

LIFE NOTES

VNS celebrates 60



HERALD Photo/ Rich Muller

Karen Talbott, president of Visiting Nurse Service, accepts a proclamation from Barberton Mayor Randy Hart recognizing VNS for 60 years of providing quality home health care to Northeast Ohioans with hospice, home medical and other services. Started in Summit County, VNS has expanded its services to Medina, Portage, Stark and Wayne counties.

It's a boy

Jeremy and Crystal Woodarski, originally from Barberton, would like to announce the birth of their child, Javen, who was born May 13. Javen was 5 pounds, 14 ounces and born at Barberton Citizens Hospital. Javen has two older siblings, Jeremy, 8, and Jaden, who is 4.

OSU graduates

The following Norton and Barberton students have graduated from The Ohio State University: Stacy L. Moran, of Norton, received an associate degree. Nathan R. Rumble, of Norton, received an associate degree. Joshua L. Wintermute, of Barberton, received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration.

OSU Honor Roll

The following Norton and Barberton students have been named to the Honor Roll for The Ohio State University winter quarter:

Matthew F. Protacio, of Barberton. Timothy E. Sborny, of Barberton. Grace Y. Wang, of Barberton. Samantha J. Woodford, of Barberton. Nicholas A. Keller, of Barberton. Tammy M. Collins, of Norton. Allison D. Dowdell, of Norton. Rachelle R. Howe, of Norton. Ryan T. Sonoda, of Norton. Geoffrey T. Stokes, of Norton. Katie L. Kilgore, of Clinton. Charlie J. Pyle, of Clinton. Chad A. Rutan, of Clinton. Eric M. Slezak of Clinton.

Stewart's walk for hope

Stewart's Caring Place has invited the community to participate in their first Hope Walk & Reunion Picnic on Saturday, May 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., in downtown Akron at Lock 3 Park, 190 S. Main St. Tim Daugherty, WONE Radio personality, will emcee the festivities. Held over Memorial Day weekend, the Hope Walk (See STEWART'S, Page 10)

Celebrating life



FILE Photo/Chad Rutan

The first Celebration of Life festival last year drew about 1,500 people to Barberton's Edgewood Park to remember Mark V. Canfora Jr. His father, Mark V. Canfora Sr., expects 3,000 for this year's celebration on July 7.

Rich Muller
Herald Staff Writer

"A Celebration of Life" is how Mark V. Canfora Senior plans to once again remember his son on Saturday, July 7, in Barberton's Edgewood Park.

Mark V. Canfora Junior died in that park, July 12, 2005. Mark Canfora Sr., said God spoke to him very clearly that night and set him on the path of outreach for the youth of the community. He is doing that through the Mark V. Canfora I & II Ministries, www.markfest.org., and the celebration.

The first Celebration of Life took place last year, with 1,500 people stopping by throughout a day of remembering and celebrating life that will be an annual event as long as he lives, Mark senior said, adding that it will always be at Edgewood Park, and always be free.

The celebration and the Mark V. Canfora I & II Ministries are sup-

ported by donations, volunteers and the help of The Father's House and Pastor Mike Guarnieri. The Canfora I & II Ministries strives to encourage youths and give them hope, even when things seem hopeless.

This year's celebration, which Canfora expects to draw 3,000 people, runs from noon to 9 p.m. with food, bands, 3-on-3 basketball (1-2 p.m.), a 3-point shootout (2-5 p.m.), a home run derby (3-5 p.m.), a tennis tournament (also 3-5 p.m.) and other events.

Headlining the evening's entertainment from 6-9 p.m. is "The Perfect Combo," a three-man band from Texas that Canfora describes as Christian Hip-Hop, R&B, and Rap. Other, local, bands will play throughout the afternoon.

Guest speakers include Mark Canfora Sr., Pastor Mike Guarnieri and Gina Moon of Word of Life Outreach Ministries. On Sunday, there will be a special showing, also free, of "The Passion of the Christ" at the Lake Cinemas 8.

Herself

By Margaret Frost
Herald Columnist



Signs, Signs, Everywhere are signs

Have you ever paid attention to the signs displayed in front of the homes of various folks?

It certainly can tell you a lot about your neighbors. Election signs can let you know if they are of the same political persuasion - not that it would make much difference in your opinion of them, of course. But it might.

Himself and I, for example, do not share the same viewpoint politically - but we get along pretty well in spite of that fact. It sometimes confuses our neighbors when an election draws nigh and they see signs from differing parties and issues displayed in our yard. That's nothing to the conversations over the dinner table - which used to grow very heated at times, but have become more moderated as the years pass.

I noted recently that one of our neighbors over on Manchester Road apparently got a bad vehicle from a camper sales firm nearby. The vehicle is parked in their front yard with their dissatisfaction expressed quite openly - spray painted all over it. That had to have been the result of a confrontation of some kind. It might have been wiser for the

dealer to attempt to mollify this particular customer. I'm sure it has cost him some business.

Not too long ago we saw a similar sign in a yard adjacent to a freeway. The sign declared "Pool Regretfully Purchased From" and had the name of the dealer who had apparently sold them the pool. I don't remember the name. It had little relevance to us since we weren't from that area and weren't looking for a pool anyhow, but I often wonder if this action accomplished anything.

Perhaps when a salesman is about to deliver an inferior product or service, he would do well to check the address of the person who is about to take possession of a questionable object. If it's in a spot where the traffic is high, it could be that his moment of triumph at achieving the sale could actually generate so much ill will that he would be better off selling to a different customer. Or, dare I say it, not selling the inferior product at all? Or not lying about the service his firm would deliver?

Some folks display huge decla-

(See SIGNS, Page 8)

"They're pretty, they're precious," they're pigs on parade

Northeast Ohio's very own Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary invites the community as well as motorcycle enthusiasts to share the excitement of "Pigs Across America."

Annette Fisher, co-founder of Happy Trails, grew up on the west side of Barberton and lived in Barberton most of her life. Her parents, Ernie and Rosemary Krasovic still live here. "It would be great to get the Barberton Community involved in "Pigs Across America!" said Fisher.

"They're pretty, they're precious, and they're lucky to be alive! With names like Baby Anastasia, Pearl Jam, Montel, Rusty, and Chloe, you will definitely want to meet this group of traveling piggies! These five curly-tailed cuties will be traveling with five of their pot bellied friends Milton, Mario, Sergai, Morris and Kinko — on a journey that will take them across the United States to a safe haven where they can live out the rest of their lives in peace and comfort.

Rescued from situations of cruelty, abuse and neglect, this adorable group of ten traveling piggies will ride in style in the piggy limo — a double-decker semi trailer — from Happy Trails Farm Animal

Sanctuary in Ravenna, (Portage County) to the much larger and more spacious sanctuary at Humane Farming Association's Suwana Ranch in Elk Creek, Calif.

The semi loaded with it's precious cargo begins the five day journey on Sunday, at 10 a.m.

This endeavor will open up more space at Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary in Ohio so that they can accommodate more rescued farm animals and the overwhelming requests that come in daily.

Bikers wanting a unique adventure have been invited to ride escort in what is being dubbed "Hogs Gone Wild" as they help to escort "Pigs Across America." A \$25 donation gets a rider registered to ride, and a donation of \$50 or more gets the biker a free "Pigs Across America" T-shirt. Bikers are welcome to ride as far as they wish, whether it's for the first departing hour to see that the journey starts off safely for the pig celebrities, or for the afternoon, or even for the entire trip! Bikers will be gathering at the local Ravenna Tractor Supply Store parking lot on Main Street beginning at 9 am, and plan to roll when the pigs (See PIGGIES, Page 8)

Hospice seeking volunteers

Hospice of Visiting Nurse Service (VNS) is seeking volunteers to assist with important functions at the Hospice of VNS Care Center.

Volunteers may lend compassionate support through visiting patients, answering telephones, filing papers, assembling charts, assisting with mailings, running errands, arranging flowers, holding hands, and assisting some aspects of care of our patients and loved ones, among other activities. We match the interests of volunteers with our hospice program needs.

Our volunteers receive comprehensive training covering such topics as the physical and emotional needs of patients and caregivers, spiritual aspects of care, the Hospice concept, comfort care issues, communications skills, active listening, and all aspects of death, dying, and grief and bereavement. New volunteers to the program are involved in mentorship activities with seasoned volunteer mentors.

Summer Volunteer Training

Classes will be held June 6, 13, 20 and 27 from 1-4:30 p.m. or 6-9:30 p.m. Participants can choose to attend either afternoon or evening classes, but are required to attend a total of four classes to complete the training process. There is no fee. All classes are held at the Hospice of VNS Care Center located at 3358 Ridgewood Road in Fairlawn.

Perhaps this is what you've been looking for to extend a helping hand. There are limitless opportunities for you to add to the quality of the lives of our patients and their families. We consider our volunteers truly special people who are an essential part of the VNS family. The joy that you give and that you receive is wonderful.

For more information on volunteering for Hospice of VNS, or to register for volunteer training, please call Terri DeGeorge, manager of volunteer services, at 330-668-4650 or 800-335-1455, ext. 4650 or Joyce Hargreaves, volunteer assistant/trainer at 330-668-4637.

Barberton Library

About You
Community Correspondent

By Mary Eritano
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"The Woman at the Washington Zoo," by Marjorie Williams, will be discussed at the next Book Talk, on Monday, May 21, at 7 p.m.

The Barberton Chapter of the American Red Cross is offering a Brown Bag Lunch Series at the Library. The time, 12:15-12:45 p.m., should fit into your lunch hour. Bring your lunch and the

library will provide a beverage. On Wednesday, May 23, the Red Cross will explain the Geneva conventions. ***

Movie Magic in the Magic City will show a new Kevin Costner and Ashton Kutcher film, on Wednesday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m. The movie (I can't divulge the title because of licensing rules) is "a powerful, pulse-pounding story of courage and friendship...inside the never-before-seen world of the elite Coast Guard rescue swimmers...the unsung guardians of the sea."