOR	\$90,765.18
DAUGHERTY, BETH A.	DIR OF PUB SAF	\$90,360.00
JUDGE, WILLIAM B.	MAYOR	\$88,961.60
STEFAN, JOSEPH M.	DIR OF PLAN	\$83,776.74
WEAVER, DENNIS R.	INTERIM SUPR UT	\$82,265.08
FLAKER, JEREMY P.	FIN DIRECTOR	\$80,342.60
MILLER, LISA O.	DIR OF LAW	\$79,211.86
DYER, MICHAEL E.	GRP LEADER SR	\$78,336.87
LAWSON, EDDIE W.	GRP LEADER	\$77,849.75
MILLER, DANIEL P.	PLANT OP MANAGER	\$75,088.64

## Shots fired on East Side, investigation pending

Officers responded near Giant Eagle Plaza for a report of gunshots.

According to the Barberton Police report, the incident occurred May 1, at 5:30 p.m. There are no surveillance videos, suspects or victims at this time.

According to police, if someone arrives at the ER with a gunshot wound they are obligated to report it. There are two witnesses who drove by and said they saw a man pull out a gun and fire rounds near a car, but gave no description.

Officers could not find gun shells that evening or the following day. They explained that there could be several reasons for that.

It could have been a fake gun or it could have been a revolver, because they do not eject fired casings. The investigation is pending.

### Sections:

POLICE & FIRE REPORT .. 3  
OPINION ..... 5  
LIFE ..... 7  
OBITUARIES ..... 11  
SPORTS ..... 13  
ENTERTAINMENT.....22

### Features:

Classifieds.....24  
Letters .....5  
Real Estate .....24  
Service Guide .....23  
Views Line .....5

Save all May during National's 21 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

2 Years *Through May*  
0% Financing  
For qualified buyers. See store for details.

21%  
OFF

ALL  
Merchandise

Including: massage chairs, furniture, décor, designer rugs, flooring, countertops  
EVERYTHING! Materials only. Excluded installation.

Saturday,  
May 18<sup>th</sup>

FINANCING  
0%  
FOR 2 MONTHS

Up to  
84  
MONTH  
FINANCING\*

National  
DESIGN MART  
FLOORING • COUNTERTOPS • CABINETS

Furniture & Decor

2255 Medina Rd. (Rt. 18)  
Medina / Between I-71 & I-77  
330.721.1914

NationalDesignMart.com

Follow us:



See special offers and design tips on Facebook

See special offers and design tips on Facebook

See special offers and design tips on Facebook

\*For qualified buyers. \*\*Some restrictions apply. See store for details.

Offers also valid at National Carpet Mill Outlet in Wooster. Offers end 5/31/19.

# Alumni Association prepares for banquet

The Norton Alumni Association will have a 98th banquet Saturday, June 8, at the Norton High School. There will be a tour of the new high school from 3-4 p.m. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. and program at 7 p.m. Cost will be \$17 per person. Alumni membership dues are \$3 per graduate. The Norton Alumni Foundation will also present nine \$1,000 scholarships from the Arthur R. Gaffga Scholarship Foundation. The Foundation was established in 1972 to provide financial assistance to Norton High School graduates. Reservation deadline is May 28. If any Norton Alumni did not receive an invitation contact Cindy Dolfen Webel, P.O. Box 1333, Norton, OH, 44203, or at 330-825-5942. You can also visit the Facebook page, Norton Alumni Association.

# Council

(Continued from Front)

Finance Director Jeremy Flaker (elected), \$80,342, Law Director Lisa Miller (elected), \$79,211, Group Leader Micael Dyer (appointed), 78,336, Group Leader Eddie Lawson (appointed), 77,849 and Plant Manager Daniel Miller (appointed), 75,088. Council members (elected) earn \$12,000. (See chart on right.) When tabulating police and fire salaries in the mix, Judge is 27th on the list of highest salary. Director of Human Resources Elizabeth Daugherty said the timing is bad but it was set by the state, city charter and past ordinances. She added, "Compensation compression occurs when employees in lower pay grades or subordinate

positions earn more in base pay than supervisors." Daugherty stressed there are six base paid positions that earn more than the mayor, 21 positions earning more than the law director and nine positions earning more than the finance director. She said compensation compression makes it difficult to retain and recruit good employees. Daugherty said she's trying to figure out a way to eliminate the pay compression while keeping the budget. She asked council to vote for the position and not the person. "This is not easy. This situation we are under is not something we enjoy doing. You are all my family and I hate to see this," said Councilman Elwood Palmer. Debevec suggested council have a work session to further discuss the legislation.

# Tires

(Continued from Front)

Amendment protects citizens from unreasonable searches of property. A 2012 Supreme Court decision in U.S. v. Jones ruled the government's trespass upon an effect—the vehicle—to obtain information related to the car's movement was a search. According to the defendant's outside legal counsel Philip L. Ellison in a TV news interview, "If the government trespasses on your property, whether it's your car or your house or your yard, and they're doing

it to extract information, that's a search. If it's a search, then you have to have a warrant, or you have to be within an exception." The 6th Circuit ruled that none of the exceptions put forth by the city of Saginaw applied. Ohio falls within the court's circuit, along with Tennessee, Kentucky and Michigan. The ruling serves as a benchmark, and lawyers in other communities may eventually bring lawsuits. Miller said, "We operate underneath that court, so unless the city of Saginaw, which is the subject of that opinion appeals to the United States Supreme Court."

# Bridge

(Continued from Front)

rehabbed in the late 1970s, using pre-stressed box beam construction, which uses hollow beams made of cast concrete and steel, like long rectangular boxes. The asphalt surface of the roadway allows moisture to seep into the empty spaces in the beams, where it sits and breaks down the concrete and rusts the steel. According to Heidi Swindell of the engineer's office, many bridges were built using this system in the late 1970s.

Although the bridge closure creates an inconvenience for drivers of the estimated 4,500 vehicles that pass over it daily, relief may come sooner than originally thought. Swindell said the main solution under consideration is one that could last for 100 years. The tentative plan is to replace the bridge with a very large culvert, shore up the sides with rock, and pave over it with concrete. Concrete, Swindell said, seals much better than asphalt. Swindell said the county does not have a crane, so the Ruhlin Company will help with the demolition of the bridge and the construction of its replacement. As soon as the engineer's office receives estimates

from Ruhlin, officials will ask Summit County Council members to approve the project, declaring an emergency in order to speed up the process. If Ruhlin's estimates arrive soon enough, the council could approve the project at the May 13 or May 27 meeting. In the meantime, detour signs are posted to direct drivers to use Summit Road and state Route 261.

# Sparkles

(Continued from Front)

chosen based on seniority to allow for optimal opportunity. There are no tryouts. "I've heard great responses from everybody. I think that Barbarton School District has really come a long way with special needs. We've had homecoming kings and queens with special needs and the students seem

to really embrace those students," said Monroe. She said her job inspired her to bring this program to Barbarton because she teaches a multiple-special needs classroom. "I just want to get the kids involved as much as possible in an inclusive setting," said Monroe. The Sparkle Effect is a nonprofit organization that's generated over 200 teams in 30 states. According to the Sparkle Effect's official website, the program helps with funding for outfits and trainings and sustains school-based cheer and dance teams that bring together students with and without disabilities. Since 2009, these teams have catalyzed an environment of courage, compassion and connection, where all students learn and grow together. According to the website, more than five million students with disabilities attend public schools in the U.S., but most school sports and activities fail to accommo-

date them and as a result, these students are often excluded from school sports and other critical social opportunities. "I am very happy that Mrs. Monroe is starting this program. Our Board of Education has asked us to continue to look into creating new extra curricular activities for all students. This program will help its participant get active, build confidence and be an active part of the Magics family," said Superintendent Jeffrey Ramnytz.



**STAY UP TO DATE!**

Follow us on 

[www.twitter.com/barbertonherald](https://www.twitter.com/barbertonherald)



**330-825-9923**

[www.hopocangardens.com](http://www.hopocangardens.com)

**CATERING & BANQUETS**

**\$7.50 CHICKEN DINNER** NO COUPON NEEDED  
**MONDAY ALL DAY**  
Classic 4 pc. Chicken Dinner

**\$5.50 CHICKEN DINNER** NO COUPON NEEDED  
**TUESDAY - FRIDAY LUNCH 11am - 3pm**  
White: Breast/Drumettes and 2 sides  
Dark: Leg/Thigh/Wing and 2 sides  
DINE-IN ONLY

4396 HOPOCAN AVE.  
**BARBERTON**


  

Visit us on  **FACEBOOK**

**Visit us online at [www.hopocangardens.com](http://www.hopocangardens.com)**

**STRONG HEALTHY SMILES** *Start Here!*

**HIGH-QUALITY GENERAL DENTISTRY SERVICES INCLUDING:**  
Crowns, Dentures, Root Canals, Extractions and More.



**NEW PATIENTS Welcome**

**Raymond, Rohrbach & Hohman**  
4322 S. Cleveland Massillon Rd., Norton  
**330-825-4549**  
*Saturday hours available by appointment only.*

**The 27th annual Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is on Saturday, May 11**

**Donations stay in your community.**



**Bag healthy nonperishable food items and place by your mailbox for your letter carrier to pick up and deliver to food banks and pantries in your community.**