

THE

FALL 2015

CANTON

CONNECTION™

Canton's Roadmap to the Future

City of Canton and Canton Parks and Recreation
finish up year-long comprehensive plans



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SEPTEMBER IS

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

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Canton, Ohio was founded in 1805 and became a city in 1838.



THE CANTON CONNECTION
218 Cleveland Ave. SW, 8th Floor
Canton, OH 44702
Tel: 330.438.4306
connection@cantonohio.gov

PUBLISHER:
Mayor William J. Healy II

MANAGING EDITOR:
Chelsea Perry

ADVERTISING SALES:
Jim Speakman
330.580.8536
Jim.Speakman@cantonrep.com

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About the Cover

The McKinley Monument is the final resting place for the 25th President of the United States, William McKinley, along with his wife, Ida Saxton, and their two young daughters. The monument was completed in 1907.



Dear Residents,

Canton is on the move. Over the last few decades, our city, along with so many others across the country, has gone through big changes. Canton has had an extremely strong support system that has allowed us to be successful during this period, but the time has come to step up and out of our comfort zones by putting a plan in place to move ourselves into the future.

In this issue of the Canton Connection, you will read about the city's comprehensive plan. This plan began over a year ago when we contracted with a consulting agency to study and analyze the city with the goal of creating a comprehensive plan to serve as a roadmap guiding Canton into the future. You will also read about the Canton Parks and Recreation Department's master plans that they have also been working on over the last year. We know that in order to achieve success, we must all work together towards the same goal of serving the residents of Canton and making our city the best place to live, work, and play.

Also in this issue, you will read about the city's commitment to provide fair housing for all residents, the maintenance of our city streets, and the finishing touches on major projects throughout our city departments. You will also read about the many organizations and community partners that continue to make a positive impact on the City of Canton.

As always, feel free to contact me at any time by phone, e-mail, or in person whenever you have questions, need to request city services, or would like to share information about your neighborhood. I am honored to serve as your mayor.

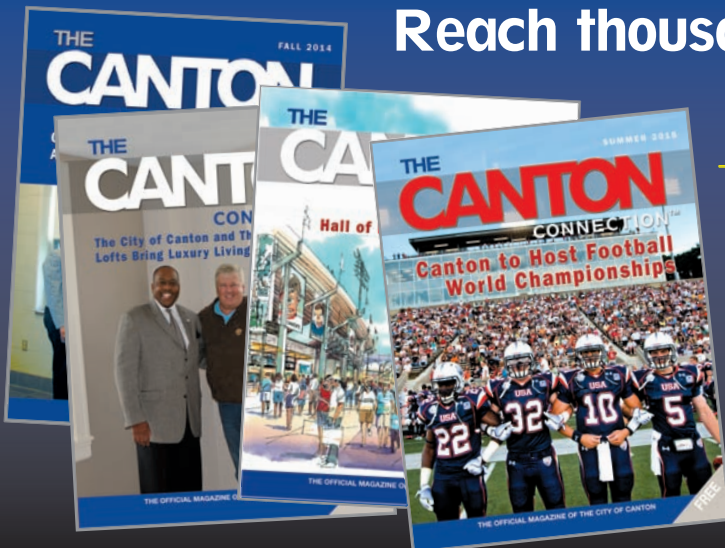
Sincerely,



William J. Healy II
Mayor



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Akron-Canton Airport Adds New Nonstop Flights



KRISTIE VANAUKEN//SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CANTON-AKRON AIRPORT

The Akron-Canton Airport is here to help you enjoy your journey more. From the parking lot to your gate, CAK is committed to providing an exceptional airport experience for you every time you fly. One of the most important things we can do as an airport is to ensure that you have access to popular destinations at prices you can afford. Thankfully, your airport provides both. It's what makes CAK a better way to go.

Soon, you'll enjoy some new flights and destinations from CAK. In October, Allegiant Air, an ultra-low cost carrier and Canton's newest airline, will commence nonstop flights to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, twice weekly. For super low fares aboard Allegiant visit allegiant.com. They also offer very attractive hotel and rental car options, so you can arrange your entire vacation at a single site. Allegiant also flies nonstop from CAK to Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida.

United Airlines will begin flying nonstop to Newark's Liberty International Airport. It is an important international gateway with flights all over the globe; all with a single connection via your airport, CAK. Newark is also close to Manhattan, requiring a simple cab or train ride to the city. Flights to Newark are available now at united.com.

American Airlines will add nonstop flights to New York's LaGuardia Airport from Akron-Canton beginning November 6. This new service will help fill the gap after Southwest Airlines exits the CAK-LaGuardia market on November 2. Flights can be booked now at aa.com.

So, rest assured, Canton. If you are looking for a flight for vacation or an important business trip, CAK has you covered. Learn more about your airport at akroncantonairport.com. Engage with the airport on Facebook at facebook.com/akroncantonairport, and Twitter and Instagram @CAKairport. ♦

Market Heights Neighborhood Association Celebrates 20 Years

CYNTHIA HOFACRE//PRESIDENT, MARKET HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

On January 28, 2015, the first gathering of the Market Heights Neighborhood Association was held. This year marks the neighborhood association's 20th anniversary, and in celebration we have been reflecting on our past, present, and future.

In 1994 there had been a rash of burglaries, and neighbors were concerned. Jack Ketterer and Barb Greavu sparked an initiative that exists today. The first meeting was held at the Market Heights United Church of Christ. A packed audience was in attendance to hear council representatives Cynthia Workman and Rosemary Diamond, the Police Chief, and patrol officers discuss problems in the Market Heights area.

In subsequent meetings, the newly formed organization began to take shape. Goals were set, a mission statement was developed, and Jack Ketterer was elected as the first

president. Neighbors responded enthusiastically and a heightened sense of awareness emerged. The Market Heights Neighborhood Association was one of the first neighborhood associations to take root in Canton.

Fast forward to 2015 and you will find that while many of the issues remain the same, safety, security, and promoting home ownership are still concerns. However, we adhere to the mission statement established in 1995, part of which reads, "for the good of all."

The calendar of events marking our 20th anniversary included an Easter Egg Hunt in April and a neighborhood gathering in Roshong Park in August. The celebrations will conclude with a 20th Anniversary Dinner held in conjunction with our Annual Meeting on November 7, 2015 at St. George's Romanian Church. ♦



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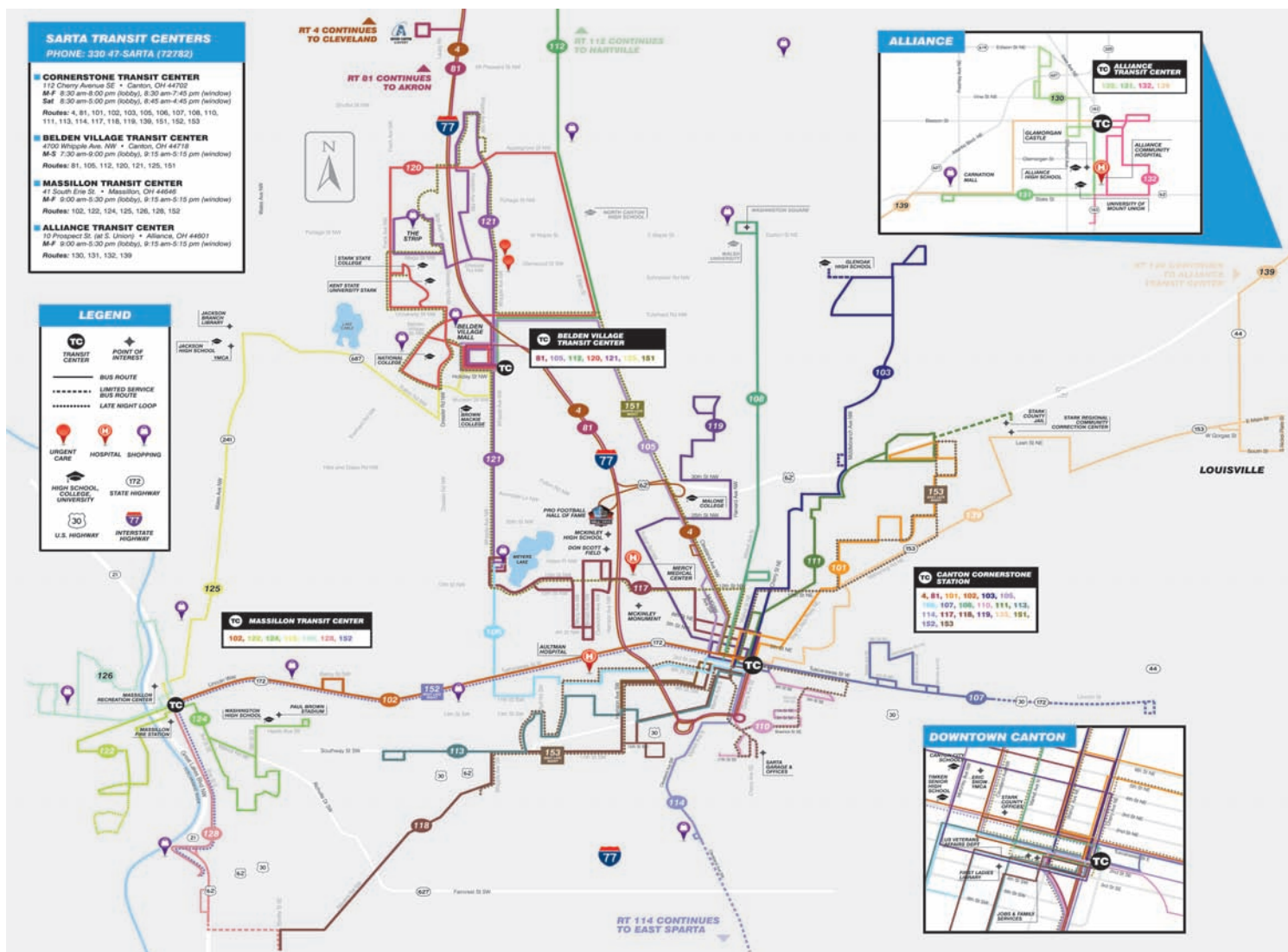


Photo courtesy of SARTA

SARTA Provides Multitude of Services to Residents



KRISTIE PETTY//MARKETING MANAGER, SARTA

The Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) provides 2.8 million rides per year in Stark County through Fixed Route, ProLine, and Medicaid Services. Our mission is to provide safe, responsive, and effective transportation to all Stark County residents that is reliable and affordable.

In order to provide service to as many Stark County residents as possible, we have four Transit Centers located in Alliance, Belden Village, Downtown Canton, and Massillon. Additionally, we operate over 20 hours a day with 34 Fixed Routes servicing Alliance, Akron, Canton, Cleveland,

Hartsville, Jackson Township, Louisville, Massillon, North Canton, and Uniontown.

Over the last five years, SARTA has worked to implement rider tools such as PinPoint, Google Transit, GoLine Trip Booking, and Travel Training. In addition to these tools, we created a new system map that provides riders with a comprehensive overview of our Fixed Routes. The new System Map shows the routes in the same color as they appear in PinPoint. Each Transit Center stocks our System Map brochures and has larger System Maps hanging outside for riders to view while waiting for their bus. Our

new System Map brochures also contain information on SARTA's services and tools for riders.

In addition to our rider tools, SARTA provides a multitude of services for county residents including students, seniors, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and many more. SARTA's services include Travel Training, ProLine, MedLine, Medicaid Demand Response, and Veterans Demand Response.

For more information on SARTA's rider tools, Fixed Routes, or services, visit us at sartaonline.com, call us at 330.477.2782, or stop by one of our four Transit Centers. ♦



Photo courtesy of Canton Ballet

Canton Ballet Opens 50th Anniversary Season



JEANNE COEN//MARKETING DIRECTOR, CANTON BALLET

Celebrate 50 years of dance and experience classic ballet, contemporary ballet, and modern dance with creative and challenging new works by faculty and guest choreographers! Canton Ballet opens its 50th anniversary season with Director's Choice on October 16 and 17 at the Canton Palace Theatre. Performance times are 7:30PM on both evenings.

Through the years, Canton Ballet has been building a repertoire under Artistic & Executive Director, Cassandra Crowley, which rivals that of any pre-professional classical ballet company, adding works by well-known choreographers

while continuing to provide opportunities for promising newcomers. This 50th anniversary Director's Choice offers a beautiful balance of ballets by familiar favorites and the next generation of innovators.

Canton Ballet offers special ticket pricing for Director's Choice, which has become an annual presentation. Admission is \$10 for all reserved seating. A discount is available for groups of 10 or more. Tickets are available online at cantonballet.com, by phone at 330.455.7220, or in person at the Canton Ballet Box Office in the west wing of the Cultural Center for the Arts. ♦

Players Guild Enters 84th Season

BETH KNOX//DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, CANTON PLAYERS GUILD

The Players Guild Theatre enters its 84th season as one of the longest running community theatres in the country. We are proud to continue to provide quality live theatre in the heart of downtown Canton!

Our season opens on September 4 with *Jekyll & Hyde The Musical*. This epic struggle between good and evil comes to life on stage in our intimate Fry Theatre. If you

haven't experienced a show in the Fry, you won't want to miss this one, where guests feel like they are part of the action!

In October, we are thrilled to present *RFK*. NYTheatre.com says, "This play is like an evening with *RFK* brought back to life, reminding us of the real American Dream that we used to really chase and believe in." We hope you'll join us for this incredible

production!

Finally, in November, it will be time to start thinking about a classic holiday favorite that is just around the corner, and choose your date for our 33rd season of *A Christmas Carol* live on our main stage.

As always, we wish a big THANK YOU to Canton for your support of live theatre! ♦



Photo courtesy of the Canton Palace Theatre

Canton Palace Theatre Kicks off Fall Season



GEORGIA PAXOS//EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CANTON PALACE THEATRE

As we reopen our doors after a month of building improvements, the Canton Palace Theatre is ready to start our fall season. We will be bringing our Classic Film Series back again this year. There will be movie screenings of *Pinocchio* and *Citizen Kane* on September 19 at 3PM and 7:30PM respectively. Then, on September 26 we will be screening *Casablanca* at 7:30PM. These movie screenings will be sponsored by Walsh University, Ohio Humanities, and the Hoover Historical Center. Team SPECTRE will be back for Ghost Investigation tours on September 5, October 2, and November 6! Tickets are \$40 and tours start at 10:30PM. On October 31, *Rocky Horror Picture Show* will be shown at 7:30PM, with a costume contest starting at 7PM. Tickets are \$7 and prop bags are \$8. Finally, we will have the fifth season of *Dancing with Canton's Stars* on November 14 at 7:30PM. Tickets are \$12 and on sale now!

We will also have several movie screenings throughout the Downtown Canton Kickoff Celebration. On Thursday, September 10 at 7:30PM, *Leatherheads* will be playing. *The Blind Side* will be shown on Friday, September 11 at 7:30PM. To round out the weekend, we will also be showing silent film *The Freshman* at 2PM on Sunday, September 12. Admission to all of these movies is \$5.

What season, though, would be complete without a couple of incredible live vocal performances? On Wednesday, November 4 at 7:30PM we will be welcoming Amy Grant to our stage. Then, on Saturday, November 21 at 7:30PM, the highly anticipated Oak Ridge Boys will be at the Palace to perform their *Christmas Night Out* show.

For a complete list of our movies and events, or to order tickets, please visit our website at cantonpalacetheatre.org, call us at 330.454.8172, or visit our box office. We will see you at the Palace! ♦

Residents Have a Right to Fair Housing



SETH LAUBACHER//
CANTON FAIR HOUSING
DEPARTMENT

Section 515.01 of the Codified Ordinance of the City of Canton states that the city must do its best "to assure all its residents of equal and fair housing opportunities regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, handicap, familial status, military status, sexual orientation, or gender identity." This ordinance, along with other federal and state housing laws, proves that every resident in the City of Canton has an undeniable right to fair housing. It is the duty of the Canton Fair Housing Department to protect that right.

The Fair Housing Department conducts random tests of housing opportunities throughout the city in order to ensure fair housing practices are being followed. We also provide citizens with extensive educational materials upon request. These materials inform citizens of their rights and obligations, summarize state and federal laws, and help prepare them for moving into a new rental property. In the near future, we are going to start holding monthly informational meetings that will be open to the public. The times, dates, and locations of these meetings are yet to be determined as of publication.

If you have any concerns regarding your housing situation, feel free to contact the Fair Housing Department at 330.438.4133, or visit the 6th floor of City Hall. We will be able to inform you of your rights and options, assist you in the resolution of your disputes, refer you to the appropriate legal counsel, or conduct a thorough investigation of your discrimination claim. ♦

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The Road Ahead



DAN MOEGLIN, PE, SI//CANTON CITY ENGINEER

The road ahead is looking a bit smoother for Canton.

After almost a year of orange barrels, treacherous pavement, road closures, dust, dirt, and delays, 12th street is finally taking shape. Portions of the intermediate course of asphalt are down, long stretches of curb and sidewalk are complete, and light and signal poles are up. It has been a long journey, but it is finally looking good. It is particularly rewarding from the perspective of the Engineering Department, given that we have been working on this project for nearly 10 years and we are finally seeing the fruits of our labors.

In addition to 12th street, we are also making great progress on the Mahoning Road project.

Not only are we making progress on the large capital projects, but Canton's annual paving program is complete, and this year it was completed earlier than it has been in recent history. While it was not a huge contract, we worked hard and spent extra money on individual streets to repair deteriorating base and address hidden problems so that the new asphalt has a longer life expectancy.



The Engineering Department pavement marking crews have also been working hard to refresh the city's pavement markings. Our crews stepped up this year to overcome equipment breakdowns and personnel shortages. Our pavement markings are more visible and therefore safer than they have been in several years.

2015 has been a year of trying new innovative products and pulling old processes out of the tool box to get more life out of our pavements. Fulton Road saw a long needed resurfacing. The \$ 1.5 million project was funded at over 90% with federal grants. Canton worked hard to make the best of that funding. When we encountered portions of deteriorated concrete base, we cut out and replaced the bad sections. We then sealed the entire concrete base with a product that is called FiberMat®. This new product consists of two layers of liquid asphalt with a layer of fiberglass strands sandwiched between them topped with stone. This process is intended to seal the base to keep damaging water out and to help bridge the joints or cracks in the base so as to limit the cracking of the new pavement surface. This layer was followed up with an intermediate course of standard asphalt and a surface course of polymer modified asphalt that has a longer life expectancy. Canton also utilized the historic process of chip and seal to waterproof some existing asphalt roads thus extending their life until they need a full resurfacing. We will be closely monitoring these processes to determine their effectiveness and potential for addressing other problem streets.

While we have made progress, we certainly have a lot of work ahead of us. But with new strategies, new materials and processes, and a heightened awareness of the needs of our roads, we are confident that we are moving in the right direction. ♦

Rent Indoor Facilities at Canton Parks

Canton Parks and Recreation have two wonderful facilities available for your next indoor event. The facilities have been host to wedding and baby showers, family reunions, wedding ceremonies and receptions, graduation parties, retirement parties and much more. Reservations can be made up to one year in advance and can be made online from our website at www.cantonohio.gov/parksandrecreation



GARAUX SHELTER

The Garaux Indoor Shelter, located in Garaux Park at 3801 13th Street SW, is available

for rentals year round. This indoor facility can host up to 72 people and includes a kitchen area with a refrigerator, stove, sink and counter space, as well as tables and chairs. The fee is \$150.00 for residents and \$200.00 for non-residents, and is available from 9AM to 10PM daily.

Photos courtesy of Canton Parks



CANTON GARDEN CENTER

The Canton Garden Center, located at 1315 Stadium Park Drive, is available year

round. This indoor facility can host up to 100 people and includes a kitchen area with a refrigerator, stove, sink and counter space as well as tables and chairs. The fee is \$300.00 for a six hour rental on weekends (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) and \$150.00 for a 6 hour rental Monday through Thursdays. ♦



STARK COUNTY'S SPORTS DIGEST
THE SCORE

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"They Haven't Fixed That Pothole Yet"



MICHAEL RORAR//SUPERINTENDENT, CANTON STREET DEPARTMENT

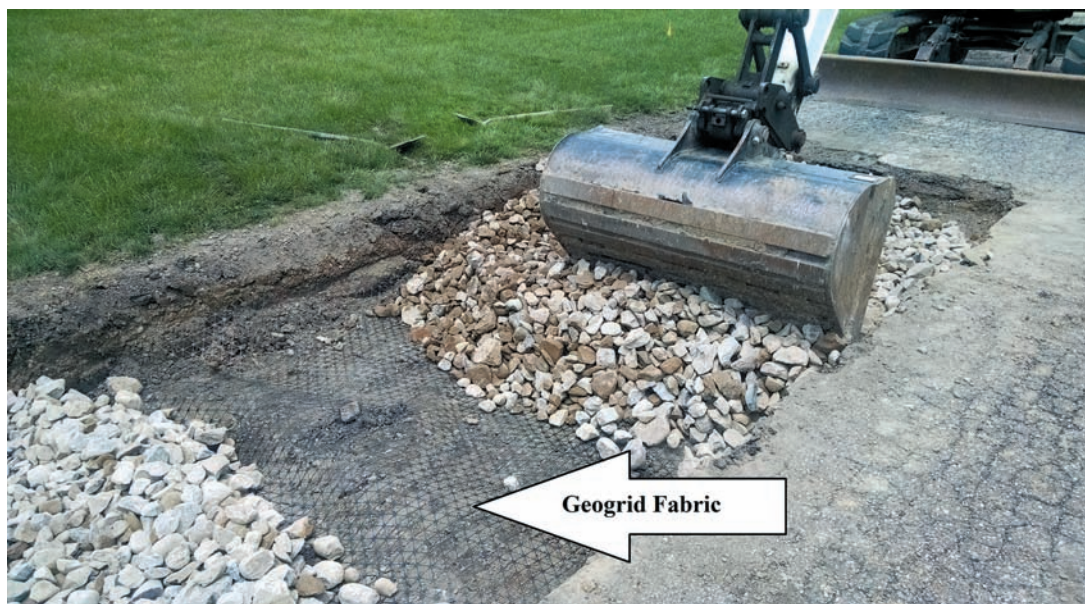
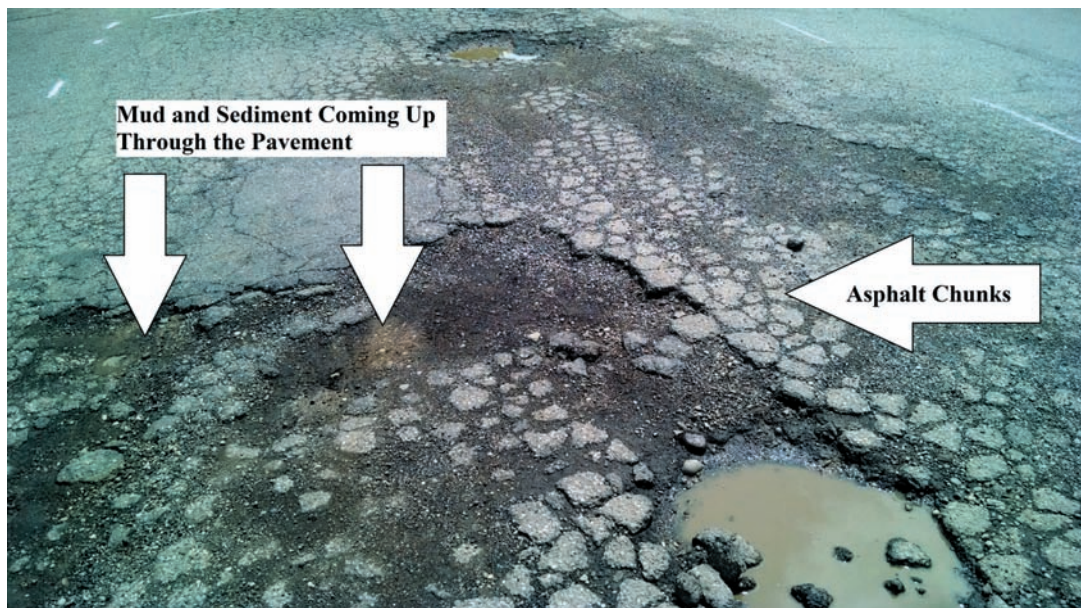
The most frequently heard statement in the city is "they haven't fixed that pothole yet," followed closely by "they fix that same pothole every three months, do they know what they are doing?"

Potholes are caused by pavement failure. Most often this is caused by water penetrating beneath the pavement, causing "heaving" of the pavement during the freeze-thaw process of the winter season. That is why the potholes are always the worst between October and April.

That being said, potholes appear during the rest of the year as well. Many times these are related to the patching that was done during the winter months. These potholes were fixed in conditions that were not ideal (moisture and cold temperatures) for getting a firm bond between the patch and the existing pavement. Then, when it rains in the warmer months, the water is able to get between the patch and pavement. That, combined with the stress and movement of traffic, causes the patch to fatigue and pop out.

Another cause of potholes can be attributed to inadequate road base materials under the existing pavement. These "base"-type potholes are usually the easiest to assess. Usually, the asphalt breaks up in multiple chunks and mud comes up through the area where the pavement has failed. Then, when traffic drives over it, you can see the pavement move up and down. The mud at the surface of these potholes presents an unclear surface for the asphalt and existing pavement to bond together. Therefore, after a few weeks or months the patch fails. Even during ideal conditions the patch on this type of pothole will not hold. These are the potholes that most often prompt the statement, "they fix that

Photos courtesy of the Canton Street Department



same pothole every three months, do they know what they are doing?"

Repairing "base"-type potholes correctly takes time and funding. Most of these types of potholes are caused by a clay sub-base that is trapping water. So when the asphalt fails, the base has to be re-established. This is done by digging down 12 inches, installing a geogrid fabric, laying down six inches of aggregate stone, then six inches of asphalt.

When you see a pothole that hasn't been fixed or one that has mud coming through it, call the Street Department at 330.489.3030 to make a report. Remember, sometimes the pothole problem is more than just a pothole. ♦

Parks and Recreation Offer New Programs This Fall



GREG MYTINGER//DIRECTOR, CANTON JOINT RECREATION

The completion of the Canton Joint Recreation District's master plan brings new insight and opportunities to the residents of Canton. The Recreation District partnered with PROS Consulting to help evaluate current programming levels and address new programming opportunities and trends.

Throughout the master plan process, some residents received surveys asking for their input on important factors such as: satisfaction with park and facility services, satisfaction of programs provided, and facilities and programs that are most important. This information, along with energetic new staff, have led to new programming opportunities offered this fall.

YOUTH SPORTS OPPORTUNITIES

Youth Flag Football: The Canton Joint Recreation District has a strong partnership with many youth football organizations within the city. We now have the exciting opportunity to partner with the Canton Pee Wee Football League. Starting this season, the Canton Parks and Recreation Department will work with the league coordinators, coaches, officials, and parents to provide a fun and safe developmental flag football league for young players in Canton.

Youth Volleyball and Girls Basketball Leagues: New to the programming lineup this fall and winter is youth volleyball and girls basketball. As indicated within the master plan, providing sports opportunities for all ages and genders is

essential towards creating a quality Parks and Recreation Department for the residents of Canton.

Youth Soccer Leagues: Partnering with the Canton Lightning Soccer Club and Canton Academy Soccer Program, the Canton Parks and Recreation Department are hopeful that a well-rounded soccer experience can be provided for players just learning the game, and to those interested in the competitive side of the sport. Spring and fall leagues are expected.

ADULT FITNESS

As outlined within the master plan, the growth of adult fitness and individual recreational activities is continuing to increase. Activities such as fitness walking, running and jogging, and "Adventure Racing" are among the top national trends.

To mirror this trend, the Canton Parks and Recreation Department will develop wellness classes and fitness programming to aid in an individual's goal to participate. Classes such as Yoga, Zumba, Pilates, and Fusion Fitness will be offered this fall.

In order to highlight all of our great new program information, the Canton Parks and Recreation Department began issuing a program guide in August. This guide will help residents learn about their park system, program offerings, and exciting opportunities that are happening in Canton. For more information please stop in to the Parks and Recreation offices at 1414 Market Ave., or call 330.456.4521. ♦

Water Department Completes Year Long Project



TYLER CONVERSE//SUPERINTENDENT, CANTON WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Meter and Meter Transmitting Unit Replacement Program is substantially completed, having finished under budget and ahead of schedule. What a monumental undertaking this project was, and one that shouldn't need repeated for many years. Nearly 40,000 Canton water customers scheduled the replacement of their residential and commercial water meters and MTU's over the past year. That is a lot of appointments! Typically, a 90% installation completion rate would be considered successful. In Canton's case, the persistence and professional nature of all parties involved resulted in a completion rate of nearly 99%, far surpassing expectations and the industry norm. It is truly a remarkable accomplishment.

I wish to take this opportunity to first and foremost thank all of our participating customers for allowing us access to their homes and businesses in a timely fashion, thereby contributing to the project's overall success. Our meter reading system is now greatly improved. I know it was inconvenient at times, but I sincerely appreciate your patience, understanding, and cooperation. I also wish to thank Professional Meter Installation (PMI), the Local Trade Union 94 certified plumbers, the oversight firm of Burgess & Niple, Inc., Badger Meters, ACLARA, and the CWD staff for working hand-in-glove to make this project a success. To everyone involved, I offer well-deserved congratulations! ♦



Water Reclamation Facility Construction Improvements



DOUGLAS J. HARRIS, PE//ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT,
WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY

The City of Canton Water
Reclamation Facility (WRF)

continues to reach major milestones in our 42-month construction project. All work being completed is in an effort to meet the Ohio EPA's more stringent requirements for phosphorus and nitrogen levels discharged to the Nimishillen Creek.

In December 2014, the contractor met the first major milestone which included conversion of our sludge incineration process to a new sludge conveying system and load out facility. This upgrade eliminated the outdated incineration process that would have required over \$25 million of upgrades to meet current air pollution regulations. By leveraging a new 10-year contract with a local landfill, we are able to cost effectively haul dewatered sludge directly to the landfill.

By early fall, we will commission the new preliminary treatment system as well as the first of six membrane bio-reactors. Upon completion of the preliminary treatment process, we will convert the existing primary treatment process into equalization tanks (storage tanks for excessive flows). We will also convert our existing sludge conditioning tanks to an aerated holding system. Each of these changes will allow the WRF to remove outdated equipment from service and utilize more energy efficient equipment to perform similar functions.

The next steps of our project will include: construction of the remaining five membrane bio-reactors, demolition of our tertiary filtration process, modifications to our post treatment process, and several additional site improvements. ♦



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Keeping our Sewers Clean



JAMES DIMARZIO// SUPERINTENDENT, CANTON COLLECTION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

Sanitary sewers around the world are under attack in a most peculiar way. For example, the sewers of London are historic for their engineering design and their turn-of-the-century craftsmanship. However, officials of the Thames Water District recently discovered a problem. While responding to a backup, officials found that a 100 foot section of their sewer was damaged. Subsequent to the discovery, officials noted that household grease, combined with cloth wipes, created a fifteen ton 'glob' that resulted in a major blockage. This phenomenon was affectionately termed by the responders as a "fatberg." The good news for Londoners is that the fatberg has since been removed, though it now draws the attention of sewer operators near and far.

Locally, the issue of grease is much less of an accumulating problem than what London experienced in 2014. However, the issue of grease is commonplace to the daily operation of maintaining and inspecting our sanitary sewers in the City of Canton. During our internal inspection process, a white substance clinging to the interior wall of pipes and manholes usually alerts us about the presence of household grease. Depending on the concentration of grease being discharged into any particular sanitary sewer, the removal of the material is typically handled with our high-velocity cleaner (these

trucks are identifiable by the large tank in the rear and suction hose in the front). This process allows for the inside of the sewer pipe to be scoured with high-pressure water. This cleaning effort, in most cases, allows for the sewer pipe to return to its original pipe capacity, thus allowing the wastewater to flow as designed. In cases of large deposits of grease, the department has the capability to enhance its cleaning effort by adding a liquid product that softens the grease. Once introduced to the inside of the pipe, the material becomes less stubborn and is removed with the same cleaning technique.

Keeping our infrastructure operating successfully is the responsibility of skilled personnel and the use of municipal cleaners that are designed for the rigors of sewers of all sizes. However, in order to keep our sewers functioning and trouble-free, we should all limit the amount of grease being poured into any and all drains. Fat, oil, and grease in any combination can be a disruption to interior plumbing and public sewers.

If you are experiencing a sewer backup at any time, whether it is your home or place of business, please contact the Collection Systems Department at 330.489.3031. After-hours and weekends, we can be reached at 330.649.5800. ♦

Canton Parks Implements New Master Plan



DEREK GORDON//DIRECTOR, CANTON PARKS DEPARTMENT

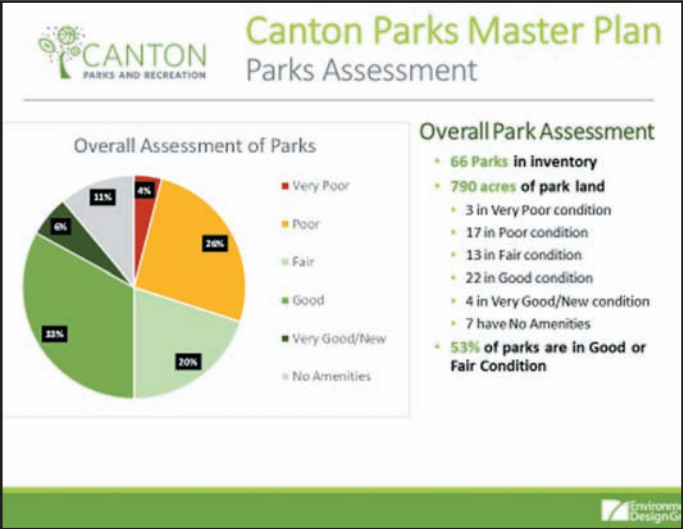
After nearly two years of development, Canton Parks have released their first Master Plan in nearly 35 years. The plan has been a collaborative effort between the City of Canton, the Canton Park Commission, and the citizens of Canton in an attempt to optimize the maintenance efforts of park personnel, identify areas for park redevelopment, and prioritize park funding. With the consulting services of Environmental Design Group from Akron, Ohio, Canton Parks now has an established vision for the future.

With 66 parks and nearly 800 acres of parkland, Canton has an overabundance of properties in relation to the park maintenance resources and manpower. Canton is below National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA) national staffing standards by 47%, and below NRPA national budget standards by 40%. The parks also face other maintenance and

development challenges, including the fact that over one-third of these properties fall within flood plains. Another unique component that was revealed through the planning process was the overall location of park properties. Canton has an overabundance of properties, but some areas of the city have too many parks and others have very few within a reasonable walking distance. In addition, many of the current park properties are undeveloped or vacant, but still require mowing and maintenance that takes away maintenance efforts from popular, high-use park properties. As a result, these underutilized properties will be decommissioned or repurposed while other areas of the city will be in line for new park developments. Canton Parks will first look to partner with our local school districts to improve playground and athletic field amenities at school buildings and make them more accessible instead of acquiring new park land.

The first implementation priority will be improving the existing park properties while reducing the total number of properties the park is responsible for maintaining. The ultimate goal is that while there may be fewer parks in the city, they will all be maintained at a higher level with more frequency. Based on a variety of criteria including EDG site surveys, population densities, park staff reviews, and public feedback, some parks have been identified for the first round of priority investment and their own individual master plan.

Each of the 66 park locations are covered in further detail within the full plan. For those interested in a specific park or more details on the overall park vision, the full plan can be viewed on the Canton Parks webpage at cantonohio.gov/parksandrecreation ♦



Canton Parks Master Plan Underserved Areas & Potential Solutions

Gaps in Park Service Areas	
Intersection	Proposed Solution / Facility Partnership
Broad and Crown NW	Clarendon Elementary School Playground
Cloister and 48th St NW	Glenwood Middle School Athletic Complex
Logan and 44th NW	Frazer Elementary School Playground and Field
Loma Linda and Grenada NE	Portage Montessori School Playground and Field
Gibbs and 25th NE	Belle Stone Elementary School Playground
Old Lehman	Old Lehman
Shadyside and 9th St SW	Cedar Elementary School Playground
Arlington and 11th St SW	J. Babe Stearn Community Center
Tanner and 18th SW	McGregor Elementary School Playground
Roosevelt and 17th St NE	Imagine Schools on Superior (St. Paul's Place NE)
Economy and 4th NE	Belden Elementary School Playground
Eastwood and Logan	Portage Collaborative Montessori School

Canton Parks Master Plan Priority Investment

Immediate Investment and Master Plan Creation

- Brian's Park (Rowland Ave. NE)
- Canton Lincoln Highway Station (Tuscarawas St.)
- Cook Park (Mahoning Rd. NE)
- Crenshaw Park (Sherrick Rd. SE)
- King Park (High Ave. NW)
- Mini Park #19* (Cornelia Ave. NE)
- Mother Goose Land (Schroyer Ave. SW)
- Nimisilla Park (O'Jays Pkwy. NE)
- Stark-Wayne Schrader Playground (Hammond Ave. SW)
- West Park* (Schroyer Ave. SW)

Canton's Roadmap to the Future

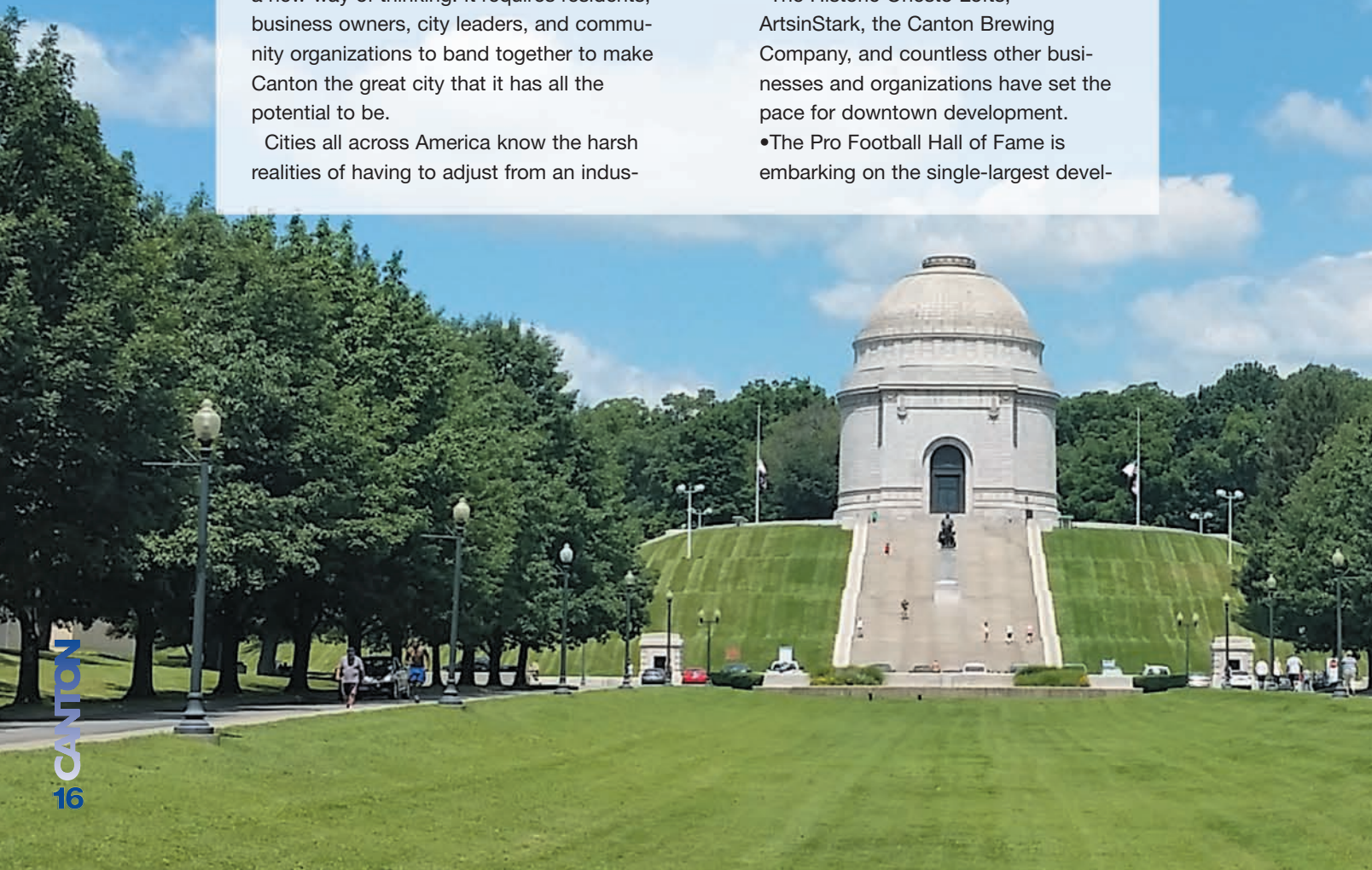
CHELSEA PERRY//MANAGING EDITOR, THE CANTON CONNECTION
KATHRYN OPHARDT//STAFF WRITER, THE CANTON CONNECTION

In 1805, Bezaleel Wells founded Canton, Ohio. For years, Canton was the manufacturing epicenter in the Midwest at a time when there was a nationwide industrial boom. A shift over the last few decades from heavy manufacturing to a more diversified economy forced cities all over the country to adapt, and Canton proved to be no exception. Industries have changed, which means that wages, housing, education, healthcare, and population have also changed. What once worked doesn't necessarily work anymore, and by no fault of our own. In order to catch up, keep up, and then lead requires big changes. It requires a new way of thinking. It requires residents, business owners, city leaders, and community organizations to band together to make Canton the great city that it has all the potential to be.

Cities all across America know the harsh realities of having to adjust from an indus-

trial landscape into the state we find ourselves in now. Some cities have not recovered – they have filed for bankruptcy, emptied entire neighborhoods in a few days' time, and the heart of their city is left searching. Canton's success during this trying time was no accident. Residents, business owners, city officials, and community organizations have worked tirelessly to steer Canton in the right direction, and their efforts are visible throughout the city.

- The Canton Arts District is a unique subsection of downtown that is home to numerous restaurants, art galleries, studios, niche boutiques, and theatres.
- The Historic Onesto Lofts, ArtsinStark, the Canton Brewing Company, and countless other businesses and organizations have set the pace for downtown development.
- The Pro Football Hall of Fame is embarking on the single-largest devel-



opment project in the City of Canton, investing nearly \$500 million to create the “Disneyland of football.” This project, when complete, is estimated to generate over \$15 billion and create over 13,000 jobs.

- Of more than 200 hospitals in Ohio, Aultman Hospital (#17) and Mercy Medical Center (#29) are both ranked as two of the best hospitals in the state, according to U.S. News and World Report.

The reality, however, is that even with thousands of hardworking individuals all striving to make their cities great, populations have declined. In 1950, Canton was the 8th largest city in Ohio with 117,000 people. Today, Canton is still the 8th largest city in Ohio, but with only 73,000 people. This means that in the 1950’s the city had a tax revenue base that allowed us to pay for roads, parks, and schools and today we have the same number of roads, parks, and schools to take care of, but with a significant cut in the tax base to pay for them. These numbers, along with the changing industry sectors, led the City of Canton to embark on the creation of a comprehensive plan. This plan, if approved by City Council, will act as a roadmap for the city to follow for years to come, and will allow us to “right-size” our city in order to benefit all that live, work, and play here.

In August of last year, the City of Canton contracted with czbLLC to create a comprehensive plan for the city. Mayor William J. Healy II selected a group of 24 stakeholders from the business, nonprofit, religious, political, and neighborhood community organizations that offered a diverse representation of the city to be a part of the Steering Committee for this endeavor. The Steering Committee analyzed data and information, provided feedback and input on Canton’s economic, fiscal, land use, and infrastructure needs, and edited and revised drafts of the comprehensive plan.

During the fall of 2014, community meetings were held in the city’s nine wards to gather input from citizens directly about what is working and not working, what the most important items to work on are, and what makes Canton special. These answers were analyzed and used to guide the first draft of the comprehensive plan. When the first draft was completed in June, it was presented to citizens by way of community meetings once again to gather their input and offer ideas for revisions. Planners took this information to

alter the draft and create a final plan to be voted on by the planning committee, planning commission, and finally City Council.

What this plan proposes is that the City of Canton create a Comprehensive Plan Implementation Commission, which will oversee three unique entities:

- Enterprise Fund Redevelopment Corporation, which will focus on market-rate and market-oriented work around key city assets;
- Office of City and Regional Planning, which will focus on planning and zoning, land use and development, and housing and community development;
- Community Based Organization, a nonprofit organization that will focus on healthy neighborhood revitalization, coordination of neighborhood improvement, home ownership development, affordable housing, and community reinvestment.

These three subsections of the Commission will be funded by a combination of both public and private funds equalling approximately \$250 million over a 10-year period. The Commission will be administered by representatives from the community, Canton City Council, and the private companies.

This plan, if adopted, will require residents, business owners, city leaders, and neighborhood organizations to band together. Though all are pursuing separate goals in line with their specific needs, there is a common denominator — the City of Canton. In order for Canton and its people to be completely successful and able to reach their full and desired potential, there needs to be cohesiveness.

The Pro Football Hall of Fame’s mission statement is to “celebrate excellence everywhere.” As we call ourselves the Hall of Fame City, we too need to live by this mantra. In order to celebrate excellence everywhere, we must have a plan. We must have a clear, concise strategy that will guide us in making decisions about infrastructure, land use, city services, neighborhoods, and public-private partnerships. This is that plan. This is Canton’s roadmap to guide ourselves into excellence.

The City of Canton Comprehensive Plan can be viewed online at canton-comprehensive-plan.org.



A Voice for Silenced History



**KATHRYN OPHARDT//STAFF WRITER,
THE CANTON CONNECTION**

The National First Ladies Library has served Canton for more than twenty years, reminding people of the influence of the women that helped lead the country. From a generally patriarchal history, the NFLL acts as a great resource that includes a large part of America's history that is too often overlooked. The library was founded by Mary Regula and thirteen other local activist women with a mission to educate the community and empower women. This institution is the only one of its kind and is the only library that is solely dedicated to telling the stories of American women. They have information on every First Lady from Martha Washington to Michelle Obama. The NFLL has been responsible for various restorations, developed the first website and online bibliography with consolidated histories of all of the First Ladies, offered regular classes and seminars focusing on the lives of the First Ladies, and organized curriculums to introduce this side of history to school children in kindergarten through 12th grade. Though it is not in their official mission statement, the work of the NFLL gives voice to an unspoken history, and that is the true significance of the organization. ♦

Edible Oasis



**MIKAYLA KULLMAN//STAFF WRITER,
THE CANTON CONNECTION**

Deli Ohio, the YWCA, and StarkFresh are partnering together to create a project that will be beneficial for the Canton community. This is a three-part project that will be completed by the fall.

In Downton Canton, there is a need for local, fresh, and healthy foods for the community, as many residents need more food access and security. Located behind Walnut Avenue's Deli Ohio is a spacious parking lot that will be getting a fresh, new update with an edible pocket park. Available to the public, the park will provide foods with its vegetable gardens and fruit trees. There will also be places to sit down in the shade of the fruit trees and enjoy the garden. On the back wall of the Deli Ohio building, a large mural will be painted, showcasing the local foods coming into the city. This "Edible Oasis" will also bring more beauty to the downtown area.

The second part of the project will be a walking labyrinth that will be located across from the YWCA on 6th St. This will include benches, flowerbeds, and an orchard with more food. It will also be open to the public.

The last part of the project will be a fitness trail that runs between the two locations, encouraging the community to be healthy by being physically active.

StarkFresh's initiative for urban gardening for the good of the city has graciously picked Downton Canton for its new project. This is a project that many people in the community are proud to support for the greater good of Canton. ♦

September 2015

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		<p>1</p> <p>166TH STARK COUNTY FAIR</p> <p>TREE COMMISSION MEETING 6PM Canton Service Center</p>	<p>2</p> <p>166TH STARK COUNTY FAIR</p> <p>LIVE AT LUNCH 12PM Market Square</p>	<p>3</p> <p>166TH STARK COUNTY FAIR</p>	<p>4</p> <p>166TH STARK COUNTY FAIR</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY "FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER" 6-10PM Downtown Canton Arts District</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY FREE FAMILY MOVIE: WE ARE MARSHALL 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 8PM Players Guild Theatre</p>	<p>5</p> <p>CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8AM Timken High School</p> <p>166TH STARK COUNTY FAIR</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 8PM Players Guild Theatre</p>
<p>6</p> <p>166TH STARK COUNTY FAIR</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 2PM Players Guild Theatre</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Labor Day City offices closed; garbage pickup delayed one day NO CITY COUNCIL MEETING</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>LIVE AT LUNCH 12PM Market Square</p> <p>PARKS COMMISSION MEETING 4PM Canton Garden Center</p>	<p>10</p> <p>CANTON KICKOFF CELEBRATION 11AM Downtown Canton</p> <p>CANTON KICKOFF FEATURE LEATHERHEADS 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre</p>	<p>11</p> <p>CANTON KICKOFF CELEBRATION 11AM Downtown Canton</p> <p>CANTON KICKOFF FEATURE THE BLIND SIDE 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre</p> <p>Patriot Day</p>	<p>12</p> <p>CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8AM Timken High School</p> <p>CANTON KICKOFF CELEBRATION 11AM Downtown Canton</p> <p>SILENT FILM THE FRESHMAN 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 8PM Players Guild Theatre</p>
<p>13</p> <p>HOF GOLD JACKET 5K SERIES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 8AM Downtown Canton</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 2PM Players Guild Theatre</p> <p>Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown</p>	<p>14</p> <p>CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>LIVE AT LUNCH 12PM Market Square</p> <p>STARKFRESH FILM SERIES LUNCH HOUR 6:30 PM Deli Ohio</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 8PM Players Guild Theatre</p>	<p>19</p> <p>CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8AM Timken High School</p> <p>CLASSIC FILM: PINOCCHIO 3PM CITIZEN KANE 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 8PM Players Guild Theatre</p>
<p>20</p> <p>THE PLAYERS GUILD presents <i>JEKYLL & HYDE</i> 2PM Players Guild Theatre</p>	<p>21</p> <p>CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>LIVE AT LUNCH 12PM Market Square</p> <p>First Day of Autumn</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>LATSHAW PRODUCTIONS presents <i>JAY AND THE AMERICANS</i> 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre</p>	<p>26</p> <p>CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8AM Timken High School</p> <p>CASABLANCA 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre</p> <p>CANTON PARKS PET PARADE 10AM Willy's Dog Park</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>LIVE AT LUNCH 12PM Market Square</p>			

October 2015

SUNDAY

MONDAY


TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY


THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1	2	3
				FIRST FRIDAY "CREEPY CRAWLIES" 6 - 10PM Downtown Canton Arts District FIRST FRIDAY FREE FAMILY MOVIE: HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre	CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8AM Timken High School
4	5	6	7	8	10
	CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall	STARK COUNTY COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR 6PM Canton Civic Center TREE COMMISSION MEETING 6PM Canton Service Center			CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8AM Timken High School
11	12	13	14	15	17
OLDE STARK ANTIQUE FAIRE 10AM - 4PM Stark County Fairgrounds CLASSIC FILM: <i>Switchfoot</i> 8PM Canton Palace Theatre	<i>Columbus Day</i> NO CITY COUNCIL MEETING		PARKS COMMISSION MEETING 4PM Canton Garden Center	CANTON BALLET presents <i>DIRECTOR'S CHOICE</i> 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre	CANTON FARMERS' MARKET 8AM Timken High School CANTON BALLET presents <i>DIRECTOR'S CHOICE</i> 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre
18	19	20	21	22	24
	CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall		STARKFRESH FILM SERIES <i>FED UP</i> 6:30PM Deli Ohio		
25	26	27	28	29	31
	CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall				ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre <i>Halloween</i>
				30	
				CANTON RECREATION TRUNK-OR-TREAT 6:30PM McKinley High School Downtown Campus ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre	

November 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Saving Time ends	2 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall	3 TREE COMMISSION MEETING 6PM Canton Service Center Election Day	4 LATSHAW PRODUCTIONS presents AMY GRANT 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre	5	6 FIRST FRIDAY "GIVING THANKS" 6 - 10PM Downtown Canton Arts District FIRST FRIDAY FREE FAMILY MOVIE: FREE BIRDS 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre	7
8	9 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14 DANCING WITH CANTON'S STARS 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre
15	16 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall	17	18 STARKFRESH FILM SERIES SOUL FOOD JUNKIES 6:30PM Deli Ohio	19	20	21 LATSHAW PRODUCTIONS presents THE OAK RIDGE BOYS' CHRISTMAS NIGHT 7:30PM Canton Palace Theatre
22	23 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day City offices closed; pickup delayed one day (Thur-Fri only)	27 Black Friday	28
29	30 CITY COUNCIL MEETING 7:30PM Canton City Hall					

City Phone Directory

Contact Your City Council Members



President Allen Schulman
330.456.4400
allen.schulman@cantonohio.gov



Frank Morris
Majority Leader and
Ward 9 Council Member
330.224.0913
frank.morris@cantonohio.gov



Chris Smith
Assistant Majority Leader and
Ward 4 Council Member
330.327.6376
christine.smith@cantonohio.gov



James Babcock (At-Large)
330.495.7202
james.babcock@cantonohio.gov



Richard Hart (At-Large)
330.417.9711
r.hart@cantonohio.gov



Bill Smuckler (At-Large)
330.327.2761
bill.smuckler@cantonohio.gov



Greg Hawk (Ward 1)
330.455.7333
gregory.hawk@cantonohio.gov



Thomas West (Ward 2)
330.353.0611
thomas.west@cantonohio.gov



James Griffin (Ward 3)
330.478.2297
james.griffin@cantonohio.gov



Kevin Fisher (Ward 5)
330.412.4681
kevin.fisher@cantonohio.gov



David Dougherty (Ward 6)
330.453.9950
david.dougherty@cantonohio.gov



John Mariol II (Ward 7)
330.705.2397
john.mariol@cantonohio.gov



Edmond Mack (Ward 8)
330.323.3755
edmond.mack@cantonohio.gov

Annexation 330-438-4293

Auditor
R.A. Mallonn 330-489-3226

Building Dept &
Code Enforcement 330-430-7800

Building Inspector 330-438-4705

Electrical Inspector 330-438-4707

HVAC Inspector 330-438-4705

Plumbing Inspector 330-438-4706

Building Maintenance 330-489-3275

Civic Center 330-489-3090

Civil Service 330-489-3360

Clerk of Courts 330-489-3203

Civil 330-489-3203

Criminal/Traffic 330-489-3207

Economic and
Community
Development 330-489-3258

Canton Community
Improvement 330-438-4122

Canton City Council 330-489-3223

DMV 330-489-3012

EEO Officer 330-438-4133

Engineering 330-489-3381

Parking Division 330-489-3127

Traffic Engineering
Division 330-489-3370

Traffic Signal &

Lighting Division 330-489-3126

Traffic Sign & Pavement
Marking Division 330-489-3067

Fair Housing Program 330-438-4133

Fire Non-Emergency 330-649-5900

Fire Administration 330-489-3411

Health Dept 330-489-3231

Air Pollution 330-489-3385

Environment 330-489-3327

Nursing 330-489-3322

Public Health Info 330-489-3327

Vital Statistics 330-489-3231

WIC 330-489-3326

Human Resources 330-438-4136

Income Tax 330-430-7900

Police Non-Emergency 330-649-5800

Community

Interaction Unit 330-458-4807

Detective Bureau 330-489-3144

Dispatch 330-649-5800

Holding Facility 330-489-3197

ID Bureau 330-489-3170

Information Only 330-489-3100

Impound Lot 330-489-3186

Impound Payments 330-438-6169

Internal Affairs 330-489-3377

Juvenile Bureau 330-489-3144

Patrol Division 330-489-3100

Police Chief 330-489-3111

Record Room 330-489-3172

Tip Line 330-489-3117

Traffic Division 330-489-3162

Training Division 330-489-3180

Vice 330-649-5929

Information
Technology 330-438-6101

Judges-Administration 330-438-4231

Judge Belden 330-438-4226

Judge Falvey 330-438-4205

Judge Kubilus 330-438-4203

Judge Poulos 330-438-4202

Law Director

Joseph Martuccio 330-489-3251

Civil 330-489-3251

Criminal 330-489-3395

Mayor William Healy 330-438-4300

Finance Director 330-438-4304

Safety Director 330-438-4312

Service Director 330-438-4310

Park Department 330-489-3015

Parking Tickets 330-438-6169

Purchasing 330-489-3245

Recreation Dept. 330-456-4521

Sanitation 330-489-3020

Sewer Collections 330-489-3031

Street 330-489-3030

Treasurer

Kim Perez 330-438-4730

Water 330-489-3308

Water Engineer 330-489-3310

Leaks 330-489-3315

Utility Billing 330-649-8100

Water Reclamation
Facility 330-489-3080

Youth Development 330-489-3350

Zoning 330-438-4726