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# PARMA Observer

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## Parma Observer Is Six Years Old

by Daniel P. McCarthy  
Publisher

Six years is a decent stretch of time in the life of anyone or anything. Just think about your own life during the past 6 years; the time goes by so fast, but when you look back, so much has occurred and a lot of changes have taken place. The same is true with the Tri-City area of Parma, Parma Heights, and Seven Hills. When the Parma Observer came to life in October of 2009, the three cities all had different leaders than they do now, there were businesses and institu-

tions that today are no longer here, just as there were brand new entities just coming into existence, especially the Parma Observer. Although our paper wasn't the first Observer in the Cleveland Area (it was the 4th), the very concept of citizen powered media was, and in many ways still is, completely unique to our particular section of Cuyahoga County.

Our square mile area is so large that even now, after six years, there are many who are only now discovering the Parma Observer for the first time. True, a good part of the reason for this

is due to our limited budget, which is directly related to the slower than anticipated pace of advertisers joining our voluntary citizen journalism project than we had initially hoped for. I accept full responsibility for that, as it has always been my duty to engage the business and non-profit community, and perhaps I didn't allocate and manage my time as effectively as I should have in that respect; I am currently re-doubling my efforts in this area of publishing the Parma Observer.

We have, I believe, done much to achieve our mission

of helping to unite the large, wonderful Parma community through citizen powered media, but there is still much to be accomplished. Awareness is and always has been a key element in stitching together the considerable resources that exist in our area. For people to share a vision for our future that will inspire others to choose our cities as places worth moving to, settling here and raising a family, we must offer a wide variety of features that are indeed attractive, even enviable. Being optimistic is essential, but we must also have realistic plans and a definite way to make them a reality, sooner than later. If we do this, we will remain a place

that is known for the quality of life which indeed made us a desirable place to live since the beginning, and we will continue to attract new residents that represent a great future for our city, as well as inspiring our children to remain here and take their turn raising their own families.



## Citizens And Business Of the Month

by Jeannie Roberts

The residents of Wooster Parkway have had what is probably Parma's best block party for 20 years running. Their party includes a potluck meal, games with prizes for kids, PFD and PPD vehicles and a variety of entertainment - car shows, the St. Ignatius jugglers, bands and DJs. Most important is the good will and

camaraderie among the neighbors. Mayor DeGeeter admires these neighbors so much that he chose them to be Citizens of the Month. As Business of the Month, he chose Parma Hobby and its owners Bob & Sandra Zednik. The business is located at 5275 Ridge Road and is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. Parma Hobby has, of course, any hobby sup-

ply you might need and also holds classes on many subjects. Additionally, you may have noticed the new mural, commissioned by Sandra, on the side of the business.



Some residents of Wooster Parkway



Bob & Sandra Zednik of Parma Hobby

## Stop In For A Visit! Tri-C Hosts Open House On Oct. 17 At Western Campus In Parma

by John Horton

Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) will host an open house from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 17, at its Western Campus, located at 11000 Pleasant Valley Road in Parma.

The open house provides prospective students an opportunity to discuss academic programs with faculty and counselors; learn more about enrollment, financial aid and scholarships; explore student services; and tour the facilities.

Western Campus is one of five Tri-C sites holding an open house during those hours Oct. 17. Other participating locations are:

Brunswick University Center, 3605 Center Road in Brunswick

Eastern Campus, 4250 Richmond Road in Highland Hills

Metropolitan Campus,

## All Kids Playground At James Day Park - Ribbon Cutting Grand Opening - Saturday - October 17 At 9 A.M.

by Sandra Premura

Please stop by the All Kids Playground at James Day Park for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 9 a.m. We would to thank the community for their support and all the donors. Please remember the project is not complete and we are still looking for sponsorship and donations. The children are enjoying the playground.



Eastwood Automotive Tools opened their only location between Pottstown, PA and Chicago, IL at 5673 Ridge Rd in Parma on 9/20. They feature a complete array of tools and equipment for those who restore classic and vintage vehicles, complete with classes on the use of tools and procedures. A good choice of locations, as this area is just filled with their type of customers. A real candy store for the do-it-your-selfer.

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# Community News

## The President's Corner

by Sean Brennan

This summer Cuyahoga Community College (CCC) Western Campus was the site of the University Hospitals (UH) Parma Medical Center's Fifth Annual Parma Run-Walk for Pierogies, sponsored by Perla's Homemade Delights. The weather was great for the nearly 650 runners and walkers who showed up to keep in shape, finish with a personal record (PR in runners' terms), assist the efforts of several local charities, and, of course, enjoy Parma's famous pierogies. As founder and director of the event, I am writing this month to say thank you to all of our participants, volunteers and sponsors.

First, I want to thank the administration, safety forces and faculty of CCC-West, especially my good friend Radiah Douglas. They have graciously allowed us to take over their campus for the Run-Walk for the past five years. The beauty, safety and flatness of the grounds make for an excellent 5k (3.1 miles). In doing so, CCC proves itself once again to be an excellent community partner, dedicated to serving the greater Parma area and its residents.

Next, I want to thank our many sponsors, especially UH Parma's admin-



Sean Brennan,  
Parma City Council President

istration and staff, including fellow runner Mark White, who so generously underwrite many of our costs to run the event. David and Daniel Serban from Perla's Homemade Delights (5380 State Road) and Jon and Zofia Holt from The Little Polish Diner (5772 Ridge Road) were the stars of the day by donating and serving up hundreds of scrumptious pierogies to the crowd. Other sponsors included Dan McCarthy and The Parma Observer, 95.5 Fish FM, On the Spot Dry

Cleaning, Regency Luxury Apartments, Broadview Multicare, Chuppa's Marketplace, Dr. Stanley Meckler's Family Dental Care, Giant Eagle on Snow and Day Drives, Eat 'n Park, Marc's, Krispy Kreme Donuts, Parma Walmart, Unity Catholic Credit Union, Pilat Insurance, Clerk of Courts Martin Vittardi, Mayor Timothy DeGeeter, Parma Councilman Brian Day, Honey Hut, Vertical Runner of Brecksville, Dick's Sporting Goods, St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Guys Pizza, NewsChannel 5, The Parma Amateur Athletic Federation (PAAF), Cuyahoga County Public Libraries, Acme Fresh Markets, F.P. Allega, Antonio's Restaurant, Questcom Graphics, manager Gary Sikon of Office Max on Snow Road, Clean and Shine Maid Service, Flowerama, Kohl's, Axelrod Buick/GMC, Dairy Queen, First Federal of Lakewood, J.E.M. Jewelers, Studio Zia, YMCA of Greater Cleveland, and the Stefaniuk Realty Team at Howard Hanna.

I also want to thank the many volunteers who came out to make the event another great success, including my co-director Gary Uveges, our official photographers, Trish Uveges, Anita Orenick, and Rob Erick, as well as Kevin Leigh, Russ Fischer, Anna Marie and Bill Donley, Jane and Kristy Denton, Susan Sheehan, Joyce Merrill, Mary Ellen Stasek, John Rakauskas, John Visnauskas, Tina and Emily King, Alicia and Alyssa Benel, Chris Stauffer, Chad and Kyra Davis, Jennifer Madercic, Dave and Sharon Zeck, Rick, Denise and Angelina Piccari, Joan Surace, Julie Miragliotta, Pat Apple, Kathy and Rosey Bewley, Brenda Lang, Rudy Stralka, Jacob Durda, Amanda and Allison Pacanovsky, and many others. Of course, I would be remiss if I did not thank my ever supportive wife, Deena, and my wonderful children, Patrick and Colleen.

Once again this year, we were able to award thousands of dollars to several local charities. In fact, \$2,000 was donated to the CCC-Scholarship Foundation, \$1,000 each to All Faiths Pantry, the Parma Schools' Adult Basic Literacy and Education (A.B.L.E.) program, Parma Girl Scouts, the Parma Animal Shelter, and \$500 to the City of Parma Fire Safety House.

Congratulations to all of the finishers, especially Aaron Apathy who came in first place in a time of 15:13.

That translates into about 4:53 per mile. Stephanie Madercic of Parma came in as the first female, posting 19:27 or about 6:16 per mile. Aaron continues to hold the course record, breaking his previous record again. Both received a prize pack from Vertical Runner and Dick's.

It is not too early to start planning for next year's race, which will take place on Saturday, July 5, 2016. If you are interested in participating, volunteering, or sponsoring the event next year, please contact me at pierogie5k@gmail.com or 440-884-0489. Visit us online at www.hermes.com, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter @ pierogie5k. Tax deductible donations may be made to the Parma Charitable Fund and mailed to 6306 Hampstead Avenue, Parma, Ohio 44129.



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## All Kids Playground Browns Tailgate Fundraiser - Sunday, October 25 At Anthony's

by Sandra Premura

Come and watch the Browns game at Anthony's and help raise funds to build the last phase of the All Kids Playground. The Browns Tailgate Fundraiser begins at 12:30 p.m. (doors

open at noon). Attendees can expect food and beverages, sideboards, chinese auction, and fun. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by calling 440-476-1667. Your support is appreciated.

## Stop In For A Visit! Tri-C Hosts Open House On Oct. 17 At Western Campus In Parma

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2900 Community College Avenue in Cleveland

Westshore Campus, 31001 Clemens Road in Westlake

This free event is open to the public and parking is available at all sites. For more information or to register, visit [www.tri-c.edu/openhouse](http://www.tri-c.edu/openhouse).

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Health/Culture

Relax, Refresh, Learn  
At Free Women's Health  
Expo On Oct. 17

by CJ Sheppard

Attention women: Focus on your own health so you can be healthy and strong for your family at a fun, informative morning retreat presented by University Hospitals Parma Medical Center. The free Women's Health Expo, which takes place on Saturday, Oct. 17 at the Embassy Suites in Independence, is an opportunity for women to find answers to all those questions you were afraid to ask.

Learn how to manage the pressure of being a family caregiver in the sandwich generation, and how to handle the latest gynecological screening guidelines for your own health, at this event. The program runs 9 a.m. – noon, but registration, breakfast, and free health screenings start at 7:30 a.m.

Family practitioner Jennifer Wurst, MD, will present "The Big Squeeze: The Stress of Being a Sandwich Generation Caregiver" and OB/GYN Steven Galun, MD, will discuss "The ABCs of HPV, PAP, MAMM, and GYN," just two of the many physicians sharing their expertise at this morning multi-generational gathering. Additionally, cardiologist Christine Zirafi, MD, Director of Women's Cardiovascular Center at UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute, will cover the risk factors of cardiovascular disease.

Get a group of friends together and register today. Embassy Suites is located at 5800 Rockside Woods Blvd., Independence. Call 440-743-4932 or register online at [www.UHParma.org](http://www.UHParma.org)/classes.

Polish Village Treat & Greet Set For  
October 24

by Kathryn Mabin

The much anticipated Old World Parma/Polish Village Treat & Greet is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2015. This marks the fifth year this event has been in existence. The children, all decked out in their costumes, accompanied by adults, walk Ridge Road, Trick-Or-Treating at the participating businesses. Last year, 40 businesses participated. Families go directly to the headquarters (5790 Ridge Rd, Parma) and receive a passport that lists the locations of the participating businesses. As each family goes to a business, the passport is stamped. When the passport is filled, or when the adults become exhausted, they return to the headquarters and turn in the passport.

Depending on how many stamps they receive, they are given tickets to enter in a raffle for prizes, which consists of baskets of goodies, or gift certificates from local merchants.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is a safe and fun way to celebrate Halloween. The upside for the businesses, especially those smaller mom and pop stores, is they receive foot traffic from people who may not know they exist. Our community is a driving community and while driving you may drive right past a shop not knowing what is inside. Many of the businesses also supplement the candy and gum they give out with trinkets or coupons. One year, a business even supplied free hot coffee to the adults.

Each year the committee adds something to the event, keeping it fresh. The Ghostbusters are slated to make an appearance. Some shop owners and employees also dress in costume for the day. All in all, it is a great way for families to enjoy the fall season in a safe, friendly environment, and it is a great way to celebrate the community with your friends, neighbors, and shop keepers.

The event is free to children and accompanying adults, and open to the public.

Be sure to visit [PolishVillageParma.com](http://PolishVillageParma.com), [Facebook.com/PolishVillage](https://Facebook.com/PolishVillage), and [Twitter.com/PolishVillage](https://Twitter.com/PolishVillage) to keep up with the latest news in Parma's Polish Village.



Magic of Motherhood founder Michelle Chiacchiari and husband Mark.

Bella Notte Raises \$75K  
For Maggie's Place

by Tricia Kuivinen

More than 250 guests enjoyed Bella Notte, the 3rd Annual "Magic of Motherhood" charitable benefit on Saturday, September 19, 2015 at Breezewood Gardens & Gifts in Chagrin Falls. Bella Notte raised just over \$75,000 in operating support for The Zechariah House, a Maggie's Place home for homeless or vulnerable pregnant women located in Northeast Ohio.

Event guests feasted on fine Italian food and wine, enjoyed dancing, and live entertainment from Justo, and bid on over 50 silent auction and raffle packages, all set against the scenic glass-enclosed backdrop of the Breezewood Gardens greenhouse. Former Maggie's Place guest mom and her son Ryan attended the event to share how they had benefited from the family-like atmosphere and ongoing support of The Zechariah House. This year's event was presented by Dick and Terry DeBacco, Tom and Carrie Kurtz, and Angelo and Maria Petitti. Brooke Taylor of St. Gabriel Media served as emcee for the evening.

The Zechariah House provides a safe and welcoming family atmo-

sphere, 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 has a live-in staff model and can house up to eight expectant women at a time. Mothers may stay up to six months after their child's birth.

Funds raised through Bella Notte will be used for the ongoing practical and educational needs of The Zechariah House guests. To learn more about Maggie's Place, visit [www.maggiesplace.org](http://www.maggiesplace.org), follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or contact us at 440-866-2620 or [ohio.events@maggiesplace.org](mailto: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.

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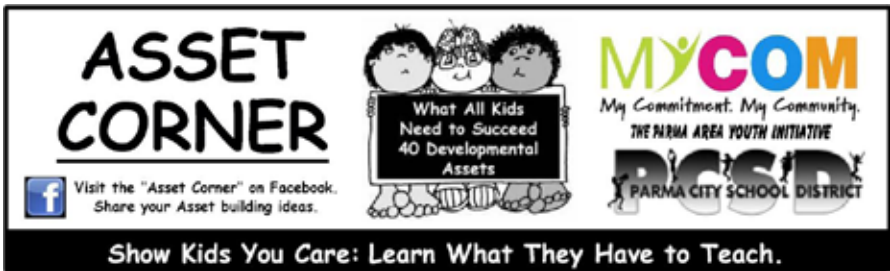
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Education



# Asset Corner #70

by Gene Lovasy

**SHOW KIDS YOU CARE: DISPLAY THEIR ARTWORK IN YOUR HOME. October's Asset Category: SUPPORT.** Supportive, healthy relationships make a big difference. Many studies over the years confirm that caring, supportive relationships with adults are critical for raising young people who are healthy and resilient. Support means freely giving young people love, affirmation, and acceptance; surrounding young people with caring families, guardians, friends, teachers, neighbors, and other adults; and helping young people know they belong, are not alone, and are both loved and lovable. Recognizing its importance, Search Institute has focused recent research on identifying a framework of **DEVELOPMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS**. It identifies five relationship strategies that help kids feel motivated and do their best. These include Express Care, Challenge Growth, Provide Support, Share Power, and Expand Possibilities. More information can be found at [www.parentfurther.com/con-](http://www.parentfurther.com/con-)

tent/power-relationships. **This column's focus will be on.....**  
**Asset #3 – Other Adult Relationships**  
When times get tough, kids need adults they can trust  
Who did you turn to for advice, comfort, and understanding when you were young? Was there an adult you trusted and enjoyed talking with? If you had an adult outside your family who was there for you during tough times and good times, you probably understand how important a relationship like that is for a young person. Now you can be that adult friend. Whether you're a neighbor, teacher, tutor, coach, aunt, older cousin, or coffee shop worker—you can be a good friend to a young person. Young people want adults besides their parents to count on. Problem is, we live in a society that doesn't always encourage adults and youth to spend time together. But the effort is worthwhile.  
**Here are the facts**  
Research shows that young people who have three or more caring adults (besides parents or guardians) who support them feel happier and more

hopeful, do better in school, and are less likely to rely on drinking, smoking, or drugs to feel good or fit in. About 43 percent of young people, ages 11–18, have three or more nonparent adults in their lives, according to Search Institute surveys. Caring adults are important to the development of young people, especially if those adults are open to discussing tough questions and know how to listen without judging.  
**Tips for building this asset**  
Build relationships. Connect with young people outside your own family and make an effort to interact regularly. They need caring adults to bounce ideas off, ask questions of, laugh with, and help sort through sticky situations. If you're a parent, encourage other caring adults to develop a friendship with your children.  
**Also try this**  
In your home and family: Think about your child's strengths, talents, and interests. Do you know any adults who share those same qualities? Invite one of them to get to know your child better by coming to a school activity or getting together for dessert or a movie.  
In your neighborhood and community: Consider becoming a mentor to one or more young people in your community.  
In your school or youth program: Tell young people about an adult who supported you when you were young. Ask them to think about someone they counted on during a tough time. Have the young people pair up and brainstorm

ways they could initiate more friendships with other caring adults and what they'd want to get from these relationships.  
**ASSET RELATED NEWS**  
• For our community (that includes Parma, Parma Heights, and Seven Hills) leaders, safety officers, faith-based representatives, business owners, and/or anyone interested in improving the health and future success of our youth, please be aware that MyCom Intermediary Team representatives are facilitating a two-day program focused on updating our local MyCom initiative. A follow-up to the first meeting held on September 29 is scheduled for 5:30 p.m., Tuesday October 20, at Parma Library (across from UH Parma Medical Center). Results of this effort will be distributed when available.  
• A good portion of September's CBS Partnership meeting was devoted to the introduction of Mr. Chuck Caldwell, CBS Connects Grant Coordinator, and his vision with respect to the implementation of this new initiative. Generally speaking, the grant will be used to support collaboration between the Chamber, the Community/Business/Schools Partnership, Community Ambassadors, and PCSD to provide mentors for district students. Watch for more information coming soon.  
1 The Collab's Mobile Food Pantry is scheduled this month for Thursday, Oct 8th. This plus a host of other programs/services (i.e. Parenting Partners,

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Inspiration

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.  
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.  
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.  
It seems that a majority of people today ignore to whom they owe allegiance regarding life.  
Jesus encourages people to distinguish between temporary and permanent matters.  
Love is why, when, where, and how much we give.  
Most of the greatest good in the world has been done by the fewest people.  
Most of what we worry about never comes to pass, but most of us still worry.  
Our self-concept is our impression of ourselves – we are what we think.  
Quitting is not an option for “believers.”  
Scripture informs us repeatedly that true and everlasting joy does not result from material wealth.  
“Soul-winning” (in one’s own way) should be the main pursuit of every believer.  
Suppressed anger is often at the root of depression.  
The greatest legacy we can leave to the next generation is a spiritual one – God’s truth.  
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?

Badges Of Courage

by Lizabeth Braskie

“Here we are again,” I whispered, as I folded my hands and closed my eyes. In the late 90s, I had attended two similar ceremonies for sons Steve and Mike, now law officers in Northern Ohio. But on this day several years ago, worry and pride once more filled my heart. We sat in hushed silence, hearing faintly the cadence calls of the Police Academy recruits as they marched into the graduation auditorium. Tears drizzled down my cheeks as I scanned the serious faces of 48 cadets and found my youngest son, Jim, marching proudly with his Columbus, Ohio classmates. And I sat, searching for answers to my impassioned wonder: Why did my three sons choose law enforcement as their career?

The ceremonial speakers thanked the parents for their child’s achievements. They assured the families and loved ones that this noble profession is one of patriotism and righteous conviction; that turmoil makes great challenges for peace, and opportunities for earned respect. Police Chief Jackson complimented the successes of the recruits and bolstered their enthusiasm with talk of their work on the streets. He referred to the department’s million yearly calls and added confidence by saying, “We are ministers of justice and we honor our commitment.” These positive statements brought me a temporary calm, and caused me to join some of the other moms in drifting back to our yesterdays.

A sense of overwhelming pride for foundations created by our rocking and teaching may have nurtured our cadets into strong and eager candidates for this job. There were house rules and curfews that built their character, emerging confidence from intelligent problem-solving, discipline that came from school work, and religious beliefs that filled them with compassion. There was admiration earned by their conduct while judgments were gleaned from consequences of the choices they made.

Today, all this has led them to serve and protect while facing the dangerous unknown, hostility, challenges, and disrespect. When Police Chaplain Reverend Ellsworth took the stage and addressed the graduating class, he asked God to bless them, then said, “... in this world of chaos, each cadet should tell the Lord, Here I am. Use me!” And, I am silently crying out, No, don’t use my sons as fallen warriors in brutal conflicts on the streets. Not as targets of rage in senseless tragedies, nor as victims of hate in their contemptuous profession. Not as the enemy in everyday life.

Rather, use them as living examples of right over might, as guardians of the laws, as courageous roadblocks in the escalating trafficking of contraband. May they act as beacons in the storms of violence, and as comforting Samaritans in the lonely world of misery and despair.

A quiet hush fell over the auditorium as a member of the graduating class read the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics. Deeply moving phrases expounded the cadets’ fundamental duties and their exemplary private lives. Pledging courageous calm, self-restraint, and honesty, the recruits seemed to absorb these words with sincere devotion. The Code further promised that personal feelings will not compromise crime, and each respected badge will not be tarnished by unethical behavior. I listened intently as the last sentence was read. The cadets silently dedicated themselves before God to their chosen profession.

The continued stillness of the audience bespoke of personal invocations. An overwhelming aura hung above my bowed head — a silent answer to my despairing request. Spiritual dialog petitioned for the continued safety and good health of all my children. I could feel ripples of loving guidance and protection wrap around my youngest son, Jim, and his siblings, while comfort descended upon me. I had felt like this years earlier when at the law enforcement ceremonies of Mike and Steve. Gradually, a calm of confidence filled my heart, and pushed aside the motherly fears that consumed me.

When the ceremonies concluded, I gave Jim a proud and maternal hug and passed unspoken words with my kiss on his cheek. And, in my silent daily prayers, will ask for the safekeeping of all my sons and safety forces to be guided by their integrity, courage, dedication, and the justice they have pledged to uphold.



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# AUTUMN ALMANAC



Awesome Autumn Options!

## Awesome Autumn Options!

by Christian Fitzharris

Have you noticed that the air has turned colder? Have you noticed that your air conditioning is no longer needed? What will you do with all of the money you're saving from not running the air? I know! Buy heartwarming, pulse pounding, conversation rounding WINE! Once a year, at this time, a few autumn blends arrive to offer comfort to the weary wine deficient souls that live here. I will be helping you with three wines that are all limited in buying availability, but unlimited in opportunity for tasty food pairings and feisty friend farings!

Today, we will be looking at Apothic Dark the seasonal offering from the Apothic series of wines available at stores everywhere. Apothic Red and White are popular throughout the year and Apothic Rose is bought in the summer months, but the limited Apothic Dark is definitely one to experience. With an abv (alcohol by volume) of 14% and sultry flavors of blackberry, blueberry, mocha, and dark chocolate with big tannins, this dry red wine is lush, like me! It is dry, but the flavors that pop on the palate make it agreeable to a sumptuously sweeter palate. Paired with dark chocolate toffees from Malley's would be as fine as with a smoky steak fillet. A little lighter and dry fruitier on the palate would be the seasonal offering from Ravenswood winery. "Besieged" is a blend of Zinfandel and everything else in the kitchen. It has an abv of 14.5%. It is dark with black cherry and blackberry, but does not have the dry tannins or big chocolatey richness of Apothic Dark. This wine would be better with all of your warm crock-pot fare with red meat as well as with grilled meats or chili. Besieged is a nice wine to bring to a grilling at a tailgate party or a block party in your neighborhood. M n ge a Trois' "Midnight" is the seasonal offering from the M n ge a Trois brand. It is a smooth Merlot blend with well-rounded Cabernet to bring it more into the blackberry, plum, strawberry category. It has an abv of 13.5%. It is good on its own or paired with a warm meatloaf on a cool autumn night. All three of these wines are perfect for a multitude of situations. Of the three,

I would say that Apothic Dark is the most interesting of the bunch. But let's be truthful here, the season is not just about drinking wine! You need to start stewing your mulled wine with spices as well! Now, you have all you need to snuggle in with an Amish blanket and the warm glow of a fire in the fireplace. Whatever you drink this month, make sure you have enough to share with a friend, whether they show up to drink it or not. The extra booze won't go to waste, I'm sure! Cheers!

## Asset Corner #70

continued from page 5

Teach Me To Read, the Discovery Center programs) are just some examples of programs needing sponsors and/or volunteers. To find out more, give the Collab a call at 440-887-4873 and/or visit the district's web site at [www.parmacityschools.org](http://www.parmacityschools.org) and type the name of the program in which you're interested into the "Search this site" box located in the upper right hand corner of the home page.

The Collab is once again collecting new or gently used winter clothing for area youth and adults. Clothing and/or monetary donations will be accepted through October 9 at the Collaborative, 11212 Snow Rd, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tri-C West campus is hosting The Autumn Blaze 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, October 18 with proceeds being divided equally between United Way, Community Shares, and United Negro College Fund. Visit their web site and click on the News & Events tab for details.

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.

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## Run For A Reason At The Autumn Blaze 5K At Tri-C Western Campus In Parma

by John Horton

Dash through the fall colors while doing some good this October during the Autumn Blaze 5K at the Western Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C).

Proceeds from the run/walk will be divided evenly between United Way of Greater Cleveland, Greater Cleveland Community Shares, and United Negro College Fund. Tri-C launched the race as part of its annual giving campaign to benefit the community.

The Autumn Blaze 5K begins at 9 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, at Tri-C's Western Campus in Parma. Set a personal best time on the fast and flat course that winds through the campus grounds at 11000 Pleasant Valley Road.

Online registration is available at [www.hermescleveland.com](http://www.hermescleveland.com) through 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16. Pre-registration for the race is \$20 for community members or \$15 for Tri-C students. All pre-registered runners and walkers will receive a T-shirt.

On-site registration also will be available the day of the race beginning at 8 a.m., with the cost being \$25 for community members or \$20 for Tri-C students. T-shirts for day-of registrants will be available as quantities allow.

Awards will be given to the top three overall male and female runners and the top three finishers in the fol-





lowing age groups: 11 and younger; 12-14; 15-19; 20-24; 25-29; 30-34; 35-39; 40-44; 45-49; 50-54; 55-59; 60-64; and 65 and older.

Post-race refreshments and entertainment will be offered at the finish line.

For more information, contact Tri-C Media Relations Manager John Horton at 216-987-4281 or [john.horton@tri-c.edu](mailto:john.horton@tri-c.edu).

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## We thank the residents of Parma for their continued support and loyalty.



Perspective

# Myths, Lies, And Politics

by Lee Kamps

Ever since the first days of our government, politicians have used whoppers to get elected and stay in office. Our history is rife with examples of how politicians have used myths, lies and appealed to the worst elements of the country to get elected. In fact, the men who wrote the Constitution believed that the mass of voters were not intelligent enough to vote directly for an office as important as President of the United States. That is why they created the Electoral College in which the voters voted for “electors” who would vote for president.

But politics became bitter almost as soon as George Washington stepped

down as our first president. One of the nastiest political campaigns took place in the 1828 presidential election between incumbent President John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson. The Adams supporters accused Jackson of being a bigamist since he married his wife before her divorce was finalized while the Jackson supporters accused Adams of “stealing” the election of 1824 through a “corrupt bargain” with Henry Clay. Jackson’s wife, Rachel, died before the election and Jackson blamed his political opponents for causing her death.

Fast forward almost 200 years and the United States hasn’t progressed much since the days of a presidential

candidate being accused of bigamy and an incumbent president being accused of stealing an election. But the United States is a radically different nation than we were in the early 19th century. We are much more educated and there is a system of mass communication that those people 200 years ago couldn’t dream of. But politics is still rife with myths and lies. Here are a few of the biggest ones.

President Obama is a Muslim. I cannot believe that more than a third of Republican primary voters still believe this myth. One has to suspend all rational thought to believe this one. Would any Muslim attend a United Church of Christ church for more than 25 years, get married in that church, and raise his children in that church? Even President Obama’s opponents for president debunked this myth. Yet some people

still cling to this one.  
President Obama was born in Kenya and is not eligible to be president. I believe that President Obama is the first president to show his birth certificate in a political campaign. That clearly showed that he was born in Hawaii and was verified by the governor of Hawaii. Yet, a major Republican candidate for president still believes that Obama was born in Kenya.

Climate change is a “liberal hoax.” Despite overwhelming scientific evidence around the planet that mankind’s activities are accelerating a normal warming after the last ice age, the entire Republican party is in denial of global warming. Sea levels are rising and the arctic ice caps are melting at a rapid pace. Yet, because the eastern United States was experiencing a severe winter this year, many cite that as proof that global warming is a hoax. Those same people ignored the fact that the western United States was experiencing record warmth while the eastern United States was shivering in the cold.

Taken to the extreme, the Republican governor of Florida has even issued an order banning public employees and agencies from even using the terms “global warming” or “climate change.” Duh! Just by ordering state agencies from mentioning something doesn’t make it go away. Maybe when the Everglades are underwater a future governor might reverse that order.

Cutting taxes for the wealthy increases revenue and brings prosperity. Back during the period between the end of the Second World War and the 1980s, the top marginal income tax rate was as high as 90% and was never below 70% for the wealthiest. During that period, the United States built the world’s most prosperous economy with a strong, vibrant middle class. Yet, since the early 1980s, the top marginal income tax rate has dropped as low as 32%. At the same time, federal deficits have skyrocketed and the middle class has shrunk.

But many people still cling to myths, lies, and half-truths. Nazi propaganda minister Josef Goebbels said that if you tell a lie often enough and loud enough, people will eventually regard it as truth. Politicians in the United States have taken a lesson from Goebbels and the evidence is all around us during this political campaign.

# School

by Leo Lampeter

Some of the fondest memories of life are in the time of going to school, now that it is in the past, some not so fond also; learning how to socialize, without realizing it, learning the three r’s, at times with some serious effort. The meeting of new classmates and the renewal of old classmates was an exciting time. Getting dressed appropriately for school, and not in play clothes, because you not only represented yourself, you represented your family. You leave home neat and clean, which changes quickly after fifteen minutes of recess. Now that my personal formal learn-

ing has slowed considerably, noticing what the schools and the administrators accomplish is something to take notice of. For instance, Parma Senior High School Principal Chad Coffman held the superintendent position since August 1, and made five hundred dollars a day in addition to his contract.

Now, there is multi-tasking, and there is multi-tasking. Someone capable of doing two full-time career jobs simultaneously must exert a monumental effort. Could someone justify to me paying someone, anyone, two salaries when both positions are considered full-time positions and occupying them simultaneously while giving both positions the full attention they require, at least in theory. To this thought process, one of two scenarios exist; either the positions are woefully overpaid initially and/or there is not enough work to justify the salaries being paid by the taxpayers in the first place. Now, you may say that this occurs in business with some frequency where one individual occupies two positions. Granted, this does occur, however, the private employee is evaluated on the income he provides, what income is generated by the government employee, there lies the difference. If they can indeed demonstrate having increased the income of the school system, without increasing taxes, then double dip. Do these administrators have no shame at

what amounts to the fleecing of the taxpayers’ money, in this opinion? Now, the schools want to have another tax levy for the coming election, when two years ago they had a ten mill levy passed, the highest that can ever be recalled, and said that no levy would be needed in the foreseeable future in the event a ten mill levy would pass. Two years, in most eyes, is not even close to the time of the foreseeable future to be considered. Talk about going back to the well. Not only in this city, but others as well, constituents are being told things that administrators have no intention of fulfilling in their word. They rely on the public having a short memory. On the other hand, they rely on the members of the public that do remember, but who have the attitude that there is nothing I/we can do.

You must keep in mind that these administrators are your employees, not the other way around. If they do not satisfy you in their performance, you have every right and, in fact, duty and obligation to demand they be replaced. These positions are positions of public trust. If the trust is violated, the citizenry must take action. Don’t wait for someone else to take action, they are probably waiting for you to take action. You have one option, get involved! Get uncomfortable and stand up for your hard earned money and your family. Don’t permit those whose main concern is themselves to be the ones setting policy.

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Perspective

Mayors Association. Taxpayer Funded Lobbyist Group Refuses Transparency, Violates Public Trust

by Lucy McKernan

The deer issue may be just the tip of the antler as far as the Cuyahoga County Mayors/City Managers Association (CCMCMA) is concerned. Though CCMCMA formed a subcommittee addressing the “deer issue” on a regional basis, including Parma and Seven Hills, and which demands that Ohio Division of Wildlife (ODOW) take responsibility for urban deer, it’s listed as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) lobbyist group that employs a powerful Squire, Sanders & Dempsey attorney to lobby at both executive and legislative state levels.

Not bad for an organization that brought in \$170,000 in 2014.

But concerned citizens cannot access any records or attend meetings. September 2014, North Royalton Mayor Stefanik invited me to attend the meeting. Ten minutes later, he called back warning me that it was closed, despite previously open meetings.

Since then, yours truly was denied mediation for public records access by CCMCMA through Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's office, and a Sunshine Audit through the state auditor's office because CCMCMA is not considered "a public body," even though it's really acting like one.

CCMCMA leaders may still be in

violation of Ohio's Sunshine Laws on four legally defined levels, but mainly because they allow it to function as a public body while operating as a private entity. Members are likely making decisions - particularly in violation of the Public Trust Doctrine - that materially affect Cuyahoga County residents.

CCMCMA gatekeeper Lisa Barno and SS&D lobbyist lawyer Timothy Cosgrove have personally refused numerous inquiries. Confident the Association will never have to answer to Cuyahoga County residents about where the \$170,000 came from, and where it went, Cosgrove also lobbies for Cleveland Clinic, American Greetings, Alcoa, and dozens more.

What other decisions have CCMCMA members made? Decisions like CCMCMA subcommittee members devising, in North Royalton Mayor Stefanik’s words: "a regional, short-term plan in the interim...during the summer," to address the deer issue? Perhaps on the basis of lobbyist-originated efforts in Columbus to open up suburban Cuyahoga County to wholesale deer slaughter in exchange for sorely needed municipal grant monies from the state – the Ohio Department of Natural Resources? Is that also what’s been going on with the controversial oil drilling?

This may partly explain the stone-

walling at North Royalton’s Safety Committee meeting last week. Leaders were presented with indisputable data based on the city’s own official Deer-Vehicle Crashes (DVCs) records spanning six years, which also included Seven Hills, Broadview Heights, and Independence, showing no human injuries or fatalities, consistent with the Ohio Department of Public Safety records, which show no human fatalities in all Cuyahoga County for five-plus years.

North Royalton leaders scoff at the truth, facts, and their own city-recorded data. They scoffed at facts concerning Lyme disease, primarily transmitted by small rodents carrying the Lyme-infected black-legged tick, not deer. And that, ironically, any sort of lethal deer measure would result in safety issues, and a Pandora’s Box of rebounding populations since, as of lately, Ohio deer have just returned to their original, pre-settler numbers, or biological carrying capacity.

Pressed repeatedly about why this is in Safety Committee, members could not answer the question, and offered only opinion and ignorant, unscientific responses, some of the most preposterous on record. Councilman Nickel seemed to think that a buck stomping its hoof and standing 300 feet away from a child waiting at the bus stop was a threat to public safety. He didn’t know the hoof-stomping behavior indicated deer do this to alert other deer to danger, a human standing and staring. The most oft-cited justification was the possibility that just maybe, one of these days, a deer might kill a human, despite being told the number of human fatalities from DVCs across the nation has held steady at 200, making the average person more likely to win the super lottery.

So, if this is not a safety issue, why is it in North Royalton Safety Committee, specifically as the basis for putting lethal or part-lethal deer control issue

— with the usual vague and misleading language — on the March ballot? The four above-mentioned communities, plus three others, two of which aren’t even contiguous, which flies in the fact of CCMCMA leaders’ claims that all communities will have to agree for this to work, will also see lethal deer control on their March ballots. Did these communities receive grant money from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources in exchange for the agreement to put hunting on the ballots? Is that why the CCMCMA meetings and records are not open?

Sadly, at the Safety meeting, North Royalton Mayor Stefanik, charged by Kurtz with steering the CCMCMA subcommittee on regional deer, and who started out with the right idea, wanting non-lethal, has done a 180 – calling out a resident about a long-ago, minor feeding infraction (disclaimer: this writer agrees feeding is bad, but because it hurts deer), and making incorrect statements about my comments concerning a ballot issue during 2014 during phone discussions because he refused email discussions — now that he has no ballot contenders next month.

At least two North Royalton council members are hunters, as is CCMCMA subcommittee member Broadview Heights mayor Sam Alai, and CCMCMA presiding officer Independence mayor Gregory Kurtz, whose family is very big on hunting, in a community that already allows bow hunting.

How does the average or uninformed citizen stand a chance?

The Public Trust Doctrine (PTD) essentially states that all natural resources, including deer, belong to no one, actually, not even the good ol’ boys hunt club – desperately trying to maintain a municipal/suburban stronghold across the region, ITS OFT-STATED

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Parma Observer

If A Child Has Difficulty Learning, Aren't The Parents Struggling With The Situation As Well?

by Lisa Neumeyer

Whenever a child is struggling in school, the odds are the parent is struggling to figure out how to find the most effective way to help. That is where things can get confusing. Why is my child struggling? How do I start a discussion with the child's teacher or school? Does my child have a disability that interferes with learning? What support is available? Are there effective policies to address my child's needs and provide access to a quality education?

Allow me to introduce myself, Lisa Neumeyer, Parent Mentor of Ohio. I began mentoring other parents when my son was in middle school, 11 years ago. My first-hand experience working with the Parma City School District and effectively managing my own child's education, along with parent mentor training provided by the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities and the Ohio Department of Education, provided the necessary cre-

dentials to help other parents.

Although my son has since graduated from high school, I continue using my knowledge and experience to assist other parents. My role as a Parent Mentor is to provide parents of school-age children with information and support about special education; the Individualized Education Program process, rights and responsibilities; to help with planning and/or attending IEP meetings, organizing workshops and activities, and connecting parents to community resources.

People contact a Parent Mentor for a variety of reasons. Some parents call with a specific question and we solve their concern in one phone call. Other times, I am asked to be more involved by attending meetings with the family and school staff. I have worked with many parents and students on multiple occasions during the child's school years. It is gratifying to see a child I have known since elementary school getting ready to

graduate from high school!

I am writing this article to create awareness about the services available from the Parent Mentors of Ohio Program. It is my wish to reach parents as soon as a need or a question arises with their child, to offer productive suggestions. Parent mentors are not legal advocates, confrontational, or intrusive. We are here when needed to teach parents how to advocate for their children's education, as well as suggest resources available in the community for students with disabilities. When parents are informed they make better decisions, which in turn lead to better educational outcomes for their children.

In order to be an effective partner and ally, it is critical to see beyond a

need or a problem and look at the whole person. Parent Mentors use reliable, comprehensive information that I can share with parents. Redtreehouse.org is a great source for up-to-date information. The site also helps me reach broader audiences for my services and events, while maintaining details about what other groups and organizations are doing, and attests to my credibility because I am listed on a reputable website. There is no charge for listing information or accessing information when utilizing redtreehouse.org.

PCSD Parent Mentor services are free, individualized, and confidential. I invite any parent or school staff member to contact me at Thoreau Park Elementary School. Call 440-885-3761 or email me at parentmentorlisa@cox.net

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- About \$3 Million in 2014-15 Street Repairs, Plus More Infrastructure Work
- 2015 General Fund is Budgeted to Remain Even at About \$3.9 Million
- Paid About \$700,000 in Debt by Saving \$1.6 Million in a Separate Fund
- Brought in New Business Investment to Help With Expenses
- Brought in Millions in Grant Dollars to Help Pay for Improvements

“Let’s Keep Up The Progress”

“Best Wishes to the Parma Observer”

Seven Hills Mayor Richard Dell’Aquila

Paid for by Friends of Richard Dell’Aquila, Judy Dell’Aquila, Treasurer,  
661 E. Pleasant Valley Road., Seven Hills, OH 44131

Congratulations

PARMAObserver

On 6 Fantastic Years

Keep Up The Great Work!

FROM

CONGRESSMAN

JIM RENACCI

[PAID FOR BY RENACCI FOR CONGRESS]



Happy Anniversary Parma Observer!



Sean Patrick

BRENNAN

President of Parma City Council

Working hard for Parma...Public Service with Integrity!

Follow Sean on Twitter @BrennanForParma

councilmanbrennan@sbcglobal.net

Paid for by Friends of Sean Brennan, Deena Brennan, Treasurer, Tom Denk, Co-Chair, 6306 Hampstead Avenue, Parma, OH 44129.

Congratulations Parma Observer on your 6th Anniversary



from Parma Councilman

Brian Day

Candidate for Parma Auditor 2015

A Dedicated DAY for Parma

Paid for by Friends of Brian Day, Colleen Corrigan Day, Treasurer, 1107 Meadowlawn Blvd., Parma, OH 44134

Best Wishes Parma Observer on your 6th Anniversary

The Parma Democratic Party

Mayor Tim DeGeeter

Treasurer Tom Mastroianni

Auditor Dennis Kish

State Representative Nick Celebrezze

Ward 2 Councilman Deborah Lime

Ward 3 Councilman Mark Casselberry

Ward 4 Councilman Brian Day

Ward 5 Councilman Allan Divis

Law Director Tim Dobeck

President of Council Sean Brennan

County Councilman Chuck Germana

Ward 6 Councilman Lawrence J. Napoli

Ward 7 Councilman Brian Brochetti

Ward 8 Councilman Scott Tuma

Ward 9 Councilman Jeffrey Crossman

Paid for by the Parma Democratic Party,  
7501 Trevor Lane, Parma, OH 44129

Re-Elect

Michael


BARTH

Council-At-Large

“Mike Barth’s experience and commitment to Seven Hills has made him a true asset to City Council.”  
~ Council President Michele Ernst

“Mike has proven to be a dedicated public official who has been indispensable to all our successes. He deserves your vote.”  
~ Mayor Richard Dell’Aquila

“Seven Hills has made tremendous progress under the leadership of Mike Barth. It is important that he remains in office.”  
~ Former Mayor George Chandick



Paid for by Barth for Council Committee, Rosanna Barth Treasurer, 5615 Essex Drive, Seven Hills, OH 44131

Join the Discussion at: [www.parmaobserver.com](http://www.parmaobserver.com)



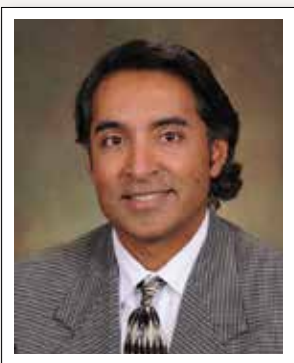
# Pleasant Lake Villa

## 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