

Parkman Township  
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Parkman, Ohio 44080-0688  
(440) 548-2904

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# Parkman Paragraphs

Summer 2007



## Parkman Community's Overlook Park Celebrating 25 years!

Building a community strong through communication.

Community Website: <http://www.ParkmanOhio.com>

Newsletter E-mail: [ParkmanOhio@hotmail.com](mailto:ParkmanOhio@hotmail.com)

Parkman Paragraphs is published in Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall.

This Summer 2007 issue is sponsored by the Parkman Trustees.

**Parkman Paragraphs Editor:**

Cory Anderson,  
PO Box 580, Parkman OH 44080-0580,  
for newsletter items only.

For all other Township business, call 548-2904.

**Parkman Board of Trustees**

**Township Trustees**

(meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays)  
Kevin O'Reilly  
Lucinda Sharp-Gates  
Alan Wilson

**Fiscal Officer**

Nancy Wheelock

**Parkman Community House & Overlook Park Parnaby Pavilion**

Wendy Anderson 548-2388

**Cemetery Sexton**

Dale Komandt

**Fire & Rescue**

Wayne Komandt

**Fire/Medical Emergencies:**

CALL 911

**Zoning Commission**

(meets 4th Tuesday)  
John Augustine

**Zoning Appeals Board**

(meets 2nd Tuesday 7pm)  
Cindy Gazley

**Zoning Inspector**

(Wednesdays 7-8:30)  
John Hasman

Phone: 440-548-2904 or  
parkmanzone@windstream.net

E-mails must have residents  
name and contact info to be  
officially answered.

**Roads Department**

Tom Evers

**Parkman Chamber of Commerce**

Chamber meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm in the  
Parkman Community House. We are always looking for new members.  
Membership dues are \$5 annually. Our current Chamber board members are:

Faith Kumher—President  
Cory Anderson—Vice President  
David Fuhry—Secretary  
Donald Villers—Treasurer

Our next event is the Parkman Community Picnic August 20th  
Our next meeting is Monday September 17th.

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David Fuhry—Secretary  
Donald Villers—Treasurer

**August 20th (6-9pm) Parkman Community Picnic  
Celebrating Overlook Park's 25th Anniversary!**

Join the Parkman Community as we host the 20th annual Community  
Picnic at Overlook Park. Chamber has the Hamburgers and Hot  
Dogs, Buns, Ice Tea and Water. The rest is pot luck, so bring a dish  
to share and your own place settings. This event is FREE!!

Food - Fun (Softball, Volleyball, Horseshoes Etc.) - and Community!

.....  
Our next meeting is Monday September 17th at 7pm. Due to the lack of  
interest in many of our past Community Traditions, we will be deciding to  
cancel several local events such as our annual Halloween Party. If you  
have no interest in getting involved with this community, then you will not  
miss anything. If you do however love the community you live in, then now  
is the time to become active in the Chamber and show some support. This  
group supports many local activities and we really need help from everyone  
to keep this team strong.

Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting  
and get involved with our community activities.



**Summer 2007 Cover Picture**

The photo on the front cover is from the Ground Breaking  
of Parkman's Overlook Park in 1982. This year is the  
25th anniversary of the Park. From the left are John  
Stanley, Leon Santamary, Jim Soltis, Bill Snyder, Tom  
O'Keefe, Don Villers, and George Boldue. The park was  
purchased with a 5 year levy that the residents voted for.  
Overlook hosts purchases including the pavilion with a  
fire place, picnic tables with wheelchair accessibility and baby seats, and the various  
entertainment like two baseball diamonds, tennis courts (that convert into an ice skating  
ring in the winter), horseshoe pits and playground. Support for these were from grants  
and monies raised from fundraisers through the Parkman Chamber of Commerce. The  
Park continues to host many events including our Easter Egg Hunt (34 yrs), our Kite Day  
(7 yrs), Picnics, Emergency Training and Life Flight landing, Private Parties, and more!  
**Join us Monday August 20th to help celebrate Overlooks 25th anniversary!**

# Parkman Historical Society

The Parkman Historical Society's next meeting will be September 20th 7:30pm at the Parkman Community House.

The Parkman Paragraphs and our Historical Society continue our search for any old photographs from any time frame that show the growth and development of Parkman.

## The older the picture - the better!

We only wish to electronically scan the photos so that the owner keeps the original without any harm to its condition. If you have any photos or stories you like to share, please contact Cory Anderson.

## Gates Family History

At the May 2007 meeting, Mark Dolezal introduced our guest speaker, Rich Gates. The Gates family has traced ancestors to New York State. The family were all farmers. The first residence was the Puck place on Farmington Road (now the Schloss rental house). They then moved to the first farm on left side of Nash Road in Troy Township. The farm was sold in 1946-1948. Rich's brother, Dale attended Parkman School in 1947 when they lived at the point of Hosmer Road and Rt. 528. This home was originally a church. The family then moved to Grove Road near Mumford. Gates Construction started in Middlefield on Button Avenue with three or four houses. Then they built three or four in Parkman and then on to Lake Lucerne in Chesterland. In 1959 or 1960 they bought the bottom half of the Grand River from the Electric Company (200 to 300 acres) and the top half was purchased by the Moss'. Later the Gates' purchased the Hoxter farm which squared up the property lines.

Thank you Mr. Gates for sharing your family history with the community.

## Forge Hill

How did this area in Parkman get its name?

Share your knowledge, send in a story!



Forge Hill on a dark day in January 1918

Forge Hill is one of the views that is a part of the lower land of the Electric Company's Property. The Grand River flows through this area. The area has much history, but has not changed much since this picture was taken almost 90 years ago.

# Parkman Trustees Notes

From:

Lucinda Sharp-Gates

Please note this important date:

**Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m. at the Community House** for the final Water Resources Department meeting about **sewer tie-in**. Fees, who can tie-in, who can do the trenching and when this can happen are major points that will be addressed, as well as finalized costs.

Use of Overlook Park must be scheduled with Wendy Anderson 548-2388.

Use of the pavilion and park are free to township residents. For out-of-township organizations, a fee of \$100 will be charged.

If we get some much needed rain, the Trustees have arranged for an Infinitree seedling to be planted at Overlook Cemetery, in the corner where our Eagle Scouts built benches and a trash receptacle for their community project. The location affords a wonderful peaceful spot. The Infinitree project was a Geauga Bicentennial joint project resulting in some wonderful art work displayed at the West Woods and subsequently auctioned off. Other County organizations have participated in the sapling planting.

The Trustees have had many calls about the dust in the dry weather. The spraying has been done intermittently at best, as it is available. It is a short term solution. The Trustees are putting another Road and Bridges 1.5 mill levy on the November ballot. **That levy needs to pass.** We have already begun cost cutting measures to keep the Township solvent through 2008.

Hobart Road and the ODOT project have caused much concern in the community. The ODOT representative for the project and the Karvo Company manager office is at the old Parkman Video. A traffic-speed study was done on Hobart by our County Engineer. The average speed was clocked at 40 mph. Orange (suggested speed) signs are posted for 35 mph and a four-way stop signs at Reynolds and Hobart are installed. Please understand that your Trustees must follow the rules for speed postings and signage during this next year and a half.

The Cardinal Board of Education has decided to rent out the Parkman School to help divert the costs of upkeep. The school is zoned and available to be used as a commercial facility. If you have an interest in renting this property, please contact Lucinda Sharp Gates for details or come to a Trustees meeting.

**We welcome you to our meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm, behind the Community House.**

## 2007 Parkman Youth League

From: Pat Joyce

The 2007 Parkman Youth League (PYL) Baseball and Softball season has come to an end. This year did not go by without its challenges and successes. The PYL was able to start up and run concessions at Overlook Park thanks in large part to Mike and Candie Peters. The proceeds from the concessions enabled the PYL to sponsor an end of the year League picnic complete with trophies for participants in the PYL.

The fields again were in tremendous shape thanks to Dale Holcomb, Tom Evers and Mike Peters along with many others. Both Parkman and the visiting teams enjoyed the new dugouts and there were many compliments from visiting communities on the condition of the fields, dugouts and general condition of the Park. The Yoder Tournament even held one of its divisional championship games at Overlook Park and it was a great success.

The season ended on a high note when the boys Majors (12u) team won the Southeast Geauga Baseball League Tournament Championship Game, beating the Burton Indians team 9 to 8 in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> inning under the lights at Cardinal Junior High School.

The Parkman Majors were head-coached by Mike Peters and sponsored by Mike's Auto. Congratulations, guys, on a great season! The Parkman Youth League would like to thank all the coaches, parents and other family members involved with making all this possible. We would also like to thank the Parkman Trustees for their continued cooperation and support. See everyone next year!



### BOY SCOUT TROOP 76

From: Scott Villers - Boyscout Committee member

Many thanks to all those that donated and/or purchased items at our garage sale in June! Money raised helped towards our camp expenses.

June 24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> eight boys and two adults attended summer camp at the Manitoc Scout Reservation in Peninsula, Ohio.

July activities included a troop camp-out and Middlefield Community Days. Our participation at Community Days was to build a rope bridge at the Scout Lodge as a challenge for people to walk across.

August is the only month that we take a break. We reconvene after Labor Day to kick off the new school year.

The Scouts continue to meet every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Boy Scout Lodge on Sperry Lane in Middlefield. New boys are always welcome to join us (ages 11 – 18).



## St. Edward & St. Lucy Catholic Parish Community



### Rev. John Burkley, Pastor

Rev. Harry Winca, Pastor Emeritus \*\* Rev. Mr. Greg Frania, Deacon  
Rev Mr. Don Lobdell Deacon \*\* Karen Thrasher, Secretary  
Office: (440)548-3812 Rectory: (440) 548-8091

### Mass Schedule

Masses: Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm - St. Edward 6:30pm –St. Lucy  
Sunday: 8:30am - St. Edward 10:30am –St. Lucy  
Confessions: 4:15-5:00pm-St Edward 7:15pm-St. Lucy  
Weekday Mass: 7:45am –St. Edward Chapel

### Generations of Faith 2007-2008

Parish intergenerational religious education program  
2007-2008 General Meetings are:

September 14th (6-9pm) & 16th (noon-3pm) at St. Edward  
October 12th (6-9pm) & 14th (noon-3pm) at St. Lucy  
November 9th (6-9pm) & 12th (noon-3pm) at St. Edward  
December 14th (6-9pm) & 16th (noon-3pm) at St. Lucy  
January 11th (6-9pm) & 13th (noon-3pm) at St. Edward  
February 8th (6-9pm) & 10th (noon-3pm) at St. Lucy  
March 14th (6-9pm) & 16th (noon-3pm) at St. Edward  
April 11th (6-9pm) at St. Lucy

Open welcome to anyone. Contact Parish Office for details.

### North East Community

Sunday Gatherings start at 11am (Bible Study at 9:45am)  
in the **Parkman Community House**. All are welcome!  
For more information call 440-313-1092 or check out the  
Church Website: [www.angelfire.com/tn/tnewcomb98](http://www.angelfire.com/tn/tnewcomb98)



### Casual Atmosphere - Fun Learning - Authentic pursuit of God

NEC offers many ongoing and upcoming events: The Essentials of Parenting Group begins on August 5th. A Financial Group is currently meeting to learn about God's perspectives on successful money management. Project 516 is a church project helping a single Mom in our community with unexpected but necessary repairs to her home. A group of girls will be attending the Revolve Contemporary Christian Tour this fall. For information on these events, our home groups or NEC Church, please call our contact number. We look forward to meeting you and serving you.

Tom Newcomb

## Bingo

every Monday  
starting 6pm  
in Rose Hall  
at St Edwards

All are  
welcome  
to play!

## Parkman Congregational Church

The members of Parkman Congregational Church invite the community to a FREE MEAL on the last Wednesday of each month. Upcoming meals are:

August 29<sup>th</sup>: Oriental Chicken Salad  
September 26<sup>th</sup>: Ribs & Ice Cream Bar  
October 24<sup>th</sup>: Baked Potato Bar  
November 28<sup>th</sup>: Breakfast  
December 19<sup>th</sup>: Ham Balls & Veggies



Food is served from 5-7 PM at the Parkman Congregational Church, 18265 Madison Road (Route 528), in Parkman.

Questions? Call the church at 440-548-4829. Bring a friend!

Sunday Worship: 10:15 AM  
Sunday School for all ages: 9:15 AM  
We welcome you anytime!

## 2007 Parkman Memorial Day Parade



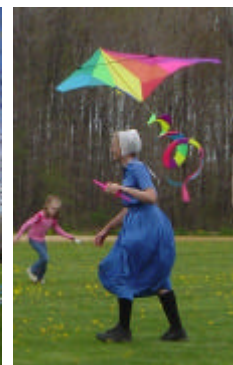
Parkman celebrated Memorial Day with its annual parade from Overlook Park to the lower Cemetery. A variety of energetic Parkman friends made the parade a success including Veterans, Cardinal Band, Kids Float, and the Parkman Fire and Rescue Team.



## Scenes from the 2007 Parkman Kite Day Come fly with us!



The 2007 Parkman Kite Day, held May 5th at Overlook Park, was another huge success. Many attended as the local winds pushed the diamonds (and various other shapes) up to the clouds. This traditional event boasts hundreds in attendance and is gaining national exposure. Thank you all for your continued support of this event! See you next May!



More pictures can be found on the Parkman Community Website under recent events.

<http://www.parkmanohio.com>

If you have a story that you would like to share with the community or would like to participate with the Parkman Community Website, contact Cory with any questions or comments. Remember that this is your newsletter and any advise or input to its direction is always welcomed. Stories, Photos, History, and Community Events are welcomed!

**Green Address Signs** - If you have not purchased you highly visible green with white reflective white letters street address sign yet - what is the holdup? Don't wait until its too late - it will be your emergency that will be affected! Call Dale Komandt at 548-5636 for details! Stop Procrastinating!!

## Parkman Fire

From: Wayne Komandt, Parkman Fire Chief

We are lucky to finally get some rain, but our area is still very dry due to a rain deficit. Use extra care to help prevent fires from getting out of control and remember that OPEN BURNING is NOT PERMITTED in the State of Ohio.



The Parkman Fire Department is proud to announce the purchase of a new Fire Engine for our community. This new “Pumper” Engine will arrive near the end of September. The new Engine was purchased with money collected from many past years of saving and “not” from any new Tax Levies. This is a much needed tool to keep our community safe and current with the most modern equipment. If you have an interest in becoming a part of the Parkman Volunteer Team, join us at one of our Wednesday training meetings at the Parkman Fire House.

## Parkman EMS

From: Joan Dillon—Medical Officer

I'd like to spend a little time talking about the monetary donations made to the fire department by those we serve. Over the years we have received donations from members of the Township including strong support from the Amish community. Events held to benefit the department are greatly appreciated. Thank you to River Pines who has been active in having Motorcycle Runs and Vegas Nights to raise money for us. The department was recently named a beneficiary in the will of Peggy Tucker Warner Williams, a life long member of the community. In the past, we have received donations from families of deceased members of the Fire Department, one being Richard Giles. Recently one of our long-time residents, Hazel Hillock Soltis passed away and her family requested donations be given to the FD in lieu of flowers. What a wonderful way to be remembered. Thank you. We appreciate you all.

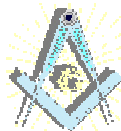
On a different note, what a busy summer we've had so far. We've responded to seven motorcycle accidents, some minor, some very painful and one fatal. It isn't always the motorcyclist's fault they get into an accident, but when a bike is involved, they still lose. If you are saving gas driving a two-wheeler or just driving for pleasure, wear your helmet and drive safely.

**Don't forget the Chicken Dinner on the first Friday of October.**

Hope to see you there.

On behalf of the volunteers who respond to your fires, gas leaks, downed trees and wires, missing family members, motor vehicle accidents, medical emergencies and many other lesser issues, have a good summer.

Training is usually the third Wednesday of each month 7pm in Troy and 7:30pm in Parkman. Anyone interested in the EMS aspect of the fire department will be welcomed. Contact Joan Dillon at 440-548-7541.



## DID YOU KNOW?

There is an organization in Parkman that has been in existence for 150 years?

It started in 1818 and went until 1828. Then started again in 1857 and has been going every since. The

**Western Phoenix Masonic Lodge #42 F&AM** is one of the oldest in

Ohio. The lodge has held its meetings in quite a few buildings around the square, but most burned down and the Masons had to find a new one. We now meet on the third floor of what was called the Blackmann Building. We've been there since before the town fire in \_\_\_\_\_.

On May 12, 2007, the Parkman Lodge held its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the re-consecration of the Lodge. This was celebrated by and with several Grand Lodge Officers led by M.W. G.M. Michael A Hines and five of his 12 Grand Lodge Officers. Other visiting Masons included a Past Grand Master, District Deputies, Past District Deputies, and Past District L.E.O. There were 10 officers of Western Phoenix Lodge and 10 Past Masters of Western Phoenix present.

The members of Western Phoenix Lodge hope to be in Parkman many more years. For more information on Western Phoenix Lodge, contact David Everett at 440/548-5055.

From Dale Komandt

## HEY! WE'RE OLD, TOO!

The 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Banquet of Parkman High School was held at the Parkman Community House on May 5, 2007, with 56 graduates attending. This banquet has been held since the Alumni Association began.

The number of graduates attending determined where it was held. The first few were held at private homes, such as M. H. Norton's, across from the school; at the Masonic Hall; the School House and the Community House. A lot of our graduates have passed on and/or moved away. However, we continue this “get together” each year to visit with “older classmates,” to tell stories about the “good old School Days.”



Please! If you are a graduate of Parkman School or live in Parkman and graduated from Cardinal or Southington systems, contact one of us old timers. We need your support to continue this tradition. Those times are precious and should not be forgotten. School Friends are forever.

Dale Komandt - Class of 1956  
440/548-5636

Here are John & Jean Stanley, a couple of our biggest supporters. They seldom miss!



## Need help with School Supplies?

Mark your calendar for Geauga County's Help Me Learn Day sponsored by Geauga County Job & Family Services.

August 6<sup>th</sup> (9AM – 4:PM) at the Geauga County Job & Family Services

Identification required (Medicaid Card, Food Stamp Card, or Photo ID)

\*\*Registration required – Geauga JFS (440) 285-9141.\*\*

For more information, please contact Sara Shininger at 440-285-9141.

## Residential Property Tax Relief for age 65+ or Disabled

Gauga County Auditor Tracy Jemison announced Operation Tax Relief is now in effect until October 1, 2007. The State of Ohio adopted a new and expanded Homestead Exemption for all homeowners that are 65 years or older and/or permanently disabled, regardless of income. Jemison encourages everyone who are eligible to apply for the Tax Credit. If you have any questions about how to enroll into the Homestead Program, call the Geauga County Auditor Office at 440-285-2222 or 440-279-1616. Office hours are open Monday-Friday 8am to 4:30pm. Find out more by attending the August 15th meeting (11am-1pm) at the Middlefield Community Center (15820 Ridgewood Dr.).

## FROM THE ZONING INSPECTOR

John W. Hasman

We have new regulations in effect for the areas under R-1 residential, which is 90% of the township. Everyone must contact the zoning office before starting projects due to these new regulations that are now in effect.

Office hours are every Wednesday evening from 7 – 8:30 PM, and the office is located at the rear of the Community House.

You can reach the Zoning Office at  
440-548-2904 or  
parkmanzone@windstream.net

**Stop in and see me about these new regulations before you start any project.**

## ROAD DEPARTMENT

from Tom Evers, Superintendent

The summer is going by fast and it is very dry this year. Be thoughtful of dust clouds you may create while traveling down the gravel roads, Poor visibility can become an issue for passing vehicles and pedestrians. Our water trucks have been doing what they can to keep the dust down.

You may have noticed that we are not doing roadside mowing this summer. This should save the Township \$12,000. We are doing allot of cost saving measures trying to stretch what have to work with. The County has finished surveying the road right-of way on Newcomb, We will addressing fences that will have to be moved. Please use caution and slow down when passing through our work zone.

# Parkman Amish

## News and Stories

From: Ellen Hershberger



Hello from “Amishland. This is a beautiful time of harvests and bounty from our Creator. We have had some blessed rains.

### Generosity.

Lets open our hearts and purses and send donations to help the former Geauga resident, widow Mrs. Clara Mae Troyer (age 22), to build a small house. Her young husband drowned last year, leaving her with 2 small children. Send to the Troyer Building Fund, 40 Community Bank NA PO Box 10, Clymer NY 14724.

### Congratulations!

Born to Mathew and Amy Leslein is 2nd child (1st daughter) Kayla Rose. Congratulations to the family for their new addition!

### Pray.

Irma Wheelchel is recovering from surgery on her neck, where spurs were removed. We pray for her a speedy recovery.

### Welcome.

A gathering for my grandparents, Levi Hershberger Family is planned for August 25th at the Lakeview Shelter at Swine Creek Park from 9am-5pm. Each bring your own lunch and come enjoy a day of family togetherness.

### Wishes.

Daniel and Nancy Weaver have accepted a teaching job in Carrollton OH and have plans to move there by the end of August. We will miss them and are happy for them as we wish them a warm good-bye and a successful future.

### Parkman Community Picnic - August 20th (6-9pm)

The Parkman Community Picnic will be held at Overlook Park. Many Amish events will be a part of the 25 year Celebration. Please feel welcome to join us for this picnic. Parkman Chamber of Commerce is supplying Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, Buns, Ice Tea and Water. Please bring a dish and your place settings.

Any sports equipment or fun entertainment is welcomed and appreciated!

Parkman Paragraphs welcomes input from everyone. This is your community newsletter. If you have a short paragraph that the community might be interested in or should be involved, the please send it to

Parkman Paragraphs Editor  
PO Box 580  
Parkman OH 44080

## Meet the Volunteers of the Parkman Fire and EMS Team

This issue of the Parkman Paragraphs continues to salute our volunteers who serve our community 24/7 during our time of need.

Humble Apologies to Bernie Zahuranic for misspelling her last name (Zuranic) in the last edition of the Paragraphs. Sometimes my eyes miss the obvious Bernie, I am sorry and appreciate your forgiveness - Cory : )



**Elwin Coe** was born and raised in Middlefield. He graduated from Cardinal High School in 1973. In 1976, he married his wife Becky. They have two sons Jay and Kevin. Jay lives with his wife and two girls here in Parkman. Kevin is in the Army and is stationed at Fort Steward in Georgia and is set to deploy to Iraq in September. (keep him in our thoughts). Elwin joined the Parkman Fire/Rescue Team in 1982. He enjoys riding his motorcycle, reading and his grandkids. Elwin believes that every day is a good day, some are just better than others.

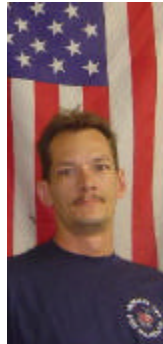
**Courtney Sanders** moved into our Parkman community in August of 2004. His day job is a full time plumber, He grew up in a fire fighting community as his Grandfather and Uncle were both on the Hudson Department. Ed had a fire on his street and the next day was inspired by his neighbor Bernie Zahuranic to join the Parkman Team. Courtney was certified in January 2005. His wife Liz also joined the team in 2006 had her profile in the Winter 2007 edition of the Parkman Paragraphs.

Courtney understands that being a part of the Parkman Fire and Rescue Team is a tough job that has to be done, but he enjoys the privilege to serve our community. The sacrifice is worth every minute of it!

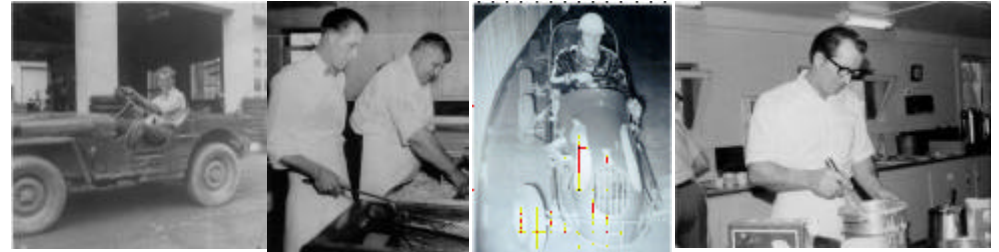


**Ed Wilson** was born and raised in Parkman. After he graduated high school, he joined the Air Force and served from 1972-1976. He lived in Arizona for 10 years, then in California for 5 years until he moved back to Parkman in 1997. In 2003, Ed joined the Parkman Fire Team to help out the community and give back some of the efforts that were given to his family. Ed's dad and mom (Carl and Betty Wilson) both had their share of calls from the team. In 2005, Ed passed his EMT test and currently serves our community in all emergencies.

**Scott Dillon** grew up in Parkman but moved and graduated high school in Garrettsville. Following his fathers footsteps, Scott joined the Parkman Fire team in 1979. He is also a Garrettsville Fire Fighter and has worked for their Community Care Ambulance for 12 years. Scott is the current president of Parkman Fire and Rescue Association. He specializes in rope training and extraction of patients. Scott feels that everyone in our community should volunteer for something just to get involved and support it.



## Summer 2007 Feature Volunteer Profile William Snyder - Past Fire Chief



William Snyder was born in Youngstown on July 18th, 1927. Bill worked for Standard Oil until he entered the US Military service and served as a medic in the Pacific. After serving our country, he continued working for Standard Oil. Bill married Charlotte in 1947. Together they had 4 children, Danny, twins Sandie and Cindy, and Scott. Sandie (Parnaby) also serves the Parkman Rescue Team.

In 1951, Bill moved to Parkman and opened up a Standard Oil Service Station. He owned and operated the station from Feb. 1951 to '68. Bill also owned and operated Ashland fuel in Burton from 1968 to '88. He was also a bus mechanic for Newberry Schools for 14 years until he was 80 years old, retiring in 2003.

Bill joined the Parkman Fire Department in 1951. The first picture on the left is of Bill in a jeep that he built ,which was Parkman's first Grass Truck...a modified 4x4 that had a water tank and hoses to help put out grass fires in hard to reach areas in our community. Bill served as Fire Chief from 1955-1959. He also served ad Assistant Chief 1960-62.

As a fundraiser, Parkman Fire Department used to host Fish Fries. The second picture from the left is of Bill tackling the grease splatter and frying up a delicious meal. Now the Parkman Volunteer Team hosts chicken fund raisers that are co-sponsored with the Amish community. It is always a sell out event!

Bill had many hobbies including a NASCAR driver that raced stock cars, sprints and midgets. The third picture from the left is Bill in one of his toys.

Bill was one of the original founders of Parkman Chamber of Commerce. The picture on the right is of Bill mixing a batch of Pancakes during the Parkman Pancake Breakfast, our communities largest fundraiser and longest tradition. Bill worked with a team to develop the Community Overlook Park. The picture on the cover of this Summer edition has Bill in the Center for the ground breaking.

During the writing of this story, William past away. His memory and devotion to the Parkman Community has left an everlasting impression. Come join as at the **Parkman Community Picnic on August 20th (6-9pm)** to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of Overlook Park and salute one of the leaders who developed this community gem! Get involved with "your" community ..... See you there!