

Not 'just another marathon' C1

Meet the top graduates of Century High School B4

'Holy cow': Century girls have two section stars D1



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Big wheels keep on turnin'



Osman Shrine Daddy-Os member Ron Hanson, left, of Rochester, practices their parade routine on motorized trikes on Friday in Pine Island.

New Shriners parade team hits the streets on 'Big Wheels'

BY JEFF KIGER  
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Imagine an adult-sized Big Wheel with a lawn mower engine strapped to the back. That's a basic description of a "drift trike," which is used to make tight, sliding turns and dramatic 360 "doughnuts." Every kid furiously peddling a Big Wheel tricycle discovered the fun of drifting and skidding around. It turns out that's a thrill that doesn't fade with age. A local group of Osman Shriners — The Daddy-Os — is roaring onto the streets on their own hand-built, three-wheeled drift trikes as Rochester's newest parade team. "When we first saw them, we thought, 'That's pretty cool,'" said Daddy-Os Cap-

tain Tracy Saunders. "They're (drift trikes) something you don't usually see in a parade." However, that's exactly what people watching the Pine Island Cheese Fest Parade on Sunday saw. The parade was the Daddy-Os second official outing as a team. They made their first appearance in

INSIDE: Pine Island Festival in need of helping hands. B1  
Arcadia, Wis., last weekend. They did synchronized driving and "leap frog" maneuvers as the parade progressed along Pine Island streets. Is it hard to handle the trikes and learn the routines? "Well, it takes finesse, finesse and more finesse," half-joked Saunders. "Actually, it just take a little time and a little practice, after you get used to them." So how did a group of local engineers, sales representatives and folks from other professions end up spinning trikes around, like a bunch of kids? See SHRINERS, page A2

Less chemo for colon cancer? Mayo says yes

New 3-month schedule shows fewer, less severe side effects

BY BRETT BOESE  
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CHICAGO — Mayo Clinic researchers revealed Sunday that shorter-duration chemotherapy could become the new normal for treating colon cancer, which could reduce side effects by cutting the treatment period in half. That announcement was made during the 2017 annual meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology in Chicago. Mayo's researchers are members of the Alliance for Clinical Trial in Oncology who helped study nearly 13,000 patients from 12 countries over six clinical trials. The study targeted low-risk stage 3 colon cancer treatment with oxaliplatin-based chemotherapy following surgery, concluding that 3-month treatment may be have "fewer and less severe side effects, such as nerve damage" than the current 6-month model of care. Dr. Axel Grothey, a Mayo Clinic oncologist who was the senior author of the study, says that a key side effect of oxaliplatin is nerve damage that "may result in permanent numbness, tingling and pain in the hands and feet — even after the chemotherapy is discontinued." Grothey contends that a shorter duration of therapy would spare patients unnecessary toxicity and lead to "substantial" savings in health care expenditure, potentially becoming the new standard of care for postoperative management of patients with low-risk stage 3 colon cancer, which impacts about 400,000 people per year across the globe. The current standard of care was developed more than a decade ago, Grothey said. Still, the new model isn't perfect. Mayo researchers observed a "slightly decreased disease-free survival" rate among overall stage 3 colon cancer patients who tested the reduced chemo schedule; data was not provided to clarify that statement. However, the shorted scheduled proved just as effective for patients diagnosed with low-risk stage 3 colon cancer. Grothey said studying those findings "may lead to more individualized treatment duration based on a patient's individual preference, age, tolerance of therapy, and risk of recurrence." The new study was funded by grants from the Medical Research Council, National Institute of Health Research, National Cancer Institute, Italian Agency for Drugs, Japanese Foundation for Multidisciplinary Treatment of Cancer, French Ministry of Health, and French National Cancer Institute.

How cancer survivors find hope in celebration

BY HANNAH YANG  
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Strength comes in numbers. On Sunday afternoon, more than 200 people gathered at the Rochester International Event Center to celebrate life and triumph over cancer. Those diagnosed with cancer, currently receiving treatment, or who have defeated the disease shared testimonies, tears, hugs and support. Sponsored by the André Gauthier Foundation, and co-hosted by the Mayo Clinic Cancer Center and the American Cancer Society, this year's celebration was themed "A Celebration of Life: Chinese New Year." Amidst red paper lanterns, balloon artists and musicians, cancer survivors and their families shared their stories. More than 17 million people are diagnosed with cancer each year, according to the American Cancer Society, which spent \$151 million on research in 2015. Since 1946, nearly \$46 billion has been spent trying to improve cancer treatments, educate the public on prevention and fund studies. "So many people are surviving longer," said Kathy Scheid, patient

navigator manager for the American Cancer Society. "They are also more willing to talk about it. They appreciate the camaraderie." A little more than two years ago, Jerome Lensing, 64, of Rochester was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma. Lensing described being caught "completely off-guard" by the diagnosis. As he struggled to cope with the idea of having cancer, he lost his job, making him "mad at the world." After four chemo and 12 radiation treatments, Lensing is in remission. On Sunday, he shared his story proudly and with a smile. He was alive and able to share with others who have faced similar experiences. Lensing volunteers at the celebration every year to offer his testimony and hope to those who may be struggling to cope with their own diagnosis. Support from his loved ones was what fueled his desire to fight cancer. "It put life into perspective," Lensing said. "You can't bury your head and get depressed. That's where the support of my wife, kids and grandkids came in. It was tremendous, and very heartwarming."

"It's a big day for me, just being here." Jerome Lensing, 64, of Rochester, is seen in a photo. He is wearing a white shirt and a dark vest. He is standing next to a table with a white tablecloth. There are some items on the table, including a small statue and some papers. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile.

Shriners

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The Rochester Osman Shriners were looking for a new unit to add to its collection of parade features, like the motorcycle team, the dragon unit or the clowns. The motorcycle team requires special licenses and many of the others require a lot of walking. That pointed Saunders at choices like go-karts, but the goal was to try something new. A random video on Facebook brought drift trikes into the picture. After experimenting with one, Saunders team designed their own take on trikes. Al VanDeWalker, of Zumbro Falls, built the frames for them. "Fat" bike tires were put on the front and small slick wheels were put on the back along with lawn mower engines from Harbor Freight. Larry Pahl, of LP Collision and Restoration in Pine Island, then donated the painting that made the unique trikes shiny and sparkly. The end result was a

bunch of "toys" for "big boys." That, combined with the fact that real purpose of the team is raise money to help the Shriners' children hospitals inspired the Daddy-Os slogan, said team president Jonathan Pahl. "It's all about the kids," said Pahl, who is Larry Pahl's nephew. "We say that we drift back to childhood, so children can walk." Pahl explained that the Cheese Fest appearance came about due to his uncle, who sponsored them in lieu of payment for the painting and body work. The typical scenario is that the unit is hired to perform in a parade and those funds go toward the Shriners' medical charities. Saunders and Pahl say that area folks should see the team at a lot of events this summer, including an appearance at the popular Rochesterfest parade. They encourage anyone who thinks what they do looks like fun and miss their Big Wheel riding days to consider signing up and joining the team. "We're always looking for more civic-minded members to join us," Pahl said.

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