

BRIEFS

Schultz has collection of artwork showing

Rose Schultz, a Miamisburg resident, is showing a collection of her paintings at the Centerville Art Gallery during the month of April.

Rose works in watercolor, pastels and mixed media using rice paper collage. About twenty pieces of her work in these media are on display

Summer concert series set for Miamisburg

By John Cummings
Managing Editor

Miamisburg Parks and Recreation Director Sheila Russell can't think of many better things on a summer night than a lawn chair on the bank of the Great Miami River while getting lost in the music.

"It's wonderful," Russell said. "There is not a care in the world. Just relaxing and listening to good music."

The community will have plenty of chances to sit back at Riverfront Park and, as the Grateful Dead said "just listen to the music."

The Star City Concert Series will be held every Sunday June 9 through Aug. 25 at Riverfront Park. All concerts begin at 7 p.m. and are free to the public.

"We are really excited," Russell said. "We got some great bands."

The series will begin on June 9 with the Star City Community Band under the direction of Miamisburg band director Steve Aylward playing hit songs from movies, jazz and songs from Broadway among others beginning at 6 p.m.

Funky G and the Groove Machine will follow the Star City Band with hip-hop and funk with some R&B.

On June 16, country takes the stage with The Flat Out Band and on June 23 it is Southern Rock's turn with Southbound.

June concludes with classic and contemporary rock with Hey There Morgan on June 30.

July 7 will feature an ice cream social to go with the Kettering Civic Band starting at 5 p.m. followed by The Miami Valley Music Men and

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Miamisburg
West Carrollton

NEWS

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Pirate robotics headed to World Championships

By John Cummings
Managing Editor

West Carrollton High School robotics advisor Mike Neal has been blown away by the success of the program.

The Pirates, Team 6032, recently earned their third invitation to compete in the World Championships in four years of existence.

It is the second straight year West Carrollton has advanced to the World Championships, held April 24-27 in Detroit.

"Everyone is really excited about it," Neal said. "Going three times in four years, it sounds like it is easy to do, but it is really special."

"There are teams that have been around more than 10 years that have never made it. We have had really good fortune to

set ourselves up to go."

Building of the robot began in early January when FIRST robotic teams from across the world discovered the challenges their robot would face for the season. Robots earn points based on completed tasks during competition. Teams had six weeks to construct a robot and develop a marketing plan. Students spent time before

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Deadline confusion closes Burg council entrants

By John Cummings
Managing Editor

Brian Yeakley was making sure he was crossing all the t's and dotting all the i's in a bid to run for Miamisburg City Council.

The President of the Miamisburg Merchant Association pulled his petitions to run as an independent and checked the entry deadline.

May 6 he was told by the Board of Elections.

He was given the same information on four other occasions only to eventually find out that all petitions in Miamisburg are due 90 days prior to election day.

"All things being equal, had I known the deadline was February 6, it would have been in way before," Yeakley said. "But, that's not what I was told on five separate occasions."

While most have a later deadline for independent candidates, Miamisburg is

different.

As part of their charter review in 2003, the wording was changed making all petitions due 90 days prior to the election.

"That is normally the case," the Board of Elections said in reference to later deadlines. "But, Miamisburg's charter spells it out that it is to be 90 days before."

Yeakley believes the confusion could have been avoided.

"They should have known that Miamisburg was different before telling me the wrong date," Yeakley said. "They should have been aware of it, but yes, I think it was a simple mistake. I think they assumed it was the same as everyone else's."

Also according to the charter, there will be no primary with all four Republicans advancing to the November ballot for three spots.

Incumbents Greg Thompson and Ryan Colvin are running to retain their spots on Council.

The third Council seat that is open belongs to Michelle

Collins, who will be the lone entry for Mayor to take the place of Dick Church Jr.

Mayor Church is retiring as the longest serving Mayor after serving 28-years in the office.

Jeff Nestor and Alyse Rettich are also on the ballot for City Council.

Yeakley could file a challenge, but sees more harm than good in doing so.

"I have a feeling a lot of it would be pushed to the candidate should have known," Yeakley said. "I don't know if it would do anything to change things and by the time it was done, the Republicans would have to have a primary and that wouldn't be fair to them."

While he won't be on the ballot, Yeakley said the only thing that will change for him is having to explain to everyone why he isn't.

"I'm not going to change what I do," Yeakley said. "I just got to explain why I am not on the ballot to everyone when they ask."

No joke: April Fools Day run turning 10

By John Cummings
Managing Editor

April Fool's Day means a couple of different things.

It is the favorite day of pranksters, first of all.

And, it is the annual 5K run sponsored by Miamisburg Parks and Recreation Department, though they have some prankster in them as well.

The run will be held beginning at 5 p.m. for the second consecutive year at Community Park.

The run started out at Rice Field using the bike path, then moved to Riverfront Park before moving to Community Park.

"It's April Fool's," Russell said with a laugh. "You never know where we will be."

"We might mix it up again."

Russell said the plan is to continue to use the parks for the race, alternating every couple of years from site to site.

The run will feature a one mile and 5K walk, 5K run and 5K wheelchair. The one-mile Family Dun walk will be held at 6 p.m. and is free.

Registration is \$20 with a shirt guaranteed if registered in advance by March 23. After March 23, the cost goes to \$25 with no guarantee for a shirt.

Over the course of the decade, the race has slowly gained entrants and fluctuates between 170 and 250 people.

"By April 1, the weather is starting to get nicer," Russell said. "What's better on a nice day than a run."

"I think a lot of people like it because it gets them back outside and back in the groove."

However, spring in Ohio is far from predictable.

Thus, the fluctuation in the number of participants.

"If it is a really nice spring day, then we get a lot of runners," Russell said. "If it is still cold, then we won't have many."

"You never knew when we were at Rice. We could have been under water, but at

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Robotics

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school, after school and on weekends working together with coaches before the stop-build day prior to the competition season. After the stop-build date, and between competitions, the robot is wrapped and teams are not permitted to work on the robot.

A new robot is built each year centered around the mission put forward for the competitions.

"Every year has a different theme and a different game element," Neal said. "You are constantly trying to counter your opponent and there is nothing else like it."

"It takes a lot of teamwork and hard work. It is very uplifting."

Teams are paired with two other teams to accomplish the challenge with different points being added to certain aspects of the challenge. Teams don't know in advance who they are going to be teamed with.

"All the talking is about robotics," Neal said. "It is building a life skill to work with

people they haven't known for 10 minutes.

"No one is afraid to speak up because it is all robot talk. It is really cool to see them work together."

The teams go through qualifiers to earn a ranking. The top teams then pick the teams that they want to work with through the bracket to the championship.

The first competition of the year for the team was the Miami Valley Regional held at the Wright State Nutter Center from March 6-9. There were 60 teams from nine states competing. The PIRATES finished the qualification round with a record of 8 wins, 1 loss, and an overall ranking of 5th place out of 60 teams. It was the best qualification finish the team has ever had.

PIRATE Robotics was the third overall pick in the alliance team selection. Alliances are made up of three teams that compete together in 3 versus 3 matches. The team alliance swept the quarterfinals and semifinals.

The alliance won the first finals match. For the next two matches the PIRATE robot experienced technical issues causing the robot to become disabled. The alliance lost both of the final matches and finished in 2nd place; however, because the team was the first pick in the runner-up alliance, they won the wildcard and the invitation to the World Championships.

Neal said that while the Pirates have a specialized robot this year, it is one he believes could make enough of an impact to get them on a team for the finals.

"Last year, there were a lot of robots that could do a lot of things, but I think this year we could have a bigger impact," Neal said. "We have aspects that we specialized in that makes our robot very good."

West Carrollton has never been selected to the final eight for the knockout round.

"The goal is to be selected and make the playoffs," Neal said. "I think we got a robot that can help us do that and make an impact."

Miamisburg Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>The Baum Opera House is home to numerous events and activities throughout the year. Fundraisers, dinners, plays and musicals as well as some awesome swing and ballroom dancing. If you would like to host your event at the Baum, please contact us today!</i></p>		19 No School- Spring Break	20 Miamisburg Schools No School- Spring Break	21 Miamisburg Schools No School- Spring Break Decorative Slate Painting @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Community Center 305 East Central Avenue Plaza Theatre They Shall Not Grow Old R--7:00 PM	22 Miamisburg Schools No School- Spring Break Plaza Theatre They Shall Not Grow Old R--7:00 PM	23 Plaza Theatre Hoosiers 4:45 They Shall Not Grow Old 7:00PM
24 3rd District Spring Convention Meeting American Legion Post 165 Miamisburg, OH Plaza Theatre They Shall Not Grow Old 1:00 PM Hoosiers 3:45 PM	25 First Day of Grading Period-Miamisburg City	26 Chop & Steak Fry 5 - 8 PM American Legion 35 N Main St. Open to public	27	28 Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World PG. 6:30 PM	29 Miamisburg Schools Late Arrival Day (2 Hr.) Family Bingo Pizza Party @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Community Center	30 Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World PG. 6:30 PM
31 Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World PG. 3:00 PM	APRIL 1 April Fool's Day 5k @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm Community Park Learning Center Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World 6:30 PM	2 Miamisburg Schools Late Arrival Day (2 Hr.) City Council meeting 6 p.m. Robert H. Mears, Sr., Civic Center.	3 Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World PG. 6:30 PM	4 Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World PG. 6:30 PM	5 Baum Opera House Annual Spaghetti Dinner @ 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World 7:00 PM Miamisburg Schools Late Arrival Day (2 Hr.)	6 Lunch & Hunt with Mr. Bunny 10:30 am - 1:00 pm Community Park Learning Center Plaza Theatre How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World 3:00 PM 7:00 PM

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