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Parma And Cuyahoga County Still Seeking Input On Town Center Master Plan

by Carolyn Kovach

The city and the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission are still seeking public input through online surveys to help them craft a master plan for the town center concept. In August, officials wrapped up the last of three public meetings over the past nine months to solicit feed-

back from residents on their ideas surrounding what the city has branded as the town center – the area around the Ridge Road and West Ridge-wood Drive intersection and the Day Drive corridor. While the public meetings seeking input for crafting the master plan are over, the county planning commission through

mid-September is looking for additional residential input via web surveys, which can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParmaPM3 and www.countyplanning.us/projects/parma-master-plan/. Throughout the public input process, residents have been invited to complete the online surveys. “We truly want the public’s input as we try to harness this vital part of our city

where tens of millions of dollars have been invested in The Shoppes at Parma, the UH Parma Medical Center and the Cuyahoga County Public Library’s Powers Boulevard branch,” Parma Mayor Tim DeGeeter said. “All of the pieces are in place to make this a real focal point.” Of the surveys filled out at public meetings or online, residents have submitted nearly 400

surveys and about an equal number of comments.

A majority of those surveyed said they favor creating a unique identity to the town center area by rebranding it, using signage marking entrances and creating attractive visuals, according to Michael Mears, senior planner for the county planning commission. Beyond creating an identity, residents

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Seven Hills Business Development

by Tony Biasiotta

Seven Hills is conveniently located close to two major interstates (I-480 and I-77) that provide easy access to the 3 million people that reside within a 50 mile radius. Factors like this and other’s such as a great safety record make Seven Hills an exceptional location to reside and locate a business in.

I want to share with the community a few things that are underway from a business development stand point.

First I would like to

announce that Fairmont Properties and LSB Seven Hills have come to terms to jointly develop a large 50 acre parcel along Rockside Rd. Over the next several months Fairmont, who will act as the lead developer of the project, will continue to evaluate the property and collaborate with the City of Seven Hills to bring a first class and economically viable mixed use development to this property.

This new project is in the

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Passage Of Renewal Levy Critical For Firefighters, Paramedics

by Carolyn Kovach

Parma is seeking to pass a 2-mill renewal levy this November that supports the city’s fire department.

“This five-year renewal levy, which is not a tax increase, will not only help the fire department’s operations, but provide our firefighters and paramedics with the latest equipment and technology they need to save lives,” Parma Mayor Tim DeGeeter said.

“I’m optimistic voters this fall will support the levy because they understand how critical it is for our city. Our residents also know our department provides great service while being responsible with our tax dollars,” DeGeeter added.

Parma City Council approved the measure for the fall ballot because the current levy expires at the end of 2018. In September, the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections will

provide an issue number for when the levy appears on the fall ballot. “Each year, the fire department responds to more emergency calls,” Parma Fire Chief Mike Lasky said. “Passage of the renewal levy is important in helping us continue to provide quality service to our residents as we keep up with increased demands.” In 2017, the fire department

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City Council And Mayor DeGeeter Recognize Parma Citizens



Allan Miner, president of CT Logistics, and his employees were named the Mayor’s Business of the Month in June.



Joseph Gramuglia was named the Mayor’s Citizen of the Month in June.



John Thomas was named the 2018 Coach of the Year for Youth Baseball and Softball.

by Carolyn Kovach

This summer, Parma City Council and Mayor Tim DeGeeter honored Parma residents and a local business.

In August, the Parma Recreation Department, City Council and the mayor named John Thomas the 2018 Coach of the Year for Youth Baseball and Softball.

A lifelong Parma resident, Thomas received the recognition for being a positive

role model for the children he coaches, providing them with positive feedback and encouragement. Thomas stresses that having fun and learning is important in youth sports, which is why he rotates the players on the field, allowing them the chance to try different positions. He has coached Parma Recreation leagues for the past seven years and is the assistant athletic director, basketball coach and assistant

baseball coach at Incarnate Word Academy.

When is not coaching, he is working as a bailiff for Judge Michael Donnelly. He is married to Donna, and they have two children, Ben and Addy.

Allan Miner, president of CT Logistics, and his employees were named the Mayor’s Business of the Month in June.

Making Parma their home since 1979, CT Logistics has provided more than 95

years of experience with comprehensive, broad supply chain accounting and business intelligence solutions. Small firms to Fortune 100 corporations around the globe have trusted CT Logistics to assist them in making informed decisions regarding their freight bill audit and payment challenges.

Also in June, Joseph Gramuglia was named the Mayor’s Citizen of the Month. Gramuglia was chosen for his

extraordinary work on behalf of veterans. He made beaded keychains and desk flags for every city police officer, firefighter and public official and personally delivered the flags and keychains to all five fire stations. He has also made keychains for the doctors, nurses and aides who have cared for him throughout the years. The city thanks Gramuglia for his service to his country and community.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The President’s Corner

by Sean Brennan

As many of you who read this column know, a few years ago I began a series of articles that spotlights the many places of worship in Parma. This month I continue that endeavor by reporting on my visit with Father Anthony Suso, Pastor of St. Columbkille Roman Catholic Church, at 6740 Broadview Road.

I have met many very good religious leaders over the years for this column series. However, I have to say that the parishioners of St. Columbkille are very blessed to have Fr. Suso as their pastor. He is truly a visionary and is laser-focused on the future success of his parish. A vociferous reader, he is working with his parishioners to implement the best practices he has learned from pastors around the country. “I am a lifelong learner,” he explained. “I am willing to admit that I do not know everything, so I surround myself with caring, hardworking, skilled people,” he added, as he explained how a 21st century Catholic pastor should think and lead. “The Catholic Church’s mission is to form lifelong disciples of the Lord Jesus who joyfully proclaim the Gospel to everyone, not just the people in the pews” he asserted. “Every baptized person must grow into becoming an evangelist of Jesus to their families, workplaces, schools and communities. “That,” he explained, “is what will keep the Catholic Church vibrant and alive for centuries to come.”

Fr. Suso grew up in Mentor and cites his family as his biggest influence. “My mom and dad played a huge role in my decision to serve the Church,” he explained. Growing up the son of very devout Catholics, his father, who served as the city manager for Mentor, would often have to work long hours, but would always come into his room when he got home and say a prayer at his bedside. “Sometimes I was awake, sometimes I



Sean Brennan,
Parma City Council President

was not, but that had a big impact on me,” he explained. Father Suso attended Notre Dame Elementary School and, later, Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin High School, where his brother is now the director of admissions. His family belonged to St. Bede the Venerable Parish. “God spoke to me after Mass on Holy Thursday when I was a sophomore and that is when I decided to dedicate my life to Jesus,” he explained. He went on to college at John Carroll University and Borromeo Seminary, then graduate school at St. Mary’s Seminary. He was ordained on May 16, 2009.

Father Suso went on to serve as Associate Pastor at St. Francis de Sales in Akron and St. Joseph in Strongsville. Shortly after his arrival at St. Joseph, the pastor was experiencing serious health issues which gave Fr. Suso the ability to run the parish for a while. This experience, and clearly a job well done, explains how he became a pastor in his own right so quickly, as he was selected by Bishop Nelson Perez to serve St. Columbkille in June, 2017.

Like many churches in Parma, St. Columbkille Parish was originally located in Cleveland (at Superior and East 26th). However, to make room for the new innerbelt freeway, the



church was vacated and demolished. Archbishop Edward F. Hoban authorized the new St. Columbkille Parish in Parma in 1956. Mass was held in the chapel at Parmadale Orphanage until 1957, when the parish opened a school and 1958 when Mass was celebrated in the new church. Again, like many parishes in Parma, St. Columbkille’s numbers grew, requiring a larger church, which was built in 1972.

If you would like to visit St. Columbkille, Fr. Suso welcomes you. In fact, the Parish offers a booklet that one can use to complete a self-guided tour of the beautiful church, which is filled with symbolic architecture, statues, etc. You can also visit their website to take a virtual tour at www.stcolumbkilleparish.org.


St. Columbkille is a very vibrant parish with groups for everyone, including the following: 50 Plus, Holy Name Society, Ladies Guild, Men’s Fellowship, Sports Leagues, Golf League, Warm Up America, Alcoholics Anonymous, Al Anon, Bereavement, Divorced Catholics Ministry, Youth Group, Music Ministry, Good Samaritan, etc. It also has a vibrant K-8 day school. Masses at St. Columbkille are typically held on weekdays at 7:00 am and 8:15 am, Saturday’s at 8:15 am, 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm, and Sundays at 7:30am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am and noon.

In closing, I wish to thank Fr. Suso for taking the time to open his parish to the community via this article. If you would like to learn more about St.

Columbkille, visit their website or call 440-524-1987. Best wishes for a blessed Labor Day. A sincere thanks to all of those who support and fight for workers’ rights in America.



The start of the 8th Annual Parma Run-Walk for Pierogies.



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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

UH Parma Medical Center's Surgery Department To Undergo \$27 Million Renovation, Expansion

by CJ Sheppard

University Hospitals Parma Medical Center will invest \$27.5 million to completely renovate and expand its Department of Surgery, in the largest construction project to be done within the main hospital in 33 years. The project will begin with a new addition to the building and will proceed in multiple phases over a two-year period to avoid disruption to surgery operations.

“We are very pleased to announce the most transformative renovation of our hospital in more than three decades,” said UH Parma Medical Center President Peter U. Bergmann, FACHE. “This project signifies our commitment to remaining the health-

care provider of choice in Parma and our surrounding communities.”

An increasing demand for outpatient surgery will prompt the expansion of pre- and post-operative areas for outpatient procedures. The patient experience will be further enhanced, with greater privacy for surgery patients and a more spacious waiting room for family members.

Expanded, state-of-the-art operating room suites also support the growth of several UH service lines and institutes at UH Parma Medical Center, including orthopedic surgeries with the Sports Medicine and Spine institutes, the vascular and thoracic surgeons of UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Insti-

tute, bariatric surgeons of UH Digestive Health Institute, ophthalmologists of the UH Eye Institute and urologists of the UH Urology Institute. Over the past few years, UH Parma Medical Center has recruited several new surgeons in these specialties.

The Surgical Services Department will be expanding by more than 11,500 square feet, including an addition to the building of approximately 7,700 square feet. In this redesigned department surgical suites, pre-procedure and recovery areas will be enlarged to accommodate current and future equipment needs.

“This major overhaul of our entire surgical services builds upon other



recent visible improvements, including the recent \$1.9 million updating of all of our inpatient patient floors and main lobby,” said Kathi O’Connor, UH Parma Medical Center’s Director of Operations. “Planning is currently in process for the new OR project, and we will see signs of construction by the end of the year.”

Passage Of Renewal Levy Critical For Firefighters, Paramedics

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responded to 11,782 incidents, a jump from 2016’s 11,062 calls. Five years ago, the department had 9,839. “Even with these increases, our response time to emergencies exceeds the national average,” Lasky said. “The renewal levy will help us maintain our high standard of service.”

The current levy collects \$2.65

million and is a critical component of the fire department’s \$14-million budget, Parma Auditor Brian Day said. An owner of a house valued at \$100,00 pays roughly \$5.83 a month, he said.

“The levy is essential for the fire department’s operations, particularly after years of severe cuts from Columbus,” Day said. “Fortunately, the fire department provides quality service efficiently and effectively.”

Flu Vaccine Clinics Begin Sept. 10 At UH Parma Health Education Center

by CJ Sheppard

Flu vaccine clinics will be held at UH Parma Health Education Center, 7300 State Road, beginning Sept. 10.

Clinics are open to everyone ages 19 and older. Flu vaccines are \$30 and walk-ins are welcome. Seniors belonging to a Medicare or Senior HMO should see their physician or a fee will

be charged.

Clinics will be held on the following dates:

Mondays from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: Sept. 10, 17 and 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29; Nov. 5.

Wednesdays from 5 - 6:30 p.m.: Sept. 19 and Nov. 21.

Saturday, Oct. 13 from 9 - 11 a.m.

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OBSERVER

Polka Hall Of Fame Keeps The Cleveland Style Fresh

by Harry Peck

Look closely at the offerings of the Polka Cleveland-Style Hall of Fame and you can see some of Cleveland’s history. Located in Euclid, in the Shore Cultural Center near Collinwood, the museum’s exhibits, while modest, show the development of Slovenian music into a distinct Cleveland sound and how Slovenian immigrants, who came to the midwest for industrial jobs, developed lives in tandem with music. You have to pay close attention-key information to this fascinating story is often hard to read.

First in the door of the museum is All Star Accordions, a collection of accordions honoring Tony Petkovsek, Joey Miskulin, Joe Petrick, Frankie Yankovic and Walter Ostanek, among others. Another exhibit, “The Slovenian Roots of the Cleveland Style” details how Cleveland-Style Polka music evolved from folk melodies brought to American by 19th century immigrants. (Sometimes it is called the Slovenian Style.)

By the late 1940s, polka music had a good-time feel. The GIs were back from World War II and they, like everyone else, were sick of deprivation from years of depression and conflict.



The Polka Cleveland Style Hall of Fame shares building space with the Slowpitch Softball Hall of Fame

This polka music became a particular type--Cleveland-style polka, a mix of European melodies, American ballroom music, Big Band, jazz plus Slovenia influence. Frankie Yankovic who would become “the Polka king” and Johnny Pecon were two polka musicians in the 1930s and 1940s--another was Johnny Vadnal of the Johnny Vadnal Orchestra. Yankovic had formed a band and had two hit singles in the 1930s. but his early success was interrupted by World War II and he served on the front lines in France, suffering frostbite in the pro-

cess.

On his return from war-service, Yankovic released “Just Because” in 1947, which eventually sold 2.5 million copies and in 1949 “Blue Skirt Waltz,” which sold another 1.5 million, as Yankovic’s danceable music obviously clicked with blue color mass audiences. This was before the Beatles or Elvis or Frank Sinatra sold a million. Gold records before there were gold records. Pecon meanwhile, was considered the leading stylist of the Cleveland Polka Sound and the genres most respected accordion player.

At the same time, Slovenian radio shows brought ethnic music into every home and called attention to the musicians. Listeners enjoyed the latest tunes, caught up on news and social events. Radio personalities like Martin Atancis and Mary Skerlong hosted such shows for decades. Television moved polka’s popularity further along and The Johnny Vadnal Orchestra become the only Cleveland polka group to broadcast nationally, from the Bowl Ballroom on Cleveland’s



southeast side. A Cleveland style polka musician, Joe Sodja achieved mainstream popularity, eventually playing with Fred Waring. “Polka’s Crossover Appeal” notes that many music stars scored hits with both polka and waltz music such as Perry Como and Doris Day. Now in its 31st season, the museum was founded in 1987 and presently has 1600 members. A volunteer board of trustees is elected by the membership and the trustees represent all segments of polka music, including musicians, promoters, cultural societies, disc jockeys, and button accordion players.

During Thanksgiving weekend, the Polka Hall of Fame produces an annual awards show. Members vote for annual categories such as Recording of the Year, Lifetime Achievement recipients, and the all-time greatest polka hits among others. The honorees receive a Crystal Award trophy. The Lifetime Achievement award is the highest honor presented and includes enshrinement in the Polka Hall of Fame.

Visitors to the museum can also visit the Slowpitch Softball Hall of Fame & Museum, on the building’s second story. Both museums have free admission.

For more information: www.clevelandstyle.com

9th Annual India Festival USA 2018 Saturday Sep. 15

by Bharat Kumar

India Festival USA (Not-for-profit organization) mission is to bridge cultures, generations and communities through one-day of togetherness. It is a day when visitors are encouraged to participate in a thematic display of the rich culture and diversity of two of the greatest nations on earth – India and USA. India Festival USA promises an immersive environment that salutes history, embraces globalization, celebrates communities, and embraces diversity.

9th Annual India Festival USA will be held on Sat. Sep. 15, 2018 at Independence Middle School from 10 am - 7 pm.

Festival Summary (2010 - 2017):
FREE PARKING, Admission to Exhibition, Taste of India
Kid's Activities, Open to all com-

munities, Family Friendly
Proclamations from City of Independence, Cleveland, Broadview Hts., Parma, Westlake, Strongsville and from Ohio Governor
Over 25,000 visitors since 2010.
More than \$14k donated to local organizations & charity
You’ve Got Talent Competition – Over 1200 participants
Admission to Festival is FREE and open to all communities. 2018 Festival will be attended by Mayors & representatives from City of Cleveland, City of Broadview Hts., City of Cleveland, City of Parma, and City of Westlake.
More details available at www.IndiaFestUSA.com FB page www.facebook.com/IndiaFestUSA

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

Asset Corner #105

by Gene Lovasy

September's Asset Category: COMMITMENT TO LEARNING. Commitment to learning assets reflect how connected young people are to their schools, how motivated they are to achieve and whether they express their curiosity and work ethic in homework and reading for fun. A love of learning will take them far. The more committed a child is to education and learning, the more likely it is that he or she will grow up healthy, caring and responsible.

This column's focus will be on..... Asset #23 – Homework—an important part of reaching goals

Remember when you were a student and wished the teacher would say, “No homework today. Go home and have some fun!” You may have loved the lectures and the learning, but dreaded the tests and homework assignments. Well, you’re not alone. Most young people would rather play

with their video games than sit down to read The Great Gatsby or work on statistics. But any goal worth achieving takes hard work. Work that takes place in the classroom and at home. In addition to reaching academic goals, doing homework teaches young people to follow directions, manage their time, and work on their own.

Here are the facts

Research shows that young people who spend at least one hour on homework every weekday are more likely to grow up healthy, stay committed to learning, and achieve their goals. About 47 percent of young people, ages 11–18, report doing at least one hour of homework every school day, according to Search Institute.

Tips for building this asset

All you may hear about homework from young people is that they hate it, don’t have any, or have too much the night before a test. Sometimes, young

people actually lack essential homework skills. Once they get the hang of homework basics—organization, time management, and study skills—they can be more creative with their study strategies. Encourage them to keep trying.

Also try this

In your home and family: Turn off the TV during study time and create a quiet area in your home for your child to do homework. Make yourself

available if your child has questions or needs help.

In your neighborhood and community: Consider starting a “homework house” in your neighborhood. Each day a different home can provide space, encouragement, and help with young people’s homework. Don’t forget the Homework Centers at our Librarys

In your school or youth program: Make yourself accessible—through e-mail, a Web site, or the phone—so students and parents can contact you if they have questions about an assignment.

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.

MyCom Youth Corner

by Jean Micklewright

August Highlights

The MyCom Quarterly event and Summer Days Celebration was a huge success! August 10 was a day for celebrating the end of Summer Days at the Parma Area Family Collaborative with music, face painting, balloon animals and ice cream! It was also an informational time to hear what MyCom has been doing in the Tri-City area this quarter. One of the youth shared how much MyCom has meant to him.

Thanks to Emily from the Centers for Families and Children for painting some awesome designs on the kids and College Colleagues for providing information about their local tutoring business.

MyCom Youth Council visited Cleveland State University and had a tour of the dorms, Student Center and other campus areas. For some, this was their first time on a college campus. They are eager to visit other local college campuses. The youth council met on August 21 to firm up plans for the upcoming MyCom Moves! event. Several were able to attend the Parma Town Center Strategic Master Plan Public Meeting immediately after the youth council meeting. They were able to add youth voice by voting on priority goals and actions that will help shape the plan for the future of Parma.

Looking Ahead

The MyCom Moves! event is scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2018 from 6:00-7:00pm at the pavilion overlooking Ridgewood Lake in Anthony Zielinski Park next to the new Splash Pad. This FREE community fitness event



will again feature Zumba and Yoga with instructors provided by Soza Fitness and Wellness in Parma. Last year we had a great turnout. Come join us for an evening of music, fun and fitness! There will be some free give-a-ways!

The Cuyahoga County Public Library (a MyCom Community partner) will host the Fall Maker Club on Wednesdays from September 5 through December 12, 2018 from 4:15 to 5:30pm for 5th – 8th graders. Programs will cover photography, electrical art, batik and mask making, in addition to social and emotional learning. Registration and signed parental consent forms are required. There is a special kickoff/orientation event on September 5th for youth and their parents at the Parma Branch at 6996 Powers Blvd., Parma, 44129.

The Ridgewood United Methodist Church (a MyCom community partner) LOGOS Youth Club will start on Wednesday, September 19 from 5:30 to 8:10pm. It is open to all children in Kindergarten through 12th grade and includes Bible Study, Family Time, Recreation, Worship Skills and social and emotional learning. There is no registration fee and dinner is served as part of Family Time. This fun program takes place at 6330 Ridge Road, Parma, 44129. Contact the church office at (440) 885-1360 for more information or to register your child

Seeking Input On Town Center

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said they support developing pedestrian and bicycle paths to increase connectivity with the area and to surrounding neighborhoods, Mears said. “Those are two major themes that have emerged,” he said. “I’ve been pleased with the community’s response. Not only has it been positive, but it also has been constructive.” Once the public comment period is over, the county planning commission and city staff will draft a master plan based on residential input, as well as economic, demographic and other data relevant to the area.

In crafting the master plan, the county and city also will rely on recommendations from a 10-member steering committee comprised of individuals from, among other entities, The Shoppes at Parma, the Chamber of Commerce, West Creek Conservancy, UH Parma Medical Center, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, the Cuyahoga County Public Library (CCPL) and the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Committee. Also on the committee is Councilman Dennis Kish. The master plan likely will

be presented this winter to the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission and Parma City Council. If adopted, the proposal will become a planning guide for developing the town center. “It’s important we grasp the full potential of this vital area,” DeGeeter said. “I’m looking forward to reading the master plan’s recommendations for making the town center a reality.”\

Creating a master plan for the area was one of the recommendations of the Parma Mayor’s Town Center Task Force, formed by DeGeeter to help shape a vision for the development already occurring there. The area includes The Shoppes at Parma, the UH Parma Medical Center, the CCPL branch, Parma City Hall, Byers Field, Ridgewood Golf Course, Stearns Farm and Homestead, and the Day Drive corridor. To begin the master plan process, the city applied for a county grant and ultimately received it in the form of assistance from the county planning commission. Many of the concepts under consideration echo those put forward by the Mayor’s Town Center Task Force, DeGeeter said.

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INSPIRATION

LEGOLAND Discovery Center

by Lizabeth Braskie

Nestled in the arms of a suburban mall in Michigan, we found our afternoon enjoyment at the “Ultimate Indoor Lego Playground.” This visit was sure to capture the attention of grandkids, eight year old Sam, and six

year old Abigail. Their mom and dad invited me along to share in the discovery of what can be created with one’s imagination and a handful of Legos. We were introduced to our experience by guides and pamphlets showcasing the areas of creativity.

I Believe

by Daniel Taddeo

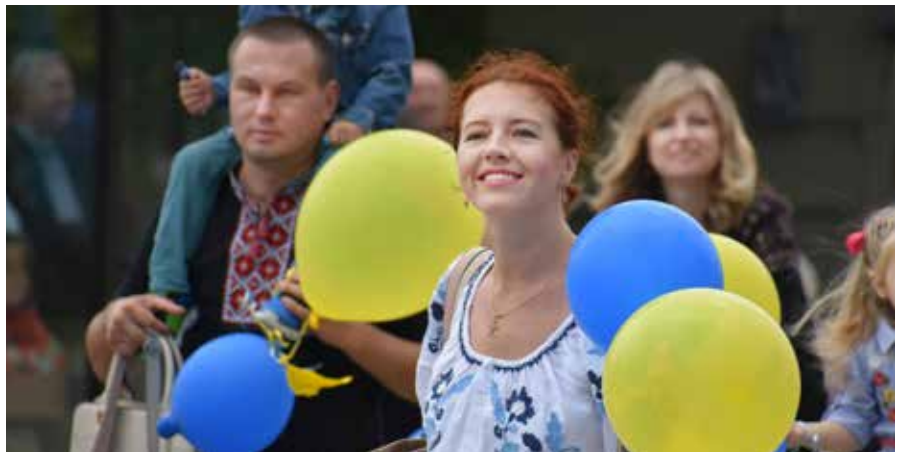
A nation without means to reform is without means of survival. All of us should have the equal opportunity to develop our talents. American politics would be elevated by a renewed commitment to the common good. Authority comes not by telling others what to do, but from doing the things you want others to do. Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote. Behind and beyond events we cannot comprehend is God, who cares for us personally and passionately. Being mean to others might make us feel good for a while, but it is bad for all in the end. Belief comes before understanding and on this foundation understanding grows. Each of us has a calling. We are invited to use our gifts to serve others and spread the good news. Enforcing the laws already in the book should happen before new laws are made. Freedom is not procured by a full enjoyment of what is desired, but by controlling the desire. Give me the roses while I live, trying to cheer me

on. Useless are the flowers that you give after I am gone. Ingredients of a successful life are courage, curiosity, and hard work. It takes many spokes to support the hub of the wheel of life, which allows it to turn and do its job. Just one praiseworthy statement about a person can save a relationship. Materialism to extremes robs a nation of its moral values. None but ourselves can free our minds. Our prayers are not in vain even when the results are not what we expected. Parents need the help of others to raise their children. “It takes a village to raise a child.” Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. The church building is not where we find God. The church is anywhere God is obeyed and worshipped. The will to win is not nearly as important as the will to prepare to win. 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?

Although this was a scaled-down version of Lego’s larger playground in the state of Florida, we were amazed at the construction of the displays. Whole town centers were reproduced in detail, whether they were in a busy city or on the edge of country living. Also, there were many tables and stools along the way inviting the public to stop a while and build something. Most areas were loaded with plenty of colorful Legos waiting to become someone’s masterpiece. The idea was to use one’s imagination to leave as an example of individual creativity. I was rather proud of my small, four-sided house until I saw what was left on the next table. Someone had taken the time to construct a mini version of a Grand Piano, complete with the identifiable black shape and white keys. It was certainly a crowd pleaser and a great example of what you can do with a handful of material and a dose of creativity. Another surprise grabbed my attention. Scattered among the displays were Lego statues of teenage girls. They were approximately four feet tall. Some had long hair and casual clothes that seemed to be in a windy area as shown by their poses. They were

remarkable in that at a distance they appeared almost real. I had to look closely to see the intricate molding of their hair, face and clothing. Each was quite a beautiful arrangement showing what else can be created with those wonderful pieces of Lego art. There were two small rides that could entertain the younger kids while on their way through the displays. And at the end, there was a gift shop waiting for curious and eager, old and young alike. I was amazed at some of the intricate model assemblies that would challenge anyone’s dexterity and determination. There were smaller kits for beginners as well as larger boxes for seasoned experts. I noticed many young shoppers that were excited to get home and start building. As for me, I’ll be cheering for Sam and Abby, and waiting for the results of their purchase. I’m secretly happy that I can also participate in this creativity and join in the fun. I think I can build something better than my four sided house, especially with the boxes in my hands. We loaded our shopping cart, then hurried thru the check out. The kids weren’t the only ones who couldn’t wait to get home

Ukrainian Parade



40+ photos of the Ukrainin Parade at the Parma Observer online! Check them out. Then consider joining this 100% citizen participation project. It's Fun!

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NEIGHBORHOODS

West Creek Conservancy Offers Discovery Walks and Trail Run

by Jeff Lennartz

Local land trust West Creek Conservancy continues its 2018 series of free guided walks to explore areas seldom seen by the public. You are invited to come on out and enjoy! Most outings have been held on properties that the Conservancy owns outright or protected with the help of partner organizations. Walks in September highlight two of the group’s projects.

On September 15th we will walk along proposed routes of the West Creek Greenway just south of West Creek Reservation. The Greenway is a 25-mile network of trails conceived by West Creek Conservancy in 1998. It will directly link communities with three metropark reservations, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and many other destinations. The Greenway will radiate east, north, and west from West Creek Reservation – itself an early result of WCC’s efforts – and connect to the Towpath Trail and Big Creek Reservation. Several significant pieces of the West Creek Greenway already exist, but most of the route remains conceptual. The September 15th walk invites you to envision what is possible and get a “before” peak of the planned trail route and surrounding terrain.

On September 20th, another outing will take you to the Snake Hill area, an area protected by the Conservancy

several years ago. It contains wetland, a large expanse of forest, and the scenic upper reaches of Big Creek. This area has not yet been developed as a public park and remains in a natural state.

More upcoming 2018 events include walks and presentations about the former Parmadale campus, a future addition to the West Creek Greenway acquired last year by the Conservancy, and walks along the Hemlock Creek trail segment of the Greenway in Independence.

Seven Hills
Business Development

continue from page 1

preliminary stages. As with any project of this magnitude, many bridges must still be crossed. However, I’m very excited to be working with Fairmont Properties. The Fairmont Team, while headquartered in Cleveland, has developed projects around the country. Examples of their recent work locally are Pinecrest in Orange Village, First and Main in Hudson, Downtown Kent and the East Bank of the Flats.

Next I want to note that progress is underway on the 17 acre parcel that runs between the large parcel noted above and the Independence border. A temporary construction road has

Runners will be interested in a 5K trail run in West Creek Reservation on October 27th benefiting the work of West Creek Conservancy. Called “Creatures in the Forest,” it also includes a 1-mile fun walk and a free “Trot-for-Treats” for children under 12. 5K registration is required.

West Creek Conservancy has been connecting people to nature since its founding in 1997. To date it has conserved with its partners over 2,000 acres of habitat across 20 communi-

ties, creating and expanding several parks along the way. Its mission is to enrich the lives of people in Greater Cleveland by conserving natural habitats, restoring the ecological value and sustainability of urban lands, and expanding neighborhood opportunities to experience nature. The Conservancy is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that relies on donor support. Please consider joining today. Learn more at westcreek.org.

already been built to provide access to the parcel that will be developed by Omni Senior Living. Prior to granting approval to the final development plan the City hired a real estate consultant to evaluate the proposal. It was determined that this was good use to for this uniquely shaped parcel and will provide over \$6 million in new tax revenue to the City over the next 15 years. The vast majority of this new revenue will be dedicated for the sole purpose of future infrastructure improvements.

Lastly the City is being proactive in regards to potential future needs. Today at the corner of Broadview and Orchardview is a business district where the anchor tenant is KMART. At

this time KMART has not announced any plans to close and in fact are beginning seasonal hiring. Attracting major retailers that will bring jobs, amenities and tax revenue is highly competitive and we need to be able to hit the ground running in the event an opening does manifest. Therefore we are currently working with real estate brokers to insure that this business district will have the proper zoning in place to attract a major retailer such as a Menards or Meijer in the event KMART should decide to close it’s operation in Seven Hills.

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PERSPECTIVE

A Free Press And The Media Are Essential For A Free Society

by Lee Kamps

When President Donald Trump recently declared that the some news media is an “enemy of the state”, he was echoing the words of dictators. One of the first things that a dictator does upon assuming power is to shut down any opposition press. Auto-crats and dictators cannot tolerate any criticism of their rule.

Previous Presidents have had problems with the press. FDR was excoriated by the conservative press during his presidency. Harry Truman was also criticized by the press during his administration. Many people remember the iconic newspaper headline celebrating his defeat in the 1948 election. LBJ was savaged by the media over the Vietnam war. Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter and George H W Bush all were

highly criticized by the press when they were President. The media had a field day with the adventures of Bill and Hillary Clinton throughout his terms as President and beyond. Throughout our country’s history, the press has been highly critical of any President.

Yet, among the most recent Presidents, only Donald Trump and Richard Nixon seriously attacked the press and media. In Nixon’s case, he had something to hide and the press was hot on the trail. In fact, soon after the Supreme Court ordered the release of key conversations on the White House tapes to the public, it revealed that President Nixon was involved in the Watergate cover up from the beginning and he was forced to resign in disgrace shortly after those tapes were released.

Earlier this year, an excellent movie was showing titled The Post that dealt with the Washington Post’s decision to publish the Pentagon Papers, classified documents leaked to the media revealing that the government had been lying about the Vietnam war to the public for years and that it was covered up by both the Johnson and Nixon administrations. This case went all the way to the Supreme Court and the court ruled that the Washington Post had the right to publish the Pentagon Papers. There is a direct line from the publishing of the Pentagon Papers in the summer of 1971 and the Watergate Scandal which ultimately led to Nixon’s resignation in August 1974.

Both Presidents Nixon and Trump have been critical of the media. In fact, Donald Trump is acting like he has something to hide, just as Nixon did 45 years ago. So, what does Trump have to hide? Without the free press, we might never learn.

It has been the free press throughout our country’s history that has exposed government corruption. Just a decade ago, it was the Cleveland Plain Dealer that broke the story of FBI raids on the home and office of former Cuyahoga County Commissioner Jimmy Dimora. That investigation and reporting revealed

a web of corruption in our county government that resulted in convictions of many people as well as a total restructuring of our county government.

Thomas Jefferson, who wrote the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights, is known for saying “if I had to choose between newspapers without government or government without newspapers, I would choose the former.” More than 200 years after making that statement, newspapers have expanded to include all forms of media; radio, television and now the internet. This modern explosion of the media is making it much more difficult for public officials to hide corruption, self-dealing, lying and abuse of power.

President Richard Nixon had problems with the media and waged a war against the same media outlets that President Donald Trump is currently at war against. But like Nixon, does Trump have something to hide? We all know how the “media war” with Nixon ended. Will this media war with Donald Trump end the same way? Don’t bet against the media or the press in this battle. It is one that President Trump is sure to lose. Those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat history. Stay tuned.

Parma Should Keep Its Pit Bull Ban

by Austin Ashwill

In 2017 in the U.S., at least 39 people lost their lives to attacks by dogs. Of those 39 reported cases, pit bulls contributed to 74% (29) of these deaths. This shocking statistic comes from the website dogsbite.org, which has conducted extensive research into media reported fatal attacks from pit bulls in order to advocate for victims of these attacks and to provide a factual counterpoint against pit bull apologists. From extended research into the 13 year period from 2005 to 2017, dogsbite.org has found that pit bulls were involved in 65% of 433 deaths in the U.S. alone. These statistics, as well as my personal experience having to defend my dog from a sudden pit bull attack, are why I support Parma's existing ban on pit bull dogs.

Parma's pit bull ban, as specified in Chapter 618.09 of Parma's Codified Ordinances, was implemented in 1986. Because of pit bulls' tendency to aggress-

sion, and the potential to inflict fatal injury against people and our pets when they attack, I believe the law is wise and should stay. There are plenty of other cities in the area where people who desire to house pit bulls may live. We are under no obligation to make our city one of them. On Monday, September 17th some of our fellow citizens who oppose the ban will attend the Parma City Council meeting to petition for its repeal. While this is great of them to exercise their rights and duties as citizens, I disagree with them and I will be present to support the law and advocate for the victims of pit bull attacks. I hope other Parma residents who wish to keep our city safe from dangerous dog breeds will also attend, or write their councilmen and women to share their thoughts. I also ask that our City Council research both sides of this issue, and consider what their support of a repeal would mean if a resident or their animal companion is the victim of a pit bull attack.

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IMPRESSIONS

Eleanor Roosevelt To Visit The Parma Heights Library September 19

by Rick Haase

If you love history and First Ladies, this program is for you. The Parma Heights Library will present a portrayal of Eleanor Roosevelt by local educator Ruth Pangrace from 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, September 19 in Meeting Room C50. The presentation is sponsored by the Friends of the Parma Heights Library. Pangrace is a part of Women in History – Ohio. Women in History is dedicated to the education of all people, regardless of age, race or socio-economic status through the dramatic recreation of the lives of notable women in the history of the United States of America. Pangrace joined Women in History in 1998 and portrays Eleanor Roosevelt, First Lady Florence Harding, Puritan Ann Hutchinson, Civil War spy Elizabeth (Crazy Bett) Van Lew, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Molly Pitcher, gossip columnist Louella Parsons and Empress of Modern Art Louise Nevelson.

Pangrace is quoted on the Women in History -- Ohio website as saying: "Women in History gives me an opportunity to explore and discover notable women's stories that often are buried in our nation's history. Sharing these stories with audiences of all ages is an exhilarating experience. Also, I love the spirit of sisterhood among the Women in History actress educators. Their talents, dedication and passion never cease to amaze and inspire me. I am so grateful to be part of this group!"

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art Education grades K-12, and a Master of Education degree in Gifted Education. She currently teaches social studies and history at Harding Middle School in Lakewood.

Pangrace also coaches Power of the Pen, Middle School Mock Trial and

Middle School Academic Challenge teams. She resides with her husband in Rocky River and has three grown children and two grandchildren. The entire family enjoys sailing and are always on the lookout for new female historical characters to develop and shopping for vintage clothing and hats to wear

According to Pangrace, again quoting from the Women in History -- Ohio website, "My most memorable moment was my first performance, an ensemble presentation with four characters each telling her story in turn, except that my cue line was accidentally dropped and the performance ended before I actually shared my dramatization. I wasn't sure what I should do. After an awkward, frozen moment, the actress playing Bessie Coleman finally stood up, strode across the stage right up to me and asked, "So what is your story?" I knew from that moment on that even though there could be rough spots, this was a group of women that would be there to help each other in any circumstances."

Other memorable moments occurred while answering children's questions as Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of Uncle Tom's Cabin. "How long was that book? Did her kids have to read it? Is that your real hair? What is under that skirt that makes your behind look so big.

The presentation is free and open to the public.

MORE FROM THE LIBRARY – Don't miss "Putting the Garden to Bed," also at the Parma Heights Library on Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 7 p.m.

Read the entire article online at parmaobserver.com



Direct communication between artisan producers and vendors breaks down barriers and creates transparency.

Fair Trade Matters

by Rachel Jewell

According to the Fair Trade Federation, fair trade is "an approach to business and to development based on dialogue, transparency, and respect that seeks to create greater equity in the international trading system. Fair trade supports farmers and craftspeople in developing countries who are socially and economically marginalized. These producers often face steep hurdles in finding markets and customers for their goods."

Fair trade is "a trading partnership, based on dialogue, transparency & respect, that seeks greater equality." Fair trade is a step back into the past when business was conducted with conversation and a handshake. Fair trade craftspeople and farmers negotiate with international importers to produce a price that is fair for both parties. They take into consideration the costs of production, shipping, growth, and resale when establishing a wholesale price. Fair trade is business that is personal.

Fair trade "supports farmers and craftspeople in developing countries who are socially and economically marginalized." Threads Worldwide works with craftspeople in over 15 countries in the global south - from India to Guatemala and Malawi

to Bolivia. In all of these countries women and girls are routinely isolated, uneducated, kept out of the workplace, and sold into sexual or physical slavery. Artisan groups provide work with fair wages, socialization, education, and purpose for people who would otherwise be making less than \$1/day.

"Producers often face steep hurdles in finding markets and customers for their goods." In these marginalized regions, an over saturated market is a key reason why artisans have few growth opportunities. They lack places to sell and an abundance of similar merchandise. In becoming fair trade producers, typically working within co-ops and organizations, artisans have access to new markets, trend research as well as market analysis to help them create sellable goods as a collective. Fair trade vendors then are able to communicate directly with producers which alleviates communication barriers between producers and consumers and allows a transparent line of communication on challenges and successes within their relationships.

Fair trade organizations around the world are working to expand the fair trade marketplace. You can find fair trade goods locally at a variety of markets listed at www.ohiofairtrade.com and the One World Shop in Rocky River.

Bike Parma



Bike Parma, a cycling advocacy group formed in Parma recently, participated in the Ukrainian Village Parade on August 25. Many interested people are anticipating activity from this group moving forward. Photo by Stefan P. Stefaniuk.

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PARMA ART SCENE

Parma Fine Arts Council - Member Events

by Kathryn Mabin

Michelle Behal, Parma Fine Arts President, and acrylic painting instructor, demonstrated her pyrotechnical (wood burning) skills at the Cuyahoga County Fair. Michelle also won Best In Show for her Dragon Wood Burning. She also received first and second place in wood burning and second and third

Endless Summer - September 14th

by Kathryn Mabin

On Friday, September 14th, Polish Village Parma will be holding their Endless Summer Concert, at German Central Farm, located at 7863 York Rd. in Parma. Polish Village Parma is a nonprofit organization created to bring to the community such events as the ever popular Treat n Greet. Net proceeds from this event help to cover the costs associated with their various community events. This concert features three 60's music bands, Airchiefs, Custard Pie, and Liverpool Lads.

Tri-C Encore Campus Fridays Opens Fall Registration

by John Horton

The Encore Campus Fridays program at the Western Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) in Parma begins a new session of classes Sept. 21 to enrich the minds and lives of those aged 55 and older.

The fall program runs every Friday for seven weeks. Age-eligible students can enroll in one to six courses for one low fee of \$99. The 50-minute classes take place between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The overall course catalog features more than 100 options on a wide variety of subjects, including art, cinema, computers, history, music, religion, science, yoga and more. Classes are taught by Tri-C faculty, retired educators and subject experts. The program also is available at Tri-C's Eastern Campus in Highland Hills.

"Encore Campus Fridays offers a taste of college without the stresses of homework, tests or books," said Suzanne Ortiz, who oversees the program. "And aside from being edu-

place for her pen and ink. Her winning entries are currently on display in the lobby of the Donna Smallwood Activity Center. To view more of her creations visit www.beartracksart.com, or follow Bear Tracks Art on Facebook page.

Anthony DeMarco participated in the Richfield-Hinkley Art Groups annual show at the Farnam Manor,

Tickets are \$20 each. Food trucks like Pierogi Joe's/Rudy's Bakery, Mother Truckin' Tasty, and P Jay's Pizza, will be there, plus beer, soft drinks, Polish Village tees and sweatshirts plus other fun items will be sold. Split the pot and side boards will also be available. Doors open at 6pm, concert starts at 7pm and ends at 11pm. This is a 21 and over event. Tickets are limited and selling fast. For ticket information call 440-845-1714. For additional information visit www.polishvillageparma.org, or follow on Facebook.

cational, it's a chance to meet new people with shared interests."

Want to take classes but can't make it to Encore Campus Fridays? Then check out Tri-C's Neighborhood Scholars 55+ adult education courses, which take place at College sites as well as museums, parks and other locations around Greater Cleveland.

Neighborhood Scholars includes tours to experience restaurants, landmarks and churches; "Coffee with a Curator" sessions, which provide behind-the-scenes looks at exhibits and collections at University Circle institutions; and hands-on classes such as jewelry making.

These alternate-site classes occur throughout the week and vary in length. Costs range from \$15 to \$65 per class.

For detailed information and registration for Encore Campus Fridays or Neighborhood Scholars courses, visit www.tri-c.edu/encore. Potential students can also call 216-987-2274 for information.

where 31 artists showed their work.

Donata Rahne has been the art instructor at Sunrise In Parma's Memory Care Unit on Broadview Road for the last couple of years. She stated it is very rewarding to work with these individuals.

Kathy Kijek participated in the 2nd Annual Haunted House Garage Sale at the Bay Village Community House. Kathy created outdoor Halloween Solar Lanterns for sale, pumpkin, vampire and ghost. These were very popular, and few remain.

Katrina Lindsley, wife of board member Craig Lindsley, and PAFAC volunteer, has been selling her craft items for more than 15 years now. She makes soaps, wax melts, and her most popular item, smelly jelly air fresheners. You will find her at craft shows like Ridge-wood UMC, Holy Spirit and St. John Byzantine Church. Recently, she was invited to become part of The House of Wilhelm, formally an antique store in Strongsville, that reopened as a handmade crafters shop. Katrina's handmade items sell under the banner of her faith based company called Devotions.

Sean Mabin, instructor at Parma Area Fine Arts Council participated in the Rooms To Let: CLE event in Slavic

Broadview Multi-Care Center's Pierogi Palooza



Killien, sits on Mom's (Christine) shoulder killing time on his iphone while waiting in line for Pierogis! See all of our photos online in the Parma Observer Photo Blogs. Thousands of images of Parma. Isn't it time you shared some of yours? It's Free! parmaobserver.com



Michelle Behal

Village. This was their fifth year. Dozens of artists transform buildings set for demolition, and create installations on vacant lots. Live entertainment is also provided at this event. He also had two of his works in the Can't Triennial, at Church of Art in the Waterloo Arts District.

Emery Bogardy will be appearing at the 63rd annual Hungarian Festival on Sunday, September 2nd at German Central Farm. Lots of good ethnic food and pastry, live music and entertainment throughout the day. Raffle prizes, soccer matches, live animal shows, book fair, folk arts & crafts and novelty items will be for sale. Emery is a board member and watercolor instructor at Parma Area Fine Arts. He will be selling his original watercolor paintings and prints. For a preview of his work go to www.bogardyarts.com.



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AREA WIDE EVENTS

News You Can Use (And Where To Find It.)

by Gene Lovasy

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) & Job & Family Svcs have partnered up & are reminding parents to visit ChildCareSearch.Ohio.gov when searching for before- and after-school care for their children. Searching the database is intuitive and the information comprehensive – worth a look-see.

The Parma Heights PACT (Police & Community Together) Youth Group....Note that beginning with Sept the group will return to its twice a month meeting schedule. The first one will take place on TUESDAY, Sept 4th.

Go here to find information regarding the **November School Levy...** <https://www.parmacityschools.org/levy>. Included is the levy's proposal, a PCSD Facts Sheet and documents relating to the recent Master Planning & Educational Visioning initiatives.

Following up on his goal to improve communications & transparency, Supt Smialek has scheduled 5 face-to-face Town Hall meetings as well as live Facebook meetings. Details can be found in the August 20th issue of the Monday Monitor. Click here to find a copy.... <https://www.parmacityschools.org/monitor>. And, don't forget that questions or comments are welcome via e-mail at information@parmacityschools.org. If the matter is urgent, contact your school's principal or call the Parma City School District's main phone number at (440) 842-5300.

Save the date - Parma Early Childhood PTA's 4th Annual Touch-a-Truck is coming up on Sunday, Sept 16th from Noon to 5:00 pm at the UH/Parma Health Education Center, 7300 State Rd. This one looks bigger & better than ever. Go here for more details: <https://tinyurl.com/PECPTA-Toucha-Truck>.

Coming soon... Information/details regarding two new initiatives coming out of the CBS Connects grant funded program: 1. Financial Literacy Nights and 2. Young Entrepreneurs' Day. Both promise to great opportunities for both our students and families.

After coordinating the purchase, stuffing, delivery and distribution of supplies & backpacks for 1,000+ students, the **Parma Family Collaborative** could use your help to inventory & store leftover supplies for students in need during the year. With the backpack project winding down, holiday program planning is beginning to ramp up. Watch for details.

Parenting Partners, the popular 8 week program that shares "...practical tools for positive parenting..." will begin its fall session on Sept 10th. Classes are held every Monday from 4:00 to 5:00 pm; cost is \$20 & child care is provided for ages 1 & above. Call 440.887.4873 to register.

A couple of **Save-The-Dates from Camp Cheerful** (off Royalton Rd (Rt 82), midway between I-71 & W. 130th)....

The 12th Annual Timberland Boot Giveaway & Horse Expo goes

from 4:00 to 8:00 pm, Thursday, Sept 20th. This is a free, family event, providing an opportunity to cheer their riders, enjoy refreshments, meet their horses & learn about the benefits of therapeutic horseback riding.

Cheers to Camp Cheerful will be on Saturday, Sept 22, beginning at 5:30 pm. The evening includes Happy Hour at the Barn, silent auctions, raffles & "Horse Bingo", DJ & dancing, a great meal & depending on the weather, an outside bonfire. Call 216-292-9700 x-226 for sponsorship opportunities.

For tickets & info go to www.achievementcenters.org/cheers.

If your organization has a **Youth Safety** component/focus of any kind & you're looking for programs, information or material visit: <https://www.safekids.org/coalition/safe-kids-greater-cleveland>. The initiative is a service of University Hospitals Rainbow & Children's Hospital with the Rainbow Injury Prevention Center working with local, state and national legislators to advance the health and safety of children and families. Ques-

tions or requests for more info can be directed to Cyndee Bratz @ 440-888-8889 or cyndeebratz@aol.com.

An update/status of the **Parma Town Center Strategic Master Plan** was presented at the third & final public meeting on August 21st. Results from previous meetings/surveys were reviewed and minor modifications noted. Identified goals were placed into near-term, medium-term & long-term categories & attendees were asked to prioritize the goals within each category. For meeting detail and an opportunity to contribute to the process go to www.surveymonkey.com/r/parmapm3. This survey closes this Friday, Sept 7th but you can still follow progress by going to: www.countyplanning.us/parma.

From the Parma Snow Library....

Go here: <https://tinyurl.com/Parma-Snow-Events> to display the event calendar for September.

From the Parma Branch Library (Powers Blvd.) special events....

Grandparents Festival– Saturday, Sept. 8th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Preschool – Grade 5 with Grandparents. Celebrate everything that grandparents and grand-friends do for their families. Live music, crafts, health and family resources, genealogy, special storytimes, light refreshments and door prizes. Learn more at: <http://tinyurl.com/grandparentsfestival>

Ready Set Create! Building Challenges for Kids– Saturday, Sept. 15th at 2:00 pm; Grades 2 – 5. Hands-on building and technology challenges give you the chance to solve problems, be creative and work with real engineers. Sponsored by STARnet and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). Learn more at: <https://tinyurl.com/ReadySetCreateSept>

Maker Club (Fall Session): Wednesdays starting Sept 5 – Dec 12, 4:15 – 5:30; Grades 5 – 8. Program includes photography, batik & mask making, electric art, social and emotional learning. Click here for more information and/r to register: <https://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/853657>

From the Parma Hts Branch Library...

Play, Learn, and Grow Toddler Club: Ages 1 to 3 & caregivers; Wednesdays, 8/15-9/12 at 10 a.m. Boost your toddler's brain through play! Join us for a 5-week club and, connect with your kids and other families, plus get answers about your growing child. Please register at: <http://attend.cuyahogalibrary.org/event/635599>

Eleanor Roosevelt: Wed., 09/19/2018, 7:00 - 8:00 PM; Join us for a dramatic portrayal of the life of Eleanor Roosevelt -- first lady, humanitarian and activist -- by Ruth Pangrace of Women in History. Click here to register.

Fall Storytimes at the Library: Saturday, 9/1 - Wednesday, 11/28. Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays and more. For Babies, Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Families. Please call 440.884.2313 for more information.

Pierogi Palooza 2018



Broadview Multi-Care Center's Pierogi Palooza was a smashing success place was packed with Piergois, cabbage and noodles and more being served up in the thousands!



Parma City Council President and Pierogi Judge standing with the winners of the judge competition. Ethnic Gourmet, L-R Randy, Sue and Matthew Grzybowski and Mira Hafit. Available exclusively at Heinen's in the prepared food section.

The November 6, 2018 General Election

by Mike West

Voters have many important decisions to make in the November 6th General Election. There are federal, state, county and judicial candidates on the ballot. There will also be state and local issues to be decided by voters. The Board advises people to be prepared to vote by taking a few simple steps: check their registration status and then select their voting method. Voters should check their voting information to make sure they are registered at their current address. The deadline to register and/or update voter registrations is on or before Tuesday, October 9th, at 9:00 p.m. Voter registration is now available online at www.443vote.com. Registration cards are available at all public libraries.

Early voting is available from Octo-

ber 10th through November 5th at the Board of Elections located at 2925 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. Early voting hours are posted on the Board's website. Voters may also submit vote by mail ballot applications if they wish to vote from home. To request an application visit: www.443vote.com, or call 216-443-VOTE (8683). Vote by Mail ballot applications are also available at all public libraries. If voters plan to cast a ballot on Election Day they need to bring identification and they may confirm their polling location online. The polls are open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Board is seeking thousands of poll workers to assist voters on Election Day. Poll workers are paid up to \$200.00 and may apply online or by calling the Election Officials Department at 216-443-3277.



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