

EXHIBIT 2



PCT1. TOTAL POPULATION [1] - Universe. Total population
Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 4 (SF 4) - Sample Data

NOTE: Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions see <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/expsf4.htm>

North Canton city, Ohio	
Total	16,381

U S Census Bureau
Census 2000

Standard Error/Variance documentation for this dataset:

Accuracy of the Data: Census 2000 Summary File 4 (SF 4) - Sample Data (PDF 141.5KB)

U.S. Census Bureau

American FactFinder

P27. PLACE OF WORK FOR WORKERS 16 YEARS AND OVER--PLACE LEVEL [5] - Universe:

Workers 16 years and over

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data

NOTE Data based on a sample except in P3, P4, H3, and H4 For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions see <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/datanotes/expsf3.htm>.

	North Canton city, Ohio
Total	7,767
Living in a place	7,767
Worked in place of residence	1,780
Worked outside place of residence	5,987
Not living in a place	0

U S Census Bureau
Census 2000

Standard Error/Variance documentation for this dataset:Accuracy of the Data: [Census 2000 Summary File 3 \(SF 3\) - Sample Data \(PDF 141.5KB\)](#)



North Canton

VOL. 3 NO. 6

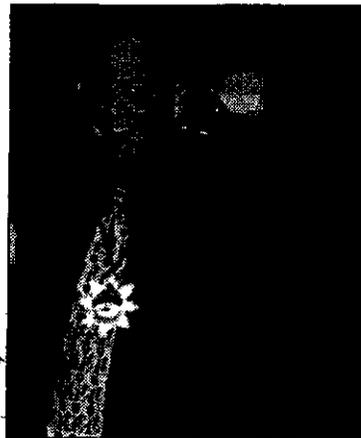
MARCH 2004

CAN DO ATTITUDE PAYS OFF BIG

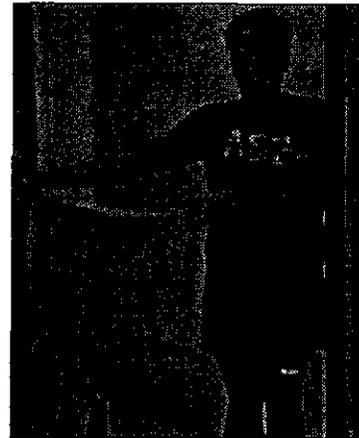
BY DONNA NICKEL

Everyone has seen those ads in magazines and on television pushing the latest diet craze or quick-fix weight loss pills. Even harder to believe are the stunning before and after pictures. Are they real? Are they airbrushed? Are they even the same people?

Take a good look at 20-year-old Jeremy Shifferly's before and after photos because they are the real thing. But you won't find his color glossies in those advertisements because he accomplished his goal without any help from Slim Fast, Dr. Atkins or Dr. Phil. His inspirational story begins Christmas 2002.



Jeremy Shifferly at 430 pounds, Christmas 2002.



Feb. 2004, 200 pounds lighter with his old 56" waist pants.

At 6 feet 1 inch, Jeremy weighed 430 lbs. and his wardrobe consisted of size 56 pants and 4XL shirts.

"I've been heavy set all of my life, I've never been thin," he said. "Doctors have always told me that I have to do something to lose the weight. But I had a very distorted self-image. I'd look in the mirror and think that I was just a little big, not fat."

He didn't have a specific, dramatic moment when he decided that enough was enough.

"I was just sick of it. I realized that I wouldn't be

See CAN DO ATTITUDE on page 28

HOOVER ARTISTS

North Canton High School artists won top honors in the 50th Annual Art Show and will advance to the national competition. The winners are Megan (19th) and Haley (20th) who won Key Sculptures at the 50th Annual Art Show and Awards ceremony held in January at the Children's Center in Canton.

WIN TOP HONORS

Adams, a freshman, won with a collage titled "Half-Collage and Half-Body" which was placed with her figure painting. Adams was named for her collage with a "Key Sculpture" award. She won the Gold Key based on the previous year's award. As finalists in the regional competition, Adams and other winners were sent to the National Competition in Washington, D.C.

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The Mayor speaks to Our Town...



Mayor Tom Rice

As I speak with the residents of our great city everyday, I often hear them say "we love living in North Canton." There are many reasons why people have a desire to live in our city, and here are just a few of the reasons that I have heard.

The North Canton School system is consistently rated as one of the best school systems in the state of Ohio. North Canton is also home to Walsh University which enrolls over 1,600 students.

Our city employees provide timely and professional service to our residents and business owners. This service is best illustrated in our excellent snow and ice removal process during harsh winter weather to keep our streets safe for passage.

The city has a variety of quality retail and service businesses located within its boundaries as well as quick highway access which provides greater convenience for our busy lives.

Our beautiful park system, consisting of eight parks, provides areas for walking, biking, hiking, baseball, tennis, ice skating, volleyball and other recreational activities, along with shelters for family picnics and playground equipment for the children. The North Canton YMCA provides quality programs that offer activities for the entire family.

North Canton remains a safe place to live and work due to our highly visible and responsive police department. Our police provide up to four police cruisers day and night to cover the city's six square mile area.

Our fire and EMS departments always provide a rapid response to our residents whose lives and/or property become at risk due to an emergency situation.

Family activities are offered to bring our community together with events such as the Olde Fashioned Holiday Fest, 4th of July parade and fireworks, Cleveland Pops Orchestra concert, Mayor's Fishing Rodeo, Main Street Festival, the Jaycee Fair and many other fine activities.

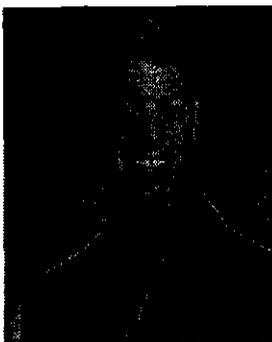
What is it that you love best about living in North Canton? Maybe it is the city's small town charm and strong sense of community.

There are many things that people love about living in North Canton, but I think what makes North Canton special are the people who live here.

Tom Rice
Tom Rice, Mayor

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North Canton City Council Report

BY DOTTIE MCGREW

North Canton government these days brings to mind no-holds-barred reality TV. There is a stand-off between a mayor who believes he's "on a roll" and a majority of council that think he's out of control. Chances are someone, sooner or later, will be voted off the island.

The veneer of civility that characterized dialogue between council and the administration after the November election began to crack in January. By mid-February, civility was shattered and political discourse in the city reached an unprecedented low.

The first crack appeared on Jan. 26 when Mayor Tom Rice summarily dismissed his handpicked City Administrator David Held. Rice said that Held did a good job, but did not share his vision for the future of North Canton. The mayor did not articulate his vision when asked by council or the press.

Within hours of firing Held, Rice hired former Canton Public Safety Director Michael L. Miller to fill the full-time economic development director slot. In December, Council created the first-ever position for the city with an annual salary of \$54,720.

Three days later, on Jan. 29, Rice reassigned Miller from economic development director to city adminis-

trator, the position opened by Held's departure.

But council, on Jan. 30, flexed its muscle and refused to confirm Miller as city administrator. Rice was angry. Miller was in limbo. And council was increasingly suspicious that something had gone awry in the process for selecting the new economic development director.

On Monday, Feb. 2, council reversed its decision and confirmed Miller at a salary of \$74,493. The harmony was short-lived.

The multiple personnel changes in a city that once prided itself on continuity of leadership spawned widespread rumors and raised hackles in council.

The rumors fingered Patrick DeOrio as "the person" the mayor wants for economic development director. DeOrio's application is one among 60-plus applications. DeOrio was executive director of the Stark County Republican Central Committee and is currently a candidate for city precinct committeeman.

At-large council members Marcia Kiesling and Daniel (Jeff) Peters and David Lindower of Ward 2 have called Rice's actions reckless and impulsive. They have said that the selection process for the economic development director was closed to council.

See CITY COUNCIL on page 13

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Canton - \$99,900 MLS1273143
Totally redo. Beautiful woodwork.
4 bedrooms. New oak cabinets.
Remodeled bath. New 2 car garage.
10K Home! (721 23rd St. NW)



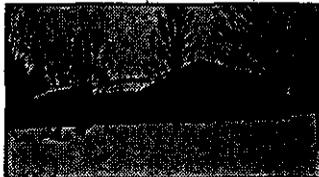
South Akron - \$114,900 MLS1284700
4 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths. Unbelievable inside & out!
Deck w/hot tub. Gorgeous Kitchen w/Pergo floors.
Master has 1/2 bath & walk-in closet.
(1637 Rockford St.)



Perry - \$139,900 MLS1283691
4 level split, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths.
Awesome home for entertaining!
Rec Room w/full wet bar. Oversized garage.
10K Home! (2344 Mary Lou St. NW)



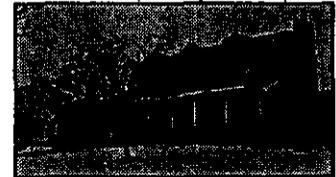
North Canton - \$144,900 MLS1281879
Completely renovated!
4 level split, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths.
Brick patio, park like backyard.
10K Home! (1108 Clearmount SE)



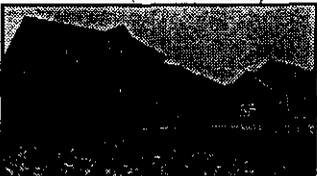
North Canton - \$144,900 MLS1284838
3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautiful all-brick large ranch
on dead end street w/ultra private backyard.
Stone fireplace, huge kitchen, 1st floor laundry
10K Home! (1351 Echo St. NE)



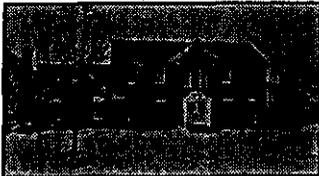
Canton - \$92,500 MLS1284939
5 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths. Stunning kitchen
with angled 18 tile, large island. Large windows
9 ft. ceilings, stone fireplace, huge front porch.
(1600 Vassar Ave. NW)



Canal Fulton - \$164,900 MLS1285293
2 story, 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths
Perfect inside/wood floors, cream Berber
3 Season/Sunroom, brick fireplace.
(851 Sandlewood Dr.)



Jackson - \$249,900 MLS1264801
2003 by Danmark Homes. All the extras!
4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Pella windows
9 ft. ceilings 3 car garage, study w/French doors
10K Home! (8739 Eastlynn NW)



Jackson - \$244,900 MLS1285315
Amazing Condition! 2 story foyer, 9 ft. ceilings
3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths 3-sided brick.
Professionally finished lower level
(8345 Athens Ave. NW)

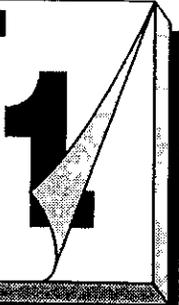


North Canton - \$184,900 MLS1282621
4 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths. Awesome neighborhood!
3 season room w/skylight. Stone gas fireplace.
Finished rec room. Neutral decorating
10K Home! (1224 Carol)



Plain - \$395,000 MLS1284966
4 bedrooms, 3-1/2 baths.
Artish custom built kitchen w/center island.
9 ft. ceilings, white wood accented w/maple.
10K Home! (1565 Yorkshire Trace Rd. SE)

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Every Sunday **Chapel in North Canton**
"Something Special Singles" meeting 9 a m

Every Mon. & Thurs. **North Canton Recreation Department Senior Group, no fee**
Call 330-499-2541 or 330-499-0886

Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22 **North Canton City Council Meeting**
7 p.m. City Hall (exceptions for holidays and months with 5 Mondays) Call 330-499-8223

Tues.-Sun. **Hoover Historical Center**
"Cruising with Hoover" conducted hourly 1 to 4 p.m. Advance registration for groups. Morning reservations available.

Mar. 1 **AARP 5162**
Monthly Dinner Meeting at Holiday Inn, Belden Village. Call Peg at 330-499-8596

Mar. 4 **City of North Canton Planning Commission**
First Wednesday of the month (with exceptions)
Call 330-499-3465

Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25 **Rotary Club of North Canton Weekly Meetings**
11:45 a.m to 1 p.m
The Fairways of North Canton

Mar. 8 **AARP 2984 North Canton**
11:30 a.m. Holiday Inn, Dressler Road Belden Village. For membership information call Bea Weber 330-499-7205
Meetings second Monday of the month

Mar. 8 **Ladies' Literary Club of North Canton**
1 p.m. Home of Jane Crawmer
Program: "At Home in Mitford"

Mar. 9, 23 **North Canton Lion's Club Meeting**
6.15 p m. Chicken Manor Restaurant
For membership information call 330-494-1792

Mar. 13 **Faith United Methodist Church**
5 to 8 p.m Youth Green Dance (6th-12th graders)
Cost is \$1 plus a can of food
Faith United Methodist Church, 300 9th St NW

Mar. 13 **Fairways of North Canton/
The North Canton Playhouse**
7 p m Dinner 8 p.m. Show:
"Run For Your Wife"

Mar. 16 **Hartville Christian Women's Club**
9:30 a m. Prestwick Country Club
2220 Raber Rd., Uniontown
Speaker: Betty Fox, "The Globe-Trotting Grandma" and vocalist Bonnie Bauman For reservations call Diane at 330-699-6515

Mar. 18 **North Canton Garden Club**
Meets at The Canton Garden Center at 10 a.m.
Program: "Basic Flower Design" by Judy Monnot
Members will be able to create a flower arrangement. For information call Patty Maloney 330-497-8189

Mar. 20 **The College Club**
10 a.m. Continental Breakfast
Program: "Music From the Early 20s, 30s, 40s and 50s" Community Christian Church, N. Main & Witwer. For information The College Club Membership, P.O. Box 8433, Canton, Ohio 44711

Mar. 20 **Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of North Canton**
10 a.m to 4 p.m. Craft Show (indoor)
Contact Peter Fenney 330-499-7817

Mar. 23 **City of North Canton Zoning Board of Appeals**
Fourth Tuesday of each month if agenda

Mar. 23 **The Chapel in North Canton**
6 30 to 8 p m Round Table Discussion
Speaker: P. Nicole Hatzakis, Tax Specialist

If you want your North Canton club or organization events listed on the calendar, please submit information to Cathy Dunlap, North Canton Chamber of Commerce, 121 S. Main St., North Canton, Ohio 44720, e-mail: cathy@northcantonchamber.org or call 330-499-5100 or fax information to 330-499-7181. All events must be received by the 10th of each month and specified to be included in "OUR TOWN."

Our Town North Canton

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EDITOR/PUBLISHER: **Bernie Clements**

CORRESPONDENTS **Dottie McGrew
Donna Nickel
Trish Stahl**

GRAPHICS: **Judy Boyles**

PRODUCTION: **Ed Walton
Vicky Smith**

If you are interested in advertising, call Bernie Clements at (330) 499-2531. 5,300 newsletters delivered in city limits of North Canton

Chamber Business Appreciation Awards, Installation Dinner

The North Canton Area Chamber of Commerce held its annual Recognition and Installation Dinner on Jan. 28 at Skyland Pines Inc.

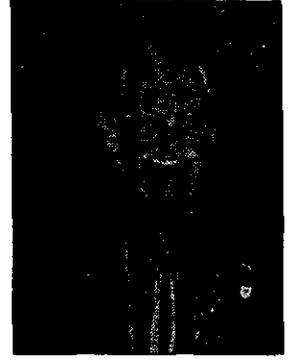
The Chamber presented the 2003 community recognition awards to the North Canton TV and Appliance and the North Canton Public Library for their recent renovations and additions to their facilities. Alex Bourlas Construction's Agora North Main Street Professional Building received the Economic Development Award.

The "Community Leadership" Award was given to both Tom Shoup, Superintendent of the North Canton City Schools and Bernie Clements, owner of Sun Printing and publisher of "Our Town." This award was given for personal contributions and service within the community.

Tom Briatico, President of the Hoover Company, and Jim Repace, President and Business Manager, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, were given the "Partners In Progress" award for The Hoover Company and union's cooperative efforts to negotiate and retain jobs in the North Canton area.

The Recognition Dinner was held in conjunction with the Annual Chamber Board Installation Dinner. Jim Dansizen, owner of Dansizen Printing and Snappy Office Supplies, was installed as 2004 Chairman of the

Board of the North Canton Chamber. Debbie Goldthorpe, Community Building YMCA, was installed as chairman-elect; Joan Shaff of Waterford at St. Luke as secretary; and Joe Mirocke from Edward Jones Investments as treasurer. Jack Baker of Baker, Dublikar, Beck, Wiley and Mathews is Past Chairman of the Board and will remain on the board for the rest of his term.



Jim Dansizen

One new board member, Beth Bauman from Chestnut Hill, was installed. The remaining board members are JoAnn Guardado, Multi-Development Services; Keith Hill, The Hoover Company; Doug Hampton, Hampton Capital Management; Dale Howard, Walsh University; Marcy Klee, Cutler GMAC Real Estate; Phyllis Mussina, The Inn At Belden Village; Jane Nicholson, State Farm Insurance; Larry Sexton, Prudential DeHoff Realtors; Mike Stoffer, Stoffer Mortgage; and William Strohmenger, Aultman Health Foundation.

"The Escapades" gave an excellent singing performance during the evening's festivities. ▲

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PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

BY DOTTIE MCGREW

Last month neighbors and residents of the Auburn Knolls condominium community won another skirmish in the battle to keep a three-story condominium from being built in their neighborhood. But victory is not assured.

In February, the planning commission tabled for a month a third proposal by builder George Zablo of Zablo and Son Building Corp. The planning commission meeting is set for 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4, in North Canton City Hall council chambers or it could be held on Feb. 24 and considered the regular March meeting.

At the February meeting, Zablo's architect, Tony Luketic, presented a scaled-down version of the original plan. The modified plan showed a 300-foot-by-60-foot building with 18 units on the top two floors and the bottom floor reserved for underground parking as in the original plan.

The initial plan submitted by Zablo called for a 300-foot-by-80-foot structure with 24 units. Zablo lopped 20-feet and six units from the plan in the wake of planners January critique that the building was "too large, unsightly and out of harmony with the neighborhood."

Two of the three commission members present for

the meeting approved the amended plan. Chairman Dennis Flechtner and Ray Shanabruch voted in favor; Tim Morrow voted against. Commission members Jerry Geig and Steve Pachmayer were absent.

But Law Director Paul Pusateri said that, according to commission rules, a majority of the members must approve the plan, which would mean three affirmative votes. Since the plan was neither approved nor rejected, it was tabled.

In another but related action, the commission recommended that council change the zoning of four lots on the west side of Northfield Avenue SE from residential multi-family to single family. The homeowners have said they were not aware that their properties, which back-up to Auburn Knolls, were zoned for multi-family use.

The Auburn Knolls area was part of the former Hoover estate. It is believed that when the Hoover mansion was razed in the early 1970s the entire area was zoned for multi-family use.

The rezoning would have no bearing on the proposed development by Zablo, according to Law Director Pusateri. Rezoning is a lengthy, multi-step process and would not be retroactive, Pusateri said. ▲

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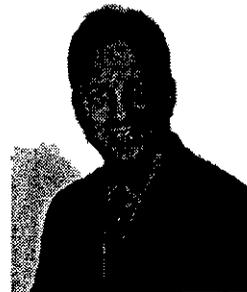
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Rotary Club's 9th Annual Chili Open Fun

PHOTO BY DICK ROGERS

BY DONNA NICKEL

The Fairways in North Canton is no place for fair-weather golfers in February, but throw food, friends and a fundraiser into the mix and the fun begins.

The North Canton Rotary Club's 9th Annual Chili Open was held Saturday, Feb. 7.

"It snowed pretty hard in the morning," said Brent Fatzinger, who chaired the event along with Mario Giganti. "But it ended up being a beautiful, bright, sunny afternoon."

With temperatures hovering around 30 degrees, almost 200 golfers bundled up to hit optical yellow balls around the course.

"It's mostly just a fun thing, not a lot of people keep score. It's basically just an excuse to get rid of some cabin fever," Fatzinger said.



PROOF: It's never too cold to go golfing.

He said that golfers participated in an accuracy contest where they tried to hit a target to qualify for a 50-50 drawing. Door prizes also added to the festivities.

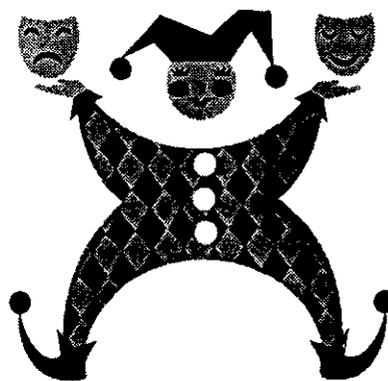
Proceeds from the event support Rotary charities such as exchange programs, scholarships and activities in the schools. Fatzinger estimates that the event raised between \$7,000 and \$8,000. ▲

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!

The Fairways of North Canton

Presents a dinner theatre presentation by the North Canton Playhouse

RUN FOR YOUR WIFE



March 13, 2004 • 7 p.m. Dinner • 8 p.m. Show

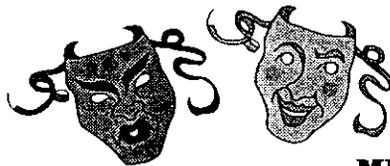
\$25.00 per person • Cash Bar will be available

CALL (330) 433-1880 FOR TICKETS

Run For Your Wife is a superb example of a typical British Farce. The play deals with a house of cards that comes crashing down around a London cabbie who is married to two women at the same time, neither of whom knows about the other's existence and lives on each end of the town!

Come watch this hilarious story as it unwinds!

THE NORTH CANTON PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 2004 SEASON SCHEDULE



THE WIZ
(VSA production)
March 5 & 6 at 8 p.m.
and the 7th at 2:30 p.m.

BUS STOP (Walsh production)
March 19-27
Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m.
Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

THE (NOT-SO) GRIMM FAIRY TALE
Recommended for ages Preschool-4th grade
March 29 & 30 at 10:30 a.m.
\$3/seat Hoover Hall

I NEVER SAW ANOTHER BUTTERFLY
(Field Trip)
Recommended for ages 5th grade-High School
Story of a Holocaust survivor
April 20 & 21 at 10:30 a.m.
\$4/seat Hoover Hall

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
(Youth production)
April 22-May 9
Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m.
Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

70, GIRLS, 70
(Senior Troupe production)
May 28-June 6
Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m.
Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

KING MIDAS AND THE GOLDEN TOUCH
(Fairy Tale)
June 22 & 23 at 10:30 a.m.
\$3/seat Hoover Hall

JUNGLE BOOK (Fairy Tale)
July 19-22 at 10:30 a.m.
\$3/seat NCP Main stage

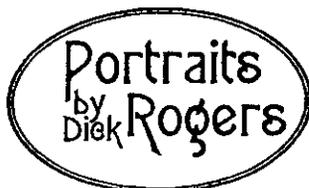


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PRESENTS

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The Stark County Bar Association

Elder Law Committee

and

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Bank

“Health Care Decisions”

April 29, 2004 6:00—7:00 pm

A Free Educational Program

Light Refreshments

Topics of Discussion:

Ohio Law Concerning Living Wills

Durable Powers of Attorney for Health Care

Organ Donation

Other Issues Related to End of Life

Materials Provided by the American Bar Association

NCMF Health Education Building, Entrance A

Reservations are required. Please contact Health Services at (330) 305-5060.

This presentation is not a substitute for consultation with a health care professional or your attorney.

Healthy Kids Day At The North Canton YMCA

BY TRISH STAHL

"Let the games begin!" The Olympic spirit is touching the North Canton community on March 27 during the North Canton YMCA Healthy Kids Day. Festivities will begin at 1 p.m., continuing until 4, explained Kathy Yaros, North Canton YMCA Special Events Coordinator.

This annual family fun day is free and open to the community and best suited for ages 3 to 11. It will include a mini health and safety fair, Olympic-themed activities, an inflatable obstacle course, swimming pool games, healthy snacks, crafts, face painting and prizes.

McGruff, the crime dog, D.A.R.E., the North Canton Police and North Canton Fire Department will all be there. Health, safety and nutritional information will be presented in fun and engaging formats. Free eye screenings by Fisher Optical will be available. Open basketball and the indoor track are always favorites at Healthy Kids Day.

The major sponsor for Healthy Kids Day is Fisher Foods. Other participants include The North Canton Medical Foundation, North Canton Fire Department, North Canton Police, D.A.R.E., Health Quest, Stark County Health Department, Safe Kids Coalition and Prudential Financial



Kelsey Halbach sits for an eye screening while brother Kyle Halbach and friends Blake and Bailey Kast wait for their turns.

North Canton YMCA's Healthy Kids Day promises to provide community kids a fun-filled day and their parents a competitive edge concerning today's current health and fitness issues.

For more information, call the North Canton YMCA at 330-499-2587. ▲

RESPECT



We Build
Strong Kids
Strong Families
Strong Communities

CARING

YMCA

North Canton Community Bldg YMCA

A Branch of the YMCA of Central Stark Co.

200 South Main Street

North Canton, Ohio 44720

(330) 499-2587 • Fax: (330) 499-4019

Child Care Center
(330) 305-5437

Gymnastics Center
(330) 498-4082

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MARCH SPECIAL DATES:

Mar. 1 Registration for Youth Volleyball Begins
Mar. 6 Saturday Morning Crafts 10 a.m. to noon
Mar. 7 Family Fun Sunday 2 to 4 p.m.
Mar. 11 Teen Craft 4 to 6 p.m.
Mar. 19 Family Fun Night at Gymnastics Center
Mar. 20 Saturday Morning Crafts 10 a.m. to noon

Mar. 20 YMCA District Gymnastics Meet
Mar. 26 Teen Member Service Project
Mar. 26 Fun Club, NCCS & St. Paul's
Mar. 29 Spring Session Member Sign-up
Mar. 30 Celebrating the Arts Spring Program @ CCC

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE



About Our City

The City acquired it's first existence as a recognized political entity when the Village plat was recorded on February 19, 1831 as New Berlin. As a result of sentiment against Germany World War I, the name of the Village was changed to North Canton on January 31, 1918.

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North Canton was organized as a city effective January 1, 1962: the City is a home-rule municipal corporation operating under the laws of the State of Ohio. The City's current charter, it's municipal constitution, has been amended six times since it's original adoption on November 8, 1960. The laws of the State of Ohio prevail when conflicts exist between the charter and the state constitution and in matters where the charter is silent. The City's charter can only be amended by a majority vote of the City's registered voters.

The City of North Canton is a Charter City with municipal home rule. The municipal government of the City of North Canton is known as the "Mayor-Administrator-Council form of government."

The Karcher Group
support@thekarchergroup.com

**Precincts A,C,D - Knights of Columbus Hall
Precinct B - Clearmount Elementary School**

Ward 4

**Precinct A - Zion United Church of Christ
Precinct B - Hoover Junior High School
Precincts C,D - Orchard Hill Elementary School**

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HISTORY

We often hear it said, "North Canton is a great place to live and raise a family." We come by that reputation very honestly, since the early settlers were mainly German-speaking families from the eastern part of Pennsylvania, and today North Canton still boasts of being a family community.

As early as 1805, the same year Canton was founded, the first families began arriving in the Plain Township area where they found fertile and rolling land, fish filled streams running clear and many animals among the thick patches of forests. They first established their homesteads and while clearing the lands for their first crops they built churches and schools, some as early as 1814. Year after year new families of various backgrounds arrived much as today.

Businesses such as taverns, inns, wagon-makers, blacksmiths and those who dealt in "general goods" sprung up where the rutted wagon paths crossed. Paths that led to the early mills by the streams eastward and west, and north to Akron, and south to the village of Canton. Soon at this crossing the village was founded. The first 23 lots (in the area of City Hall) were surveyed and recorded and given the name of New Berlin. Thus on Feb. 19, 1831 the long and proud heritage of North Canton began.

By the 1870's the village was a bustling trading center. In 1875 a somewhat obscure business move occurred which was destined to create an international company that would dominate the lives of everyone who ever lived here. Yes, in 1875 the Hoover family, whose homestead was east of the village brought the family tanning business into the village and established a leather factory. They made horse gear of all descriptions - collars, bridles, saddles and the like. They hired ten people which was just the beginning.

On into the new century the village began to take seriously the business of its municipal responsibility. In 1906, the village of New Berlin with a population of 865 became an incorporated village with its own mayor-council system. On the heels of this new home-rule the following happened in quick succession: the streets were paved for the first time (with brick), electric street lights replaced the gas lamps that lighted the street paths, sewer and water systems were put in place, a telephone exchange was installed and the volunteer Fire Department was organized. A street car line (NOTL) ran smack through the center of the village in those days, north to Cleveland, south to Canton and beyond. The already established churches expanded their facilities and a larger school had to be built - all reflecting the growth of the community.

Soon after the turn of the century it became very apparent that automobiles would soon replace the horse and buggy. The Hoover Leather Factory would have to branch out and so they did. The family bought the

patents for an electric suction sweeper apparatus that cleaned carpets. They began producing them in a corner of the factory. From 1908 through 1919 they produced leather products and expanded the production of and sales of the sweeper, finally phasing out the leather in 1919.

Just previous to that, during World War 1, another significant community event took place. It was happening all across America. Things bearing Germanic names were being changed - hospitals, schools, towns, streets, and even family names. So it was that New Berlin with a population of 926 would be known as North Canton into eternity (Jan. 30, 1918).

The years between the World Wars, which included the Depression, were filled with quiet, steady population growth and business maturity for the thriving town. The original Community Building had been given to the families of the community by "Boss" Hoover. It was a center for spiritual, physical and social betterment. From it were organized the North Canton Woman's Club, North Canton Rotary Club, American Legion Post 419 and North Canton Public Library.

After World War II, even greater community expansion took place. All land additions and municipal improvements were methodically made with an eye to the future. The school system was enlarged by several buildings and the stadium was built. The village that had grown to a prosperous town was ready to become a city. At the same time the community voted for a Charter form of government, that is amendable by popular vote and provides for maximum home rule. On Jan. 7, 1961, North Canton was declared the status of a city with a population of 7,727.

Of course, The Hoover Company's growth around the world continued to have a positive effect on the city, along with the addition of numerous other businesses. North Canton continued to expand its facilities throughout the '60's into the '70's with the replacement of the original Community Building with a grand new structure and creation of Bitzer Park as the hub of the city. At the same time the Hoover International Office Building was erected along with City Hall and a considerable addition to the Library building.

Reflective of its family image North Cantonians continue to keep the residential areas beautiful, continue to support the good school system and lovely houses of worship, continue to provide ample park and recreational facilities and continue to encourage our cultural strength through an art gallery, local theater and thriving local history museum.

The Hoover Company is no longer a locally owned corporation but shows promise of still being a positive influence in the community as part of Maytag. As North Canton moves toward the new century there is a spirit that equals and surpasses that of the early settlers who built the foundation of pride upon which the village of New Berlin grew into the City of North Canton - a great place to live.

Compiled by The North Canton Heritage Society, Ruth Basner, Author

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North Canton Heritage Society

200 Charlotte St. N.W.
Suite 102
North Canton, Ohio 44720

A Bit of History

The community of North Canton got its start in February of 1831 when Samuel Bachtel laid out 23 lots at an angular intersection of Market Street (now Main Street) and Portage Street. New Berlin, as it was called until January of 1918, was the first village to be platted in Plain Township, one of the original townships created when Stark County was organized in 1809.

According to E.T. Heald in his *The Stark County Story*, many of the first settlers were Pennsylvania Dutch and were of the Lutheran or German Reform faith. In 1814, land was donated to both German congregations for the First Zion Church and School located at the present site of the North Canton Cemetery on Pittsburgh Road. In 1880, the congregations split and the Zion Reformed church moved into the village of New Berlin. Other early churches included the Union church, begun in 1838 with nine different denominations, later called the Community Christian Church; and St Paul's Catholic Parish, formed in 1845. By this time, New Berlin had a population of 221 and was surrounded by progressive wheat farms.

A Man Named Hoover

By 1873, William H. "Boss" Hoover moved his tannery business from the family farm east of town to the village. He began making horse collars at the tannery located near the present Hoover Company factory building. Later, the business expanded to the production of leather harnesses and saddles and then a variety of other leather goods. The tannery closed in 1919 when the decision was made to devote full effort to the manufacturing of a new invention, the electric suction sweeper. Production began in the corner of the leather shop in 1908. By 1922, the newly organized Hoover Company was the world's largest manufacturer of vacuum cleaners. Hoover salesmen worldwide came to North Canton for annual conventions, staying in tents as they were trained and inspired on the grounds now called Hoover Park. In 1930, the Hoover Company employed 1,432 as the population of North Canton reached 2,648. In 1950, the number of employees grew to 2,400 with the town's population now topping 4,000. Growth in the community clearly was tied to the growth of The Hoover Company.

The Hoovers helped to shape the community of North Canton in a variety of other ways. The Community Building, built in 1923, was a gift to the residents of North Canton by William H. "Boss" Hoover. The first library was also a gift from Hoover, who later began a campaign to raise funds for the current library. The Hoover Company also assisted with the financing of North Canton's Memorial Stadium, which was dedicated in 1946 and subsequently established a company museum (the Hoover Historical Center) in the Hoover farmhouse.

Growth and More Growth

The popularity of the automobile led to major changes in our local landscape. This convenient form of transportation opened up new areas for home sites leading to "suburbanization." The

trend was reflected in the rapid pace of home building in this desirable community. In September of 1957, a new high school was built to replace the overcrowded older high school. The 1929 Central High building became the North Canton Junior High; the new school was appropriately named Hoover High School. In 1997 high school classes were combined at the newer North Campus and the Middle School students were moved from the Charlotte Street Building to the South campus site.

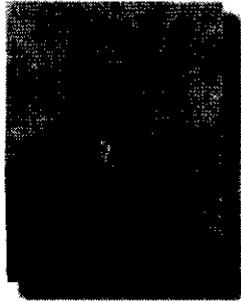
In 1946, North Canton gained the convenience of a new airport. The Akron-Canton Regional Airport was built practically in the community's back yard. Later, to solve ground transportation problems in State Route 8 (Main Street through North Canton), construction on Interstate 77 was begun. By 1966, the completed northern section of the expressway directly connected Canton with Akron.

According to U.S. census figures, between 1950 and 1960, North Canton's population rose 91 percent to 7,727. Our suburban community again experienced a major increase between 1960 and 1970 when it jumped to nearly 15,000. Employment at The Hoover Company and many other businesses, as well as good access to I-77, continue to foster growth in our community as we enter the 21st century.



Mayor's Welcome

GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE



Tom Rice
Mayor of North Canton

As Mayor of the City of North Canton, I welcome you to our City web site.

North Canton is a chartered City and a rare public entity in that we are debt free and well managed.

North Canton is a community with government and schools that are considered among the best. Shopping in and around North Canton is second to none.

The parks and recreational facilities range from small neighborhood parks to large parks with walking trails, swimming pool, and shelters. A recent acquisition of 69 acres will permit the building of a new Little League complex with seven (7) ball fields and 50 acres of Nature Trails. North Canton also boasts of having a Civic Center with a major Events Hall.

Because of the interest and cooperation of our citizens, our City is known to be clean, desirable, and progressive. We encourage all citizens, young and old, to become active and informed members of the community. Through continued cooperation and communication between government, businesses, and residents, we will continue to progress into 21st Century.

To acquaint you with some of the City's regulations and programs, an activity and information page is shown here on the web site.

The City of North Canton is a proud and prosperous community. Why not join us and share our proud past and our hope for the future.

Sincerely,

Tom Rice
Mayor
City of North Canton, Ohio.

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City Council

All legislative power of the municipality under the North Canton City Charter, together with all such powers conferred upon municipalities by the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio, are vested in the Council.



Jon F. Snyder
President/Ward 4



Douglas V. Foltz
Vice President/Ward 1

Council is composed of seven members. One member is elected from each of the four wards and three members are elected by the electors of the municipality at large.

A President and Vice President of Council are elected by a majority vote from among all of its' members. The President and Vice President, by virtue of holding such offices, shall not be deprived of their powers and rights, or be relieved of any of their duties or obligations as members of Council. The President of Council presides at all Council meetings.



Dave Lindower
Ward 2



Doug Lane
Ward 3

The term of a councilman is two years, beginning December 1 next following the election and is a part time position.

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Council meets as a Committee of the Whole (work sessions) on the first and third Monday of each month with the exception of July and August when Council meets on the first Monday of July and the third Monday in August.



Marcia Kiesling
At Large



Daniel J. Peters
At Large

Regular Council meetings are on the second and fourth Monday of each month with the exception of July and August when Council meets on the second Monday in July and the fourth Monday in August

All meetings are open to the public, with the exception of Executive Sessions of Council held in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code. All meetings are held in the Council Chamber at North Canton City Hall at 7:00 P.M.



Greg Sarbach
At-Large



Departments

City Departments

- City Administration
- City Council
- Civil Service Commission
- Director of Law
- Emergency Medical Service
- Engineering
- Finance
- Fire Department and Prevention Bureaus
- Sewer System
- Street Department
- Tax
- Parks and Recreation
- Permits and Inspections
- Planning Commission
- Police Department
- Water System
- Zoning and Building Standards

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The Karcher Group
support@thekarchergroup.com



City Administration

North Canton, as a Charter City, through the Mayor establishes the Office of Administration under the direction of a Director of Administration. The Director of Administration is a resident of the City appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.

The Director is then responsible to the Mayor for the general administration of the affairs of the City. He may, with the approval of the Mayor or shall at the request of the Mayor, serve as manager of one or more of the administrative departments as established by Charter or may be created hereafter.

The Administrator appoints, subject to the approval of the Mayor, managers of administrative departments for which he does not serve as manager and other officers and employees of administrative departments.

Currently, we have the Department of Service and the Department of Safety. The Street, Water Distribution, Water Treatment, Park, Recreation, Engineering, Zoning and Permit Departments are in the Department of Service.

The Department of Safety consists of Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services Departments.

The Planning Commission and the Zoning and Building Standards Board of Appeals are appointed by the Mayor.

The Board of Control is the Mayor, Director of Administration, Director of Finance, and the Director of Law. The Board of Control awards all contracts over \$10,000.

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Departments

Planning Commission

This five member commission is appointed by the Mayor for five (5) year staggered terms. The commission reviews and approves commercial building site plans. They review and recommend to City Council actions for proposed zone changes. Subdivisions of land such as plants and lot splits are approved by them

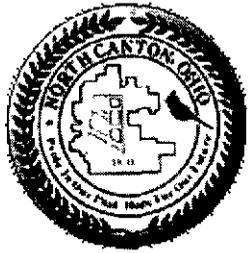
The Planning Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 P.M if they have an agenda. Deadline for submission of items is the 15th of the preceding month.

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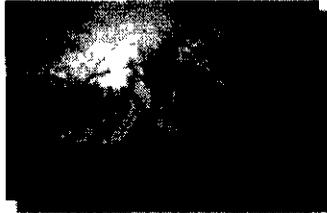
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The Karcher Group
support@thekarchergroup.com



Parks and Recreation

The City Park and Recreation Department prides itself on providing a clean, safe, and fun environment for all who visit.



North Canton Parks are distributed evenly between all four Wards of the City. Two large Community Parks, along with eight smaller neighborhood parks, can serve a broad sector of the population - from young families to senior citizens.

Price Park's size and diverse range of activities, (walking path, ball field, covered picnic shelters, restroom shelter, playground equipment, tennis court, basketball court, sand volleyball, and fishing) make it one of the most popular parks in the area for active recreation as well as an occasional Community Event.



Dogwood Park, on the eastern side of the City, offers many of the same options as Price Park, and is adjacent to the Community Swimming Pool. The pool, which has 15,000 square feet of water surface, offers a water slide and diving well. Children under six can enjoy their own

wading pool.

Memberships are open to those living in the corporate limits of the City, or within the boundaries of the City's School District, or anyone paying City taxes. For those who do not have a membership, a daily pass may be purchased. Pool hours are 11:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. seven days a week.



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