## Market hopes to serve the community in DeKalb Junction

By TOM GRASER

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DEKALB JUNCTION — Tami M. French, who owns PT's Market with her husband, David J. French, lives by her grandfather's words.

"If you take care of your community and farmers, you will be set for life," he always said.

The PT's Market, named for her grandfather, Paul Thayer, is one way the French family is trying to serve the community.

The market, which opened in October, sits in the building that used to house Sweet Retreat bakery, which moved to Canton last

summer.

PT's sells subs, wings, salads, deli meats and cheeses, soda, candies, and other items, but pizza keeps the place humming. Mr. French said they sold 100 pizzas by the eighth day they were open and 200 pizzas by the 13th. Pizza number 1,000 was sold just before Christmas.

Customers can buy whole pizzas or by the slice. A wide variety of toppings are available. "We load them up," Ms. French said.

Wings come in hot, mild, garlic, mango habanero, Carolina Gold and honey mustard.

Customers can customize

their subs any way they like.

"We have one guy who just likes cheese and mayonnaise," Ms. French said.

Local kids love the little market, Ms. French said. Its location on the east side of Route 11 means that children don't have to cross the busy highway to visit the store.

"When the kids come in here, it makes my day," she said.

The store is open Thursday through Monday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and is closed Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mr. French also works as a corrections officer and Ms. French

runs the Cut N Edge hair salon. She said their four children help around the store when they are not in school.

In addition to their regular lineup, Ms. French occasionally cooks macaroni and cheese or goulash for customers.

Ms. French will update the market's Facebook page when she has something special cooked up.

The couple tries to keep things as local as possible at the market and is looking for local produce once the growing season returns.

"The community has kept us going," she said.



## Canton Canoe Weekend will be May 5-7

CANTON — The weekend events will kick off on the Grasse River with the Friday afternoon Rushton Tour on May 5. The afternoon paddle will take place between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. with a flexible start time. The recreational paddle begins at the Pyrites boat launch and continues downstream 4.5 miles, concluding at Taylor Park, following along much of the original race course.

On May 6, there will be a variety of activities from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at Taylor Park. The day begins with recreational races at 9:30 a.m. of one, three, five and eight miles in length on the Grasse River. There will be a special division in the one- and three-mile races for paddlers in Rushton style boats. This 'Rushton Cup' event is sponsored by Slipstream Watercraft and will feature special awards.

The Saturday morning recreational races will be followed at 12:30 p.m. by solo canoe and kayak, amateur and pro races, featuring the C-1 Men's and Women's Pro World Championships held on the Grasse and Little Rivers. NCPR is our media sponsor, DJ Double Dutch will be



Canton Canoe Weekend will be held May 5-7 at Taylor Park. Tom Graser/Plaindealer

providing music, and GT's Family Restaurant will be at Taylor Park cooking their famous chicken BBQ from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. or until sold out. The barbecue will be available for picnicking in the park or as takeout.

At 3:30 p.m. the Joe Randi/ Rushton Relay Race takes place. This is a two-mile relay race with classes for family and friends, high school, college and open division teams.

On Sunday morning tandem canoe and kayak, amateur and pro races will begin at 10 a.m. Following the tandem races, between 1 and 3 p.m. it's Try Out a Boat — a variety of adult and youth recreational and racing canoes, kayaks and standup paddleboards will be available for a test paddle.

Sunday May 7th is also National Ride A Bike Day. Canton Canoe Weekend is partnering with Grasse River Outfitters to encourage bicyclists to ride to the Park Street boat launch in Canton to watch tandem canoe and kayak racers navigate the Little River, and later, ride to Taylor Park to participate in the Try

Out a Boat session!

While recreational races draw many local paddlers, the pro races attract paddlers from across the United States and Canada. The 61st Canton Canoe Weekend promises to be a fun and festive event! Come out and join us!

Registration for all races, the Rushton Tour and the chicken barbecue will open in mid-March. Visit the Canton Canoe Weekend website to register.

For more information, please visit our website: www. cantoncanoeweekend.org.

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