

“Oh, if I could only be President and Congress too for just ten minutes” - Theodore Roosevelt

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DeGeeter Delivers State Of The City Speech

by Jeanie Roberts

Mayor Tim DeGeeter's second State of the City address was much easier to deliver than his first.

Last year, DeGeeter and his staff were barely in the door when Macy's announced it was pulling out of Parmatown. Sometime during the first six weeks in office, he remembered that, by city ordinance, he had to deliver the State of the City speech by the end of February. And on the morning of the speech, he learned the disturbing news about the school shooting that had taken place in nearby Chardon, shaking all of Northeast Ohio.

And it all came in the middle of budget hearings.

Budget hearings are going on again this year, and DeGeeter promised in the speech that "we are currently working hard with City Council on a new budget, which has to be passed by March 31." He referenced cuts from Columbus that make this one even more difficult, but declared, "we know that, together, we will get it done."

Overall, DeGeeter had more positive news to tell this year - Parmatown has been sold, new business has



Mayor DeGeeter held the speech at Parma Community General Hospital.

been sprouting around town, the renewal of the Police levy passed, and the Cuyahoga County Public Library is half-way built.

For the second year, the administration held the speech outside of City Hall. This year, Parma Community General Hospital was the host after GrafTech did the honors last year. "Parma Hospital, with its importance to our community, is a logical choice for where to hold the State of the City," the mayor said. "The hospital's success -- based upon creating efficiencies, putting customer

service first, and upgrading technology to increase accessibility -- are all similar to things we're trying to do in the city."

DeGeeter's overall theme focused on three areas: Keeping and creating jobs to strengthen our economy; improving our quality of life by keeping our neighborhoods safe and strong, enhancing our infrastructure, caring for our seniors, and providing recreational opportunities for our residents; and making city government more effective, efficient, and accessible.

About 100 people filled John A. Nelson Auditorium at Parma Hospital for the address on Monday evening, Feb., 25. DeGeeter was warmly received, as was his news.

He touched on a healthy local economy, citing companies that have retained or brought new jobs to Parma - OSG-Sterling Die, Melin Tool, Ganley Hyundai - and welcomed newcomer Valley Freightliner, a company that recently located after a fire at its former location in Brook Park.

He spoke of the importance of small neighborhood businesses, such as Gail's Bakery on State Road - "I pass it every day on my way to City Hall," he said, "and I can personally attest that she makes great cupcakes."

The importance of Parma's cultural villages was highlighted by the Mayor. He praised what has happened in Polish Village, as business owners and residents have worked with Councilwoman Debbie Lime have worked together to better define the village's cultural identity. And he offered the same hope for Ukrainian Village, and noted that he has recently sent a letter to Mayor Andrew Sadovyy



Parma resident Alicia Bowen brought her sons - Josh, 11, Jacob, 8, and 4-year-old Jonathan to meet the Mayor.

in the Ukrainian City of Lviv, exploring the possibility of a sister-city relationship between Lviv and Parma and its Ukrainian Village. "We are excited about this and the social, cultural and economic development opportunities it can bring," DeGeeter said. "We are looking forward to a response from the Mayor Sadovyy."

DeGeeter reiterated the importance of what he's been saying for 14 months now - quality of life issues affect us all, and his administration holds a priority on safe neighborhoods, caring for seniors, and providing great recreational opportunities and family friendly events for residents. He announced that, along with continuing Mayor's Movie Night Out again this summer, the City is planning a Parma Pizza Bake Off in State Road Park late this spring. He praised the Rec Department's new Tot programs, and said that a partnership with Parma Heights to host Summer Band Concerts will continue this year.

"Last year in this address," he concluded, "I reminded you of the responsibility that we all have to one another. I told you that by working together, we can grasp Parma's potential and make tomorrow even better than today in the state's seventh-largest city. Tonight ... I am pleased and proud, and I can say that today is better than yesterday in Parma. As we have looked back on last year and ahead to ways we can further our growth this year, we see that our approach - combining common sense and hard work to produce real results - is working."

Meetings Begin For Automated Trash Program

by Kathryn Yates

The City of Parma held the first of four planned meetings to learn details of the new automated trash pick-up program scheduled to begin this spring. The meeting was held in council chambers for residents of Wards 1 and 2 on Thursday, February 21st and attracted a standing-room only crowd. Dave Kidder, Area Municipal Services Manager for Republic Services hosted the meeting moderated by Mayor Tim DeGeeter, Councilwoman Mary Galinas (Ward 1) and Councilwoman Debbie Lime (Ward 2).

Dave Kidder opened with an informative discussion about the trash collection cycle as well as details concerning landfills - their construction, location from the trash collec-

tion source, and the obligations incurred by their company in maintaining these landfills.

Some interesting facts were disclosed. The City of Parma has been spending 4 million dollars a year on trash collection and disposal, all of which has been going to landfill projects. There are no longer any landfills in Cuyahoga County. All of the more than thirty-five in the county have been filled, making the disposal of Parma trash a longer haul to landfills in other counties. The average household in Parma disposes of 50 lbs. of trash per week accumulating to 1.5 tons per year, per household, or more than 1.5 million tons for the entire city of Parma annually.

An Internet source maintains that landfills have to be monitored for thirty years after



Dave Kidder, Area Municipal Services Manager for Republic Services, answers questions from the group of citizens from Ward 1 and Ward 2 in Parma at the first meeting held by the city to acquaint residents with the new automated trash service coming to

they can no longer accept trash. Safety systems in a landfill are installed to collect leachate and methane gas. One business in Solon uses the "landfill gas" from a nearby sealed landfill to cook food.

(<http://cuyahogaswd.org/en-US/SYN/37768/PageTemplate.aspx>)

Informational brochures were distributed to the residents present at the meeting

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Parma Business

The President's Corner

by Sean Brennan,
Parma City Council President

Recently, I was provided with the Parma Auxiliary Police Unit 2013 Annual Report. As I read it from front to back, I was reminded of the fine work Commander George Balasko and his staff do for our community. In fact, rather than shelve the report, I was moved to laud all of their fine service to the community to you, the reader, via this column.

In 2012, the 40 or so volunteers of the Parma Auxiliary Police donated 11,115 hours of their time to our community. The actual dollar value of this service to the department is approximately \$250,000. With a record of expenditures in 2012 of just under \$24,000, this works out to about \$2.15 per hour volunteered. This is a low price to pay for the safety that is provided.

Here are just a few of the Auxiliary Unit's accomplishments from 2012, according to the report:

*As a result of an agreement with the Parma Heights Police Department Auxiliary Unit members served the City of Parma Heights for the first full year.

*The Unit responded to 10 emergency call outs for a total of 300 man-hours. These details covered a range of issues from SWAT response,



Parma City Council President Sean P. Brennan

guarding fire scenes, responding to downed wires in bad weather, flooding that closed roads, etc. Some calls occurred in the middle of the night and/or in inclement weather and lasted several hours.

*The Unit's Digital Child ID Clinics provided ID cards to a multitude of families.

*Auxiliary Unit Officers patrolled every street in the city to conduct their annual street light/sign detail to locate and report malfunctioning streetlights and missing street signs. They also issued 1,473 warning notices to residents concerning the winter parking ban. This helped to remind residents that the ban is

in effect without issuing a citation.

*Twelve Officers were on foot and on cruiser patrol for Halloween to ensure a safe evening for trick-or-treaters in Parma and Parma Heights.

*Assisting with several sobriety checkpoints, parades, church details, school events, etc.

I want to send a special thanks to the following Auxiliary members for logging over 300 volunteer hours during 2012: Jeffrey Lipp (1046 hours), George Balasko (1016), Joseph Boziak (962), Paul Babej (578), Thomas Vedouras (575), Bob Smith (442), Keith Quinn (378), Steve Miluch (371), John Hollo (359), Bill Mack (356) and Mike Madej (329).

One thing that struck me as I read the Unit's goals for 2012 was their hope to purchase new Kevlar (bullet-proof) vests for each Officer. As you can imagine, these vests are expensive. In fact, they run close to \$1,000 apiece. So, I am on a mission to assist the Auxiliary in attaining the funds to make this happen. If you are interested in making a donation of any amount to help with this effort, please forward a check payable to the Parma Auxiliary Police Unit, 5555 Powers Boulevard, Parma, Ohio 44129. Please write "Kevlar Vests" in the memo section of your check.

The Auxiliary Unit ended the year with 37 officers. Commander Balasko and his staff have set a goal of a

staffing level of 50 Auxiliary Officers. Therefore, they are currently looking for community members who would be willing to serve. If you want to find out more about the Auxiliary Unit visit their website at <http://www.cityofparmaauxpolice.com/>.

I hope that you find my column helpful and informative. As always, if you have suggestions for future columns, please feel free to contact me at (440) 885-8091 or councilmanbrennan@sbcglobal.net. Stay warm and stay safe out there.

Treasurer's Report

Tom Mastroianni

This year taxes are due on Monday, April 15, and due to construction of the new library near City Hall I would recommend you try to get here early before the deadline, or utilize our easy-to-use website to file your taxes to avoid parking problems. Many residents have used our website to file their

Parma income taxes at no charge. This is an easy way to do your taxes in the comfort of your home. Each year we see an increase in the number of residents that utilize our online website for tax preparation.

Our Tax Department is open daily, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and will also be open

from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on April 2, 4, 9, 11, and 15. The Department will also be open from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 6. The Tax Department will prepare City of Parma income tax forms for free any time during office hours. Taxpayers will need to bring the following items with them to the tax office: the pre-printed tax form which was sent out in January and all W-2's, 1099's, any relevant schedules, etc., and proof of payment to any other cities if necessary. If you have any questions pertaining to your taxes, please call our tax department at 440-885-8045.

Upon reviewing our outstanding debt this year we were able to refund two bonds from 2003 and 2005 at a significantly lower interest rate. The 2005 Bond will save our city over \$150,000 over the term of the bond. The 2003 Bond is a voted park acquisition issue that will save residents that are property owners around \$300,000 in property taxes by cutting the length of the bond. Due to the decreased interest rates we will be able to pay it off sooner than expected.

The Treasurer's office will continue to look for cost-saving methods to save our residents money in the future. We will continue to work together with the administration and council to cut costs wherever we can to fight through these tough times due to another big year of state cuts.

If I can ever be of any service to you please don't hesitate to call me at 440-885-8812, or email me at tmastroianni@cityofparma-oh.gov.

Valley Freightliner Brings New Jobs To Parma

by Jeannie Roberts

Valley Freightliner, Sterling and Western Star Trucks has relocated operations to 10901 Brookpark Rd. in Parma, bringing 50 jobs - 49 of them full-time - with a payroll of just under \$3 million. Previously located in Brook Park, Valley Freightliner chose Parma after its previous dealership was destroyed by fire.

"We are very pleased to welcome Valley Freightliner here and to offer economic development tools to help them grow jobs in Parma," said Mayor Tim DeGeeter. "We believe the owners will find Parma a great place to do business. The added bonus is that it will fill a two-year vacancy at the former Spitzer dealership site."

In addition to the 50 new jobs, Valley Freightliner plans on adding 10 more positions over the next two years. Valley Freightliner was created in 1999 and offers all class 5-8 Freightliner and Western Star products. In addition to a full parts department, there is a staff of



certified transmissions technicians to service Cat, Cummins, Detroit Diesel and Allison products.

"My number one focus is on job retention and job creation here in Parma," said DeGeeter. "What's important is opening direct lines of communication, helping eliminate red tape and finding ways to keep Parma an attractive and affordable place to do business. This is a perfect example."



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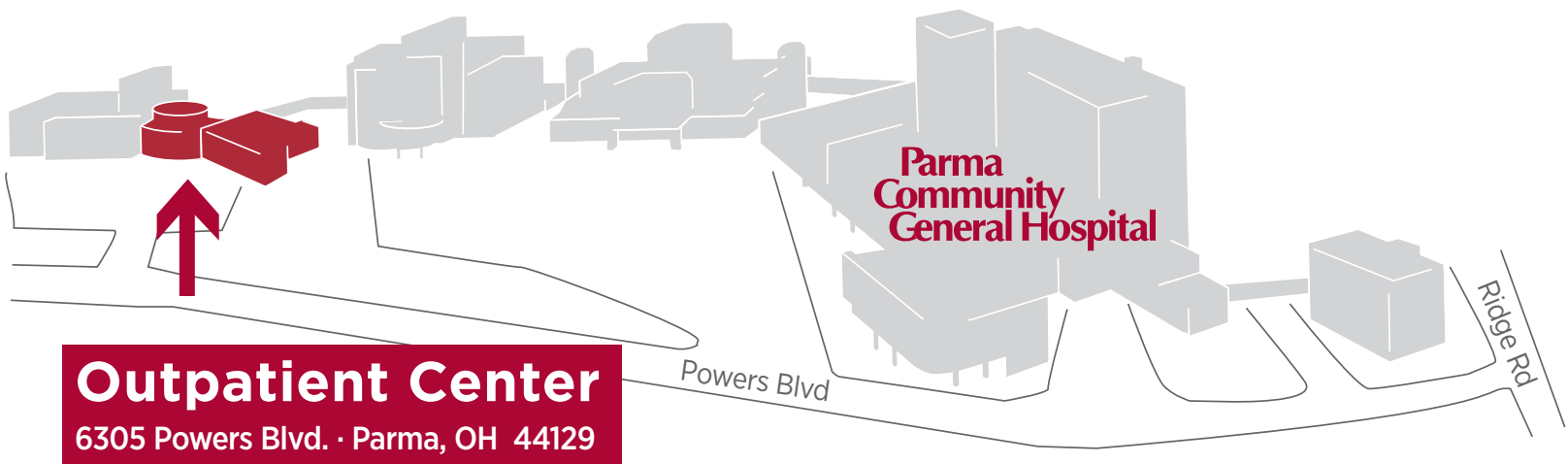
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Parma Health

Therapeutic Hypothermia Can Halt Neurological Damage In Cardiac Arrest Patients

by CJ Sheppard

Therapeutic hypothermia treatment to improve chances of a full recovery for cardiac arrest patients is now being provided by Parma Community General Hospital, the best hospital in Cuyahoga County for coronary interventions and cardiology services, according to the HealthGrades.

Therapeutic hypothermia is a

medical treatment performed at the bedside that lowers an adult patient's body temperature in order to help reduce the risk of injury to tissue following a period of decreased blood flow such as a cardiac arrest. As soon as the patient's blood pressure and pulse are restored and the patient meets clinical criteria, the treatment is implemented, typically in Parma Hospital's Heart Center or the Intensive Care Unit.

"Therapeutic hypothermia for unconscious cardiac arrest survivors improves survival and neurological outcomes," says Gregory Hickey, DO, medical director of ICU Services at Parma Hospital. "It has been recommended by the American Heart Association."

In cases where a patient has been quickly resuscitated following a cardiac arrest, modern techniques are utilized to cool the patient's core temperature to approximately 32 degrees Celsius over a 24-hour period. Frequent blood tests and radiologic tests are done to monitor the patient's progress.

After 24 hours have passed, the patient's core body temperature is slowly returned to normal (36 degrees Celsius). At this point, the clinical team is able to evaluate the patient's neuro-

logical function. The patient remains in the ICU or Heart Center during this treatment and may be transferred to a stepdown unit or discharged home, usually within 3-5 days. Follow up with a cardiologist and/or pulmonologist is advised, in addition to regular visits with a primary care physician.

"This is a fascinating technological and clinical advancement," said Michelle Adams, manager of the Heart Center. "It's like the patient is in a cold sleep. When you're cold, the oxygen and metabolic demands on your brain and other organs is decreased. Essentially, the patient is resting. When you warm them and awaken them, you assess their organs, particularly their brain, heart and liver, with the hope that the therapeutic hypothermia halted any potential damage."

Latest Breast Imaging Technology Available At Parma Hospital's New Outpatient Center

by CJ Sheppard

Tomosynthesis is the latest radiologic technology in physicians' arsenal against breast cancer, and it is now available at Parma Hospital's new Outpatient Center on the hospital campus.

Digital tomosynthesis, a revolutionary addition to women's health complementing mammography, creates a three-dimensional image of the breast with x-rays. Breast imaging specialists believe this to be the most significant development in breast evaluation since mammography itself.

"Routine mammography is inherently limited, as it is a two-dimensional representation of a three-dimensional structure, even with compression," says Paul Klatte, MD, chairman of Parma Hospital's Department of Radiology. "Tomosynthesis greatly reduces this limitation by slicing through overlying structures much as a CT scan of the body does, aiding in accurate diagnosis."

With improved sensitivity and specificity for breast disease, tomosynthesis has demonstrated significantly higher and earlier cancer detection rates. A physician may utilize tomosynthesis when additional diagnostic evaluation is necessary to compliment the initial screening exam. Patients also may opt for tomosynthesis for a nominal charge when scheduling routine screening mammograms at Parma Hospital's Outpatient Center, 6305 Powers Blvd., adjacent to Medical Arts Center 4 on the main campus, with convenient scheduling and parking. WellPointe Pavilion, Parma Hospital's outpatient center in Broadview Heights, offers digital mammography and the added convenience of a preliminary reading from the radiologist on site.

To schedule a mammogram at any of Parma Hospital's locations, call 440-743-2054.

Faster Recovery From Minimally Invasive Hip Surgery

by CJ Sheppard

Learn about the latest approach to hip replacements in a free talk delivered by Larry Lika, DO at Parma Community General Hospital on March 20.

Dr. Lika will speak on "The Wonders of Minimally Invasive Hip Surgery" in a 7 p.m. talk in Parma Hospital's Auditorium. Weatherman Brad Sussman, whom many Clevelanders remember from his years on NewsChannel 5, will share his personal experience bouncing back quickly from

a minimally invasive hip replacement. The anterior approach spares muscle and contributes to a faster recovery.

"I was blown away by the difference," says Sussman, who shares his story in the latest issue of Parma Hospital's Informed magazine.

Parma Hospital's joint replacement program has earned the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for health care quality. To register for Dr. Lika's talk, call 440-7843-4900 or go to www.parmahospital.org/classes.

Parma Hts. Baseball/Softball Registration

by Tom Moran

Registration will be held at City Hall (6281 Pearl Rd.) from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 2 and Saturday, March 9, 2013. Residents and non-residents are welcome both days. Fees are \$30/resident and \$50/non-resident; we accept cash or checks only, no credit/

debit cards. There will be a \$10 late fee added beginning March 10, 2013.

All games are played weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. If you need more information, contact the recreation department at recreation@parmaheightsoh.gov or 440-884-9600 ext. 37.

Free Wound Screenings In March, April

by CJ Sheppard

Do you have a wound that just won't heal? Do you not know what to do with legs that are swollen and weeping fluid? Come for a free screening at Parma Community General Hospital's Wound Center.

The outpatient Wound Center sees all types of wounds, including those caused from diabetes, varicose veins,

surgery, bites, pressure and insufficient circulation.

Free screenings will take place at the Wound Center, on the ground floor of Medical Arts Center 2 on the Parma Hospital campus, on Monday, March 25 and Monday, April 15 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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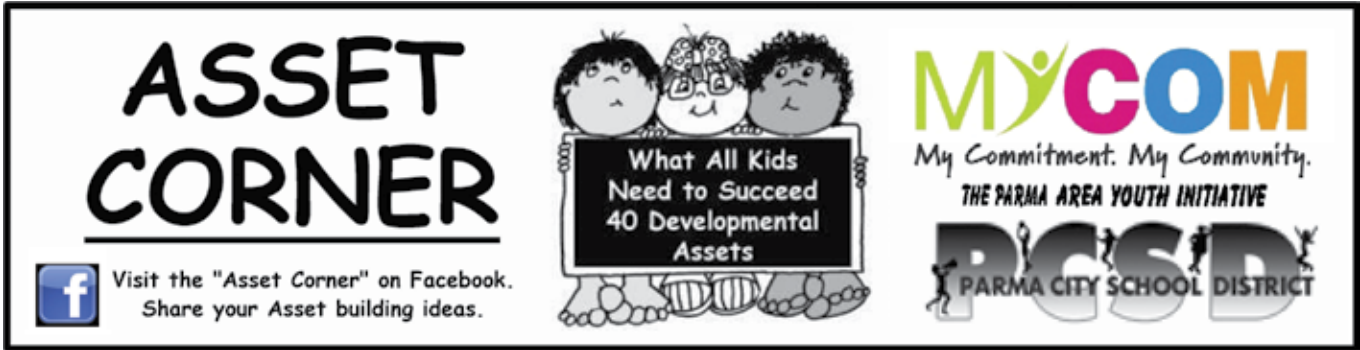
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Parma Schools



Asset Corner #39

by Gene Lovasy

March's Asset Category: Social Competencies; Making personal choices and building interpersonal skills

Learning social skills is a lot like learning to play the piano in that you need to learn some basic competencies and you need someone to teach you those skills. You need time to practice, guidance as you gain experience, and feedback along the way. Social competencies are the skills and life perspectives young people need to develop into healthy, competent adults. These skills are important on a daily basis, but they're even more crucial when young people encounter the tough times in life.

Search Institute has identified these five assets in the Social Competency category that are crucial for helping young people:

#32 Planning and Decision Making – Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices. (29%*)

#33 Interpersonal Competence – Young person has empathy, sensitivity and friendship skills. (45%*)

#34 Cultural Competence – Young person has knowledge of and comfort w/people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds. (43%*)

#35 Resistance Skills – Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations. (41%*)

#36 Peaceful Conflict Resolution – Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently. (40%*)

(* The percent of youth who experience or have this asset in their lives. Data based on an aggregate Search Institute sample of 148,189 students surveyed in 2003. The sample included students in 202 cities in 27 states.)

This month's column will focus on Asset #34 Cultural Competence:

Teach young people to appreciate differences

Although most people gravitate toward people who are similar to themselves, it's important to expose young people to a variety of cultures and people. People from different cultural, ethnic, and racial backgrounds can learn many things from one another. Being culturally competent doesn't mean that you have to like others who are different from you, but rather be able to treat one another with respect, tolerance, and equality. It means making an effort to learn about and understand people of other cultural, racial, and ethnic backgrounds.

Here are the facts

Research shows that young people who have knowledge of and feel comfortable with people of dif-

ferent cultural, racial, and ethnic backgrounds feel good about themselves, are less lonely, can solve problems well, and do better in school. About 43 percent of young people, ages 11 through 18, report having knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural, racial, and ethnic backgrounds, according to Search Institute surveys. Cultural competence builds strong, capable and interesting young people.

Tips for building this asset

Think about your family, ethnic background, or cultural heritage and what makes you proud and gives you comfort. Then explore other cultures' or countries' people, art, sayings, food, songs and traditions. Help young people learn about the backgrounds of others and create a more understanding world by appreciating differences.

Also try this:

In your home and family: Explain to your child how and why her or his name was chosen. Talk about any connections the name has with your family's roots and culture—old or new.

In your neighborhood and community: Get to know people who are from a different country or have a different cultural heritage from you. Ask them about their family traditions, celebrations, and other unique aspects of

their backgrounds.

In your school or youth program:

Seated in a circle, ask students or participants to talk about their ethnic or family backgrounds and their favorite celebrations, foods, music, and traditions. Then have them complete this sentence: "If I could share one thing about my cultural heritage, my gift to you would be"

ASSET RELATED NEWS

I From our MYCOM folks....If you haven't already heard: Y.O.U. (**Youth Opportunities Unlimited**) has begun its summer job registration process. It began February 1 and runs through March 29. Go directly to their website at www.youthopportunities.org to learn more. This is a great opportunity not only for our area's kids but our business community as well. Please help pass the word. And to our business contingent, go here <http://www.youthopportunities.org/summer-jobs-employer.aspx> and sign up to become an employment provider.

* If you're looking for a fun parent/child type activity/event check out what **Community Ambassadors** has coming up this month. Visit their web site at www.comamb.org. Last month it was a Scavenger Hunt. Wonder what they have planned for March?

* Did your kids take advantage of the after-school "TEEN TIME" event at the **Parma Area Family Collab-**

orative's facility (Hanna Elementary, 11212 Snow Rd. (close to the corner of Snow and Chevrolet Blvd).) last month? They had an open gym, service learning projects, some special speakers, all sorts of good things going on. Look for a similar event to be scheduled for March.

* Watch for information about a huge food give-away taking place at the **Parma Area Family Collaborative's** facility (Hanna Elementary, 11212 Snow Rd. (close to the corner of Snow and Chevrolet Blvd.), from 3 to 5 p.m. on the second Thursday in March.

SHARE YOUR ASSET BUILDING IDEAS AND/OR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENTAL ASSET CONCEPT BY VISITING THE "ASSET CORNER" FACEBOOK PAGE. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.

Visit www2.parmacityschools.org/assets or www.search-institute.org/assets for more information about the 40 Developmental Assets and ideas for helping young people build them. Or go here <http://www.parentfurther.com/> for great asset-based parenting tips, tricks, activities and ideas.

City Of Parma Scholarship Available

by Sean Brennan

The Board of Trustees of the City of Parma Andrew Boyko Memorial Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for the 2013 award season. In its seventh year, the Foundation will once again offer three to five scholarships with a minimum award of \$1,500 each. Applications are available on the City of Parma website at <http://www.cityofparma-oh.gov>. Applications may also be obtained at Parma City Hall, any of the Parma Cuyahoga County Public Library branches or any high school located within the Parma City School District. The Scholarship is intended to provide financial assistance to high school seniors or equivalent who are residents of the City of Parma wishing to pursue post-secondary education during the 2013 – 2014 academic year. Financial need, work ethic and accomplishments are among the selection criteria for the scholarship. The application deadline is April 19, 2013. For more information or to donate to the Foundation please contact Parma Councilman Sean Brennan at councilmanbrennan@sbcglobal.net or 440-884-0489.

My Summer Job Applicants Sought

by Lisa Bockhoff

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.), the Cleveland-based organization that provides services that youth need in order to achieve success in the classroom and workplace, announces a call for registration for its 2013 My Summer Job program. Registration is available now through March 29 at 12:00 p.m. and can be completed at www.youthopportunities.org.

My Summer Job matches eligible teenagers, ages 14-18, living in Cuyahoga County, to employers with available jobs. Since its inception in 1982, Y.O.U. has placed 152,000 teens in summer jobs that have given them the confidence and tools to transform their lives. Teens will benefit from the following:

- Taking pride in earning money to use, build a savings account or help their family.
- Learning new skills that can help with school, life, college and career choices.
- Meeting new adult role models.
- Forming connections that can lead to part-time jobs during the school year, to internships and to jobs

after graduation.

To be considered for one of the jobs available through My Summer Job, it is mandatory for teenagers to register online at www.youthopportunities.org using a smartphone or computer that is connected to the Internet. The number of job openings is currently to be determined; however, once registered, teens will ultimately be selected randomly for employment.

In order to register, teenagers must be able to provide the following information: Home address, Phone number, Email address (create a free email address through Google, Yahoo, AOL or Hotmail), Social security number, Emergency contact information, Medical information (any medical conditions medications currently being taken).

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Inspiration

Pleasant Lake Villa Honored Among Top 10 Percent In Ohio For Skilled Nursing Care

by Jennifer Keirn

Pleasant Lake Villa has earned a Five-Star Quality Rating from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The five star quality ranking is the highest ranking that the agency bestows to skilled nursing facilities and recognizes the top performers in the state.

Patients and their families are looking for skilled nursing facilities that promote health and quality of life. Many patients are being discharged from a hospital before they are able to go home and want to make sure the skilled facility is among the best for nursing care and rehabilitation.

Ask patients and their family members about life during their stay at Pleasant Lake Villa and you'll hear them describe a caring environment, staff who becomes life family, and a setting that nurtures the mind, body, and soul.

What makes Pleasant Lake Villa so



unique to achieve this recognition?

Nursing care that's three times the national average. A large majority of the nursing staff at Pleasant Lake Villa are registered nurses (RNs), who can provide highly skilled care in a timely

manner. In fact, the average number of RN hours per resident per day is more than three times the national average. "Pleasant Lake Villa makes it a point to retain the best nursing staff possible," says Dr. Martin Frantz, MD, a family

medicine physician who serves as Medical Director of Pleasant Lake Villa.

Advanced care for all patients. Pleasant Lake Villa is highly unusual among skilled nursing care facilities to employ full-time nurse practitioners by partnering with Stafford Services. According to Lorraine Erison, Nurse Practitioner, "Time is critical in a health crisis. As a nurse practitioner, I'm able to take quicker action in an emergency, and I can provide more advanced daily care with the goal of keeping the patients at Pleasant Lake Villa and not sending them back into the hospital when a situation arises."

Fewer readmissions to the hospital. With the intent to keep patients at Pleasant Lake Villa, the skilled nursing facility has partnered with leading area cardiologists to develop a cardiovascular program. Cardiologists visit all short-term patients at Pleasant Lake Villa with a history of cardiovascular illness. This program has added an additional layer of clinical focus. "If you come to us with a total knee operation," says Sharon Santoli, Director of Nursing, "we'll have everything in place to manage your past heart history, so we can be proactive if an issue arises." Having cardiologists credentialed and seeing patients on site at Pleasant Lake Villa allows for the staff to be ready for any unexpected cardiac issue.

Nationally, about 25 percent of all skilled nursing home patients are readmitted to the hospital within 30 days. At Pleasant Lake Villa, only 2 percent of patients involved in the cardiovascular program were readmitted in the last half of 2012 with a cardiac diagnosis. Thanks to Pleasant Lake Villa's partnership with area cardiologists, along with Pleasant Lake Villa's highly skilled staff and unique approach to patient care, more and more patients are healing and returning home versus returning to the hospital.

Life enrichment, not just activities. Pleasant Lake Villa offers not just a wide variety of activities for patients, but also services that enrich their quality of life. For example, the facility has Deacon Chuck Twiddel from Holy Family Parish as a chaplain on staff. In addition, the facility has designed a large beautiful on-site chapel to provide for the spiritual needs of patients and residents. Pleasant Lake Villa also employs a full-time art therapist, Georgetta Ensel, who offers multiple art classes each day.

A top-ranked workplace, long tenure and happy employees. The last two years, Pleasant Lake Villa has been named as one of Northeast Ohio's Top Workplaces by The Plain Dealer. Staff is regularly recognized for exceptional patient care, good teamwork and positive feedback from patients and their families. In an industry with a lot of turnover, Pleasant Lake Villa's staff, on

What's Right? What's Wrong?

by Daniel Taddeo

Diligence: Faith is the root of the Christian way of life. It requires nourishment, and one of the main nutrients to nourish faith is diligence. In fact, it

demands it! Diligence means to proceed in one's undertaking in a careful, steady, persistent and understanding way. In the words of writer Henry M. Morris, Ph.D., each person is com-

manded to "Be diligent in diligence!"

On what are we to focus our diligence? Seven guiding principles that will help produce a well-rounded, fruitful Christian life are recorded in the Bible in Second Peter, Chapter One. They are designed to nurture our faith in God's word and include the following:

- Virtue (goodness, justice, moral excellence);
- Knowledge (comprehension, Scripture, understanding);
- Temperance (abstinence, moderation, perseverance);
- Patience (calmness, endurance, steadfastness);
- Godliness (devotion, holiness, reverence);
- Brotherly Kindness (friendship, mercy, tolerance);
- Charity (affection, Christian love, forgiveness).

The above listing, as important as it is, is far from exhaustive; also, it goes without saying that to what degree people practice these principles will vary from person to person in accordance with his or her age, maturity level and giftedness. Fortunately, salvation becomes a reality by belief and faith in Christ as our personal Savior by grace, not our works.

By way of illustration and encouragement, visualize yourself as a newborn baby, and how, with loving care, proper support and steadfast patience, adulthood becomes a reality. This same scenario is just as applicable to the Christian way of life.

Practicing the above principles to the best of one's ability should influence an individual's attitudes, actions and relationships in a positive direction. The Bible encourages us to "Love one another deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins."

Does Your Garden Overflow Every Summer ?

by Debbie Sillett'

It is hard to think about harvesting your garden at this time of year with all the snow on the ground, but you are probably already planning what you will plant this spring and summer. When

that harvest comes in, what will you do with the abundance? The Parma Area Historical Society at Stearns Homestead would like to help you with this problem by providing a food preservation/canning class in July. An Extension Agent will teach the class demonstrating how to safely "can" your vegetables and fruits. If you are interested in such a class, we need to know by March 30, 2013 there will be a small fee for the class. Please contact Debbie at: 440-882-6234 There is a limit of 12 for this class so register early.

Here is our 2013 Event Schedule for Stearns Homestead:

May 19th – Opening Day June 14th – Friday Night at the Farm June 22nd – Farmer's Market Opens July 13th and 14th – Antiques and Collectibles July 21st – Cow Plop Bingo from 2-4 PM August 17th and 18th – Rummage Sale September 14th and 15th – Farm City Days

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Parma's City Beat

Seven Hills, Parma Should Join Regional Trend Away From Lethal Deer “Controls”

by Lucy McKernan

Animal activists and the majority often feel powerless to stop hunting in their neighborhoods. But Northeast Ohioans are seeing victories in places like adjacent Broadview Heights and North Royalton, where, respectively, bow hunting ordinances have been repealed and prevented. Community leaders are catching on to the word we’ve been spreading: all lethal methods paradoxically ensure stable populations; they don’t reduce numbers.

With higher speed roads and probably more deer-human conflicts than, say, Seven Hills, North Royalton leaders tabled lethal discussions and instead plan to introduce a driver safety and community awareness program in May. It’s fashioned after the one in Rochester Hills, Michigan, where, despite a 30 percent increase in deer numbers, DVCs (deer-vehicle crashes) decreased by 25 percent. Nine hundred police reports involving deer-car crashes spanning five years in N. Royalton revealed only 60 to 70 percent involved vehicles, many of which were caused by drunk or speeding drivers. None of the reports showed injuries, and accidents decreased after 2009, due to leveling off populations. Also, Broadview Heights repealed its bow hunting ordinance, modeled after that of Ottawa Hills, Ohio, in 2010.

Oddly, in spite of this area’s movement away from lethal deer “management,” certain Seven Hills council members have opened discussions to pass bow hunting and/or nuisance permit ordinances, despite evidence these do nothing to control populations. Even the Ohio Division of Wildlife’s urban deer representative Geoffrey Westerfield admitted at the February 19th meeting that the DOW has no data to support that lethal methods like bow hunting and nuisance permits reduce numbers, but actually create rebound. Westerfield cited Solon’s failure to decrease numbers through lethal methods, after spending \$800,000 to kill 1,600 deer over a five year period. According to Katherine McGill, wildlife researcher and writer, “The goal is to allow the sport of killing to take place while at the same time, conserve enough deer for hunters to enjoy the following season . . . [state wildlife] managers are compelled to satisfy their hunting constituency . . . If there aren’t enough deer, the wildlife managers may end up without jobs.”

Seven Hills council cohorts Caryl Lecznar and Pete Draganic claim a “few” residents complained about deer landscape damage, waste “pellets,” and the occasional deer-in-the-garage as justification to kill. Yet, planting native, deer-resistant perennials saves landscaping, and deer “pellets” actually fertilize. The real culprits: nonnative plantings and invasive species combined with nonnative earthworm soil

compaction; these are pushing out native plants and stunting critical understory in woodlands. Strict city ordinances for unnaturally manicured “appeal” and deleterious pesticides have wrought at least as much harm.

Incidentally, black-footed mice and certain protected birds, not deer, primarily carry Lyme Disease.

BEWARE: Every community that has allowed bow hunting or nuisance permits has seen: deer with arrows stuck in them dying slowly in neighborhoods/yards; reluctant and hostile police and prosecutors refusing to respond to calls about illegal trespassers and violations of dozens of hunting, safety and right to peaceful enjoyment ordinances; injured deer running into traffic; accidentally shot pets, humans and other wildlife; neighbors pitted against neighbors; council members with ties to hunters; and decreased competition for food among deer because hunting has the ironic twist of ENSURING stable populations through increased fertility of survivors.

DEMAND TRANSPARENCY: There were no minutes posted on Seven Hills’ website from August 2012 to January 2013, including discussions by Mayor Dell’Aquila about inviting nine other area mayors to a private meeting last fall to discuss the “deer issue,” which resulted in a no-show. And now, podcasts from last fall’s town hall meeting in which residents allegedly complained about deer property damage may have disappeared, then reappeared, minus the discussion about deer on the site. An open public records request -- protected by Ohio’s Sunshine Law -- has also gone unanswered.

What’s happening in Seven Hills is now happening in Parma, but more ghastly. John Mack, chief of natural resources at Cleveland Metroparks, publicly stated that if the City of Parma engages in hunting, then he will order killing in the brand new West Creek park using captive bolt -- a highly inac-

curate skull piercing that repeatedly misses and hits wild, thrashing deer in the eyes and other parts until finally impaling the intended brain area. Ghoulish! Deer have emotionally complex lives; they are sentient beings.

Parma safety director Baeppler and councilman Napoli should be held accountable for their part in bringing up lethal discussions. Baeppler told me he thinks deer are “long-legged rats.”

Contact Seven Hills’ council, particularly swing votes like Mike Barth, Jim Tripi, and Snitzky with a short, polite message asking them to vote “no” or, better, drop discussions involving all lethal plans. Councils-at-large Matt Trafis and David Bentkowski publicly voiced opposition to killing deer. Email council members: mcbarth@cox.net, pete@petedraganic.com, jttripigbp_sbcglobal.net, caryllecznar@yahoo.com, bent959@aol.com snitzky@sevenhillsohio.org, matt@trafis.com, mayor7hills@yahoo.com. Call City Hall at 216-524-4421.

Worldstock's City Beat Friends Of Parma Theater "Hearts" For The Arts

by Wayne Mesker

Not much else to report this month in the City Beat column. Too late to get in news about the Mayor’s State Of The City speech, but plan on seeing that in April’s issue along with other “City” news.

I’m proud to be one of the members of the Friends Of Parma Theater citizens committee. As many of you know, on Dec. 18 of 2012, there was a fire at the Parma Theater. It was determined to be an act of arson. The “Friends” are in the midst of a “Have A Heart For The Arts” fundraising campaign! “Hearts” will be available to sign and purchase for \$1 (you can give more).The proceeds will help us further our efforts to acquire, renovate and re-invent the space as part of a larger plan to create an “Arts District” in Parma that will benefit not only our city, but the entire Northeast Ohio region and hopefully attract global attention and investment to the area.

Our initial Have A Heart For The Arts Jam kick-off for this campaign took place on Valentine’s Day at Griller’s Pub (5455 State Rd.) It was a great start to this C\campaign. Special thanks to Griller’s owner Chuck Johnson, also to the Tower City Blues Band, especially bandleader Dominic Monachino. Also, special thanks to other committee members in attendance. Griller’s Pub is a fine location with a musician’s night every Thursday hosted by the Tower City Blues Band, “live” local bands on Saturday nights, with local “acoustic” acts on Sunday early evenings. Great food, reasonably priced menu and a friendly, accomodating staff make for an enjoyable experience.

Our next fundraiser is “Friends” At The Parma Cafe (5780 Ridge Rd.) on Saturday, March 2. Following that, my band House Afire will be hosting “Hearts Aflame” at the Bunker Bar & Grill (6824 Bunker Rd., North Royalton) on Saturday, March 9 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Join us for some great Classic Rock, Blues and Motown and get your “Heart” For The Arts. No cover charge, great atmosphere, good food and friendly staff will make this another awesome night.

“Hearts” were



Tower City Band members

printed, thanks to John Galina, through the generosity of IATSE Local 160 (International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees). John is the business agent for the union. He and his wife are members of the “Friends” committee, along with “local” independent filmmaker Rich Lasky, Parma Observer Publisher Daniel McCarthy, local Real-Estate investor Bill Subjoc, Councilwoman Debbie Lime from Ward 2, and Parma Theater lovers/ concerned citizens Patricia Halle, and Tom and Paulette Kall.



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Perspective

Medicaid Expansion Under The ACA Is Right For Ohio (And The Nation)

by Lee Kamps

When the Supreme court ruled last summer to uphold the Affordable Care Act, they ruled that it was up to the individual states to decide whether or not to go along with the expansion of Medicaid under the act. Under the ACA, individuals whose income is less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level would qualify for Medicaid regardless of age, disability or any other factors other than income and resources. Currently adults can only qualify for Medicaid if they are over age 65, legally blind, totally and permanently disabled or caring for dependent children under age 16. In addition the present level of income for full Medicaid benefits in Ohio is only \$631 per month for a single adult. That is only two-thirds of the federal poverty level. This Medicaid expansion would increase the income eligibility limit for a single adult to \$1284 per month (2012 figures).

The cost of this Medicaid expansion when it becomes effective on January 1, 2014 will be borne 100 percent by the federal government. The federal share will decrease until it is 90 percent after 2016. That amount is greater than the present federal level of Medicaid payment.

Gov. Kasich is right in going along with the Medicaid expansion for Ohio. Not only would this cover many people

who are presently uninsured, but because the federal government is paying 100 percent of the cost of this expansion through 2016, it brings to Ohio millions of federal dollars that could be used to improve the health of millions of Ohio residents who might not be insured at all.

Contrary to a popular myth, most uninsured adults are actually working and not on welfare. They just happen to be working where they do not have health insurance available through their employer. Many are self-employed and others work part time where they do not qualify for health insurance from their employer. Most working uninsured cannot afford the cost of health insurance. A sizable number of uninsured adults just cannot qualify for health insurance because of a pre-existing condition.

It is a well known fact that those who are uninsured often use the hospital emergency room instead of a primary care doctor because they know that they can receive medical care in the ER. But emergency rooms are the most expensive form of health care. In addition, many uninsured people will delay seeking medical care until a condition has advanced to a stage where they must get medical treatment. Often illnesses are in an advanced stage where treatment

is much more costly.

Most of the time the medical care given to the uninsured is uncompensated since most of the uninsured cannot afford to pay the bills. It is estimated that as much as 20 percent of all hospital charges in Ohio are written off as uncollectable. The cost of those uncollectable accounts is then shifted to those who do have the ability to pay. That means that those who are insured are actually subsidizing the medical care being received by those who are uninsured. In 2006, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, an organization that has studied extensively the problems of the uninsured in the United States, concluded that the cost of treating the uninsured exceeded the cost of actually covering the uninsured for health insurance.

Of course this expansion of Medicaid will create a much larger demand for health care, especially from those who have been uninsured. But that in turn will create many more new jobs in the health care field as well, offering employment to many.

Another benefit would be that those people who have been uninsured are now able to receive medical care, their overall health would improve. The people who had been uninsured will have much better overall health and perhaps be more productive.

Health care should be a basic right of everyone, not as some commodity that can be sold like a television set. After all this involves the health of the state so everyone has a stake in this. A healthy state is a productive state and a productive state is a prosperous state.

Meetings Begin For Automated Trash Program

continued from page 1

outlining the new program. Blue containers will be used for household waste only, green containers will be used for all recyclables, and yard waste will have to be either bundled or placed in disposable paper bags. The program is predicted to increase recycling dramatically by residents, and the projected savings to the city will be in the neighborhood of \$800,000 annually due to the decrease in the material being placed in a landfill.

Not only will the city save money as resident recycling increases, but another important aspect is the benefit to the workers who collect the trash in Ohio's seventh largest city. Instead of the back-breaking effort of throwing the trash into the back of a truck, the machinery will do all of the work

resulting in a dramatic decrease in injuries and worker's compensation claims. Dave Kidder went on to point out that working outside behind a collection truck while traffic speeds by is incredibly dangerous, and over the years several workers for Republic Services have been struck by vehicles including one from Parma.

Mr. Kidder expects the changeover to go smoothly, as it has in other communities, that in a month or so the phones will stop ringing with questions about the new service. After a year, most people will have forgotten the old way trash was collected, he said.

All of the wards will have had meetings scheduled, at the time of this printing, with only Wards 7, 8, and 9 remaining. Their meeting is slated for Thursday, March 7th at 6:30pm at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

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Perspective

PAFAC Fine Arts Scholarship In Memory Of Ruth H. Benson

by Kathryn Mabin

Parma Area Fine Arts Council, Inc.

Celebrating over 50 years of service to the community.

The Parma Area Fine Arts Council, Inc. or PAFAC, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the creation, production and enjoyment of the arts. We received our Ohio Non-profit status in July of 1962, and 501(c)3 status from the IRS in 1967. Our goal is to bring art to Parma and surrounding communities for the enrichment and enlightenment of its citizens. Our organization consists of volunteers dedicated to the visual arts. Our current focus is on art education through our affordable classes and our annual arts scholarship program.

We are currently accepting applications for the 2013 PAFAC Arts Scholarship which will be awarded to a graduating high school senior, from the five high schools located in Parma, Parma Heights, or Seven Hills, or a home schooled student residing within the Tri-City area, in the amount of \$1,000. The scholarship is based solely upon artistic talent, composition, technical competency of the medium, and originality. It is recommended that the applicant submit items using various mediums. Each applicant will be asked to submit three original pieces for review between 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, 2013. An independent panel of judges will review the submissions and determine the winner. This year the judges are Vera Lutzo, Alumni of Normandy High School, owner of Counterpart Studio and an illustrator for American

Greetings, Christine Dillon Sorenson, artist and owner of Crafter Goodness Gallery in Lakewood, and Anthony Martino, an artist who uses emotion and color through "Intuitive Painting" and "Performance Painting," painting live to music, whose paintings have sold nationally and internationally. After the judging is completed, the student applicant will be asked to return to retrieve their submissions between 7 and 8 p.m.

The scholarship recipient will be asked to display their award-winning submission at the Annual Spring Medley of Arts Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 18, 2013. The scholarship will be formally presented at a brief ceremony during the show, which will be open to the public.

This year the 2013 PAFAC Arts Scholarship will be awarded as a memorial to Ruth H. Benson. Ruth passed away on February 14, 2013. She was a Lifetime Member of PAFAC, an arts advocate, and former PAFAC President. Ruth was an accomplished watercolorists and was known for her delicate floral renditions. She retired from her Secretarial duties at the Parma City Schools, volunteered at Season of Life Hospice, and was the current President of the Brooklyn Hts. Seniors.

For additional information regarding the scholarship program, or to download your application, please visit www.parmafinearts.org, or call the office at 440-888-4514. You may also follow us on Facebook.

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Parma Observer

The Plight Of Elephants In Africa

by Michelle E. Rice

Elephants are being killed at an alarming rate due to want of their tusks for the illegal sale of ivory in the black market primarily China but also Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia. Poaching is currently at the highest it has been in 20 years. In 2011, over 25,000 African elephants were killed, though the actual figure is much higher, maybe even double when factoring in the weight of illegal ivory seized. In 2011, 34.7 tons was seized, equaling 69,400 pounds. It is estimated that each set of tusks weighs 22 pounds. Interpol’s rule of thumb states that of illegal contraband seized, it is only ten percent of actual smuggling totally over 31,500 elephants. Both sexes of African elephants have tusks and while all males of Asian elephants have tusks, it is rare for a female to grow tusks and if she does, they are very small. Males without tusks do exist, though usually in Sri Lanka.

Between 1970 and 1985, half of the African elephants were killed for their tusks. At the 1989 CITES (Convention of International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) meeting, 115 countries banned the international trade of ivory and the African elephant was listed under Appendix I, in danger of becoming extinct, though in some African

nations they are listed under Appendix II, meaning they are not in imminent danger of extinction, but may become so. Every year CITES is held, this year it is March 3rd to 14th in Bangkok, Thailand.

The purchasing countries have different reasons for wanting tusks. Japan uses ivory for signature seals known as “hankas.” China regards it as extremely valuable and the government has even licensed 35 carving factories and 130 ivory retail outlets. They also sponsor ivory carving in schools.

In the Philippines, Catholic devotees buy ivory-carved Christ figures and other religious icons. They have the third largest Catholic population in the world, 75 million. Cristobal Garcia was dismissed from St. Dominic’s of Los Angeles in the 80’s for sexually abusing an altar boy, now is the head of the country’s largest Roman Catholic archdiocese, 4 million people. As monsignor, he advocates the use of ivory, advising his followers to buy ivory. The Vatican has not joined CITES, so ivory is for sale there and Popes still accept and give ivory gifts, even as recently as 2007.

In Thailand, “The Elephant Monk,” Kurba Dharmamuni, claims he has a following of 100,000 around the world. He sells ivory amulets in his gift shop, online, and in his travels.

Before a public exposé, he was making \$32,000 a month, now he is down to \$10,000 a month.

In Kenya, The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust (DSWT) was established in 1977, in response to the mass killing of Africa’s wildlife and the destruction of its environment. It is named after the founding Warden of Tsavo East National Park in Kenya, David Sheldrick, where he served from the park’s inception in 1948 until his transfer to Nairobi to the newly created Wildlife Conservation & Management Department in 1976. David died only 6 months later. Daphne, his wife, worked alongside him from 1955 until his death. During that time she rehabilitated and raised numerous species reintegrating them back into the wild. She lives at the DSWT nursery where she was the first person to have perfected the milk formula and husbandry for milk-



dependent elephants and rhinos. Baby elephants are milk dependent for the first two years of their life.

DSWT is probably best known for their dedication to rearing orphaned infant elephants, usually the result of poaching. Elephants are very sensitive and loving beings that live with their families their whole life, except males who leave during puberty. Witnessing the murder of their mother and family traumatizes them. They often have nightmares from the experience. During their stay at the nursery, keepers sleep with them, though in rotation, because the elephants will become attached to one caretaker which can become traumatic when separated. It



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Parma Observer

continued from previous page

is crucial to nurture them psychologically as well as physically because once they go off into a wild herd, if they are neurotic, they could face rejection. Since elephants are sensitive, tactile and social beings, their caretakers are demonstratively affectionate with touch and vocalization.

Elephants have a natural lifespan the same as humans. They are infants until age 2, children until age 10, teenagers from 10 to 20 and elderly in their 50's. While they can live to be in their 70's or 80's, sadly, that is rare due to poaching.

Around two years of age, if psychologically and physically stable, they are transferred from the nursery to one of the two rehabilitation centers. There, they walk in the bush, browse on vegetation and take a mud bath before returning to the stockade at night. Here, the keepers no longer sleep with the elephants. The elephants are never beaten or forced to do something they don't want to do. The keepers control them with the tone of their voice, a wag of the finger or an arm gesture.

Elephants can hear through vibrations in their feet and communicate via "infrasound" over miles, beyond human hearing range and this they have to learn from other elephants. So, the younger the orphans can be exposed to the wild and older elephants, their learning process is easier; and so is the transition into a natural

wild existence.

Each orphan decides when to leave and go into the wild. They are never put out. It is a gradual process which can span 10 years. Orphans who have grown up together usually return to visit those who are still in the stockade or even take one of their friends out for a night in the wild. Sometimes, they return escorted, usually by a couple of ex-orphaned bull elephants if they feel insecure without their human protection in the darkness. Of those that survive their trauma, all eventually return to the wild. Although it is not uncommon for them to return to have an arrow or snare removed or simply to visit.

Fostering an orphan elephant or rhino can be done at a minimum of \$50 a year. These packages are sent to you via the internet. You will receive a fostering certificate, picture, profile, a description of the Orphans Project, which includes an interactive map where your orphan was found and a description of the habitat and situation of orphans area, a monthly summary and a direct link to the keepers diary, pictures, a monthly watercolor by Angela Sheldrick, news of new arrivals and rescues with photographs, and being considered part of the DSWT team, you will receive personal contact as well. The link to foster is: <http://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/asp/fostering.asp>

The David Sheldrick Wildlife

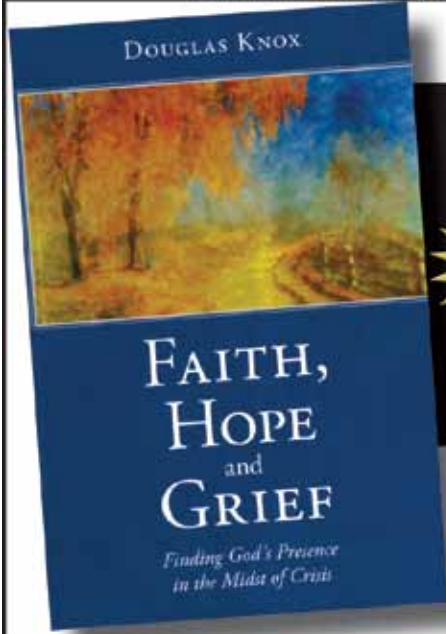
Trust is also active in supporting many conservation efforts. They have a de-snaring project, removing snares set to capture wildlife, saving hundreds of animals. They also have an anti-poaching unit to guard animals from poachers as well as to arrest or kill poachers. The Kenya Wildlife Service directly benefits from DSWT for fuel, vehicle maintenance, as well as other assistance to maintain functioning. The DSWT work with neighboring communities around the park to improve living conditions through boring water holes, windmills, radio and educational programs,

provide sports equipment and tree saplings, field trips, and educate future generations to protect wildlife and the environment. Tourists, 70 percent, go to Kenya to see the wildlife. Future generations need to be instilled with the interdependency and value of their country's wildlife.

A petition has been established to be presented at CITES. Please voice your opposition to the Illegal Ivory Trade at www.iworry.org

To read more, get involved, and donate, visit their website at www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org online.

Dedicated in loving memory to Marie Knox



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Parma Observer

Parma City Hall Has Wi-Fi

by Jeannie Roberts

Mayor Tim DeGeeter has joked in public that he's been somewhat chagrined that the McDonald's on Day Drive had wireless, but that City Hall on Ridge Road did not.

Move over, Mayor McCheese - you are no longer the only mayor in town with Wi-Fi.

The City of Parma has installed three wireless networks, two at City Hall and one at Ries Rink. The city

Wi-Fi has been put into three areas for public access. The first is on the first floor of City Hall, named Parma City Hall, and is for use in the main conference room when meetings are being held and access to the Internet is necessary to share information.

The public, while waiting in the lobby of City Hall, will also be able to use this network to check electronic mail or update Internet schedules on the go.

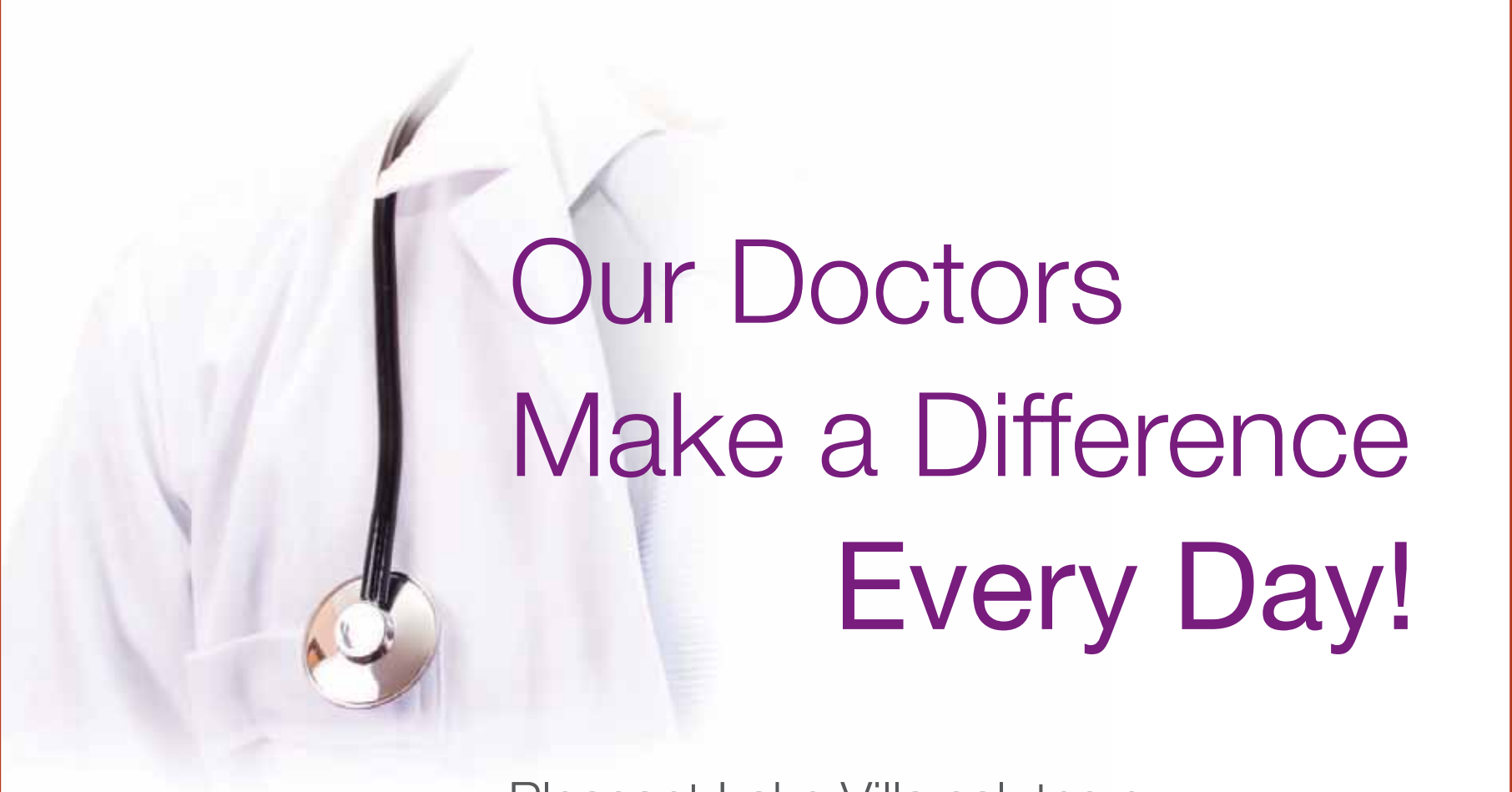
The second area for the city Wi-Fi is located downstairs in the Council Chambers and is named Council Chambers. The third area for the city Wi-Fi is located at Ries Ice Rink and the whole building can access the Internet using the Wi-Fi network named Ries Rink. This enables live streaming for high school games and also allows parents to communicate with their children using Internet applications to keep in touch.

"This is a great tool for the public and enhances our city hall and ice

rink," said DeGeeter. "With today's technology and use of smartphones, laptops and tablets, this is a step in the right direction and puts today's technology to use."

All devices with wireless capability including laptop computers, all phone types and wireless tablets, can connect to the city Wi-Fi. The download speeds for the Wi-Fi have the capability of 15Mbps and the upload speeds are about 5Mbps.

National Doctors' Day is Saturday, March 30, 2013



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