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# Two National Publications List Parma Among Best Places To Live

by Carolyn Kovach

Two national lists recently named Parma among the best cities for retirees and veterans to call home.

Military Times listed Parma as a Best Small City For Vets To Call Home in 2019 out of 599 cities it rated. Parma was ranked No. 48 and was the only Ohio city mentioned in the large, medium or small city categories. The metrics included veteran and military culture and services, economic indicators and livability (crime, health care, schools and commuter traffic).

Forbes listed Parma as a top city for retirees. Only two cities – Parma and Sandusky – made the list for Ohio. Parma was the runner-up. The list noted that Ohio's seventh-largest city has an \$118,000 median home price.

"We have affordable housing, and we're a safe community with many medical facilities," Mayor Tim DeGeeter said. "Also, we have a lot of great amenities, shops, parks, recreation and a vibrant senior center.

"We also know younger families are moving in, but



we still have many retirees and seniors who live in Parma. They want to stay here. They want to stay in the city where they raised their families," he

The Forbes' Best Places to Retire in Each State list compared data on more than 650 U.S. communities. The

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### An Art Gallery Grows In Parma

by Daniel P. McCarthy

It is no secret that I've often shared my dismay that to my knowledge, there is no commercial art gallery in Parma. Since it is so apparent that the Arts have brought impressive social and economic benefits to the various neighborhoods in the Cleveland Area where they have flourished, I have found it hard to understand why the seventh largest city in Ohio seems to have missed the boat when it comes to this aspect of modern life. Well, it is my dis-

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Sean Mabin welcomes you to Prama Artspace and Gallery, opening November 4.

# **GM Parma Metal Center Is 70- Holds Open House, Awards Community Giving Grants**



On 10/26 the GM Parma Metal Center celebrated their 70th Anniversary and held an Open House for family and friends. They also awarded Community Giving Grants totaling \$30,000 to: Greater Cleveland United Way, Big Creek Connects, and American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer NEO Chapter.

# City And Parma Schools Partner On Youth Leadership Academy

by Carolyn Kovach

The City of Parma and the Parma City School District are partnering on a pilot program at Parma Senior High School to teach students essential leadership skills for future careers and personal development. The Parma Youth Leadership Academy, launched last week, identified 30 Parma Senior High School students who will receive leadership training this fall and winter. Later in the spring, those skills will be utilized through a project focused on helping the schools or the city.

Parma Youth Leader-ship Academy wraps up in the summer with a week long program, each day focusing on a specific theme. The topics could include, among other things, manufacturing, education, and health and wellness. The summer program also incorporates tours of different businesses and organizations in addition to panel discussions, all of which are focused on the day's central theme.

"This is a real opportunity to provide kids with the 21st-century skills they need for future careers or college," Parma Mayor Tim DeGeeter said. "We need to give our students the edge they need to compete for jobs in what has



become a global marketplace."

"Parma Schools is a leader in getting students ready for college or a job after high school," said Charles Smialek, Ph.D., Superintendent of the Parma Schools. "This pilot program is another way we're helping to prepare kids for today's world."

"I hope the kids realize that when they leave Parma Senior High they will be joining a larger world," said Leo Spagnola, principal at Parma Senior High School. "Having reviewed the curriculum and the three sessions they will be doing with the kids, I look forward to seeing how they blossom at Parma Senior High School."

Thanks to a \$10,000 contribution from AT&T Aspire,

the program will be managed and directed by the Effective Leadership Academy (ELA), in conjunction with city and school district leadership.

A non-profit company based out of Warrensville Heights, ELA specializes in helping students grasp a better understanding of indispensable skills such as effective communication, collaboration, networking, how to make a good first impression, time management and presentation skills. With 10 years helping students gain these important skills, ELA has more than 135 school and community partners and over 20,000 student alumni across northeast Ohio and the Mid-Atlantic Region.

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# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

# The President's Corner

by Sean Brennan

Over the years I have written quite a lot about religion in this column, as my own faith is very important to me and I have always been fascinated with other faiths. As I pen this article, I am listening to our local public radio station (90.3 FM - WCPN) report about the disastrous attack on the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. It is reported that 11 Americans have died practicing their First Amendment right of free exercise of religion. Therefore, it is with a heavy heart that I write this piece.

At this point little is known about the accused gunman, however, it is safe to assume that he is an anti-Semite who feels that Jews have no place in American society. Assuming this, it is obvious that he is also not a very good student of American history, nor a patriot.

I am a great admirer and student of George Washington. The Father of our Country has much to teach us about many different topics on many different levels. That is why I was recently honored to be asked by the education department of George Washington's Mount Vernon and the Frederick W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington in Virginia to present to teachers from around the nation about how to incorporate the teaching of George Washington into classrooms today. I plan to share with the teachers several of the writings of General Washington, as the study of primary sources is a very effective way to learn. These sources challenge students' higher order thinking skills by



Sean Brennan, Parma City Council President

training them how to think critically like historians and create meaning and connections on their own.

One of the documents I plan to share with the teachers is the following beautiful letter that President Washington wrote to the Jewish congregation of Newport, Rhode Island on August 21, 1790. Like my students, I will let you decide for yourself what George Washington felt it means to be an American in the context of religion.

"Gentlemen:

While I received with much satisfaction your address replete with expressions of esteem, I rejoice in the opportunity of assuring you that I shall always retain grateful remembrance of the cordial welcome I experienced on my visit to Newport from all classes of citizens.

The reflection on the days of difficulty and danger which are past is

rendered the more sweet from a consciousness that they are succeeded by days of uncommon prosperity and security.

If we have wisdom to make the best use of the advantages with which we are now favored, we cannot fail, under the just administration of a good government, to become a great and happy people.

The citizens of the United States of America have a right to applaud themselves for having given to mankind examples of an enlarged and liberal policy — a policy worthy of imitation. All possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship.

It is now no more that toleration is spoken of as if it were the indulgence of one class of people that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights, for, happily, the Government of



#### Two National Publications List Parma Among Best Places To Live

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metrics included relatively affordable places to live (home prices and cost of living) and quality of life (doctor availability, crime rate, Milken Institute list of best cities for successful aging ranking, air quality, weather, pedestrian walkways and bike paths).

"It just shows the constructive work we are doing at City Hall with elected officials and our community partners. We're trying to move the city forward, and this helps keep us motivated. I hope residents share pride in this recognition, too."



the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens in giving it on all occasions their effectual support.

It would be inconsistent with the frankness of my character not to avow that I am pleased with your favorable opinion of my administration and fervent wishes for my felicity.

May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants — while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree and there shall be none to make him afraid.

May the father of all mercies scatter light, and not darkness, upon our paths, and make us all in our several vocations useful here, and in His own due time and way everlastingly happy.





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# **AARP Tax-Aide Volunteers Needed**

by Stephen Donovan

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, the nation's largest free volunteer-run tax assistance and preparation service is seeking volunteers to assist taxpayers in southwestern Cuyahoga County. We have 2 tax preparation sites in Parma and additional sites in the neighboring cities of Middleburg Heights, Brook Park, Broadview Heights, North Royalton, and Strongsville. We also have sites Brooklyn, and Brooklyn Heights, and the Old Brooklyn and Puritas-Longmead neighborhoods of the city of Cleveland that are part of another Tax-Aide district. Volunteers do not have to be retired or members of AARP.

All of our sites are electronic filing sites. Volunteers are expected to work at a site for at least 5 hours per week on weekdays during the tax season, which runs from the first week in February through the 15th of April. Each volunteer must have an email address and computer experience is preferred; how-

ever, not required. Volunteers do not need previous income tax experience. We provide a free two-week course for tax return preparers during January. We are also looking for greeters and provide them with a free one-day course.

Tax-Aide is a very rewarding IRS-supported program offered by the AARP Foundation providing free assistance to taxpayers with special attention given to senior citizens with low to moderate incomes. It is a great way for volunteers to become involved in their communities and learn about the preparation of the 1040 tax form. Our recruitment of volunteers is on a non-discriminatory basis without consideration of race, religion, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.

For more information please call Tax-Aide District Coordinator Steve Donovan at 440-237-7348, call AARP's toll-free number at 888-687-2277, or visit Tax-Aide's web site at www.aarp.org/taxaide.



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# **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

# Foundation Gala Raises \$125,000 To Benefit UH Parma Medical Center's Emergency Department

by CJ Sheppard

Andy Novak's heart was shocked six times to restore its beat on a January morning earlier this year. At the Parma Hospital Health Care Foundation's glittering gala on Sept. 15, Novak stood on the stage, flanked by the Parma Heights paramedics and UH Parma Medical Center Emergency Department team that brought him back to life. His emotional story detailed a massive heart attack, intensive care stay on full life support and dramatic

recovery, thanks to a strong "chain of survival" that included bystander CPR delivered by the family. Novak's story launched a flurry of giving at the blacktie celebration at the Embassy Suites in Independence.

Chief Nursing Officer Julia Mason presented Novak and his wife, Becky, with a bouquet of flowers to celebrate the couple's 30th wedding anniversary, while many among the 300 in attendance took out their cell phones and texted "give2uh" to make donations

to the Foundation's campaign for the ED. The fundraising event raised more than \$125,000 and counting toward the ED's renovation and enhancement.

"We are so grateful to Andy and Becky for sharing their story," said Marcia Ferguson, Executive Director of the Parma Hospital Health Care Foundation. "It helped our guests understand what our caregivers do and how important UH Parma emergency care is when we need it most!

During the evening, the Foundation recognized major donor gifts of \$25,000 and over pledged since December, including: Donna Koler, the Busch family, Legacy Health Services, the Walter W. Born Foundation and others. They also celebrated a \$1 million gift from the late Margaret Tomec, a long-

time volunteer in the hospital Gift Shop whose favorite charity was the Parma Hospital Health Care Foundation.

In addition to UH Parma's Medical Staff and Auxiliary, major event sponsors of the event were: Huntington Private Bank and Weston Hurd LLP.

"This evening was a celebration of the spirit of caring and commitment in our UH Parma community," said Angelo N. Pimpas, Chairman of the Parma Hospital Health Care Foundation. "Our Emergency Department cares for thousands of sick and injured members of our community each year. In fact, approximately 70 percent of our inpatients arrive through the ED. The Foundation supports the work of the hospital through its caring mission."

#### **New Citizens Sworn In**



On October 26 a ceremony was held at the Cuyahoga County Public Library Snow Rd. Branch in Parma, where 25 new Citizens from 19 different countries were sworn in and welcomed to our country. Honorable Christoper Boyko, United States Sistrict Court Judge- Northern Ohio District officiated, with remarks from Parma Mayor Tim DeGeeter and also Joe Cimperman.

#### Can Lifestyle Changes Prevent Diabetes? Learn more At Nov. 13 Talk

by CJ Sheppard

More than 1 million Ohioans have Type 2 diabetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control. This chronic condition affects the way the body processes blood sugar. What can you do to prevent this common disease?

Learn ways to prevent diabetes through lifestyle changes at the presentation on Tuesday, November 13 at University Hospitals Parma Health Education Center. "Prevent Diabetes with Lifestyle Change" will cover healthy eating, increasing activity and dealing with life challenges.

The program will be held at 10 a.m. and again at 6 p.m. at 7300 State Road, Parma. Call now to register: 440-743-4932.

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# Cox And City Of Parma Renew **Commitment To Leadership For Tomorrow**

by Carolyn Kovach

Due to the generosity of Cox Communications, the Leadership for Tomorrow field trips will continue for Parma City School District fourthgraders. The program, which teaches local students about municipal government, again faced termination due to budget cuts but will be fully covered with Cox Communications' most recent donation of \$5,000.

The donation will cover the entire cost of the program, which encompasses 10 visits by eight public schools in the district. For its part, Cox intends to also work with students living in public housing or relying on nutritional assistance programs to learn more about the inner workings of local government via Connect2Compete, a low-cost internet offering that helps low-income families bridge the digital divide and stay engaged in at-home learning and online collaboration.

"Leadership for Tomorrow gives students an inside look at the inner workings of local government and the importance of civic engagement," said Robert Brill, market vice president for Cox Communications. "When it comes to learning more about government, a future career, or educational opportunities, we believe programs like Leadership for Tomorrow and Connect2Compete go hand-in-hand by offering every student the chance to gain access to the resources they need to plan their futures."

Co-founders of the Leadership for Tomorrow program – City Treasurer Tom Mastroianni, Mayor Tim DeGeeter and the late Anthony Zielinski, who preceded Mastroianni as city treasurer wanted to help young students learn about how local government works.

The program brings local fourthgraders to city hall, where students hold a mock city council meeting about an issue the class has chosen to consider. Students then travel to the Parma Justice Center, where they learn about the court system and have a mock trial for a "crime" such as not completing homework assignments.

"We have seen firsthand the enlightenment Leadership for Tomorrow sparks in our community's children, and we're delighted to have this support from Cox Communications," DeGeeter said. "By offering resources like Leadership for Tomorrow and Connect2Compete, we help ensure students have the tools they need to succeed in school and beyond."

Mastroianni, who acts as emcee and tour guide for the students at city hall, said, "We are once again grateful for the financial support from Cox in this year's Leadership for Tomorrow

program. Students from Parma's public and private schools will continue to have the opportunity to learn from community leaders about important government functions, gaining invaluable exposure to their role in shaping municipal programs and processes."

Charles Smialek, superintendent of Parma City School District, also praised the program. "The Leadership for Tomorrow program, in partnership with the city of Parma, is an asset for the community and our children," he said. "As demonstrated by Cox Communications' continued support, it showcases the positive impact of good corporate citizenship and how we can all work together to give our students and families exciting opportunities for advancing their learning and awareness of the world around them."

# An Art Gallery Grows In Parma

#### continued from page 1

tinct pleasure to report that now Parma has what I believe is the first commercial art gallery in our wonderful city.

Sean Mabin, is a Parma native who attended the Cleveland Institute of Art where was fortunate to have been instructed by the world famous Viktor Schreckengost. He has a long relationship with the Parma Area Fine Arts Council, and now has taken the next step and opened his new gallery, named Prama Artspace and Gallery, at 5411 Pearl Rd. Besides being the letters of Parma mixed up a little, the word also means Evidence or Foundation in sanskrit. The first show featured at this brand new gallery begins on November 4 and will last two weeks. It will be exciting to watch this new space for art grow and develop in Parma. Finally someone from the private sector has stepped up and invested their own money to demonstrate that art galleries, besides being magnets for talented artists seeking to display their work to the rest of the world, are also businesses that produce economic development and commercial activity.

Hopefully those who have anticipated growth in the Arts for the Parma Area will be enthusiastic about supporting this new business started by Sean Mabin. The next development will be that a second, third and more art galleries will open in this most walkable section of the city. The neighborhood

is actually the birthplace of Parma, the Settlement District, where very close by the first house in Parma was constructed, Fay's Inn, as the historical marker near the intersection of Ridge and Pearl Rd. It is ironic then that this first commercial art gallery (as far as I know) has sprouted in the same place. Let's take this as a sign that there is indeed a new beginning and the Arts will continue to grow and prosper in the Parma Area. Thanks to all the dedicated artists in the Parma Arera Fine Arts Council that worked so hard for so long to keep the Arts alive in our city. Now it is time for the Private Sector to emerge and continue investing in private art galleries as we go forward. Listening, Parma Area Chamber of Commerce?

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### **Parma Peanut Butter Drive 8!**

by John Visnauskas

Parma City Council President Sean Brennan is again uniting community partners to collect peanut butter for local low income seniors throughout the month of December.

All Faiths Pantry will collect donated jars of PB from these drop off locations:

Parma City Council Offices, 6611 Ridge Road

UH Parma Medical Center 7007 Powers Blvd

Cuyahoga County Public Library Parma Branches, 2121 Snow Road and 6996 Powers Boulevard

Cash donations allow All Faiths Pantry to purchase Peanut Butter at below wholesale prices as a Food Bank partner. Tax deductible donations payable to All Faiths Pantry can be mailed to: Council President Sean Brennan, 6611 Ridge Rd. Parma 44129 For more information on All Faiths Pantry write to: info@allfaithspantry.org or phone (216) 496-4329

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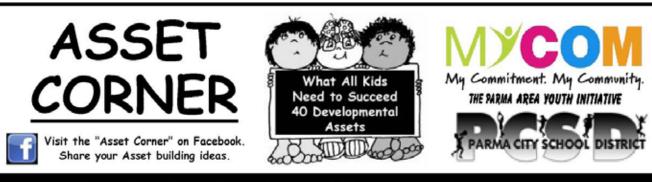
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## **EDUCATION**



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

# **Asset Corner #107**

by Gene Lovasy

November's Asset Category: EMPOWERMENT Feeling valued and appreciated is important to all of us. For young people, this means feeling safe and believing they're liked and respected. These feelings can go a long way toward empowering children and youth. Providing opportunities and recognizing accomplishments helps young people build self-esteem. This in turn, gives them the confidence to share their ideas, knowledge, and creativity by volunteering and working in paid jobs. By paying attention to young people, you show that you value them. This column's focus will be on... Asset #9 – Service to Others

By helping others, young people learn to help themselves

To many young people, the world is small. It's made up of their school, home, and neighborhood. They may assume all schools are like their school. And, when they're very young, they may think the world revolves around them. But when young people start to

reach out and help others, their world grows and so does their confidence. In fact, many young people report that when they give of their time and energy, they receive much in return. Serving others can help kids feel good about themselves and that they can make a difference in the world.

#### Here are the facts

Research shows that young people who serve others in the community for one or more hours a week are more apt to be respectful of others, helpful and kind, and patient. They also tend to value diversity. About 48 percent of young people, ages 11–18, serve in the community one hour or more a week, according to Search Institute surveys. Encourage all young people to recognize the value of helping others.

#### Tips for building this asset

The best way to teach young people the value of helping others is to be a role model. Activities such as providing a meal to a new parent, driving a neighbor to an appointment, or babysitting can make a huge difference in someone's life. Look for service opportunities to do with a young person. Join organizations that involve—and provide leadership roles for—both young people and adults.

#### Also try this

In your home and family: Together, think of 10 ways your family can serve others. Choose one idea. Pick a date to do the activity. Afterward, talk about your experience.

In your neighborhood and community: Join or support an organization that teaches (and provides opportunities for) serving others. Some possibilities to consider: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Habitat for Humanity, Food Pantries, YMCA/YWCA, local Youth Service/Leardership groups, etc.

In your school or youth program: Seek learning opportunities for students and group members to engage in community service projects. Also bring community resources into the classroom or program setting.

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

# by Jean Micklewright October Highlights

The NEW MYCOM website is up and ready to view! Check out what MyCom is and does on MyComCLE.org!

2018 Candidates Forum hosted by Voice's for Ohio's Children was held at Tri-C Metro Campus on Thursday, October 4. Candidates for upcoming elections were present, and students had the opportunity to ask questions. It was a great opportunity for youth and adults to see and hear each candidate in person.

OnOctober 25 the youth council will celebrate 2018 Make A Difference Day by participating in the Ocean Challenge service event. Students will complete an art project by creating sea creatures from upcycled/recycled items and learn about keeping our oceans free of plastic and pollutants. For each art creation, the Bezos Family Foundation will donate \$2.00 to be used to support youth-focused, science-based programs aimed at developing a new generation of future ocean scientists who can help restore the ocean to health.

Maker Club fall session at Parma Library is at capacity! In the most recent session students in grades 5-8 created their own mechanical spooky bots. The focus of our social-emotional learning centered on anger management and empathy. We are grateful for the partnership with Cuyahoga County Public Library, Parma Branch, to bring this program to our area. At this time, we are at capacity and the session is full. Per grant funding, we hope to continue this program in 2019.

LOGOS program at Ridgewood United Methodist Church continues to meet from 5:30-8:10 pm. Each week features a theme, dinner, bible study, worship/music skills, recreation and social/emotional wellness topic. This program is FREE and FUN! It is open to all youth and families!

#### **Looking Ahead**

MyCom Youth Council will meet on Thursdays after school from 3-5pm at the Hanna building in November through and including December 20 (no meeting on Thanksgiving, 11/22). Join us for fun activities, food, discussions and planning future events and service opportunities. Bring a friend and join us!

Cuyahoga County Youth Work Institute (CCYWI) offers low cost professional development for anyone who works with youth. There are a variety of excellent topics to choose from. Grab a co-worker and sign up! You won't regret it. Check out all the upcoming workshops at: https://weatherhead.case.edu/executive-education/community/cuyahoga-youth-work/

### Honoring Those Who Served:

# **Tri-C Holds Veterans Day Observance**

by John Horton

Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) will honor the courageous men and women who served in the nation's military during a Veterans Day observance at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 9, at Western Campus.

The remembrance will take place at the Veterans Memorial Garden and Galleria.

"Military service embodies a willingness to sacrifice for the good of others," said Rick DeChant, executive director of the College's Veterans Initiative. "On Veterans Day, we remember that the peace we enjoy is because of those who served."

The program will include a presentation by Tri-C's James Banks — director of the Crile Archive Center for History Education at Western Campus — on "World War I, George Crile and the Founding of the Cleveland Clinic."

The archives serve as a repository



of materials about Crile, a Cleveland surgeon who led a Northeast Ohio medical team that treated wounded soldiers in France during World War I. Crile later helped found the Cleveland Clinic.

Tri-C created the archives to preserve and present artifacts that document the experiences of veterans on the battlefield and at home. It focuses on the health and healing of veterans.

Tours of the archives and the College's Crile Veterans Center will follow

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# **INSPIRATION**

# **Numbers**

by Lizabeth Braskie

There are times in my life when I silently check my favorite numbers to see if something I'm considering is okay. It's similar to approving bingo and raffle ticket digits, even a potential address or sale price can come under scrutiny. Over time I have relied on the numbers 2 and 8 to satisfy my confidence. Because I have eight children, that number is a no brainer. It has become my favorite in many appropriate instances. The number two stems from the fact that all of my kids have a "2" in their birth date. Yes, when each of them was born, a two appeared in the day of their arrival. It's an amazing occurrence that will forever join all eight of them in a common bond. Especially since their arrival date was not chosen by me, this seemed remarkable.

When we were kids, another "out of the ordinary" had to do with my two grandmothers. One of them lived right around the corner from us and made visiting simple and often. Since my family didn't have our own telephone, we could use the one at my grandma's house. And if someone had to reach us we would have to know

her phone number so we could tification. Incredible!

At first we kids figured our parents picked out the numbers to match so we could remember easily. But this amazing occurrence was definitely as real as rain in the springtime and may have been the beginning of my awareness toward numbers. It's not a nuisance habit, but a curious question and understanding of how and why incidental happenings give us fuel for private investigation. For me, the coincidences gave me a deeper look into the mystique of our lives. And to think that having favorite numbers would put me on the path of questions and answers. Be curious and give it some thought. Do you have favorite numbers?

#### pass it on. I can't recall the phone exchange, but her numbers were 4922. It was easy to remember and amazing as well. Especially because the SAME number was miles away at my other grandmother's. It was her home address! How often did something like this happen.? Exact numbers for two different necessities and randomly assigned to two different households for two forms of iden-

## I Believe

by Daniel Taddeo

Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later. Ask God each day to give you the thoughts, words, and actions to help you along the way. Be to other's virtues very kind; be to their faults, a little blind. Correction does much; encouragement does more. Healthy relationships require clear boundaries.

Hymns of praise remind us that God is as close as the sound of our voices singing together. If there is something in our life keeping us from hearing God, we should confront it. If we think something is mean and hurtful, think how the person on the receiving end feels. Immorality is "trending." The negative consequences are becoming more and more prevalent.

Kids need a hero. There is no one more suited than a close, caring, and loving adult. Many young "gamers" choose video games over friendships. May we express God's love to the people around us every day. Never wrestle with a pig. You both get all dirty and the pig likes it. No one is defeated until he or she starts blaming someone else. Nothing is of more importance for the public welfare than to form and train up youth in wisdom and virtue.

People are much more important than things. Sin (evil) has diminished the value of human life, but God's love deems it priceless. The gift of eternal life is ours today. It includes God's love, forgiveness, and new life. The way we live our lives is directly related to our established goals.

Tolerating what is destructive (wrong) does not make it constructive (right). We are called to love and serve others, but above that, we are called to love and serve God. We can do away with the negative thought only when we replace it with a positive thought. We can only make a first impression once! We have to move forward to have a chance to experience the victory. When we admit our wrongs, it is as if a weight is lifted from us. We can breathe again normally. Without taking chances in life, one is always left to wonder about what could have been.

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?

# FAITH COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

#### **Christ the Saviour American Orthodox Church**

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

#### **All Faiths Pantry**

P.O. Box 34239 Parma, OH 44134 216-496-4329 allfaithspantry.org

#### **Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

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

#### **Divinity Lutheran Church**

11877 Blossom Ave. Parma Hts., OH 44130, 440-845-2060 www.divinitylutheran.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

#### Parma Christian Church

7000 Ridge Rd., Parma, Ohio 44129, 440-842-1614 www.parmachristianchurch.org





# **NEIGHBORHOODS**

# Parma Heights: Home To An Award-Winning Artist

by Rick Haase

Parma Heights artist and the driving force behind the Greenbrier Art League, Susan Kiedio, won the 2018 Grand Prize from the Ohio Watercolor Society (OWS) -- the Gold Buckeye Leaf Award. Her winning artwork, a piece entitled, "The Ring," was featured on the cover of the latest OWS magazine. It can also be seen on the groups' website home page.

# Visit www.ohiowatercolorsociety.

The purpose of OWS is to advance the stature of watercolor as a major painting medium, to assist in the education of Ohio residents in the area of aqueous painting, and to foster a greater appreciation and interest of both the individual artist and the general public.

To accomplish these goals, the Society sponsors an annual juried exhibition, watercolor workshops, critiques, demonstrations and lectures, and publishes a newsletter which contacts, informs, and shares interests and efforts in the field of aqueous painting.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS** -- It's hard to believe, but the holidays are almost once again upon us.

The City of Parma Heights Tree Lighting Ceremony will begin at 5 p.m. Sunday November 25 at the Gazebo on Pearl Road in the Greenbrier Com-



Susan Kiedio is an award-winning watercolor artist from Parma Heights who heads up the Greenbrier Art League.

mons complex.

The Parma Park Elementary School Choir will provide holiday music, and the Vineyard Church will have hot chocolate for everyone.

Santa himself will make a special appearance – last year he arrived in a Parma Heights Police Cruiser – and all children will have a chance to share their holiday wishes with him.

The tree lighting is free and open to the community.

THEATRE FUN - The Cas-

sidy Theatre will present the musical "Annie" from November 30 through December 16. Based upon the popular comic strip Little Orphan Annie by Harold Gray, Annie has become a worldwide phenomenon and was the winner of seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The original Broadway production was directed by Martin Charnin, with the book by Thomas Meehan, Music by Charles Strouse and Lyrics by Charnin.

With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts despite a next-tonothing start in 1930's New York City. She is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City Orphanage that is run by the cruel, embittered Miss Hannigan. With the help of the other girls in the Orphanage, Annie escapes to the wondrous world of NYC. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan's evil machinations... and even befriends President Franklin Delano Roosevelt! She finds a new home and family in billionaire, Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary, Grace Farrell, and a lovable mutt named Sandy.

For tickets call 440.842.4600.

**COMMUNITY SHRED** – The city's Service Department will host a community shred event from 9 a.m. to

Noon on Saturday November 10.

The event will take place at the city Service Garage within the Greenbrier Commons complex.

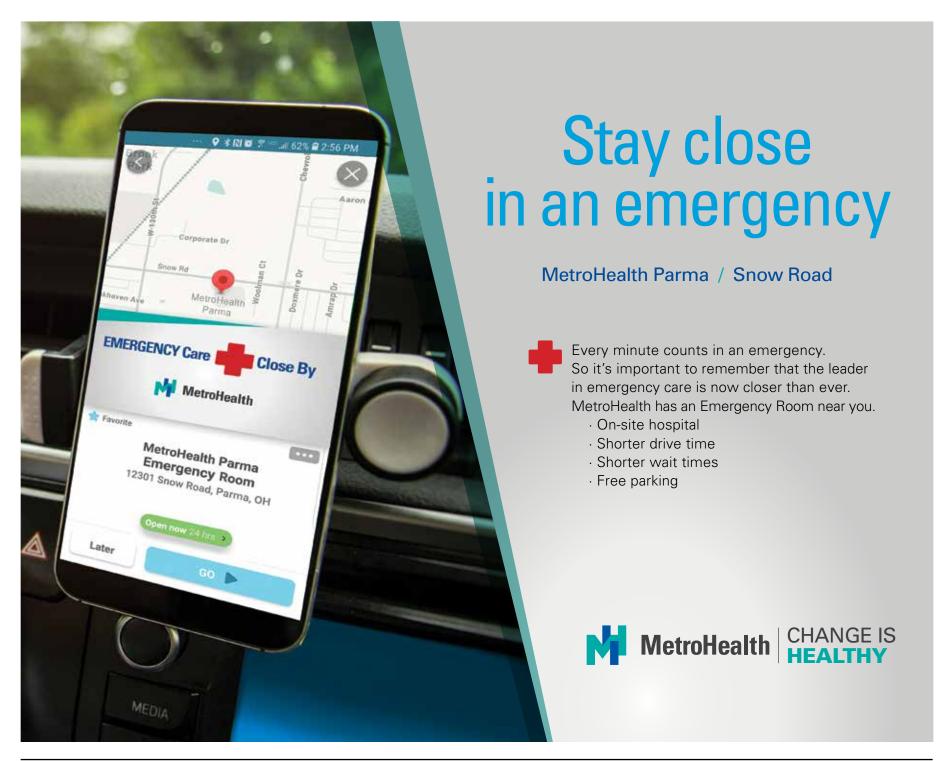
#### EVERYBODY INTO THE POOL

– Open Swim for the community begins November 13 at Valley Forge High School, 9999 Independence Boulevard. Enjoy the pool from 7-9 p.m.

LIBRARY NEWS -- At 7 p.m. Thursday, November 8, the Parma Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library will present "Migration All Around Us." A representative from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History to discuss how ornithologists study the phenomenon of migration. For some five billion individual birds, a trip to Central or South America from North America is an essential and stunning annual accomplishment. Why do birds undertake this grueling trip? How do they find their way to wintering grounds they have never seen before?

The library will also host a program titled, "Are You Mindful of this Moment" on Thursday, November 15 at 7 p.m.

Join Dr. Kathleen Heinlen for an informative and interactive presentation on being mindful; learn the technique of slowing down the precious moments of today and embracing each and every moment.



## **PERSPECTIVE**

# A Good Lesson In Dealing With Hostile Foreign Nations From Our 35th President

by Lee Kamps

Two months ago, I visited the JFK Museum and Library in Boston. There I saw a short movie about the Cuban Missile Crisis which included conversations from the President with his generals and advisors.

In 1959, Fidel Castro had established what amounted to a rogue nation just 90 miles off Florida. He had aligned with the Soviet Union, the "evil empire" of its day. In 1961 there was an aborted invasion of Cuba that was a major embarrassment for JFK. He was only President a few months and took the advice from advisors and went ahead with the invasion, which was poorly conceived and supported.

After that failure, JFK became sus-

picious of some advice and widened his circle of advisors. Largely because of that ill-fated invasion attempt, Castro got closer to the Soviet Union and allowed them to install missiles in Cuba that could strike most of our major cities.

In October 1962 when JFK learned of this, he refused to listen to some hawks like General Curtis LeMay who advocated bombing Cuba and overthrowing Castro. Instead, President Kennedy went on national television and explained the situation to the American people. He showed a calm demeanor and outlined his strategy of a naval blockade around Cuba to prevent any ships from the Soviet Union from bringing missiles and material to construct missile installations in Cuba.

For 13 days, the world stood on the brink of nuclear war. The Soviet Union realized that the United States meant business and was prepared to exercise its power to prevent Soviet missiles from being installed in Cuba. Eventually the Soviet ships turned around and President Kennedy pledged that the United States would not invade Cuba or overthrow Castro. Both sides backed away and nuclear war was averted.

But the United States maintained an embargo on Cuba and encouraged its allies not to trade with Cuba. As a result, Cuba became a dependency of the Soviet Union. When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, Cuba was on its own. But Castro remained popular and in power.

In 1962, faced with a real crisis

President Kennedy was calm and operated from a position of strength. He made no threats. He just said what we would do and stood strong. He also understood that the Soviet Union didn't want nuclear war either. Like Theodore Roosevelt, JFK talked softly, but carried a big stick. JFK never insulted Castro or called him childish names like Trump is doing with Kim Jong Un. Nor did JFK have a bromance with Castro.

Unlike Donald Trump, JFK did not admire tyrants like North Korea's Kim Jong Un. JFK knew how to deal with rogue nations like Cuba was in the 1960s. The result was that he had isolated Cuba from the rest of the world outside the Soviet Union. There were no saber-rattling threats of "fire and fury" or nuclear annihilation. Instead JFK understood how to use our strength without bluster or name calling.

But then JFK was one of our country's most intelligent Presidents who knew how to lead a nation. Like Donald Trump, JFK was born into wealth and privilege. Unlike Donald Trump, JFK knew sacrifice and served in the Second World War where he was seriously wounded in combat. Unlike Trump, JFK never flaunted his wealth and had some empathy for the common man. Instead of personally enriching himself and living like royalty, JFK had a career in public service and regarded that as a noble calling. JFK also knew how to govern and get things done.

In short, JFK was everything our country should expect in a President while Donald Trump is showing the nation and the world just how bad a totally unfit person can be as President. Our 45th President should learn a lesson in foreign diplomacy from our 35th President. I don't expect any high schools to be named after Donald Trump after he is no longer President of the United States.

# The Real Danger

by Grayson Luna

A real danger to this country was exposed by the Kavanaugh hearings and it seems to have been completely overlooked. Had Feinstein chosen to act when she originally received Doctor Ford's letter, it could have been investigated privately and Ford's desire for anonymity could have been honored. Instead, at the end of the hearings the letter was leaked, and liberal Democrats demanded to hear Ford's testinony during which she was asked how sure she was about her memory. "100%," she replied. We were then told that her story was corroborated by other people she had told it to and that a polygraph test also proved she was telling the truth. Or so they said.

According to Doctor Ford, her claim started as a repressed memory that she recovered during couples therapy. The American Psychiatric Association issued a position paper on repressed memories in which they state repressed memories are often inaccurate and therefore, "Psychiatrists should maintain an empathetic, nonjudgmental, neutral stance towards reported memories of sexual abuse." According to the American Psychological Association, the only way to determine if a repressed memory is true or false is by corroborating evidence. The AMA agreed saying they considered recovered memories "to be of uncertain authenticity, which should be subject to external verifica-

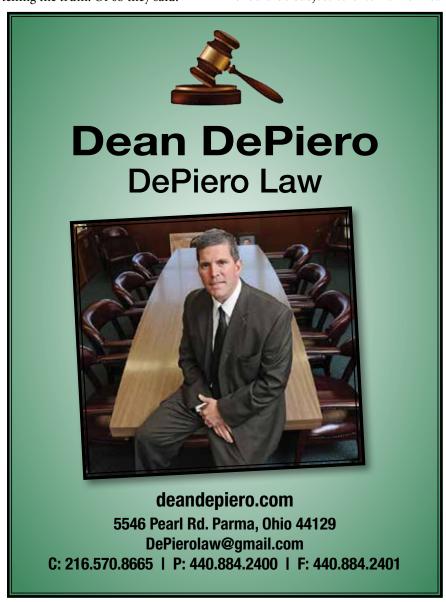
tion." And the external evidence in this case imdicated that Ford's memory was indeed false. The witnesses she remembered refuted her memory, including her best friend who said she was never at a party with Kavanaugh and didn't know him.

"Psychiatrists pathetic, nonance towards exual abuse."

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Doctor Ford would have been 100% certain when she told other people about it and would have passed a polygraph test regardless of the truth. Doctor Ford is a psychologist so, as the experts in her profession state, she should have understood that she should have external evidence before going forward. But it's difficult, if not impossible, to think logically and professionally when the subject is you so she shouldn't be faulted. However, the same cannot be said for the liberal Democrats because the evidence points to their using Ford for their

Read the rest of this article online at: parmaobserver.com







# **IMPRESSIONS**

# Child And Family Advocates Of Cuyahoga County Hires Kuivinen As New Executive Director

by Michele Blazina

Child and Family Advocates of Cuyahoga County (CFACC) welcomes Tricia Kuivinen as the new Executive Director. Kuivinen's first day with CFACC will be Monday, October 29, 2018. Kuivinen is a seasoned nonprofit management professional and licensed social worker with over 25 years of broad experience in the nonprofit sector, with a specialty in marketing, external affairs, and organizational consulting. Kuivinen has worked in a wide variety of professional capacities throughout her career, including direct clinical work and case management, advocacy and government relations, healthcare marketing, maternal health program development, fundraising, and as an independent consultant. Kuivinen launched TKConsultingCLE in 2000 to serve a variety of nonprofit organizations through consulting and project development services. She most recently served as the Director of External Affairs at Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP), a northeast Ohio disability services organization. In this capacity, she worked to create

**Foundation Awards** 



and advance a comprehensive external affairs strategy, including marketing, public relations, and annual fund campaigns, corporate and community outreach, and the creation of effective program and employment partnerships benefiting persons with disabilities. Prior to her role with LEAP, Kuivinen served as the Director of the Zechariah House in Cleveland, a transitional residence for homeless women, and as

# ties and Potential (LEAP), a northeast Ohio disability services organization. In this capacity, she worked to create Italian American Cultural



by George Mastrobuono

On Wednesday May 23rd, George Mastrobuono, and Rob Lippucci from SWIAC attended the annual awards ceremony for the Italian American Cultural Foundation (IACF) Italian Literature and Language programs, held at Padua High School, 6740 State Road, Parma. Over 40 students, parents, family and friends attended the event held in the 3rd floor library at Padua. Of course there were some good refreshments including pizza and Italian Pastries! The Library has a special section of Italian Culture related books, many of which were procured using donations from SWIAC. The Padua Italian Language program is one of the largest in the area with over 100 students enrolled.

=Padua Italian language teacher Carolina Niro, Principal David Stec, and Father Allen Dacorte, Padua President, hosted the event. Connie Sancetta, President and Jerry Polizzi represented the IACF organization. George and Rob had the privilege to help hand out the cash awards and congratulate all of the students. This year was a little bittersweet as we found out that Carolina Niro is retiring after 27 years at Padua. Congratulations and best wishes on your retirement Carolina!

IACF Literature Essay Contest and Language Awards - The IACF program has been in place for well over 20 years and SWIAC has been a sponsor for the past 20 years. The students are invited to read a book from the collection and then write an essay based on their interpretation and how it relates to their own families, traditions and the Italian-American Culture. The essays are reviewed by Connie Sancetta and a panel of local College Professors including Dr. Paola Basile from Lake Erie College. The monetary awards are designated based on the quality of writing and relation of the content to culture and literature.

The IACF also provides other separate awards to four Padua students based on Italian Language achievement in their academic coursework.

# CHILD AND FAMILY ADVOCATES of Cuyahoga County

a Community Relations Manager with the Cleveland Clinic. Kuivinen also serves as an adjunct Nonprofit Marketing instructor with the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. She has a BA in Social Work, an MA in Practical Theology, and a Master of Nonprofit Management degree (MNO) from the Weatherhead School of Management at CWRU. In 2005, Kuivinen was a recipient of the Northeast Ohio Tobacco Control Coalition's Distinguished Service Award and was also awarded the Dean's Academic Medal from the Weatherhead School of Management during the same year. In May 2007, Kuivinen was recognized in the "At Work" column of the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Kuivinen currently resides in South Euclid, Ohio with her two daughters. She enjoys travel, cooking, keeping up with current affairs, and volunteering with community-based organizations.

"We are excited about the direction of CFACC and the work we have all been doing to move CFACC forward. Kuivinen is not only passionate about CFACC but has the skills and experience needed to lead a newer non-profit organization as well as a clear and bold vision for taking the organization forward. The Board of Directors

is confident in her ability to carry out the mission and vision of CFACC," said Michele Blazina, CASA Program Director at CFACC.

Child and Family Advocates of Cuyahoga County is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The mission of CFACC is to make a difference for every child served through advocacy, education, and collaborative alliances. CFACC is searching for volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) and attorney Guardians ad Litem (GALs) to advocate for kids who have been neglected and abused. CASAs and GALs are trained and appointed by the court to advocate for the safety and well-being of children. CASAs and GALs collect information that helps the court make the best decision for a safe, caring, and permanent home for children involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. The CASA and GAL is responsible for the investigation, facilitation, advocacy, and monitoring of the assigned child's case and to represent the child's best interests.

Those interested in becoming a CASA volunteer or attorney GAL, visit cfadvocates.org to apply or call 216.443.3377 for more information.

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# AREA WIDE EVENTS

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

by Gene Lovasy

From **ODE/Ohio Means Jobs...**Designed for middle & high school students, this new tool can help determine their O The Parma Heights PACT (Police & Community Together) Youth Group....

- The group continues to be active, alive & well, meeting from 6:00 to 7:30 pm every other Tuesday at Cassidy Theater. Any child 12 to 17 years of age living in Parma Hts. or attending any school in the city is encouraged and welcome to attend. For announcements & detailed information visit their Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/parmaheights. police.
- From Ohio Dept of Education (ODE)... When older siblings use drugs, the risk for use among their younger siblings increases substantially. Go here https://tinyurl.com/Big-Sibling-Effect to learn more about the Big Sibling Effect & how to talk about it w/your kids.

#### From Parma City Schools....

- Schools in the District are gearing up for the Holidays. Visit your child's school website to view their schedule of programs, events and please show your support for those that you can.
- And, don't forget that questions or comments to Administration 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.

# From CBS Connects the district's career readiness program ...

- Learn how this PCSD grant supported program can help connect your student to area professionals as well as career & higher education opportunities by visiting www. cbsconnets.org.
- Learn more about the district's award winning Career Tech program by visiting: https://tinyurl.com/PCS-CareerTech
- For free assistance navigating the current college landscape visit the GearUp/College Now page of the district's web site - https://tinyurl.com/ PCSGearUp

From our Tri-City MyCom Youth Group...

• Our local MyCom Youth Council will be meeting on Thursdays after school from 3-5pm at the Hanna building beginning in November through and including December 20 (no meeting on Thanksgiving, 11/22). Join them for fun activities, food, discussions and planning future events and service opportunities. Bring a friend and join in!

- Learn more about the County's MyCom initiative and it's programs & event by visiting www.mycomcle. org.
- If you the families or clients you serve require food assistance, check out this calendar of west side food pantries....http://www.tinyurl.com/parmafood. Clicking on any of the Pantry names will display its hours, address, requisites, etc.
- From the Parma Area Family Collab: Interested in becoming a Community Elf for the Holidays?

Here's how...

- Please use this link to register yourself as an Elf: https://tinyurl.com/CollabElf
- Giving Tree and Santa Shop experience:
- Shop for gifts and stocking stuffers for infants to 18 years of age. Gifts should come to us UNWRAPPED please.
- Gift wrap and tape make excellent donations as well.
- Need ideas? We'll provide a wish list but be creative in your purchases!
- Drop gifts off by Friday, December 7th – Gifts can be dropped off Monday - Friday, 8:30 – 5:30 pm at the Family Collaborative, PCSD Hanna building at 11212 Snow Road in Parma
- Monetary donations and gift cards are also welcomed.
- Questions or concerns about this new way to give? Give Amanda Keeler a call at 440-887-4873- or email us at collabsupport@parmacityschools.org and we'll talk with you about our holiday program.
- Learn more about the Family Collaborative, its programs, services, events & resources available in the community by visiting: www. familycollab.com or call the Collab at 440.887.4873.
- If you know of, or are a woman 18 or older, in the midst of a transitional stage of her life, you should be aware of Tri-C's Women in Transition Program. It's a free, 8-week, noncredit course designed to help women in areas of personal development, career exploration & computer usage. Assessing financial aid resources & help w/financial literacy, health & safety issues, resume writing, interviewing/presentation skills and more

are all available along the way. Go to www.try-c.edu/wit for details.

- Collab partner, College Colleagues is offering its professional tutoring/test prep/counseling services at a discounted rate thru the end of the year. Visit www.collegecolleagues.net ph: 216.978.6524, email: contact@collegecolleagues.net
- From the Greater Cleveland Food Bank... Do you think you qualify for Food Stamps? Need help applying for Medicaid? Do you need alternative sources for fresh produce in the area? Need housing, employment, and healthcare resources? Reach out to Benefits Outreach Counselor, Devin McNulty at ph: 216-314-9871 or email: dmcnulty@clevelandfoodbank.org If you would like for Devin to come to your church? Agency? Or business? Please email her and she will be able to talk to residents/clients directly.

#### From the Parma Snow Library...

- Go here: https://tinyurl.com/ Parma-SnowNovember to display the event calendar for November.
- >> And, look for the series of adaptive programs created especially for customers w/special needs.

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

- The Homework Center is now open Two 75 minutes sessions, 4 5:15 pm & 5:15 6:30 Monday thru Thursday; for Grades K 8. Go here for more detail & to register: https://tinyurl.com/HomeWkHelp.
- Master Builders -- The third Thursday of every month starting September 20th at 6:30 p.m.; Grades 4 – 6. Are you a LEGO fanatic? Want

to tackle building challenges with friends? Bring your imagination and we'll supply the bricks. Register at: https://tinyurl.com/MasterBuilders-Sept

- Brick Builders Club-- The last Tuesday of every month starting September 25th at 4:00 p.m.; Grades K-3. Do you love LEGO? Come build with us! We supply the bricks, you supply the imagination. Register at: https://tinyurl.com/BrickBuildersSept
- Art Experiences— Sept 28th to December 14th, Fridays at 4:00 pm; Grades K-8. Engage your imaginative self with open-ended art explorations. Examine the works of art masters and explore various mediums such as paint, pastels and clay. All materials are included. Register at: https://tinyurl.com/ArtExpParma
- 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...

- Kids Café Are you 18 or younger? Get a brown-bag meal, courtesy of the Cleveland Food Bank, Monday through Friday 4:00 4:30pm.
- 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.

# Honoring Those Who Served:

# **Tri-C Holds Veterans Day Observance**

continued from page 5

the Veterans Day observance. Western Campus is located at 11000 Pleasant Valley Road in Parma. Free parking is available. Tri-C serves thousands of Northeast Ohio veterans every year through its Veterans Initiative. For more information on programs and services, visit www.tri-c.edu/veterans.



ELECT Endorsed Democratic Candidate JAMES W.

# SATOLA

For JUDGE Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas

# **AUTUMN ALMANAC**

# Mount Alverna Village Residents Benefit From New Expansion

by Patricia Sims

The City of Parma is excitedly watching the \$7 million expansion project taking place at Mount Alverna Village, located off OH-94/State Road. This premier senior living community, sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, is adding 42 memory support apartments, expanding their current rehabilitation services, and adding a life enrichment center that will open in 2019

"Everything we do is designed with the needs of the residents in mind," said Mount Alverna Village Executive Director Patrick Welsh. "We're committed to providing exceptional retirement living regardless of an individual's challenges or limitations. Our community is thoughtfully designed to help everyone—residents and associates—live joyfully."

Memory support services are being reimagined at this community. The new, open spaces are designed to accommodate residents in a home-like setting where mentally and physically stimulating activities and the latest caregiving technologies will be utilized. Highly-skilled associates will provide assistance, as needed, and ensure the environment nurtures the mind, body and spirit.

By enlarging the existing rehabilitation space, additional state-of-the-art equipment will be added to accommodate the growing need for in-house and out-patient therapy services. This will contribute to shortened recovery times for injuries, illness, or medical events, depending on individual circumstances.

The new life enrichment center will be a central gathering place for all of the senior living community's residents. Having a divisible space allows several large and small group activities to take place simultaneously. This enables everyone to stay active and engaged throughout the day and maximizes social opportunities.

"The needs of residents have changed over the last five years, and we feel blessed to continually make monumental changes at Mount Alverna Village. We're proud to provide a safe, vibrant community where personal growth and happiness are encouraged," said Welsh.

#### **About Franciscan Communities**

Franciscan Communities, a subsidiary of Franciscan Ministries, sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, provides quality senior living and compassionate healthcare services including independent living, assisted living, memory support, skilled nursing, rehabilitation services and more. Franciscan Communities owns and operates ten senior living communities in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio.



Jon Downie, Parma firefighter pictured with his Golden Retrievers, Tango and

# PetFix and Local Firefighters Team Up For Calendar

by Christie Lucco

This summer, PetFix Northeast Ohio and local firefighters, teamed up to create the 2019 Firefighters and Furry Friends calendar. This muchanticipated calendar is now available for sale and features our local heros with owned and adoptable cats and dogs. The photographs were taken by local Pulitzer prize-winning photographer Amy Sancetta. The calendar makes a great holiday gift for animalloving friends and family. All proceeds

go toward PetFix Northeast Ohio's non-profit mission of offering high-quality, affordable spay and neuter sugeries to end pet homelessness and the need for unnecessary euthanasia due to overpopulation. Show your support for our local heroes and help PetFix create a world in which every pet has a loving home, by purchasing your calendar today for only \$20 plus shipping. Calendars can be bought online at petfixnortheastohio.org.

# City And Parma Schools Partner On Youth Leadership Academy

continued from page 1

If the pilot program is successful in its first year, the Parma City School District will consider expanding it into Normandy and Valley Forge High Schools, Smialek said.

The idea of the Parma Youth Leadership Academy began when the city started efforts to enhance the Parma Youth Commission, which was conceived by the mayor as a way for local students to engage with the community. After discussions over the past few months with the city, ELA, and AT&T, the youth commission has now evolved into the Parma Youth Leadership Academy.

"We're excited to work with the school district and the city to help teach kids the soft-skills necessary for success in the 21st Century," Flo Brett, ELA Founder and Executive Director, said. "With the collaboration between the city and schools, the community will become the classroom where students can apply their skills."

AT&T, an ELA corporate sponsor, is funding the pilot program in Parma through its AT&T Aspire initiative, after observing the non-profit's success in other com-

munities. Through the AT&T Aspire initiative, people can get access to education and training needed to find and keep a great career. Since 2008, AT&T has committed \$450 million to programs to help millions of students in all 50 states and around the world.

"AT&T is honored to be involved in this collaborative project with the schools and city," said Nicolette Jaworski, AT&T's Director of External Affairs. "The Parma Youth Leadership Academy will help teach students skills important for success, and then allow them to apply those lessons in ways that help the schools and the community."

In addition to the involvement from the city and the school district, the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce will help identify speakers and businesses involved in the summer portion of the academy.

"The chamber looks for ways to align the educational needs of the area with the business community," Dave Nedrich, the chamber's chief executive officer, said. "It's a major part of our mission, and this certainly is a way to help promote both our schools and businesses."

#### Th-Th-That's All Folks:

# Tri-C Gallery West Opens Cartoonish New Exhibit

by John Horton

Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) will showcase the bold, colorful and humorous creations of three regional artists during a monthlong exhibit now on view at Western Campus. The exhibit runs through Nov. 21 at Gallery West, located on the second floor of the campus library. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The exhibit is titled Th-Th-That's All Folks. It features the work of Leslie Edwards Humez, a 3D pop-surrealist; George Kocar, an over-the-top painter of social satire; and Scott Pickering, who has left his colorful mark on buildings around Cleveland.



Artwork by George Kocar

Free parking is available at Western Campus, located at 11000 Pleasant Valley Road in Parma. For more information, call 216-987-5322 or visit www. tri-c.edu/gallerywest.

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