

“Those who will not read have no advantage over those who cannot read”- Mark Twain

Interested In Writing For The Observer? - Join Us At Our Public Meeting At Arabica Coffee House (6285 Pearl Rd.) Every Tuesday 7PM

PARMA Observer

Serving the Tri-City Area of Parma, Parma Heights, & Seven Hills

Proud Member Of The Observer Media Family Of Community Owned Newspapers & Websites

Volume 6 • Issue 11 • November, 2014

FREE!
TAKE ONE!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers

Parma Chef Stands Out In The Big Apple

by Timothy J DeGeeter

Television crews captured Chef Natasha Pogrebinsky, a Parma native, working feverishly in the kitchen, trying to match culinary wits with celebrity restaurateur Bobby Flay on a September episode of the popular Food Network show. While she didn't win the contest against the award-winning chef on Beat Bobby Flay, it was another example of growing national exposure for Pogrebinsky, who also has appeared twice on Food Network's Chopped. But I hope Parma residents won't simply have to rely on their televisions to see Pogrebinsky, who is the chef and owner of the "New European Cuisine" restaurant Bear in Queens, NY. Whenever I have the opportunity to talk with her, I try to encourage her to open a restaurant in Parma, and we honored Pogre-



Here I am in New York with Parma native Chef Natasha Pogrebinsky, along with her brother Sasha, in her restaurant "Bear," named for the bear signs along Interstate 80 on the path to her new home.

binsky in July for her successful career and continued support of her hometown. She had visited City Hall with her brother and parents. Pogrebinsky grew up in Parma from the age of 10, when she and her brother, Sasha, moved here with their parents from Kiev, Ukraine. She and her brother opened Bear seven

years ago to supportive reviews of dishes infused with culinary experiences developed in the Ukrainian community, from stuffed cabbage to pierogies.

It really would be a perfect fit for Parma or the Cleveland area, and I even have a name for the restaurant – Bear II. And Pogrebinsky, a 1999 Normandy

graduate, appears to have some interest in opening a nearby restaurant. "We're in the process of doing something here," she said. "We're lining up investors right now. It may be in Cleveland, but it may also be in Parma." I first learned about Pogrebinsky after noticing she was a cheerleader for Parma and wrote positive remarks about her hometown on social media. My wife and I visited her restaurant at her invitation when we took a 15th anniversary trip to New York City. And recently, former Mayor Dean DePiero and his wife went to Bear and are now fans of the restaurant. While Pogrebinsky has reached her dream of becoming a chef and restaurant owner,

the path that led her there was an unusual one. After graduating high school, she attended college as a pre-med student and later became a nurse. She then taught high school history in Ohio and New York City. Eventually, at the urging of her brother, she enrolled in culinary school in New York.

Pogrebinsky's path is encapsulated by the name of her restaurant, Bear; it's taken from the bear signs along Interstate 80 that took her and her brother from Northeast Ohio to New York City. Perhaps that road might one day bring her back to where it all started with another successful restaurant.

Winter Overnight Parking Ban Information for Parma

by Jeannie Roberts

Overnight parking is prohibited on all city streets in Parma from November 1 through April 15 during the

hours of 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Permits to park on the street can be issued if there is insufficient room in the driveway to park the vehicles or there is

a doctor documented medical hardship. In order to obtain a permit, the following information must be provided: A request must be made in writing addressed to the Safety Director outlining the reason why the permit is necessary. Please include your name, address, and phone number, along with a list of all of the vehicles in the household, including year, make, model, license number, serial number, and to whom the vehicle is titled to. This information can either be mailed or brought in to the Safety Department. The Safety Department, located at Parma City Hall, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Parma Business Of The Month Sirl's Automotive



Congratulations to Sirl's Automotive at 7541 York Road, which is the Mayor's October Business of the Month! Sirl's was founded as a blacksmith's in 1914 by Michael Sirl and has been in the family ever since. Passed from Michael to Ralph, Ralph to Dale, and now Dale's sons, Dale Jr. and Gray have been employees for 24 years. Sirl's Automotive will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year.



Small Business Saturday Is November 29



State Meats, located in Parma's Ukrainian Village, proudly displayed a Shop Small poster last year.

by Jeannie Roberts

Even though it's a national observance, Small Business Saturday has become something of a local big deal in Parma. In the past two years, City leaders have taken extra steps to educate residents about the Saturday after Thanksgiving - the day after Black Friday - and to encourage them to participate.

Last year, dozens of posters that urged "Support Small Business - Shop Small Here" were distributed by city council members to independent businesses in their ward. The City of Parma and the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce partnered to ensure a successful event. Mayor Tim DeGeeter, along with Chamber president Dave Nedrich, accompanied various council members on walks of their wards to visit with small business owners and ask them to display the signs in

business windows.

A year later, many of the signs are still prominently displayed.

"I think we did a good job last year of raising awareness about the day itself and about what Parma has to offer a local shopper," Mayor DeGeeter said. "Parma is the perfect place to shop small - we have a lot of different kinds of small businesses ... everything from European bakeries to comic book stores."

Parma will continue to encourage small business owners and residents to participate in this event. "Everybody wins," Mayor DeGeeter said. "Local small businesses get more traffic, and shoppers find unique gifts."

Small Business Saturday was founded by American Express in 2010 and is celebrated every year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Community News

The President's Corner

by Sean Brennan,

As we approach the colder winter months and holidays, I thought it was time to bring to your attention various programs to assist you and your neighbors and friends with heating and other costs. Over the years I have come to the realization that many residents do not know about many of the public and private assistance programs that offer savings to help them maintain their independence and improve their quality of life.

First and foremost, every senior citizen who reads this column should have a BenefitsCheckUp completed. This incredible program is a free and confidential service that can be accessed via the internet at <http://dsas.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/benefits-checkup.aspx>. Although BenefitsCheckUp screens for numerous benefits, such as health care programs, property tax breaks, home energy assistance, telephone service discounts, free legal services, nutrition programs, employment and volunteer opportunities, its most popular feature is BenefitsCheckUp Rx, which directs folks to programs that can help lower their prescription drug bills.

Since many older adults do not own computers and lack Internet access, the Cuyahoga County Department for



Sean Brennan,
Parma City Council President

Senior and Adult Services (DSAS) and Parma's own Donna Smallwood Adult Activities Center (formerly the Parma Senior Center) offer BenefitsCheckUp outreach programs. To schedule appointments call the DSAS at 216-420-6750 or the Smallwood Center at 440-885-8800.

If you are 55 years or over, disabled, a concerned family member, or a caregiver, please consider participating in a BenefitsCheckUp Screening. Please note that as a participant, all information you provide is strictly confidential.

The Ohio Development Services

Agency offers several programs to income eligible Ohioans to assist in paying their utility bills and to improve the energy efficiency of their homes, including the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Winter Crisis Program (WCP), Summer Crisis Program (SCP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus (PIPP Plus) and the Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP). HEAP provides a one-time annual benefit to your primary heating source account (gas or electric bill), while WCP is also a one-time annual benefit that can help with disconnections and other emergency issues. More information on all of the programs, as well as an application, can be obtained by calling 216-518-4014.

No doubt, like many of you, I have seen my cable bill rise over the years. With two kids getting ready for college, my wife and I need to save every dime we can. For what it is worth, my advice is to call the customer service line for your cable company and complain about the rising cost. When the customer service representative offers you a better deal, refuse and ask to speak to their supervisor. I have found this to be an effective strategy in getting a better deal. For instance, recently my wife and I went from paying nearly \$200 in cable and internet costs per month to about \$100! Keep in mind that this may only work if you are no longer under a contract with the company.

I hope that you will take advantage of the programs above and share them with your neighbors and friends. I would love to hear your savings stories, so please let me know about them. As always, if you have suggestions for future columns, please feel free to contact me at 440-885-8091 or councilmanbrennan@sbcglobal.net. I would also like to express my wishes to you for a safe and healthy fall and winter.



The *Parma Observer* is a community owned and operated citizen based news source. The views and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The *Parma Observer* staff or our advertisers.

11180 Snow Road, Parma,
Ohio 44130
440.884.7625 • <http://parmaobserver.com>

Advisory Board

Craig Czepczynski
Lisa Zaremba
George Salo
Bill DeMarco

Publisher

Daniel P. McCarthy

Editor-In-Chief

Stefan P. Stefaniuk

Design and Production

AGS Design

Advertising Sales

440-884-7625

Writers

Sean Brennan
Kathy Concasi
Melanie Clink
Timothy J. DeGeeter
Jeffrey Fowler
Kathy Holland
Lee Kamps
Tricia Kuvinen
Leo Lampeter
Kenneth Lavelle
Myrtis Litman
Gene Lovasy
Kathryn Mabin
Lucy McKernan
Jim Renacci
Ruth Revecky
Jeannie Roberts
CJ Sheppard
Bob Stilwell
Daniel Taddeo

Photography

Melanie Clink
Timothy J. DeGeeter
Kathy Holland
Tricia Kuvinen
Kathryn Mabin
Lucy McKernan
Jeannie Roberts
Bob Stilwell

The *Parma Observer* is powered by:



Calling All Bridge Players

by Myrtis Litman

Bridge players who have taken a break for some reason and would like to get back into the game are welcome to come to the Donna Smallwood Activities Center (formerly Parma Senior

Center). The game starts at 12:30 p.m. every Friday and some come earlier just to practice. No partner is necessary. The following poem will remind you of some basic rules. The author is unknown.

Basic Bridge in Rhyme

With thirteen or more points, I'm required to speak
and mention a suit that is not very weak.

With five cards or longer, I need not be cute,

I merely will open with one of that suit.

But with a four card major ... ah, that's the rub,

I know I must open, so I'll say "one club."

With fifteen to seventeen points, one no-trump will do,

and with twenty-two points or more, I'll open with two.

When the opponents have opened, now I have trouble.

I have an opening bid so I will say "double."

If the opponents have opened, my back's to the wall,

I have length and good points, so I must overcall.

My partner has opened and I'm in a fix,

because I must pass with less points than six.

But what if my count is six points to ten,

I must respond once, but need not again.

Eleven to twelve points is pretty nice,

I will respond, not once but twice.

With thirteen or more points, I would be to blame,

if I let the bid end before we reached game.

News About Electric Aggregation Services

by Jeannie Roberts

Recently, FirstEnergy Solutions (FES), the competitive subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp., sent letters to residential customers who had selected FES as their supplier outside of the City of Parma Aggregation Program. The letters are to inform them that FES is no longer going to serve individual, mass market customers and that customers would need to choose another supplier or be returned to the utility's standard service offer at the end of the contract.

Any resident receiving such a letter can join the City of Parma Aggregation

Program and receive a 6% discount off of the standard CEI Price to Compare. Those interested in joining the program should contact FirstEnergy Solutions directly at 1-866-636-3749, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. FES representatives will assist customers to enroll in the City of Parma Aggregation Program and continue to enjoy savings on their electric generation. For further questions, residents can contact the City of Parma's Electric Aggregation Consultant, Brenda Fargo, with Strategic Aggregation Consultants at 330-899-9960.

Your choice for quality short-term rehabilitation

Providing quality health care services for seniors since 1953, we are pleased to offer short-term rehabilitation services and programs.



6765 State Rd., Parma, OH 44134
www.mountalvernavillage.com/np
(440) 843-7800

Sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago



Your nationally recognized care, close to home.

Introducing University Hospitals Parma Medical Center.

University Hospitals is proud to welcome Parma Medical Center into our exceptional care community. With nationally recognized physicians and nurses, plus immediate access to UH's specialty institutes and prompt 24-hour emergency care, you can rest assured knowing there's advanced care, right around the corner. Introducing your great care, made even greater. Introducing **University Hospitals Parma Medical Center.**

For more information about this exciting advancement, visit **ParmaHospital.org.**



University Hospitals
Parma Medical Center

440-743-3000 | ParmaHospital.org

Health/Culture



Life Choice Hospice Seeks Companion Volunteers

by Jeffrey Fowler

Do you know that volunteering a little of your time can make a significant difference in the care and comfort of a person in hospice care? The volunteers of Life Choice Hospice do. They share their time and talents with our patients, families, and staff, supporting the Life Choice mission of "Inspiring Life."

More than touching the lives of others, volunteering will enhance the meaning and purpose of your life, too. By making such a vital difference to our patients, you will be fulfilled, experience personal growth, and feel appreciated. As a hospice volunteer, you will surely receive as much as you give. Our volunteers often say that caring for our patients is both an honor and a privilege.

As a hospice volunteer, your role may be as simple as reading a story, holding a hand or taking a walk. It may

include helping someone video connect with his or her grandchildren! Or perhaps you're trained in Reiki, massage, music therapy, or some other specialty and choose to share your skills. The heart of volunteering in hospice is simply spending time together; time both you and your patient will find rewarding, uplifting and inspiring.

We cannot do all that we do without our volunteers. We treasure their generosity and their presence in the lives of those we serve. Volunteers are truly special people and also vital members of our clinical team. We look forward to our volunteers joining together with us to improve the quality of life for our patients and families.

Please email jfowler@lifechoice-hospice.com to learn more about becoming a hospice volunteer or if you're ready to share your time and talents. Volunteer opportunities available in southwest suburbs.

Local Doctor Receives Advanced Training

by Robb J. Baker

Having a doctor trained in Koren Specific Technique (KST) helps the community. This revolutionary technique was developed and taught by world renowned chiropractor, author, and educator, Tedd Koren, D.C. Doctors from all over the world have attended KST seminars. With Koren Specific Technique there is no twisting, turning, "cracking," or "popping" of joints; instead you receive gentle, specific corrections to your spine and structural system.

KST corrects a serious form of nerve stress caused by distortions in your spine and body structure. This stress is known as a subluxation. KST permits the doctor to quickly, eas-

ily, and gently check and correct (or adjust) the body for subluxations, wherever they may arise. This includes cranial bones, TMJ, spinal column, sacrum, coccyx, discs, hips, sternum, ribs, upper thigh bones, shoulders, knees, feet, hands, and anything else that needs correcting.

Find out why people suffering from sciatica, migraine, colitis, chronic pain, thoracic hump, poor posture, disc problems, depression, dyslexia, sleeping difficulties, autism, and many other conditions rave about KST. Discover KST- discover how natural healthcare can be. Email your questions to: baker1dc@sbcglobal.net. Call 440-888-6979

Sparkle, Cheer In The Gift Shop

by CJ Sheppard

Santa's Elves have been busy in the Gift Shop at University Hospitals Parma Medical Center putting out all kinds of wonderful holiday merchandise. This year's finds include a selection of items from the hit Disney movie "Frozen," snowmen, ornaments, nativity sets, winter accessories, and more holiday décor.

The trees are up, glitter and sparkle are everywhere, so let the shopping begin.

And don't miss the Biggest Sale of the Season, with 20 percent off on nearly everything storewide. The Biggest Sale takes place Wednesday, Nov. 5 through Saturday, Nov. 8. The Gift Shop will open at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday through Friday that week.

Arts, Fine Crafts Show On Nov. 24-25

by CJ Sheppard

Come to University Hospitals Parma Medical Center for unique finds for all those special people on your holiday list.

The Parma Hospital Auxiliary hosts the Gallery of Gifts for two days just before Thanksgiving. The arts and fine crafts show features handmade jewelry, accessories, ceramics, ornaments, wall arts, floral arrangements,

and homemade jams and jellies.

The event takes place in the Auditorium on the ground floor of UH Parma Medical Center on Monday, Nov. 24 from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 25 from 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Admission is free.

The Auxiliary also is collecting non-perishable food items for a holiday collection for the Parma Hunger Center.

Nov. 15 Holiday Art & Craft Show To Benefit Maggie's Place

by Tricia Kuivinen

Midtown Towers Apartments hosts 1st Holiday Craft Fair at University Hospitals Parma Health Education Center November 15th to benefit Maggie's Place. Get ready shoppers and exhibitors, it's that time of the year again! Midtown Towers Apartments is hosting a Holiday Craft Fair to benefit Maggie's Place at University Hospitals Parma Health Education Center on November 15th, 2014 from 12:00pm-4:00pm. Shoppers have an widespread selection of unique handcrafted and manufactured products to select from including holiday decoration, handmade crafts from local vendors, jewelry, toys, food items, and more. Shoppers can also visit and take photos with Santa and participate in our Chinese raffle.

The Holiday Craft Fair serves as a fundraising event for Maggie's Place with all funds raised going directly back into their organization. Maggie's Place provides houses of hospitality and ongoing support to help pregnant and parenting women in need reach their goals, and welcomes them into a community filled with love and dignity. Donations make it possible for Maggie's Place to promote, manage and run the non-profit organization.

This Holiday Craft Fair is free to the public. If you would like to be an exhibitor the cost is \$25.00 per table and an item from the business to be donated towards the Chinese Raffle. Santa will be available for photos. Food and Beverages will be sold for profit towards Maggie's Place. The University Hospitals Parma Health Education

Center is located at 7300 State Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44134.

At Forest City Residential Management, each associate is on a mission to make a positive impact on the lives of our residents, team members, guests and vendors. Through professional and caring relationships we strive to provide customer service that exceeds the highest expectations. We realize that every interaction we have is a direct reflection of who we are, and who we want to be.

Founded in Cleveland in 1920, Forest City has grown to develop and operate landmark residential, office, retail and urban mixed-use properties located in 26 states and the District of Columbia. The Company prides itself on providing its many residents, shoppers and office workers nationwide with high quality environments and exceptional service. Additional information about the people, projects and values of Forest City Enterprises can be found online at ForestCity.net.

For more information, please contact Midtown Towers Apartments at 216-398-4222 or jennifersmolinski@forestcity.net.

Want to have the Parma Observer delivered to your home? Call 440-884-7625 for information.



Complete Roof Restoration (All Types)

- Slate
- Tile
- Shingle
- Flat

Attic Insulation
All Exterior Repairs
Gutter Cleaning
Gutter Guard
Gutter Replace

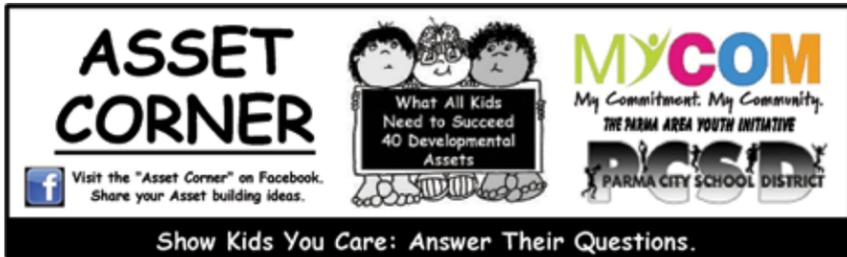
hriroofing.com
216 376 2404
HIRE LOCAL AND SAVE
HRI Story

Lakewood based company that has a track record of offering affordable roof solutions for large Lakewood roof projects. HRI has replaced more roofs in Lakewood in the past three years than any other company. Offering best combination of quality of work and fair market pricing. Success in the simple concept of hiring the guys who do the work themselves (NO SUBCONTRACTING). All roof replacements come standard with 15 year Warranty on workmanship. List of over 100 Lakewood References upon request.

Licensed Bonded Insured



Education



Asset Corner #59

by Gene Lovasy

November's Asset Category: EMPOWERMENT The empowerment assets focus on community perceptions of youth & the opportunities they have to contribute to society in meaningful ways. Feeling valued and appreciated is important to all of us. For young people, this means feeling safe and believing they're liked and respected. These feelings can go a long way toward empowering children and youth. Providing opportunities and recognizing accomplishments helps young people build self-esteem. This in turn, gives them the confidence to share their ideas, knowledge, and creativity by volunteering and working in paid jobs. By paying attention to young people, you show that you value them.

EMPOWERMENT Assets Include:

7 Community Values Youth - Kids perceive that adults in the community value youth. (22%*)

8 Youth as Resources - Young people are given useful roles in the community. (26%*)

9 Service to Others - Young person serves in the community one hour or more a week. (48%*)

#10 Safety - Kids feel safe at home, school & in the neighborhood situations. (51%*)

This column's focus will be on.....Asset #10 - Safety

Combating fear, and growing up safe in an unsafe world Young people who feel threatened, unsafe, or scared often spend a lot of time trapped in fear or in their attempts to protect themselves. They're less likely to venture forth and take some healthy risks. On the other hand, young people who feel safe are more likely to feel secure enough to try new things. That's why safety is an important part of feeling empowered. Fear, both imaginary and real, is a normal part of growing up. The key is learning to overcome it.

Here are the facts

Research shows that young people who feel safe in their surroundings are more likely to make positive contributions. About 51 percent of young people, ages 11-18, say they feel safe at home, at school, and in their neighborhood, according to Search Institute surveys. The key to safety is to create and maintain an environment that minimizes fear and maximizes opportunities to take healthy risks.

Tips for building this asset

Media reports fuel reality-based fears, such as crimes and accidents. You may inadvertently add to young people's insecurity by feeling anxious yourself and believing the world is dangerous. Young people pick up on adults' attitudes and beliefs even if they don't tell children how they're feeling. Be aware of your behavior, body language, and words—and those coming from others. When you talk to young people about particularly upsetting or frightening events, remind them such occurrences aren't common. Point out the many ways people take care of one another to be safe.

Also try this

In your home and family: Discuss with your child suggestions for how to remain safe in certain circumstances, and role-play situations. For example, create—and practice—an escape plan in case of a fire in your

home. Identify a neighbor your child can go to in an emergency.

In your neighborhood and community: Donate your time, materials, or other resources to a local community center where children can safely play. If there isn't a community center near you, work to establish one or create other safe activities for young people in your neighborhood.

In your school or youth program: Discuss with young people what it means to be safe at school or in your program. Encourage them to tell you—or other caring adults—if their safety ever feels threatened.

ASSET RELATED NEWS

- The Collab's monthly Mobile Food Pantry is scheduled this month for Thursday, November 13th. Also, it's not too late to include adopting a family in your organization's plans for the holidays. Call the Collab at 440.887.4873 for information about these and other programs/services.

- Find out more about how you can volunteer and/or become more engaged in the education of our kids by calling the office of Family and Community Engagement at 440.842.7022. Opportunities abound and your time, talent and ideas would be appreciated.

- If you or if you know of anyone having questions re: the federal

continued on page 11

For people who want to hear better.



Time together is more special with **better hearing.**

For over 27 years, millions of Americans have trusted HearUSA for the **best hearing care** in America and the only organization providing **TotalCare**.

TotalCare Experience

Most complete and accurate hearing check-up.

TotalCare Technology

Video Otoscope examination – a look inside your ear to determine if you have ear wax.

TotalCare Selection

HearUSA offers a broad selection of advanced hearing aids from trusted brands.

50% OFF **Hearing Aid Repairs**

Valid on most makes and models. Please call to inquire. Offer valid on hearing aids 4 years old or less. Includes 6 month warranty.

FREE Demonstration of Brand New Technology!

Call for details.

Call today for a **FREE Hearing Check-up!**



Ask us about special offers for Ford, GM and Chrysler members.

HearUSA
America's Most Trusted Name in Hearing Care.

6789 Ridge Rd., Suite 202, Parma

Call: 440.882.5389
9 Locations throughout Ohio



Angela Damron, M.A., F-AAA Audiologist

Meet Our New Provider!

Inspiration



The Wilderness

by Melanie Clink

cries in the wild
were meant to be natural
not cries of slaughter

I Believe

by Daniel Taddeo

A prescription for joyful living includes something to hope for, something to do, and someone to love.

Being slow to criticize and quick to forgive is a good way to go.

Biblically, the greatest calling in the world is to serve others, as "The Servant" demonstrated.

Everything we really need, we already have.

Faithfulness is our guide to salvation and an anchor for eternity.

God forbids favoritism of any kind except His word.

God is the one who defines sin (disobeying His Word). He will make the ultimate judgment.

God loves each one of us equally.

God promises that the more selflessly we give, the more we will receive joy.

God's number one and two priorities: Spread the "Good News" of His love and care for those in need.

Good stewardship involves submitting all our resources to God's authority.

Having a child to improve the marriage relationship is a poor reason to embark upon parenthood.

How we perceive ourselves marks the ceiling for what God can do for us.

In God's eyes, none of us is a failure without hope.

In our world of plenty, it seems easier than ever to lose sight of what is truly important.

It is not how much we give, but how much love we put into it.

It is possible, if we focus on it, to find fault with just about anything or everyone.

Most of the greatest good in the world has been done by the fewest peo-

ple.

Most of what we worry about never comes to pass, but most of us still worry.

Mourning in the night becomes joy in the morning.

One way to serve those in need is through day-to-day charitable giving.

Our love for God comes from the heart.

Our self-concept is our impression of ourselves – we are what we think.

Our self-image determines how we use our time, talent, knowledge, skills, and experiences.

Partial obedience is not considered obedience.

Quitting is not an option for "believers."

The motivation for our actions should be to glorify God, not to gain personal praise.

The worst bondage of all is slavery to sin.

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?

LIKE
PARMA OBSERVER
ON FaceBook TOO!

JORDAN'S

FAMILY RESTAURANT

Great Dining
Since 1991

11575 Bookpark Road

Senior Menu Starting At \$4.99

Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner
All-You-Can-Eat Daily Specials
Delicious Steaks'n Burgers
Expansive Catering Menu

www.JordansFood.com

216.267.5353

At the corner of Brookpark and Chevy.

SHARE THE WOW

Save up to \$11.00 /\$15.00 Meal For 2

Selected dinners only: veal parmesan, chicken parmesan, baby beef liver, homemade meatloaf, breaded or grilled pork chops, chopped sirloin steak

Dinners Include our Salad Bar with **4 Fresh Soups daily**

Must purchase 2 beverages. All dinners include soup and salad bar.

Present coupon with order. One coupon per party table or visit. Coupon may not be combined with any other offer, discount or coupon.

Coupon expires 12/1/14

Jordan's Restaurant, 11575 Brookpark Rd. • Parma, Ohio 44130

216.267.5353

Hopko

Funeral Home

John C. Hopko Cheryll A. Hopko

6020 Broadview Road - Parma, Ohio

216-631-4888

CHALASINSKI INSURANCE GROUP LLC

SR-22 Bond

Auto, Home, Renter, Commercial, Life Insurance

Senior Security

"MOWIMY PO POLSKU"

www.ThomasChalaskinski.com

www.ChalaskinskiInsuranceGroup.com

Call Me Today & Save 440.838.5383

BACKS

Massage & Therapy

Starting at \$49 for 1 hour Massage

Gift Card
Buy 4 Get 1 FREE

6500 Pearl Rd # 105 Parma Hts. Ohio

www.backs-massage.com 440.342.0489

PARMA HTS.
BEREA
WESTLAKE

Our Neighborhoods

Putting The Garden To Bed

by Kathy Cancasci

The Ridgewood Garden Club of Parma would like to share the following tips that Cookie Krizmanich, Master Gardener from the Cuyahoga County Ohio University Extension, gave the members at their October 20th meeting:

Flower Beds - Cut back perennials and biennials and clean-up dead materials. Pull out dead annuals and compost if not diseased. Do not trim back mums until Spring. Lift tender bulbs and store (begonias, dahlias, gladiolas, etc.). Hardy bulbs can be planted until the ground is frozen (tulips, daffodils, crocus, etc.). Hardy annuals can be sown (calendula, cornflowers, bachelor buttons).

Vegetable Garden - Weed the garden and compost all debris. Remove all stakes and cages and store them. Clean

up all diseased materials and dispose of in the garbage. Plant a cover crop (optional).

Containers - Remove dead plant materials and compost. Soil may remain in pots or be removed and composted, depending on size. Unglazed terracotta pots must be stored indoors. Glazed and synthetic container can remain outdoors over the winter.

Roses - Clean up all dead and diseased materials in the bed. (Dispose of in garbage, do not compost). Do not feed, only prune back long branches if there is a chance they will become damaged in the wind and break. For tea roses and shrub roses, put wire containers around the bushes and fill with leaves, as mulch, for protection.

Evergreen & Shrubs - Water deeply. Wait until later in the winter to do any pruning. Do not prune any

Spring flowering shrubs (lilac, Forsythia, etc.).

Lawns - Rake or otherwise remove heavy layer of leaves. Apply fertilizer in the late Fall to nourish grass roots and get a good start for next year. If leaf covering is light, mow over the leaves or use a mulching blade to chop up leaves and return them to the lawn as nutrients. Set mower to cut lower than usual.

Tools - Clean and sharpen all hand tools. Wooden handles maybe rubbed with linseed oil. Wash garden-

ing gloves. Hoses should be drained of water and stored indoors. Drain gasoline out of all mechanical equipment. Mowers can be serviced in the Fall or any time in the Winter. Blades should be sharpened.

These end-of-the-season gardening chores are part of the gardener's responsibilities. Doing so will make Spring time worth looking forward to. Meanwhile, enjoy the Winter break by browsing through garden catalogs or join the Ridgewood Garden Club by calling 440-842-4313.

Review Of Last Season's Snow Removal

by Leo Lampeter

As a citizen of this city, the thought of improvement of city services along with the cost containment certainly is in the forefront. Living in a utopia would be desired, but reality quickly comes to light. In regards to one aspect of evaluation, snow removal always comes to mind (in the winter). Unless one is involved with these services, a complete and thorough assessment can't truly be completed. Without traveling the entire city completely, on a constant basis, one must say that the Service Department did a superior job of snow removal. Granted each side street may not have been completed in a fashion that each of us would like, but that is not possible unless there would be a truck for each street and that would be economic suicide, unless you would care for much higher taxes. If you can't negotiate the side street in a little snow, chances are you shouldn't be driving anyhow. Just look at the difficulties that are had with home owners clearing their own walks. Now clear the city streets with the same competency, not as easy as you may have thought. So, a hearty well done to the Service Department.

This brings us to the next step, residential snow removal. Based on my observation this area is sorely lacking, to put it mildly. Last winter was not the most pleasant for pedestrians. Along with chilling temperatures, there was quite a snow accumulation. Without residents and businesses clearing snow, more than just the drives, it made walking difficult. This shows, at least, a lack of concern for fellow citizens.

There are checks in place to assure residential clearings, however these checks were not implemented for some reason. There were walks that were not cleared from the first snow to the last. Some of the accumulation was knee

high. When snow is not removed, the other option is to walk in the street, a good option because the streets are cleared. However, there is one drawback - traffic. Are we to conclude that the Building Department, which oversees residential snow removal, doesn't think that the safety of the citizens is important?

There is no familiarity with the accomplishments of the Building Department. However, there is clear evidence of what is not accomplished. Perhaps they are too busy or perhaps pedestrian safety is not a concern. In either case, the department heads (building commissioner, also head of the Engineering Department, and the assistant building commissioner who, to my understanding, makes these decisions because the engineering head is too occupied), are clearly lacking, but we'll get you for not cutting your grass. Here is an instance where a civilian review board could have had influence to recommend solutions to this lack of competence. The Building Department heads (commissioners) not only were lax this past year, but have a long history (years) of documented neglect to the citizens. One year of lack of attention could be simply oversight, two years of lack of attention could be inattentiveness, three years of this lack of attention could be incompetence. What would you consider longer periods of this inattentiveness? Does merely sending a letter to the offenders constitute job performance without a follow-up: just a created waste of stamps and employee time. Why would this lack of action be tolerated? Could it be Peter's Principle in action. One last why; why are so many administrators residing in other cities? Could it be because that they know how tasks are performed here? Possibly the Mayor could answer these questions.



VFW Christmas Raffle table.

Seven Hills-VFW Post 7609 Children's Christmas Party December 7, 2014

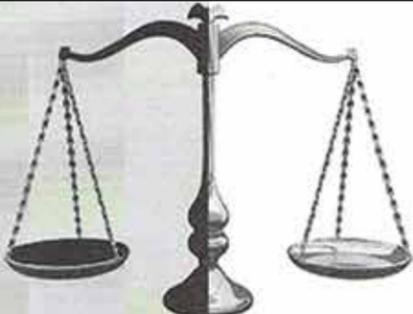
by Kathy Holland

The 2014 VFW Children's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 7th at the Seven Hills Community Recreation Center, 7777 Summitview Drive, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. This free family event is provided by the City of Seven Hills and VFW Post 7609.

This year the Children's Christmas Party will have plenty of festive holiday fun. There will be a craft fair in the gym plus a performance by the talented dancers from Diamond Dance Center as well as special visits from Elsa, Anna and other characters! This event also features Santa Claus and his

merry elves, toys, light refreshments, a silent auction and raffle, swimming, kids' crafts, and a balloon twister. Families are encouraged to create a gingerbread house and bring it to the Recreation Center for display. First, second, and third place prizes for the gingerbread houses will be awarded on December 7, 2014 by popular vote. While all of the above events are free, attendees are encouraged to bring a non-expired food item for the Yuletide Hunger Program.

Anyone interested in donating services or products for the silent auction and/or raffle please contact Kathy Holland at 216-525-6227.



Dean DePiero

Attorney and Counselor at Law

DeanDepiero.com 216-570-8665



Perspective

Irrational Fear And Panic Worse Than The Disease Itself

by Lee Kamps

A few months ago, I recorded a television program on the History Channel about the Black Plague that devastated Europe during the mid 14th century. This pandemic began when invading Mongols from Central Asia were besieging the city of Constantinople (now Istanbul). Instead of catapulting stones and burning oil into the city, the Mongols began catapulting the bodies of their dead who had died from a disease we now know as the bubonic plague. This early example of biological warfare introduced the plague to Constantinople. Soon, residents of the city began dying from that disease.

Mounting deaths from the disease eventually forced the Mongols to break their siege of Constantinople and retreat. But visiting traders from Constantinople introduced the bubonic plague in their port cities of Venice, Genoa, and Rome. From there, the disease spread throughout Europe along roads travelled by traders, armies, and merchants. Eventually, the disease

was throughout Europe and before it waned several years later, more than a third of Europe's population was dead.

In the 14th century, people had no idea of how this disease was spread. Widespread panic ensued whenever someone in a village took sick with the plague. Houses of the sick were burned and some people began travelling throughout the countryside in a religious fervor in hope of stemming this disease.

Of course, now we know how the bubonic plague is spread and how to treat this disease.

Fast forward nearly 700 years to the 21st century and a new dreaded disease from foreign shores brings the same panic that the plague brought in the 14th century. A man from West Africa enters the United States on a visit like millions do each year. He is not showing any symptoms of the disease when he arrives in the United States. But soon afterward, he visits a hospital emergency room complaining of a high fever and abdominal pains.

He is seen and then sent home with

Tylenol and antibiotics. A few days later, he returns to the same emergency room, burning with fever with diarrhea and vomiting. He is diagnosed with the dreaded Ebola disease. A week later this man dies from the disease.

Then, two nurses who treated this man show up with the disease. One takes a flight to Cleveland and visits family in Akron over a weekend to plan her upcoming wedding. According to the nurse, she was cleared to take this trip. She did not show any symptoms until her return flight when all she had was a low grade fever.

But because some other people were on the same flight as this nurse or because others flew on the same plane; schools were closed, a city hall was closed, and businesses were also closed. Despite solid medical evidence that Ebola is not spread by air, but only through close contact with bodily fluids from a person definitely showing symptoms of the disease; people in the United States go into full panic mode. Irresponsible politicians, looking to score political points, feed

this panic. Now, we have the governor of New Jersey imposing a 21 day mandatory quarantine for any health care workers coming to his state from West Africa, despite the fact that people are not contagious until they begin showing symptoms of the disease.

But so far only one person has died from the Ebola disease in the United States. Now, those two nurses who became infected from treating him have now been declared Ebola free. The 21 day quarantine and watch period for those who came into close contact with the man who brought Ebola to the United States is almost over with no one else showing the disease.

But the truth is that Americans are far more likely to contract or die from the flu or pneumonia than Ebola. How many people have not gotten an annual flu shot? One benefit of the ACA or Obamacare is that preventative care, including immunizations like flu shots and pneumonia shots are covered at no cost for everyone. Yet many Americans out of ignorance, laziness, or complacency still have not received a flu shot. How many American workers show up for work despite showing symptoms of the flu or pneumonia where they can spread the disease throughout the work place? A parent who sends a sick child to school because they cannot afford to miss a day of work can spread the flu or whatever disease throughout the entire school.

In the United States, we should be vigilant against the spread of any disease entering this country from abroad. But we have such cavalier attitudes toward more familiar diseases here at home that have a far greater potential to make us sick or even kill us. So, before anyone talks about travel bans from West African nations or mandatory quarantines for health care workers; perhaps they should make sure that they have gotten their flu shot first.

It's Time For The Senate To Reverse Its Pattern of Inaction

by Jim Renacci

From Westlake to Wooster, I consistently hear that Ohioans are frustrated with the slow pace of job creation. I, too, am concerned about our stagnant economy and Washington's inability to come together to jumpstart it. Last month's jobs report was one of the worst we have seen in recent months; it should serve as a wakeup call for my colleagues in the Senate who have yet to act on the dozens of House-passed jobs bills. How much longer is the Senate going to make Americans wait for the economic growth that we need?

This past week, I was proud to see the House of Representatives pass the Jobs for America Act, a package of bills that contains dozens of solutions that will help get Americans back to work and lower costs for Ohio families. Two of the bills included in the package specifically address the job-crushing effect of the President's health care law. The Hire More Heroes Act encourages small businesses to hire more veterans because it exempts veterans who receive health insurance through the Department of

Veterans Affairs (VA) or TRICARE from being counted toward the 50 full-time employee threshold to provide insurance as required by the employer mandate in the President's health care law. This bill has strong bipartisan support and will certainly incentivize employers to hire those who have served our country and are returning to the workforce. I was also pleased to see the Save American Workers Act pass the House with strong support this past week. This bill repeals the 30-hour definition of full-time employment in the President's health care law, allowing small business owners the opportunity to grow without fearing uncertainty and increasing costs.

In addition to the bills that mitigate the negative effects of the President's health care law on our workforce, the House passed legislation that will reduce unnecessary federal regulations on small businesses and help them create the jobs that we need. One of the bills, the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act, will reduce additional burdensome regulations by requiring Congress to approve

any new major regulation issued by a federal agency before it takes effect. Another bill, the Small Business Capital Access and Job Preservation Act, scales back government mandates and provides small businesses with greater access to the capital they need so that they can more easily create jobs. Lastly, the America's Small Business Tax Relief Act makes section 179 expensing of our tax code permanent - ensuring that our small businesses have the predictability they need to grow their business and plan for their financial futures.

As a former small business owner for nearly 30 years, I know that Washington is part of the problem, not the solution, when it comes to growing a business. The legislation we passed last week empowers our entrepreneurs, encourages innovation, and incites investment so that we can turn our economy around and get Ohioans back to work. I'm hopeful that my colleagues in the Senate will carefully review this legislation and reverse its pattern of inaction. Americans cannot wait much longer.

If you have any questions or if our office can be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to call us at our Wadsworth office: (330) 334-0040, Parma office: (440) 882-6779, or Washington office: (202) 225-3876. I also encourage you to visit our website at renacci.house.gov and subscribe to our Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube pages to get the latest updates on my work in Washington and Ohio's 16th District.

BLUE LINE BAR & GRILL

Now Open Daily 11:00 A.M.
Food and Drink Specials
4305 Brookpark Road
440-799-4305

Get the best
chiropractic adjustment
of your life.

Avoid the Snap, Crackle, Pop

Our practice now offers a unique, breakthrough approach to patient care called Koren Specific Technique (KST). There is no twisting, turning, "cracking" or "popping" of joints with KST; instead, you receive gentle, specific corrections to your spine and structural system. Most adjustments or corrections are done either standing or sitting.

Find out why people suffering from sciatica, migraine, colitis, chronic pain, thoracic hump, poor posture, disc problems, depression, dyslexia, sleeping difficulties, autism and many other conditions rave about KST.

Discover why chiropractors call KST
"The Best Adjustment of Their Life!"

Dr. Robb J. Baker, D.C.
5810 Pearl Rd.
Parma, OH 44130
440-888-6979
docbaker.net

Perspective

What Happens Here Affects All Cuyahoga County

by Lucy McKernan

Sinister things are brewing adjacent to the trio of Parma, Parma Heights, and Seven Hills, and the outcome could affect the entire county, perhaps even the state. Because it is no longer considered a local issue - any idiot knows deer don't respect boundaries - North Royalton Mayor Bob Stefanik, along with the majority of Cuyahoga County mayors and city managers, are pushing the state to take responsibility for the large, stable herds of deer CAUSED by "maximum sustainable yield" (MSY).

Northeast Ohio mayors and other officials are increasingly hip to the fact that killing deer results in a paradox known as "compensatory rebound effect."

But not Independence Mayor Gregory Kurtz, where bow hunting has prevailed since 2007. Mayor Kurtz, a hunter, also happens to be Presiding Officer of the Cuyahoga County Mayors and City Managers Association. So at a recent Association meeting, when Mayor Stefanik recently proposed formally pushing the state for a solution - preferably, a humane one - Kurtz pushed back by recommending Stefanik form a committee to look into what other communities are doing about deer.

Kurtz's maneuver can only be perceived as a stall tactic. Those only tangentially informed about the issue know what other communities are doing, or not doing; there are either bow hunting ordinances, or not. Kurtz should be recused from serving on the Association, at least in regards to this issue, since he has a blatant conflict of interest.

This month, Independence resi-



dents will vote on Issue 53. If it passes, Kurtz's term limits would be extended, directly resulting in Northeast Ohioans - that includes Parma, Parma Heights, and Seven Hills - and the deer with whom we share space, likely not seeing a regional resolution to the deer issue.

Stefanik contends that the state should not treat this issue the same in urban areas as it does rural. He's right because the state cannot both claim to "own" deer as a natural resource, and then not take responsibility for them.

Residents of Seven Hills have been directly affected by Independence bow hunting. On more than one occasion, hunters have trespassed on Seven Hills' properties and/or caused injured, untracked deer to suffer in others' yards. Friends who live in Independence were outraged to look out their window and see hunters illegally trespassing to finish off a deer. One frightened doe with an arrow stuck in her, running from a hunter, slammed into a vehicle on Brecksville Road. Tree-stand, hunters-per-acre, deer "bag" limits, and underage kids as young as age 11 and numerous other violations have prevailed in the "Center of Cuyahoga County" since 2007.

We've worked hard this, and much of last, year to send the unequivocal message to Seven Hills council and mayor that we will not tolerate bow hunting here, because we've seen what has happened right next door.

There's trouble brewing in adjacent Broadview Heights, too, where residents already voted against bow hunting in 2010. Now it appears Mayor Sam Alai and certain council members seek its reintroduction. One sneaky way to do this would be through Issue 29, a proposed city charter amendment. If passed, Issue 29 means nonresidents

would not be allowed to help circulate petitions to recall elected officials and enact or repeal legislation - just like the ones nonresidents helped circulate to repeal the bow hunting ordinance there 2010, and the subsequent one to stop companies from fracking.

Certainly, the automotive business and the deli that have partnered to process venison in Broadview Heights - under the guise of its food pantry to feed the hungry (less than two percent of Ohio hunted deer is inspected, and can

contain lead) - have nothing to do with these blatant betrayals of public trust.

Any group of "sportsmen" who don't bother to inform the opposing team members they're going to be killed as part of the game can't be trusted.

If the state does take responsibility for creating MSY, or large herds for profit, what would that mean? How would a regional solution look? Will it be humane? Who in state government will be in charge? Can the profit-lusting, hunter-funded state Division of Wild "Death" really be trusted?

This is the same agency that reintroduced white-tailed deer in 1950 as a "game" species for hunters, and averages a 50% annual revenue off MSY, and the same government that benefits from the 11% Pittman-Robertson excise tax. Used across the country, Pittman-Robertson works to benefit wildlife agencies and firearms/ammunition industries. Money spent on ammunition and firearms used for sport hunting is earmarked, with the biggest proceeds distributed to each state with the most sales. Ohio wildlife "managers" get to keep their jobs, 401(k)s, and bring money into state coffers, all under the guise of wildlife "conservation."

It's the perfect crime. And city charters that constrain residents from seeking outside support to help with strained volunteer efforts should be considered criminal, too.

Parma Citizen Of The Month Ed Skuza



A hearty congratulations and thank you to Ed Skuza, who was honored as the Parma Mayor's Citizen of the Month for October. Ed was very instrumental in helping Parma Police catch the perpetrators in a bank robbery at Dollar Bank on Pearl Road this summer. Whereas many people would not want to become involved, Ed managed to get a license plate number by following the getaway van while his wife Jeanie called 9-1-1. Parma Police Chief Bob Miller joined Ward Three Councilman Mark Casselberry and Mayor DeGeeter in honoring and saying thanks to Ed and Jeanie.

The Confident
Choice For
In-Home
Care.



Providing quality, affordable, non-medical in-home care for seniors and other clients who need companionship and personal care.

firstlighthomecare.com

EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE. EXCEPTIONAL CARE.

28025 Clemens Rd., Suite 4, Westlake
440-250-9733

Cutting Edge Branded Apparel & Promotional Products



Phone: 440.236.6282
www.RememberedExpressions.com

For Your Business or Non-Profit

Mention This Ad To Receive
\$75.00 Off Your Order!

(Limited time only. Order minimum required. Call for details.)

Huge Apparel Selections.
Latest Styles and Performance Wear.
In-House Equipment & Design Service

Your choice for quality
short-term rehabilitation

Providing quality health care services for seniors since 1953, we are pleased to offer short-term rehabilitation services and programs.

MOUNT ALVERNA
VILLAGE
FRANCISCAN COMMUNITIES

6765 State Rd., Parma, OH 44134
www.mountalvernavillage.com/np
(440) 843-7800

Sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago

Our Local History

The Parma Post Office 1827-1901

by *Kenneth Lavelle*

Prior to 1827, the U.S. Mail for Parma, Ohio residents was delivered and outgoing mail was picked up by stagecoach drivers at the Old Stone Tavern (built in 1817) along the Wooster Pike (a.k.a. Pearl Road). Early area residents living in this section of Parma Township would travel to the tavern to pick up their mail and packages. The Old Stone Tavern near Mill Street was operated by the Conrad Countryman family. The stagecoaches with passengers aboard had begun traveling along the Wooster Pike from Cleveland southward to Columbus, Ohio in 1820. The Old Stone Tavern later became an apartment building at 6363 Pearl Road and was torn down in 1959 for a gas station.

U.S. Post Office mail pickup started in Parma Township on January 18, 1827 in the home of Postmaster Samuel Freeman. The residents of Parma Township had to travel by foot or by horse drawn wagon to pickup delivered mail and leave any outgoing mail. Incoming mail arrived by stagecoach contractors that carried mail under an accepted government bid contract. The stagecoach contractors followed a strict schedule mandated by the Post Office Department. The bidding process for successfully winning the contract with the lowest bid involved placing a bond sum of \$300.00 and a specific bid amount to operate the specific route for the given time period required of four years. Each mail route was assigned a route number by the Post Office Department. Any outgoing mail was transferred to another stagecoach that was traveling with paid passengers aboard northward to Cleveland or Southward to Wooster or Columbus, Ohio along the Wooster Pike.

The postmasters of a small community similar to Parma Township worked in a 4th Class type of post office inside their own homes. Each postmaster held a local political office appointed by the President of the United States and approved by the U.S. Congress. When a national election was held and a change in national party leadership occurred, new postmasters were appointed. The former postmasters lost their positions to be replaced by newly appointed post-

masters. The mail was picked up and delivered to a new location in Parma Township. A signed legal document was filed with the Post Office Department listing the new location or the current location of the local post office location along a designated postal route number. In 1852, the Parma Post Office was along designated Route 18 on a list of Western Reserve postal routes. For example, Oliver Emerson signed such a document in June 23, 1870 along Postal Route Number 9068.

The list of Parma postmasters and their terms in office are as follows: Samuel Freeman (1/18/1827 to 11/4/1839); William Humphrey (11/5/1839 to 11/3/1846); Henry Humphrey (11/4/1846 to 2/26/1847); Dudley S. Humphrey (2/27/1847 to June 25,

1849); Oliver Emerson (6/26/1849 to 11/24/1856); Lewis B. Whitney (11/25/1856 to 4/22/1857); Cyrus Ingersoll (4/23/1857 to 4/24/1861); and Oliver Emerson (4/25/1861 to 2/13/1886 [when he died in office]). Minerva H. Emerson became the temporary Post Mistress (3/12/1890 to 11/30/1901). Her cousin, Mrs. Lucian Standen, worked in the Parma Post office with her. The Parma Post Office was closed and discontinued on 11/30/1901 and mail was delivered by Rural Free Delivery (RFD) postal delivery wagon from South Brooklyn, Ohio to individual mailboxes along designated postal route roads in Parma Township. The beginning of RFD mail service had begun in 1896. The closing of the Parma Post Office was part of a Post Office Department 4th Class Post

Office cost saving plan.

The Oliver Emerson home (built 1831) still stands at 5856 Pearl Road that once was the location of the former Parma Post Office. In 1967, the Midpark Post Office was located at 6716 Pearl Road in Parma Heights. In 1968, the Midpark Post Office was relocated at 13301 Smith Road in Middleburg Heights, Ohio. In 1994, the Middleburg Heights Post Office building was enlarged and there was a public tour held of the new and improved facility. The Middleburg Heights Southland Post Office was renamed in July 2010 for David John Donafee. He was a post office carrier delivering mail, who had been struck by a car while crossing York Road, near Letterman Drive at CCC-Western Campus in February 2008.

Tales From The Tollgate House

by *Bob Stilwell*

These are some of the people that helped shape Parma Heights to what it is today. This area started with the 1817 arrival of Conrad Countryman, his wife, three sons, Peter, John, Jacob, and his brother, William, all from Mohawk, New York. They settled in the area of Stumph Road and Pearl. He ran a sawmill and a blacksmith shop and some reports say he also kept an inn nearby, possibly the one that became known as the Old Stone Tavern. A Connecticut Yankee named Pelitiah Bliss also came to claim the piece of land he purchased from the Connecticut Land Company in 1821. He built a log cabin home at York and Pearl Road. Later in 1821, the population rose with the arrival of Asa Emerson, Jesse Nicholas, Amos Hodgman, Joseph Small, and William Steele. They were all from Bowdoin, Maine. A half brother of Lorenzo Carter, John Ackley settled later after working as an engineer on Cleveland's first stone pier and other Harbor installations. All of these people were strong believers in education and religion.

The first schoolhouse was a log structure on the hill at the northern corner of what is now the Parma



Heights Cemetery. At the time it was part of the Robert Hodgman's farm. It stood until 1841 and many a square dance was interspersed with prayer meetings along class recitations as the school was the civic and religious center of the town.

Fred Cogswell arrived here via the Erie Canal from Connecticut. He purchased the Peter Countryman property on York Road. Across the Road was a piece of land that was purchased by Amos Denison in 1837. He was the brother of Mrs. Fred Cogswell. Many of the streets in the area were named after these people and new families arriving and settling in the area.

The first Church was formed as a congregational Church in 1837 and was built in 1841, after the original log cabin burned down. A few years later, the Church became a Presbyterian Faith. After all these years, the Church still stands and many from the area and surrounding area attend services here.

During the Civil War Years 1861-1865, crowds would gather at Asa Emerson's house on Pearl Road and watch the Soldiers practice; loading and firing their rifles.

Many of these people came here

with high spiritual and moral beliefs that have transcended down through time to many people living here today. This is why our History is so important and should never be forgotten. Anyone with any Historical information or artifacts would be greatly appreciated by the Parma Heights Historical Society. Please come and share your stories with us by calling the Parma Heights Historical Society, Joe Reeves (President), at 216-870-4864.



Danny's Auto Service

Domestic / Foreign
Light Trucks



ASE certified

Meyers Snowplow Parts And Service

Daniel J. Skonezny
(216) 267-1267

5273 Commerce Parkway West
Parma, Ohio 44130



We work for you

Crime Tip Line (440) 887-7340

crimetips@parmajustice.net

www.cityofparmapolice.com

Emergency - 911

Non Emergency - (440) 885 -1234

The Parma Art Scene

Artist Of The Month

by Kathryn Mabin

Parma is home to a great many talented individuals, artists, and craftsmen, both professional and amateur, who specialize in variety of mediums. This article is the fifth in a series which will showcase a Parma area artist and introduce you to many of your talented neighbors.

Carole King Murray

Carole King Murray is an amateur photographer living in the heart of the Polish Village in Parma. Carole said her interest in photography all began with her grandparents' collection of photos which adorned the walls of their home. She always had her trusty Instamatic camera with her during her teenage years and into young adulthood. But the purchase of a 35mm Nikon, by her husband, took her love of photography and her skills to a whole 'nother level, and opened up endless possibilities for her.

Carole and her husband moved to Parma about 35 years ago. They plan to continue live in Parma where they have set down firm roots. They raised two sons in Parma, who were born

at Parma Hospital, and attended the Parma City Schools.

Over the years she has documented the changes to their home in a photo history. This eventually prompted her into doing research on the history of ownership. The house was built in 1928, during the creation of the "Garden City" in Parma. Carole and her husband enjoyed learning the history of their community and how the city grew from being a village into the 7th largest city in Ohio and the 2nd largest city in Cuyahoga County. They posted photos of the home and historical information on their website. The Murrays were thrilled when the grandson of the original owners contacted them. Plans are underway for the family of the original owners to visit.

Carole states, "My husband and I are enjoying the vibrancy that is taking place in Polish Village. Between the fun events that are occurring, as well as the ability to do so much of our shopping at local businesses a block or so from our home, we can't think of a better place to live." Carole holds the title of "official photographer"



for Polish Village's Flamingo Fever event, but also attends many other Polish Village community events and documents them. She has been particularly fond of Flamingo Fever and visited the businesses to take photos of the flock. She states it has been a fun way to introduce herself to the various businesses, get to know the local merchants, and sample their wares. This past year she had a visitor from Australia who went with her to photograph many of the flock. She has also done some awesome videos for Polish Village which have been shown on Facebook.

The Murrays are members of a local classic automobile club, so many of the photos she takes feature pieces and parts of automobiles. When male members of my family visited her website, they were particularly fond of those photos. Carole has also been honing her skills in the area of portrait photography. Her portraits of children remind me of Anne Geddes's work.

"People often encourage me to

turn my photography hobby into a business, which I'm reluctant to do. Photography is something I love and I worry that if it becomes a 'job,' it may become more of a chore instead of the joy it is to me now. I am happy taking my camera with me wherever I go, capturing special moments in the lives of so many people," said Carole.

Stop and take a tour of Carole's website, and enjoy viewing photos of Parma, automobiles, and portraits of children, as well as beautiful scenic shots from various vacation spots and locally. You can also leave comments on her site. What I particularly like about Carole's work is her ability to see the beauty in our everyday life and call attention to it for us.

To view her work visit www.carolemurrayphotography.zenfolio.com

If you are an amateur or professional artist, living in the Parma area, or know of someone who is, and would like to be featured as an artist of the month, please contact me by email at kathrynmabin@att.net.

Asset Corner #59

continued from page 5

health insurance program (Obamacare) or about Ohio Medicaid, visit Parma Health Ministry's web site at www.parmahealthministry.org or phone: 440.843.8087. Their Health Care Navigator should be able to help. Remember, the open enrollment period for coverage effective 2015 begins on November 15, 2014.

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 www.parmacityschools.org/character, 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.

ARABICA

COFFEE HOUSE & HOOKAH CAFE
6285 PEARL ROAD • 440.886.6648
PARMA HEIGHTS, OHIO 44130
Daily Promos From 1p.m. to 5p.m.




Monday- Buy 1 Pastry- Get Medium Coffee FREE
Tuesday- Noon-6PM \$6.00 Hookah w/Bev. Purchase
Wednesday- Buy Large Mocha- 2nd one 50% off
Thursday- Ladies Night- 50% off any drinks w/ad
Friday- \$4.00 Hookah All Day
Saturday- 50% Off Specialty Drinks Noon-6 PM
Sunday- Open Mic Night-Patio

SOLD!



FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
(216) 225-8990

THE Stefaniuk & Oksana STEFANIUK TEAM
Local Real Estate Professionals





Now That's Funny? by Julia Cindric





Pleasant Lake Villa

Part of the Legacy Health Services Family

Congratulations to our caregivers and staff for recent recognition as...



A 2014 Plain Dealer Top Workplace
A medicare.gov 5 Star Facility rating*
U.S. News & World Report - Best Nursing Homes, 2014

*Find out more at medicare.gov. Search Nursing Home Compare



Our Family Caring for Yours

Call 440-842-2273 for a Tour!

Pleasant Lake Villa is located at 7260 Ridge Road in Parma, Ohio

www.lhshealth.com