

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



Parkman Paragraphs

Spring 2009

If you know someone in Parkman who has not received this Parkman Paragraphs Newsletter, please have them send a message to Cory Anderson - Paragraphs Editor - using any of the contact info listed within these pages. Thank you for your help to keep our Parkman mailing list current.



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

Newsletter E-mail: ParkmanOhio@gmail.com

Parkman Paragraphs is published in Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall.
This Spring 2009 issue is sponsored by the Parkman Trustees.

Parkman Paragraphs

Cory Anderson, Paragraphs Editor
P0 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 - 7:30pm)
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Kevin O'Reilly
Lucinda Sharp-Gates

Fiscal Officer

Nancy Wheelock

Parkman Community House & Overlook Park Parnaby Pavilion

Wendy Anderson 548-2388

Cemetery Sexton

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Fire & Rescue

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Fire/Medical Emergencies:

CALL 911

Parkman Chamber of Commerce

Chamber meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30pm in the Parkman Community House. We are always looking for new members.

Our next event is the

2009 Parkman Kite Festival

Parkman Kite Festival is a part of the
American Kite Festival "Come Fly With Us"

May 2 (10am - 5pm)
Overlook Park

Sponsored by the Parkman Chamber of Commerce

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2009 Parkman Pancake Breakfast Review

Thanks to all who supported the Parkman Pancake Breakfast and the many other events hosted by the Chamber of Commerce through out the year. Your support keeps our Parkman Community strong and healthy for all generations to reside in. This is Parkman's biggest annual fundraiser for community improvements, and our most participated tradition.

This year we used our new industrial dish washer, purchased with some of the funds from last years Pancake Breakfast. This along with many other Community House upgrades made our kitchen much more efficient for the volunteers. Special thanks to Steve Bozak and Scott Villers for helping install the new dish washer in the Parkman Community House. Steve did the plumbing and counter tops and Scott did all of the electrical work.

Thanks to those who helped organize the 2009 Parkman Breakfast - Faith Kumher, Mike Novotny, Denise Villers, and Lucinda Sharp Gates.

Parkman Easter Egg Hunt Review

Hosted at Overlook Park, the Parkman Easter Egg is a Parkman tradition for our local kids. This Paragraphs edition was printed before the hunt, so photos will be posted on the Parkman website. Special Thanks to those who helped support the event , our Easter Bunny, and the volunteers who helped stuff of the Easter Eggs.



Parkman Paragraphs Survey Results

From Cory Anderson - Newsletter and Web "Servant"

Thanks to all who participated with this 2009 survey. This was designed as a feedback item to help direct the future of our Parkman communications project. The goal was to give you an opportunity to reach me and help me make this newsletter an interesting read for all of you.

Out of 1300 newsletters that were sent out to our community, only 100 were returned and of those 100, only 55 of them actually had any input and shared opinions. The other 45 were opted to have just a return mailing address on it just to satisfy the 100 percent involvement that I was asking for.

This very low interest was disappointing, but valuable non-the-less. I expected some that would not take an interest, but it was a very staggering amount that had no interest to participate. So with these results, the discussion was brought up to reduce the newsletter mailings. The final decision was to continue with the newsletter/website project as it is the best way to keep our community informed of township news.

The results from the survey spanned with many inputs and suggestions. Those 55 people are active within our community and have put thought into their comments. For that I am much appreciative of their suggestions..

It was an overwhelming response that the Community House and Overlook Park are both our greatest neighborhood treasures . Improvements and repairs to these locations are the most common suggestions. Both have served our community for many generations and continue to support many community functions.

The website and newsletter project was well received, and several suggestions to make it better was discussed. I need your continued support to help this represent all parts of our community. If you are a member of one of the many groups our community hosts, and see missing information, please let me know!

Again, thanks to those with the ambition to send me their feedback!

Parkman Historical Society

The Parkman Historical Society's next meeting is

Thursday - May 21, 2009 (7:30pm) at the Parkman Co mmunity House.

Please join us at the Parkman Community House at 7:30pm and hear our presentation as Dale Komandt will be giving a presentation on the Eastern Stars organization.

Thank you all for your continued support to the Parkman Historical Society.

Parkman 55 Plus Club

The Parkman 55 Plus Club meets on the first Thursday (at noon) of each month at the Parkman Community House This active seniors group has organized many trips, events and presentations that enhance the lives of Parkman's retired community. Anyone is welcome to participate in our activities. Come to one of the monthly meetings and find out more about this very ambitious group. The Parkman Website also has our event list.

Parkman Trustees Notes

From Pat Joyce

After the cold and snowy winter of 08-09, spring and summer are upon us. Things are going fairly well in our township. First we would like to recognize and thank our Road Maintenance Department for their hard work in keeping the township roads clear and passable throughout the winter. They will be continuing their road maintenance operations as they address the challenges that each new season brings. Some may have noticed trees being removed on the North end of Newcomb Rd. near the Middlefield/Parkman Border. This is in preparation for a road construction project that will include the widening of Newcomb road between Patch and Shedd roads. This project will be a cooperative effort between Parkman and Middlefield Townships, partially funded by issue 2 money. The Township has also recently purchased a used Gradall to improve its ditching capabilities.

Other road related issues that our residents may want to take note of: ODOT will be back with the contractor on Route 422 this spring finishing up the Construction Project East of Route 528. Much of the work will be cosmetic, berm work, landscaping, etc. They have indicated that some of the driveway culverts may be extended and some of the transition grades from the road to the driveway may be smoothed out. Also of note: The Trustees received notice in October of 2008 that ODOT had developed construction improvement plans for the purpose of replacing a box culvert approximately 2000 feet south of Patch Road on SR 168 (Tavern Rd). Due to the size of the box structure, SR 168 may need to be closed for a maximum of seven days to perform the work. A detour route has been developed as part of the site construction plans, which includes utilizing SR 700 and US 422 as the detour roads. Signage will be provided to assist the traveling public.

Parkman's Memorial Day parade and ceremonies will be here before you know it on May 25th. This year the Township will honor the Gotham brothers (John, Glenn, Leland, Carlisle, and Neil), who all served in World War II.

Memorial Day ceremonies begin @ 9:00am in Overlook Cemetery with a parade shortly after, culminating with a ceremony in the Lower Cemetery on Parkman Nelson Road.

Remember to visit the Parkman Community Website (www.parkmanohio.com) for the latest Township information.

Let us know if you have any questions, issues or concerns. Have a great summer!





The mission of Geauga Park District is to preserve, conserve and protect the natural features of Geauga County and to provide the opportunity for people to enjoy and appreciate those resources.

Hikin' on Horseback

Saturday, May 2, 10:00-3:00 PM

Swine Creek Reservation, Lake Side

Bring your own horse for this naturalist-led leisurely trail ride. Enjoy wildflowers and migratory birds from the saddle. Riders may participate in 3 mile ride at Swine Creek and add another 6-8 miles of road and forest. Pre - registration required - Volunteers needed

Pre- registration required - www.geaugaparkdistrict.org

Binocular Moon

Saturday, May 9, 9:00 PM-12:00 AM

Swine Creek Reservation, Lake Side

Bring your binoculars, a lawn chair/blanket for a close –up lunar landing. Fully Wheel-chair / Stroller Accessible, Pre- registration required. www.geaugaparkdistrict.org

Hound Hike: Mutt Strut

Saturday, May 16, 2:00-3:00 PM

Sunnybrook Preserve

Enjoy a "dog day" afternoon walking the trails at our newest park. One non-aggressive leashed dog per handler. Pre- registration required www.geaugaparkdistrict.org

Lost Lake Canoe Expedition (Ages 16 & up)

Sunday, May 17, 1:00-4:00 PM

Upper Cuyahoga River - Rt. 87 Parking area

Experienced canoeists take a rugged canoe trip to a remote wild marsh. Registration May 10-16. Wading and muddy portages possible. www.geaugaparkdistrict.org

Astronomy Night

Saturday, May 23, 9:00-11:00 PM

Overlook Park, Parkman

Celebrate International Year of Astronomy by gazing through telescopes of the Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society (or bring your own) to see Saturn, spring constellations and other celestial bodies.

Call after 3:00 p.m. for cancellation notice.

Co-sponsored with Parkman Township Park.

www.geaugaparkdistrict.org



SS. Edward and Lucy Catholic Parish Community

Rev. John Burkley, Pastor

2009 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: M at 6pm and T-F at 8am in St. Edward Chapel

<http://www.ssedwardlucy.com>



Upcoming events

Chinese Auction

April 15th 2009

Tickets and info can be found on the parish website or contact the parish office.

Parkman Car Show

Sunday August 16 2009 (11am-4pm)
at St. Edward Church Parking Lot

Join us for a day filled with antique and custom cars, music, games and a general Parkman community gathering.
This event is going to be combined with a Chicken Dinner

Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 6 thru Friday, July 10.

Check out the Parish Website for the most up to date schedule and information.

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.necommunity.org

Casual Atmosphere - Fun Learning - Authentic pursuit of God

For other information on home groups, service projects and church events check out our website or call our contact number.



NorthEast
Community

We look forward to meeting you!

Parkman Congregational Church

<http://www.forministry.com/USOHCOCPPCCPC/>

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Prayer Time, 8:55 AM - 9:10 AM

Happy Quarter Hour, 9:00 AM (social time, light refreshments)

Sunday School for All Ages, 9:15 AM

Sunday Morning Worship, 10:15 AM

All are welcomed and encouraged!



Free Meals Invitation!

You are invited to join the members and friends of Parkman Congregational Church for a free meal on the last Wednesday of each month. The Spring 2009 meals are:

Wednesday, April 29, 2009 * Slovenian Night

Wednesday, May 27, 2009 * Beef Stew

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!

2009 Parkman Variety Show Fundraiser

April 25, 2009 at 7pm at the Parkman Congregational Church

The Parkman Congregational Church will have a group of people going on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic in July and the group is putting on a Variety Show April 25, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Please mark your calendar and attend the show. We will be taking up a love offering to help pay for some of the cost of the trip.

The funds from this Variety Show Fundraiser will support these activities.

We do several local missions and support mission work in other states and decided it was time to go outside of the United States on a short mission trip. We will be working mainly with children. We will put on a Vacation Bible School, visit an orphanage, a retirement home and a handicap orphanage along with going into the village to talk to the people.

Thanks to everyone who supports this event!



Parkman Youth League Baseball and Softball



Spring and summer are here and that means baseball and softball. Parkman Youth League is once again seeking the support of the community businesses in a sponsorship campaign.

If you would like to Sponsor a team for the 2009 season please contact Mike Peters @ 548-5565 or Pat Joyce @ 548-5576.

For more information regarding sign-up dates and sponsorship go to www.leaguelineup.com/pyl.

Parkman Recreation Park Committee

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

The Parks and Recreation Committee would like to invite you to a Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday April 25th at the Parkman Community House.

We'll be serving dinner from 4:30PM till 7:30PM.

Spaghetti will be provided with a choice of meat or marinara sauce, salad, bread and dessert.

The cost will be 5 and under free, 12 and under \$3.00 and adults \$6.00 (dessert by donation). We will also be having a 50/50 raffle. This will benefit our playground improvement fund. To date we have raised \$3049.00 dollars for the Kool-Aide KaBoom playground grant project. The match on the grant is \$7500.00. For more information Contact Pat Joyce @ 548-5576, Sandy Rought @ 548-5740, Scott Simms @ 548-2692, Dan Mack @ 548-2627 or Candi Peters @ 548-5565.

This is a fundraiser for the Overlook Park, to help match funds from a grant from Kool-Aid. Thank you for your support.



Parkman Boy Scout Troop # 76

Well, we are off and running with the good weather.

In March the troop, along with the support of the Portage Kiwanis, held a spaghetti dinner at the Hiram College Kennedy Center. Thanks to all who supported us. We also held a community service event: *Scouting for Food*. With the community's help we were able to help restock our local community food cupboards. And we even had time to sneak in a camp-out in our tents.

In April we will have another camp-out

May will be a busy month: a fund-raiser or two, a camp-out, and marching in Parkman's Memorial Day parade (May 25th).

We will then be preparing for a much-anticipated week of Scout camp at Camp Manitoc in Peninsula, Ohio.

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

Scott Villers, Troop 76 committee chairman



Parkman Volunteer EMS

From: Joan Dillon

Rumor has it spring will arrive this year....green grass confirms it. How many are looking forward to mowing the grass? OK. Now how many are looking forward to digging in the warm earth and messing with flowers and gardens? Oh, that's better!

There are some happy faces around the department lately. Courtney Sanders passed his Basic class and we welcome him to the patient care part of the rescue service. Liz Sanders and Toni Clawson passed their Intermediate course and their skills will be appreciated as their experience grows. I continue to marvel at the dedication of total volunteers. You can be proud of the special people in EMS and the fire service who respond to your 911 call for help.

We have a few changes in the squad to report. Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital donated a completely stocked pediatric emergency bag to replace our old one. Also Geauga Hospital provided a module to transmit a 12 lead EKG quickly. This replaces the cell phone transmission we used previously. Geauga is working hard to become a definitive, fully certified facility for heart attack and stroke patients. Where they used to Life-Flight patients to Cleveland, we will soon be able to keep them here in Geauga County for extensive treatments.

Once again, this is proving to be our busiest year on record. If you would like to join our volunteers in service to the community, come to the fire department on the first Wednesday of the month and meet our fire fighters and EMS.

Or call Chuck (FF) or Joanie (EMS) at 440-548-7541.

Green Address Signs - Parkman Address Signs have just been redesigned to host 4 inch lettering verse the former 3 inch lettering. This is due to easier visibility during a faster pace travel during emergencies. If you have not purchased you highly visible green with white reflective white letters street address sign yet - then get the newest version of our project.

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 Volunteer Fire and EMS Fundraiser Angel Food - (www.angelfoodministries.com)

This is a fundraiser project that donates money to the Parkman Fire and EMS when you purchase their monthly menu meal plan. If you go to this website and order the discounted food for yourself, a percentage of what you spend will be donated to the Parkman Fire and Rescue Team. It is a win win opportunity for both you and our community. Thanks for your support! Contact Liz Sanders at 548-2334 for more info .

Parkman Zoning Inspector

Beginning April 15, 2009, the Zoning Office will require one set of blueprints to be included with all applications for zoning certificates, any new home construction, or for additions to an existing home. The blueprint will be reviewed along with the application. Once approved, it will be stamped and returned to the applicant. This copy of the blueprint will then be used to obtain the necessary permits from the Geauga County Building Department, or other applicable county departments.

Please contact the Zoning Office if you have any questions.

John Hasman
Parkman Township Zoning Inspector

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 (extension 2)
or parkmanzone@windstream.net

What is wrong with the photo?

Can anyone guess what is wrong with this photo? This is a wall at our Parkman Community House what has the Parkman School class pictures hanging. If you look closely, one of the photos is missing!

We know that the photo was borrowed, but no one knows who was the one who borrowed this missing photo. So please be responsible and get the missing photo back to any of the trustees right away so that the rest of the community can enjoy the entire collection of historical graduation photos from our Parkman High School Alumni.

Thank you very much for your help to resolve this missing photo situation!



Parkman Road Department

from Tom Evers, Superintendent

Spring is here and rainy weather is in full swing.



Please help to remove the clutter that gathers around the drainage ditches and street sewers. This will help keep our community roads safe from any flooding and high water conditions. Always remember to respect our work areas and drive slow.

Thank you for your patience to our road crews.

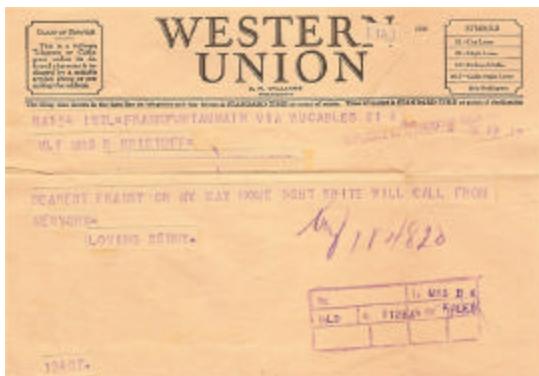


Ben Kristoff

US Army Veteran who served during WWII

From: Jennifer Kristoff-Miller

My Grandfather Ben Kristoff served in the Army in World War II. This last year, I scanned in many of my Grandmother's photos and enjoyed seeing so many pictures of my Grandfather during his service, and notes and Western Unions when he was coming home. As I read the notes between my grandparents, I think of all our service men and women and their families and how much they long to be together just like my Grandparents did so many years ago. I am so proud of my Grandfather and am so proud of all our men and women serving our country today. What an incredible sacrifice. My Grandfather and Grandmother moved to Parkman later in their years, first on Hosmer Road, and then later to Main Market Road. I have attached some photos and the Western Unions that he sent on his way home. You can see how he send them so often each step of the trip – He was so excited to get home to his wife and baby.



Thank you Jennifer for sharing your story and for your grandfather, Ben Kristoff serving our country and helping all of us have to

opportunity to live in a country that has so many freedoms.

If you have a story to share about a Parkman Veteran, we are still waiting for your story! Thank you all for your support!!



Parkman Volunteer Fire - Soft Billing

From: Chief Wayne Komandt

SOME MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, IN A FRIENDLY MANNER, CALL ME CHEAP, BUT I HAVE ALWAYS MADE IT MY POLICY TO SPEND THE TAXPAYERS MONEY WISELY. IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT WAYS TO IMPROVE THE FINANCES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. WE HAVE IN THE PAST APPLIED FOR VARIOUS STATE AND FEDERAL GRANTS. SOME WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN AND OTHER WE HAVE NOT.

WE ARE NOW LOOKING AT ANOTHER WAY THAT MAY HELP WITH OUR FINANCES. WE HAVE FOR MANY YEARS BILLED NON RESIDENTS FOR EMS SERVICES AND ARE CONSIDERING A CHANGE TO THAT POLICY. IN MANY AREAS OF THIS COUNTY AND STATE EMS SERVICE IS NOT FREE. MANY FIRE DEPARTMENTS, BOTH TOWNSHIP AND CITY, HAVE INSTITUTED A SYSTEM CALLED SOFT BILLING. UNDER THIS SYSTEM, ALL EMS TRANSPORTS WOULD BE BILLED TO A THIRD PARTY, MEANING INSURANCE COMPANIES. AT NO TIME WOULD AN INDIVIDUAL RECEIVE A BILL FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OR OUR BILLING COMPANY. THERE ARE TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT ON SOFT BILLING.

THE FIRST IS THAT RESIDENTS (OR THEIR INSURANCES COMPANIES) SHOULD NOT BE BILLED FOR SOMETHING THEY PAY TAXES FOR AND THAT IF THE INSURANCES COMPANIES ARE NOT BILLED IT WILL KEEP THEIR COSTS DOWN AND THEY MIGHT NOT RAISE THEIR RATES. SINCE WE STATED BILLING NON RESIDENTS MANY YEARS AGO, I HAVE SUBSCRIBED TO THIS SCHOOL OF THOUGHT, BUT I HAVE HAD TO RETHINK THIS. I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO HAS HAD THEIR HEALTH INSURANCE RATE REDUCED OR EVEN STAY THE SAME FOR THE SAME COVERAGES. IN MY CASE, THE RATES I PAY AT WORK HAVE GONE UP ALL MOST EVERY YEAR, EVEN IF BENEFITS HAVE BEEN LESSENED OR DEDUCTABLES INCREASED.

THE SECOND SCHOOL OF THOUGHT IS THAT SINCE MOST PEOPLE ARE PAYING FOR HEALTH CARE INSURANCE AND SINCE THE RATES NEVER SEEM TO COME DOWN, WHY NOT BILL THIRD PARTIES (INSURANCE COMPANIES) FOR EMS TRANSPORTS. NO BILLING WOULD BE MADE TO INDIVIDUALS. WE HAVE TAKEN A PRELIMINARY LOOK AT THE POSSIBLER INCOME FROM SOFT BILLING AND FOUND THAT ON ONLY A 50% RECOVERY RATE FROM THE BILLING; WE MIGHT RECEIVE UP TO \$30,000.00 YEARLY. WITH AN AMBULANCE COSTING OVER \$80,000.00 WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF REPLACING AN AMBULANCE WITHOUT ANY ADITONAL COSTS TO THE TAXPAYERS. IT MIGHT ALSO ALLOW US TO HANDLE ADDITIONAL FUTURE COSTS WATEVER THEY MIGHT BE WITHOUT ADDITIONAL TAX LEVIES.

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO THINK ABOUT THIS POSSIBLE CHANGE AND CONTACT YOUR TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES WITH YOUR OPINIONS. ANY CHANGE TO THIS BILLING POLICY HAS TO COME FROM THE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES AND I AM SURE THEY WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS.



Celebrating a 40 year tradition, here are some of the scenes of the volunteers that continue to make our tradition a success.

Thanks to you all who supported the
2009 Parkman Pancake Breakfast!

This year we served 2312 breakfasts.

Our record year was in 2001 with 2929 breakfasts served.
The record Sunday (2nd) was in 1992 with 820 served and in 1999 was the runner up Sunday (2nd) was 810 served! See you next year!

