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Parma Named One Of America's Safest Cities

by Jeannie Roberts

The City of Parma has been named one of the Top 100 Safest Cities in America by the National Council for Home Safety and Security, an organization comprised of companies and individuals in the home safety and security industries.

Parma is listed as the 64th safest city; accompanying statistics report that Parma has 99 violent crimes per 100,000 people and 1,289 property



crimes per 100,000. Parma is the only city from Ohio to make the list. The list, which is viewable here, was compiled using the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics along with internal research

from the National Council for Home Safety and Security.

“This is great recognition for our city and is directly attributable to the men and women who serve on our Safety Forces,” Mayor Tim DeGeeter said. “We have excellent leadership in Police Chief Joe Bobak and Fire Chief Mike Lasky and from Safety Director Tom Weinreich. People want to live in a city they know is safe, and we are work-

ing hard to provide that safety and security here in Parma.”

The Mayor also acknowledged the role of residents in helping to maintain a safe city.

“We have residents who are good neighbors, who keep an eye on their streets and neighborhoods and also look out for each other,” he said.

“This is the fabric of our city. Our Police Department is often assisted by good neighbors who call when they see something suspicious. This kind of respect for neighborhoods – and for law enforcement – helps us achieve honors such as this.”

Ukrainian Village Parade 2017



The annual parade in Parma's Ukrainian Village took place on 8/26, this year to celebrate 26 years of an independent Ukraine.

Parma Honors Business, Citizen Of The Month

by Jeannie Roberts

State Road Pizza was named the Mayor’s Business of the Month for July, and the Citizen of the Month was Chris Knebusch. Both were honored at an August meeting of Parma City Council. State Road Pizza owners Paul and Sue Horkey celebrated 70 years in business for State Road Pizza. The business is well-known for

heart-shaped pizza for special occasions. The business also recently added home delivery. Citizen of the Month Knebusch was accompanied by plenty of family when he came to be honored by City Council. He was honored for his considerable volunteer work staging City-sponsored parades. This can often be a thankless job and the

city is appreciative of his volunteer efforts, not just for city parades, but also for the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce and the former Jaycees. Chris and his wife Fran have been married 31 years and have three kids and many grandkids. He is a concerned, committed and active resident and that makes a better Parma for all of us.



Chris Knebusch was surrounded by family when he accepted his Citizen of the Month award.

by Mike Byrne

Mayor, Parma Hts.

After a very busy and productive summer, we are excited to welcome fall. School is back in session, the days and nights get cooler, and the leaves begin to change.

Fall remains full of activity in our community

DELAYED REFUSE COLLECTION

Labor Day is observed this year on Monday, September 4. With the holiday, we remind residents that refuse collection across the city will be delayed that week until Thursday, September 7.

SCRAP TIRE COLLECTION

The city will host a scrap tire collection on Saturdays, September 9 and 23. Tires must be off rims. Your scrap tires can be brought to the city service garage, located in the Greenbrier Commons complex, 6200 Pearl Road, from 9 a.m. until Noon both days.

FREE PRODUCE/ COMMUNITY GARDEN

Also on September 9, the Parma Heights Food Pantry, working in concert with the Cleveland Foodbank, will distribute free produce from 9 a.m. to Noon in the parking lot behind city hall at 6281 Pearl Road. You are asked to bring your own bags.

People may not realize it, but Parma Heights has a community garden in the Greenbrier Commons complex, and the Parma Heights Garden Club maintains the garden. All produce from the garden is harvested and is donated to the Parma Heights Food Pantry.

THE DAFFODIL PROJECT CONTINUES – PHASE TWO

This fall, the Garden Club will begin phase two of last year’s highly successful “Daffodil Project.” Last year, Garden Club members solicited donations from Parma Heights businesses. Monies were used to purchase over 3,000 daffodil

continued on page 4



State Road Pizza owners Paul & Sue Horkey with Mayor Tim DeGeeter and Ward Four Councilman Mark Casselberry.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The President's Corner

by Sean Brennan

Last month I shared the first half of a two-part story about the public life of Parma's Mary Dunning. Her fascinating and inspirational life simply could not be covered in only one column. Therefore, this month, I will complete my short biography of Ms. Dunning, although I know that this, too, does not do service to someone who has given so much of herself to our community.

During the course of the afternoon we spent together, Ms. Dunning shared several letters she wrote to William Minshall asking for his support of the Federal Government passing the former Nike Site to the City of Parma. "Nixon was President at the time and Congressman Minshall was a Republican, so the Nike project was important to both of them politically," Ms. Dunning shared. In fact, the Congressman flew her and her colleague Councilwoman Evelyn Kopchak to Washington, D.C. to discuss the proposal. It was announced that the property would be, to everyone's surprise, given to the City of Parma



Sean Brennan,
Parma City Council President

free of charge. As the Ward 7 councilwoman, always an advocate for more green-space and parks, it was important to her to save this property from development. She was clearly an environmentalist before the environmental movement began in this country. Incidentally, Ms. Dunning was also on council when the City of Parma purchased Ridgewood Golf Course back from Forest City Enterprises, saving it

Work On Parma's Sidewalk And Streetscape Program Improvements Starts This Month

by Jeannie Roberts

Parma's Department of Community Services and Economic Development will spend \$230,000 on its 2017 Sidewalk and Streetscape programs; the money for these improvements comes from federally funded Community Development Block Grants.

The purpose of the Sidewalks Program is to improve the public right-of-way in residential areas and to allow for better accessibility and mobility. The grant amount for this program is \$130,000. Twenty-eight streets have been identified for improvements in

curbs, aprons and sidewalks. Six wheelchair ramps are part of this project.

Similarly, the Streetscape Program, which has a \$100,000 budget, improves public right-of-way and aesthetics of retail districts. Ten sites have been identified for improvements.


"We are using these important federal dollars to invest in our community by supporting infrastructure improvements that will help our businesses and residents," Mayor Tim DeGeeter said.

Work on the various improvements around Parma will begin in mid-September and is expected to be completed by November 1.

New Location For Larock Healthcare Academy



On 8/22 Larock Healthcare Academy had a ribbon cutting ceremony for their new location at 6500 Pearl Rd. in Parma Hts. They moved from their location in Northfield, Ohio in order to be more conveniently accessible for their students in Northeast Ohio. They have other locations in Canton and Columbus.



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Parma City Council President Sean Brennan and Judge Mary Dunning

from future development, as well. She also led the first parks being created in Ward 7.

As mentioned last month, Ms. Dunning was first elected Ward 7 councilwoman in 1967. She won re-election in 1969, but for family reasons decided not to seek a third term. She later went back to school, attending Cuyahoga Community College and Baldwin Wallace, and achieved a degree in psychology. She then went on to law school at Cleveland Marshall, graduating at age 50 in 1986. What an inspiration she is to anyone who thinks it is too late to pursue furthering his or her education!

In 1987, she ran for and won her former Ward 7 council seat and was soon recruited by the Democratic Party to run for State Senate, but lost to Gary Suhadolnik. In 1989, she ran against Pat Altier (now Pell) for President of City Council in the Democratic Primary and won. In November, she would also defeat Chuck Germana who ran as a write-in candidate. Germana would come back in 1991 and claim victory.

Attorney Dunning served about a year as an assistant prosecutor for the city of Parma under Law Director Bill Mason. She handled domestic relations cases primarily. "These were very important cases. The stories of what happened to many of the women involved were heart-wrenching," she explained. On more than one occasion she was tracked by defendants.

In 1995, former Councilwoman Dunning was elected judge for Parma Municipal Court, filling the vacancy created when William Savage retired. She ran and won re-election in 2001, but could not seek another term due to Ohio's law that precludes one for running for judge once you turn 70 years of age. Following her time as judge she was able to serve as a visiting judge for eight years in several courts throughout the region when vacancies required her expertise.

In her retirement, Judge Dunning spent some years serving as a trained spiritually care volunteer at Parma Hospital. "I miss that service. You were there to console others in their time of need. It was very rewarding," she mentioned. An injury prevents her from being on her feet for too long at a time. However, that does not stop her from attending judicial conferences, travel-

ing around the country and world, and spending time with her beloved children and grandchildren. In fact, as we sat, her granddaughter called just to see how grandma was doing.

Before I left the Judge's house, the doctor's office also called her. I heard the woman on the other end ask, "Is Mary there?" As I contemplated all that I know about her, I could not help but think, 'she is not just any ordinary Mary.' This is Mother, Grandmother, Nurse, Councilwoman, President, Attorney, Prosecutor, Judge and Counselor Mary Dunning. If the young lady on the other end of the line only knew the story of this inspirational woman who did so much for us, especially in times when it was much more difficult for women to break the glass ceiling. And, what is her advice to us? "More people need to get involved." She is an inspiration to us all and, if we heed her advice, we can carry the torch that she has passed onto us.



PARMA Observer
Serving the 10 City Areas of Parma, Parma Heights, & Seven Hills

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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Sept. 9 Boot Camp Energizes Parkinson's Patients

by CJ Sheppard

University Hospitals teaches Parkinson's research, the benefits of exercise, medical and surgical therapies and more at its Ninth Annual Parkinson's Boot Camp, held this year on Saturday, Sept. 9, at the John S. Knight Center, 77 E. Mill Street in Akron.

The Boot Camp is a free program for those living with Parkinson's disease, which is a disorder of the brain characterized by shaking (tremor) and difficulty with walking, movement, and coordination. Held from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with registration and breakfast beginning at 8:30 a.m., Boot Camp offers exercise techniques, mind and body wellness practices and invigorating skills that helps people with Parkinson's to better manage their disease.

A special session at Boot Camp is held for care partners and family members. Parkinson's Boot Camp is a growing success with nearly 1,000 people in attendance last year including those living with Parkinson's, their care partners and family members.

This year's featured speaker is Dr. Helen Bronte Stewart, Director of the Movement Disorders Center at Stanford University.

In order to secure a spot at this year's Boot Camp, registration is necessary. Patients can call 216-983-MOVE or visit UHhospitals.org/PDBootCamp to register.

Three-Part Program At Parma Heights Library

by Rick Haase

The Parma Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library will present a three-part program entitled, "Heartfulness Meditation," from 7-8 p.m. on three consecutive Wednesdays in September: September 13, 20 and 27.

You are invited to attend the free program and learn how meditation can reduce anxiety and stress, leading to more balanced living and an overall healthier life.

Heartfulness Meditation is a simple, effective form of meditation which focuses on the heart.

Relaxation and meditation techniques will be taught, along with useful tools for relieving stress. Participants are asked to eat lightly before the program and dress in comfortable clothing.

Chairs will be provided for sitting meditation.

Registration for this program is requested. Visit www.cuyahogalibrary.org for more information, or call the Parma Heights Branch at 440.884.2313.

The library is located within the Greenbrier Commons complex at 6200 Pearl Road, Parma Heights.

Physician Talk On Cholesterol: What You Need To Know

by CJ Sheppard

Learn the latest information about the risks and benefits of cholesterol in a free talk presented by Bradley Banko, MD, MS, at UH Parma Medical Center on Thursday, Sept. 14. This program will be held from 6 – 7 p.m. in UH Parma Medical Center's Auditorium. Call 440-743-4932 to register. View the full schedule of classes and programs at UH Parma Medical Center.

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OBSERVER

Kids In the Commons 2017 A Huge Success

by Rick Haase

They came, they saw, they had fun. The City of Parma Heights' second annual Kids in the Commons weekend was a rousing success. Held August 12 and 13, 2017 at the Greenbrier Commons Complex, the event was purely designed for family fun. "This event has become a summer tradition in Parma Heights," said Mayor Michael P. Byrne. "We were so happy to see so many members of the community join us and take part in the fun."

The YMCA of Greater Cleveland presented YSplash, a water safety and education program for kids. The city pool and waterpark was open continuously for all to enjoy. Along with that, there was DJ Island Jeff, who presented his unique brand of Steel Drum Music, balloon twisting, fun with bubbles, air brush tattoos, sand volleyball, cornhole and bocce ball.

Parma Heights recently installed new Pickleball courts, and they were in use throughout the weekend. The Cleveland Metroparks were part of the weekend with their Nature Tracks and EcoExplorer vehicles. University Hospitals Parma Medical Center visited with their safety vehicle on Saturday, and the MedEVac helicopter on Sunday. The Cuyahoga County Public Library's Parma Heights branch offered free selfies for children, along with a special craft project for each child. A Saturday eve-



ning movie, "Moana" brought out a very large crowd during its outdoor screening.

A Sunday afternoon family storytime, with special guest readers, including Parma Heights City Council Members and Mayor Michael Byrne proved itself quite popular. The Parma Heights Historical Society offered old fashioned games for children and families, while selling the "official" Parma Heights T-shirt.

Hundreds turned out. "Kids in the Commons" was the result of generous support from the Cleveland Metroparks, University Hospitals Parma Medical Center, the Parma Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, and the YMCA of Greater Cleveland. Sponsors included Mayor Michael P. Byrne, Yorktown Lanes, and the Parma Heights Food Pantry, as well as Councilmembers Jim McCall, Robert Verdile and Renee Everett. "We are already planning for next year's event," said Byrne. "You won't want to miss it." The weekend of activities concluded with a Summer Band Concert featuring Wayne Tomsic.

Fall In Full Swing In Parma Heights

continued from page 1

bulbs, which the garden club planted in front of businesses along the Pearl Road corridor, (in front of and behind Parma Heights City Hall), and in our city parks. More planting is expected to take place this fall on other main business arteries. It's all part of efforts to enhance our community, and beautify the Pearl Road Corridor

YOGA AND PILATES CLASSES

Yoga with Pilates classes will be held in the community rooms in the basement of the Cassidy Theatre. Classes will be held from 7-8 p.m., and the next eight-week session begins Monday, September 11.

Fee is \$50. You can register online at www.parmaheightsoh.gov or by calling the Recreation Department at 440.884.9606.

This fall we invite you to take advantage of the brand new Pickleball courts that were recently installed behind the tennis courts in the Greenbrier Commons. They are open and available for use by Parma Heights residents. <https://pickleball.com/pages/rules-how-to-play-the-game> or for more information on how to play Pickleball, the rules of the game and its history, go to: <https://pickleball.com/pages/rules-how-to-play-the-game>

Honoring Our Korean War Veterans

by Rick Haase

Parma Mayor Tim DeGeeter, Parma Heights Mayor Michael P. Byrne and Seven Hills Mayor Richard Dell'Aquila are seeking Korean War veterans to attend a tri-city program in their nonor at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 14, 2017.

The program will be held at the UAW Local 1005 Hall, 5615 Chevrolet Boulevard, Parma.

Doors will open at 6 p.m.


Rising Christian singer and songwriter Samantha Hasselbusch will perform the National Anthem at the event.

If you, or someone you know is a Korean War veteran, call Tom Mastroianni at 440.885.8812, or Jeannie Roberts at 440.885.8181. Or, you can also email koreaveterans@cityof-parma.oh.gov




EDUCATION

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

Asset Corner #93

by Gene Lovasy

SHOW KIDS YOU CARE: Tell Them About Yourself. September's Asset Category: **COMMITMENT TO LEARNING**

A love of learning will take them far. Education has improved immensely in the past 20 years. Today, more young

people are taking high-level courses, fewer of them are dropping out, math and science scores are on the rise, and more students are entering college after high school. But that doesn't mean a commitment to learning happens naturally in all young people. Instilling

this important trait involves a combination of values and skills that include the desire to succeed in school, a sense of the lasting importance of learning, and a belief in one's own ability. This commitment is strongly influenced by the school environment and relationships with family and peers.

This column's focus will be on.....Asset 21- Achievement Motivation

Doing your best always makes the grade

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

proud later on.

Here are the facts

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

Tips for building this asset

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

Also try this

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

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

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

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



by Jean Micklewright

The MyCom Youth Council hosted a Back to School Ice Cream Party on Tuesday, August 15 from 2:00-4:00 at the Parma Library on Powers Blvd. Youth learned about the MyCom youth initiative and the benefits of having a youth council for the youth and for the community. They participated in a planning exercise related to a mini-community project, played a variety of group games, learned about the MyCom programs MyMedia and FLOW (Future Leaders of the World), enjoyed custom ice cream sundaes and then played spoons to top off the afternoon.



Our youth council will be participating in Make a Difference Day on Saturday, October 21, 2017. This is a national day of community service focused on improving the lives of others. Any youth (grades 8-12) interested in participating in the MyCom youth council for the Tri-City area (Parma, Parma Heights and Seven Hills) and Make a Difference Day please contact Jean Micklewright at 440-479-4122 or Kathy Hall at 440-479-7503.

The Cuyahoga County Public Library at 6996 Powers Blvd. is hosting:

Maker Mondays Club/Grades 5-8

Mondays, September 11 – December 11, 2017

4:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.

Parma Branch

6996 Powers Blvd. / 440-885-5362

Join us after school as we transform the teen space into a place for creating, tinkering and building. We will have a special kick-off/orientation event on September 11 for you and your parents from 4:00-6:00pm. The Kickoff on September

11 is a two-hour event. All other Maker Mondays are 4:00-5:00pm.

Light dinner served after orientation.

Maker stations days will include activities such as:

Paper crafts: duct tape, coloring

Makers Care: card making for hospice patients, cat blankets for animal shelter

Building: brick building and Minecraft challenges

Technology: green screen, stop motion, LED flowers, Makey Makey lab

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INSPIRATION

We Say Farewell To Another Good One

by Daniel P. McCarthy

On August 13 Bryan N. Griffin, Jr. passed away at the age of 47. Bryan was one of our citizen journalists and often contributed stories in the Parma Observer over many years. He graduated from Brooklyn High School and studied Journalism, Literature and Creative Writing at Tri-C and Cleveland State University. and he was a freelance writer. His style was unique and we were lucky to feature his work in our publication. He attended many meetings where we had loads of fun discussing everything from journalism to his favorite subjects, including metal music, comic books, horror films, WWE, and just about anything else. Even though he was frequently dealing with medical issues, Bryan always had a sunny outlook, was as brave as anyone



Bryan N. Griffin, Jr.

I've met, and never failed to make the rest of us laugh. I will always remember the last time that i had the pleasure of speaking with him one Tuesday at the Arabica in Parma Heights. He will be greatly missed. Farewell Bryan N. Griffin, Jr.

I Believe

by Daniel Taddeo

A person with good character is accountable, caring, fair, honest, kind, sincere, trustworthy and more. Biblical principles never change; they are the same "yesterday, today and forever." Chances are children are going to worship the god of their parents, whoever or whatever it is. Contentment is one of the most precious gifts we can choose to experience and to wish for others. Effective listening is an important part of communicating. Good character is what we look for in others, and this is what others look for in us. Improper conduct is the number one reason employees are fired and not promoted. In matters of principle, stand like a rock; in matters of taste, swim with the current.

In most households, this is the first time in history that parents are no longer the main influence in child rearing. "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." (George Washington) Most people know what is right and what is wrong but choose to

do otherwise. I Believe

Parents are the first and most influential teachers their children will ever have. Parents are ultimately responsible for how their children turn out. Parents should avoid comparing their children with other children, especially their brothers and sisters.

Reach out to everyone, even those who annoy you. Right moral choices produce positive results; wrong moral choices produce negative results. The Lord requires the following from us: do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God. Words of our mouths, thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do must be filled with faith, hope, and love. Because yesterday is a cancelled check and tomorrow is a promissory note, we must spend today's "cash" wisely.

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?

"Stuff"

by Lizabeth Braskie

There are those of us who collect and save a treasure-trove of items that evoke a special memory of a special time in our lives. These occasions are treated with respect. Care is given to preserve any souvenir that conveys the story behind the articles we carefully display or box up for safe keeping in the attic. We all have stuff we just can't throw away.

Recently I was reminded of this approved habit while I was waiting for my turn to get the oil changed in my car. I was the fourth to arrive on this busy Monday and after some time waiting on outside benches, the attendant called the next in line. It was finally my turn so I pointed to my car, the middle one in the group of those facing us.

"Oh, that one?" the attendant asked, "The one with all that stuff hanging from the rear-view mirror?" he continued. "Yes," I answered proudly. I handed him my keys and paused a moment to reminisce over the "stuff" he was referring to. Those items were such a part of my life that I hardly realized they were not an integral part of the car. Instead they are a small bundle of therapeutic memories of a fun summer I shared with my grandchildren some years before. There's beaded artwork,

an admission bracelet for bumper cars, a pair of fuzzy dice and a cross made from yarn. All these items contributed to put a smile on my face. Even though these memories might look strange to some, they warm my heart and take me back to one of our special summers before the kids grew up.

We seniors can attest to the fact that the grandkids develop and grow much too fast. We tell them to please slow down and let us enjoy their youth as long as we can. In the absence of a magic wand we take photos or videos, collect souvenirs, and save any articles we can to relive some of our fun days during our golden years. And we are not alone. Relatives, neighbors and friends can also enjoy the ride of watching kids mature and leave the nest. For me it's a wonderful part of being a grandparent to tap into my collection of thoughts, look through photo albums, and unpack some dusty boxes. I even reminisce over some antique displays. But the memories that are hanging from the rear-view in my car remind me that we are preserving history for the next generation by saving a lot of stuff. No thanks needed. If truth be told, there's plenty more where all of this came from!

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
- The Islamic Center of Cleveland**
6055 W. 130th St. Parma, OH 44130 216-362-0786
www.iccleveland.org
- Ridgewood United Methodist Church**
6330 Ridge Rd. Parma, OH 44129 440-885-1360
www.rumc-parma.com
- St. Bridget's of Kildare Church**
5620 Hauserman Rd. Parma, OH 44130 440-886-4434
www.Stbridgetparma.com
- Holy Family Catholic Church**
7367 York Rd. Parma, OH 44130 440-842-5533
www.holyfamparma.org
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PERSPECTIVE

Comparing Two Different American Presidents

by Lee Kamps

I am a former Boy Scout. I attended the 1964 Boy Scout National Jamboree that was held at Valley Forge Pennsylvania. For me it was exciting to be at Valley Forge PA since my high school was named after that location in history. I graduated from Valley Forge High School in 1966.

At that jamboree, President Lyndon Johnson addressed the Boy Scouts. I don't remember much of what he said. One thing I do remember from that Presidential address was a plane flying overhead towing a banner say-

ing "Vote for Goldwater". 1964 was an election year, but the audience of Boy Scouts was too young to vote.

Here are some excerpts from that speech:

This country of ours is a community built on an idea. Its history is the history of an idea. And its future will be bright only so long as you are faithful to that idea.

It all began right here where we are standing tonight. In 1777, in Valley Forge, a few thousand men suffered and starved through the freezing cold of the harsh winter. They did not have,

as you have, regular meals, a decent place to sleep, protection from harm.

But they did have an idea, an idea and a dream. That idea gave them the strength to survive the winter, and when their ordeal was over, George Washington led them forth to liberate and to create the United States of America.

It will be up to you to carry this idea forward. For it is not yet a reality for all in this land.

These ideas are as old as your country, but they are not old-fashioned ideas. They are as alive and as vital as America itself.

I have no doubt that if you remain true to them, you will remember these days of scouting as only the beginning of a lifetime of useful service to America.

Here is a link to what LBJ said at the 1964 Boy Scout Jamboree that I attended:

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=26391>

Now here are excerpts from Donald Trump's speech:

Do you remember that famous night on television, November 8th where they said, these dishonest people, where they said, there is no path to victory for Donald Trump. They forgot about the forgotten people.

By the way, they're not forgetting about the forgotten people anymore.

They're going crazy trying to figure it out, but I told them, far too late; it's far too late.

But you remember that incredible night with the maps, and the Republicans are red and the Democrats are blue, and that map was so red it was unbelievable. And they didn't know what to say.

And you know, we have a tremendous disadvantage in the Electoral College. Popular vote is much easier. We have -- because New York, California, Illinois, you have to practically run the East Coast. And we did. We won Florida. We won South Carolina. We won North Carolina. We won Pennsylvania.

The polls, that's also fake news. They're fake polls. But the polls are saying -- but we won Wisconsin.

The full text of Trump's speech is at this link:

<http://time.com/4872118/trump-boy-scout-jamboree-speech-transcript/>

Now I realize that LBJ was not the perfect President, nor was he the best President that this country produced. But despite LBJ's faults, our current President couldn't hold a candle to LBJ. For better and for worse, LBJ left a giant legacy on the United States and we are still dealing with his legacy today. So I ask, what would those Boy Scouts of 2017 remember from their President fifty years from now?

Assets

by Leo Lampeter

What a wonderful word assets, if you have any. What a waste if you have assets and are not wise enough to nurture and develop them. Let's look at the suburb in which we live. There is an ice rink which is used for some recreational skating but mostly for the benefit of the schools. Education is worth the expense. Parks are always welcome for the relaxation and sporting events. Stearns Farm could be a larger asset if the Historical Society would take advantage of improvements that have been offered, but it appears they are more interested in their personal status.

There is no recreation center in Parma, so this is an asset that appar-

ently isn't seen as important. Parma was thriving before just about every other city that has a recreation center. There is one more asset that the city has in its grasp- the golf course. Familiar or not, this as an asset that could render a huge advantage to the community if developed properly. Thus far city officials have determined their own welfare comes before investing in the city- \$ 2.4 million in raises when we are told the city is broke. Some of the officials have determined that the golf course is not an asset. This may be because they have no vision and don't want to give up their raises. Perhaps their assets on their brain. Initially, the

read the rest of this article online at parmaobserver.com

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OBSERVER

Sign Of Success: Parma Business Owner Graduates From Tri-C's Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program

by John Horton

John Grigoli of Epic Signs & Graphics in Parma took a step toward greater business success by completing the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C).

Grigoli is one of 26 small-business operators in the program's latest graduating class. He spent 14 weeks at Tri-C studying a specialized business and management curriculum for entrepreneurs.

Previous graduates have seen their business outperform the broader economy while exceeding national and local averages in revenue growth and job creation.

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses is an initiative to unlock the growth and job creation potential of small businesses across the United States by providing them with greater access to business education, financial capital and business support services.



10,000 Small Businesses (10KSB) launched at Tri-C in Cleveland in May 2012. The alumni list for the College's program now numbers nearly 500, with graduating business owners representing a variety of industries and businesses.

Grigoli opened his business in 2013. The full-service sign company offers a range of products, including exterior building signs, vehicle graphics, wall murals, banners and yard signs. It is located at 12307 Plaza Drive in Parma.

For information on 10,000 Small Businesses, visit www.tri-c.edu/10ksb or call 216-987-3220. The next session begins in January, with applications due by Oct. 16.

Parma Heights Firefighter-Paramedic Examination Planned September 23

by Rick Haase

A Civil Service examination will be given for the position of entry-level Firefighter/Paramedic in the City of Parma Heights on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 9:15 A.M.

For additional information, requirements and application, go to www.parma-heightsoh.gov or visit Civil Service, at Parma Heights City Hall 6281 Pearl Rd. You can also call 440.884.9600 for more details.

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A Welcome Change

by Corbin Luna

One of my daughters married an athlete. They have two sons and a daughter. The boys are also athletes and their games are family affairs with everyone from both sides of her family attending. The girl is the youngest of the three, just seven years old. After attending the boys' games most of her life, she decided she wanted to play baseball. She wound up as the only girl on her team. Folks, I'm a realist and the reality is that in a sport like baseball girls just don't have the physical attributes to compete with boys. So, on the afternoon of my granddaughter's first game I headed out to the ballpark burdened with low expectations and armed with words of encouragement and consolation.

My granddaughter was playing shortstop and the first pitch resulted in a hot grounder hit her way. She cleanly fielded the ball and gunned down the runner, as she did with every ball hit in her vicinity, sometimes even covering for the other infielders. Each time she was at bat she lined the ball into a hole in the outfield, sending the outfielders chasing it and driving in runs only to be left stranded on base by her lesser talented male teammates. And that little bundle of sugar and spice and everything nice was a terror on the base paths. One time she rounded second base like a runaway locomotive with the ball on the way to third. She slid into third with her jaw set, a snarl on her lips and determination written all over her face. The third baseman forgot all about the ball. I could see the fear in his eyes from my seat in the bleachers as he scrambled to get out of her way.

Girls may not have the physical attributes to compete with boys but I had forgotten that this particular little girl is special in every possible way. She inherited my genes. (My wife argues that she excels in baseball because her father and brothers spent a lot of time coaching her. Don't believe it. It's my genes.)

Time to come clean. I wanted you to know a little about my granddaughter and how I feel about her in hopes of giving you a greater appreciation for what I'm about to say. You see, my granddaughter immediately comes to

my mind whenever I read or hear that people should be allowed to use the bathroom designated for the gender they self-identify with. Self-identify? To some people that translates to I'm free to follow that little girl into the restroom and nobody can stop me because I can say I'm feeling my feminine side today. Every day predators are looking for an opportunity to prey upon a little girl and giving them an excuse to be in the girls' bathroom is just giving them one more opportunity. Besides, it's not just little girls. I personally don't know a single woman who wants to invite men into the bathroom with her but I bet there are a lot of high school boys who think it would be hilarious to claim they self-identify as women and walk into the girls' locker room.

So, if you're a member of the LGBTQ community, if you're physically a male, young or old or in between, who self-identifies as a woman and it makes you feel bad to have to use the men's restroom, I sympathize with you. I really do. But when I'm forced to make a choice between you feeling bad and my granddaughter's safety, you lose. So as far as I'm concerned, you need to suck it up and find a way to feel good about yourself without adversely impacting other people. What a welcome change that would be in today's world of political correctness in lieu of intelligence and common sense.

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News You Can Use
(Or Where To Find It)

by Gene Lovasy

Formerly found under the “AROUND TOWN” section of the ASSET CORNER column, included here is summary information about upcoming programs, services, events & opportunities offered primarily by local non-profit organizations having a youth, health and/or safety focus. Contact information and/or web site addresses (URL's) will be referenced, if available.

- **Regarding the Parma City School District's levy**, go here <https://tinyurl.com/y8vfdj6j> to read the official statement explaining why the issue will appear on the May 2018 ballot vs. in November. Stay informed/involved in the planning and other levy related issues by visiting www.parmacityschools.org/future.
- **The County Board of Health** has, just within the last few months, gone live with "www.216teens.org". This web site, designed for and promoted to teens, ".... is the basis of a new awareness campaign to prevent teen pregnancy & the spread of STD's among youth throughout the county. It's designed to educate & motivate teenagers (14 - 19) about safer sexual behaviors & to increase their use of trusted health services and resources." It's an intuitive, well designed site containing easily understood topics/information on puberty, anatomy, mental & emotional health, STD's, birth control, gender identity issues, a SEX ED Glossary, a Directory of Resources of all types, plus others. Click on the "PARENTS" and/or "ABOUT" link at the bottom of the home page for more information.
- Plan now to take your kids and attend the **3rd Annual Parma Early Childhood PTA "Touch-A-Truck"** event scheduled for Sunday, September 17th from Noon to 5 pm. It will again be held at the UH/Parma Health Education Center, 7300 State Rd. One of many highlights will be helicopter landings & liftoffs at 2:00 & 3:30 pm
- **Community Clergy And Laity Training To Aid Our Veterans....**This two-session, focused, outreach program is opened to all churches and is being held at Ridgewood United Methodist Church, 6330 Ridge Rd from 8:30am 12:45 pm on Thursday, Oct 5th & Thursday Oct 19th. With a continental breakfast & materials being provided, registration is strongly encouraged. Questions, contact Rev. Liz Krall ekrall@gmail.com; ph: 440.241.3499
- **Girl Scouts of NE Ohio** will be hosting an Open House for all grade levels starting at 6:00 pm on Thursday, Sept 7th at Bethany Assembly of God, 6195 Broadview Rd., Parma 44134. Questions, contact Melissa Evers, 330.603.8556, email: parmasu723@gmail.com
- **The Collab's next Mobile Food Pantry** will be this Thursday, September 14th. During the afternoon distribution UH/Parma Medical Center's Community Health Nurses will be offering FREE blood pressure screenings and a representative from the Parma Health Ministry will be available to help folks apply for prescription assistance.

Also from the Collab....

- A new session of the popular **Parenting Partners** program is scheduled to begin on Monday, Sept. 11th. Classes are \$20 and take place every Monday from 5 pm to 7 pm for 8 weeks; childcare & dinner is provided. For information or to register call the Collab at 440.887.4873.
- **Their Annual Coat Drive** will run from September 18 to October 6th this year. New or gently used coats for area children (and adults for that matter) can be dropped off at the Collaborative (the Hanna building, 11212 Snow Rd), Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm. NEW hats and/or gloves, as well as monetary donations would be gratefully accepted.
- To stay current and learn more about Collaborative events/activities, visit their updated web site at: <http://familycollaborative.com/>, follow them on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/Parma-Area-Family-Collaborative> or call Bruce Chamberlin, the Collab's Family to Family Supervisor at 440.887.4881 email: chamberlinb@parmacityschools.org.

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PARMA ART SCENE

Cassidy Theatre Announces 2018 Season

by Rick Haase

The Cassidy Theatre, 6200 Pearl Road, Parma Heights, is pleased to announce its 2018 season.

Six shows comprise the 2018 line-up of productions.

The theatre will present:

Barefoot in the Park -- February 2-February 18, 2018.

A Chorus Line -- April 6 -- April 22, 2018.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat -- June 8 -- June 24, 2018.

Plaza Suite -- August 3 -- August 26, 2018.

Little Shop of Horrors -- October 5 -- October 21, 2018.

Annie -- November 30 -- December 16, 2018.

The Cassidy Theatre was founded in 1974 with the mission to enrich the multicultural life of the Greater Cleveland area by providing a diverse theatre arts program that entertains, informs and educates. Now in it's 41st season, Cassidy is proud to remain steadfast in this mission and continue the tradition of excellence in bringing quality productions, performances and special events to the Northeast Ohio community.

From classic dramas and slapstick comedies to modern Broadway musicals and whimsical family fare, The Cassidy Theatre offers exceptional entertainment and artistic opportunities to the diverse and multigenerational audiences in the area.

"The mission of Cassidy Theatre is to enrich the multicultural life of the Greater Cleveland area by providing a diverse theatre arts program that entertains, informs and educates."

All Faiths Pantry Presents Reggae For Food 9

by John Visnauskas

The 9th annual Reggae for Food benefit concert, featuring Carlos Jones and the PLUS Band, Umojah Nation and Jah Messengers, will take place Friday, September 8 at Music Box Supper Club, 1148 Main Ave., on the West Bank of the Flats. Reggae for Food raises funds for All Faiths Pantry 501(c)3, an award-winning organization which delivers groceries at no cost to local seniors with limited incomes.

Carlos Jones has been bringing his positive vibrations to regional audiences for decades and his Peace Love and Unity Syndicate, now more commonly known as the PLUS Band, is one of the area's most popular bands. Event founders Umojah Nation have been entertaining crowds in their Akron area base for a decade. Jah Messengers are local reggae veterans with their roots in Jamaica, and have been a source of positivity in Ohio since the beginnings of Cleveland's reggae community.

"All Faiths Pantry is thankful to the bands for donating their time and talents to support our mission to deliver groceries to seniors in need," said John Visnauskas, Executive Director of All Faiths Pantry. "We are reliant upon the generosity of others in supporting and attending Reggae for Food, which provides critical funds to our operations."

Event sponsors that generously support this year's Reggae for Food are: Cleveland Coffee, Franks Automotive, Root Café, First Federal Lakewood and The Anderson-Dubose Company.

Tickets are available in advance for \$20 at www.musicboxcle.com, or \$25 at the door.

To find out more about All Faiths Pantry: www.allfaithspantry.org

Parma Art News

by Kathryn Mabin

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture came to Parma: On Saturday July 29th the Parma Area Fine Arts Council hosted a workshop for Cuyahoga Arts & Culture at the Donna Smallwood Activities Center. The workshop was one of four held to assist nonprofits that had applied for 2018 grant funding. The workshops walk you through the process and offer tips to help you succeed. The staff at CAC are friendly and helpful and are readily available by phone or email for individual assistance.

Residents of Cuyahoga County created Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) in 2006. It is funded by a tax of one and one half percent on each cigarette sold in Cuyahoga County. Since 2007 it has granted over \$158 million to over 350 nonprofit organizations through General Operating Support and Project Support Grants. These funds help to support many arts and cultural events in communities across Cuyahoga County, at schools, libraries, senior centers, theaters, parks, hospitals and in neighborhoods. Their web page has a list of events, many free, from the various organizations supported by them. I urge you to view it. To learn more on the grant process visit their web page at www.cacgrants.org.

Nica Zampedro, 16 year old Normandy student was featured in last months article, for her first place Mothra coil pot. I am pleased to announce that she also won for her ink drawing of Shin Godzilla at the International G-Fest last month. Look for a display of her work in the lobby of the Smallwood Center.

Michelle Behal, president of Parma Area Fine Arts Council, spent many hours demonstrating pyrography (woodburning) techniques, at the Cuyahoga County Fair. She also won many awards at the Fair this year. She placed first in Professional Acrylic Landscape, second place in Professional Acrylic Seascape, third and fourth place in Professional Drawing, and first and second place in Woodburning.

Looking For Arts/Crafts Vendors: Parma Area Fine Arts Council is looking for arts and craft vendors (handmade only) for their Fall Into Art Show to be held on Saturday, October 21st, 10 to 4, at the Smallwood Activities Center. Limited spaces are available, so contact them now. For details call Michelle Behal, 216-618-0856, or call Parma Fine Arts at 440-888-4514 and leave a message and someone will return your call, or visit www.parmafinearts.org.

Common Thread Quilters

by Kathryn Mabin

Common Threads Quilt Guild was established in Parma, Ohio, in September, 1986 and is a member of NEORQC (North East Ohio Regional Quilters Council). They are dedicated to sharing the art of quilting and welcome all interested individuals regardless of their skill levels.

They meet on the third Monday of each month at the Donna Smallwood Activity Center, located at 7001 W. Ridgewood Dr. at the SE corner of Ridge Rd behind city hall, next to the Cuyahoga County Public Library on Powers Blvd. On meeting night the doors open at 6:00pm, the program begins at 6:30pm, followed by refreshments, a business meeting and show & tell. They have over 50 current members. Membership is open and guests are invited to attend their first meeting for free.

Their many activities include, speakers, trunk shows, a monthly newsletter, workshops, yearly quilting challenge contests, sew-in days, a June dinner, a Christmas party, bus trips, various small groups, community service projects, a triennial quilt show and other special events.

"Stitches in Time", is their 11th Triennial Quilt Show, and will be held on Saturday, September 30th and Sunday, October 1st from 10AM to 5PM. Admission will be \$5.00. Their queen size Raffle Quilt is currently on display at the Smallwood Center in the lobby showcase. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each, or 6 for \$5.00. The drawing will be held on Sunday afternoon. Look



2017 Queen Size Raffle Quilt

for a vendors mall, raffle gift baskets & refreshments at the show, in addition to an array of beautiful handmade quilts. They welcome you to attend the event and hope you will enjoy it, learn something interesting and are inspired to try your hand at this rewarding art form.

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