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## City Supports Replacement Fire Levy

by Jeannie Roberts

Parma resident Jim Kovach knows why the passage of Parma's replacement fire levy is critically important for Parma. Firefighters brought him back from the dead after a heart attack and within minutes took him to the hospital. (You can watch his story at <http://tinyurl.com/kpudtf4>).

Jim and his wife Kathy are grateful for the quick-responding, well-trained firemen who were able to help in their situation. And there are countless others like Jim who can now tell their stories thanks to Parma's dedicated firefighters. But the firefighters are in need of help and have put a replacement fire levy will be on November's ballot.

Since the fire levy began in 1995, calls to the Fire Department have risen dramatically and staffing levels



Jim and Kathy Kovach are grateful for Parma's well-trained fire staff.

have decreased. Plus, a tough economy, state budget cuts, and declining levy revenues have taken their toll. Firefighters are responding to even more emergency calls – 9,957 in 2012 alone. To combat this, firefighters are doing more with less,

becoming more efficient using technology and training, while tightening their belts

But that only goes so far.

That's why the city is asking voters to support a fire replacement levy. It will cost about 7 cents a day more than the current levy and the money would be used to provide firefighters with the training and the latest life-saving equipment they need during a house fire or a medical emergency. Those costs - materials, equipment and training to provide emergency services - have increased, and levy money collected would offset these increased costs. For example, a fire engine purchased in 2001 for \$320,000 cost \$532,000 in 2012.

The department has been vigilant with numerous cost-saving and budget-conscious measures and diligently pursues federal grants where they are available. All these things help. But the bottom line is that it costs more to provide an increasing volume of emergency services now than it did 10 years ago.

The City of Parma will host two meetings for residents who wish to know more about the replacement levy. On Sept. 23 at 6 p.m., residents in Wards 1-4 are invited to City Hall's Council Chambers, and on Sept. 26, the same meeting and presentation will be held for residents in wards 5-9. Residents are encouraged to come view a presentation about the fire department and ask questions about the levy.

## University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center Expands To Parma Hospital

by CJ Sheppard

University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center is expanding to Parma Community General Hospital, providing integrated cancer care to residents in Parma and surrounding communities. This will be UH Seidman Cancer Center's 16th location in Northern Ohio. It opened on August 1.

"The UH Seidman Cancer Center at Parma Hospital will provide patients with access to the most advanced cancer care, leading-edge technology and clinical research," says Nathan Levitan, MD, President, UH Seidman Cancer Center. "With the aging population in Northeast Ohio, the number of cancer patients is increasing and it is important to us to provide these services within the community where patients live, minimizing the need for them to travel long distances for their care. Our network spans from Sandusky to Chardon, and Parma Hospital's location in the heart of Cuyahoga County is an ideal new site for our cancer center."

UH Seidman Cancer Center is part of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center at Case Western Reserve University, one of only 41 centers in the country to be designated a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute. This distinction recognizes development and use of the most effective methods of early detection, treatment and prevention of cancer, including clinical trials and advanced therapies not yet available elsewhere. Named in recognition of a \$42 million gift from Jane and Lee Seidman to University Hospitals, UH Seidman Cancer Center opened a new cancer hospital at UH Case Medical Center in 2011 that provides highly specialized cancer care for patients. UH Seidman Cancer

Center also is recognized by US News & World Report as one of the top 15 hospitals for cancer care in the country.

"Offering a wide range of cancer care services is a priority at Parma Hospital," said Terrence G. Deis, President and Chief Executive Officer of Parma Hospital. "This new collaboration will provide our residents with access to the highest level of cancer care available with the same personalized care and attention they have come to know from the current oncology nursing and support staff."

Parma Hospital's Cancer Center, which opened in 2000, has been recognized with excellence by the Commission on Cancer since 2003. Now, with the UH Seidman Cancer Center partnership, services offered will include outpatient infusion therapy, radiation oncology, laboratory services and preventative screenings along with nutritional and psychological support. Community-based physicians at Parma Hospital will work in partnership with their colleagues at the nationally recognized UH Seidman Cancer Center. They will be part of a multidisciplinary team with experts in surgery, medical oncology, radiation therapy, pathology, nursing, social work and psychology who will work together to create a personalized treatment plan.

Patients also will have access to continuing cancer education and information on the latest cancer treatments and clinical trials. Dedicated to innovative treatment and promising clinical research in the fight against cancer, the UH Seidman Cancer Center offers cutting-edge treatments earlier than most other cancer centers and currently participates in more than 300 clinical trials.

The expansion of the UH

## Historical Marker Dedication Planned At Henninger Homestead



Pre-1900's Henninger House

by Dave Lincheck

On Saturday, September 14, 2013, West Creek Conservancy will host a ceremony at Parma's Henninger Homestead, 5757 Broadview Road at Old Rockside Road to dedicate the site's newly installed Ohio Historical Marker. Built in 1849 from rock that runs deep beneath the property, it is the oldest house in Parma.

West Creek Conservancy is working to adaptively restore Henninger Homestead into a public space and trailhead along the proposed West Creek Greenway. Public access will

be part of its future so all can enjoy the site and feel the connection to our early canal-era history. Plans include creating a trail link south from the Henninger property to West Creek Reservation and north to Brooklyn Heights Park and eventually the Towpath Trail.

Philip Henninger was a tinsmith from Germany who found the rock beneath the land he owned to be a more profitable source of income than his training as a tinsmith. Although the period identified by the quarry industry was

**continued on page 8**

**continued on page 4**



# Parma Business

## The President's Corner

by Sean Brennan,  
Parma City Council President

This month I am writing to report that the Third Annual Parma Run/Walk for Pierogies was an overwhelming success thanks to the support of 550 participants, several volunteers and many sponsors. All total we raised nearly \$9,000 for some excellent causes, including the American Cancer Society, All Faiths Pantry and the Parma All Kids Playground Project. This column is my attempt to thank all who contributed to the event's success.

Many individuals are to be thanked, including my wife Deena, my co-director Gary Uveges, his wife and our official photographer Trish, volunteer coordinator Kevin Leigh, Kayla Kelly and Rich Lawhun from Hermes Road Racing, now retired President of Cuyahoga Community College's Western Campus Patricia Rowell and current President Ron Liss, Radiah Douglas of CCC-West, Peace Tea donor Ed Majchrycz, Terry Deis and Mark White of our major sponsor Parma Community General Hospital, Bob Fenner of Newschannel 5, Jeff Sako of Grand Slam Graphics, Vince Rucci of Vertical Runner in Brecksville, Helen-ae Bidzilek for designing our pierogie awards, Paul Chuppa of Chuppa's Marketplace for donating all of the delicious fruit, Chaplain Connie Felice and the Greater Cleveland Young Marines from 325 Marine Reserve in Brookpark for volunteering and the Cleveland Cavaliers' own Moondog.

Please thank and support our many

generous sponsors, including CCC-West, Parma Hospital, the Little Polish Diner, Krakow Deli, WIXY 1260 Super Oldie's Band, St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church Pierogi Sales, Enterprize Group Planning, the Shoppes at



Run for Pierogies champion Aaron Apathy, co-director Sean Brennan, top female Jamie Adams and co-director Gary Uveges.

Parma (formerly Parmatown Mall), Kohl's of Parma and Strongsville, Distinctive Eyewear, Broadview Multi-Care, Pilat Insurance Agency, Ridge Road Autoworks, Flowerama at Ridge and Snow Roads, S&S Benefits, On the Spot Dry Cleaners, Eaton Corporation, Parma Wal-Mart, Walgreen's of Seven Hills and Parma Heights, Kik's Office Supplies, Anthony's Restaurant, the Cleveland Indians, Parma's Team Green Runners Group (Chad Davis, Sharon Zeck, Manny Victoriano, Chris Stauffer

and Jen Madercic), Cleveland Airport Hilton Garden Inn, Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Guys Pizza, Office Max, Questcom Graphics, Target, Clean and Shine Maid Service, Acme Supermarket, Dick's Sporting Goods, Brookgate Lanes, the Fox and Hound, Antonio's Restaurant, the Cuyahoga County Public Library System, Biofreeze, Stancato's,

Car Parts Warehouse, Mount Royal Villa, Be Well Solutions, Vineyard Wine Merchant, Red Robin, and the Parma Hospital Auxiliary volunteers.

Congratulations to all of our finishers, especially those who ran their first 5K (3.1 miles). Special congratulations to our first place winner for the third year in a row Aaron Apathy who set a new course record of 15:33, as well as to Padua Franciscan High School's own Jamie Adams, our first place female for the second year in a

row, coming in at 19:23. We are already gearing up for July 5, 2014. If you are interested in getting involved as a participant, sponsor or volunteer, please contact me via e-mail at councilmanbrennan@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 440-884-0489. Please check out our website for more information and to check out pictures at <http://www.hermescleveland.com/roadracing/events/parmapierogies.asp> and like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Parma-Run-Walk-for-Pierogies/510203692378698>.



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## All Kids Playground To Benefit ALL Kids

by Sean Brennan

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting with three inspirational women who are behind a project that is certain to be successful. Tammy Tomasello, Deborah Sands and Nancy Musarra are members of the All Kids Playground Project. The vision of these three ladies and their other supporters is simple: "We plan to provide a playground that enhances inclusion and addresses the needs of children with all abilities. The playground will be an inviting place that accommodates mobility devices, play structures and activity areas." In short, they envision a playground that will serve as a

play place for children with or without disabilities.

A non-profit organization has been created to collect funds for the playground project. The project started in January of 2012 and is estimated to take 3-5 years to complete. The proposed playground is to be built at Mayor James Day Park (formally Nike park) and is planned to



Parma City Council President Sean Brennan presents a check for \$1,000 raised from the Parma Run/Walk for Pierogies to All Kids Playground Project members Tammy Tomasello, Deborah Sands and Nancy Musarra.

be constructed in two stages with total estimated costs of \$300,000.

The group has planned a Browns, Beer and Polish Food fundraiser to benefit the project for Sunday, October 27 from 12:00 to 4:00 pm at the Rock City Tap House located at 5326 State Road. Tickets are \$30 and include polish sausage, pierogi, cabbage and noodles, domestic beer, as well as wine and well drinks. Former Cleveland Browns players will be making appearances and accordion music and DJ will provide entertainment throughout the event as the Browns play Kansas City away. To purchase tickets in advance visit the Rock City Tap House or call 440-845-2201.

To find out more about the All Kids Playground Project visit their website at <http://allkidsplayground.org/>. Donations may be made directly through Fifth Third Bank, 7414 Broadview Road, Parma, 44134, c/o All Kids Playground.

### CORRECTION



Parma City Council President with U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur"  
We apologize for the mistake.

# Parma Community General Hospital

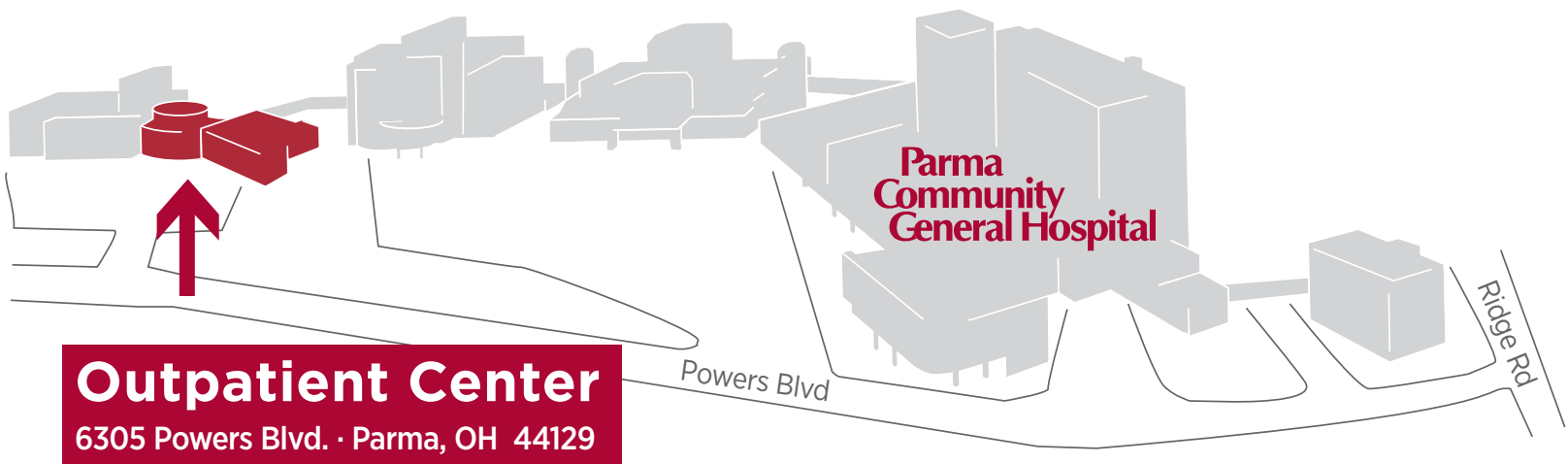
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# Parma Health

## Consumer Reports Rates Parma Hospital Among Region's Best For Surgical Outcomes

by CJ Sheppard

Parma Community General Hospital was one of only two Cleveland area hospitals to earn the highest possible ratings in a recent evaluation by Consumer Reports of patient outcomes for scheduled surgeries.

The Safer-Surgery Survival Guide published online in July 2013 by the leading consumer advocacy magazine rates 2,463 hospitals in all 50 states. It worked with health care consulting firm MPA to analyze Medicare billing claims and clinical records data for 27 kinds of scheduled surgeries. Together they developed ratings for five of those procedures, including back surgery, hip and knee replacements and angioplasty to clear blocked cardiac arteries. Parma Hospital earned the highest rating possible for knee replacement surgery.

"Our new surgery ratings are part of an ongoing effort to shed light on hospital quality and to push the health

care industry toward more transparency," the magazine states in a July 2013 article published online. "Our ratings for the first time make public a measure that some hospitals now use to track quality – the percentage of Medicare patients undergoing surgery who die in the hospital or stay longer than expected."

Parma Hospital has one of the highest percentages of Medicare patients among hospitals in Northeast Ohio.

"As a community hospital, we are committed to providing high-quality care at an affordable cost," said Parma Hospital President & CEO Terrence G. Deis. "We know our patients have choices, and we are proud to be recognized for quality, as well as personalized care."

The complete report is available in the September issue of Consumer Reports and online at [www.ConsumerReports.org/cro/hospitalratings0913](http://www.ConsumerReports.org/cro/hospitalratings0913).

## Fall Schedule Features Doctor Talks, Fitness And Youth Classes, Support Group And More

by CJ Sheppard

Parma Hospital's Health Education Center full fall schedule of fitness, parenting, youth and mind/body wellness classes – as well as screenings, support groups and physician talks - is now available online at [www.parma-hospital.org/Classes](http://www.parma-hospital.org/Classes).

Classes are offered at many convenient times, from early morning to evening hours at the Health Education Center at 7300 State Road in Parma. Fitness classes run from Zumba, PiYo and Pilates to Chair Yoga and Senior Shape-Up. Yoga and Tai Chi are offered under Mind/Body Fitness listings. The extensive Youth classes provide opportunities for babies and toddlers with Kindermusik, dance and learn-

ing colors and shapes to Kindergarten Readiness and holiday events. And new this fall is the doctor-supervised early intervention program Healthy Weight/Healthy Kids for ages 4 to 18. Beginning with a full physical and diabetes testing, specialists work with families on developing healthy eating and effective exercising habits. The 12-session course begins Monday, Sept. 12.

Many physician talks will be held this fall, including a free Memory Loss Series in October presented by the Alzheimer's Association and an Oct. 10 HealthiHer program on Embracing Change with a Dose of Laughter by psychiatrist Alf Bergman, MD.

See the class schedule online or call 440-743-4900 for more details.



Parma Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting ceremony August 21 at Anello Body Fitness, 6576 C Pearl Rd. in Parma Hts. Pictured left to right, Vince Anello, Parma Hts. Mayor Mike Byrne, Chamber President Dave Nedrich, Parma Hts. Economic Director Joe Sebes, Parma Hts. Ward 2 Councilwoman Lesley DeSouza, Parma Hts. Councilman Bob Verdile, Lyn Charek from Dollar Bank.

## Visit Anello Body Fitness

by Dale Powell

I first met Vince Anello in 1966 when I was in a downtown health food store. No one could help but notice Vince; he was an incredible sight, as completely developed for weight lifting as anyone could be. I was from North Royalton and he lived in Middleburg Hts.. We became friends and I would see him from time to time at events; it was no surprise that in the following years he was World Champion Power Lifter- five times! In 1998 he was inducted into the Strength Hall Of Fame (of course).

I was so happy to learn recently that Vince had opened up a location in Parma Hts., at 6575 C Pearl Rd. I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony there presented by the Parma

Area Chamber of Commerce, where the Parma Hts. Mayor, President of the Chamber, and many other officials came out to welcome him to the city. I was impressed, and knowing Vince all of these years, I was happy to see my friend in a place now where he can do the most good teaching others his knowledge and experience gained over the years. My heavy lifting days are over- a hip replacement, to say the least, has seen to that, but for those hungry for knowledge and guidance in the sport, or are seeking customized physical training at any level, I recommend that you contact Vince Anello as soon as possible. As Vince likes to say, "why settle for being good when you can be great?".

## Seidman Cancer Center Expands To Parma Hospital

continued from page 1

Seidman Cancer Center at Parma Hospital comes on the heels of a letter of intent signed by UH and Parma Hospital last month to officially explore an integration that will add Parma Hospital to the University Hospitals health system.

"We completed a very comprehensive process to evaluate potential organizations that could best support our mission to provide the highest quality of personalized health care to our patients and the communities that we serve," said Mr. Deis. "It is our belief that University Hospitals is most compatible with that mission, our medical staff and the commitment to remain a vital resource for our extended com-

munities."

UH will work closely together with the Parma Hospital medical staff to ensure that their patients continue to receive the highest quality personalized care. It is anticipated that UH will bring investments and new services as a major benefit to the agreement including expanding the presence of UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital that currently provides neonatal care at Parma Hospital. UH, with its nationally recognized academic medical center – UH Case Medical Center – will also provide strong clinical research, leading-edge technology, innovative practices and initiatives that will complement and grow Parma Hospital's highly regarded medical programs.

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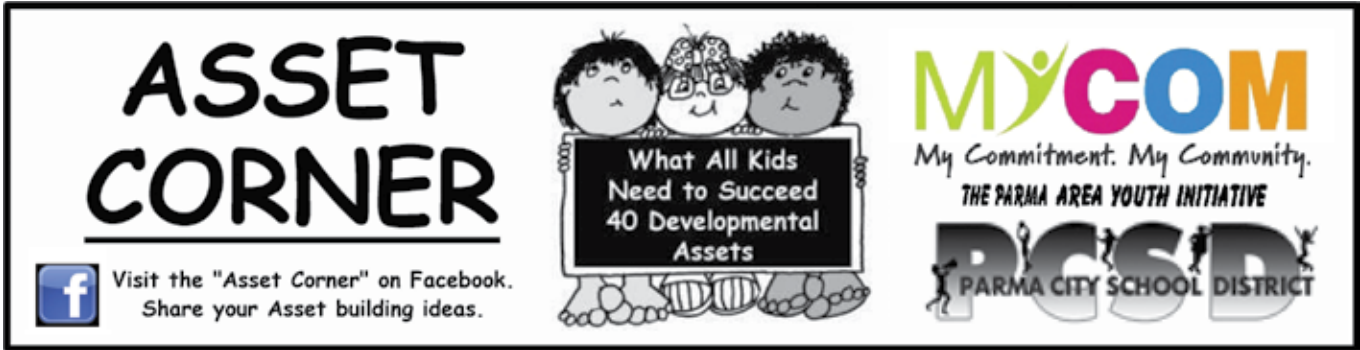
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# Parma Schools



## Asset Corner #45

by Gene Lovasy

September's Asset Category: COMMITMENT TO LEARNING A love of learning will take them far... Education has improved immensely in the past 20 years. Today, more young people are taking high-level courses, fewer of them are dropping out, math and science scores are on the rise, and more students are entering college after high school. But that doesn't mean a commitment to learning happens naturally in all young people. Instilling this important trait involves a combination of values and skills that include the desire to succeed in school, a sense of the lasting importance of learning, and a belief in one's own ability. This commitment is strongly influenced by the school environment and relationships with family and peers.

### Commitment To Learning Assets Include:

- #21 Achievement Motivation – Young person is motivated to do well in school. (65%\*)
- #22 School Engagement – Young person is actively engaged in learning. (55\*)
- #23 Homework – Young person reports doing at least 1 hour of homework every school day. (47%\*)
- #24 Bonding To School – Young person cares about his or her school. (52%\*)
- #25 Reading For Pleasure – Young person reads for pleasure 3 or more hours per week. (22%\*)

(\* 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 column's focus will be on... Asset 21 Achievement Motivation

Doing your best always makes the grade

Do you know young people who always try their best in school, without rewards or punishments dangling over them? These students have found a reason to work hard; they have achievement motivation. Doing well academically means different things to different people. It doesn't have to mean getting straight A's or being the valedictorian. It does mean doing their best work and caring about their performance, whether they're creating an art portfolio or writing an essay. There are plenty of reasons to work hard in school—getting good grades, making parents happy, or earning a spot on the honor roll. But the biggest incentive for young people to do their best—in

school and out—comes from within: personal pride from knowing they gave it their all. Making an effort in school and other activities now, can give young people more reasons to feel proud later on.

**Here are the facts**

Research shows young people who try their best in school have better grades, are more likely to finish high school, and are better at managing stress. They're also better at setting goals and more likely to enroll in college. About 65 percent of young people, ages 11–18, say they are motivated to do well in school, according to Search Institute surveys. Help young people understand how important school is so they study hard, pay attention, and do their homework.

**Tips for building this asset**

What drives the young people you know to do their best? Whatever their reasons, remind them that when they try their best they can always feel good about the results, no matter what the grade.

**Also try this**

**In your home and family:** Ask your child about what motivates her or him to succeed in school. Find out what challenges he or she faces and discuss ways to overcome them. Share any tips or advice you learned from your own school experience.

**In your neighborhood and community:** When you say, "What's new at school?" to young people in your neighborhood, focus on their interests instead of their grades.

**In your school or youth program:** Discuss the following with young people: If your school or program awards letters for any subject or activity, what would you like yours to be in? Why?

**ASSET RELATED NEWS**

- Coordinated by the Parma Area Family Collaborative and with the generous support of CBS Partner KIKS Office, area churches and donations from others in our business community, close to a record-breaking 900 district students will receive backpacks filled w/school supplies this year. A truly outstanding community-wide effort!!

- Despite if'y weather, a bunch of dads made some lifelong memories with their kids! On Friday, August 2, Community Ambassadors partnered with Lakeview Church of God for another great HEROES Father & Kid event. Thankfully the rain held off long enough to squeeze in a couple hours of good fishing. And if that wasn't enough fun, the Clear Choice Mr. iSee ice cream truck came on-site

to offer kids and dads free ice cream throughout the evening. Check out the photos. For more information regarding Developmental Assets and about programs & services offered by Community Ambassadors, visit their web site at [www.comamb.org](http://www.comamb.org).

- Have you heard about the new parenting program being started by the District? Called Parenting Partners, this federally-funded, developmental assets based, 8 week set of workshops helps parents enhance their parenting skills & support their children's education at home & at school. Fall session workshops are scheduled to begin

## Scrumptious Spaghetti Dinner Supports The Parma Animal Shelter

by Amandah Blackwell

Join the Parma Animal Shelter on Saturday, September 14, 2013 for a flavorful and scrumptious spaghetti dinner and an amazing silent auction at Ridgewood United Methodist Church. This annual tasty fundraiser benefits the shelter in more ways than one. The shelter's main expense is medical care; however, the shelter has been renovated throughout the years and will continue to be renovated in order to meet the needs of the animals and public.

The Parma Animal Shelter is a 100% run volunteer organization that depends on volunteers, fundraisers, donations, and grants in order to keep the shelter operating. The animal shelter serves the Parma community, which is one of the largest suburbs, over 80,000 residents, within Cuyahoga County. The shelter's objectives are to:

1. Work to prevent animal cruelty, abuse, and neglect.
2. Educate the public on the importance of spaying/neutering to control pet over-population.
3. Increase public awareness and appreciation of companion animals.
4. Assist in providing a stress-free, healthy environment for lost, abandoned, neglected, and stray animals.
5. To provide emergency and wellness medical care for PAS, Inc. animals.

October 22nd. Watch for more information coming soon.

- Immanuel Assembly of God on W. 130th is hosting their 4th annual Wild West extravaganza on Saturday, September 7th. Call 216.676.0252 for details and/or if you'd like your group/organization represented. Proceeds to benefit students at Ridge-Brook, Parma Park, Pleasant Valley, Brook Park Memorial & Big Creek Elementary schools. This is a huge local event w/upwards of 1,000 people attending.

**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](http://www2.parmacityschools.org/assets) or [www.search-institute.org/assets](http://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.

6. To find permanent placement into new homes.

While the animal shelter's main mission is: To reconcile lost pets with their owners and find good homes for stray animals brought in by Parma ACO Julie Kocik.

Support the Parma Animal Shelter on Saturday, September 14, 2013 at their annual spaghetti dinner at Ridgewood United Methodist Church, located at 6330 Ridge Road, Parma, Ohio 44129. Doors open at 4 p.m. and dinner is served at 5 p.m. Dine-in or Carry-out. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children under 12.

To learn more about the Parma Animal Shelter, visit [ParmaShelter.org](http://ParmaShelter.org). Stop by the shelter, located at 6260 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134 to find a lovable furry friend and family member. The shelter is open Monday-Sunday, 10am-12pm and 5pm-7pm.

Want to volunteer with the shelter? Come down to the shelter and fill out an application and/or download a volunteer application form and bring it to the shelter. And stay in touch with the Parma Animal Shelter by following them on Twitter and "liking" the Parma Animal Shelter on Facebook. Sign up for animal shelter's Shelter Talk newsletter at <http://parmashelter.org/home/> and receive pet articles and other goodies.

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Inspiration

Meet Cleveland’s Most Loyal Tribe Fan!

Mary Niederhauser



Mary Niederhauser is pictured here with her "Most Loyal Tribe Fan" brick, a copy of which is a part of Progressive Field's Heritage Park.

by Shannon Copfer

Cleveland is full of wonderful, enthusiastic, and loyal sports fans. But do you know any who have been Tribe fans for almost 90 years? Well, you're about to! Mary Niederhauser of North Royalton (formerly of Rocky River), turned 105 years of age this past August. She has been an enthusiastic Indians fan since she was just 17 years old, and has hardly ever missed a game since then. Her favorite way to take in the Tribe is by listening to Tom Hamilton call the games on the radio, and in truest Tribe-fan fashion, her favorite thing to eat is a Sugardale hot dog.

Our community is so grateful to Mary. She delivered Meals on Wheels for 37 years in the Cleveland area. She loves and is close with her church friends, and has always loved baking cookies for her friends and family.

Mary attributes her energy and longevity to the 2 ounces of Manischewitz Concord Grape wine she has every night with dinner. She particularly enjoys doing crossword puzzles, because she is proud of having taught herself English — when she was very young, Mary immigrated to the United States through Ellis Island with her sister, Anna, from their hometown in Romania. Mary says that she and her sister both literally kissed the ground, they were so happy to be in the United States.

They then came to Cleveland, and Mary has loved living here ever since.

Mary's favorite story to tell her family is the story of how she became such a great Cleveland Indians fan. It's the story of her first trip to see an Indians game at Cleveland's League Park, back when she was only 17 years old. She was on a blind date, she tells us. "And I did fall in love that day," she says. "But it wasn't with my date — I fell in love with the Cleveland Indians!"

And she has loved them ever since. Thank you for being such a loyal fan, Mary! You make Cleveland proud.

I Believe

by Daniel Taddeo

Any decision, other than those acceptable to God, is the wrong decision. A person is rich according to what he or she is, not according to what he or she has. Authentic worship results in action that confronts conditions, such as injustice, oppression, selfishness and greed.

Because God is with us, we can help make the world a better place. By God's grace, we are blessed to be a blessing to others, thereby revealing God's glory. Cold, precise doctrine must never take away our love for people. Confession is good for the soul.

Do and say things that benefit all, whenever possible. Friends are very important to have. First be one. Giving doesn't come easily, and that is why most people struggle with "It is more blessed to give than receive." God knows us and desires to be known by

September Begins To Color Our World And October Begins To Chill The Air!

by Ruth Revecky  
On Monday, the 2nd of September, our fifty States celebrate Labor Day.

It's a day of fun, food and soon-to-be football Games.

It's a month of coloring leaves, and back-to-School days; September and October invite Autumn as a reminder of the winter months Ahead; but let's just take our time—winter Comes all too soon.

On Wednesday, September 5th, Rosh Hashanah Is observed, which begins at sundown the day Before.

September 11th is Patriot Day; September 14th, Yom Kippur is observed; and in between, on September 8th, we celebrate Grandparents Day! September 17th we observe Citizenship Day, Which is truly a privilege.

And then—all too soon—we observe the First Day Of Autumn—that's on September 22nd.

Look around; leaves on trees are not very Green; metamorphosis has set in—we see red, Yellow and brown leaves, which are beginning To flutter quietly to the ground.

Well, October is here and school is in full Session; notice that light jackets and sweaters Are all the rage.

It won't be long before highschool basketball And football teams will be cheered on by their Fellow classmates.

Dad, of course, is still busy gathering leaves!

On Monday, October 14th, we observe Columbus Day—that's a big day for parades!

Why not celebrate by eating a pizza! In between October 14th and October 31st, October just rolls along; but when the 31st Of October arrives, house lights go on to Welcome Trick-or-Treaters who are looking To have some fun on Halloween!

And believe it or not; Dad has finally stopped Gathering leaves!

us and calls us to dwell in His presence.

God's gifts to each of us should make us more conscious of our limited worthiness and more appreciative of His grace. God's ways are not the ways of the world. He makes those who appear to be last in the world first in His Kingdom. If we are committed to studying Scripture, we are enlightened regarding God's word and we can also teach others. Joy has its springs deep down inside; and those springs never, never run dry, no matter what happens.

Kindness has converted more people than zeal, science or eloquence. Marriage is the most challenging decision two people will ever make in life. Obedience to God's instructions requires great effort, but He gives us samples of comfort, encouragement, and hope. One of the highest expectations we can have of one another is

forgiveness. Our hearts are restless until we establish a personal relationship with God.

People who choose not to obey the law must prepare to live with the consequences. Pious actions can become sinful when they spring from impure motivation. Sexual purity and resisting both fornication and adultery (Seventh Commandment) enhances the marriage relationship. We must have a willingness to care deeply about divided groups, and a commitment to work for and with each party.

The time to repent is today, this very hour, and this very moment. The wisdom of God's word not only informs us as to what is right, but also it transforms us into His image. Unless we can identify with some sort of loyalty, we will not find unity and peace in our active living. Vision without action is a daydream; action without vision is a nightmare. We must have a personal and active relationship with Jesus, our Savior. We should mean what we say or not say it, particularly with children. What Jesus says and does are always perfect examples for us to follow. Self-reflection is always a good exercise. What I believe is a work in progress, not limited to these statements and subject to change. What do YOU believe?

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# Parma's City Beat



The Burning River Roller Girls will once again kick off Walk to Remember, an event benefiting Hospice of the Western Reserve, at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

## Hospice Of The Western Reserve Hosts Walk To Remember At Zoo -Sunday, Sept. 15

by Laurie Henrichsen

Event Includes Breakfast, Full Day at Zoo, T-Shirts, Entertainment Parma residents are invited to gather friends this fall and walk for a wonderful cause benefiting Hospice of the Western Reserve. The non-profit agency's second annual Walk to Remember, sponsored by FirstMerit Foundation, will take place Sunday, Sept. 15, 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Cleveland MetroParks Zoo. Registration opens at 8 a.m.; the walk begins at 8:45 a.m. It offers a meaningful way to pay tribute to loved ones while striding past pink flamingoes, lions, kangaroos, elephants and more. All proceeds stay within Northern Ohio. Funds raised will assist seriously ill patients and their families by providing compassionate services such as hospice care, grief counseling, pediatric palliative care, pet and art therapy, and caregiver support.

"Registering for this year's walk is easy for individual walkers as well as teams," said Bridget Murphy, Corporate Relations/Special Events Manager. "Registration is \$20 for an individual and \$50 for a family. Registration includes all-day admission at the Zoo and Rainforest, complimentary pancake breakfast in the Palava Hut Pavilion, T-shirts and entertainment."

To register, visit <http://www.hospicewr.org/walk>. Walkers will be able to pick up their packets in advance at nine convenient locations throughout Northeast Ohio for speedy admission the day of the event. For more information, email Murphy at [bmurphy@hospicewr.org](mailto:bmurphy@hospicewr.org), or call her at 216.383.3715.

Walk to Remember, Fly Away to the Caribbean!

"At the Walk to Remember event, one lucky person's name will be drawn to win a one-week stay for up to four people in the charming Pilot House on the tropical island of Saba, plus a \$1,000 travel voucher," Murphy added. The

winner will be able to explore an underwater paradise off this volcanic island (rated one of the top 10 scuba diving locations in the world), see tropical birds and wildlife, and explore lush landscapes, ranging from coastal beaches to rainforests. To purchase a chance to win, visit the Walk to Remember site: <http://www.hospicewr.org/walk>. Generous support for Walk to Remember is provided by United Healthcare and Kaiser Permanente. Additional partnership opportunities are available.

### About Hospice of the Western Reserve

Hospice of the Western Reserve is a nationally acclaimed non-profit agency providing comfort and emotional support to patients and their families. The agency provides palliative end-of-life care, caregiver support and bereavement services throughout the region, and cares for people in a variety of settings, including private residences, assisted living and retirement communities, nursing homes, at Ames Family Hospice House in Westlake and David Simpson Hospice House on Cleveland's east side. For more information, visit [hospicewr.org](http://hospicewr.org), or call 800.707.8922.

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## Parma City Schools Report Card Reveals Students Learning More Than A Year's Worth Of Growth

by Erin Gadd

The new State Report Card results are in for the Parma City Schools, with students showing more than a year's worth of growth district-wide. "Our job is to educate students," says Superintendent Jeffrey Graham, "and seeing this growth reflected in the new reporting system is confirmation we're moving forward."

Under the new "Achievement" component, 18 out of a possible 24 indicators were met, compared to last year's 22 out of 26.

"Because the evaluation system itself has changed, the scores are challenging compared to last year. The Parma City School District is on track with our past academic success—if the report card had remained the same we would have maintained our "Excellent" rating for a fourth year in a row," says Dr. Graham.

Indicators that were not met include Math in Grades 5-8, and Science in grades 5 and 8. "These areas have historically been a struggle for us," says Dr. Graham. "The good news is that we know what the problems are, and we know how to fix it."

While there are obvious areas in need of improvement, great strides are being made in Reading. For example, elementary reading scores continue to improve, with a 90% passage rate in 4th grade and 93% passage rate in 3rd grade. This is due in large part to shifting to all day Kindergarten a few years ago, combined with a phonetic-based curriculum that is more aligned with the Common Core.

"While we are proud of our growth areas, our report overall is unacceptable. We should be much further along

than we are in Math K-12 as well as with our graduation rate. Those realities are very sobering."

"2012-2013 was a year of great transition for our schools, especially for grades 5-8 which were affected most by the consolidation and restructuring," says Graham. "Nearly every student and teacher was moved to a new building and introduced to new content and teaching strategies. And during this adjustment period performance in some areas fell. The 2013-2014 school year will be focused on fine-tuning the programs and instructional methods that have already been put into place. Our kids are going to make it, and we're going to do everything we can to help every child succeed and grow."

While the Parma City Schools is currently absorbing the data released this month, plans are already underway to prepare for new measures which will be tracked next year, including "K-3 Literacy" and "Prepared for Success."

"This is where our community partnerships become so important," Dr. Graham emphasizes. For example, grants have been secured for a "Reading Around the Towns" programs to support early literacy and reading readiness. And the Community/Business/Schools Partnership provides experts from throughout the business community to work with students in the classroom, while arranging invaluable internships and mentoring opportunities to help students gain work experience. In addition, a Task Force has been developed bringing together community leaders, parents, and educators to interpret student data and provide suggestions and strategies to further prepare them for success.

## Now That's Funny? by Julia Cindric



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Perspective

# The Real Job Killer: Employment Based Health Insurance

by Lee Kamps

Recently there have been some reports and stories from opponents of the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”) that because of the mandate that large employers (defined as those with more than fifty employees) must cover their full time employees (defined as those working more than thirty hours per week) for health insurance or pay a penalty will slash hours of employees so they are part time employees and thus not eligible for health insurance. For a business to do that is like a soldier shooting himself in the foot because he doesn’t want to march. Full

time employees are far more productive than part time employees and of course there is much more turnover among part time employees than full time employees.

The truth is that before the ACA, there was no law requiring any employer to cover their employees for health insurance. In addition a company can exclude entire classes of employees, even full time employees, from being eligible for health insurance. In my career I have seen where many companies have excluded low wage full time hourly employees from their health insurance and their plan

only covered salaried and management employees.

While there is no law (prior to the ACA) requiring any employer to provide health insurance; there is a whole library of laws and regulations affecting companies that do provide employee health insurance. Failure to comply with any of those regulations and laws can subject a company to fines, legal judgments and severe penalties that could put a company out of business. All it takes is one disgruntled employee, former employee or spouse to file a complaint to have the IRS camped out in the employer’s

office.

Another truth is that no other developed country in the world has a system of health insurance where the burden of providing health insurance is on the business community. The United States is the only nation in the world where health insurance is linked to one’s employment. This is a relic from the second world war when companies and labor unions negotiated for health insurance benefits because of wartime wage and price controls.

But since the mid 1970s, employee benefits have become the largest and fastest growing cost for many companies. In the mid 1970s the cost of employee benefits was just 15% of payroll. That means that for every dollar in wage and salaries, 15 cents was spent on employee benefits. Today that figure is close to 40% of payroll in many companies. Health insurance is by far the largest expense, approaching 25% of payroll in many companies.

This cost acts as a drag on a company expanding and adding more employees. It also represents a “hidden tax” because the increasing cost of health insurance to an employer means that there is less money available to pay wages and salaries to their employees. Providing health insurance to employees and dependents is a drain on a company’s profits and the cost of health insurance is impossible to budget into the future.

The truth is that the system of employment based health insurance in the United States is perhaps the largest “job killer” in the country. Most countries have some form of government administered universal health insurance that is financed by individual taxation where the burden of paying for health insurance is on the individual and not on the business community. Because of the employment based system of health insurance, workers in the United States accept lower wages and salaries and that makes companies doing business in the United States less competitive in a global market where foreign operations and companies do not have such a burden.

It is long past the time for the United States to scarp this antiquated system of health insurance.

## The Real Thing Is Better

by Ken Ehler

This is in response to the article by Brigitte Gerard which was featured in the Parma Observer for August 2013. This article is a collaboration between myself and a close friend who is a teacher for the Strongsville City School System. Ms. Gerard brought this subject into our city and I feel I have the right to answer her article with my opinion. I have been a union member for the last 50 years. I was offended by her article.

Many of the people who worked in the buildings during the strike teaching the children were not educators. Strongsville’s regular substitutes were NOT called to work during the strike. It is known throughout Ohio that Strongsville is a good system. Their

teachers and coaches have made it advantageous for people to move there. Their athletics and academics are rated Excellent by the State of Ohio and are second to none.

She mentioned many negative aspects about children and parents in Strongsville. Why? Why even mention special needs students? All teachers must deal with special needs students. This is not unusual. Most teachers gladly work very hard to assist them and enjoy helping these wonderful kids. If you do not enjoy working with kids, then teaching is not the right profession for you. Did I read the article correctly when she called students bullies? If she felt that way, why did she stay? Could it have been the pay that she received? If she worked during the strike as a replacement teacher, she

was paid \$250 a day. A regular substitute in Strongsville is paid \$85 a day. Is that why she put up with bully kids?

It is not exceptional for teachers to help students focus and expect cooperation; teachers do this every day. The strike was hard for everyone. If Ms. Gerard is skeptical about going back to the classroom or is “soured on substitute teaching”, then I must ask her to please stay away- her attitude is detrimental to students. I feel Ms. Gerard is not a History or Social Studies teacher, as she does not seem to know the history of our country’s unions and the vital role which they have played. She has missed the point of why workers strike and why it is wrong to work in their place while they are on the picket line. Replacement workers slow down the bargaining process and prolong union strikes. This is unfair to their fellow workers.

By the way, Webster’s New World Dictionary defines a scab as:

a) (Old slang) a low, contemptible fellow; scoundrel b) a worker who refuses to join a union, or who works for lower wages or under different conditions than those accepted by the union. c) a worker who refuses to strike, or who takes the place of a striking worker.

## Historical Marker Dedication Planned At Henninger Homestead

continued from page 1

relatively short, it produced economic growth and an increase in population and development. Quarry stone was used in the construction of the canals and the break wall on Lake Erie. It was used as the foundations for homes, bridges, and other buildings. There is a second “stone house” one mile south on Broadview Road built of rock that came from the Henninger Quarry. A rock wall that shows the signs of drilling can still be seen on Old Rockside Road at the site of the Henninger Quarry.

The dedication and unveiling ceremony is at 10:00 am, followed by a reception. Commemorative engraved bricks will surround the marker site. The bricks can be purchased to honor



family or friends or to highlight your group or business. Two sizes are available: 4” x 8” for \$60 or 8”x 8” for \$120. Bricks can be ordered on line at [www.westcreek.org](http://www.westcreek.org). For more information about this event or other projects of West Creek Conservancy, please call 216-749-3720.



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Perspective

Gulick And Dell'Aquila United

To Cause Division In The Parma City School District

by Tammie Sebastian

I would like to take this time to share with our community the division that I am experiencing in the Parma City School District Board of Education. I will not get into the long history of this Board because I believe that our community is savvy when it comes to politics within our school district.

It is appalling and insulting that current Board member Rosemary Gulick would use a community event in Seven Hills to stir up division amongst our communities, Parma, Parma Heights and Seven Hills, which together comprise the Parma City School District. As a board member she promised her constituents that she would have the interest of all children from all communities at the forefront of her decision making. Not So! Not only does she not, but she is running a false campaign based on rumors, that appears in my opinion to be created by Mrs. Gulick and current Seven Hills Mayor Richard Dell' Aquila.

Upon entering the Seven Hills home days on the weekend of July 26th, Mayor Dell'Aquila had a booth set up to meet the Mayor and receive an airbrushed t-shirt designed by him. There were a few templates to choose from but one in particular caught my attention. It was an airbrushed poster that read "SAVE NORMANDY". SAVE NORMANDY? Was it in danger? If so, what was it in danger from? My curiosity got the best of me, I had to go over to the booth and ask! When I arrived at the booth I was shocked to see our Board member Rosemary Gulick sitting directly underneath the "SAVE NORMANDY" sign. When I inquired about why we needed to save Normandy, Mrs. Gulick was struggling to find the words to explain it to me, so she deflected the question to the Mayor, whom she stated is the one who put the sign there. The Mayor explained to me that Mrs. Gulick has saved Normandy before and she will do it again for the taxpayers in Seven Hills. I was then told by the Mayors wife (whose daughter was wearing a Padua sweatshirt), that if I was not a taxpayer in Seven Hills then it is no concern of mine. At that point, I thought to myself if Normandy was so very important to them why was it not a suitable place to educate their own child? I then explained to her as a parent and a taxpayer in the Parma City School District that it indeed was a concern of mine. I wanted to know why Mrs. Gulick would say that she saved Normandy when Normandy closing was not voted on. I wanted to know if she was confused by

her deciding vote on the 8-12 consolidation. Was that in fact saving Normandy?

When asked these questions Mayor Dell' Aquila's family felt the need to invade my personal space by pointing their fingers and shouting in my face in front of my children. I was shocked that this is the behavior that the Mayor would want to display especially during his cities' Home days. I never did get the

13 Stripes, 50 Stars And 11 Million Question Marks

by Brigitte Gerard

Hannelore Romeike just had a baby and the Department of Justice wants her and her family to move back to Europe immediately. At the same time, millions of other mothers are having their babies here and will be allowed to stay as long as they like.

The Romeikes came to the United States in 2008 to avoid prosecution for homeschooling their children, which is against the law in Germany. They've faced police forcibly escorting their kids to school, fines and court proceedings; that's why they left Germany. They wanted to breathe free, which is why they came here. Who can blame them? Dad teaches music, a valuable and desirable skill. Mom stays at home and raises their seven children on their farm in Tennessee. They speak English fluently. They're observant Christians. They've made many personal sacrifices in order to assert their values: family, self-sufficiency, education and faith. Those are American values; they know no border.

First, they were granted political asylum. Now, the Department of Justice has reversed that decision and is working fast and furious to send them back to Germany.

I hope the government will reverse its decision to deport them. They're exactly the kind of people we want to attract to our country, adopting America as their home and adapting themselves to its culture; America needs to adopt them, too. They're models for immigration and we need more people like them.

Meanwhile, our government is throwing a welcome home party for millions of illegal immigrants with Senate Bill 744. Many of them have been here for years and don't speak, read or write English, receive subsidized housing, food and medical care, free public education and free money for higher education.

Why don't some of them take the free English as a Second Language courses that many communities, including Parma, offer? Because they

answers to my questions because there is no "Saving Normandy" because the point is moot. Normandy closing to my knowledge is not even an issue. We have moved forward with consolidation, and a high school closing would not come from a Board member, it would come on a recommendation of the Superintendent or a committee he has appointed. So PLEASE Rosemary Gulick and

don't have to: our country caters to people who can't speak English (including those who were born here and have lived here all their lives; that's another column), and prints lots of public information in other languages.

Why the free ride for millions of people, many of whom probably will give nothing back and remain dependent throughout their lives? Haven't we already done that for about 50 years? Because these people are more likely not to think and act for themselves, simply accepting whatever the government tells them is best for them, and then expecting more and more from the government.

This looks, smells and sounds like the administration is recruiting a predictable, compliant voting bloc. Citizenship as voting clout. The question is, who's pimping whom?

Granting asylum is a different mat-

ter than granting citizenship, but this is why it's relevant: the Romeikes came here legally, are self-supporting and fit in well here, speaking our language and complying with our laws. The United States government wants to send them back to Germany, knowing that the family will face legal action including fines and losing custody of their children. They'll all be treated like unwanted stepchildren back in the Fatherland. It's wrong to throw out people who came here legally, share our values, speak our language, and contribute to, not burden, our society and economy.

Rolling out the red carpet for illegal immigrants, or, putting it bluntly, making you and me pay for the government to do what other people won't do for themselves, cheapens the meaning of American citizenship. That isn't the life of an American citizen; it's the life of a leech. This is below their dignity and ours.

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# Parma Observer

## \$22K Grant Provides New Van For Maggie's Place Moms

by Tricia Kuivinen

Thanks to the generosity of the Wilson Sheehan Foundation of Springfield, OH, Maggie's Place Ohio recently received a \$22,000 grant award for the purchase of a minivan to be used for guest and staff transportation.

Maggie's Place Ohio operates The Zechariah House in Parma, a hospitality home designed for pregnant and newly parenting women who may be alone, on the streets, or facing other difficult circumstances during their pregnancy. The home can house up to nine expectant moms at a time, and also has five live-in staff members. The Zechariah House is designed to remove pregnant women from the streets, shelters or other unsuitable locations and provide them with a safe, loving home during their pregnancies. The Zechariah House also helps expectant women set and strive for longer-term goals such as furthering education, securing safe housing and finding



The moms and staff of Maggie's Place Ohio

employment. Maggie's Place Ohio is a tax exempt, not for profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

In addition to encouraging the use of RTA, Maggie's Place Ohio relies on vehicle donations to provide transportation for both guests and residential staff. Upon hearing of the ongoing need for vehicles at The Zechariah House, the trustees of the Wilson Sheehan Foundation met in May 2013 to discuss and approve the grant award for Maggie's Place, enabling them to

replace an aging donated sedan with a newer and larger van. In July 2013, The Zechariah House was proud to be able to secure a 2010 Honda Odyssey minivan, which has already been put into service safely transporting moms and babies to needed appointments. The addition of this van will provide some of the most vulnerable pregnant women in Northeast Ohio with access to safe and reliable transportation for many years to come.

To learn more about Maggie's Place Ohio, visit [www.maggiesplace.org](http://www.maggiesplace.org), follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @maggiesplaceoh, or call 440.866.2620 to arrange for a personal tour.

### About Maggie's Place

Maggie's Place is a community of homes in two states (OH and AZ) that provide hospitality for pregnant women who are alone or on the streets. We have a two-fold strategy in

assisting mothers to grow. First, Maggie's Place provides for the immediate physical and emotional needs of our guests including shelter, food, clothing, and a supportive community. In addition, Maggie's Place connects the mothers to the appropriate agencies and resources including prenatal care, health insurance, low-cost housing, employment and education programs, so new mothers can reach their short-term and long-term goals with dignity and support.

### About the Wilson Sheehan Foundation

The Wilson Sheehan Foundation was established in Dec. of 2012 and is dedicated to empowering women, children and families to overcome obstacles in order to advance lasting health, wellbeing and economic self-sufficiency.

## State Leaders Inducted From Parma

by Joe Germana

Valley Forge High School Graduate Megan Hurley of Parma Heights was recently inducted as Ohio District Governor of CKI, the college student let program sponsored by Kiwanis International at the 96th Annual Ohio District Convention in Lima, Ohio on August 10. Megan, a past Valley Forge Key Club Member is enrolled at the Ohio State University majoring in Biology and a member of the OSU's Circle K Chapter. CKI has 13,500 members at 500 Universities in 17 Countries around the world. The Ohio District is comprised of 19 chapters at the major universities in Ohio and represents over 10,000 Service hours to their school and community.

Joe Germana, was inducted as Lieutenant Governor of the Ohio Division 24 of Kiwanis International. Joe is a local member of the Parma Area Kiwanis and advisor to the Normandy Key Club. Ohio Division 24 represents Kiwanis clubs in southern Cuyahoga, northern Medina and summit Counties including Berea, Brecksville, Brooklyn-Cleveland, Brunswick, Garfield

Heights, Independence, Middleburg Heights, North Royalton, Parma, Nordonia Hills, and Strongsville.

Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis' primary focus is giving an opportunity for children to learn leadership skills while providing service to their home, school and community. For school age children they sponsor the Kiwanis K-Kids in elementary schools, Builders Club at middle schools, Key Club in High Schools, CKI in colleges and Aktion Clubs for adults with disability. Locally the Parma Area Kiwanis sponsors clubs at Green Valley and Pleasant Valley Elementary, Greenbriar Middle School, Normandy, Padua, Parma and Valley Forge. They also sponsor a "Terrific Kids" Sundae Bar at Ridge-Brook Elementary, for kids who "Bring Up Grades" and exhibit good citizenship. Parma Area Kiwanis meets weekly on Wednesday. For more information see [www.parmaareakiwanis.org](http://www.parmaareakiwanis.org) or call Joe Germana at (440) 882-2012.

## Thank You From The City Of Seven Hills Home Days Festival

by Kathy Holland

The City of Seven Hills thanks everyone who helped to make the 40th Annual Seven Hills Home Days Festival a huge success. Numerous volunteers, Service Department personnel, City Hall and Recreation Center staff work countless hours to achieve the accomplishments that make this annual event possible. Their dedication to the community is greatly appreciated!

An additional thank you also goes out to The Loan Gals at Cross Country Mortgage who sponsored our two nights of fireworks, as well as our business people, residents, vendors and guests who participated in Home Days despite the cool, rainy weather. It was another enjoyable Home Days Festival!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the City of Seven Hills Home Days Festival 2014!

## Attention Local Artisans!

by Kathryn Mabin

The Parma Area Fine Arts Council is currently looking for vendors, for the annual Arts & Crafts Show, to be held on Saturday, October 12, 2013, at the Donna Smallwood Activities Center, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Only hand-made items will be accepted and must be created by the artist, no pre-made kits, or ready made items. Deadline for application and payment of the \$20 fee for space is September 30, 2013. The fee includes rental of an 8 foot table

or space with two chairs. Electric is available on a first come first serve basis and must be requested during the application process. For additional information regarding this upcoming event and to download your application, please visit [www.parmafinearts.org](http://www.parmafinearts.org), or call 440-888-4514. If a volunteer is not available to take your call please leave a message and someone will return your call. The net proceeds from this event support the 2014 Arts Scholarship Fund.



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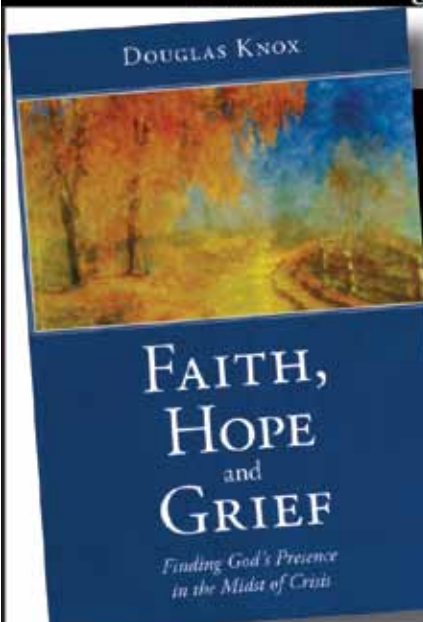
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Parma Observer

# The Day The Music Died

by *Patty Knox*

Mr. Wayne F. Miller, a Parma institution who taught thousands of Catholic school children how to play music and conducted award-winning elementary-middle school and high school orchestras and bands in the Parma area for many years, has died. Mr. Miller taught me, more than anything else, that excelling at music could take us places.

He would laboriously tape the band and orchestra at St. Charles on a reel-to-reel, and we would win national awards, which often meant travel. I remember our playing at Music Hall, Masonic Auditorium, and the Convention Center. We opened for Bill Cosby at a clerical convention. We had extraordinary opportunities to perform. I never realized that until years later, that other teachers didn't go all out for their students, and other music programs didn't enjoy the level of success we had attained.

Mr. Miller didn't treat us like little kids. He expected maturity. He took close to 100 of us student musicians to The Mark Restaurant at Burke Lakefront Airport, where I enjoyed my first linen tablecloth fine dining experience.

The year before I got into the orchestra, they were selected to perform in NYC at a national convention. That sounded exciting. I couldn't wait to be a member of the orchestra, too. I played in ensembles, including All-Catholic High School Orchestra, that went to Atlantic City, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia. We wanted to win first place every year, so that we would be chosen. Mr. Miller had high expectations, and we tried not to disappoint him.

The Miller Method produced exceptional musicians and ensembles. Reserved, modeling quiet confidence and humility, he also had an amusing dry sense of humor which came out in remarks during rehearsals. For instance, he nicknamed the percussion section "the Mafia," which fit their personalities all too well.

Playing violin and viola took me all over the country performing during college and years later as a professional

musician. I played in Merkin Concert Hall in New York City, the Kennedy Center and the Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C., Severance Hall in Cleveland, and in cities from Baltimore, Maryland to San Diego, California. Music took me places. If not for music scholarships, my family never would have been able to afford to send me to college. I am the first and only member of my family and my generation to hold a college degree, and went on to earn a Master of Music from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University. All because of music, and one teacher who encouraged me to study violin in third grade, Mr. Miller.

Years later, I did my best to teach

music the way Mr. Miller did. I would have given anything to have been as successful as he had been, but I realized that his personality and teaching style conveyed an authority which produced respect from students and parents alike. I did not have his intuitive gift for teaching, nor his commanding presence. But I did appreciate his peerless effectiveness as an exemplary educator. He has a rare talent.

He's been called "Uncle Wayne," and when I student taught at Padua, the high schoolers called him "God." But to me he will always be Mr. Miller, my music hero.

Mr. Miller, thank you for the inspiration you have always been to me, and your standard of excellence. You gave

me a firm foundation in music education and an admirable example as a man of faith. I have endeavored to live out my faith in my life with the same level of integrity. All that you taught me has served me well. You have most certainly gone on to enjoy your well-earned eternal reward. May you rest in peace.

Note to readers: Please log in as a member and write your "Miller story." Be sure to save a copy of it for yourself, and paste it in to the Parma Observer "Submit New Story" area, go to the very bottom of the page & click on "Save and Submit to Editors." We would love to read your tributes & reminiscences. Thank you.

## Flamingo Fever!

by *Kathryn Mabin*

Flamingo Fever!, has certainly been a big hit in Parma, Ohio. Artists, craftspeople, and whole families have participated by creating unique flamingo table top sculptures from the plastic lawn ornaments you see sprinkled in lawns all over the city. Local businesses are prominently displaying them in their shops. Lots of great comments! The event has "taken on a life of it's own", state the co-chairs, Terri Snider and Kathy Mabin. Below is a partial list of the participating businesses and the artists that have created these unique, one of a kind creative pieces. The individual pieces have a character of their own. You will truly be amazed at the transformation of these plastic lawn ornaments. The sculptures will be auctioned off at banquet/auction to be held on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at the American Family Ballroom on Ridge Road. Tickets for the banquet will go on sale shortly. Keep track of the flamingos as they are sent to their foster homes on Facebook, at Polish Village Parma, or on the website [www.polishvillageparma.com](http://www.polishvillageparma.com). Net proceeds from this event will benefit Polish Village Community Development.

Donna Smallwood Center - Hang

- Ten - Gabriel Snider  
Chief Flamingo - Terri Snider  
Sittoo's - Lolly - Diane Zizka  
Lviv International Foods - Pretty Posie - Michelle Baran  
Another Miracle - Bird of Beauty - Kathy Kijek  
Parma, A Place Where All The Pieces Fit - Anthony DeMarco  
Little Polish Diner Be Polish – Eat Pierogi Donata Rahne  
Colozza's Bakery - Wish I Was A Peacock - Susan Begin  
Perla Homemade Delights - Proud as a Parma Peacock - Jane Zampedro  
Erika's Hair Styling - Black Swan - Carla Zampedro  
KeyBank Parmatown - Don Drapebird (Mad Men) - Cameron Peters  
Super Flamingo - Olivia Zampe-dro  
Rudy's Strudel - Skywalker Whirlwind - Dominica Zampedro  
Stan's Bowling Night - Charlotte Kotulak  
Palmeiero's - Flamingo Ex Machina - Stefan Stefaniuk  
Dolly - Oksana Stefaniuk  
Axelrod Buick - Puttin' On The Ritz - Stephanie Sibbits  
Axelrod Buick - Flamingo Carousel - Christie Klubnik

- Algae & Snails - Karyl Lee  
Parma Family Martial Arts - Queen & Senor Flamingo - Crystal & Christopher Nowak  
P J's Pizza - Cleveland Browns - Vanessa Butler  
Northcoast Nostalgia - Fantastic Flamingo - David Sarkies  
O'Flamingo - Stephanie Sarkies  
Broadview MultiCare - Lady C - Lynne C Daniels  
Ridgewood Inn -Beware WereM-ingo - Mike Mabin  
Makin' Music - Parma Rocker -Sean Mabin  
Parma Hospital - Dr. P. Flamingo - Makayla Mabin  
Savvy Salon - Pretty Pinkie - Kathy Mabin  
Parma Hobby - Old Timey Barber Pole - Matt Bolek  
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Director of Cardiology



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