



Published in June, September, December and February by the Parkman Township Trustees, Parkman, Ohio © December 2004. Portions of this newsletter may be reproduced with proper credit to the source. Deadline is February 1 for the March 2005 issue.

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

**Township Phone:
548-2904**



Meetings normally are at 7:30 pm in the rear of the Community House

Township Trustees (1st & 3rd Tue.)

- David Fuhry
- Kevin O'Reilly
- Alan Wilson

Township Clerk

Nancy Wheelock

Zoning Commission (4th Tue.)

John Augustine & Bill Pollard

Zoning Appeals Board (2nd Tue.)

Dennis Ikeler

Zoning Inspector (Weds. 7-8:30)

John Hasman

Roads Department

Tom Evers

Parkman Community House & Overlook Park Parnaby Pavillion

Wendy Anderson

Cemetery Sexton

Dale Komandt



Fire & Rescue

Wayne Komandt

Fire/Medical Emergencies:

CALL 911

Parkman Paragraphs

VOL 1 No 3 - DECEMBER 2004

Congratulations to our own Dave Fuhry, new Judge of Common Pleas for Geauga County (beginning January 1st)! Looks like we'll be looking for someone to fill out Dave's term. I'm sure everyone will join me in a huge "thank you" to Dave for his many, many years of hard work for our Township.

The Fire Department Levy Renewal and the Streets, Roads and Bridges Levy Renewal were both passed, while the Zoning Referendum failed. It was wonderful to see so many people at the polls on November 2nd.

We voted early (after returning from a rescue call), and then went back later for the wonderful turkey dinner (put on by the Parkman Congregational Church women). It's a great chance to sit down and kibitz with fellow voters about the issues and candidates.

We're still looking for input from Parkman organizations to share their information with the residents. We'd like to include a Community Calendar, but we need **your** input. Don't worry about writing perfectly. We'll edit as necessary. So let's get those pens, pencils, typewriters and computers going! Call me at 548-5636.

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' NOTES

from Kevin O'Reilly, Trustee



Greetings from the Township Trustees. A quick note about some of the issues we are working on:

Parkman Sanitary Sewer Project: Although we as trustees have no responsibility for or authority over the sanitary sewer project, we are in constant communication

(continued on page 4)



ROAD DEPARTMENT RUMBLINGS

from Tom Evers, Superintendent

In mid-October, the County gave Parkman a portion of Swine Creek Rd. to maintain. This 7/10 mile brings Parkman's gravel roads total to 20.1 miles. Since winter weather is coming, I have included the County's proper snow-plowing article:



PROPER SNOW PLOWING

The proper way to plow a driveway is to start at the mouth of the drive and plow in towards the house. There should be a designated area to store the snow in your yard. Snow should never be plowed onto or across the roadway.

Quite often, once the snow is pushed across the roadway, it is left on the berm. This hard-packed snow will freeze into a solid block of ice, and when the road snowplow comes along, this block of ice pushes the plow sideways and may push the truck and plow across the center line into oncoming traffic.

All snowplow contractors and homeowners alike should be aware that they can be cited by the Geauga County Sheriff's Office or the Ohio State Highway Patrol for placing obstructions, including snow, on the roadway.

Please be courteous to our snowplow operators so they can keep the roads cleared for your travel. Have a Happy Holiday.



ZONING COMMISSION BRIEF

from Kevin O'Reilly, Trustee

The Role of the Zoning Commission

The Parkman Township Zoning Commission is made up of five members and one alternate appointed by the Township Trustees. As required by Section 519 of the Ohio Revised Code, all members must be residents of the Township. Appointments are for five years, and the terms overlap.

The Commission reviews applications to rezone land or change the text of the existing zoning regulations. It also makes recommendations to the Township Trustees on each application or text amendment. Applications are initiated by the property owner, the Trustees or the Commission.

Only the Township Trustees have the authority to actually rezone land. However they must vote on the zoning commission's recommendations and they have the ability to modify the Zoning Commission's recommendation. The Trustees can override only by a unanimous vote. As long as one trustee supports the commission's recommendation, the zoning will stand.

It can be seen, then, that the Commission's deliberations and ultimate recommendation are very important. As a result, the Commission often meets with an applicant several times to ensure all issues are considered before sending a recommendation forward for final action by the Trustees.

Members of Parkman's Zoning Commission are John Augustine, Steve Cole, Carlos Nieves, Bill Pollard, Scott Villers, Renee Patry (Alternate). They meet in the basement of the community house on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm. If you have an interest in Parkman's Zoning, plan on attending one of the monthly meetings and get involved.





FIRE DEPARTMENT JOURNAL

from Paul (Wayne) Komandt, Chief



As Chief, I and all the members of the Fire Department would like to thank you for your continued support with the passage of the recent Fire Levy Renewal. We will continue to carefully spend your money to bring you the best Emergency Services we can.

With the election over, we can all get down to readying our homes for the winter. We want to remind all those that have wood-burning stoves, or other wood- & coal-burning appliances, to be very careful during the heating season. Remind your children how hot these items get! Remember to burn only well seasoned wood and inspect and clean your chimneys often.

For those that have kerosene/gas heaters and lights, **BE SURE** your fuel containers are labeled correctly. **DO NOT** put gas in kerosene or kerosene in gas containers. We have had many accidents in the past due to improper labeling of flammable-liquid containers.

Many of us have the necessary chore of removing leaves from our yards. Remember, Ohio is a no-burn state, meaning it's illegal, in most cases, to have outside burning, and that only under certain circumstances. Small ceremonial fires and small cooking fires are permitted. Brush piles (even with hot dogs available) are not considered small cooking or ceremonial fires. Ohio EPA rules (which apply to Parkman Township) state that no open burning shall take place within 1000' of an occupied building off the premises. Very few of us have that much room, so burning leaves is usually not an option.

Before the next Newsletter is out, you should be seeing your new ambulance, due for delivery in January. Currently, we have six people taking their first fire-fighter course and we hope to have them fully trained and certified within a month or two. Even with these six new fire fighters we can always use more personnel. We'll be more than happy to train you to walk into burning buildings, remove people from wrecked vehicles, take vital signs, start IVs, and all the other things your fire department members do. If you're interested in fire fighting or emergency medical training, please contact any member of the Fire Department, or stop in at the fire station any Wednesday night. The pay is terrible but the rewards are priceless.

ARE YOU READY TO SERVE?

It's time to step up and be counted! The Township Trustees are looking for an Alternate for the Board of Zoning Appeals. They also need a Secretary for both the Zoning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals. You can call any of the Trustees at 548-2904 and leave a message, you can write them at PO Box 688, Parkman OH 44080, or you can appear in person at the next Trustees Meeting on **Wednesday, December the 1st**. Get involved in your Township!



THEY'RE BACK (OR THEY'RE STILL HERE)

Got a call from Noah Detweiler in October about yet another bear sighting on Farmington Rd. between Owen and Hobart. It seems that his daughter, Laura, was out feeding the dogs one morning, when she spotted one. It was barely daylight and the dogs started barking.

The bear was helping itself to the apples on the ground under the apple trees near the barn. Apparently, it was not full grown, but it was wooly and black. Shortly after Laura saw it, the bear loped off into the pines.





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 mailed (one year) or free on line. Contact Lynn to get on the mailing list.



TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' NOTES (continued from page 1)

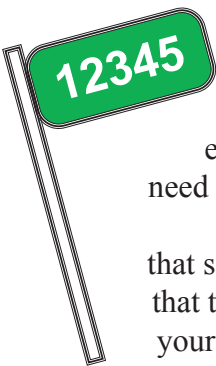


with the County, voicing concerns and questions from our residents. The latest information we have is that the County is accepting bids for the construction and is still hopeful that construction will begin this year.

Rt. 422 East Rebuilding – No news since last quarter's Newsletter.

We have purchased a new truck for the Township Road Department. Look for it soon as we hope to have it before the snow flies, fully equipped and ready to keep the roads clear this winter. The old GMC has become very unreliable and we felt it was better to replace it than continue fixing it.

Finally, also related to the Road Department, due to budget constraints we have reduced the road crew to one full-time employee, two-part time employees limited to 20 hours per week and one employee laid off. If you have a concern about the roads, please be patient. We have very well qualified employees who take pride in their work and will try to maintain the roads as best as they can within these constraints.



THOSE LOVELY GREEN HOUSE NUMBERS

The Fire Department is still making the green house number signs. They make good Holiday presents to those hard to buy for. And they make it a lot easier and faster for Emergency crews to find your house to assist you when you need help (especially on those night calls).

I have noticed in my travels around the Parkman Township and surrounding areas, that some residents put their house numbers on the side of the mailbox. Keep in mind that the Emergency crews may come from the opposite direction than the Postman. So your house number should be in the yard of the house, not on the other side of the road on your mailbox. If there are homes on both sides of the road, we can't tell which mailbox goes with which house. It could create problems and waste valuable time for someone who is in dire need.

If you'd like a sign for your home or business, please call me at 548-5636, or contact any fire fighter. The price is \$10. We need the digits of your house number and a phone number or address to deliver the sign. It takes about a week for us to complete.





NOMINATIONS FOR PARKMAN VETERAN OF THE YEAR

from Dave Fuhry, Trustee

There's still time to nominate a Parkman Veteran of the Year. Each year, the Township Trustees select one Veteran from Parkman to be recognized at our Township's Memorial Day Observance.

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.

CHAMBER CHATTER

from Sandie Parnaby



Parkman, Ohio

With the holiday season fast approaching, Parkman Chamber of Commerce is making plans for decorating the Gazebo Park. This will take place on Sunday Nov. 28th at 1:00. Barb Thorn heads this committee. If anyone is interested in helping please contact her at 548-2712. Youth groups welcome. We are also gathering names of shut-ins and families in need. Please call Barb Thorn or Sandie Parnaby at 632-3473 if you know of someone that needs uplifting.

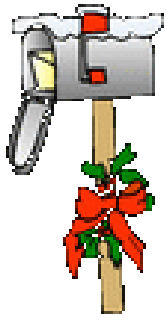
The Chamber Christmas Party will be Monday, Dec. 20th at 6:30 pm at the Community House. Dinner is provided. A \$10.00 gift exchange is optional. Women bring a gift for a woman, men for a man. It's a fun evening. Everyone is invited.

Parkman Visitor's Guide & Merchants Directory. We are in the design stages of printing the 1st Visitor's Guide & Merchants Directory for Parkman. It will include points of interest in Parkman and the surrounding area, events such as the Pancake Breakfast and "Come Fly With Us" Kite Festival, etc. Merchants (or anyone) can purchase ad space. For only \$20.00 a year you can advertise your business. The ad space is 2" x 3-1/2" (business card size). Of course, larger ads will cost appropriately.

The Directories will be available at the Pancake Breakfast and at lots of locations around our community. Deadline for ads in Feb. 1, 2005, so that we can have them ready for distribution at the Pancake Breakfast in March. We want to let people know just how much Parkman has to offer. Please contact Sandie Parnaby at 632-3473 to place an ad or for additional information.

Speaking of Pancakes! The Pancake Breakfasts are all four Sundays in March from 9 am-2 pm. Plans are already in progress, but there's always room for more helpers. If you are new to the community, this is an event you can't miss and a great way to get to know your neighbors. You don't have to be a Chamber Member to help us out. There's lots to do.

If you'd like to join in the fun and excitement of planning and developing projects for our growing community, please join us. New members and ideas are always welcome. Chamber meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at Parkman Community House.



THE POSTAL SCENE

from Bruce Schaefer, Parkman Postmaster

The Christmas mail rush is upon us. With our brave troops stationed all over the world, you'll want to make sure your letters and packages arrive on time.

There are many ways to send those much-anticipated items, depending on their weight and the date. For most APOs and FPOs, you'll need to send them from November 27th (for Space Available Mail) up to December 11th for First-Class and Priority Mail. The only exception to this is APO/FPO zips that begin with 093. That deadline is December 6th.

If you're mailing packages internationally, your deadline for the least-expensive service already passed in October and early November (depending on the destination). But you can send a package as late as December 20th **IF** you use Global Express Guaranteed. The most important thing to remember is **MAIL EARLY** to make sure your loved ones receive their holiday goodies on time.

Of course, it's very important to pack your items so they can withstand their journey. Select a box strong enough to protect the contents and use plenty of cushioning material. If you send fragile hollow items (like vases), stuff them with newspaper or packing material. Mail framed pictures with the glass wrapped separately. Remove batteries from toys and wrap separately.

Don't use wrapping paper, string, masking tape or cellophane (or invisible) tape. Instead, use tape that is designed for shipping, such as pressure-sensitive tape, nylon-reinforced craft paper tape, or glass-reinforced, pressure-sensitive tape. We have packaging products, including tape, envelopes, padded bags, corrugated boxes, mailing tubes, and cushioning material available.

Put the delivery and return addresses on **ONE SIDE ONLY** of the package. It's also a very good idea to put a return address label inside the package. And remember that, for security reasons, **ALL** items that weigh one pound or more **MUST BE TAKEN TO THE POST OFFICE** for mailing. Otherwise, they will be returned to you.

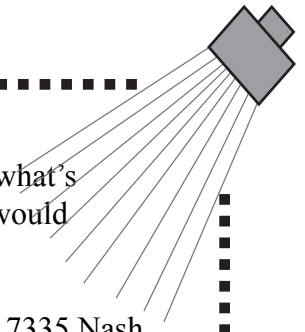
All the Christmas stamps are out now. The Santa ornament stamp is a very attractive one and should be a big seller. Be sure to get yours early to guarantee they're in stock. And if you haven't heard, the Post Office is always open at www.usps.com. You can calculate postage, obtain simplified customs forms and select the international mailing service that's right for your needs. You can also purchase stamps, track and confirm mailings and even purchase greeting cards on-line! You can also order a copy of the latest *Customer's Guide to Mailing*, which includes lots of helpful information about mailing. Of course, you can visit my office or give me a call 548-4951.

We're open Monday through Friday from 8 am to noon (closed for lunch) and from 12:45 pm till 4:30 pm. On Saturdays, we're open from 8 am till noon. The lobby is open at all times except Monday through Saturday from about 5 am until 7:45 am, and Saturday afternoons from about noon until 4 pm.



DID YOU KNOW?

Our Community House, built in 1863, has been used as a cheese factory? It's also been headquarters for many organizations: Mothers Club, American Legion, Chamber of Commerce and Boy Scouts. It also been used as a roller rink, basketball court and dance hall.



SPOTLIGHT ON PARKMAN BUSINESS

This column introduces our community's businesses so you'll know what's available right here in our township. Have a business or service that you would like us to feature? Call Lynn Komandt at 548-5636.

A TOAST TO LALEURE VINEYARDS

Did you know there's a winery in Parkman? It was a surprise to me, too. At 17335 Nash Rd. (Rt. 88), about 2 miles east of Rt. 528, is Laleure Vineyards. You can spot the big barn with the green roof. The tasting room is in the old milk house in front of the barn, and you can taste the Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Vignoles, Bianca, and Riesling wines.

Rich and Betsy Hill, both originally from New Jersey, bought the old Stoll farm in 1997. They used many resources to learn about growing grapes and making wine, including reading, reading, and more reading. The first harvest in 1999 was small but promising and the first official vintage was in 2002. In addition to purchasing the wines, there are wine-related items for sale. Laleure Vineyards is open Fridays 5 pm to 9 pm and Saturdays 11 am to 5 pm and by appointment, except Sundays. You can reach Rich and Betsy Hill at 548-5120.

YOU OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES

Or at least you ought to be renting them! I'm sure you know that Parkman Video, 16143 Main Market Rd. (Rt. 422), has videos and DVDs for your viewing pleasure. But, did you know that it's under new management? Parkman residents Bill and Dee Karnok, along with Blanche and Jim Loving (of Garrettsville), purchased the business from Dale McDaniel in May. The biggest change is the gift shop they've set up. It's got lots of nice things, and Dee tells us that they accept consignments from area crafters, so the selection is quite varied. Also, they run specials from time to time (like rent two-get one free rental on Wednesdays and Sundays). They're planning a Christmas giveaway, but you'll have to drop in to find out about that! You can call them at 548-8818, and the hours are 1-9 Monday through Saturday, 1-5 on Sundays.



PARKMAN VETERANS PLEASE NOTE

It's not too late to have the veterans from Parkman added to the Geauga County Veterans Memorial. This memorial is to be located on Ravenwood Dr. in Claridon Township. Any man or woman who served in any branch of the military service during war time or peace time should be listed on the memorial. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE SERVED IN COMBAT.** In our last issue, we gave you the details on this project, but they're still looking to complete the list. Over 100,000 names have been collected to date. But they don't want to miss a single veteran! The committee needs:

1. The veteran's name
2. Branch of service and date
3. Dates or time lived in Parkman (must be at least 5 years)

There is no money needed for the veteran's name to appear on the monument. But, there is a need for donations and anyone's name can appear on those plaques or bricks. This would be in addition to those names on the actual memorial.

For more information or to add a veteran's name, please contact Bernie Wells at 548-8085, Dale Komandt at 548-5636 or James Ferry at 548-3527.

If you want to make a donation, please contact Paul Newman at 286-9549.



Parkman Paragraphs - Your Township Newsletter

December 2004



Parkman Township

PO Box 688

Parkman OH 44080-0688



Prsrt Std
U.S.Postage Paid
Parkman Ohio
Permit No. 2

Parkman Resident

Parkman OH 44080

Dated Material - Please Rush

EXTRA - EXTRA!! The first Township Trustees meeting in December has been rescheduled to Wed., December 1st (instead of Tuesday, Dec. 7th). Please note this change on your calendar.



THE AMISH CORNER

from Alma Fisher



Editor's Note: Last issue, Matt Troyer provided some insights on the Amish Community in Parkman. This issue, Alma Fisher gives us some historical info that is very interesting. We'd like to have more input from Amish, so jot down a few thoughts and drop them in the mail to Lynn Komandt, PO Box 552, or call her at 548-5636. The more we learn about each other, the more understanding there is.

Parkman seems to be quite small, compared to Middlefield, doesn't it? It used to have some stores, but few remain. I guess with a Super Wal-Mart coming to Middlefield, it's OK.

On March 15, 1941, an unforgettable incident happened in Parkman. An Amish man stepped out of the grocery store at the corner of Rts. 528 and 422, in the center of town. A semi-truck ran off the road and hit him, killing him instantly. My grandfather worked with this man and was waiting in the buggy when he heard the crash. The man's widow had five children. She remarried in 1945. Widowed the second time in 1964, she married in 1968 for the third time, and was widowed again 11 months later. She died two years ago at age 91. Her name was Alma Burkholder Shrock. She lived on Old State Rd. with her son at the time of her death.

The leaves are almost all down now, and I just noticed it this afternoon. So maybe we'll get them all raked up finally and taken care of.