

# The Barberton Herald

# OPINION

## Views Line

Views Line is an opinion feature, designed to give everyone a voice.

The opinions expressed do not reflect the opinions of the Herald.

The Herald does not verify statements made in this feature. Views Line is edited for spelling but the Herald reserves the right to edit or omit any comment.

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## Down the drain

Nowadays, every time I watch the weather forecast on TV, I get to laugh about a statement in the Herald a few weeks ago, made by our genius mayor: "we can't predict the weather." That must be his excuse for paying overtime to plow snow that already melted.

## The show must go on

The networks I watch (CNN and MSNBC) haven't had to fire anyone!

## Governmental distancing

Dismayed council passed a budget as emergency and in session in which voters could not voice their concerns. I realize they must work within safety precautions and appreciate streaming as a partial solution, but we need a way in which the citizens can interact.

# Letters

## China started it

President Trump, you are correct this is a Chinese virus that is around the world and here in the United States! We wish to thank you for being open and fair that this is a Chinese virus that started in China. We hope that you can get China to be more open about this Chinese virus and when they first knew about this Chinese virus. We can only hope that our American news will start telling the truth that this is a Chinese virus. Can they, and will they?

Thank you for doing everything you can do for us Americans.

God Bless.

*Robert Augustynovich  
Barberton*



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Who would have ever thought our country would have a pandemic? It's a shame that all of these small and large companies have to shut down. I hope it doesn't last too long because a lot of them won't be able to start back up. I send my column in on Saturday so I don't know where we will be when you get your paper on Thursday.

Claustrophobia, one time when Chris Camp and I were in Hawaii visiting Bob DeVore, we went to walk up the mountain Diamond Head. There was a tunnel through the mountain and after I got in a little bit I realized you couldn't see

any light at the end because the tunnel had a turn to the right. I panicked and high-tailed it out of there, running into the people coming in. I waited on the outside until Chris came back out. He thought it was funny! One time we went to a farm down by Wooster on Halloween and they had a corn maze. The kids talked me into going in with them. Well I didn't last very long and I had a panic attack because every turn I made turned into a dead end. Luckily they had employees in there to help people like me get out.

Remember when the proud father of a new

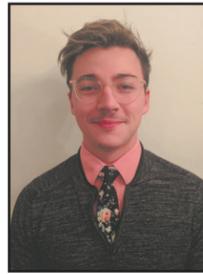
How do we survive this crisis? With rent freezes? Mortgage moratoriums? Universal health-care? Utility bill suspensions? Guaranteed paid sick leave? Debt cancellation? Cash payments to every person living in America? The list goes on.

In the span of just two weeks the coronavirus has the whole country talking like full-fledged socialists. And for good reason.

When the choice is between playing chance with a pandemic or facing financial ruin, can you blame people for demanding a third option? This crisis we're facing has laid bare the pitfalls and shortcomings endemic to our society. But now that so many of us have had the

## COLUMN

# Only time will tell



**Nick Cacioppo**  
Herald Staff Writer

rug yanked out from under our feet, can we truly settle for the same old piecemeal half measures?

With a crisis that looms so large we need policy and action that rises to the occasion. This has the potential to be a critical turning point in the way many Americans think. Do we turn our backs on each other or demand better social safety nets for all? Do we condemn the vulnerable to death or do we demand healthcare that protects the neediest among us? Do we accept the profit motive or do we demand a more compassionate and egalitarian economic order? Whether we go boldly toward new horizons or cling to the past is up to you.

# Here for the right reasons

We don't always know why we end up in the profession we do, but many educators, myself included, choose our profession because of a strong desire to help create the amazing experiences we had as students.

Our time within the hallways of our district was so good that we want to provide avenues for as many others as possible to encounter similar education, similar challenges and (most importantly) similar relationships. In the beginning of a very unique time in our educational lives, Norton City Schools began our remote learning activity last week.

As we wrapped up week one March 13 and began an attempt to rest for a couple of days, one certainty remained in my thoughts. Our students need our teachers, and our teachers need our students. Our district needs our families, and our families need our district. We didn't worry or focus too much last week on anything beyond formative learning and growing together, but did we ever count our blessings for the relationships that exist within our district. Actually, it was humbling.

As much as any other time in my history, these connections that occur in our buildings remained via Google

Hangout or Zoom. They remained via Facebook and email. Our teachers reached out to their students, and the students reached back. I can't remember a time where I've seen so many smiles when faces appear and the group is together again. That was the prevailing thought of week one, smiles are back, because in some way, we were back together again. Our district knows how many good families we have delivering students to our district, but last week also solidified my knowledge that our rooms and buildings are great places for our kids. Fully aware that our district will constantly be aware of necessary growth and knowing that it is not perfect, we do spend most of our time looking forward to our

future. Quite frankly, because politicians are playing too large of a role in determining what schools are "good" and which are "failing," we spend most of our time away from that nonsense and instead determine how we can look ahead and be the district that serves its students in the ways that they need.

Yes, we are fully aware of accountability, but as last week displayed, our relationship with our students is winning. Right now, as it should be, that is the priority.



**Dana Addis**  
Superintendent  
Norton City Schools

## We Welcome Your Letters

Letters are welcome on virtually any subject, but we do have some rules. Please keep them less than 250 words. Letters will be edited for length as well as grammar and spelling. All letters must be signed with full name -- not initials. An address and telephone number must be included.

The phone number and address are not for publication, but must be provided. The Herald will no longer publish political letters one week prior to any election. Please send or bring correspondence to The Barberton Herald, 70 Fourth St. NW, Barberton, OH, 44203, fax to 330-753-1021 or email to [publisher@barbertonherald.com](mailto:publisher@barbertonherald.com).

The baby gave out cigars? Not anymore! They had a blue band for a boy and a pink band for a girl. Do kids have yo-yos anymore? I was pretty good at it. I could rock the baby and walk the dog. How about seeing road apples along on country roads. You know the two best things about owning a boat? When you buy it and when you sell it. There was an old country song that said "I was looking back to see if you were looking back to see if I was looking back to see if you were looking back at me."

A guy was bored while staying home and he said he put a drink in every room in his house and had his own pub crawl. Not bragging, but I've closed down a few bars in my day and I didn't even need the Governor's approval. My saying: There's no substitute for hard work. I am a good example of that. Ask my friends. See ya!

## Dispose of unwanted prescription medications

The Barberton Police maintain two secure medication drop-off boxes for use at any time. One is a red box in front of the Barberton main fire station, 580 Wooster Road W., and the other is in the basement of the City Building, 576 W. Park Ave., in the police department. Barberton residents may phone 330-745-2181 and arrange for an officer to pick up the medications.

## Donate to Shoe Fund

Over 400 pairs of shoes have been provided to Barberton school children so far this school year by the Magic City Kiwanis Esther Ryan Shoe Fund. These shoes were distributed by a new process instituted due to the closing of the Payless Shoe Store. Qualified children are measured for size by the Sketcher's store personnel, shoes are ordered and are brought to the school the child attends for pick up. Shoe Fund money is provided by donations from the community and by an annual spaghetti dinner. Anyone wishing to make a contribution now to the Shoe Fund should send a check to P.O. Box 561, Barberton, OH 44203.

## The Barberton Herald

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