

“What is essential is invisible to the eye”- Antoine De Saint-Exupery

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Parma Heights/Parma Bank Robbers Arrested

by Mike Byrne

In 2014, Parma Heights was named one of the safest cities in Ohio by SafeWise, in part because of our city's unique safety initiatives and security programs. Those safety efforts paid off this last month as a robbery ring operating was quickly brought to justice once they acted in our city. On July 13, 2015, the Parma Heights Fifth Third Bank was robbed by a single armed male and on July 17, 2015, the Parma Heights Citizen Bank was robbed, also by a single armed male. The suspect and an accomplice, a female, were quickly captured on Sunday, July 19, and their arraignment scheduled for July 20, 2015. It was later discovered this same team had participated in a bank robbery in Parma on June 26, 2015.

Public safety is a critical marker of the quality of life in a community and I have continually said that safety is, and always will be, my top priority. Criminals will always be at work. What, as a city, we can control is the quickness

of our response time, how solid our detective work is, how effectively we cooperate with other law enforcement agencies, and how swiftly an arrest is made. Our uniform patrol and detective bureau, along with agents from the FBI, performed at the highest level to bring this episode to a quick end.

SafeWise noted that Ohio's safest cities are "brim-

ming with civically-minded residents who clearly take pride in where they live." This also turned out to be a factor in the quick arrests. Parma Heights Police Chief Daniel Teel reported to me that a witness at the scene of the July 17 robbery observed the events transpiring and secured the vehicle license plate number. The same witness then followed the suspect vehicle at a

safe distance and observed the dye pack explode. A motorist found the dye pack at Huffman and Beverly and reported it to the Parma Heights Police Department.

Over the next 48 hours, Parma Heights investigators and FBI agents secured and executed search warrants on the suspects and their cell phone records. The resulting searches led to recovery of evidence linking the female to a robbery by two masked men of a Parma Charter One Bank on June 26. Similarly, the Parma Heights Detective Bureau and the FBI conducted a covert surveillance operation that led to the arrest of

both the female and the male suspects and the seizure of the vehicle used in the Citizen Bank robbery. Evidence recovered from the vehicle included cash, drugs, dye stains, and clothes used in the robberies. To wrap things up, interrogations resulted in confessions from both the male and female along with information on another male involved in the Parma bank robbery on June 26.

A great job by our Police Department resulting in bank robbers taken off the streets, not just in our city, but from the streets of Parma, as well!



Former Ohio Governor and current US Senate hopeful Ted Strickland was in Parma on August 23 at the Parma Democratic Party Picnic held at the German Central Farm. Here he stands with Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Judge Francine Goldberg.

Parma Police Department And 7-Eleven Team Up For "Operation Chill"

by Parma Police

Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot this summer? If so, the Parma Police Department is partnering with local 7-Eleven locations to provide coupons for a free small Slurpee to area children.

"Operation Chill" was started in Philadelphia in

1995 by 7-Eleven Inc. to give law enforcement officers a positive reason to interact with children and teens in their city. The program was designed to reduce crime and enhance relations among 7-Eleven stores, police, and youth. For 20 years, police officers have been handing

out the Operation Chill Free Slurpee coupons to encourage good behavior and the Parma Police Department is happy to participate in this great program again this year.

Police Officers will be handing out the coupons at events throughout the City of Parma that the Parma Police Department is involved in from August 4, 2015, until around October 31, 2015. The coupons will provide officers with a positive reason to approach kids and surprise them with the Slurpee coupon. Officers are also encouraged to use the coupons as an opportunity to reward children who they have noticed show positive interaction in the community by following laws and being kind and considerate to others.

Free Screenings For Peripheral Arterial Disease

by CJ Sheppard

More than 50 percent of people with peripheral arterial disease have no signs or symptoms. Are you at risk?

University Hospitals Parma Medical Center is conducting a free screening for this serious condition on Tuesday, Sept. 22 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. P.A.D. occurs when blood flow through the legs and feet

is restricted by build-up of fatty deposits in the blood vessels of your legs.

You may be at risk for P.A.D. if you are 50 years of age or older, have diabetes, have ever smoked, and have a history of high blood pressure and/or high cholesterol. Call 800-355-9992 to register. Reservations are limited. Pre-registration is required.

Parma Citizens Police Academy Begins On September 15

by Daniel P. McCarthy

The Parma Police Department is still accepting applications for this fall's Citizen Police Academy. The academy will start on September 15, 2015. The academy is 10 weeks long and will run weekly on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The cost is free for those individuals who are selected.

Individuals must be at least 18 years of age, have no criminal history other than minor traffic violations (background checks will be performed), be physically able to participate in active class training, commit to attend 10 weekly three-hour sessions, and sign required waivers and agreements.

The Citizen Police Academy program is intended to open the lines of communication between the community and the Parma Police Department. The objective of the program is not to train and certify individuals to become police officers, but rather to produce better informed citizens. Citizens who participate in the academy program, along with the police officers who will teach various classes, will work together in a friendly environment

designed to build trust and provide the citizen with an understanding of the many challenges faced in today's law enforcement profession.

If you are interested in being selected for this fall's academy, please contact Lieutenant Tom Siedlecki at 440-887-7329 or by email at tom.siedlecki@parmajustice.net for an application and more detailed information.

You can also log on to the following link for a brief video about the academy:

<http://www.cityofparma-police.com/news/video.htm>

Parma Artists Update



Flamingo Fisherman by Michelle Behal located at North Coast Nostalgia. No one supports the arts in Parma more than the Parma Observer, check out this months arts and events on page 11.

Community News

The President’s Corner

by Sean Brennan

This month’s column is a continuation in my series about “Parma’s Places of Worship.” As a Catholic, I have always been intrigued by Eastern Orthodoxy and hopeful that one day the two biggest divisions within Christianity will be united. Therefore, I recently traveled to 5913 State Road to meet with Father John Nakonachny, Pastor of St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, to find out more about the parish and faith.

What always strikes me about St. Vladimir’s is how welcome I feel whenever I visit St. Vladimir’s. In fact, Fr.



John and I met for about three hours – a testament to how easy he is to talk to. It is obvious why he makes such a great

Pastor. He grew up in Pennsylvania, began his spiritual ministry in Winnipeg, Manitoba, then Maplewood, New Jersey before he and his bride came here to Parma in 1987 to serve. “Winnipeg had quite a large Ukrainian population. I never dreamed I would find another place like it, which is why I was so surprised and pleased when we moved to Parma,” Fr. John explained. “In fact, in recent years, our Saturday cultural school student population is growing so fast, due to so many new arrivals, that we are running out of space,” he added. Incidentally, the Parish is thankful to Good Shepherd United Methodist Church across the street for allowing them to use space for their classes. St. Vladimir’s and the surrounding neighborhoods are truly a bastion of Ukrainian people and culture, thus this area of Parma has been aptly named Ukrainian Village.

Father explained that St. Vladimir’s was founded in 1924 with a church being built in Tremont soon thereafter. Like many other churches, following World War II, as population shifted to the suburbs, the parish purchased ten acres of property in Parma. Further, in 1959 the parish purchased the old Parma City Hall for \$11, which, according to a church document, was “moved and renovated for a chapel.” Finally, in 1967, the current church was consecrated as a place of worship.

St. Vladimir’s property holds one of my favorite monuments in the region. Dedicated in 1993, it is a beautiful monument honoring the over 7 million victims of the Artificial Famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933. The Holodomor (hunger-extermiation) was the work of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, whose cruel policies directly caused what is oft described as one of the 20th century’s worst attempted genocides.

The Cathedral itself is an architectural wonder, from its beautiful domes to the multitude of wondrous icons. “You will not see statues in Orthodox churches. Instead, icons have been used throughout history as a teaching tool – as a living Bible,” Fr. John shared. “Years ago many could not afford books and could not read or write, therefore the

continued on page 10



Sean Brennan,
Parma City Council President

Rush Truck Centers Starts Resurgence In Snow-Chevrolet Area



by Jeannie Roberts

Parma Mayor Tim DeGeeter was more than happy to attend recent grand opening events for Rush Truck Center and to welcome the new business to town. More than that, he’s looking forward to the resurgence of that entire business neighborhood.

Rush is the world’s largest seller of Peterbilt Trucks and has more than 120 locations nationwide. Just around the corner, Pitt Ohio is constructing a complex on 23 acres with an expected payroll of about \$8 million.

“Rush and Pitt Ohio are showing what an attractive and viable area we have for development here,” Mayor DeGeeter said. “We’re off to a great start, but there is still room for more growth.”

DeGeeter’s fondest wish is that a company wants to makes use of the former GrafTech building, which is located just next door to the new Rush Truck Center. “The City is more than willing to work with investors to attract companies to the former GrafTech property, just like we did with The Shoppes at Parma,” he said.

Rush Enterprises, a Texas-based company, invested \$8 million to build a state-of-the-art facility on a vacant 13-acre parcel at 12970 Snow Road. And

that excitement foreshadows the opening within the next two years of Pitt Ohio Trucking Company just around the corner on Chevrolet Blvd. That facility is expected to include a two-story office building, warehouse space and a 100-door trucking terminal. Pitt Ohio goes before Planning Commission next week seeking approval of its overall plans.

The vacant GrafTech property is in between the two trucking companies.

“Rush’s proposal came to us after an exhaustive search of ten-plus years to place a quality company at that vacant 13 acres,” said DeGeeter. “We feel that this is a good use of the site and it puts vacant land into production. That is very good news for Parma.

The mayor was treated to a tour of the Rush Truck Center by its general

manager, Kevin Boudier, whose claim that the company “spared no expense” in the facility was borne out by the beautiful and spacious building, which includes heated floors for the comfort of its shop workers in the winter.

From its new facility in Parma, Rush offers new and pre-owned bus and truck sales, full service for trucks and buses, and extensive parts inventory and mobile service and repair.



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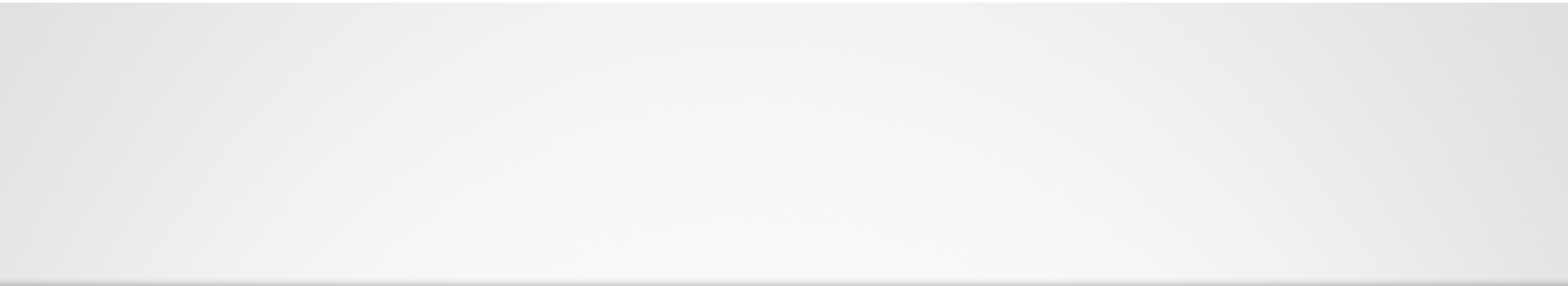
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Health/Culture

UH Parma Medical Center, North Royalton YMCA Collaborating On Walking Program In September-October

by CJ Sheppard

UH Parma Medical Center is collaborating with the North Royalton Family YMCA to present a six-week adult wellness challenge. Structured as a walking program preceded by a brief informative talk by a hospital or community health expert, "Mindful in Motion" is kicked off by a comprehensive initial health assessment to give each participant a baseline of their health status.

The program will take place at the North Royalton Family YMCA, 14409 State Road, which is the home of one of UH Parma Medical Center's therapy satellite locations since its opening in 2012. Group walks around the adjacent neighborhood will be held on Thursdays from 6 – 7 p.m., following a discussion with a health and wellness

expert. Topics for talks will include stroke prevention, heart disease, stress management, bone and joint care, proper stretching, and community safety. Weekly programming also will include healthy recipes, giveaways, and tips on nutrition, exercise, and disease prevention.

All participants will receive an initial health assessment conducted by UH Parma Medical Center professionals on Monday, Sept. 21 from 5 – 8 p.m. The assessment will include: total cholesterol, glucose, body mass index, weight, blood pressure, posture, strength, and flexibility. Flu shots also will be available. The cost is just \$10 per person.

For information or to register, call 440-230-9339 or go to www.ClevelandYMCA.org/North-Royalton.

Neuromuscular Specialist Joins UH Neurological Institute In Parma

by CJ Sheppard

Betsy Garratt, DO, a specialist in neuromuscular disorders, joins John Andrefsky, MD, in the growing UH Neurological Institute at University Hospitals Parma Medical Center. Dr. Garratt will see patients at offices in Suite 204 in Medical Arts Center 4 on the UH Parma Medical Center campus, as well as in the new UH Independence Health Center. She will be performing electromyography (EMG) procedures – a diagnostic tool for identifying neuromuscular diseases such as peripheral neuropathy, carpal tunnel syndrome, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS, commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease) – at UH Parma Medical Center.

"Many of the diseases within neuromuscular medicine are chronic debilitating diseases, such as ALS, myasthenia gravis, and peripheral neu-

ropathy," says Dr. Garratt, who chose to specialize in neuromuscular disorders to improve the quality of life for her patients. "I enjoy the art and challenge of using the physical exam and EMG to localize the lesion within the peripheral nervous system. Many of these diseases can be treated if identified correctly, which can be very rewarding within the field of neurology."

A University Hospitals-trained physician, Dr. Garratt completed her Internal Medicine internship, Neurology residency, and Neuromuscular fellowship at University Hospitals Case Medical Center, following graduation from the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine. When not practicing medicine, she enjoys gardening, cooking, hiking, and reading.

To make an appointment with Dr. Garratt, call 440-743-8120.

Therapeutic Care Is Only Minutes Away

by Penny Schultz

Since 1992, Therapeutic Touch owner Sonya Foradora and her professional, licensed massage therapy staff have been providing quality, affordable therapeutic massage and facial services. The establishment is conveniently located at 8475 Memphis Ave, Suite A in Brooklyn, Ohio, with easy access to and from downtown, I-480, I-71, and I-90. Treatments include traditional and pregnancy massage, deep tissue and hot stone massage by therapists who are members of the American Massage Therapy Association with over 10 years of experience. Other holistic services such as ear candling, sinus therapy, lymphatic drainage massage, and lemon lavender sea salt body scrubs are also available. Choose from half hour to one and a half hour individual sessions. Special packages are offered, the most popular being an hour and a half massage and facial. Biofreeze products are also sold. Call 216-351-7311 for more information.



Smallwood Center Celebrates 50th Anniversary With Gala Party!

by Judy Martins

On September 16th, the Donna Smallwood Activities Center and Office on Aging (formerly Parma Senior Center) will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with a gala Party and Dance! 2015 marks a half century of providing area seniors 55 and over with lunches, homebound meals, transportation, dozens of fun and informative groups, programs and activities, trips, parties and dances, and activities to promote their health and well-being, in a warm and welcoming "home away from home" Center weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In 1965, Donna Smallwood was part of the Jaycee wives volunteers who started senior citizen activities in the City of Parma -the "Parma 60 Plus Club," who met at Parma Memorial Hall; in 1968 Donna became the first Director of the Parma Senior

Center. Federal funding enabled the City to build their current facility near Parma City Hall, which today bears her name. Through her many years of hard work, dedication to the seniors, and tireless efforts, Donna was the person most responsible for the many senior programs that are in place in Parma today - 50 years later.

The Center's gala celebration and dance will be held on Wednesday, September 16th, 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Woodside, 5025 East Mill Rd. All seniors are welcome to this spectacular event, and will enjoy a delicious lunch, extra-special raffle prizes and surprises, entertainment by "Frank and Dean," and dancing all afternoon to the music of Wayne Tomsic. Bring a friend, meet old friends, make new ones, and enjoy a fun and memorable day celebrating the Center's 50th anniversary.

Advance tickets are \$25 per person, available at the Smallwood Activities Center, 7001 West Ridge-wood Drive in Parma (the first traffic light east off Ridge Rd., up the hill behind Parma City Hall).

Come to the Center any weekday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and see for yourself all of the many programs and activities available to area seniors. Dances are held on the third Wednesday of each month, including lunch, fun, raffle prizes and surprises, great company, and dancing to local area musicians. Visit their website at www.smallwoodcenter.com, pick up a copy of their 32-page monthly newsletter/magazine, "The Center Line," or call 440-885-8800 for more information.

Free Physician Talk On Managing Chronic Sinusitis

by CJ Sheppard

Steve Hunyadi, MD, an ENT specialist at University Hospitals Parma Medical Center, will discuss the diagnosis and management of chronic sinus diseases and both medical and surgical treatments. The talk will take place in UH Parma Medical Center's auditorium on Wednesday, Sept. 30 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. The program is free, but registration is required. Call 440-743-4932 to register.

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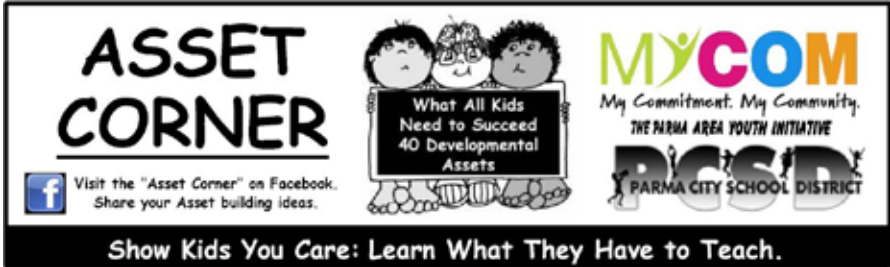
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Education



Asset Corner #69

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 people is actively engaged in learning.

- (55%*)
- #23 Homework** – Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day. (47%*)
- #24 Bonding to School** – Young person cares about her or his school. (52%*)
- #25 Reading for Pleasure** – Young person reads for pleasure 3 or more hours per week. (22%*)
- Here are the facts**
Research shows the more young people are committed to learning, the more likely they are to grow up healthy.
- Tips for building these assets**
By supporting young people and reminding them of the built-in rewards of learning, you can help them deepen their engagement in learning at school, at home, and in the community. Focus on young people individually to help meet distinct needs, styles, and preferences. Schools and youth programs often offer different options. And remember: Learning happens everywhere, not just in school.
- Since school is just now under-**

- way, check out this expanded list of asset-building ideas:
- In your home and family:**
 - Stay in contact with teachers about children's progress. Don't wait for report cards.
 - Help your child stay alert in school by ensuring that they eat well and get enough sleep.
 - Monitor homework. Don't hover, but check in with your child every so often and ask "How's it going?"
 - Limit television watching.
 - Provide a quiet, comfortable, well-lit place for your kids to study without distractions.
 - Make it a point to attend school conferences and special events.
- In your neighborhood and community:**
 - Volunteer in a school as a tutor, club leader, reader, to young students or in other helping roles.
 - Recognize entire schools or classrooms. Reward students for good attendance.
 - Offer community education classes for one whole family.
 - Attend school performances, plays and concerts.
 - Have a community-wide drive to gather used books then donate them to needy families.
- In your school or youth program:**
 - Provide many opportunities for parents and other adults to volunteer at school.
 - Pair younger students with older

- students who love to read.
- Help students to write their own books; start a classroom library of student-created books.
- Affirm and encourage achievement in diverse areas as students discover their own interest and capabilities
- Make your classroom a warm and welcoming place to be.

- ASSET RELATED NEWS**
The Collab's Mobile Food Pantry is scheduled this month for Thursday, Sept 10th. This, plus a host of other programs/services, are always in need of help. If you're interested in volunteering, give the Collab a call at 440-887-4873.
- Here's an opportunity from our MyCom unit:** MyMedia 101 is an eight week after-school program where students will learn about journalism and video production by creating a WordPress blog and producing a short documentary about a topic they feel affects their community. By the end of the session, students will have learned about information gathering and research, journalistic storytelling techniques, interviewing techniques, video shot composition, and professional video editing on Adobe Premiere Pro. Any students between the ages of 13 and 17 with an interest in either writing or video production are encouraged to apply; prior experience isn't necessary.
- continued on page 9**

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Inspiration

I Believe

by Daniel Taddeo

Anything parents can do to minimize procrastination in the children will reap great dividends in their later years.

As the family weakens, so does the vertical transmission of family values. This promotes the horizontal transmission of values of the culture.

Blamers point the finger at someone else or thing for their own problems. It is so popular because it temporarily liberates them but does not get to the root of the problem.

Exercise will keep our energy level high, strengthen our immunity, improve our mood, and reduce the effects of negative stress, to name a few benefits.

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I should do, and with the help of God, I will do.

If we would use the power that God gives us to see ourselves as others see us, it would free us from many a blunder and foolish notion.

Those who choose a moral code of ethics grounded in Scripture will be well equipped to make all the right moral choices life will ever require.

Treat people as they are and they will remain that way. Treat them as they could be and they may become as they could be.

We should not allow other people or things to determine our frame of mind. Each person is personally responsible for this.

We will gradually adopt the habits, attitudes, and mannerisms of the people with whom we spend a lot of time.

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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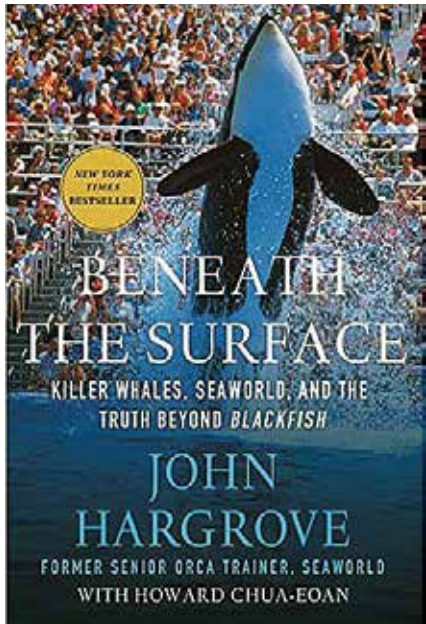
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Book Review “Beneath The Surface”

by Michelle E. Rice

Former Senior Orca Trainer at SeaWorld, John Hargrove tells the story of his childhood dream of wanting to become an Orca Trainer at SeaWorld, how he got his dream job, and his heart-breaking decision to quit in 2012 after 14 years. After being interviewed for the movie, “Blackfish,” a documentary of orcas in captivity, John decided to write about his experiences working with orcas and SeaWorld. Working for SeaWorld, he came to realize that it is a corporation that cared about profits more than people and the animals.

Humans cannot replicate the space, freedom, family units, and mental stimulation the ocean provides. Orcas are social beings which spend their entire lives with their families. He discusses the physical and psychological damage to orcas by keeping them in captivity. Not only are they kept in extremely small tanks, they certainly are not with their familial pod as they would be in nature, their babies are taken away from them, and if housed with another, there is often aggression due to incompatibility, frustration, depression, and boredom. Detailed accounts conclude that captivity is unhealthy for the orcas and unsafe for the humans who work with them. He witnessed a broad range of detrimental effects to their health and



behavior induced by captivity, both psychologically and physically, which do not occur in nature.

The book details orcas lives in the wild versus their lives in captivity, as well as their life expectancy. In the wild, females live 80-90 years, males 70 years. In captivity, the average age is 10 1/2 years old. Only 2 males have lived to 30 years old and no female has reached the age of 50. Of the 67 orcas SeaWorld has owned since 1965, 36 have died. If stillbirths and miscarriages are included, 50 have died. John Hargrove reasons that orcas should not be kept in captivity and how SeaWorld can change and still flourish.

Friends Are Islands

by Melanie Clink

people dance in mirrors...
today, the sun wrapped
its arms around me and,
held me in its
warmth
friends are islands
set in troubled waters
I know a place not far away
would you walk with me today or,
is it that your world's too fast for,
you to grasp onto that ...that which lasts
buried there within your soul
is POWER that will make you whole
are you afraid to carry on
slow down now friend...
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slow down young man
you are growing old and,
getting cold
maybe bold
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11:00 A.M. FIRST BIKE “OUT”
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Penny Schultz
Massotherapist

AUTUMN ALMANAC

September 26th
All Kids Playground At James Day Park - Phase One Grand Opening

by Sandra Premura

Very exciting news for all children; the City of Parma service workers removed the old playground equipment and began to build the All Kids Playground Phase One this August. Volunteers came together on August 27th to complete the construction. The playground is expected to be ready by Labor Day weekend.

Pumpkin Ales And September Sales!



A potent parade of powerful pumpkin powerhouses. Pumpkin season is coming!

by Christian Fitzharris

As September arrives, so does the influence of pumpkin flavored everything! Whether you're shopping at your local grocery store or picking up a few ales at the local pub, you will be assaulted by a barrage of pumpkin infused products from every angle. Of course, pumpkin pie and local squash will be featured at local fruit stands throughout the area. I am here to help guide you through the choices of the season. Rest assured, my friend, I will not steer you wrong. There are so many choices! How can you find the right one for you?

Add me to break down a few of the choices. Two great pumpkin ales made each season by Southern Tier are "Pumking" and "Warlock." Pumking's big pumpkin flavor and higher alcohol content leads folks to dig a little deeper into their wallets to buy this classic of the season. Going for \$10.99 for a 22 oz bottle, with an alcohol by volume (ABV) of 8.6%, this ale has reigned as a reliable "King" for this time of year. Its full flavor and bright texture bring pumpkin lovers to its bottle lip year after year. A lot of people exclaim, "Eleven dollars per bottle!" But Southern Tier's quality and reputation have brought even the most stern critic to the counter for purchase. "Warlock" is another great Southern Tier ale for the season. The brother of "Pumking," "Warlock" features roasty maltiness which comes off as coffee with a little dark chocolate, spices, and give a great mouthfeel. At 10% abv, "Warlock" is a bit bigger and darker than its brother, but for those looking for a little sweetness it's the right choice. Fathead's own "Spooky Tooth" is another fantastic option. It features a brown sugar, cinnamon, spices, and sweet malt with a 9% abv. An approachable, fun, spicy seasonal choice brewed just down the

street in Middleburg Heights, Ohio.

If you're not into spicy ales, there are some beer choices you may enjoy. Samuel Adams' "OctoberFest" features smooth malt and is a bit lighter with a 5.3% abv. And, of course, Great Lakes' own "Oktoberfest" is another local hit of the season. Pairing well with all German food choices, "Oktoberfest" is a four time medal winner in the brewing industry with a reasonable 6.5% abv. For the more classically minded, now would be a nice time to have the appropriately named "Summer's End" cocktail. Take out 2 oz of your homemade Applejack from last year, and add 1 oz of cherry liqueur in a Martini glass. Stir and garnish with a lemon twist and a cherry. As we say "goodbye" to our summer pinot grigio wines and pink chilled Rose, we start to open up a few more light red wines like Zinfandel and Merlot. There is no reason that anyone should be left without a tap to tip or a wine to wriggle! There is something for everyone. And if alcohol isn't your thing, treat yourself to a sparkling apple cider or a glass of water, but only in moderation.

No matter your choice, enjoy the season with friends and family.

Cheers!

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The mission of the playground is to create an environment where children's physical health, emotional well-being, and development of life skills are met, as they learn and grow through play.

The vision 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, activity areas, play structures, and a family friendly gathering pavilion.

All Kids Playground is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating a playground with multiple amenities to accommodate a place of play for children with and without disabilities.

The playground design will include:

- Wide grips on handles and rails with rounded edges on corners to accommodate the various degrees of motor skills
- Some swings have straps
- A glider large enough to include a wheelchair
- Ramps for easy mobility for children and their parents in wheelchairs
- A special soft surface that will protect them from falls and provide easy movement

There are three phases to building the playground. Volunteers are always welcome. The playground is searching for sponsors as additional funds are needed to complete the other two phases. Sponsors names will be displayed on each piece of equipment. On October 25th, there will be a Browns Tailgate fundraiser held at Anthony's on Pleasant Valley Road. Please come and support this wonderful playground. A Parma police officer celebrity bartending event will be held soon at the Parma American Legion Post 572 on State Road.

All children deserve to have playtime and space. However, children with disabilities are not always able to enjoy playgrounds, especially when they are cumbersome, not fully accessible, or too far from home.

This will be a place where all children and their families will feel safe, engaged, and accepted. Playgrounds for all children are not located in our area. They are located in Beachwood, Amherst, and in Stow. The All Kids Playground is much needed and will be great for Parma as well as nearby suburbs.

Donations are accepted at Fifth Third bank at 7414 Broadview Road. Please email us @ allkidsplayground14@gmail.com or call 440-253-6021. Please visit the website <http://www.allkidsplayground.org/> to learn more.

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Perspective

Not The Party Of My Father Or Grandfather

by Lee Kamps

Following the 2012 presidential election and Mitt Romney’s loss to President Obama, Louisiana governor and current presidential candidate Bobby Jindal said that the Republican Party should stop being the “stupid party.” Now that there is another presidential election on the horizon and President Obama is not on the ballot, the Republican Party has gone from the “stupid party” to the “crazy party.” A common definition of insanity is continuing to do the same thing, but expecting different results. The Republican controlled House of Representatives had voted more than fifty times to repeal the ACA or Obamacare. Yet each time the bill has died in the Senate. So, according to that definition, perhaps the Republican Party is insane.

I come from a long line of Republicans. Both my parents and both sets of grandparents were Republicans. My paternal grandfather was one of the founders of the Parma Republican club and an uncle of mine once ran for Solicitor for the City of Parma as a Republican. He lost that election.

However, in 2012 and again in 2016, I don’t think that my parents or grandparents, if they were still alive, would be voting for any Republican for president. In fact, I remember my father saying back in 1992 that he admitted for voting for Bill Clinton for president because he believed that

George H.W. Bush was “out of touch” with ordinary Americans. He said that was the first time that he had voted for any Democrat for president in his life and he first voted in 1940.

My mother had also voted for Bill Clinton that year as well. She was a long time nurse at Lutheran Hospital in the OB-GYN department and later became an instructor in OB-GYN in their nursing school. She was also a long time member of Planned Parenthood where she assisted with the establishing of family planning clinics throughout Cleveland and served there as an instructor, teaching young men and women how to avoid unwanted pregnancies. She fell out of favor with the Republican Party in the 1980s when the anti-abortion nuts hijacked the party. She is now deceased, but I am sure that she would have some choice words for those Republicans threatening to shut down the government over cutting off funds for Planned Parenthood.

In the Republican party of my father and grandfathers, such antics like what is going on this year would never have occurred. Nut jobs like Ted Cruz and Mike Huckabee wouldn’t get any backing from the party leaders and wouldn’t have a chance in a primary election. Billionaire reality television celebrities like Donald Trump would never be taken seriously and certainly would not be allowed in a presidential debate. Of course, in the party of my father and grandfathers, there wouldn’t be a presidential debate 15 months prior to the election.

In the Republican party of my father and grandfathers, the party leadership, who understood the issues and voters, would seriously vet any candidate running for president so that someone with no political skills, such as Ben Carson, would never be taken seriously. The right wing nut jobs would be relegated to the back benches and would barely be heard, let alone appear on prime time for a presidential debate. Nor would there be 17 declared candidates for president 15 months before the election.

In the Republican party of my

father and grandfathers, no senator would even think about undermining any president’s discussions with a foreign nation, let alone a nation that is hostile toward the United States. Someone like Sen. Tom Cotton would be quickly “taken to the woodshed” by the party leadership. Instead, the party leadership signed Cotton’s treasonous letter to Iran. The time for discussing treaties and deals with foreign countries is after the treaty or deal is negotiated, not to interfere with the President and Secretary of State.

The Republican party of my father and grandfathers would never attempt to shut down the government over something like defunding Planned Parenthood or funding the ACA. Nor would the GOP of my father and grandfathers abuse the filibuster like the Republicans have done since President Obama took office.

Nor in the Republican party of my father and grandfathers would the party tolerate such intolerance and outright bigotry like what has been exhibited lately on the campaign trail. No credible candidate would ever suggest revoking birthright citizenship since that is embedded in the Constitution (in the 14th amendment, section 1) or suggesting something as impossible such as rounding up 11 million undocumented immigrants and deporting them to their native country. Neither would the Republican party of Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Eisenhower, and Reagan have insulted women or played political games with women’s health issues.

No doubt that Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Eisenhower, and Ronald Reagan, along with my father and grandfathers, are rolling over many times in their graves at the current state of the Republican Party.



Ukrainian Independence Day Parade in Parma's Ukrainian Village in August 22.

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Perspective

Ohioans Shouldn't Be Left In The Dark On Trade

by Sherrod Brown

Ohioans have seen first-hand what so-called free trade agreements have done to our state and our economy. Bad deals have closed factories, torn apart families, and devastated communities. Americans have every right to be skeptical of new trade deals, particularly the TransPacific Partnership – the largest trade deal ever negotiated. We have heard “just trust me” from politicians too many times before. Americans were promised new jobs through foreign trade, but instead found shuttered factories and a flood of imports from China and Mexico. The TPP deal between the U.S. and nearly a dozen Asian-Pacific nations would affect more than 40 percent of our world’s economy. That’s why we need a transparent process that allows Americans and their elected representatives to see the text of the agreement.

Unfortunately, with the TPP we have seen the opposite—unprecedented secrecy.

The President has stated that we should look at the facts before passing judgment on this agreement, yet



United States Senator Sherrod Brown-D Ohio

it’s nearly impossible for policymakers—let alone our constituents or the free press—to know what those facts are. The Administration has made the draft text of the TPP agreement classified, and kept it hidden from the public.

Even seasoned policy advisors with the requisite security clearances can’t review text without being accom-

panied by a Member of Congress.

And yet, there is one group that has had significant access to the trade deal: the country’s biggest corporations and their lobbyists. These corporate insiders have had the chance not only to read the deal, but to shape it.

The Administration has 28 trade advisory committees on different aspects of the TPP, and 85 percent of the members of these committees are senior corporate executives or industry lobbyists. In fact, many of the advisory committees – including those on chemicals and pharmaceuticals, textiles and clothing, and services and finance – are made up entirely of industry representatives.

It shouldn’t be easier for multinational corporations to get their hands

on trade text than for public servants looking out for American workers and American manufacturers. Corporate executives and lobbyists have had access to this deal for years—it’s time the American people had a say.

That’s why I am keeping the pressure on the President and his administration to improve transparency. Until the text of this massive agreement is made accessible to policy advisers looking out for the public interest, I will block a key new appointment to the U.S. Trade Representative’s office, which is negotiating this deal.

Congress has to vote to approve any deal, and should be part of the process of crafting it. Too much is at stake with this trade deal for the American people and their elected representatives to be left in the dark.

Asset Corner #69

continued from page 5

The fall session begins September 22th, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Idea Center, 1375 Euclid Ave, Cleveland 44115, and will continue every Tuesday until November 10th. Snacks, dinner, and bus passes for the students are provided along with a stipend for their work. Applications are due by Sept 11th at 4:00 p.m. and can be obtained by calling Kathy Hall, our MyCom Youth Advocate, at 440-842-7043.

In collaboration with UH/Parma Medical Center, Parma Early Childhood PTA is having a TOUCH-A-TRUCK event on Sunday, Sept 13th from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the UH/PMC Health Education Center located at 7300 State Rd in Parma. In addition to all kinds of trucks to see, touch, and climb on, there will be a balloon animal artist, face painter, a play area, and concessions. Admission is free with the donation of a canned good to be given to a local food pantry.

In a highly competitive grant process, the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) was awarded \$118,996 by the State of Ohio for the “CBS Connects” initiative. The funding will be used to coordinate a mentoring program between students in the Parma City Schools and adult volunteers from the community. The grant will be used to support a collaboration of the Chamber, the Community/Business/Schools Partnership, Community Ambassadors, and the PCSD to provide mentors for district students. Implementation details should be available soon.

If you haven’t heard, the Board of Education held a Special Meeting on August 19th to hire Mr. Carl Hilling as Interim Superintendent of the PCSD

for the 2015-2016 school year, effective Thursday, Aug. 20th. Mr. Hilling was a prior Superintendent in the district, serving from 1989 to 1995. During that time, he was the catalyst responsible for the creation of the Community/Business/Schools Partnership as well as the Byers Field Foundation - both organizations which have helped to continue growth and collaboration in our community. He has a distinguished career in education that spans 40 years.

A special thank you to the donors, volunteers, and staff of the Parma Education Foundation, KIKS Office, Parma Christian Church, Broadview Church of Christ, Ridge Road UCC, Parma Lutheran Church, Walmart, and the Parma Area Family Collaborative for their work collecting/distributing school supplies and backpacks to our area’s needy students. An outstanding effort! My apologies if I missed acknowledging any group or individual. Please know that your efforts were appreciated.

The new school year brings changes in administration and a host of great new programs along with opportunities for you to get involved. Stay in touch by regularly checking the district’s web site at www.parmacityschools.org.

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

It Has Been 70 Years Since V-J Day

by Bob Stilwell

On Sunday, September 2, 1945, more than 250 allied warships lay at anchor in Tokyo Bay. The flags of the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and China fluttered above the deck of the Missouri. Just after 9 a.m., Tokyo time, Japanese Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu signed on behalf of the Japanese government. General Yoshijiro Umezu then signed on behalf of the Japanese armed forces, and his aids wept as he made his signature.

Next, Supreme Commander MacArthur signed on behalf of the United Nations, declaring, “It is my earnest hope and indeed the hope of all mankind that from this solemn occasion a better world shall emerge out of the blood and carnage of the past.” Ten more signatures were made, by the United States, China, Britain, the USSR, Australia, Canada, France, the Netherlands, and New Zealand, respectively. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz signed for the United States. As the 20-minute ceremony ended, the sun burst through the low-hanging clouds. The most devastating war in human



history was over.
The original copy of this historical document is on display at the Parma Heights Historical Society Toll House. You may call the Historical Society president, Joe Reeves, for hours of operation at 216-870-4864.



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Parma Observer

Enjoy Bella Notte September 19 At Breezewood Gardens

by Tricia Kuivinen

Maggie’s Place Ohio will host the Third Annual “Magic of Motherhood” charitable benefit on Saturday, September 19, 2015, from 6 - 10 p.m. to support the continued operation of The Zechariah House, a Maggie’s Place home for homeless and vulnerable pregnant women located in Northeast Ohio.

Join the board, friends, staff, and residents of The Zechariah House to enjoy a beautiful evening in celebration of motherhood, featuring fine Italian food and wine, live entertainment, dancing, silent auction, and raffle of unique packages, all set against the scenic backdrop of Breezewood Gardens and Gifts in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Guests will also have the opportunity to meet several of the young mothers served by The Zechariah House and learn how they can support the life-changing work of Maggie’s Place. The Founding Sponsors of the event are

Richard and Terry DeBacco. This year’s event is presented by Tom and Carrie Kurtz of Kurtz Brothers and Angelo and Maria Petitti of Petitti Garden Center.

Reservations for a “Bella Notte” are \$100 per person. Event tickets, program advertisements, and event sponsorships as well as group seating reservations can be secured online: <http://magicofmotherhood2015.eventbrite.com> or contact Maggie’s Place by email for more information. Semi-formal attire is requested.

The Zechariah House provides a safe and welcoming family atmosphere, practical necessities such as food and clothing, counseling, parenting classes, greater employment readiness, and educational opportunities for vulnerable women who may be alone, on the streets, or facing other difficult life circumstances during their pregnancies. The home can house up to nine expect-

ant women and moms may stay up to six months after their child’s birth.

Maggie’s Place Ohio is targeting raising \$75,000 through the Magic of Motherhood benefit which will be used for the operational support of The Zechariah House, where each young mother engages in personal goal setting and life skills sessions leading to further personal growth and greater independence. Many mothers also increase their educational level while living at The Zechariah House, by completing their GED, job training, or

attending college with the help of Maggie’s Place scholarships.

To learn more about Maggie’s Place, visit www.maggiesplace.org, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or contact us at 440-866-2620 or ohio.events@maggiesplace.org for more information or to schedule a personal tour of The Zechariah House.

The Magic of Motherhood Gala Benefit is made possible by the vision and generosity of the founding sponsors Richard and Terry DeBacco and Mark and Michelle Chiacchiari.

CEO of Dynamic City Mission To Speak At Community Prayer Breakfast

by CJ Sheppard

Generations of Cleveland’s neediest residents have received sustenance, skills, and hope from The City Mission. At University Hospitals Parma Medical Center’s 26th Annual Community Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, October 15, hear how the mission that began in an abandoned Superior Avenue saloon more than a century ago has become one of Cleveland’s oldest and most vibrant non-profit organizations.

The Rev. Richard Trickel, Chief Executive Officer of The City Mission since 2004, will share his unique perspective on Cleveland with a Mission mandate of “Reaching Hearts, Changing Lives.” At the Community Prayer Breakfast – an opportunity to unite area citizens for an inspiring morning of reflection and fellowship, held at St. Michael’s Woodside, 5025 Mill Road, Broadview Hts. – Rev. Trickel will share stories of how this dynamic ministry has served hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children with practical services like vocational training and mental health counseling,

as well as spiritual direction.

An experienced Bible teacher and conference speaker, Rev. Trickel has had both foreign and domestic missions. He holds a diploma in Bible and Missions, a bachelor’s degree in Communications, and a master’s degree in Adult Education. In addition to his talk, which follows a buffet breakfast starting at 7 a.m., sacred music will be performed by the Threshold Choir. This a cappella choir, part of a national organization with chapters throughout North America and Europe, consists of women who use their vocal gifts to bring solace and comfort to their audience. The choir frequently works with hospices and health care organizations, providing their music at the bedside of patients to soothe the soul and bring peace to those at the thresholds of life.

Tickets for the event are \$25 each and are available for groups of 10 when pre-paid. The deadline for reservations is Friday, October 9. For more information or a reservation form, contact Chaplain Wayne Decker at 440-743-4295.

The President’s Corner

continued from page 2

iconography in the church brought the Biblical stories to life for the congregation,” he added.

The parish also is home to the very spacious Grand Hall, which can be rented for events. Located just east of the Cathedral at 3425 Marioncliff Drive, the Hall offers elegant catering. Call 440-885-0468 for details.

If you are like me, one of the reasons I love Parma is for our pierogies. No matter how you spell it or prepare them, they are scrumptious comfort food. In fact, I think we should claim Parma as the Pierogie Capital of the World. If you have not tried St. Vladimir’s pierogies, you have to. To place an order, call 440-886-3223 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. weekdays or e-mail them at potatopyrohy@yahoo.com.

Every summer, the parish of St. Vladimir hosts a Ukrainian Festival, which includes many Ukrainian delicacies and beverages, Cathedral tours, as well as cultural performances and sales. The Parish is also co-host of the annual Ukrainian Village parade, art walk, and festival toward the end of August. To find out more about these and other events in Ukrainian Village, visit www.facebook.com/UkrainianVillage.

As I mentioned in last month’s column, there are over 250 million Orthodox Christians worldwide, with about 1.2 million living in the United States. Although Orthodoxy is quite ethnically diverse, including Ukrainian, Russian, Greek, Romanian, Serbian and others, all of these ethnic jurisdictions belong to one



Eastern Orthodox Church and are unified theologically and morally. All are invited to their services.

To find out more about St. Vladimir’s, visit their website at www.stvladimirs.org. A special thank you to Fr. John and the parish of St. Vladimir’s for inviting me into your beautiful place of worship.



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The Parma Art Scene

Artists Of The Month Brademeyer /Aker

by Kathryn Mabin

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

Children's Art Event

Normally this column features individual artists/crafters from the community. This month I've decided to write about something a bit different. On August 2, 2015, the Parma Area Fine Arts Council in partner-

ship with Polish Village Community Development and Local Tavern sponsored a Free Side Walk Chalk Drawing Event. Approximately 50 children, between the ages of 2 to 14, participated in this annual event.

At 1:00 p.m., the children and the adults accompanying them lined up at the registration desk. Each child received a bag with chalk and some small treats. The children were accompanied to their numbered square in the parking lot and told to be creative and chalk up whatever they wanted. There were lots of flowers, birds, butterflies, and super-



By Ariana Brademeyer - Winner in the 2-8 age category.

heroes. Moms, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and neighbors brought children. Some drove, others walked, and a few rode their bikes. It was gratifying to see families come together. There was lots of laughter, too. Events like this bring a sense of small town community to our town.

This year, there was an added bonus. Balloon Creations by Kristi (EverythingBalloonz.com) and Patty-Watty's Face Painting (Party-FacePaintingBerea.com) were hired to entertain the children after they chalked up their squares. Kristi does unique balloon twisting. Most popular were butterfly bracelets, bumble bees, monkey's with bananas, and light swords. Patty painted several young faces with cute original designs, using skin-safe paints. They were both a welcome addition to the event by children and adults. Both Kristi and Patty are available for parties and events locally.

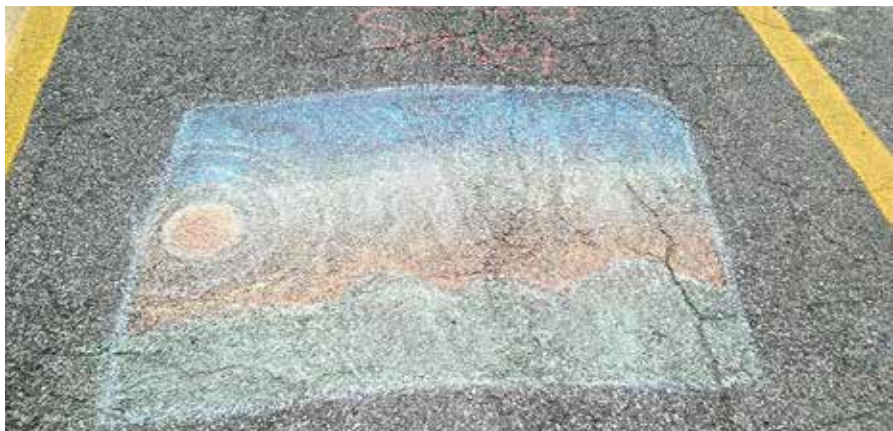
This event is also a competition. Local Tavern provided two gift certificates to Toys-R-Us to the winners. Ariana Brademeyer won in the 2 to 8 age category, and Celiah Aker won in the 9 to 14 age category. One of the winners has never won anything before. You can bet she will never forget that day! There was a 50/50 raffle for the adults. Local Tavern also had hot dogs for sale for a dollar.

Creative art activities are the

building blocks in a child's development. The use of crayons, chalk, markers, and paint help develop large and small motor skills. When children work together on an art project, they learn to share and interact with others. The imagination, invention, and experimentation skills used in creating are important factors in educating our children. Creative art also helps with cognitive development. Plus, when we as adults value their creativity, we raise their self-esteem. Besides, the fact is that it is enjoyable and fun. As a community, we need to encourage and support events like this that foster wholesome family enrichment. This event is a prime example of what business, community, and non-profit partnership can achieve when working together to build a better place for families to raise their children.

Parma Area Fine Arts Council offers an Art Exploration class for ages 7 to 18, Wednesdays from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. The sessions are two hours long, cost \$8, and are taught by a licensed art instructor. For more information, check out ParmaFineArts.org or call 440-888-4514.

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.



By Ariana Brademeyer - Winner in the 2-8 age category.

Flamingo Fever Banquet & Auction

by Kathryn Mabin

Saturday, Septemer 26, 2015, Old World Parma/Polish Village will hold their third annual Flamingo Fever Banquet & Auction, at St. Charles Parish Hall. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now! Pre-order by email at KathrynMabin@att.net, or by calling 440-843-6474. \$25 for adults, and \$10 for children gets you authentic Polish food, a full dinner with pastries, coffee, or soft drinks. There will also be a cash bar. Up for auction will be the 2015 Flamingo Flock, 16 unique table top sculptures, created by local art-



Flamingo Leg Lamp by Stephanie & Dave Sarkies located at Colozza's Bakery.

ists and craftsmen. There will also be a Chinese Auction, 50/50 Raffle, Flamingo Match Game, and The People's Choice Award. Lots of fun for everyone. For your enjoyment, over the summer the 2015 Flamingo Flock has roosted in establishments throughout Parma. Join us for the fun of it, September 26th. Bid high and bid often to take home your own unique, one of a kind flamingo. Brought to you by Old World Parma/Polish Village. Be sure to check out our website at PolishVillage-Parma.com. You can also follow us at Facebook.com/PolishVillage or Twitter.com/PolishVillage.



I Love My Babushka by Donata Rahne located at Krakow Deli.



King Pin Bowler by Craig Lindsley located at Key Bank Parma.



I Am Parma by Erin Bruening located at Rudy's Strudel & Bakery.

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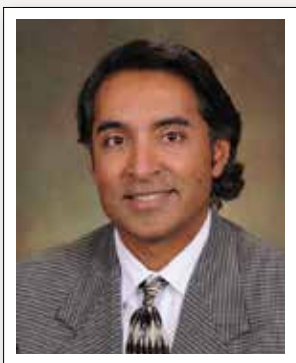
Pleasant Lake Villa

Skilled Rehabilitation Services

Cardiology Program



Gerald Burma, MD
Pleasant Lake Villa
Board Certified Cardiologist



Raju Modi, MD
Pleasant Lake Villa Director of Cardiology
Board Certified Cardiologist



Arthur Ulatowski, DO
Pleasant Lake Villa
Board Certified Cardiologist

“The cardiology program is very unique due to the close integration between acute care and post-acute care.

The program involves a **comprehensive approach** to patient care, starting with extensive **nursing education** and close follow-up by **board certified cardiologists**.

The program also monitors appropriate use of cardiac-specific medications and dietary recommendations with detailed attention to patient outcomes.

Our approach has resulted in a successful **reduction in hospital re-admissions** for our patients.”

RAJU MODI, MD
PLEASANT LAKE VILLA DIRECTOR OF CARDIOLOGY

About our specialty program

- The Cardiology Program includes all cardiac related care, skilled nursing and rehabilitation to a speedy return home
- The Cardiology Program treats patients with diagnosis that include: heart failure, coronary artery disease, arrhythmia, resistant hypertension, peripheral vascular disease, shortness of breath, and chest pain.
- Patients are seen by the cardiologist several times per week, in addition to their regular doctor visits.

Our stats tell the story

- **880 patients** in the program since 2012
- **Less than 2%** of those on the program had to be readmitted to the hospital **within 30 days** of their hospital stay.
- Those who chose to opt out of the program were **7.5 times more likely** to be readmitted to the hospital because of a cardiac related diagnosis.

For more information, or to schedule a tour, call 440-842-2273



Pleasant Lake Villa

Part of the Legacy Health Services Family

7260 Ridge Road · Parma, Ohio 44129 · 440-842-2273