



Parkman Township NEWS



VOL 1 No 1 - JUNE 2004

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Editor: Lynn Komandt, PO Box 552, Parkman OH 44080-0552, 548-5636 *for newsletter items only*. For all other Township business, call 548-2904.

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Parkman Community House

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Fire & Rescue

Wayne Komandt

Fire/Medical Emergencies:

CALL 911

Welcome to the first issue of the Parkman Township News, a source for the residents of Parkman Township. We hope to bring you news and information of interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

We'd like you to help us to name our newsletter. We know there are many talented and creative residents, and we need you to call or write with your suggestions for a suitable name for our masthead. You can call Lynn Komandt at 548-5636 (leave a message if she's not there) or send your ideas to her at PO Box 552, Parkman, OH 44080-0552. We're looking for a name that will reflect well on the township, as well one that will be, perhaps, catchy and unique. The winning entry will be publicized here, and we'll put the new name in our masthead, hopefully in the next issue. If you're an artistic type, perhaps you'd like to design a new masthead also!

And if you know of a Parkman organization that is scheduling an event, we'd like to hear from you, too! We're looking for all our writers to share their words with us. Don't worry about writing perfectly. We'll edit as necessary. So let's get those pens, pencils, typewriters and computers going!

Right now, our plans are to publish quarterly, but if we get lots of response, we'll do bimonthly or even monthly mailings in the future. It's up to all of you. This is your newsletter!

Need to call a township department?

All township-related calls (except fire & medical emergencies) are now being handled at:

548-2904

ROAD DEPARTMENT RUMBLINGS

from Tom Evers, Superintendent



Summer is here! The Road Department workers are out in force tending to our necessary projects. Roadside mowing has started. *Please* use caution when approaching and passing the mowers.

Future Projects

Finish improvements to Overlook Park

Improve ditches and widen Nash Road from 168 to the Troy Township line

Please use caution and *please* slow down when passing through our work areas. Be aware of moving machinery and workers. We all thank you.

If you know someone who would like to receive our Newsletter and is not currently getting it, or if you are receiving this Newsletter and would prefer not to, please drop Lynn Komandt a note or give her a call (see info on page 1). If someone would like to receive the Newsletter and they are not a Parkman resident, the cost is \$5 for four issues (one year). Contact Lynn to get you on the mailing list.

DID YOU KNOW?

Parkman, Ohio is 1350 feet above sea level
It's approximately 5 square miles of rolling farmland



FIRE DEPARTMENT JOURNAL

from Paul (Wayne) Komandt, Chief

As Chief of your Fire Department, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of all the previous chiefs, past and present firefighters, and myself for all of your past and present support.

Your Fire Department was formed in 1946 with a budget of approximately \$5000. At that time the Fire Department consisted of one used pumper truck and 15 firemen. They responded to fires only.

Now we have two pumpers, one tanker, one grass unit and one ambulance and we respond to fires, automobile accidents, industrial accidents, residential accidents and illnesses, drownings, bomb threats and hazardous material incidents.

As you can see, the Fire Department's mission has expanded greatly in almost 60 years. To do this, the members have had to add ever-increasing training time in various areas.

To outfit each firefighter for these incidents with turnout coats, pants, boots, helmets, gloves and radios costs in excess of \$1700. Adding a self-contained breathing apparatus adds another \$1000 to the total.

Firefighting vehicles are very expensive, also. The base price of the last pumper we purchased was more than \$140,000. When we added the necessary extra equipment it was another \$100,000. By being very careful with your money, we have been able to purchase the last two vehicles without special levies. We're planning to replace our used ambulance this year with money that has been set aside for that purpose.

The one item your Fire Department could use is more active members. We would like to do a new Firefighters' Class in the fall in Parkman. If you would be interested in joining your Fire Department, please contact me or stop in at the Fire Station on a Wednesday evening.



ZONING COMMISSION BRIEF

from John G. Augustine, Co-Chair

Parkman is a zoned township, meaning land use has some regulation by a zoning resolution adopted by the Township Trustees and township residents. Ohio law requires that zoning be based on health or safety considerations so there are limitations what your Zoning Board can do.

The Geauga County Planning Commission is continually updating a model zoning resolution which townships can use as a guide in formulating their own resolutions. For some time now, we have been working on major changes in Parkman's zoning resolution to keep its structure similar to the model and to correct any parts which may be legally problematical.

Last year, the Township passed and adopted a major change in the zoning resolution related to signage. Our exhaustive resolution, prior to last year, did not allow billboards in the Township. Due to a court ruling against us declaring this prohibition illegal, we were required to allow billboards and were given time to draw up regulations. The changes in the resolution involved regulations on the size, location and other considerations of billboard use. If we had not passed this change, the use of billboards would, essentially, have been unregulated in Parkman.

We are presently in the final process of creating two new zoned areas to be used as parkland either by the Township (Active Public Recreation Zoned Area) or by the Geauga Park District (Conservation Open Space). The Park District is not subject to local zoning regulation, so these changes should have little effect on regulating land use. By having large area zoning as part of our resolution, farmers who wish to participate in the State Farmland Preservation Program have a greater chance of having their farmland accepted into the program. Just recently, two farm owners who had applied for Farmland Preservation, have been offered to be accepted into this program. I'd like to think our efforts were of some help to them. Many thanks are due to all who have worked in this effort. Special thanks go to our Township Trustee Kevin O'Reilly, whose leadership and tireless efforts have been instrumental in bringing some farmland preservation to Parkman. Now it's time for the Geauga County Commissioners to provide critically needed matching funds for the State Farmland Preservation Program.



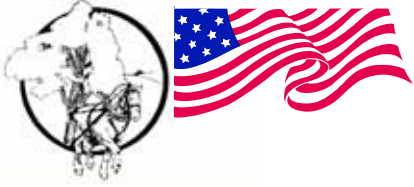
TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' NOTES

from Alan Wilson, Trustee

- After a hard winter, our Road Department is hard at work getting the Township roads into shape.
- We are having Nash and Newcomb Roads surveyed by the county for future ditch and roadwork. We plan to replace the one-ton truck with a new one by the end of this year.
- The Zoning Commission has finished the proposed zoning changes for the Parks and Conservation Open Space areas. Try to attend the public meetings and voice your opinions. The month of March was one of the busiest for our zoning inspector, John Hasman, who issued 11 new permits.
- Please note the new phone number for the Township offices (see page 1) It's 440/548-2904. You can reach township personnel or leave a voice message for the different departments.
- The Community House will be getting some fresh paint inside in the restrooms, entryway and kitchen.
- The Overlook Park baseball fields will be ready for use this year after major drainage work last year.
- The central sewer system for the proposed sewer district is moving forward. Plans are submitted for approval. Look for a public meeting early this summer to hear firsthand how this system will impact you. The meeting will be held by the County Water Resources Department. Watch for the public notice in the paper and on the Community House sign board. Come prepared with questions and comments.
- My fellow trustees, Dave Fuhry and Kevin O'Reilly, and I want our residents to be informed and involved. Contact any of us with your concerns and questions.

PARKMAN NEWSLETTER — YOUR TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

June 2004



Parkman Township

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Parkman OH 44080-0688

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U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 2

Parkman Resident

Parkman OH 44080

DID YOU KNOW?

Parkman is approximately 50 miles southeast of Cleveland
Approximately 50 miles northwest of Youngstown
And approximately 30 miles south of Lake Erie

EMS EDITS

from Dale Komandt, Captain



The EMS division of the Parkman Fire Department was formed in 1983 with three EMTs and another 13 members or residents taking the course held by the department. In November of that year, we obtained a used squad from Community Ambulance for \$5000. In August 1984, we started running a medical team for illness, accident, burns, and other victims.

We are an EMERGENCY SQUAD ONLY - we cannot pass a hospital to go to another. We are, supposedly, a life-threatening-situation squad, but we find that a thin line exists between non-emergency and life threats quite a few times. When in doubt, we must always be on the side of our patients. As members of the medical team, we do this as a part of our "Love Thy Neighbor," "We Are Our Brother's Keeper" upbringing.

And we are always looking for people wishing to take some time out of their lives to help their neighbors and strangers. Right now, our EMS section has one Paramedic, four Advanced and six Basic EMTs. Volunteers are sorely needed to help take some of the strain off these few. If you're interested in becoming an EMT, please contact Chief Wayne Komandt or any member of Parkman Fire & Rescue.