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

# UH Parma Medical Center Celebrates 60 Years As A Cornerstone Of The Community

by CJ Sheppard

Sixty years after opening as a 200-bed, six-story hospital on Ridge Road, University Hospitals Parma Medical Center is celebrating its anniversary in 2021 by concluding its largest construction project in the main hospital building in three decades. The Surgical Services renovation and expansion will be completed this year, a \$27.5 million underscores project that UH Parma's commitment to remaining a cornerstone of the community. Its addition has changed the face of the hospital with a new modern section.

The hospital opened as Parma Community General Hospital on August 2, 1961, initiated by leaders in its six founding communities of Parma, Parma Heights, Brooklyn, Brooklyn Heights, Seven Hills and North Roy-



UH Parma Medical Center opened as a community hospital in 1961, with six stories and 200 beds. Now part of the University Hospitals health system, the hospital has grown to 321 beds, and has an

alton. "Parma Hospital was conceptualized in the late 1950s because the growing southwestern suburbs needed accessible, convenient and reliable medical care," states the 1986 annual report marking the hospital's 25th anniversary. "Through careful nurturing... it developed into the institu-

tion we know today."

By becoming part of the University Hospitals health system in 2014, this community hospital's services and quality initiatives have only been further enhanced. UH Parma recently became a Level III Trauma Center and is also a Primary Stroke Center.

# COMING Surgery Expansion

outpatient center and four medical office buildings. A \$27.5 million expansion of Surgical Services is expected to be completed this year.

Patients travel from beyond the hospital's primary service area for services like hyperbaric oxygen therapy at the Wound Center, sleep studies at the Sleep Center, and weight loss expertise from the Barcontinued on page 2

# A Message From The PCSD Superintendent

by Charles Smialek

Our Parma Schools continue to be busy, even in these summer months! We hope that many families will attend our Movie Nights at Byers Field, which will occur each Thursday in July at 8:30 PM. Admission is free and you can find the movie titles on our website.

As we look forward to the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to build upon the successful programs we initiated in 2020-2021. Parma Virtual

Learning Academy continues to be an option for families that prefer the "learn from home" model of teaching and learning. ACES will expand the number of students with autism that it serves, ensuring that more children can find the education they need within our schools, taught by our talented teachers. Further, Kindergarten Launch Academy will enter its second year, providing a two-year kindergarten experience to our **continued on page 10** 

## Seven Hills Continues To Soar

**Script Parma Picture of the Month** 

This month's script Parma picture of the month was submitted by

Samantha Schnell. The picture includes her little daughter Char-

lotte. Samantha will receive a gift card courtesy of Rookies Sports

Wash. Pictures can be emailed for the monthly contest to Parma

com. Be sure to include your name and address.

Bar and Grill, as well as a free car wash courtesy of Sgt. Clean's Car

City Council President Sean Brennan at councilmanbrennan@msn.

by Kristin Saban

Seven Hills Continues to Soar. It would be an understatement to say that the first 18 months of Mayor Biasiotta's Administration was anything less than a whirlwind. While Covid 19 dominated the news cycle, the Mayor's vision and plan for the continued growth of Seven Hills was still being realized. From economic

development to a creative new plan for our parks and recreation, this administration has accomplished a great deal.

Economic development and fiscal responsibility continues to be Mayor Biasiotta's forte'. It was a core tenet of his campaign and he is surpassing his promises to residents of the city. The opening of the first Meijer in Cuyahoga County has had the city buzzing with excitement. More importantly, the project brought more than 350 new jobs to our community. We also welcomed Konica Minolta and Vitalia Rockside to our city. These projects will bring approximately \$600,000 a year in city income tax revenue. Additionally, we celebrated the groundbreaking of the Regional Headquarters of Eric Bank.

Safety and service have been two other priorities for this administration. We added 11 part time firefighter/paramedics and have ordered a 2021 Sutphen fire engine that will replace our 24 year old engine. The city also signed up for the Home Heritage Program. In the inaugural year of this program, 28 families participated and received project assistance valued at \$674,450. The site visits are free and the cost to the city to participate in the program was only the postage to send the letters. Moreover, we are extraordinarily excited to embrace fun once again with friends, family and neighbors. The 2021

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## **Recycling Is Easy!**

by Mike Byrne

As a Cuyahoga County Recycling Ambassador, I wanted to share with you that recycling is easy in Parma Heights and Parma and having a cart just for recyclables makes it even easier!

During our training to be recycling ambassadors, we participated in a virtual visit at a Materials Recovery Facility in Oberlin to see firsthand how recycling works and I wanted to share some tips with you about what can and cannot be recycled as well as the proper way to recycle.

First, all items in your recycling cart should be loose, rinsed, empty, clean, and dry. Do not bag



Erin Lally, Assistant to Parma Heights Mayor Mike Byrne recyclables and/or place bags in your cart. It may seem obvious, but do not put garbage in your recycling cart. Garbage includes greasy pizza boxes or anything **continued on page 4** 

oage 9

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

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

## The President's Corner

by Sean Brennan, Parma City Council President

One evening in June, my wife and I attended a fundraiser at Mount Alverna Village, a senior living community on top of State Road Hill. While there, I spoke with a young man who was surprised to learn in our conversation that Day Drive is named after former Mayor James W. Day. My wife and I had the honor of dining with James W. Day II and his lovely wife Linda, which is how we happened on the subject. This article is dedicated to educating those who may not know after whom some of our streets are named in Parma. I credit much of the information in the article to my friends former Mayor Day and his son Jim, as well as The Best Kept Secret of Parma by Robert Horley (1998).

**Stanfield Drive:** Dedicated Overlook Drive in 1927 – City council renamed the street in 1932 after



dentist and Mayor Richard F. Stanfield who served from 1926 to 1927.

Johnson Drive: Dedicated 1964

– It was named after Mayor Frank
D. Johnson who served from 1927 to
1934.

Fleger Drive: Dedicated 1973



Me (far left), Mayor James W. Day, Mayor Gerald Boldt, and Mayor Dean DePiero at the groundbreaking ceremony for Fire Station 1 on Pearl Road. What an honor this was for a history teacher!

- It was named after Parma's first Democratic Mayor Anthony Fleger who served from 1934 to 1935. He also served in the Ohio House of Representatives and was also elected Parma's first Congressman in 1936.

Reichert Road: Dedicated 1957 – Former Mayor Roland Reichert who served from 1936 to 1942 and 1946 to 1949 is the namesake for this street. He also served as judge on Parma Municipal Court from 1962 to 1965 when he passed.

Augustine Drive: Dedicated 1957 – This street was named to honor Mayor Sylvester Augustine who served from 1942 to 1945 and 1960 to 1961 when he died in office.

Stary Drive: Dedicated 1964 – Former Mayor Lawrence Stary is honored with this street. He served from 1950 to 1952.

Zona Lane: Dedicated 1957 – Mayor Stephen A. Zona served from 1952 to 1958. He also served as a state legislator and Parma Municipal Court Judge. In all, he served the people of Parma for 39 years.

Kader Drive: Dedicated 1958 – Named after Mayor Joseph Kader, Sr. who served from 1958 to 1959. His daughter Jean is the wife of former Mayor Gerald Boldt whom I am happy to report both still reside in Parma.

**Bobko Boulevard:** Dedicated 1958 – Mayor John A. Bobko had been serving on city council when Mayor Augustine passed away in 1961.

Day Drive: Dedicated 1958 – As mentioned before, this street was named in honor of former Mayor James W. Day who served our community from 1962 to 1967. Mayor James Day Park, formerly Nike Park, is also named in his honor.

Parma has had five more mayors since Mayor Day. As of this writing

none have had streets named in their honor. However, Petruska Park was named in honor of former Mayor John Petruska who served from 1967 to 1987. Further, Ries Park is named after Mayor Michael Ries who served from 1988 until his death in 1994. Mayor Gerald Boldt served from 1994 to 2003. Dean DePiero served from 2004 to 2012. Finally, Mayor Timothy DeGeeter has been serving since that time. Incidentally, there is not a street named after Parma's first Mayor John F. Goldenbogen who served in 1925.

For those of you who remember some of this history, I hope this gave you a nice walk down memory lane (pun intended). For those of you who did not, I hope you enjoyed learning something new about your community. Happy 245th birthday America! God bless!



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# **UH Parma Medical Center Celebrates 60 Years As A Cornerstone Of The Community**

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iatric Surgery, Metabolic & Nutrition Center. UH Parma also was among the busiest in the 23-hospital UH system (which includes five joint-venture hospitals) in caring for COVID-19 patients throughout the pandemic.



UH Parma is licensed for 321 patients. The hospital campus is comprised of a nine-story main hospital, four medical office buildings and an outpatient center. "If you have the services the community needs, your patient base will keep expanding," says Robert George, MD, one of the first internal medicine physicians on the original medical staff. He recalls the excitement buzzing around the planning and construction of the hospital on Ridge Road that would become a cornerstone of the community. "It's been the honor of my life to have been a member of the founding medical staff and part of this hospital's history," adds Dr. George, who with his late wife, Christine, were active philanthropists for the Parma Hospital Health Care Foundation. They supported many initiatives at the hospital, with their largest gift benefiting nursing education.

To support the continued work of the UH Parma to foster the health and wellness of the community, go to www. UHgiving.org/Parma.

## **HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

by CJ Sheppard

University Hospital's Parma Medical Center has been officially designated by the State of Ohio as a Level III Trauma Center after a successful evaluation from surveyors from the American College of Surgery's Verification Review and Consultation Program. Level III trauma centers can provide care to the majority of patients sustaining minor to moderate injuries and can promptly assess and stabilize those with severe injuries requiring a higher level of care prior to transfer to UH's Level I Adult and Pediatric Trauma Center at main campus.

An estimated 85 percent of injured patients could be treated at their local community hospital if it is certified for trauma care, according to national statistics, said David Linz, MD, Trauma Medical Director, UH Parma Medical Center. Dr. Linz is among four trauma surgeons at UH Parma. In addition, nurses in the Emergency Department, ICU, Surgery and post-surgical recovery floors have received specialized training in trauma care. UH Parma Medical Center also is certified for stroke care by The Joint Commission and chest pain by the American College of Cardiology.

"This is a huge milestone for both the medical center and the community," Dr. Linz said. "Any injured patient can now rest assured that they are being cared for in a hospital with highly trained staff that is certified in trauma, in addi-

# **UH Parma Medical Center Officially Designated As A Level III Trauma Center**



Trauma Coordinator Jack Myers, RN, and Trauma Medical Director David Linz, MD, in one of the trauma rooms in the Emergency Department at UH Parma Medical Center.

tion to chest pain and stroke care. This is the culmination of more than two years of dedicated work by UH Parma's health care providers, with essential support from the UH health system."

## A Level III Trauma Center is noted for:

- Continuous coverage by general surgery
- Access to multiple specialties, including surgeons who can cover orthopedics, neurosurgery, tho-

racic and ENT

- Ability to manage the majority of injured patients
- Active prevention outreach with referring communities
- Continuous trauma education for nurses, physicians and allied health care workers
- Transfer agreements with Level I and Level II trauma hospitals for patients that exceed its patient care resources

"It is an absolute honor to be the

first-ever ACS-accredited trauma hospital in the city - a huge benefit to our patients and first responders in the communities we serve," says Jack Myers, RN, Trauma Coordinator at UH Parma. "This upgrade in emergency services gives us the ability to keep more patients closer to home, providing more personalized health care and enhancing our already robust complement of comprehensive services. Being a Level III Trauma Center also allows our EMS to return more quickly to serving our residents and responding to 9-1-1 calls."

Patients with more severe injuries can be stabilized before transfer to Level I adult and pediatric trauma centers at UH Cleveland Medical Center or UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, respectively. Across the UH system, Level III trauma centers are in operation at UH Geauga Medical Center in Chardon, UH St. John Medical Center in Westlake, UH Portage Medical Center in Ravenna and Southwest General Health Center in Middleburg Heights.

UH, along with the Cleveland Clinic and MetroHealth Medical Center, is a member of the Northern Ohio Trauma System, which coordinates trauma care across Cuyahoga County and the surrounding seven-county region.



# When emergencies happen, close-to-home care you can count on.

UH Parma Emergency Room is now a Level III Trauma Center.

As soon as you enter the emergency room at UH Parma Medical Center, you are immediately connected to all the advanced care and services that University Hospitals has to offer.

And, whether you are treated and released or require hospitalization or surgery, our ER is located on the campus of a full service hospital so we're right there for you, every step of the way – without the inconvenience and added stress of an ambulance transfer.

For more information, visit **UHhospitals.org/ParmaER**.



7007 Powers Boulevard, Parma

## **HE TRI-CITY AREA**



Plaque in Parma Hts. Cemetery noting the site of the first log cabin school.



Now that's a June strawberry!



What is left of old Stumph Rd. In the early 1960's Stumph Rd. was widened and slightly relocated, leaving this old section to become overgrown, but still walked on by many.



Ward 2 Safety meeting held at Coumncilwoman Debbie Lime's residence.



Ward 8 safety neeting held at the residence of Councilman Alan Divis.



Ward 8 safety meeting with Councilwoman Linda Kohar at Ridgewood Lake pavillion.



Uh oh- bad sign for long closed James E. Hanna Elementary School. Buzzards (turkey vultures) grouping on top of the chimney in June.



A Great Blue Herron in Ridgewood Lake in Parma

## **Recycling Is Easy!**

#### continued from page 1

that has food on or in it.

The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District is the best resource for accurate recycling information. Their website is: CuyahogaRecycles.org. If you have a question about a specific item, use the dark green "What Do I Do With?" search bar at the top of every page of the website. There is also information posted specifically for each city.

#### Here are some tips from Cuyahoga **Recycles:**

Glass, metal cans, cartons, paper (junk mail, newspapers, magazines) and flattened cardboard (cereal boxes, packaging) can be added to your recycling cart. Please empty, rinse, dry and replace lids and caps.

You can recycle plastics, but not all plastics. Plastic bottles and jugs can be recycled. This includes milk jugs, water bottles, empty bottles like shampoo and laundry detergent (anything with a neck). You can also recycle plastic tubs such as yogurt, sour cream, and butter.

Do not wishcycle. "Wishcycling" is adding things to your recycling that you think should be recycled like plastic strawberry containers or take-out Styrofoam containers. Tanglers such as ropes, chains, or garden hoses also do not belong in your cart. Adding things that don't belong contaminates your cart and defeats the purpose of recycling.

Every city hosts special recycling events throughout the year which can be found on the city websites as well as on CuyahogaRecycles.com. The City of Parma Heights is hosting the following events at the Parma Heights Service Garage from 9am-Noon:

Community Shred: July 24 Household Hazardous Waste Col**lection:** August 14

Recycle Your Computer: August 28



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- Been attacked by a dog?
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If you have suffered the loss of a loved one, our office will promptly handle the estate for you. There is no charge to discuss a probate matter with us.

#### WRONGFUL DEATH If you have suffered an injury or the loss of a loved one due to

someone else's negligence, you and/or your family may be entitled to compensation. Call us for a free consultation.

#### **AUTO ACCIDENTS**

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## PARMA, PARMA HEIGHTS AND SEVEN HILLS

**#PCSDProud** 

## **Congratulations 2021 PEA Award Winners!**













by Amy Popik

Every year, the Parma Education Association honors three exceptional PCSD employees for their dedication, passion and service by naming Educator of the Year, Special Educator of the Year and Helping Hand Award winners.

The 2021 Educator of the Year is Sara Good, a fifth-grade STEM Teacher at Greenbriar Middle School.

"I feel blessed and humbled to be given this honor by my peers," Good expressed. "I get to work and grow with talented colleagues, all who teach me something that makes me a better educator. It is with their contributions to the profession that I share this recognition."

Good has been with the district since 2005, first hired as a math coach, and has taught math for the past five years at Greenbriar Middle School.

"It's difficult to articulate why I have a passion for teaching; it is all I've ever considered doing," she shared. "I guess it is a few favorite teachers of my own who inspired me to teach. Once in the profession, it was a perfect fit. It challenges me, no day or year is ever the same, and I get to collaborate with others to solve important problems--how to inspire young people in the most relevant ways."

Good added that her favorite part of teaching is learning something new each day. She also said her students always impress her and keep her young in mind and spirit.

This school year has been full of uncertainties and a lot of adaptations, but Good and her students stayed positive.

"There are too many favorite memories this year to count," she reflected. "I would have to say my favorite memories all took place after March 22. It is immeasurable how much humans can accomplish when together face-to-face. We ended the school year with a much-needed

carnival in which STEM learners designed carnival games to teach others the science of force and motion."

Good shared that after this year, she has a "renewed appreciation for the profession."

"We all have our exhausting days and may have dreamt of what it would be like to have some peace and quiet," she remarked. "Now we know! But that 'quiet' comes with more computer monitors and less of the human interaction that used to exhaust me. I welcome that exhaustion any day!"

The 2021 Special Educator of the Year is Jessica Smalheer, Intervention Specialist teaching kindergarten and first-grade inclusion at Pleasant Valley Elementary School.

"I am honored to accept this incredible award," she shared. "I work with some of the best educators, so to be singled out and recognized, is an incredible feeling."

Smalheer has been with the district for eight years and has always had a passion for teaching.

"My goal is to have a positive impact on all my students and their families while teaching them strategies to be successful," she expressed "I try to make learning fun to keep the children interested and excited and I am always researching new ideas to achieve this."

"I love to see the look on a child's face when they have succeeded with academics, behavior, or both," she further added. "I love watching my students grow from the beginning of the year until the end of the year. I feel that there is never a day that is the same as the last as we face a new adventure or challenge ahead of us."

Over her past 20 years of teaching, Smalheer said this year was the most challenging, not just for her, but for her fellow teachers, parents and students. She believes everyone has grown through the challenges and even thrived.

"I feel that Parma City Schools has an amazing group of teachers and support staff who work hard each and every day to make a difference in the lives of our students," she reflected. "I have been very thankful for all the co-teachers I have worked with as we have built a classroom of lifelong learners. I am looking forward to many more successful years of teaching ahead of me!"

The 2021 Helping Hand Award Winner is Elizabeth Wilson, Special Education Assistant for kindergarten and first grade at Pleasant Valley Elementary School.

"I feel surprised and honored to have received the Helping Hand Award," she expressed.

Wilson has been with the Parma Schools for eight years and was motivated to work in education after her own schooling experience.

"When I was younger, I struggled a little bit at school and I had no connections to the teachers I had," she shared. "I want to be that connection for the children, so they know that I can help them whenever they need it."

Wilson said her favorite part of her job is making connections with her students and watching them grow.

"To see the excitement in their faces when they accomplish something is pretty amazing," she described. "My favorite part of this year is when we returned to school in person. It was so awesome to see how excited and eager the kids were to be there."

For the future, she said she wants to continue to learn and grow with her colleagues.

"In the years I have been doing my job, I have had the pleasure to work with some really incredible teachers and staff," she remarked. "I am always continuing to learn and grow from these amazing and passionate individuals."

#### **Summer Movie Nights at Byers Field**

Join us every Thursday night in July for a movie at Byers Field, 7600 Day Drive! Free Admission - movies start at 8:30 p.m.

Bring your family and friends along with lawn chairs or blankets to sit on Byers Field as we show the feature film of the week on our scoreboard!

Sponsored by the Parma City School District, Seven Hills Parks and Recreation Department, City of Parma Parks and Recreation Department, and the Parma Heights Parks and Recreation Department

July 1: The Croods: A New Ag

July 8: Dolittle

July 15: Onward

July 22: A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

July 29: Toy Story 4



## **MOVIES START AT 8:30 PM**

JULY 1 ---- THE CROODS: A NEW AGE

JULY 8 ---- DOLITTLE

JULY 15 --- ONWARD

JULY 22 ··· A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

JULY 29 ··· TOY STORY 4

#### **PARMA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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## Inspiration

## Erin Lally Recognized As Cox Communications 2021 Super Mom

by Jeff Lavery

Throughout the past year, the pandemic has made navigating life's many hurdles even more challenging. For women who were already juggling careers, kids, and households, being thrust into the role of educator while still being relied upon as a homemaker created significant burdens for moms everywhere. That's why Cox Communications decided to enlist the support of the communities it serves to recognize deserving mothers with a \$1,000 prize for the many ways they improve the lives of everyone around them by announcing the first-ever Super Moms campaign, just in time for Mother's Day.

The request for nominations across the company's Northeast footprint led to a surge in suggestions of deserving mothers. With no shortage of deserving candidates, Cox enlisted the help of its employees



to assist with judging. The winners all shared many qualities, including managing a challenging job; caring for children and loved ones; and still devoting themselves to their community and their friends and neighbors, even with spare time in short supply.

In Ohio, Cox recognized Erin Lally of Strongsville, nominated

by Parma Heights Mayor Michael Byrne. Mayor Byrne cited Erin's commitment to raising a family with five kids, while also volunteering through her church's youth ministry program, working in person at City Hall every day since the pandemic began, and juggling all of the sports, music, and schooling-related activities that comes with five children.

Erin and all of the winners across Cox's Northeast footprint will receive a \$1,000 award to help with everything from paying down expenses to replacing lost income due to a spouse's work injury. Winners were informed via Zoom meeting joined by their nominator,

friends, and local Cox representatives.

"As many of us know on a deeply personal level, mothers do far more than they are ever given sufficient credit for," said Rob Brill, market vice president, Cox Communications. "We were excited to launch this campaign with the goal of shining a light on the unsung heroes in our lives who do so much to contribute to their communities through hard work and selflessness that knows no bounds. Happy Mother's Day to the moms in our midst and thank you for all that you do."

## Carpe Diem

by John T. Allender

There is something that I've found to be true. In 2016 I experienced a life altering accident in which I nearly lost my life. I don't want to get too far into the details, but I lost my legs and broke my neck, among many other extensive injuries. From the time of my accident to now, approximately 5 years later, I've experienced the absolute goodness in people. From my family, friends, friends of friends, acquaintances and people I didn't even know. Doctors, nurses, therapists, counselors- all willing to help, financially, emotionally, physically, etc. Being struck by an uninsured motorist, I was left devastated in every way.

In these uncertain times of chaos, casual violence, widespread corruption and seemingly abundant anxiety, it's good to know there is an endless supply of good people all around in networks that extend like a spider web across the entire planet. So take stock in your people, because your friends and acquaintances, even though they may not know each other, literally blanket the earth and are only one call or text

Remembered

**Expressions** 



John Allender

away when you need them. The goodness of their hearts respond with love and comfort, often just when you need it the most. Believe me, in the past 5 years I have experienced firsthand the joy of knowing love and kindness bestowed upon me from wonderful caring people. Try to never forget that the vast majority of people are indeed good. Don't hesitate to help a friend, a friend's friend, or even someone vou've never met. Some day that could very well be you.

\$75.00 Off Your Order!

## **Faith Community Directory**

#### 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. Bethlehem Luther an Church Parma.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.ridgewoodumc.org

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

July 18, 2021

## **Gibbs House 101st Anniversary**

by Kathryn Mabin

Stearns Homestead is a 48 acre jewel located in the center of Parma, at 6975 Ridge Road. It was the last working farm in Parma. It was purchased in 1980 from the Gibbs Family by the City of Parma to preserve this unique historic remnant of Parma's heritage.

Stearns Homestead consists of two houses, Stearns House (circa 1855) and Gibbs House (circa 1920), a Yankee style barn built mid 1800's, loaded with antiques, a chicken coop, turkey house, pig pen and more, plus lots of live animals. There's also a Country Store that has handmade items, books, antiques, collectibles, beverages and snacks for sale. There is also a cabin built by Parma Kiwanis that can be rented for family gatherings and parties. It's also the home of the Homestead Hoofers a 4-H Club with over 50 members.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Parma Area Historical Society wasn't able to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of Gibbs House. The 101st Anniversary Celebration will be held Sunday, July 18, 2021 2 PM to 3 PM. Earl C. Gibbs was a West Side meat processor who bought Stearns Farm in 1919 and built the now historic Gibbs House in 1920. Earl and his wife Eliza raised four sons here. The family grazed cattle here through the 1970's. The Gibbs Family was synonymous with quality



meats throughout the area. Since 1980 the Parma Area Historical Society has maintained it as a working educational and historic farm. The house itself is filled with early 20th Century artifacts. Both houses are furnished and operated as museums, with tours available. You are invited to join the celebration on July 18th.

The farm itself has many animals, horses, ponies, goats, sheep, chicken, rabbits, ducks, turkeys, cats, pot belly pigs, a mini horse, and mini donkey. It's a great place to bring the kids and only is minutes from your home. Stearns offers tours, field trips for schools and organizations too. It's open to the public Saturdays 11AM to 2PM weather permitting, mid-May through October. Stearns farm animals are dependent on donations for food, bedding, housing and vet care. Visit their web page stearnshomestead.com for more information and details.



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## **PERSPECTIVE**

# **Visiting Our History**

by Lee Kamps

Wilmer McLean was a grocer who lived near Manassas Virginia. On Sunday July 21 1861, his house became involved in the First Battle of Bull Run. Wishing to escape the war, he sold that house and moved further south and west to a small community named Appomattox Court House. Then on Sunday April 9, 1865, his house was again involved in history as General Grant met with General Robert E Lee in the parlor of McLean's house to discuss the surrender of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, ending the Civil War.

Today that house is part of a National Historic Site and is preserved just as it was on that Palm Sunday in 1865 as well as the rest of that small community. Last September, I visited that site and learned quite a bit about an important part of our nation's history.

Also, on that trip to Virginia, I visited Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, our third President and the author of the Declaration of Independence. Another home nearby that I

visited was Montpelior, the home of James Madison who succeeded Jefferson as President and is considered as the father of the constitution.

This month our nation celebrates the 245th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, the date that people in the United States call the birth of our nation. That document was signed in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, which is another National Historic Site. The original Declaration of Independence as well as the original constitution are on display in the National Archives in Washington DC. I visited the National Archives with my family on a vacation in 1962. Also on that vacation, we visited the Antietam battlefield in nearby Maryland where a pivotal battle of the Civil War was fought in September 1862.

As part of a group of Boy Scouts attending the National Jamboree in July 1964, we took some time to visit Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The National Jamboree of scouts from all over the nation was held not far

outside Philadelphia at Valley Forge, another National Historic Site where George Washington and his soldiers spent a harsh winter during the War for Independence. At the time I was a student at Valley Forge High School and it was exciting to actually be at the location that gave my high school its name.

But one doesn't need to go out of state or far to visit a National Historic Site. There are many located in Ohio and some a short drive from Cleveland. One such National Historic Site is Lawnfield in Mentor. It was the home of James A Garfield, the 20th President of the United States. His presidency lasted only six and a half months in 1881. He was shot in the railroad station in Washington DC by an irate office seeker just four months after being inaugurated as President. He lingered on for two and a half months before dying in September 1881.

His house in Mentor is preserved just as it was in 1881 when he became President. Visiting there one can learn about the life and times of the last President born in a log cabin.

Another presidential home is about a 90 minute drive from Cleveland in Marion Ohio. One hundred years ago last November Warren Harding was elected President of the United States on his 55th birthday in a landslide.

He is not remembered as one of our nation's best presidents, but throughout his brief presidency he was very popular with the people. His house has been preserved just as it looked in the summer of 1920 when he was running for President. Recently a large building was built behind the house that houses a museum and library. Warren Harding was the last of seven presidents born in Ohio. His presidency was also brief, lasting only two and a half years, He died in office from a heart attack in San Francisco while on a western trip that made him the first President to visit Alaska while in office.

Visiting historic sites is one way to really learn about our nation's history and the people who shaped that history. It isn't just about the men. Not far from Cleveland, in Seneca Falls New York in the finger lakes region is the National Women's Rights Historic Site where in 1848, a group of women met and adopted a resolution calling for full citizenship rights for women. Seventy two years later the 19th amendment was ratified giving women the right to vote in our nation's elections.

So, with the nation getting out again after the pandemic, get out there and consider visiting some of our nation's historic sites. It makes for a great trip and you might learn something.

#### **Addendum to Recent Columns**

by Lee Kamps

This is an addendum to my recent columns from the past two months.

Regarding my column Profiles in Courage, Profiles in Cowardice, I wish to add a Profile in Courage to Representative Anthony Gonzales who represents the 16th district in the House of Representatives. He is a Republican first elected in 2018 and re-elected last November. When the House of Representatives voted to impeach President Donald Trump for his actions in inciting the riot at the Capitol building on January 6 2021, Rep. Gonzales bucked his party lead-

ers and voted to impeach Trump.

For that act of courage in doing the right thing, he has already attracted a Trump endorsed challenger in the Republican primary election in 2022. In an email to the people of the 16th district, he explained why he made that decision. That was an act of courage that is rare among politicians in this age. He has earned my respect and might earn my vote.

Regarding Visiting our History; one historic site nearby that I omitted due to space restrictions was one that many readers have

visited. That is the Perry's Victory and International Peace Monument on Put-in-Bay. It celebrates a naval victory over the British fleet in the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10 1813 during the War of 1812. It also commemorates over 200 years of peace between the United States, Canada and Great Britain. The flags of all three nations fly every day at that monument, all equally on their flagpoles. It is the only place in the United States where the flags of those three nations fly at the same time all the time.





## **PERSPECTIVE**

## Right And Wrong And Ignorance And Deceit

by Emmalee Luna

We often hear that the deep divide in this country is due to partisan politics. But what drives partisan politics is the loss of the simple concept of right and wrong plus a great deal of ignorance and deceit. It actually started during the Clinton administration. According to Bill Clinton, lying was only wrong for other people. For him it depended "on what the meaning of the word 'is' is." And then it spread to Congress. Prior to Clinton, when Democrats decided to impeach Richard Nixon for covering up Watergate, the Republican leadership told Nixon that what he had done was wrong and that they wouldn't support him. Consequently, he resigned. Clinton committed perjury, a felony. That had already been proven and he lost his law license over it. But when he was impeached he decided the law didn't apply to him, only to other people. Senate Democrats agreed. In his trial, every single Democrat

chose partisanship over right and wrong and voted not guilty.

Now it's everywhere. Worst of all the news media. It even sneaks into this publication. In the November, 2016, issue there was a piece that said that after the election was over we needed to "forget about campaigning and making political points" and unite behind the new president. Of course that was just repeating a Democrat talking point when all the polls said that Hillary Clinton was going to win the election. After she lost their talking point became "resist" and the author of the piece in this publication immediately fell right into line. Only a sanctimonious hypocrite doesn't understand how wrong it is to espouse what's morally right and then do the opposite.

More recently, there was a piece in this publication calling for the filibuster to be eliminated, which is the current Democrat talking point. Yet, in July, 2017, when Trump asked McConnell (who declined) to eliminate the filibuster to make it easier to get his legislation passed, there was Democrat outrage about how wrong that would be. If it was wrong in 2017, it's just as wrong now.

The pieces I mentioned were opinions, but opinions shouldn't be excused when they ignore right and wrong. But far worse is what's supposed to be factual news that isn't. My favorite example is the Washington Post's database of 30,573 Trump lies. In it, the Post said close to 500 of those lies were Trump saying he created the greatest economy this country has ever had. The Post said that was a lie because there were other times when the economy was growing faster as a percentage of GDP. But in reality an economy is commonly measured by the size of GDP, not growth, and the greatest GDP this country ever had was during Trump's administration. Besides, the greater the GDP becomes the smaller the growth number will be when taken as a percentage, and when the Post compares economies they, like everyone else, do it based on the size of GDP.

The Post also said Trump lied almost as many times when he said his tax cuts were the largest in history. The Post claimed that was a lie because they weren't the largest when taken as a percentage of GDP. That's like saying it's a lie to say 2 is greater than 1 because sometimes 2 can be a negative number.

That's just two of many examples from the Post database. Of course, it's not like Trump never told a lie. But in tracking down the so-called lies, I can't find that he told any more than any other politician. But to this day the first thing that comes up in a discussion about Trump is the thousands of lies he told. I always wonder whether it's due to deceit or ignorance. Knowingly repeating a lie is deceit; not knowing it's a lie is ignorance. In this particular case I suspect it's deceit on the part of the Post and ignorance on the part of the people blindly believing what they want to be true because of their dislike for Trump. The sad fact is there were more than enough reasons to dislike Trump without resorting to lies. But regardless of the reason, unless the deceit and ignorance stops and this country regains a sense of right and wrong we're doomed to becoming more and more divided until what happened on January 6 becomes a common occurrence.

## **Seven Hills Continues To Soar**

#### continued from page 1

Concert Series kicks off on July 9th and will run for 6 consecutive Fridays from 6-8pm. Home Days will make its triumphant return as well. The festivities will be held on August 27th, 28th and 29th. Finally, we will also be welcoming back the ever popular Farmer's Market at the corner of Hillside and Broadview Roads. This event will run on Thursdays from July 1st to September 30th between 4pm-7pm.

An important issue in every city is infrastructure. However, what sets the City of Seven Hills apart from most others is our proactive approach. A little over a year ago, this administration assembled a Water Management Task Force. In keeping with our overall philosophy when dealing with a critical matter, we identify problems, practice due diligence while assessing the problem and incorporate experts to assist



in rectifying the issues. This task concluded that we have three major components. The first is preventative maintenance to the city's storm and sanitary sewers. The second is rehabilitation of the city's storm water control measures and the third is to improve/ repair the city's existing storm and sanitary sewers. Since the inception of the program, we have completed 691,000 in maintenance and repairs with another 1.9 million targeted for 2021/2022. Additionally, the city will invest approximately 2.9 million dollars in improving our streets. Chestnut, along with 10 other streets, are scheduled to be resurfaced. In 2020, we invested \$100,000.00 in crack sealing. Crack sealing extends the life of our streets.

Finally, last November the voters overwhelmingly approved Issue 41. This will allow us to make the most visible parts of our city, our parks, into the crown jewels we deserve. We will be investing 4.5 million dollars into our parks over the next 3 years. Many of our residents have already seen some of these upgrades. We currently have state of the art LED lighting at the Valleywood ball field. If you have seen the park at night, you certainly noticed the beautifully lit flag-pole with Old-Glory hovering in center field. Walking trails, brand new playgrounds and pavilions, along with numerous other amenities and aesthetic improvements, are on the horizon.

In short, the last 18 months have witnessed quite a bit of change and improvements to the city of Seven Hills. However, Mayor Biasiotta's vision for the city transcends far past the prior 18 months. The Mayor continues to look to the future and is committed to making our city the gem



## **OBSERVER**

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

by Gene Lovasy

From The Greater Cleveland Coordinated Response to Human Trafficking (GCCR2HT):

Learn more about how the issue of Human Trafficking is being effectively addressed locally. Follow the Collab on Facebook and visit the Collab's redesigned website. While there scroll down to register for the next Human Trafficking 101 class on July 14th, or one of their Specialty Education programs, i.e.: "Understanding the Trauma of Human Trafficking" scheduled for July 28th at 7:00 pm. Clicking on any entry will take you to that organization's website. The Cleveland Hope Exchange, one I picked at random, is a small organization but is indeed doing some amazing work.

## From Cleveland Rape Crisis Center (CRCC):

If you're affiliated w/a youth group of any sort & looking for a program, check out their extensive list of Prevention/Education programs for Students. Presentations can be age-appropriate, gender specific & tailored to meet your needs

#### From Connecting For Kids....

Still looking for a camp, program or adaptive activity for your child this summer? Connecting for Kids posts all of the latest fliers and webinar information it receives from local and national providers on the CFK Flier Connection page on Facebook. To join this free group, visit: https://www.facebook.com/groups/CFKFliers. And, to learn more about what this local organization has to offer, visit their website at https://connectingforkids.org/.

From Parma Area Chamber of Commerce....

Parma Independence Day Parade – July 3, 2021

PACC Rock The Links Golf Outing – July 23, 2021

Parma City Schools Foundation Clambake – September 17, 2021

From ASPIRE Greater Cleveland....Is now enrolling for virtual AND in-person GED® / High School Equivalency, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and U.S. Citizenship classes. Register and/or learn more about this free comprehensive adult education service by clicking here: https://www.aspiregreatercleveland.org

The Cuyahoga County ADAMHS Board has a partnership with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities to assist individuals with a mental health and/or substance abuse diagnosis to prepare for and locate full- or part-time work. For more information, contact Susan Young from Jewish Family Service Association at 216.378.3404 or Gretchen Millard from Recovery Resources at 216.713.0700.

#### From Cleveland Opera Theater....

Consider attending one of three "Opera for All" free summer outdoor concerts. No tickets or reservations needed - just come bring a chair or blanket along with the family to enjoy some beautiful music in a beautiful place!

## From Achievement Center for Children/Camp Cheerful:

Consider signing your child up for PONY PALS, a program for typically

developing children ages 4 – 14. Each class is 1 hour and includes a 30-minute beginner horseback riding lesson and a 30-minute hands-on ground lesson to include topics such as safety, grooming, stable care and more! Slots are limited & filling fast. For more information contact Cory Ramsey cory.ramsey@achievementctrs.org , Ph: 440-238-6200 x225.

From Cuyahoga Valley National Park – Crooked River Exploration Camp for kids 6 - 12... check out the last of 3, 2-day mini-camp experiences: "Dive Into Water" scheduled for August 4th & 5th. Worth looking into.

#### From UH/Parma Medical Center:

UH/RB & C is inviting children from 1 – 18 to come to UH/Parma Medical Center for a free bag lunch. Each meal will include a sandwich, vegetable, fruit and milk. This summer, for the health and safety of families the meals will be grab-and-go, and eating on-site is not required. The Kids Lunch Program runs from June 7 – August 20, Monday thru Friday from11:00 – 12:00. The pick-up location is at the Main Entrance, Patient Drop-off Area.

#### From Ohio Dept of Education....

learn more about a collaboratively developed video series highlighting the importance of childhood math knowledge & skills. You can view the series of five videos: "Early Childhood Math"

For kids who love to write or want to write better, check this out: Lake Erie Ink, A writing space for youth. To learn what they have going on this summer read their latest E-Newsletter. There some neat stuff going on here. Worth a visit.

**Run For The Pierogis...** The 10 Anniversary of this area's signature run is scheduled for Saturday, July 3rd. at Tri-C's Western Campus.

#### From Parma City Schools:

Take your family to a **FREE SUM-MER MOVIE NIGHT** every Thursday evening in July. Sponsored by PCSD & the Parks & Recreation Depts of Parma, Parma Hts & Seven Hills, these movies will begin at 8:30 pm at BYERS FIELD and include: July 8th – Dolittle; July 15th – Onward; July 22nd – A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood; July 29th – Toy Story 4.

Visit www.parmacityschools.

org for the most current information regarding all things District related.

While there take a moment to view the MONITOR NL and/or current week's "PCSD IN:60".

#### From Parma Area MyCom, Southwest Community Based Svcs (SWCBS)/University Settlement:

BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR – From SWCBS - SAVE THE DATE....Watch for more information about this event scheduled for Saturday, August 14, 2021, from 10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m., location- TBD. If anyone is interested in

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

# A Message From The PCSD Superintendent

#### continued from page 1

youngest learners who need additional support as they enter our schools.

We also will engage our community again about their desires for the consolidation of our school district. All options for the future number of schools that we will operate will again be "on the table" as we continue to seek a consensus plan that can win community support in the form of a bond issue. We will communicate more about this process this fall and hold input sessions in January and February of 2022.

We are extremely excited to look forward to a return to a normal format for the experiences we provide. We are also very grateful for the patience and perseverance that all of our staff members, parents, and, most importantly, children displayed as we endured the shackles that COVID created. None of us will forget this past school year and the twists and turns that it presented. The resilience and social fabric of our entire school community, though, provides a sound foundation for us to continue to build. We hope that everyone enjoys these summer months and creates indelible memories as we eagerly look forward to next fall!

## Term Limits Essential To A Democracy

by Emery Pinter

Solving a city's many problems begins with one simple act, term limits. If our founding fathers had known that today's legislators would so forget their obligations to their constituents and assume that being elected to office was the way to almost certain permanent employment for themselves (Musical chairs from a council seat to Council-at-Large and on...) the men who wrote our Constitution might well have included term limits as a necessary part of elective public service.

Without term limits, the voters can only talk about what we want our elected representatives to do and remind them that they are there to solve problems and act for the general welfare. One can list the issues facing a city: deficit, flooding, senior care, economic conditions, deteriorated infrastructure, thriving businesses, affordable housing. Candidates talk about them and promise solutions but do little or nothing once in office. I firmly believe in term limits for public office at the local, state and federal levels, and believe such a change will have

a very positive impact.

"We the People" seem to have lost the power granted to us by our Founding Fathers. One Council member with two years to go runs for Council-At-Large, and no one can run for the Council seat because the term hasn't expired. It's my belief the musical chairs between council seats flies in the face of what voters vote on. To be blunt, "We the People" are pretty stupid for allowing this imbalanced, unfair system of election to continue. These politicians get in office and they're the ones who decide the issues. We the People need to make the change by petitioning for a ballot referendum for term limits-a flat 8 or 12 years no matter what the office. Term limitations could be the incentive needed to motivate them into performing their sworn duties in a timely manner instead of doing some this term and some the next term and so on. This system will not be fixed by those who broke it. Concerned citizens would see this as a positive reform, a necessary step to make incumbents think more about the good of their city and less about their next campaign, to open the system to more people from a variety of professions, and to make the public officials more interested in serving the welfare of their city.



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## PARMA ART SCENE

### **Parma Art Scene**

by Kathryn Mabin

Prama Artspace Gallery & Boutique, 5411 Pearl Rd is now showing a Cleveland Photo Fest Volunteer Exhibit. This exhibit opened Friday. June 25th, and includes the works of the numerous artistic Cleveland/ Parma area volunteers that worked hard behind the scenes to bring you the successful CPF Photothon 2021 events. The show will be on exhibit through Saturday, July 17th. Live music by Gamma Ray Jazz Blast will climax the celebration of another successful year.

In order to make your gallery experience more enjoyable, Prama Artspace Gallery & Boutique is bring-



ing you live music monthly, art classes such as the popular Sun Prints (Cyanotype) workshops with Samantha Bias held in June, and new is "Witchy Wednesdays", Card Readings with Mary 2 to 5PM, July 14th, by appointment or walk ins, and Card Readings with Cheryl on July 21st. Look for poetry readings, artist talks, and more in the future. Follow Prama on Facebook and Instagram, or log into their web page at www.pramaartspace.com for more details on upcoming events.

Emergence of Being, a Spirit Art Show at Holistic Health and Healing, 28895 Lorain Rd in North Olmsted is brought to you by Parma resident Mary Ford. Numerous artists have created a stunning interactive healing display of spirit and skill. You'll find works from a Grammy nominated singer (music), a published international model (short film), a tapestry weaving featured in CMA, a multiple award winning artist/sculptor, Parma gallery owner Sean Mabin and so many more. This show runs through August 31st.

## RSD - Side B Bigger & Better!

by Kathryn Mabin

RSD - Record Store Day & Rudy's Strudel Day - Side A was held Saturday, June 13th. I attended and it was a blast. Check out the video and photos on The Current Year Facebook page. Marie from The Current Year stated "It was the biggest RSD event in the world" and Matador Records even promoted it on Twitter. It was a party in the parking lot, in Polish Village, at 5580 Ridge Road. The Current Year sells new and used vinyl, music memorabilia, art, stickers and more.

Side B to be held on Saturday, July 17th, 8am to 6pm is shaping up to be even bigger, so save the date! Polish Village is the place to be! The line up includes even more Record Store Day exclusive titles, 1984 Publishing books & swag, Rudy's Strudel ready to eat pierogi pop up, Fat Head's Brewery

(with a special surprise), B&L Comics, Ridge Road Tavern, Polish Village's own Barabicu Smokehouse food truck, a Porco Lounge pop up (with Porco not yet open, this is the only place you'll find them!), Prama Artspace & Gallery pop up, Samantha Vickers Digital/Contemporary Artist & Designer, Annie Zaleski author of the internationally noted Duran Duran "Rio" in the 33 1/3 series will be doing a book signing, Cleveland band Learning Curve will be performing, noted DJ Mike-One will be spinning vinyl, Downtown Julie Brown & Chris will have a vintage (& tiki!) pop up, Elderberry Syrup by Jen will be here, caricature artist Matt, Polish Village swag & more surprise guests to be announced soon! Follow The Current Year on Facebook, Instagram for more information on additional guests and announcements!



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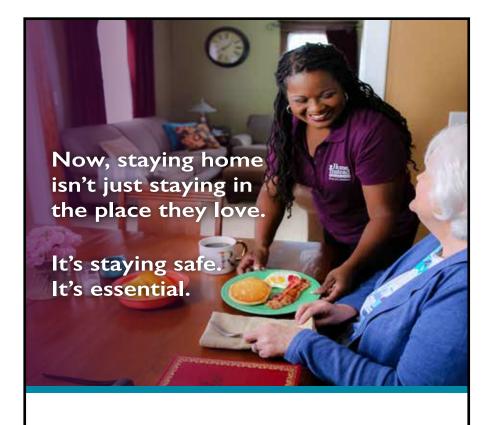
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