

“Civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof”- John F. Kennedy

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

PARMA Observer

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

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

Volume 9 • Issue 2 • February, 2017

FREE!
TAKE ONE!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers

2017 To Bring Recreation Updates And Innovations For Parma Heights

by Mike Byrne

Mayor Parma Heights

Ever since my first day in office, I have been committed to ensuring that the programs offered by our Recreation Department are numerous and varied and open the door to participation by residents of all ages. With that in mind, 2017 will see renovations to the Cultural Center building in the Greenbrier Commons along with recreation program updates including online registration and the addition of new activities.

Especially exciting is our new ability to accept online registration for Recreation programs in addition to in-person registration. Beginning in March, and as each registration season opens, residents and non-residents will be able to register and pay with a credit card just by visiting our website www.parmaheightsoh.gov. More information will be available as the first registration date approaches. Keep an eye out for announcements in my Cityview Mayor's newsletter, on our social media, on the electric sign outside City Hall, and right here, in the Parma Observer.

Renovations focusing on

our Cultural Center building that houses the Cassidy Theatre have already begun. We are receiving a \$50,000 Capital Improvement grant from the State of Ohio and are using the funds for electrical system



upgrades and the installation of new flooring and ceiling tiles in the community rooms in the lower level. These rooms are available for resident rentals and will serve as the location for some of our new health-related recreation programs that will be coming later this year.

Meanwhile, in the theatre itself, technicians are working on constructing a new sound booth that will allow for the integration of new technologies to enhance audience listening pleasure.

In addition to the new improvements to the Cultural Center, this year Recreation Director Tom Moran is also working to form a Girls Recreation Sand Volleyball League and to bring the latest recre-

There are over 2.5 million pickleball players in the United States. The sport is so versatile that in addition to being integrated into high school sports programs across the country, senior living centers are also

introducing pickleball to their residents as a great form of recreational exercise.

We will release details on these exciting new programs as soon as they become available.

Parma State Of The City Address Set For Feb. 28

by Jeannie Roberts

Mayor Tim DeGeeter will offer his 2017 State of the City address on Tuesday evening, Feb. 28 at 6:30 p.m. Continuing the trend started when he entered office in 2012, the mayor will showcase a community partner by taking his address outside of City Hall. This year, the address will be delivered at the General Motors Parma Metal Center, 5400 Chevrolet Blvd. The Mayor chose this location to highlight GM's recent \$218 million investment in the facility.

"GM's \$218 million investment in the Parma Metal Center is a testament to the plant's workers, the management team, and the partnership



Parma Mayor Tim DeGeeter

the two share," the mayor said when the investment was announced. "This major commitment helps to secure the plant's future, which is critically important for Parma and Northeast Ohio."

continued on page 11

Funding To Parma And Seven Hills For Improved Water Quality

by Jennifer Elting

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's Board of Trustees awarded \$7.2 million to 12 communities - including Parma and Seven Hills - as part of the agency's newly-launched Member Community Infrastructure Program (MCIP).

MCIP assists communities with local infrastructure improvements - including new sewer infrastructure, repairs to reduce infiltration and inflow (leaking pipes) and remove failing septic systems from the environment - to improve the region's water quality, public health and the environment.

The Sewer District continues to invest billions of

dollars into large, regional infrastructure projects such as Project Clean Lake, the 25-year capital program to drastically reduce the amount of combined sewage entering local waterways during heavy rains. In addition to Project Clean Lake, the Sewer District is also investing in new relief sewers, making improvements to existing interceptor sewers and solving stormwater problems that not only cause flooding and streambank erosion, but negatively impact water quality.

"The projects we are funding through the Member Community Infrastructure Program will address impacts to human health and the envi-

ronment from aging local sewer infrastructure," said Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Deputy Director of Watershed Programs. "We are very pleased to partner with these communities to move these great projects forward."

Grants awarded include:
Seven Hills, Hemlock Creek Watershed Utility Improvement, \$1,090,000
Olmsted Falls, Columbia & Cook Sanitary Sewer Project - Phase 5, \$600,000
South Euclid, Grosvenor Infrastructure Improvement, Phase 2, \$300,000
Newburgh Heights, East 54th and Brow Avenue Sewer

continued on page 4



Congratulations to winners Scott Macko, Joe Kovach and Brian Kwiatkowski, whose holiday lights brought joy to us all during the holiday season. The winners were honored at a recent City Council meeting by Mayor DeGeeter, Matt Orehek (representing the Young Professionals of Parma) and ward council Mark Casselberry and Larry Napoli. The winners received certificates of congratulations from City Council, Mayor DeGeeter, Treasurer Tom Mastroianni, Auditor Brian Day and Law Director Tim Dobeck. The winners also received certificates from the Young Professionals of Parma and gift certificates from local merchants Fast Eddies, Antonios and the Little Birdie Wine Nest, which were provided by Parma city officials. Thank you to the Young Professionals of Parma for partnering with the City of Parma on this event so that all could enjoy holiday lights.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The President’s Corner

by Sean Brennan

This month I am reporting to you on another of Parma’s many places of worship. In fact, in mid-January I had the honor of meeting with Fr. Robert Wisniewski, Jr., pastor of St. Bridget of Kildare Roman Catholic Church, located at 5620 Hauserman Road. Our meeting proved how important this parish is to the neighborhoods of Parma it serves, as well as to the community as a whole.

“I grew up in Willowick, which is ‘east side Parma,” Fr. Wisniewski mentioned in our talk. He finds a lot of positive parallels between his hometown and his adopted home. He added that Parma is “super-neighborly.” He illustrated by recalling when he was still a seminarian visiting one of Parma’s famous block parties with a friend. “You could tell that Parma residents looked out for each other and I still see it today,” he explained.

A Lake High School graduate, Fr. Wisniewski felt a vocation to the priesthood from a young age and, after a weekend program at Borromeo Seminary, he made his decision to actively discern this vocation. During his tenure at the seminary, he spent a year as an intern at St. Bridget. “I remember peering out the window of the rectory one day thinking, ‘I could serve here,’” he reminisced. After serving as an associate pastor at several area parishes, as fate would have it, Bishop Anthony Pilla appointed him pastor at



Sean Brennan,
Parma City Council President

St. Bridget’s on February 1, 2005. He is only the third pastor of the parish in its over 60 year history.

As has been a theme in this column, the growth of Parma’s faith community mirrored the burgeoning population of the 1950s and 1960s. St. Bridget Church was born during this time of incredible growth. In fact, the parish was founded in 1956 as a sister parish to Parma’s St. Charles Borromeo. Prior to that, the property had served as a landing strip for small aircraft. The founding pastor, Fr. Theodore Blair, was serving as an associate pastor at St. Charles at the time.

Founded as St. Bridget Parish, Fr. Wisniewski explained that there are two St. Bridgets in the Catholic Church, one from Ireland and another from Sweden. Early in his tenure, know-



ing the parish was named in honor of Bridget of Ireland, he successfully petitioned Bishop Richard Lennon to have the parish officially named “St. Bridget of Kildare Parish.”

The parish offers many services and events to its parishioners and the community, at large, including its kindergarten through eighth grade school. “St. Bridget is very mindful of the poor,” Fr. Wisniewski mentioned. “I continue to be inspired by how generous the parishioners are when called to help others in need, in the spirit of their patroness,” he added. He added that there are several examples where someone in the Parish was in need and the community came together to help with their time and/or treasure. Further, the Good Samaritan Ministry collects thousands of dollars every year to assist needy in the area, both Catholic and non-Catholic. Parish groups also hold several food drives, take meals to the ill, offer tuition assistance when families are experiencing financial distress, among other programs.

I wish to thank Fr. Wisniewski for inviting me to his Parish and making me feel at home. However, this comes as no surprise, as anyone who visits St. Bridget will have the same feeling. To find out more visit their website at stbridgetparma.com or call the Parish office at (440) 886-4434.

In closing, I must apologize to Fr. James Batcha, pastor of Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church, which was the subject of last month’s column. The article stated that he graduated from Holy Name High School in 1972, however, he

did so in 1976. Further, it stated that he began his service in Minneapolis. However, he began in Parma as an associate pastor at St. John’s Cathedral, then served as associate at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church, then served as administrator at St. John’s in Minneapolis before coming back to northeast Ohio. My deep apologies to my friend Fr. Batcha.

Parma Heights Welcomes Two New Police Officers



Parma Heights welcomed 2 new police officers in January. Eric Fischer and Andrew Taylor graduated from the 136th Basic Peace Officer Training Class and have begun their service to the city. Congratulations and be careful out there.



Crime Tip Line (440) 887-7340
crimetips@parmajustice.net
www.cityofparmapolice.com
Emergency – 911
Non Emergency - (440) 885 -1234

We work for you

Parma’s #1 choice
for interior and exterior
painting



Serving Northeast
Ohio Homeowners
since 1975

Quality Painting.
THAT’S ALL WE DO!

Call us at
216-529-0360
for a Free Consultation!
neubertpainting.com



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

P.O. Box 29030
Parma, Ohio 44129
440.884.7625 •
<http://parmaobserver.com>

Advisory Board
Craig Czepczynski
Lisa Zaremba
George Salo
Bill DeMarco
Penny Schultz

Publisher
Daniel P. McCarthy

Editor-In-Chief
Stefan P. Stefaniuk

Design and Production
AGS Design

Advertising Sales
440-884-7625

Writers
Lizabeth Braskie
Sean Brennan
Mike Byrne
Stephen Donovan
Jennifer Eiting
John Horton
Lee Kamps
Leo Lampeter
Myrtis Litman
Gene Lovasy
Corbin Luna
Jean Micklewright
Davidione Pearl
Jeannie Roberts
Bob Stilwell
Daniel Taddeo
Christine Vodicka

Photography
Sean Brennan
Mike Byrne
Myrtis Litman
Jeannie Roberts
Jim O’Bryan
Bob Stilwell
Christine Vodicka

The Parma Observer is powered by:



COMMUNITY NEWS

Officer David Fahey Laid To Rest



In the procession were police from all districts, and police officers, firefighter, friends and families lined the entire distance of the funeral.

Cleveland Police Officer David Fahey’s hearse pauses at the “Fallen Heroes” monument, on the way to Our Lady of Angels, then his final resting place Brooklyn Hts. Cemetery. Officer Fahey was killed by a motorist speeding through an accident area. Please SLOW DOWN

Protests At The Airport



Hundreds of protestors lined the entrance to Cleveland Hopkin Airport in a show of peaceful dissent on President Trump’s Immigration Ban.



VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIALS

60 MINUTE COUPLES MASSAGE- \$110- SINGLE- \$55

COMPLIMENTARY CHOCOLATE FROM CHOCOLATE 4U

OFFER VALID FEB. 10 - 14 CALL NOW - LIMITED SPACE

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS OR SPA FINDER

9693 BROOKPARK RD. PARMA, OHIO • TEL:(440) 799-8988 – 440-799-8988

Big Creek

Massotherapy

GIFT CERTIFICATE

PURCHASE OVER \$50

EXTRA \$10 ON US

Exceptional surgical care.
Exactly where you need it.

University Hospitals Parma Medical Center is proud to be recognized as a leader in surgical services by national agencies like The Joint Commission and Healthgrades. And with innovative technologies like advanced minimally invasive robotic surgery options and the only three-dimensional high-definition operating suite in the greater Cleveland area, we’ll continue to be your local destination – for nationally recognized surgical care.

To schedule an appointment with a UH Parma Medical Center physician or to find out more about the surgical options available, call 440-743-4900.

University Hospitals

Parma Medical Center

UHParma.org

7007 Powers Boulevard, Parma, Ohio 44129

TRI-CITY NEWS



Tri-C Western Campus Offers Free Tax Preparation Services

by John Horton

The Western Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) will again offer free personal income tax filing services to qualified taxpayers filing simple returns for 2016.

The free tax clinics will be held by appointment only on Saturdays from Feb. 4 through March 25 (closed March 18). To schedule a time, call the United Way of Greater Cleveland’s helpline by dialing 2-1-1.

Returns will be prepared and filed by IRS-certified tax preparers and completed while the taxpayer waits. All returns will be screened for eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit.

To be eligible for the free service, taxpayers must have a qualifying income that ranges based on household size. A one-person household must have earned less than \$29,700 to be eligible. The amount rises \$10,350 with each

additional person in the household.

Participants must bring a current photo ID; Social Security cards for each adult and child listed on the return; all 2016 tax documents, including sources of income; support for any deductions and credits being sought; health care verification; prior year tax returns; and bank account and routing numbers to arrange direct deposit of any refund. Those filing jointly must both be present if e-filing.

Western Campus is located at 11000 Pleasant Valley Road in Parma.

Tri-C will also offer the free service at Corporate College® West in Westlake, Eastern Campus in Highland Hills and Metropolitan Campus in Cleveland. For times and dates at these sites, visit www.tri-c.edu/taxhelp.

Other free tax preparation sites can be found at <http://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep>.

Visit Tri-C’s Western Campus On Presidents Day

The Western Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) will host campus visits from 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m. on Presidents Day, which is Monday, Feb. 20.

Both free sessions include an enrollment presentation, campus tour and resource fair, providing prospective students an opportunity to learn about Tri-C’s many degree and certificate programs.

Western Campus is located at 11000 Pleasant Valley Road in Parma. For more information or to register, go to www.tri-c.edu/visit or call 216-987-5179.



by Jean Micklewright

While many people have a day off work to reflect on the life and impact of Martin Luther King Jr., MyCom youth know it is a day of service. For our MLK Day of service, eight Tri-City MyCom youth eagerly gathered at the Parma Animal Shelter to give of their time and energy. Students from Normandy, Parma Senior, Valley Forge High School and Shiloh Middle School cleaned walls and wiped down cabinets and doors, raked leaves, assisted with recycling and cut fabric to make “cat pierogis” - catnip-filled toys shaped like pierogis! We all enjoyed this day of service and many of the youth want to make it a regular habit!

Thank you to the wonderful, dedicated staff at the Parma Animal Shelter—they spent time sharing the history and procedures of the shelter, showing us how to clean, and working alongside us on various projects. Thank you to HandsOn Northeast Ohio for arranging this volunteer opportunity.

MyCom Steering Committee members met on January 12 to review the 2017 Neighborhood Work Plan. The committee members represent different sectors of our Tri-City area:



students, Cuyahoga County Library, businesses, Constellation schools, Parma City schools, Tri-C West, city government, and community agencies and organizations. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 9.

Advocacy Training for students will be offered through MyCom on Monday, February 6. Several students and adults will attend. This training is in preparation for Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus on March 30. Advocacy Day gives youth an opportunity to speak with their local legislators about issues that are important to them.



Funding To Parma And Seven Hills For Improved Water Quality

Continued from page 1

- Separation, \$400,000
- Garfield Heights, Northwest Neighborhood Sanitary/Storm Sewer Reconstruction - Phase 1, \$717,533
- Berea, North End Sewer Rehabilitation, \$735,023
- Moreland Hills, WEB Area Septic Conversion Project, \$739,220
- Strongsville, Drake Road, Bowman Drive & Fetzler Drive Sanitary Sewer Project, \$617,165
- Parma, Broadrock Court Sanitary Relief Sewer Connection, \$250,000
- Cleveland, Rocky River Drive Sewer Replacement Project, \$1,040,000
- Lyndhurst, Irene, Churchill, and Gordon I&I Reduction, \$249,270
- Olmsted Township, Bagley Road Water & Sewer, \$500,000

The cost for all 12 approved MCIP projects is \$28,771,871. Member communities were required to support awarded projects with a minimum 25 percent contribution to the project’s cost; the remaining (up to) 75 percent is offered as a reimbursable grant.

“A regional approach to water quality is imperative to the health of not only our region, but our one million customers and thousands more who work, visit and recreate in Greater Cleveland,” said Julius Ciaccia, CEO. “The Member Community Infrastructure Program, as well as the Regional Stormwater Management Program, allow a portion of ratepayer revenues to flow back to their communities for important local projects.”

Many of the projects approved for 2017 include the elimination of Household Sewage Treatment Systems, or septic tanks. These projects, located in Seven Hills, Olmsted Falls, Moreland Hills, Strongsville, Parma and Olmsted Township, will result in approximately 900 new customers for the Sewer District and the elimination of the associated water quality impacts of such systems.

More information about MCIP is online at <https://www.neorsd.org/mcip.php>

BLUE LINE BAR & GRILL

Now Open Daily 11:00 A.M.

Food and Drink Specials

4305 Brookpark Road

440-799-4305

Parma Village Senior Apartments

Rent Starting at \$995/mo.

First month rent FREE

CLOVER COMMUNITIES

440-339-1878

www.clovergroupinc.com

BRAND NEW, LUXURY 1 & 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR THE ACTIVE ADULT (55+)

- Free Heat, Cable & Water
- Conveniently Located
- Close to Shopping, Restaurants and Places of Interest
- In-Suite Laundry Rooms and Equipment


- Central Air Conditioning
- Patios/Balconies
- Elevator / Secure Entry
- Emergency Call Systems
- Beauty Salon & Rec Room
- Smoke-Free Living

Come join our newest community!


11500 Huffman Road | Parma, Ohio 44130



EDUCATION

ASSET CORNER



Visit the "Asset Corner" on Facebook. Share your Asset building ideas.



Show Kids You Care: Learn What They Have to Teach.

Asset Corner #86

by Gene Lovasy

SHOW KIDS YOU CARE: INTRODUCE THEM TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. February's Asset Category: POSITIVE VALUES. You are what you believe

Values shape young people's relationships, behaviors, choices, and sense of who they are. Although positive values help young people avoid risky behavior, they also help guide their day-to-day actions and interactions. Thus, values inspire, not just prohibit. Young people who have positive values are more likely to listen to their conscience, help others, be independent, tell right from wrong, and feel happy. Ultimately, positive values help young people make their own decisions rather than imitate friends or follow trends. **This month's column will focus on Asset #26 - Caring:**

Follow your good intentions with great actions

People can help and care for others directly or indirectly. Direct help is when you spend time and interact with people who need care. Indirect help is when you collect money, food, or other items to give to people who distribute the items to those in need. It's important for young people to be involved in both direct and indirect caring.

Here are the facts

Research shows that young people who place a high value on caring are more likely to promote and model positive rather than negative behaviors. About 50 percent of young people, ages 11–18, say they place a high value on helping others, according to Search Institute surveys. If everyone cared for one another, the world would be a safer, happier, more peaceful place.

Tips for building this asset

Caring about others includes caring for a lot of different people: those in your family, neighborhood, school, community, state, country, and the world. It can also include caring for animals and the environment. Volunteering—whether for a group or an individual—is an excellent way for young people to show they care. But the easiest, quickest way to demonstrate you

care? Simply smile at those around you.

Also try this

In your home and family: Do volunteer work together as a family—at an animal shelter, a nature center, a food bank, or for another cause you care about.

In your neighborhood and community: Have a neighborhood garage sale. Use the proceeds to purchase necessities and gifts for a local family in need or donate them to a local charity.

In your school or youth program: Facilitate a reading circle in which middle and high school students spend one hour a week reading to—and interacting with—elementary school children.

ASSET RELATED NEWS

By the time you read this, well over 100 community stakeholders, working on one of the seven school district's "Focus on the Future" action teams have met at least twice. Meeting weekly since January 18th, each team's immediate objective is to identify/develop short term, easily implementable, preferably \$0 goals for presentation to the Board at their February 21st meeting. Subsequent and on-going meetings will then address long term needs, looking at a minimum 5 year horizon. Minutes of team meetings (which are open to the public to observe progress) can be found at <http://www.parmacityschools.org/future>.

"Focus on the Future" Action Teams are:

Athletics & Extra Curricular Activities, Community Engagement, Finances, Technology, Facilities Usage & District Operations, Curriculum & Instruction, Restoring Trust in the District.

The Annual Partners In Education (P.I.E.) sponsored Pierogi Dinner is scheduled for Friday, March 3rd from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Parma Sr High School's cafeteria. Fish & Pierogi is \$10, Pierogi alone is \$8 & new this year is Mac & Cheese for \$5; carry-out is available. Advanced ticket sales only, are available at all schools & the Central Office (call 440.842.5300). Also new this year is that all food preparation will be done by culinary students

staffing Normandy's Sword & Shield.

If you know someone looking to get their GED or who may be interested in ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes, call 440.885.8797 or check out www.parmacityschools.org/adulted for details & information re all their Adult Education Opportunities. Free classes are offered at over 20 locations in the Greater Cleveland area w/many different class days/times & distance education options.

Individuals w/disabilities, their parents, caregivers and any interested families are invited to attend the first meeting of **Partners for Community Connections**, a new parent network supporting individuals w/disabilities and their families – www.facebook.com/disabilityconnect/. Contact Erin Hinkel at erin.hinkel@yahoo.com to register for the meeting taking place on Monday, March 13th, from 10:00 am to Noon at the Maple Hts. Library, 5225 Library Ln, Cleveland 44137.

"Project MORE", Parma City Schools' student reading & mentoring initiative needs adult volunteers. Though obviously they'd like more, your commitment can be as little as 30 minutes one day per week and all

material & training is provided. For details, and to find a school near you, visit www.parmacityschools.org/page/2707 or call Kira Karabanovs at 440.842.7022.

Membership on the MyCom Tri-City Youth Planning Steering Committee has been set w/representation from major community constituencies. Watch for announcements of quarterly meetings open to the community at large where progress will be shared and input solicited. Several adults and at least two student members of the Steering Committee will be attending training & participate in Youth Advocacy Day, scheduled for March 30th, in Columbus.

The Collab's (at Hanna Elem on Snow & Chevy Blvd) next Mobile Food Pantry will take place on Thursday, February 9th. Help is needed in the morning (9:00 am) to unload & set-up, and again in the afternoon (2:00 pm) for distribution. Contact Kira Karabanovs, Dir. of Family & Community Engagement for details on how you can get involved. Email: karabanovsk@parmacityschools.org; ph: 440.842.7022.

Also at the Collab, free tax preparation for low & moderate income families will again be available, by appointment only, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm every Wednesday, from January 25th to April 13th. Call 211 for an appointment and/or go here www.refundohio.org for more details, to make an appointment online, or if you'd like, learn how you can become a tax prep volunteer.

Visit www.parmacityschools.org/character, www.search-institute.org/assets for more information about the 40 Developmental Assets.

SHINE LIKE A STAR!



NOW ENROLLING:

1:1 TUTORING
ACT/SAT PREP
SUCCESS COACHING
WORKSHOPS
SUMMER CAMPS

 **Parma Residents get 15% OFF 1st session or workshop**

 **College Colleagues**
www.collegecolleagues.net
contact@collegecolleagues.net
(216) 978-6524







Hopko
Funeral Home
www.hopkofuneralhome.com John C. Hopko
6020 Broadview Road - Parma, Ohio
216-631-4888

ARABICA

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



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

INSPIRATION

I Believe

by Daniel Taddeo

A person who can laugh at himself or herself will never cease to be amused. All kids are gifted; some just open their packages earlier than others. Be willing to compromise but never compromise your principles. Character is much easier kept than recovered. EXPOSURE: Our character is molded by our surroundings. Few, if anyone, would disagree that our moral values are disintegrating. God can make a nobody somebody. God’s Word is true. People do not realize that sin (wrong behavior) always destroys. Good things happen when families eat their meals together. Great character is developed in the crucible. If

people were angels no laws would be necessary. Meekness often means to go against the flow. One-on-one relationships are top priority with God. Our thoughts are triggered by our surroundings, our memories, and our imagination. Sin (wrong) destroys our will power. It saps our will to live righteously (right). The deeper we stoop to God, the deeper we stoop to serve others. The longer we wait, the closer we get to receive promises. There are many paths up the mountain of God. Unselfish love (agape) sacrifices its own interests for the needs of others. We are who we allow ourselves to become. We rarely think about the things we think about. When we accept responsibility for our weaknesses, we are less likely to blame and criticize other people. When we do our

own thing, our own thing does us. Wherever we go, we take ourselves with us. Whether people believe it or not, the Bible is the inerrant Word of God. Without kindness, life is like a suitcase with no handle. You never will know the worth

of water until the well is dry. 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?

Growing In Grace

by Davidione Pearl

We’re not getting old, just vintage, baby...
Of special inheritance is our grace into extended life, and entering into a more seasoned intuitive space beyond the fertile magic of our evolving eyes, and the journeys of our worked hearts.
Spend your time wisely, unpack your treasure well to those worthy and fortunate enough to receive gifts of the essential you, for our moments here are truly numbered, and the overarching measure of our legacy is in the telling gardens of each and every breath...

Besos

Book Review

"I Believe" By Daniel Taddeo

by Myrtis Litman

In this book, the author shares his beliefs in the hopes that readers will find peace, comfort, understanding and always asking themselves, "What do I believe?" Taddeo's articles appear regularly in The Parma Observer, a free community newspaper. This book contains these articles plus many more. He covers 38 different subjects in alphabetical order from America to Wisdom, making it easy to find subjects, whether it be Blessings, Faith, Gratitude, Jesus, Prayer, etc. There's something for every age here - young, old and in-between. Many of the chapters could lead to discussions or devotions. Some of his beliefs that gave me food for thought are:

‘It benefits everyone to delight in the success of others.

- Blaming prevents us from correcting the problem.
- Do not wait for six strong men to take you to church.
- Forgiveness frees and heals the forgiver as well as the forgiven.
- Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote.
- Hate is like taking poison and hoping it will harm the other person.
- Jesus paid a debt he did not owe because we owed a debt we could not pay.
- If people talk about others in your presence, they will talk about you in your absence.

This book would be a nice a gift and all would benefit. Books are available from www.amazon.com and www.barnsandnoble.com.

Frosted

by Lizabeth Braskie

Would this be the day the weatherman’s prediction came true? With no windows in our office, most of us ladies hoped the promise of a heavy snowfall was just another veiled threat to which we’ve become accustomed. A few break-time peeks only built up our confidence that we can handle any northeastern Ohio winter. But now at quitting time, our parking lot resembled a lumpy cake to which a thick, fluffy white frosting was applied. We got “dumped on.”

Those of us who had automobile remotes pushed the button to wake up our ride home. We honked horns or flashed headlights to lead us to our vehicle that had called for its rescue. That same remote strengthened my confidence in getting into my ride. A faint response told me my sleeping beauty was awakened, but not yet able to function. My otherwise dependable car now offered two front doors that were frozen shut! I was in Panic Mode! The biting wind drained my logic until I tried the second button to unlock the back doors of my pathetic, Popsicle car. It worked! I crammed myself inside hoping to thaw out before scraping layers of crusted snow off my questionable

transportation. But, wait. This idea made more sense if I could coax my frozen body over the front seats, start the car, turn on the heater full blast and thaw my lifeless limbs.

My shifting console, between the two front seats, was now my only access to the driver’s area. I could have hurried things along by stretching over the front seats to start the engine. But that might result in bumping the controls while I climbed over the console and drive blindly around the parking lot like a marble in a pinball game. Ultimately, I didn’t give much thought to how I would end up when I shook snow from my boot, threw my right leg over the opening, lowered my body over the seat and faced backwards. Having squeezed my bunched up coat with me I saw my left leg hooked onto the back of the passenger seat. I pulled, twisted and sat on the horn.

This announcement could have alerted the other ladies who were cleaning their ride home. I imagined someone would answer the call, have a camera and take my ransom photo for the office Christmas Party. Fortunately, I was spared humiliation. And rescue. My right leg was going numb
continued on page 8

Faith Community Directory

Christ the Saviour American Orthodox Church

10000 State Road N. Royalton, OH 440-237-9196

All Faiths Pantry

P.O. Box 34239 Parma, OH 44134 216-396-4329
allfaithspantry.org

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

7500 State Rd. Parma, OH 440-845-2230
www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com

Greenbrier

Senior Living Community

- Providing Excellence in Rehabilitation and Long-Term Care
- High Resident Satisfaction
- Private Rooms Available
- Active Spiritual Life Services
- Respiratory, Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy 7 days a week



A MEMBER OF THE

CommuniCare

FAMILY OF COMPANIES

Serving with Pride.

Admissions 24/7

440.888.5900

6455 Pearl Road

Parma Heights, OH 44130

communicarehealth.com

SENIOR LIVING

Civil Defense In The 1950's

by Bob Stilwell

Air raid drills. Conelrad. Bomb shelters. Duck and cover. All of these were familiar terms to Americans in the Cold War culture of the 1950's. The future looked uncertain in the new Atomic Age, and there was growing tension between America and the Soviet Union. People lived with the threat of nuclear war as part of their daily lives.

President Harry Truman established the Federal Civil Defense Administration (FCDA) in 1950 after the outbreak of the Korean War. As part of the the alert America campaign, the FCDA flooded the public with some 400 million pieces of survival literature that attempted to educate and reassure people that simple civil defense procedures would protect them from a nuclear attack. People



received maps showing evacuation routes, and families were encouraged to build their own bomb shelters, and countless school children watched the movie "Duck and Cover" and practiced hiding under their desks when they "see the flash."

After the Cold War, the government focus shifted away from defense against Soviet air strikes. The civil defense programs were replaced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which was created in 1978 to oversee civil defense and disaster management.



Duck and cover.

AARP Tax Aide - Tax Season Announcement

by Stephen Donovan

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program will be getting underway again this year starting the first week in February and ending the 18th of April 2017. This IRS-supported FREE tax service offered on a non-discriminatory basis without consideration of race, religion, gender, disability, or sexual orientation with special attention to those with low or moderate incomes and/or aged 60 and older. Taxpayers do NOT have to be retired or a member of AARP.

Tax-Aide sites in southwest Cuyahoga County are located at:

Parma Library, 6996 Powers Blvd., Parma, OH 44129. Open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. To make an appointment, go to the Parma Library and complete sign-up book.

Parma Snow Road County Library, 2121 Snow Road, Parma, OH 44134. Open Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM. To make an appointment go to the Snow Road Library and complete sign-up book.

Middleburg Heights Community

Center, 16000 Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, OH 44130. Open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Make an appointment at Middleburg Heights Community Center.

North Royalton Library (new site), 5071 Wallings Road, North Royalton, OH 44133. Open Wednesdays from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Call 440-582-6333 for an appointment.

Strongsville Senior Center, 18100 Royalton Road, Strongsville, OH 44136. Open Mondays and Fridays from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Call 440-580-3275 for an appointment.

Brook Park United Methodist Church, 6220 Smith Road, Brook Park, OH 44142. Open Wednesdays from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Call 216-676-4738 Tuesdays through Fridays from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM for an appointment.

Broadview Heights Human Services Department, 9543 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, OH 44147. Open Tuesdays from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Call 440-526-4074 for an appointment.



York Street Cemetery's 200 Year Old Tree

by Myrtis Litman

On August 13, 2016, the York Street Cemetery Preservation Committee received the shocking news that the Bartholomew Tree had fallen during a heavy thunderstorm, probably struck by lightning. The tree was given that name when it was learned that Levi Bartholomew had buried his infant son under that tree in 1835, making it about 200 years old. This area, being a farming rural community, had no cemetery, so Mr. Bartholomew allowed neighbors to bury their relatives in his back yard. He established York Street Cemetery, and it quickly filled up. He eventually moved away and the property now belongs to the City of Parma.

In 1998 it was learned by St. Paul Church, the oldest church in Parma, on its 140th anniversary, that many of their founding members were buried there. This created so much interest that the York Street Cemetery Preservation Committee was formed. The cemetery was cleaned up, beautified, researched, name markers were placed

at the baby's burial site and at the entrance naming the cemetery, and a gravestone was placed identifying Potter's Field. Chuck Jennings Jr. wrote a book about the history and the six veterans buried there - starting with the Revolutionary War through World War I. He also gives walking tours before Memorial Day services.

Many observers watched silently and reverently as the Davey Tree Company expertly removed the fallen tree without damaging any of the headstones or makers. A large crew and many special vehicles cut off the limbs and sawed the huge trunk into pieces, lifted them high over the tall trees and placed them in appropriate waiting vehicles. Thanks, Davey Tree!

The remaining stump is about seven feet tall and a cross has been carved on it (see picture). Hopefully other large parts of the trunk can be made into benches and placed around the cemetery.

Cutting Edge Branded Apparel & Promotional Products

For Your Business or Non-Profit

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

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

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

Remembered Expressions

Phone: 440.236.6282
www.RememberedExpressions.com

Dean DePiero

Attorney and Counselor at Law

DeanDepiero.com 216-570-8665

PERSPECTIVE

Change for Change's Sake Sometimes Is Not Good

by Lee Kamps

The final number of the musical Hairspray is a rollicking number involving the entire cast titled "You Can't Stop the Beat". It is performed after the Corny Collins show, a teen dance show like American Bandstand, becomes integrated. The setting of this play is in Baltimore in 1962 when the civil rights movement was gaining strength. The song is about how no one can stop the movement of progress no matter how hard they try.

Perhaps the people we have sent to Washington DC and to Columbus should realize that they "can't stop the beat" as well. No matter how hard they try, no one can stop the march of progress. Specifically I am speaking about the efforts to block efforts to combat global warming, ignoring all the scientific evidence. I am also talking about the effort to repeal and undo the Affordable Care Act that may cost many Americans their health insurance. I am also talking about efforts to defund Planned Parenthood that provides much needed health care services to mostly lower income men and women. Overturning or repealing the Roe V Wade Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion won't make it go away.

Nor can anyone "stop the beat" toward a global economy and the development of clean and renewable energy

as well. The United States is part of the global economy and the world community whether our elected officials like it or not. The United States cannot suddenly break international agreements and treaties because of a change in administration. What foreign country would ever sign an agreement or treaty with the United States knowing that when there is a new President, that agreement could be unilaterally broken?

There was a previous Presidential election where the voters wanted and voted for "change". That election was 96 years ago in 1920. Both candidates were from Ohio. The Democratic candidate was Ohio Governor James Cox and the Republican candidate was Ohio Senator Warren G Harding. Woodrow Wilson was the outgoing President. He had served since his election in 1912 but was disabled by a stroke suffered in September 1919.

Wilson was a Progressive and under his administration the 16th amendment was ratified giving the voters the right to directly elect U.S. Senators. Previously Senators were elected by the state legislatures. Also under Wilson's administration the 17th amendment allowing a federal income tax, the 18th amendment making Prohibition the law of the land and the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote were all ratified.

In addition to those constitutional amendments, under Woodrow Wilson the Federal Reserve was established to control the nation's money supply and the nation fought the First World War.

Woodrow Wilson became a giant on the international stage. His "Fourteen Points" offered a framework for peace after the war and one of those points was the establishment of a League of Nations to prevent future wars like the one just fought. But there was resistance to the United States joining the League of Nations and to the United States becoming involved in global politics.

James Cox campaigned on continuing the progressive ideals of Woodrow Wilson and on the League of Nations. Warren Harding campaigned on nostalgia, saying that what the country needed was "a return to normalcy". In the end Harding was elected President in a landslide and with the Republican party in control of congress.

What the country got was a President who was clearly in over his head and unfit for the office. Had Harding not died two and a half years into his term, he might have become the first President to resign. His administration is best remembered for the corruption in his cabinet.

As a result of this "change" election of 1920, the United States entered

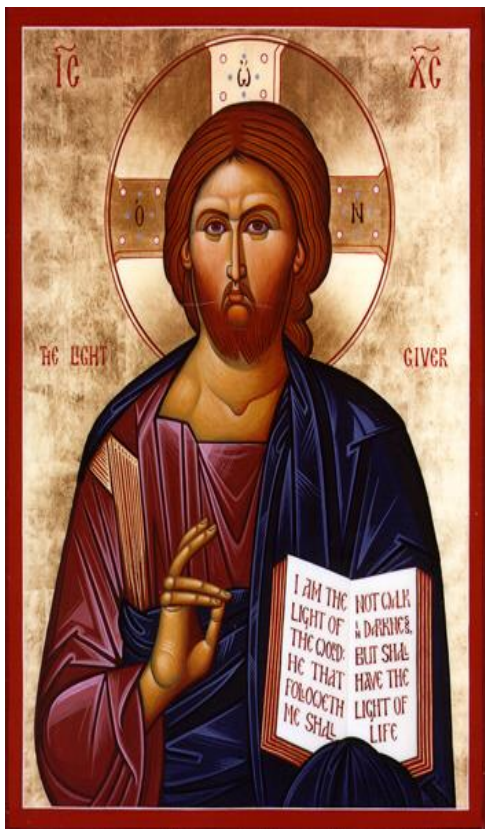
into a period of isolationism. Without the United States, The League of Nations proved to be a weak organization that was unable to prevent Hitler from grabbing Austria and Czechoslovakia. It was also unable to stop or prevent Japan's grabbing of Manchuria or its attack on China.

Suddenly more than twenty years after Harding's election, on December 7 1941, the United States was jerked out of its isolationism. Since that "day of infamy" more than 75 years ago, the United States has been in the forefront on the world stage.

Retreating back to an "America first" outlook toward globalism is wrong now, just as it was wrong in 1921 and up to 1941. Like it or not, the United States is a major part of the world community and we need the help and cooperation of other nations just as they need our help and cooperation. Global warming affects the entire planet whether or not the President believes it to be a "liberal hoax". Free trade is a reality and the United States must adapt to it, not shrink from it.

The country cannot go back to the "good old days" because those days are gone forever, if they existed at all. Like that closing song from Hairspray, "You Can't Stop the Beat" or prevent progress, no matter how hard you may try.

The Orthodox Christian Faith Adult Study Class



Beginning Monday, February 6th at 7:00pm

Christ the Savior American Orthodox Church
10000 State Road
North Royalton, OH 44133

For More Information, Contact Fr. Nicholas Mihaly

Phone: (440) 237 - 1781

Email: nmihaly1013@gmail.com

Frosted

continued from page 6

underneath my cold and damp body. I tried to wiggle my left foot but it didn't respond. Could this be the early stages of hypothermia? A thought occurred to me! Pull my foot from the clumsy boot while I lift my behind from this pretzel position. I grabbed the upright seat, raised myself about two inches and came down with a thud. And blew the horn. Again!

I was determined this vehicle wouldn't hold me hostage. Breathing deeply, I regained courage and planned my escape. This would be no contest for a younger body. But a stubborn senior can summon hidden resources when

her back is facing the front. Here goes! With positive gusto I pulled my bootless leg through the opening, pushed my torso backwards, swung myself around and, again, leaned my elbow on the horn! I was free to cross my fingers and start the motor. In minutes the heat thawed the doors, encouraging the nonchalant snow removal of my dormant car. The half-empty parking lot fed my determination to pat myself on the back and wear the smile of a victorious athlete who finished the race. After all, I conquered a horrendous lack in judgment, braved nature's latest wrath, and played three toots on a horn as my timid, yet deserving, fanfare



COMPUTER SALES & REPAIRS

PC DIAGNOSTICS INC.
5857 RIDGE RD PARMA, OH 44129
(SOUTH OF SNOW ROAD & NEXT TO ST. CHARLES CHURCH)

- ♦ FREE ESTIMATES ♦ UPGRADES ♦ SMARTPHONE & TABLET REPAIR
- ♦ VIRUS & SPYWARE REMOVAL ♦ LAPTOP SCREEN REPAIR ♦ ON-SITE AVAILABLE

OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY
WWW.PCDSHOP.COM

(440)884-3903

OBSERVER

Enough Is Enough

by Corbin Luna

Last November, Lee Kamps wrote a piece for the Observer titled We Are The United States Of America in which he said we're all Americans and so (he concluded in roundabout way) we should all get behind our newly elected president and other representa-

Ice

by Leo Lampeter

What a wonderful act of nature, ice. What would it have been for iced tea, to have to go to the nearest mountain for the ice? Now, we take a short trip to the refrigerator, open the freezer and voila, instant ice. It is also quite convenient for those adult beverages. Ice has also been shown to benefit the medical community for assorted injuries when one slips on the ice of a walkway. In days gone by people took pride in their attention to their property. Maintaining the lawn, attention to the flower garden, clearing debris, including snow, was not only a reflection of their property but of themselves their family and their community and their nationality. Neighbors did notice attention to details. Make the time to take a winter stroll around your neighborhood sometime and notice those who care for their property and those who are lax. Perhaps it has been influenced by the disintegration of the ethnic neighborhoods. No one of ethnicity wanted to be looked down upon for the lack of cleanliness or organization. To those of you who have the pride and consideration of clearing the snow from your public walkways, allow me to thank you on behalf of those who actually get out from behind a steering wheel and do this thing referred to as walking. You may or may not believe this, but that little bit of effort on your part is appreciated. Now to those of you who refrain from the activity of clearing public walkways, allow one question to be asked: what are your thoughts about those who don't make life easier for you?

While it is the Housing Commissioners' job to enforce the clearing of the walkways, we'll let you be the judge

tives. Obviously the piece was written before the election and anyone who has read just about anything Mister Kamps has written understands he wrote it because he believed his candidate, Clinton, would win. If you have any doubt of that, read some of his past Observer pieces. For example, last

to see if this is an area where pay is earned, and a raise is warranted. Perhaps it is fortunate for him that he merely retains employment. A larger question arises: What about assorted businesses that only clear their parking areas and neglect portions of the walkways, such as Citizens Bank at the corner of Ridge and Charles? There are few who responded and did clear their walks of snow, when reminded, but only once. Those were Fred Heipp Insurance and E-Z tax, along with B.P. gas on Ridge and Ridgewood. Simic, C.P.A. tax preparer, which has never cleared the walk, and Mr. Tire. Mr. Tire actually had snow plowed onto the sidewalk from their parking lot. If you care for your property in a less that satisfactory manner, are you that careless

February, he wrote that Republicans, especially Trumps, are Xenophobic. In August, it was Republicans, especially Trump, are only pandering to our fears. My personal favorite came in October when he wrote that electing Trump would guarantee that we would have another Watergate.

with your customers also? The same question arises for the multiple family dwellings. They have their drives cleared but for the most part neglect the sidewalks. How much do they care about the community where they make their living or do they merely care for what they get out of the community? Let's become aware of others and help one another along. What are your thoughts when the streets are not cleared? Could the same thoughts be applied to those who do not clear walks? When it is time for those who do not clear the snow and ice from walkways to enter the hereafter, may your time be spent negotiating ice and snow covered walkways.

The election was just a few short days after the Observer published his article so it was fresh in mind when Trump shocked the world and the Republicans took control of the Senate in addition to retaining control of the House. Consequently, one morning over coffee my wife and I were joking about it and then got into a discussion about how long it would take Mister Kamps to stop singing Kumbaya, my lord, and return to slamming Trump and the the bad old Republicans. Finally, a wager was agreed upon. The loser had to start responding to the left wing spin, innuendo, half-truths and lies that he incorporates into his articles.

I lost. I could argue about that but it would only sound like sour grapes, kinda like all the nonsense we are now hearing from the radical left about the election. I could make excuses, kinda like all the nonsense we are now hearing from the radical left about the election, but there are few things worse than a sore loser and I believe that people should have enough integrity to stand by their word. And I believe that what I believe starts with me. Besides, happy wife, happy life. Therefore, I will be responding to Mister Kamps starting with his piece from

continued on page 10







What *inspires* You?...

Let our devoted staff curate it for you!

Catered Living
Assisted living
Memory Care

Located at the
Shoppes of Parma.





Experience next generation resort-styled senior living and assisted memory care. Enjoy the ultimate in lavish comfort with all the perks of a luxury hotel. You will always receive personalized health and hospitality services with genuine warmth and thoughtful attention by our team of experienced professionals. Rediscover the wonderful awakening of “Full of Life” living.



VISTA SPRINGS

Full of Life.™

(440) 340-4000

8668 Day Drive | Parma, Ohio 44129 | VistaSpringsLiving.com

PREGNANT? NEED HELP?

Free and Confidential

 **Birthright**

A Caring Pregnancy Service

Parma: 216-661-6400
5451 Broadview Rd. & Grovewood

Lakewood: 216-228-5998
14701 Detroit, #344 above Panera

You can phone a friend!
24 hours a day
1-800-550-4900
www.birthright.org

COMMUNITIY PULSE

Enough Is Enough

continued from page 9

the January Observer in which he provided a lot of spin about the ACA and how bad Republicans are for wanting to replace it.

First, to understand why the ACA never had a chance of being successful and to understand why a lot of what is said about it is only spin, you have to understand the basics of insurance. If you do, please bear with me for a moment. After some insurance basics, I will address the impact of the ACA on insurance, directly address what Mister Kamps said and then give an example of how a replacement for the ACA would benefit everyone.

For those who don't have a lot of knowledge about insurance, it is nothing more than spreading risk. That's it. That's the whole purpose of insurance. Here's a real simple example. A woman is concerned that, due to the cost, if she needs medical care, she won't be able to afford it. So she finds a number of like minded people and forms a pool. (In insurance jargon, it's called a risk pool.) Each person in the pool, say a thousand total, throws in \$10/month. That's \$120,000/year. As long as \$120,000 covers the medical costs of everybody in the pool, everything is great. If not, the people in the pool

have to pony up more money or the pool goes under.

That's the basic idea, but for insurance companies a couple of other things come into play. Federal laws require insurance to be regulated at the state level. Therefore, each state has its own insurance commissioner (or similar position) who has to approve what is sold within the state. Consequently, an insurance policy is tailored to a state's requirements and, therefore, is only sold in that state, which limits the potential risk pool to people within that state. That, in turn, limits the size of the pool which increases costs because the bigger the pool the more the risk can be spread and the more economies of scale the company can achieve to spread their overhead costs.

Another big issue for insurance companies is that they have to decide what to charge before they know what it will cost them and before they enter into an agreement with you. Then they have to honor that price for the term of the agreement, which is usually a year. Insurance companies have some people called actuaries who are experts at estimating what the cost will be. Actuaries have data bases that contain years and years worth of data they use to model a pool and are usually quite accurate in their cost predictions. They better be.

Healthpocket Averages for nonsmokers in Bronze Tier

Individual Age Profile	2017 Premium*	2016 Premium*	Increase
30 year-old	\$311.17	\$257.68	21%
40 year-old	\$350.23	\$289.88	21%
50 year-old	\$489.54	\$405.28	21%
60 year-old	\$743.52	\$615.15	21%

Cost-Sharing Averages for nonsmokers in Bronze Tier

Cost-Sharing Category	2017 Avg for Individuals	2017 Avg. for Families	Deductible (Medical)
	\$6,092	\$12,393	
Max Out-of-Pocket Costs	\$6,904	\$13,810	

If the price is too high, they lose business to a competitor which decreases the size of the risk pool which, in turn, drives up their cost and they lose money. If the price they set is too low, it won't cover their cost and they lose money. If the actuary is too far off, he needs to quickly update his resume and if he's way, way too low, it can put the company out of business. (By the way, for any of you who are still trying to decide what you want to be when you grow up, actuaries are among the highest paid people in the country).

The rest of this rebuttal can be found online at: ParmaObserver.com

DC: Changing Of The Guard And Those With Their Guard Up

by Davidione Pearl

Dearest Americans,

There is a rising sun in all that has transpired post election
A change in all of us

Progressives rested after first making history
Then subsequently bickered themselves into splinters
The Far Right mobilized and seized upon this into Presidency
And seized a healthy share of twenty-six statehouses
Thereby ensuring redistricting in their favor well into the future

Yet never before
Have all sides been this galvanized in The Information Age
With so many still resting

Paradigm Shift

What's been in the far recesses of most minds
That thing beyond the looking glass
Grinning through the mirrors and smoke
Is now finally once again on the table
Has hit the proverbial fan once more
Blowing gale winds of change we all knew were still alive

Response

People are uniting
Reuniting
Discovering
What is no longer dormant

Purpose

The times
Seemingly salted barren no man's land conditions
Are equally fertile
In passion evermore to this time follow through
To take root
To ground
For their rest is over

Eyes open

In you resides spirit awakening
Recognizing the ancestor within
A state of being
In devoted communion to protecting those to come

May we always help reveal
Awakening light in others
Band in engaged community
Strive to connect in the tailors of critical thinking
And recognize the sacred overarching mortality of us all

Flourish your dreams
They are needed more than ever now...

Besos



the empty fridge
a sign your aging parent needs help



**You can't always be there.
But we can.**

With Home Instead Senior Care, caring for an aging loved one doesn't have to be a struggle. It's why we offer everything from individualized help around the house to advanced Alzheimer's care—to keep them safe and sound at home, instead of anywhere else.

**Take the first step.
Call us at 440.888.3809 or
visit HomeInstead.com/306**

© 2016 Home Instead, Inc. Each Home Instead Senior Care franchise office is independently owned and operated.



PARMA ART SCENE

The Picasso Project:
Art Classes Led By Parma Residents

by Christine Vodicka

A learning center that teaches art? Why not! College Colleagues opened its doors in October 2016. My college colleague, Joline Scott Roller, and I decided to offer learning programs such as tutoring, success coaching, and workshops to the local communities.

After 20 years of learning center experience, I had never seen a learning center teach creativity. I am excited to announce that in February and March 2017, we will be facilitating The Picasso Project. The Picasso Project consists of two different classes: cubist still-life class and a cubist self-portrait class. The cost of each class is only \$25 and you can pay online via or website, or at the door.

There will be a 6:1 student to teacher ratio, so the learners will receive guided instruction and plenty of support as they try new techniques. I will be co-teaching these two classes along with fellow Parma resident and artist, Katie Brahaney. Katie is one of the Colleagues, and she also teaches English as a Second Language (ESL) at the center.

Each of the art classes begins with a fun warm up activity, followed by a mini lesson in art history. Then the real fun begins as the students participate in collaborative lessons to ultimately create their own “frameable” masterpiece. Each of the classes is 2 hours long. The dates and times for the Picasso Project are as follows:

Feb. 18 and Mar. 18th
Cubist Stil-Lifes -- 12-2pm

Feb. 25 and Mar. 25th
Cubist Self-Portraits -- 12-2pm

During the Still-Life class, students will learn new ways of viewing the world and their own artwork. During the “mirror-free” self-portrait class, student will learn ways to showcase their special qualities and attributes. Both projects will feature mixed media

so that the children have a wide variety of choices and therefore, more freedom to be expressive.

College Colleagues offers a safe and supportive learning space. We will provide snacks and drinks for the students. Our teachers, tutors, and success coaches are background checked, motivated and enthusiastic about helping others succeed.

As an undergraduate Art Education major, I recall how eye- opening it was to study cubism and paint my own cubist still life. I had an excellent teacher that helped me to break the mold of realistic artwork. In addition, I have formally studied Picasso in art history classes. Since these classes, I have developed a new appreciation for the art form, and I have used the skills in subsequent artworks. Learning to draw and create in the cubist fashion encourages creative thinking. The collaborative nature of the Picasso Project workshops will encourage social skills, communication, and self-expression.

I received an Art Education bachelor’s degree and a Master’s degree in Education from Kent State University. Although life took me the route of higher education administration, there was a part of me that always wanted to teach art. After two battles with cancer, I am currently living with stage 4 breast cancer. Life is precious, and I am blessed to have this opportunity to share my love of art and teaching with local children.

Stay tuned! After the classes, amazing artworks created by our students will be featured on our website as a Virtual Art Gallery. We cannot wait to share the children’s art with you.

If you have any ideas of art classes or skills workshops you would like to see held at College Colleagues, please feel free to email me at contact@collegecolleagues.net. If you would like to enroll in art classes or any of our other success programs, please enroll online at www.collegecolleagues.net.



Dennis Kish Appointed To
Ward 8 Council Seat



In January former Parma Auditor Dennis Kish was appointed by Ward 8 precinct committee members to serve out the remaining term of Scott Tuma, who was elected to serve as the Cuyahoga Council Representative from District 4.

Parma State Of The City
Address Set For Feb. 28

continued from page 1

The mayor is looking forward to talking about the development in Parma, including The Shoppes at Parma, development along Day Dr. and the Parma Splash Pad, expected this spring. “There are a lot of exciting things going on in our town center, the Crossroads of Parma, and I am really looking forward to telling everyone about all that’s going on,” DeGeeter said. “We are on our way to making

Parma a destination point, and that’s a really exciting thing.”

Past State of the City speeches have been held at UH Parma Medical Center, Cuyahoga County Public Library, OSG Tool and the UAW 1005 Union Hall “Our administration’s approach has always been to combine common sense and hard work to produce real results,” DeGeeter said. “We’re proud to share some of our positive results at the State of the City address.”

The speech is open to the public.

Danny's Auto Service

Domestic / Foreign
Light Trucks



ASE certified



Meyers Snowplow Parts And Service

Daniel J. Skonezny
(216) 267-1267

5273 Commerce Parkway West
Parma, Ohio 44130

Your choice for quality short-term rehabilitation

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



MOUNT ALVERNA VILLAGE
FRANCISCAN COMMUNITIES

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

Sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago



Pleasant Lake Villa

Skilled Rehabilitation Services



Five Star Overall Rating

by the
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

We are proud to offer

- Physical, Occupational and Speech therapies up to 7 days a week
- Private rehabilitation suites
- Assisted Living, achieved Survey Excellence the past 2 years
- Achieved Survey Excellence from the Ohio Department on Aging Resident Survey Satisfaction
- Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program, individualized care for patients with chronic respiratory problems
- Cardiology Program, comprehensive approach to patient care starting with extensive nursing education and follow-up by board certified cardiologists
- Full-time nurse practitioners on site
- Excellent Wound Care outcomes



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