



Parkman Paragraphs

VOL 1 No 2 - SEPTEMBER 2004

Published in June, September, December and February by the Parkman Township Trustees, Parkman, Ohio © September 2004. Portions of this newsletter may be reproduced with proper credit to the source. Deadline is November 1 for the December issue.

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Fire/Medical Emergencies:
CALL 911

What a wonderful response to our first issue!! All those we spoke with or received letters from had only positive comments to make. For that, we thank you, and pledge to keep doing our best to keep you informed with items of interest about our township.

As you can see, we have a new name. Thanks go to Anna Marie Troyer on Bundysburg Rd. for her suggestion. We like the idea of the alliteration and the look of the words. Thanks, also, to Rosanne Pinter (Nelson-Parkman Rd.) and Debbie Sather (Nash Rd.) for some other great ideas.

We're still looking for input from Parkman organizations to share their information with the residents. Don't worry about writing perfectly. We'll edit as necessary. So let's get those pens, pencils, typewriters and computers going!

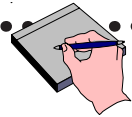


TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' NOTES

from Dave Fuhry, Trustee

Route 422 Update and Sundry Other Matters

In case you haven't followed the furor over the widening of Rt. 422 east of Farmington Rd., you should know that the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is going to
(continued on page 4)





ROAD DEPARTMENT RUMBLINGS

from Tom Evers, Superintendent

Summer is winding down. School has started, so watch out for the kids. We will be out crack sealing the 7.93 miles of blacktop roads within the next two months, getting them ready for winter. Here's a list of the cost per mile for maintaining the 15 township gravel roads for the year 2003:

<u>Road</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>per Mile</u>	<u>Road</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Cost</u> <u>per Mile</u>
Newcomb	2.82	\$11,571.02	Patch	1.12	\$2,879.28
Nash	1.99	8,668.74	Doty	.25	1,912.00
Hosmer	2.60	7,164.86	Hobart	1.61	2,318.47
Short Hosmer	1.00	3,370.90	Rutland	.50	1,824.60
Dead End Shedd	.50	4,843.50	Bradford	.99	1,424.90
Reeves	1.76	4,039.59	Payne	.52	5795.70
Agler	1.31	2,595.59	Owen	1.35	2,940.06
Soltis	1.07	3,174.93			

Please use caution and slow down when passing through our work zones. Be aware of moving machinery and workers. We want to keep our road guys safe and sound!



FIRE DEPARTMENT JOURNAL

from Paul (Wayne) Komandt, Chief

Our Fire Department has applied for various grants this year. So far, we have received two grants, both for EMS equipment and training. The first is for about \$2,100 and must be used for airway (breathing) equipment. With this money we have purchased items to assist medical personnel with airway management and vital signs. The second grant is for \$6000. It can be used for various pieces of equipment, training and other pre-approved items. We have just received this grant and are looking at how we can best use the money, which must be spent by the middle of next year.

We spent some time this Summer getting ready for the Labor Day weekend holiday. During the Geauga County Fair, all the Fire Departments in the county assist Burton with fire protection and EMS coverage at the fair grounds. There is a fire station just south of the Main Grandstand, which was built by the Geauga County Firefighters Association. The Geauga County Fair is the only county fair in the State of Ohio that has a permanent fire station. The various department man this station 24 hours/day while the fair is in progress. Hope you had a chance to stop at the fire station at the fair to look at the equipment and displays.

Now that Labor Day is upon us, many of you will be starting to do Fall cleanup in your yards. You should remember that the State of Ohio is a "No-Burn" state. Our state law does not permit burning your leaves, branches, trash and other items. There are some exceptions permitted under this law. You may have a ceremonial fire, a cooking fire, or you may burn certain other items if you are not within 1000 feet of occupied buildings off of your land. Contact the Fire Department if you would like more specifics.



ZONING COMMISSION BRIEF

from John G. Augustine, Co-Chair

In the last newsletter, I wrote about a zoning change we were working on, which would put existing parkland into “large-area” zoning. Simply put, we did this to “jump start” preserving farmland in Parkman. Farmers who want to participate in Ohio’s Farmland Preservation Program have a much better chance of getting accepted into that program if they farm in a township that has some type of “large-area” zoning. Virtually all of the land we put into this zoning is Geauga Park District land, which is not subject to zoning. In essence, this change will have no effect on how Geauga Park land is used, nor will it have any effect on private land, since no private land is in this zoning change. It will greatly help farmers preserve their farmland if they are interested in participating in the Farmland Preservation Program.

There were no objections to the zoning changes at our Zoning Commission public hearing. The Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to pass the resolution. At the Township Trustees public hearing, Trustees David L. Fuhry and Kevin O’Reilly voted for the zoning changes, while Trustee Alan Wilson voted against the changes. These would have gone into effect in 30 days. However, signature petitions were submitted to put this issue on the ballot in November, thus allowing our citizens to vote on the changes.

I am committed to protecting open space/farmland in Parkman. I feel these changes are a way to start farmland preservation without raising taxes or forcing anyone to change their land use. Please call me at home at 548-2414 anytime for more information. You may also call Trustee Alan Wilson at 548-2904.



A MASONIC LODGE IN PARKMAN

from Dale Komandt, Mason

Western Phoenix Masonic Lodge #42 is one of the oldest in Ohio and the first Masonic organization within the present boundaries of Geauga County.

In 1818, a charter was granted to Western Phoenix Lodge, and with the exception of the years 1820 to 1856, the Lodge has existed to the present time. The first officers in 1819 were: Charles C. Paine, John Scott, J. W. Williams and B. F. Avery. The meetings were held on Thursday evenings preceding the full moon, as there were no street lights to travel by. Charles Paine was a partner in Parkman & Paine General Store, Parkman.

There have been various buildings used for the meetings of Western Phoenix Lodge. These were the school building (burned down in 1845), the town hall (burned down in 1855), and the post office/shoe store (burned down in 1866). The records of Western Phoenix were also destroyed in these fires. However, the records for 1877 to the present are available.

In 1886, the Lodge entered into an agreement with two builders, Blackmann & Jones, to erect a third floor on their two-story brick building located just west of the intersection of Rts. 422 and 528. The cost was \$1300, half paid when the building was enclosed and half when it was ready for occupancy. A dedication was held on June 24, 1887.

The Masonic Order is the largest and oldest fraternal order in the world, with lodges in almost every country. One of Western Phoenix’s members is a charter member of a Masonic Lodge in Saudi Arabia. Meetings are held the second and fourth Thursdays. For more info you can call Joe Wells at 548-8085.



Are you connected?

How about getting your *Parkman Paragraphs* on-line? Drop Lynn Komandt an e-mail at heeler2000@hotmail.com. You'll need to provide your name and mailing address, along with your e-mail address. When an issue is mailed, you'll get an e-mail with *Parkman Paragraphs* as an attachment. You'll need Acrobat 5.0 or higher to download. This will save a little postage and printing cost for the Township.

Know someone who is not currently receiving *The PP*, or getting it and would prefer not to, please drop Lynn a note or give her a call at 548-5636. If you'd like to receive *Parkman Paragraphs* and you're not a Parkman resident, the cost is \$5 for four issues (one year). Contact Lynn to get on the mailing list.



TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' NOTES (continued from page 1)

begin construction on the project probably in 2007. The basic configuration for the road will dramatically change that particular stretch as we now know it. The elevation of the eastbound and westbound lanes will be equalized, so that each will be level with the other. As it is presently, there will be two west bound lanes and two eastbound lanes, but they will be increased to 12 feet and more in width, and there will be a continuous center-turn lane, also 12 feet wide. In other words, there will be five lanes total, plus berms.

While we were unable to persuade ODOT to downsize to any great degree, they have abandoned their earlier plan of adding 10-foot berms, and have agreed to scale back to approximately six feet, with possible gravel beyond the six-foot paved berm. In some spots, 10-foot berms may be required for safety reasons.

When construction is in progress, two important things to watch are that the berms are truly limited to six feet (as promised), and the type of road surface employed. The road surface is extremely important because of noise. In case you don't live near Rt. 422, you would be surprised at how noisy the road can become. If ODOT resurfaces with a noise-reflective material, the noise will grow all the more. There are different types of road materials, some which absorb sound and others that don't. Presently, ODOT plans to use concrete, which is unacceptable to many because it is noisy. Your Trustees are working to persuade ODOT to use one of the noise-absorbing materials.

Some additional notes of interest: Who will see the first bear in Parkman? You probably already know that a bear was hit on Burton-Windsor Rd. in Middlefield a few months ago, and one walked through Burton Village in June. A Thompson Township resident had a 300-lb. bear in her back yard. A year ago in June, one of the bicycle riders on the tour that uses the Community House as a rest stop reported a bear sighting not far from Nelson Ledges.

If you see a bear, we've been told not to be alarmed, as they are a lot like large raccoons and are not interested in much more than finding something to eat. Please call one of the Trustees so we will know to relay the sighting to the Department of Natural Resources. As you may be aware, we have seen the other critters slowly returning to the township after years of absence. First, deer in large numbers, then bear, wild turkey, coyote, and, recently, river otters.

Also, you may have noticed the new bleachers that the Chamber of Commerce donated for the ball diamond across from the school. We certainly encourage all who may be interested to join the Chamber, since it provides so many needed items for the township, without any charge to us, as taxpayers. And the Eagle Scouts of Parkman have built and placed the benches at the same ball field. Thanks, everybody.



NOMINATIONS FOR PARKMAN VETERAN OF THE YEAR

from Dave Fuhry, Trustee

Each year, the Township Trustees select one Veteran from Parkman to be recognized at our Township's Memorial Day Observance. Last year's Veteran of the Year was John Stanley's brother, Richard Stanchak. The family of the Veteran is presented a plaque on Memorial Day.

The Trustees are currently seeking your nominations for the 2005 Parkman Veteran of the Year. Please include a little bit about the Veteran and the connection they have/had with the township. All Parkman Veterans, living or deceased, are eligible.

Send to Parkman Township Trustees, PO Box 688, Parkman OH 44080-0688.



VETERANS' NAMES SOUGHT FOR MEMORIAL

And speaking of Veterans, Geauga County Veterans Memorial, Inc. has a mission to create and build a memorial dedicated to all Geauga County Veterans, past and present, who have honorably served the USA. It's to be located on Ravenwood Dr., next to the Senior Center, on land donated by the Geauga County Commissioners. The goals are:

- To support and develop a memorial dedicated to Geauga County Veterans
- To develop appreciation and respect for Veterans
- To promote rich historical resources of the Veterans of Geauga County
- To memorialize the tremendous contributions of the Geauga Veterans

The plans are for an obelisk which rises 30 feet, commanding attention, reverence and courage. Flags from each of the Services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine) will accentuate and stand as silent sentries to the memorial. Twenty-two trees will be planted representing each Township and Municipality in Geauga County.

Viewed from the air, the monument is surrounded by a circular path, around which six large granite boulders will set. Each boulder of granite or bluestone will exceed 10 feet in height. Plaques will then be placed on the stones with the name of each and every Veteran from Geauga County engraved on it, from the Revolutionary War to the present, in both peacetime and wartime. Over 100,000 names have been collected to date. But they don't want to miss a single veteran!

If you know of any veteran who lived in Geauga County at least five years, please make sure their names are included. Call Bernie Wells at 548-8085, Dale Komandt at 548-5636 or James Ferry at 548-3527. There is no cost to have a Veteran's name included on a plaque on the large stones.

Of course, they're looking for contributions and there are several ways to remember your Veteran. For \$50, you can buy an 8" x 8" paving brick with a message or the name of a loved one on it. This size can have three lines of up to 14 letters and spaces on each line. For \$150, you can get a 12" x 12" brick with six lines of up to 18 letters and spaces on each line. And if you're really feeling generous, you can buy a flag pole for \$2000, a large stone for \$8000, the obelisk foundation for \$25,000, a wall of barn stone for \$50,000, or the center obelisk for \$100,000!

For a form to make your contribution, you can call those mentioned above. And, of course, all contributions are tax-deductible.



Parkman, Ohio

CHAMBER CHATTER

from Sandie Parnaby

The Parkman Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1969. It evolved from the Parkman Homecoming Committee. The Homecoming Committee had been putting on a three-day festival each year, along with five dances a year. The proceeds were for building a township park and all proceeds were transferred to the Chamber of Commerce for the park fund.

The Chamber of Commerce continued the dances for many years but, unfortunately, discontinued them because of the labor involved and the lack of people to help. The Homecoming Festival ended for the same reason. Another fund raiser we discontinued was the annual flea market. Proceeds from these events were instrumental in building Overlook Park.

In December 1982, groundbreaking ceremonies were held at the Parkman Township Park on Rt. 168. The land had been purchased from Betty & Blaine Chalker with a bond levy. The five-year levy covered the purchase of the land, and the well and electric power. The levy was not renewed. The Chamber of Commerce installed the two baseball fields and, later, two small shelters. The playground was added in 1989. In 1990 the township received a grant from the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources for the development of the park. This included the large pavilion, tennis & basketball courts, ice skating rink, horseshoe pits and walking path. This was a 50/50 matching-funds grant, with the Chamber of Commerce providing the funds for the township. The park was later named Overlook Park. The large pavilion was recently named Parnaby Pavilion, dedicated to Gary & Sandie Parnaby for their work on the grant and overseeing the project.

The pancake breakfasts continue to be the Chamber's only fund-raising project currently. Without the support of the community this event would not be possible. The proceeds from the pancake breakfasts have continued the developments in our community. Projects include the Easter Egg Hunt, "Come Fly with Us" Kite Festival, the Gazebo Park, "Welcome to Parkman" signs, Christmas decorations, poinsettias & Christmas cookies for shut-ins, and donations for needy families.

Past projects no longer being presented are the Halloween parade & party, Christmas caroling in the park with Santa and the community picnic. These projects were discontinued because there just weren't enough people to help.

The Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to stop in at one of our meetings, held the 3rd Monday of each month at the Community House at 7:30 PM. We'd like you to share your ideas with us as to how we could bring back some of our discontinued projects, along with ideas for new ones. If you would like more information please contact Dave Fuhry at 548-5103.

LOOK HOW WE GROW

from John Hasman, Zoning Inspector

We've had 36 building permits issued from January 1 to June 30 of this year. Of those, 19 were for new houses and five were for accessory buildings. The others were for smaller projects.



SPOTLIGHT ON PARKMAN BUSINESS

Welcome to our new feature. We plan to introduce our community's businesses so you'll know what's available right here in our township. Have a business that you want spotlighted? Call Lynn Komandt at 548-5636.

BERG'S EYE VIEW ARRIVES IN PARKMAN

As many of you may have already noticed, there is a new business opening in the old Cromwell building located at the intersection of US Rt. 422 and Ohio Rt. 528. It's **Berg's Eye View Custom Embroidery** and we'd like to introduce them.

Owned by Berg Cvijanovic and Sijana Cvijanovic Troyer, it's a family-run business. Daughters of self-employed parents, with ambitions of being self-employed themselves, Berg and Sijana love being able to open a business in a community where they can get to know their clients and their families by their first names. Originally from Montville. Berg now lives in Niles, and Sijana resides right here in Parkman.

So "*what exactly do they do?*" The possibilities are endless, but here's a brief overview. They customize shirts, hats, jackets, bags, towels, blankets, and much, much more. They do all types of orders big or small, and have done baseball shirts for little league teams, letterman jackets for schools, and sweatshirts and tees as fund raisers for church outings and functions. They've even embroidered family trees complete with everyone's name on beautiful throws for Grandma and Grandpa at Christmastime, (a wonderful gift that will be passed down through generations). They even create embroidered quilt squares - helping to give quilts that extra something that makes them unique.

Now that you know a little bit about them, stop in and introduce yourself. The coffee is always fresh and always free, and they'd love to meet you.

Editor's Note: We understand that there's a 15% discount for Parkman residents.



**Parkman Fire Department/Amish Chicken Dinner
is Friday, October 8th!**
Call Joanie Dillon at 548-7541 for info and tickets now!
**(And don't forget our Feather Party
on Saturday, November 20th)**

RECYCLE THE RIGHT STUFF



Do you recycle at the bins next to the township garage? Do you sometimes put "other stuff" in or near the bins? Well, a little bird told us that very soon cameras will be monitoring the recycle area to catch those that insist on using the recycle bins as trash cans. Violators will be prosecuted, so let those who are ignoring the rules know that they'll be on "Parkman's Candid Recycle Camera!"

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September 2004



Parkman Township

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HELLO FROM OUR AMISH RESIDENTS

from Matt Troyer



I have been asked to add Amish news to this enjoyable Parkman Newsletter. I really don't know what most of you are interested in knowing about us, but I have heard several people say they did not know anybody could shop in local Amish shops, stores, etc. Everybody is more than welcome in any of these places. You'll find them along Newcomb Rd., Rt. 528, Farmington Rd., Parkman-Nelson Rd. and Soltis Rd. They sell bulk foods, salvage goods, dry goods and many more things, from handmade wooden toys to all kinds of tools. Check them out. You may be surprised!

Parkman Township now has 11 Parochial Schools, plus one that is just across the Parkman/Middlefield line. Most of the children at that school are from our township, so they, along with the other 11 schools, participate in hosting the semiannual chicken dinners. These are co-hosted with the Parkman Volunteer Fire Dept. The dinners started in October 1987 with a good turnout, and for a few years, were only held once a year. Due to popular demand, we decided to also have one in the Spring. These dinners are held the first Friday of May and the first Friday in October, but this year it's going to be on Friday, October 8. Parkman Parochial will host the coming dinner on October 8th. Hope to see many of you there - as I usually do.

If there is anything you would like me to write about, I'd be happy to hear from you. You can reach me at 18028 Madison Rd., Middlefield OH 44062, or give me a call at 548-5220.