



# YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

***“The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to making things better.”***

***~Robert F. Kennedy***

Those of us who work in public service feel strongly that our actions make a difference. Here at City Hall, we strive to make informed decisions to maintain Parma Heights' reputation as a safe, comfortable community in which to live. This goal, however, requires more than just the actions of elected officials. As residents and business owners, your involvement and input is crucial. When we communicate effectively, support each other, and work together, we acknowledge the investment each of us has in our community and we become empowered stakeholders.

This issue of *Cityview* focuses on the numerous opportunities available to you to become involved in shaping your community for the better.

## OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

A list of the City's Boards and Commissions can be found on our website at [www.parmaheightsoh.gov](http://www.parmaheightsoh.gov). Currently all the volunteer positions are filled but when vacancies do occur, we look for qualified residents who have an interest in taking an active role in the future of our community. If you would be interested in serving, or would like to find out more, please send your resume to my office at [mayorsoffice@parmaheightsoh.gov](mailto:mayorsoffice@parmaheightsoh.gov) or contact Erin at 440.884.9600 x15.

The community organizations listed on the back page of this newsletter, which represent a sweeping array of interests and issues, are always seeking individuals to join, volunteer, socialize with and help others. Sometimes the first step is the hardest, so I challenge you to start the New Year with a resolution to reach out, meet new friends, and get involved!

## TRANSPORTATION FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

Our Pearl Road Complete and Green Streets Project (TLCI) got off to a great start this month with the completion of the first of three Public Meetings. About 30 residents braved the bitter cold and provided valuable insight to our consultants from Hatch Mott MacDonald (HMM). This direct input, as well as responses to the community survey included in the last issue of *Cityview* and available online, are a key piece of this creative and analytical study of Pearl Road, our “Main Street” here in Parma Heights. You won't want to miss our second Public Meeting, on **Thursday, January 29, 2015, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** as HMM will be presenting several concepts for consideration with the goal of re-energizing and perhaps re-inventing our community for the future.

If you have not taken the survey – there is still time! Simply click the link on [www.parmaheightsoh.gov](http://www.parmaheightsoh.gov) or, if you prefer a written questionnaire, call the Economic Development office at 440.884.9600 x32 and one will be sent out to you. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

## THE FUTURE OF OUR LIBRARY

For over 50 years, the Parma Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library System has been a bedrock of our City. However, in the same 50 years, much has changed, including the provision of library services. The Cuyahoga County Public Library (CCPL) Board of Trustees and staff are now seeking your input on the future of library services in Parma Heights. To this end, the City of Parma Heights and the Cuyahoga County Public Library (CCPL) will be hosting a community discussion in the Valley Forge High School cafeteria on **Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.**

You will have an opportunity to meet with CCPL officials in small group discussion stations to share your thoughts, to express the needs of our community, to explain what library services are important to you, and to discuss ways in which CCPL can fulfill those needs and provide those services. ***I urge you to put this event on your calendar now!***



## YES DEAR, NO DEER

Recent years have brought an explosion in the deer population throughout Northeast Ohio. The solutions traditionally provided for deer management, such as plant selection and garden enhancements, do not address the issue of regional deer overpopulation which has become a significant problem in the entire region, requiring management resources far beyond those of a single municipality.

Our City Council agrees that something must be done on a regional level. In September, they passed a resolution urging the members of the Cuyahoga County Mayors and City Managers Association to join together to ask the State of Ohio to provide assistance. The Association, of which I am a member, issued that request in October. Our City Council then passed a second resolution, urging the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to do more to assist communities.

If you feel strongly about this issue, I encourage you to act by joining your voice with ours. You can help encourage the State of Ohio to act swiftly and decisively by writing or calling our Ohio elected and appointed officials. Governor John Kasich can be reached at: Riffe Center, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor; Columbus, Ohio 43215-6117 or 614.466.3555.

## SHOP PARMA HEIGHTS

The holiday season provides us with one more way to get involved here at home; by shopping locally, we lend our support to our businesses. A quick click of the Shop Parma Heights icon on our website homepage will give you a complete list of the over 300 shops and services available right here in our community.



I look forward to seeing you around town! Happy Holidays!

~Mayor Michael P. Byrne

## YOGA with PILATES

Classes January 5<sup>th</sup> - February 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Mondays 7-8pm at Yorktown Lanes  
\$50 Cash or Check

Register at City Hall by December 17<sup>th</sup>  
440.884.9600 x37  
recreation@parmaheightsoh.gov



## KEEP RECYCLING! It makes a difference.

Every week that we recycle makes a difference. Our goal is to have our solid waste totals decline and recycling totals increase. From 2012 to 2013, we decreased our solid waste by approximately 500 tons and increased our recycling by over 1,000 tons. These totals include the special Waste Collection Events like the **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12pm at the Service Garage in the Greenbrier Commons.**

As a reminder, you can put the following into your recycling bin each week:

- Newspapers - Junk mail - Flyers
- Catalogs
- Paper, shredded or not shredded
- Metal or aluminum cans  
(soup, fruit, vegetables, pop, etc.)
- Glass jars or bottles
- Cardboard Packaging or Boxes  
(cereal, crackers, juice, broth and other food, etc.)
- Household Plastic Containers (1-7)  
(shampoo, yogurt, detergent, milk, cottage cheese, dish soap, cookie containers, etc.)

**BEFORE YOU THROW SOMETHING OUT,  
THINK ABOUT IF IT CAN BE RECYCLED.**

If you have any questions, call us at 440.884.9607 or  
Republic Services at 1.800.433.1309

## RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Curbside Collection

JANUARY 7<sup>th</sup>  
&  
JANUARY 14<sup>th</sup>  
ONLY!



NO BAGS or ORNAMENTS

**TANGLED?  
BURNED OUT?  
RECYCLE!**

Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

At the Service Garage in the  
Greenbrier Commons



# THESE PEOPLE MADE A DIFFERENCE

**Santina Saporito Murphy**  
**Resident & Team One**  
**Howard Hanna Realty**  
**440.521.7800**

*Volunteered her time and expertise researching and evaluating housing sales and prices, in efforts to strengthen City grant applications for infrastructure projects.*



**Jeanette Dumot**  
**Pleasant Valley Elementary**  
**STEM (Science, Technology,**  
**Engineering & Math)**  
**440.885.8676**

*Has partnered with the City of Parma Heights to share educational resources and to connect students with our history, and continues to seek STEM experts in our community.*



*Firefighter/Paramedic David Sirl and Fire Chief Bryan Sloan*



*Chief Sloan & Firefighter/Paramedic John Skalsky*



*Chief Sloan & Motorola Technician Thomas Lowe*

## **Firefighter/Paramedics David Sirl & John Skalsky and Motorola Senior Technician Thomas Lowe**

*Dave Sirl completed continuing education classes and passed a comprehensive examination by the International Association of Arson Investigators to become a Certified Fire Investigator. John Skalsky, as Communications Coordinator, led the Fire Department in seeking a \$250,000 radio equipment grant and oversaw the purchase, testing, transition, training and implementation of this new equipment. Thomas Lowe, as the Senior Field Service Technician for Motorola, went above and beyond his duties to help us transition to the Cleveland Radio System.*

# STREETS TO CLEATS

## **Valley Forge High School Football & Parma Heights Police Department**

Valley Forge High School Football Coach Jamie Vanek approached Mayor Byrne and the City of Parma Heights about a mentoring program for athletes called "Streets to Cleats." Mayor Byrne enthusiastically supported this concept and Coach Vanek worked closely with the Parma Heights Police Department and in particular, Sergeant Brett Boxler along with Det. Kravanis, Ptl. Darnell, Ptl. Foley, Ptl. Lindh and Ptl. D'Onofrio.

Together, they raised money for athletes to play

football who wouldn't have otherwise been able to afford to play. Additionally, some of these athletes have forged bonds with some of our police officers who have been role models, encouraging them to stay out of trouble and to always compete to the best of their ability - and they certainly have.

The Valley Forge High School football team also volunteered their time to assist with preparing the Greenbrier Commons for this year's Ohio Flags of Honor display.





City of  
Parma Heights, Ohio

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# COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## Get Involved ♦ Volunteer ♦ Support Parma Heights

<b>Community Garden Club</b> .....	Kathy.....	440.888.9178
<i>Maintains Community Garden in Commons, donates fresh food to Food Pantry, and plants flowers throughout the city</i>		
<b>Greenbrier Art League</b> .....	Susan Kiedio.....	440.845.5373
<i>Free "Every Tuesday is Art Day" from 9am-1pm at the Cassidy Theatre</i>		
<b>Historical Society</b> .....	Joe Reeves.....	216.870.4864
<i>Maintains historic Tollhouse in the Commons and collects historical artifacts</i>		
<b>Family Collaborative</b> .....	11212 Snow Road.....	440.887.4873
<i>Social Service Agency that links families with resources and welcomes donations/volunteers</i>		
<b>Food Pantry</b> .....	6369 Pearl Road, Rear.....	440.842.6491
<i>Welcomes donations of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items as well as financial contributions</i>		
<b>Cassidy Theatre</b> .....	www.cassidytheatre.com.....	440.842.4600
<i>Artistic productions for adults and children, youth theatre classes and ample volunteer opportunities</i>		
<b>BigCreekConnects</b> .....	info@friendsofbigcreek.....	216.661.7706
<i>Former Friends of the Big Creek who work to preserve the Big Creek Watershed</i>		
<b>Multi-Cultural Festival</b> .....	Nadeem Khalid..... nadeemkhalid03@gmail.com.....	440.843.4826
<i>Looking for volunteers to help organize a one-of-a-kind international festival</i>		
<b>Home Family Club</b> .....	6450 Pearl Road.....	440.888.1664
<i>Social club for persons of Italian heritage with Italian Dinner open to non-members every Friday night from 6-9pm</i>		
<b>Lebanese American Society</b> .....	6607 Pearl Road.....	440.345.5887
<b>Democratic Club</b> .....	Fred Crow..... fcrow436@gmail.com.....	440.346.3754
<b>Republican Club</b> .....	Bruce Edwards..... matatow6348@yahoo.com.....	440.888.4449
<b>Boy/Girl Scouts</b> .....	Parma-South Presbyterian Church.....	440.885.2652
<b>American Legion Post 703</b> .....	7667 York Road.....	440.842.0703