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2026 Liberty Fest

Summer Events

2026 - Second Quarter



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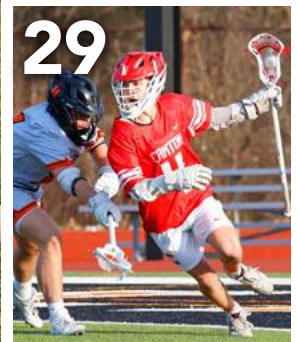
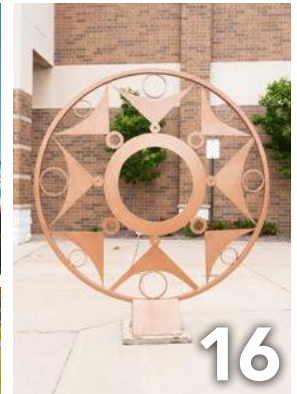
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TODAY
MAGAZINES
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To advertise in the next issue call Mark Fisher at (313) 218-7117 or email mfisher@communitypublishing.com

From the SUPERVISOR

Township Utilizing New Emergency Alert System

CANTON Public Safety is pleased to announce the implementation of Everbridge as its new community alert system, designed to keep residents informed and safe. As part of this transition, the department will no longer be utilizing CodeRED, and all alerts will now be distributed exclusively through Everbridge.



Residents who were previously signed up to receive notifications through CodeRED are encouraged to register with Everbridge to continue receiving important alerts.



This system will provide timely notifications regarding severe weather, traffic incidents, road closures, and other significant public safety events, allowing Canton Public Safety to share critical information quickly and directly with those who live, work and travel within the community.

Residents can sign up to receive alerts by visiting www.cantonmi.gov/269.

As always during storms, please seek cover and be sure to care for your neighbors who may need extra help.

Have a great summer!

Anne Marie Graham-Hudak
Canton Township Supervisor



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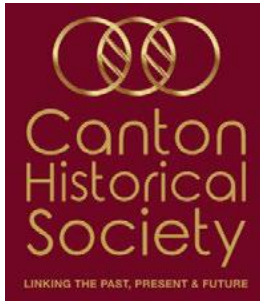
While other schools continue to make cuts, students at Plymouth Christian Academy still enjoy lots of special experiences including everything listed above. Our students also experience strong academics taught through a Christian worldview, weekly Chapel, excellent teachers, small class sizes, and a strong community.

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CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

GET READY FOR **AMERICA 250**

NEW MUSEUM EXHIBIT
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50 AMERICAN FLAGS AND FACTS

Did you know...

The first U.S. flag did not have stars?

Betsy Ross did not make the first U.S. flag?

There have been 27 versions of the U.S. flag?

U.S. flags were rarely used in battle until the Mexican War?

There were no rules about our U.S. flag proportions until 1912?

VISIT THE CANTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM TO LEARN ABOUT THE AMERICAN FLAG, ITS SYMBOLS, AND MORE!



SUMMER GUEST SPEAKER SERIES

This event is sponsored by the **CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**, with assistance from the **Canton Public Library**, and a generous grant from the **Canton Partnership for the Arts & Humanities**. We strive to provide speakers to share and discuss a variety of historical topics that remain relevant to our lives today. We welcome you to join us and learn more about the history of our community. Guest lectures are generally suited for those aged 16+ unless otherwise noted. A suggested donation of \$5-\$10 is requested but there is no fee to attend.



Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Rd.

MICHIGAN FARM HISTORY

Humans have been farming in Michigan for thousands of years. In the modern era, moving to Michigan to start a new life presented unique challenges. This program will focus on daily activities, tools, crops, travel and pastimes of Michigan's early pioneers.

Community outreach interpreters from the Huron-Clinton Metroparks will discuss our agricultural history.



Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Rd.

DETROIT: THE ARSENAL OF DEMOCRACY

During World War II, the United States needed to produce massive amounts of materiel to win the war. President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared Detroit to be the Arsenal of Democracy due to our vast production potential. Rosie the Riveter and many more unsung heroes deserve to have their stories told!



Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Canton Public Library

THE DETROIT LIONS AND THE EARLY NFL

Jeremy Dimick, Director of Collections and Curatorial at the Detroit Historical Society, will present the story of the Detroit Lions and the early NFL. Learn how they eventually won the hearts of Detroiters from professional football's earliest days, through its golden age in the 1950s, then into the present day.

**CHS is an all-volunteer, privately funded 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization.
We receive no government funding and rely on donations from people like you!**

www.cantonhistoricalsocietymi.org

**We are accepting volunteers to assist with a variety of tasks at our sites and events.
Contact us today for more information at info@cantonhistoricalsocietymi.org.**

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Did you Know?

Jacob Matthew Jewelers is your one-stop shop for jewelry, repairs and more

Lab-grown diamonds are becoming more popular each year

Lab-grown diamonds have increased in popularity in recent years for several reasons. They are physically identical to mined diamonds, but cost a fraction of the price.

Whether customers are saving money for a house or a wedding, lab-grown diamonds have given people the opportunity to still be able to purchase a beautiful piece of jewelry within their budget.



Whether it's a promise ring they wear until they become engaged, a classic pair of diamond or pearl studs to a watch for daily wear, jewelry is the perfect gift for all of life's milestones.



Your unwearable jewelry or family heirlooms can be repaired and restored like new

Many people inherit jewelry they simply don't wear because it has been well loved—maybe the gemstone is worn or clasp is broken. Did you know that Jacob Matthew Jewelers offers state-of-the-art repair and restoration services? If it's a style you don't like, they can also redesign the piece into something more your taste.

Through jewelry restoration and regular maintenance, your meaningful jewelry will remain beautiful and wearable for future generations.

Their jewelry repair services encompass everything from repairing chains, tightening gemstones and rebuilding worn jewelry to professional cleaning and polishing.

The full-time, in-house jewelers take time to care for each piece and provide the highest quality service that will last for years to come.

Don't forget about Father's Day and graduation

Did you know there are incredibly affordable options when picking out a gift for these spring/summer occasions? "People often overlook jewelry as an affordable gifting option," said Owner Tammy Haggerty. "But Jacob Matthew Jewelers has something for every occasion."

Jewelry is one of the most memorable gifts

Chances are, if you ask someone about a piece of jewelry they're wearing, they will remember exactly when, where and from whom they received it.

When it comes to gift giving, jewelry is one of the most sentimental and meaningful gifts.

"It's a nice sentiment for a child starting a new chapter in their life," Haggerty said. "They have a piece of home to wear as a reminder of from where they came."



It's better to shop with an independent jeweler

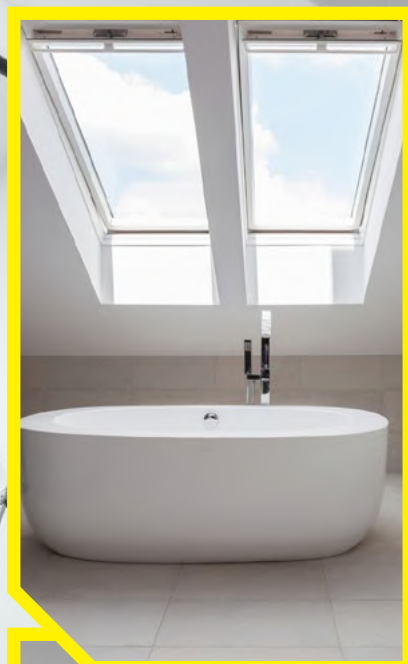
While it's convenient to order jewelry online or from a chain store, you completely bypass the personalized approach and wealth of knowledge local jewelers have gained.

"We want to make you happy," Haggerty said. "We see you around town, live in your community and can talk to you and help you select the best piece of jewelry for you and your lifestyle. We'd love the opportunity to give you a free consultation for any of your jewelry needs."



Jacob Matthew Jewelers is located at 6673 N. Canton Center Road in Canton.
For more information, visit www.jacobmatthewjewelers.com or call 734-207-1906.

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Canton Liberty Fest Returns to Heritage Park with Notable Changes

Presented by Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers

June 18-20, 2026

CANTON'S 33rd Annual Liberty Festival will take over Heritage Park from June 18-20, offering plenty of family fun, live entertainment, festival food, and more!

New this year, the festival's carnival and midway areas will implement earlier daily start times at 10 a.m., and will also close earlier at 8 p.m. each evening. In addition, Canton's community fireworks will now be held on Thursday, July 9, during the special event, "Canton Ignites the Night", which is an "America 250" celebration marking the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The entire carnival area will be fenced in with two entrances. Adding to existing security protocols, bag checks will be performed only at these entry areas. Although not required, attendees with clear bags may experience quicker inspection for entry.

These safety protocols and adjusted hours are intended to enhance Liberty Fest's family-friendly atmosphere while prioritizing the safety and comfort of attendees, volunteers, performers, and staff.

As always, festivalgoers will enjoy exciting rides, a thrilling Midway, two entertainment areas jam-packed with live performances, a marketplace, and more! Watch for special wristband discounts coming soon for all the carnival rides.

This year's presenting sponsor is Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers. Additional sponsors include Boost Mobile, IKEA, LeafFilter, Schoolcraft College, State Farm, Trinity Health IHA Medical Group, and WeatherGard.

Liberty Fest will again be held in Heritage Park, located behind the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S. Canton Center Road in Canton. As always, entry into the festival grounds and parking are free!

Visit www.cantonlibertyfest.org for all the exciting details.



RETURNING LIBERTY FEST FAVORITES

Carnival Zone

Presented once again by the Skerbeck Entertainment Group, all ages will be entertained by the variety of rides offered. Designated sensory hours will be held daily, which is perfect for guests who are sensitive to loud noises and flashing lights.

This year's sensory hours will be held from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. on Thursday, June 18; Friday, June 19; and Saturday, June 20. Mega 3-Day wristbands and discounted single-day wristbands are only available online through Thursday, June 18, at 9 a.m. Check out www.cantonlibertyfest.org for more information on ride wristband pricing.

Beer Garden

The 21-and-over crowd can enjoy some refreshing adult beverages when this area opens Thursday at 4 p.m.,



Friday at 2 p.m., and Saturday at 10 a.m. In addition, proceeds from this year's sales will benefit several local community groups, including the American Cancer Society, Canton Optimist Club, Canton Runners, Creating Habitats for Pollinators, Kiwanis Club of Canton, Partnership for the Arts and Humanities and St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church.

NEW Carnival and Midway Hours

Thursday, June 18:

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday, June 19:

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday, June 20:

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Liberty Fest Run

Runners, walkers and strollers are welcome to participate in a one mile, 5K or 10K walk/run on Saturday, June 20, that is organized by RF Events, Inc. The 5K and 10K start at 8 a.m., followed by the one-mile event at 9:30 a.m.

This year's theme will be America 250's Red, White and Blue! So, be sure to deck yourself from head to toe in our nation's colors and run, walk or stroll through Canton neighborhood streets and the Lower Rouge Trail to the finish line! Visit www.cantonlibertyrun.com for more details.

Liberty Fest Car Show

The Liberty Fest Car Show is back! This special automotive showcase, which is coordinated by the Rotary Club of Canton, will be held on Saturday, June 20, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Heritage Park. Festivalgoers can enjoy classic, custom and contemporary cars on display in this scenic setting.

Interested in taking part? If you would like to secure your spot by registering early, or are interested in sponsoring the event, please email rotarycantonmi@gmail.com for more information.

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday morning's annual Canton Lions Club Pancake Breakfast will be held in the north pavilions from 8-11 a.m. (while supplies last). Lions Club staff will be onsite flippin' up some major excitement. Two life-sized characters will make a special appearance for the kiddos from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.





Liberty Fest continued from page 11

Family Fun Day

Sponsored by Trinity Health IHA Medical Group

On Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., a free family fun day will be held on the north side of the park, adjacent to the carnival, where special community organizations will engage with guests and provide interactive activities for children to enjoy and create memorable experiences.

International Festival

Saturday, June 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at the State Farm Amphitheater, there will be entertainment representing a variety of countries, including China, India, Italy, Spain, Mexico, Ireland, Poland, Sri Lanka, and the United States.

Musical Acts

Enjoy two stages jam-packed with live entertainment featuring local and regionally acclaimed artists. Find the full schedule of must-see performances online at www.cantonlibertyfest.org. This year's Canton Live Stage entertainment is sponsored by Schoolcraft College, and the Amphitheater Stage entertainment is sponsored by State Farm.

Mobile App Available

Festivalgoers can download the "Canton Liberty Fest" mobile app for Apple and Android users to access significant information about the three-day festival. This free app is available on both the App Store and Google Play and provides access to all things Liberty Fest-related, including entertainment schedules and performer information, a map, Carnival Zone information on amusement rides and Midway games, daily activity lists, marketplace vendors, and festival food and drink details. Users will also receive news alerts and updates throughout the three-day festival.



LIVE Entertainment Schedule

LIVE! Entertainment area is sponsored by Schoolcraft College.

Amphitheater Stage entertainment is sponsored by State Farm.

Thursday, June 18

- **State Farm Amphitheater Stage**
5-6:30 p.m.: Billy Mack & The Juke Box Johnnies (*Vintage Rock 'n Roll/Rockabilly*)
6:30-7:30 p.m.: DJ
7:30 p.m.-Close: Sounds of Summer (*Beach Boys Tribute Band*)
- **Schoolcraft College Live! Entertainment Area**
12-1 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers
3-4 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers
6-7 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers

Friday, June 19

- **State Farm Amphitheater Stage**
5-6:30 p.m.: Soul Happens (*Neo-Soul/Jazz Grooves*)
6:30-7:30 p.m.: DJ
7:30 p.m.-Close: Tee Turner Motown Review (*Best of Motown*)
- **Schoolcraft College Live! Entertainment Area**
12-1 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers
3-4 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers
6-7 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers

Saturday, June 20

- **State Farm Amphitheater Stage**
11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.: International Festival
5-6:30 p.m.: To be announced soon!
6:30-7:30 p.m.: DJ
7:30 p.m.-Close: Simply Queen (*Queen Tribute Band*)
- **Schoolcraft College Live! Entertainment Area**
12-1 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers
3-4 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers
6-7 p.m.: Dominguez Attractions Circus Performers

For additional Canton Liberty Fest information, visit <http://www.cantonlibertyfest.org>



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‘We Treat Everyone LIKE FAMILY’

Longtime trusted Canton car center opens second location in Plymouth By Terry Jacoby

RIC Cudini needed a moment.

When the topic turned to keeping the business he founded more than a decade ago in the family, the owner of Ric & Rocky's Family Car Center became emotional.

“That’s what this is all about, right, family,” Cudini said. “It chokes me up talking about it. Having Rocky and Dominic a part of this means everything to me.”



Rocky Johnson is married to Ric’s daughter, Angie, and Dominic is their son, and it’s all hands on deck when it comes to running the family business. All three, along with other family members, were on hand at Ric & Rocky’s newest location in Plymouth in early March.

The new location, located at 543 Amelia Street in Old Village Plymouth, is 6,000 pristine square feet and is a full-service car and truck repair facility specializing in general repair, brakes, shocks and struts, suspension, check engine diagnostics, alignments, and tire services.

Buying another building and expanding isn’t usually on someone who is semi-retired’s to-do list. But Cudini, 71, was all in on the second location.

“Honesty, this was all Rocky’s idea,” Cudini said of his son-in-law. “He did all the planning and preparation. It was his vision and I backed him 100 percent. And we didn’t go to Plymouth for no



reason. This location was well thought out and chosen because of the area and the community."

That area and community is home for the family.

"We lived in Plymouth, and our kids all graduated from Salem High School," Cudini said. "It's a special place."

For over 15 years, Ric & Rocky's Family Car Care and Accessories has been a trusted, locally owned and operated auto repair shop in Canton – another special place.

Rocky, a second-generation shop owner, and Angie were high school sweethearts at Salem and have been married for over 26 years. Rocky is deeply involved in the Canton community and the couple are proud parents of Marco (22), Dominic (20) and Isabella (15).

Dominic works alongside his father at the shop, carrying on the family tradition and planning to become the third generation in the business.

Ric & Rocky's Family Car Center's mission is to provide reliable, high-quality auto repair services with a friendly, family-focused approach. They are committed to keeping the Plymouth community safe on the road by combining expert care, State of Michigan Certified Technicians, and a welcoming, honest environment where every customer feels valued.

"We looked at this building for two-and-a-half years," Rocky said. "It was a great structure with great potential. We are thrilled with how it turned out."

And now that they are here, it's time to deliver that high-quality, first-rate performance their customers in Canton have come to count on.

"Trust is everything in this business and that's earned," Rocky said. "If you do good work and stand by it and show them what work was done and explain why, then you will build that trust and people will come back."

Rocky and Angie's dedication to family, community and quality

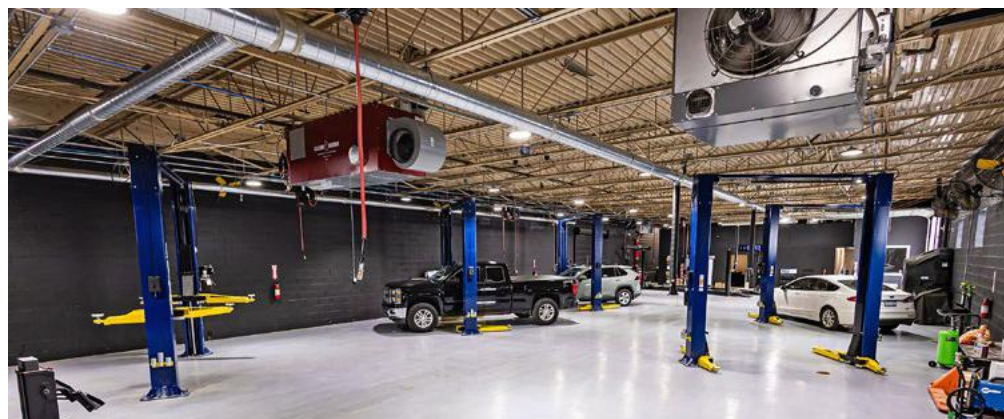
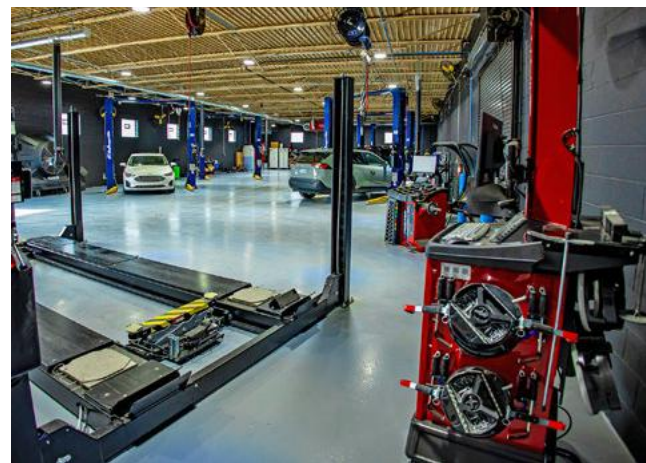
Top (from left to right): Ric, Rocky and Dominic.

auto care is the heart of Ric & Rocky's.

"We live in the Plymouth-Canton community and we are heavily involved in the schools and believe in giving back," Rocky said. "My name is on the building and we are a family-owned business and that still

means something. Dominic was two days old when I started working for Ric, and now he runs the Canton store. This Plymouth store is an extension of our family and it's why we treat everyone like family."

For more information, visit ricandrockys.com.





Building Business on Ford Road

The Ford Road District is more than a corridor of commerce, it's a growing ecosystem that supports, attracts, and elevates businesses and organizations of all types.

From ambitious entrepreneurs who want to grow their idea in the heart of a commercial district to established operators looking to scale, Canton Township is building one of the most accessible and practical small business support networks in Southeast Michigan.

Tech Town: Expert Guidance When You Need It Most



For many entrepreneurs, the hardest part isn't the idea, it's knowing what to do next, and that's where TechTown can help.

Through its Ask an Expert program, business owners can access free 25-minute consultations designed to quickly identify gaps, challenges, and next steps. Whether it's refining a business model, navigating licensing, or understanding funding pathways, the goal is simple: remove uncertainty and replace it with action.

Beyond quick consultations, TechTown offers:

- Structured classes and workshops
- Growth and scaling support
- Networking opportunities with regional leaders
- Access to potential funding pipelines

Contact

Taharah Saad, *Senior Director of Small Business Services*

☎ (313) 879-5250

✉ taharah@techtowndetroit.org

Access & Equity: Expanding Opportunity for All Businesses

The Michigan Black Business Alliance is working to make business resources more equitable.



Focused on supporting Black-owned businesses and underserved entrepreneurs, MBBA provides:

- Strategic business advising
- Connections to capital and funding opportunities
- Advocacy and ecosystem support

For Canton-based businesses, this means access to a broader statewide network designed to remove barriers and accelerate growth.

Contact

Amber Montgomery, *Senior Manager of Programs and Membership*

☎ (313) 597-0105

Funding the Future: Financial Partners That Understand Small Business

Access to capital remains another large hurdle for growing businesses, and in the Ford Road District, you don't have to navigate funding alone. Local and Regional institutions play a critical role in connecting business owners with:

- Small business lending options
- Financial planning support

Discover the Resources Powering new and growing Canton Businesses

- Partnerships with additional funding organizations

The right time to reach out to a trusted financial institution is now. Even if you're not ready to apply for funding, they can provide help with planning, positioning and financial best-practices to set you up for success when the time comes.

Michigan First Credit Union (Kroger Location)



Businesses and entrepreneurs can connect with Michigan First Credit Union their team works one-on-one with business owners to answer questions, explore financing options, and provide guidance tailored to each stage of growth.

Contact

☎ (800) 664-3828

🌐 www.MichiganFirst.com/Business/Services

Michigan Schools & Government Credit Union (MSGCU)



MSGCU offers both in-person and direct-access support for local businesses. Business owners can visit the Canton branch anytime or reach out to John McCurdy who specializes in helping businesses navigate lending options and financial planning.

MSGCU also provides accessible online education resources, including a Small Business Essentials program designed to help new and growing businesses understand financial fundamentals, including cash flow and credit management.

Contact

John McCurdy, *Business Lending Manager*

☎ (586) 263-8800 ext. 443

✉ jmccurdy@msgcu.org

Lake Trust Credit Union



Lake Trust Credit Union offers helpful resources for all businesses with strong connections to support and financial resources including local, regional and national partner organizations.

Contact

Nicole Paine, *Business Development Manager*

☎ (888) 267-7200

✉ npaine@laketrust.org

National Strength, Local Impact



At the federal level, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) offers one of the most comprehensive support systems available to entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Through its Michigan District Office, the SBA connects Canton businesses to:

- Loan and funding programs
- Counseling and mentorship
- Contracting and procurement opportunities
- Disaster assistance and recovery support

Whether launching a startup or expanding an established operation, SBA programs are designed to meet businesses where they are and help move them forward.

Contact

Anthony Lewis, *Outreach & Marketing Specialist*

☎ (313) 226-6075

✉ anthony.lewis@sba.gov



A District Designed for Growth

What sets the Ford Road District apart is more than location and high traffic thoroughfare of Ford Road.

This is a place where:

- Businesses can access real, direct support
- Active partnerships and marketing support for the area
- Growth is planned, resourced, and encouraged

For current business owners, these resources provide the tools to expand and evolve. For future entrepreneurs, they offer a clear path to getting started. Additional resources can be found at FordRoadDistrict.com

If you own a business in the Ford Road District boundary, visit **FordRoadDistrict.com** to get involved and learn about the benefits of the Ford Road District.



www.FordRoadDistrict.com



Grow with us at Liberty Fest!

Look for the Ford Road District booth at this summer's Liberty Fest June 18, 19, and 20 in Heritage Park. Meet your business support team at the DDA and get more information about these and other resources available to District Businesses. You'll also score some great swag while supplies last.

Find Our Booth!



Highest Level of Quality

Signature Nails and Spa brings luxury services to Canton By Kelsi Klein

ONE of the newest staples in Canton's beauty scene is Signature Nails and Spa. Since its opening this spring, the salon has already made an impression on the community with its modern yet luxurious atmosphere, wide range of services and commitment to customer service.

Located at 42418 Ford Road, Signature Nails and Spa was designed to be a space for clients to come and unwind while receiving professional nail and waxing services.

The new Canton salon is the second Signature Nails and Spa location, with the first Ann Arbor location being well known for its nail extensions and nail art services for the past eight years.

Under the direction of owner Tuy Vien Nguyen, the team at Signature Nails and Spa focuses on "exceptional nail care with personalized attention and a relaxing spa atmosphere."

The salon offers a variety of services including manicures, pedicures, acrylics, dip powder, Gel X application, nail art and waxing.

Standard manicure services include nail trimming and shaping, cuticle grooming, buffing, lotion massage and polish, while higher tiers offer soothing masks, massages, paraffin wax treatments and more.

Pedicures can be combined with manicure services or clients can choose from nine different types of pedicures, ranging from classic to ultimate with different soaks, scrubs, masks, oils, wraps and massages available. Each pedicure comes with a complimentary beverage.

Signature Salon and Spa also offers a range of nail enhancement services, including full sets and fill-ins with acrylic, builder gel, solar pink and white and dip powder.

With a focus on current beauty trends and custom nail designs, Signature Salon and Spa is capable of bringing clients' nail dreams to life in a professional, salon atmosphere.

Clients can opt for a la carte nail services including designs, repair, soak offs, reshaping and more, in addition to any nail service.

The salon offers a "Princess's Menu", which includes manicures, pedicures and polish changes for children under 7 years old.

Waxing is also available, with services ranging from eyebrow shaping to full body hair removal treatments.

With a number of salons to choose from in the area, what sets Signature Nails and Spa apart from others is its emphasis on customer comfort, satisfaction and attention to details.

The salon's experienced technicians are well-equipped to meet the beauty needs of their clients, whether it's a simple nail polish change or a full ombre acrylic set with 3D nail art.

In addition to promotions and



happy hour specials, Signature Nails and Spa is the perfect place to host a bridal shower, birthday celebration, bachelorette party or other special event, with an accommodating space, affordable pricing and large team of technicians available to meet each guest's needs.

For many customers, nail salons are more than just a place to get their nails painted – they are places to indulge in relaxation. At Signature Nails and Spa, the goal is to make luxury nail care more accessible while maintaining the highest level of quality and service standards for all customers.

The salon is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information, a full list of services or to book an appointment, call (734) 892-7863 or visit www.signaturenailsandspacanton.com.

Canton Champions Creativity

DDA installs 10 new sculptures along Ford Road By Kelsi Klein

FOR over 20 years, the Canton DDA has prioritized public art, beautifying the Ford Road corridor with permanent and rotating sculptures. In collaboration with the Midwest Sculpture Initiative, founded by Ken Thompson, who created the Canton Community Arch, the DDA hosts its annual Sculpture on Ford Road exhibition every spring.

The DDA is presented with hundreds of sculptures and is tasked with narrowing down 10 pieces that will be publicly displayed each season.

Now, in its 21st year, the 10 sculptures created by nine talented artists have been set in place along Ford Road for the public to enjoy.



Ray Katz

This year, the work of Ray Katz returns to Ford Road with his piece, "Ring Walker," an 11-foot-tall painted steel sculpture that is located in front of Target.

Katz is a Detroit native who, after graduating from Mumford High School, served four years in the United States Air Force, where he took up an interest in art.

He attended the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts and Eastern Michigan University, where he received his Bachelor of Science in Fine Arts as well as earning a Master of Fine Arts degree in sculpture and drawing from Wayne State University.

Katz taught as a professor of art at Oakland Community College for 48 years and has created and exhibited art at his Pontiac studio since 1974.

Today, Katz continues to install and exhibit his large-scale public sculptures. His work has been displayed in private, corporate and institutional collections throughout Michigan, in over 21 states and in Japan and France.

Mike Sohikian

Mike Sohikian's sculpture, "Autumnus," is on display in front of Planet Fitness and is a reflection of his knack for taking salvaged steel to new heights with his artwork.

Sohikian, of Genoa, Ohio, is a retired ironworker with a half-century-long career in the industry, earning him the nickname "Iron Mike."

"I didn't get started in artwork until I was in my late 50s, so I think I took a plunge into the art world realizing there was more to a man's life than going to work and dying," Sohikian said.

Since beginning his art career in 1995, Sohikian has earned several prestigious awards and recognition for his artwork. His paintings and steel-based sculptures are in over 400 art collections nationwide.



Brian Ferriby

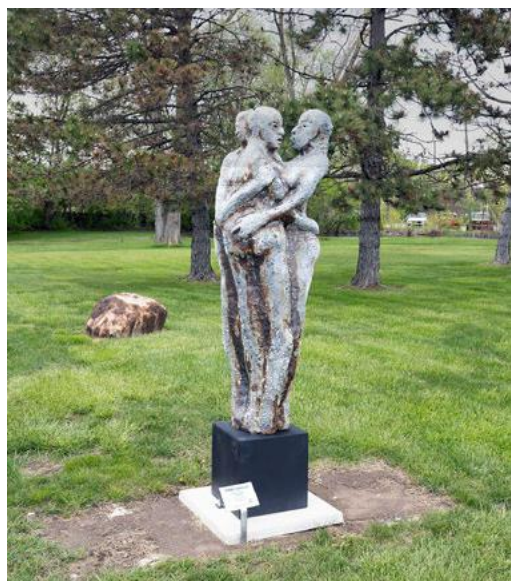
Brian Ferriby's bright yellow steel sculpture, "Bokeh," is installed in front of Michael's this season. The abstract piece was intuitive and Ferriby said it reminded him of "the pleasant blur you have in the background of a really great photograph."

For Ferriby, his work springs from his surroundings – even his abstract pieces.

"There has to be something real to abstract from, and that something is close at hand," he said.

Ferriby is a professional sculptor and arts educator who graduated from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

He is currently working on commissioned public art pieces around the Midwest and maintains a studio in northern Michigan's Leelanau County.



Mark Chatterley

Mark Chatterley of Williamston, Michigan, is a professional sculptor who started in ceramics over three decades ago. With a desire to branch out and make more than he could on the pottery wheel alone, he began sculpting.

His stoneware sculpture, "Three Graces," is installed in front of Griffin Funeral Home, and was made from a five-foot-tall piece of clay that is intertwined with three androgynous figures.

"I hope the piece gets people to slow down a little bit and get them to wonder," Chatterley said.

Throughout his career, Chatterley has received numerous awards and publications, and his work has been exhibited all around the world, with collections throughout Michigan, the United States, Italy, Ukraine, Taiwan, New Zealand, Korea and more.

Richard Morgan

For more than 35 years, Richard Morgan saw his welding career as simply a job. It wasn't until March 10, 2008, that his perception changed when he and his wife found out their only son was murdered.

With the stress from this tragedy in addition to stress from work, Morgan found himself in his shop during his restless nights.

"It was then that welding began to erase some of the grief and my creativity was awakened and I began to transform into an artist and a metal sculptor, and have been creating nonstop ever since," Morgan said.

While he'd occasionally weld gifts for family and friends in the past, now Morgan creates functional and non-functional metal sculptures that incorporate reclaimed materials, giving new life to discarded steel.

In his work, Morgan is driven to transform loss into beauty and inspire others to see the world a little differently.

His piece, "Tree of Life III" is installed in front of Planet Fitness.





Jim Gallucci

Jim Gallucci, a Greensboro, North Carolina-based sculptor, has over 35 years of experience in sculpture.

He currently works full time designing, creating and fabricating sculptures in his Greensboro studio and his commissions can be found in public, corporate and residential spaces throughout the country and around the world.

"Good art challenges us, can make us feel righteous, moves us, soothes us and can bring us peace," Gallucci said.

This year, two of Gallucci's inspirational pieces are installed on Ford Road: the "Oak Leaf Arch III" in front of Home Depot and the "Morning Glory Bench" in front of Kohl's.

John W. Parker

John W. Parker believes that "outdoor sculptures have to function in a comprehensive way as a drive-by experience, as strong and dynamic silhouettes."

His bright red steel sculpture, "Cara Cara," is installed in front of Firestone on Ford Road and is inspired by insect life – "Segmented, hard-shelled bodies, robotic and armor coated, yet able to instantly take flight," he said.

With extensive experience in both sculpture and ironwork, Parker has a unique ability to design, fabricate and install garden structures including trellises, pergolas and gates.

Parker has been creating outdoor sculptures since 1975, and has shown his work in exhibitions throughout the Eastern and Midwestern states.





Kenneth M. Thompson

Kenneth M. Thompson's metal sculpture, "Blue, Orange and Stainless Steel" is displayed in front of Target.

Thompson has always been fascinated by buildings and bridges as well as the columns, posts, beams and arches that support them.

With a passion for craftsmanship, his sculptures convey strength.

"Beyond content and suitability, my sculpture concentrates on the fundamental issues of form and how negative space defines it as well as the techniques employed to create it," said Thompson.

Thompson, founder of the Midwest Sculpture Initiative, began making sculptures in 1978 out of a former car dealership turned studio.

Since 1997, Thompson has created more than 80 large-scale public sculptures around the country and enjoys doing smaller scale work for gallery exhibitions.

Pamela Reithmeier

In front of Michael's, Pamela Reithmeier's painted steel "Point of View" is installed.

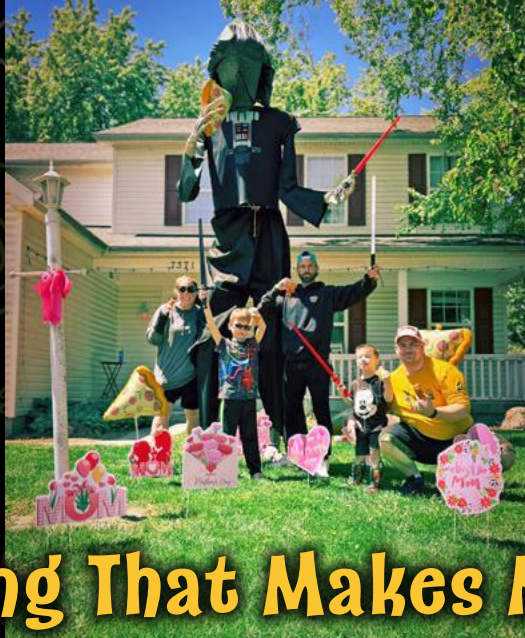
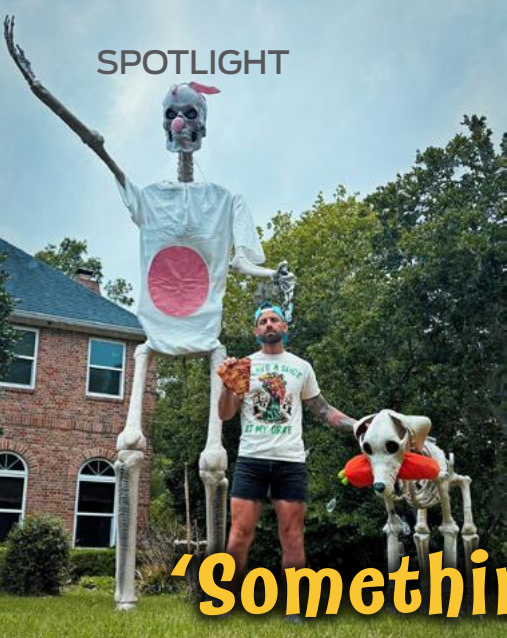
Reithmeier was born and raised in the Toledo, Ohio area and spent 34 years teaching special education before retiring in 2011.

She began sculpting in 2002 and has earned numerous awards and recognition for her artwork, which have been featured in public exhibitions, private collections and commissioned installations throughout Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Florida.

Reithmeier is known for her imaginative forms and use of color, incorporating new and salvaged materials into her artwork.

She taught art welding at Owens Community College and served as president of the Toledo Area Sculptors Guild from 2011 to 2025.





'Something That Makes Me Happy'

Canton native embarks on nationwide skeleton hunt By Kelsi Klein

FOR most people, absurdly large skeletons are just Halloween decorations that pop up once a year. For Canton native Evan Baker, they are the focal point of his cross-country adventure that's connecting strangers and spreading whimsy from coast to coast.

Baker grew up in Canton and played soccer for Canton Soccer Club and Canton High School before earning a scholarship to play at Madonna University.

His love for the game continued into adulthood, and he now serves as the girls director of coaching at Waterford's Warriors Soccer Club, where he travels around the country with his team.

Just as constant as soccer in his life has been music. Being in a band since he was a kid has provided Baker with the creative outlet he says he's always needed.

In addition to songwriting, singing and playing guitar for his current band, American Arson, Baker also designs most of the band's merch.

"I was scrolling through some of my designs, realizing that we have a lot of skeletons on things. And skeletons eating pizza," he laughed. "It kind of feels like my subconscious is leaking through."

With American Arson on a brief break, Baker found time to hone his creativity and began experimenting with new skeleton and pizza designs, which evolved into a brand-new brainchild: Skeleton Pizza Supply Co., an online store offering offbeat apparel, stickers, accessories and more.

To promote his new brand, Baker decided to pose next to an "absurdly large skeleton in a stranger's yard" while eating a slice of pizza and posted a selfie on Facebook.

Though he didn't expect to be able to easily find skeletons after October, his post blew up on Facebook

and random people began encouraging him to continue.

"I was absolutely shocked by the response at first, and a bunch of people online told me I should keep doing it," he said.

While traveling for soccer tournaments, Baker took to local community Facebook pages, sharing his story and requesting intel about the whereabouts of any local lawn skeletons.

"Normally if you see a Facebook thread with over 100 comments it's because people are fighting," said Baker after posting on a Traverse City page. "It's been really cool to see the community interacting with each other and being so overwhelmingly positive."

Since off-season skeleton hunting proved successful, Baker decided to commit to a real challenge in January: to eat pizza on a stranger's lawn every weekend of the year and eat pizza on a stranger's lawn in every U.S. state.

His journey has become part skeleton scavenger hunt, part travel diary and part comedy series, where he doesn't know exactly what he'll encounter.

As if his challenge isn't big enough, Baker has added what he calls "side quests", including karaoke performances, visiting roadside oddities and even getting his hands tattooed with none other than a hungry skull and a pizza slice.

"I'm just doing something that makes me happy, and if people want to come along for the ride, that's awesome," Baker said.

So far, Baker has made successful skeleton stops in 14 states every weekend of 2026, with plans to successfully tackle the rest after soccer season ends this summer.

To follow his journey, visit his Skeleton Pizza Supply Co. Facebook page.



WHERE'S TEAM A TODAY?



WHERE LOCAL BRANDS GET THEIR MOMENT

Join AyLaina and Ashley as they visit your favorite hometown spots—and discover a few new ones along the way!

This weekly series from TODAY Magazines takes you behind the scenes with AyLaina and Ashley as they spotlight our advertising partners in fresh, creative ways that set us apart from other marketers.





CANTON 2026 SUMMER EVENTS

Canton Township is excited to offer new and returning favorites among its special events, providing families with engaging and memorable experiences! Visit www.cantonmi.gov/678 for additional information and to register, or call (734) 394-5460.

June 1-August 31: Junior Park Pro

Visit Canton's Community Parks and special events this summer through the start of the next school year and earn Junior Park Pro Status. It's so simple to do! Just visit a Canton park and explore! Take a fun photo at each location and upload it using the posted QR code! Learn more at www.cantonfun.org.

June 6: National Trails Day and River Day

Join us at the Lower Rouge Trailhead for a hike along a section of the trail that includes a self-guided hike, educational displays and more! This is a free, family and pet-friendly event to raise awareness of this trail system. Guided canoe/kayak rides down the Rouge River will also be available for purchase from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Lower Rouge Trailhead, Morton Taylor N of Michigan Ave.

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

June 18-20: Canton Liberty Fest

Presented by Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers

Join us in celebrating the 33rd year of Canton's Annual Liberty Fest in 2026! As in years past, this exciting festival will be filled with plenty of family fun, live entertainment, festival food, carnival rides, Midway games, and more. Visit cantonlibertyfest.org for details.

Heritage Park, Behind 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Times vary

June 25: Pride OUTside

This LGBTQ+ Pride Event will take place at the Amphitheater stage in Heritage Park. Make sure to show your rainbow pride! The event is free for all ages and includes guest speakers, performers, community resources, local vendors, and food. No pre-registration is needed.

Heritage Park, Behind 1150 S. Canton Center Road

6:30-8:30 p.m.

June 25-August 13: Thursday Night LIVE Music Series

Join us for another summer of free music and fun on Thursday evenings at the Heritage Park Amphitheater! Each headline performance will take the stage at 7 p.m., with diverse pre-entertainment offerings scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. A variety of vendors will be on site selling food, ice cream, beer, and wine. Visit www.cantonmi.gov/722 for the performance details (No concert July 2)

Heritage Park, Behind 1150 S. Canton Center Road

6:30-8:30 p.m.

June 30-July 28: Tuesdays are Terrific Kids Concert Series

Enjoy an afternoon of free kids music, food and fun every Tuesday in July at the Heritage Park Amphitheater. Each concert will feature a fun theme, a special guest, an activity, or a character! Visit www.cantonmi.gov/722 for details.

Heritage Park, Behind 1150 S. Canton Center Road

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

July 8-29: Jazz in the Park

Get ready to fill your Wednesday nights in July with smooth sounds, great food and community fun! Each week, enjoy live jazz performances from talented local and regional artists, delicious food trucks, refreshing drinks, and family-friendly activities - including crafts and games for the kids. Local vendors and concessions will be on site, so you can shop, snack and soak up the summer vibes while the music plays.

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and your favorite people for an evening under the stars. Visit www.cantonmi.gov/722 for the performance details.

Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road
6-8 p.m.

July 9: Canton Ignites the Night

Join us as Canton celebrates America's semi-quintennial! Enjoy an unforgettable night of live music, delicious food truck fare and a dazzling fireworks finale as we celebrate America's 250th birthday in Heritage Park starting at 6:30 p.m., with the fireworks launching after dusk. Get ready for an epic night commemorating America 250 that the whole family will enjoy! Make memories with us when Canton marks this historic milestone.

Heritage Park, Behind 1150 S. Canton Center Road

6:30-10:45 p.m.



July 17: Family Movie Camp Out Featuring Zootopia 2 (Rated PG)

Families are invited to set up tents and camp out! There will be plenty of fun, including a movie at dusk, games, activities, and entertainment for the entire family. Wristbands will be available for purchase for those not staying overnight. The camping fee can be paid onsite the day of the event or register online in advance at cantonfun.org/register.

Heritage Park, Behind 1150 S. Canton Center Road
5 p.m. – overnight



July 24: Rally on Ridge

Indulge in some tasty local eats, brought in exclusively for this gourmet food truck rally that will benefit the Canton Farmers Market. Festivities include live music, food trucks, lawn games, a beer tent, and more! Visit www.cantonmi.gov/496 or the Canton Farmers Market Facebook page for parking and event details!

Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road
4-8 p.m.



August 5: Spray Day

Cool off with Canton's Fire and Police Department during this fun outdoor splash event, where fire trucks and hydrants will be spraying all participants! Come in your bathing suit and be ready for fun! This event is free, but pre-registration is required at www.cantonfun.org.

Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway
12:15-3:45 p.m.

August 6: National Night Out

Area residents are invited to Heritage Park's Thursday Night LIVE to participate in Canton's National Night Out. All ages are encouraged to join us for this evening filled with live music, an interactive Canton Public Safety vehicle display, refreshments available for purchase, and games provided by this year's event sponsors. No pre-registration is needed.

Heritage Park, Behind 1150 S. Canton Center Road
6:30-8:30 p.m.

August 14: Family Science and Art Night in Cherry Hill Village

Enjoy a fun night of hands-on science, art and technology. The entire family will enjoy moving from station to station during this free event.

Village Arts Factory, 50755 Cherry Hill Road
6-8 p.m.

For more detailed information on any of these programs and events, visit cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Educational and Engaging

P-CCS Mental Health and Wellness Fair provided resources for students, families

PLYMOUTH-CANTON Community Schools hosted its 5th annual Mental Health and Wellness Fair on Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth. The free event invited families and community members of all ages to enjoy a day of fun, connection and learning about mental health and wellness.

Designed to be both educational and engaging, the fair offers an opportunity for families to explore resources, participate in interactive activities and connect with organizations dedicated to supporting mental health and well-being.

Over the past five years, the event has grown significantly and now welcomes more than 3,000 attendees and over 130 mental health and wellness organizations that provide resources, information and support for families throughout the region.

"The goal is to create a space where families can come together, have fun and learn about ways to support their mental health and wellness," said Kathy Grodus, mental health manager and district psychologist for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. "When learning is interactive and welcoming, it helps remove stigma and makes it easier for families to start important conversations."

The event featured a wide range of hands-on and interactive experiences, including:

- Mental health and wellness booths
- A wellness area with massage chairs
- A creation station, where children and families can make take-home projects
- Therapy dog visits
- Healing with horses
- A petting zoo
- A fit kids activity area
- The popular Walk Through Brain exhibit, which helps families better understand how the brain works
- Food and music

Local police and fire departments also participated, helping strengthen connections between first responders and the community in a welcoming, family-friendly environment.

"Our hope is that families leave not only having had a great time



together, but also feeling empowered with knowledge and resources that can support their mental health and well-being," Grodus said.

"Sometimes families discover support they didn't even know existed."

The fair also highlighted the strong partnerships between Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and local mental health and wellness organizations. Many of the agencies that participate in the fair continue working with the district throughout the school year by providing prevention programming, educational presentations, counseling resources, and direct support for students and families.

"Our community partners play an important role in helping support students and families," Grodus said. "The fair is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the incredible organizations that work alongside our schools to promote mental health and wellness throughout the year."

The event was hosted by Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and welcomed families from surrounding communities and school districts as well.

"Mental health does not stop at district boundary lines," Grodus added. "By bringing communities together, we can help ensure that more families are able to connect with the support and resources that may make a meaningful difference in their lives."

The fair was coordinated by Grodus, with the support of Superintendent Dr. Monica Merritt and the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Student and Family Engagement Department led by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Liz Vartanian-Gibbs.

The event was made possible through the generous support of community partners, including presenting sponsor Henry Ford Health, along with Verita Telecommunications, the Michael Anthony Falsetti Foundation, and Michigan Educational Credit Union.





'The Reason I Will Always Love this Sport'

Canton lacrosse player credits coaches, connection between teammates for success

By Terry Jacoby

BRADY (Rusty) Weller grew up playing soccer, but during his freshman year at Canton High School he discovered the growing sport of lacrosse – and it was game on the minute he grabbed a stick.

"I found lacrosse and immediately loved the fast-paced, high-energy style of play," he said. "It's like no other sport I've ever played and I fell in love with it. I love how lacrosse is a combination of skills from many different sports, like hockey and soccer."

And his experience on the soccer pitch helped him pick up the game pretty quickly. He started for the Canton varsity team as a freshman and has been a key player for the Cobras during his four years.

"Brady is one of the most coachable players I've come across in a long time," said Canton Coach Paul Isiminger. "He consistently asks thoughtful questions, takes feedback seriously and works to apply it immediately. He is always striving to improve and puts in the effort – both at practice and on his own time to continue strengthening his skills."

Over the past two seasons, Weller has become one of Canton's top players. He scored four goals against Belleville and had 25 points midway through his senior year. But his success isn't measured on a stat sheet.

"These last four years of Canton lacrosse have been amazing, and I have made friends that I will have for a lifetime," Weller said. "I have also learned so much about being a good teammate. You need to make close connections with

the guys to play this sport well. And my coaches have made me who I am today and they are the reason that I will always love this sport."

Weller also was named team captain for this season, which he called a "great honor."

"There are a lot of good lacrosse players on our team that could've been chosen and I was humbled that they chose me," he said. "I am the type of captain that gets our team hyped up for games. We make a big circle before the games and create a motivational message that gets us fired up. I believe in making connections with every player, so we can keep pushing to do our best and grind to get the results we want at the game."

Weller also gets results outside of lacrosse. The son of Tina and Jeff Weller, Brady has a 3.6 GPA and also works at Fox Hills Golf and Country Club. He is going to Central Michigan University this fall to study business.

"I chose CMU because I really liked the atmosphere when I visited," he said. "I also believe they have a good business program and I will find success there."

He certainly found

success with Canton lacrosse.

"Coach Isiminger has done some pretty amazing things with our program, and the connections he brought from coaching youth lacrosse in Canton has made the whole team stronger," he said. "I will truly miss playing lacrosse for Canton High School."



CANTON 2026

Sounds of Summer

CONCERT SERIES

THIS summer, music will fill the air when Canton's Summer Concert Series returns. Area residents are invited to join us for these free concerts!

As always, Thursday Night LIVE concerts and the Tuesdays Are Terrific concerts will both be held at the Heritage Park Amphitheater, located adjacent to the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Jazz in the Park will be held in Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge Road.



Thursday Night LIVE Concert Series

Enjoy a weekly dose of fresh air, yummy food and time with family and friends while you take in these Thursday night summer concerts at the Heritage Park Amphitheater! Participants are encouraged to bring blankets or folding chairs to help them relax and enjoy the music on the Amphitheater lawn.

All ages are welcome to attend these free concerts presented by Schoolcraft College. Concerts will take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Each headline performance will begin at 7 p.m., with pre-entertainment starting at 6:30 p.m. A variety of food trucks will be on site selling food, beer and wine. Plus, Coldstone's tasty ice cream will also be available for purchase.

- **June 25: Pride OUTside**
Headliner: Long Live (Taylor Swift cover band)
- **July 9: Canton Ignites the Night (Fireworks at Dusk)**
Headliner: Detroit Drive (Classic hits)

- **July 16: Artist Tribute**
Headliner: Leaky Tiki (Jimmy Buffett cover band)
- **July 23: Country**
Headliner: Kari Homes (Country)
- **July 30: Oldies ('50s & '60s)**
Headliner: Shout! (Beatles cover band)
- **August 6: Top '40s Hits**
Headliner: Killer Flamingos (Popular hits)
- **August 13: Motown**
Headliner: Mainstreet Soul

Tuesdays are Terrific Kids Concert Series

Enjoy an afternoon of free kids music, food and fun every Tuesday from June 30 through July 28, at Heritage Park from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Concertgoers are encouraged to bring blankets and folding chairs, then sit back and relax to music on the Amphitheater lawn.

Each concert is themed, featuring a special guest, activity or character. Come hungry and grab lunch from Amaizeing Dawgs and a slushy from Kona Ice!

All ages are welcome to attend these free concerts presented by Bright Side Dental. Each concert will feature a fun theme, a special guest, an activity, or a character!

June 30

Sponsored by the Canton Public Library

Theme: Kids' Variety Show

Performer: The Funny Dumplings

Also featuring: Meet and Greet with Chase from the Paw Patrol





July 7

Theme: Under the Sea

Performer: Ariel

Also featuring: Flounder Meet and Greet

July 14

Theme: Construction Junction

Performer: Guy Louis

Also featuring: Touch a Truck with DPW

July 21

Theme: Renaissance Faire

Performer: Black Murray Band

Also featuring: Fairy balloon twister and Detroit Circus performer

July 28

Theme: A Day at the Castle

Performer: Devyn Mitchell

Also featuring: Merida and Knight

All dates include a craft and favor giveaway at the Canton Parks, Recreation and Community Services tent while supplies last. Additional vendors (free of charge): Airbrush Tattoos, Busch's Fresh Food Market will provide refreshing watermelon samples – while supplies last. Additional vendors/food trucks (\$): Amaizeing Dawgs, Travelin' Toms, Kona Ice.

Jazz in the Park

Get ready to fill your Wednesday nights in July with smooth sounds, great food and community fun! The Village Arts Factory invites you to Jazz in the Park, a brand-new summer concert series on Wednesday nights from 6 -8 p.m. in Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge Road.

Each week, enjoy live jazz performances from talented local and regional artists, delicious food trucks, refreshing drinks, and family-friendly activities – including crafts and games for the kids. Local vendors and concessions will be onsite, so you can shop, snack and soak up the summer vibes while the music plays.

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and your favorite people for an evening under the stars. Whether you're a jazz enthusiast or just looking for a relaxing midweek outing, Jazz in the Park is the perfect way to unwind, connect and celebrate the season.

- **July 8:** Depot Town Big Band (19-piece big band)
- **July 15:** Olivia Van Goor (Jazz vocalist)
- **July 22:** Alise King (R&B/Soul artist)
- **July 29:** Kenji Lee's Fortune Teller Trio (Jazz band)

Threat of Inclement Weather?

All concerts are weather-dependent. In the event of inclement weather, concertgoers are encouraged to call the Summit on the Park at (734) 394-5460 or watch for updates on www.facebook.com/cantonfun.

TO YOUR HEALTH!

DECODING EGGS

What are you really getting?

By Lisa Howard

EGGs can seem mysterious. Fortunately, with a little know-how, it's (mostly) easy to figure out what kind of eggs would suit your needs.

Eggs are particularly lovely combined with spring ingredients like mushrooms, alliums and fresh herbs, and they can be prepared in a variety of ways: baked into quiches (or mini quiches), sautéed into frittatas, hard-boiled, poached, made into omelets or scrambled. (If necessary, a tattered omelet can easily become a tidy scramble.)

As a complete protein, eggs are ideal for light-but-hearty meals as well as non-starchy desserts like custards and mousses. You can even make your own top-notch mayo using hard-boiled yolks and extra-virgin olive oil!

Eggshell colors can be shades of white, brown and blue. Different breeds lay different-colored eggs, making this factor kind of like human hair colors. While you might prefer blue eggshells (or hair), the color doesn't impact the quality or flavor of the egg.

Egg size can matter when you're cooking from recipes since most recipes are based on large eggs. If you opt for jumbo or peewee or any size other than large, your results might not match what the recipe stipulates. But you might want to use nonlarge eggs for other uses, like adorably small, hard-boiled eggs. (Quail eggs are even smaller.)

Egg grades are AA, A and B. Grade A is what's mostly sold in stores. According to CertifiedHumane.org, AA eggs have "thick, firm whites and high, round yolks and strong shells," while Grade A eggs have "reasonably firm" whites. Grade B eggs have "thin whites and wider yolks" and their shells may be stained. (You won't see those in stores.)

The pack date is the day the eggs were washed, graded and placed in the carton. This date is expressed using the three-digit Julian calendar, where January 1st is 001 and December 31st is 365. (So February 1st is 032.)

Free-range eggs are from hens allowed access to the outside. Technically, this "access" can be a tiny window high up in the wall or a tiny hatch leading to a paved parking lot. It can also be full outdoor access, making this label not as useful as you might think.

Pasture-raised eggs come from hens that probably are truly outside, roaming and foraging. But because the USDA doesn't

have requirements for this label, shoppers need to look for an animal welfare certification such as Certified Humane Raised and Handled or Animal Welfare Approved.

Organic eggs come from hens that are, according to the USDA, "free to roam in their houses and have access to the outdoors. The hens are fed an organic diet of feed produced without conventional pesticides or fertilizers." Again, though, "free-range" is a rather imprecise term.

Cage-free eggs are from hens that aren't kept in individual tiny pens. However, this has nothing to do with outdoor access or how much space hens actually have.

Vegetarian-fed eggs are from hens who are only fed vegetarian fare. But! As the saying goes, "The early bird gets the worm." Chickens are omnivores, not herbivores. If a hen is allowed to go outside, she will not be a vegetarian.

Hormone-free is meaningless since U.S. federal law requires that hens be raised without supplemental hormones.

Natural, farm-fresh, and all-natural mean essentially nothing. Per the USDA, "All raw single-ingredient meat and poultry qualify as 'natural.'"

Lisa Howard is a writer, editor and health educator who loves to share her joy of cooking delicious and nutritious foods during her community talks and culinary classes. You can find out more about her classes and recipes at www.theculturedcook.com.



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The Latest From Your Chamber of Commerce

A Day on the Green: Tropical Swing Golf Classic, June 5

Each year, the Canton Chamber of Commerce's golf outing stands as one of its most anticipated signature events, bringing together business leaders, entrepreneurs and community partners for a day that blends networking with fun.



Held at Pheasant Run Golf Club (46500 Summit Pkwy), the outing offers more than just a round of golf. Participants enjoy 18 holes of play, along with on-course contests, raffles and opportunities to connect with fellow professionals in a relaxed and engaging environment.

With its vibrant atmosphere and strong participation, the event has become a cornerstone of the chamber's annual calendar.

From client appreciation to relationship-building,

the golf outing provides a unique setting where business happens naturally. Sponsors and participants benefit from increased visibility, meaningful engagement and the chance to be part of an event that energizes the local business community.

At its core, the golf outing reflects what the chamber does best: It creates spaces where relationships grow, partnerships form and momentum builds. It is not just about the game. It is about strengthening the fabric of Canton's business community.

For more information on the event, reach out to the Canton Chamber at (734) 453-4040.



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Inspiring the Next Generation: National Civics Bee Empowers Young Leaders

While the golf outing celebrates today's business community, the National Civics Bee focuses on tomorrow's leaders.

Hosted in partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, the Civics Bee invites middle school students to engage deeply with civics. Students are encouraged to think critically about how they can make a difference in their communities.

Now in its third year locally, the program continues to grow in both participation and impact. Students in grades six through eight showcase their knowledge and ideas through essays and live competition. They demonstrate not only academic excellence but also a strong commitment to civic responsibility.

This year's top finalists exemplified that spirit:

- **First Place:** Madhu R.
- **Second Place:** Carolyn T.
- **Third Place:** Sanat P.

These students represent what civic engagement can look like at a young age. They are thoughtful, informed and motivated to contribute to their communities.



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LAKESIDE EVENTS IN BELLEVILLE

June-Oct

MONDAYS 5:00 PM

Egan's Car Show + Farmer's Market

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June 18-Aug 20

Thursdays 7:00pm

Music Lakeside

Horizon Park comes alive with live bands, food vendors and spectacular sunsets. Bring a chair but you probably will be dancing!



July 4th

AT DARK

Fireworks Over Belleville Lake



Celebrate America's 250th Birthday with a mind blowing fireworks show designed to a musical soundtrack! Best viewing by boat or at the DNR East launch park-- 765 E. Huron River Dr.

Aug 15th

All day and evening

Margaritas in the 'Ville



Don your best tropical attire as Belleville turns into Margaritaville for one day only! Featuring island fun for all ages, a sand beach, exciting contests and a tropical band!



All Year Long Outdoor Sculpture Art Walk

Belleville offers incredible works of art spread around town. The pieces change every year and each one is a unique display of wonderful artistic talent.



There's ALWAYS something fun happening in Belleville! Come visit our little Downtown On the Lake to experience lake life at its best.

Follow Belleville MI, DDA on Facebook so you never miss a moment of the exciting happenings in beautiful Belleville. We are excited to meet you lakeside!





- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | Things to Do |  | Local Dining |  | Local Shopping |
|  | Belleville Area Museum |  | Hidalgo Mexican |  | Twisted Willow Soap Co. |
|  | Belleville Area District Library |  | Baan Phad Thai |  | BB's Belleville Boutique |
|  | 4th Street Square |  | Kabob Garden |  | Thrifts & Gifts |
|  | Victory Park |  | Rusted Crow |  | Garden Fantasy |
|  | Horizon Park |  | Local Bars |  | Sweet Treats and Coffee |
| | |  | Johnny's on the Lake |  | Crafted Beanery |
| | |  | Egan's Pub |  | Moody Brews |
| | |  | Balt Shop Bar & Grill |  | Frosty Boy |



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SCAN ME

SAT JUNE 27TH

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ANIMAL SHOWS
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VENDOR MARKET ON MAIN
KIDS' FOAM PARTY
WATERSKI SHOW

BELLEVILLE LAKE FEST

SUN JUNE 28TH

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"NO STEP" STEP CLASS
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