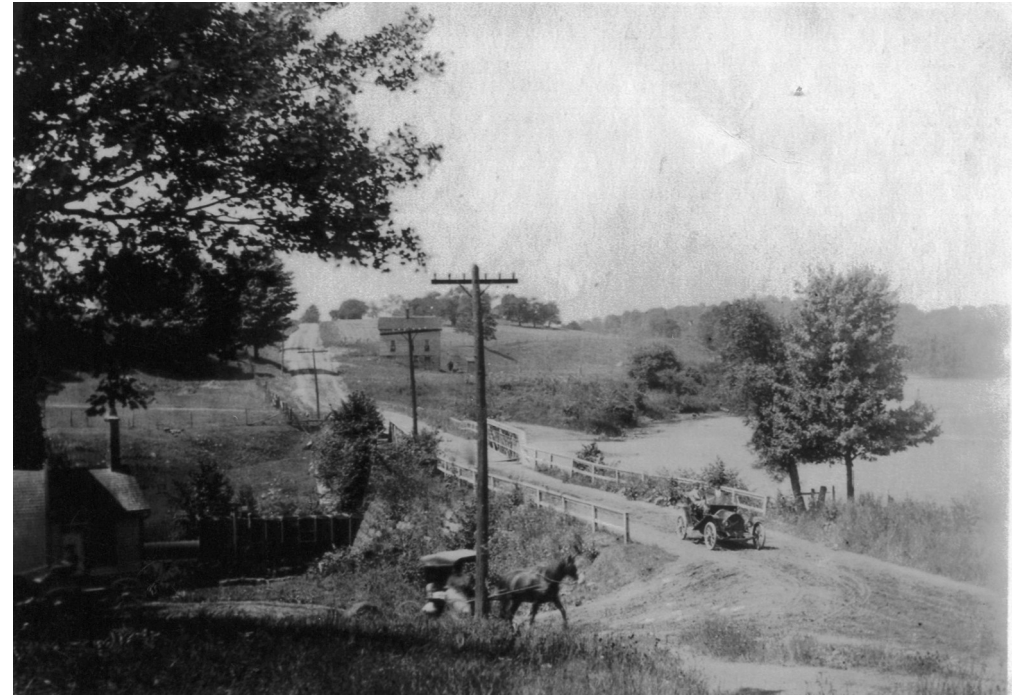




# **Parkman Paragraphs**

## **Fall 2020**



## **Parkman's Moss Mill and Dam**

**McCall Road (Rt. 88) bridge 1910-ish? and looking south**



**McCall Rd (Rt 88) bridge today in September 2020**

**Community Website: [www.ParkmanOhio.com](http://www.ParkmanOhio.com)**  
**Newsletter E-mail: [ParkmanOhio@gmail.com](mailto:ParkmanOhio@gmail.com)**

Parkman Township  
16295 Main Market Rd. (Rt. 422)  
West Farmington, Ohio 44491  
(440) 548-2904

### **Parkman Township Trustees**

Meetings normally are 1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
at 7pm in the Community House

**For all Township business, call 548-2904**

Roger Anderson - trustee@parkman@gmail.com  
Dennis Ikeler - DennisIkeler@gmail.com  
Henry Duchscherer - hgdjr@windstream.net

### **Fiscal Officer**

Nina Reed - nina\_m\_reed@yahoo.com

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

Meri Lynn Klingensmith

For info or reservations call 548-5548 or  
ParkmanCommunityHouse@gmail.com.

### **Cemetery Sexton**

Dale Komandt  
Angela Fox—Assistant Sexton

### **Fire & Rescue**

Mike Komandt - Fire Chief  
Tanner Baker - EMS Officer

### **Fire/Medical Emergencies:**

CALL 911

### **Parkman Chamber of Commerce**

Denise Villers, President  
Sandy Rought, Secretary

Patty Hall, Vice-President  
Lynn Schiffbauer, Treasurer

Chamber meets at 7pm on the 3rd Monday of the months  
**January, February, April, September, October, and November**  
in the Parkman Community House. We are always looking for new members.

**Our next events (pending on social distancing rules) are the:**

#### **Parkman Chamber Halloween Party “Trick-or-Treat”**

Sunday, October 25th, 2020 (6:30pm – 7:30pm)  
at the Parkman Community House

#### **Parkman Chamber Breakfast with Santa**

Saturday, December 5th, 2020 (8:30am – 10am)  
at the Parkman Community House



### **Zoning Commission**

(now meets 4th Wednesday 7pm)  
at the Community House

### **Zoning Appeals Board**

(meets 2nd Tuesday 7pm)  
at the Community House

### **Zoning Inspector**

John Spelich  
(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY )  
DUE TO COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS

Cell Phone: 330-219-3698  
or e-mail at rcavictor42@aol.com

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

### **Road Department**

Eric Mathews - Superintendent  
ParkmanRoads@gmail.com  
Roads Cell Phone - 440-904-0655

**Road Dept. Garage Phone Number  
548-8671**

**For other Township business,  
548-2904**

## **Parkman 2020 Community Event Calendar**

All of the Parkman Events below are **PENDING** due to the  
new social distancing regulations – please check [ParkmanOhio.com](http://ParkmanOhio.com) for all updates!!



### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

September 12, 2020 (2pm - 8pm)  
November 14, 2020 (9am - 3pm)  
December 11, 2020 (1pm - 7pm)  
at the Parkman Community House



### **Parkman Historical Society**

September 17, 2020 (7:30 pm)  
at the Parkman Community House



### **Parkman Chamber Halloween Party “Trick-or-Treat” (Pending)**

Sunday, October 25th, 2020 (6:30pm – 7:30pm)  
at the Parkman Community House

### **Parkman Community Halloween “Trick-or-Treat” (Pending)**

Saturday October 31st, 2020 (5pm - 6pm)  
Use Caution - no Traffic Cross Guards again this year!

### **Parkman November Elections**

Parkman November Elections will be on Tuesday November 3, 2020  
at the Parkman Community House

Issue #16 - Renewal - Parkman Roads

Check out the Geauga Board of Elections for all issues and Candidates  
<https://boelections.co.geauga.oh.us/>



### **Parkman Chamber Breakfast with Santa (Pending)**

Saturday, December 5th, 2020 (8:30am – 10am)  
at the Parkman Community House  
Child's breakfast is only \$3.00 and Adults can eat for \$5.00.

**All of the events are pending, and if allowed, we can use your help as a volunteer!**  
**Thanks to all who do help and support these and any of our community events!**

## **Geauga County Public Health**

Geauga County Public Health website hosts a wide range of support and  
rehab information including many resource links and all the most current  
local Covid stats. It can be a very useful guide to our community.  
The other link is also useful and up-to-date virus info.

<http://gphohio.org/> and <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov>



# Parkman Chamber of Commerce

From Denise Villers

A quick review of our activities since the spring edition of our Parkman Paragraphs:

The COVID-19 shut down in March threw us for a loop in the middle of our annual **Pancake Breakfasts**. We were able to serve in the dining room the first two weeks; then we cancelled the initial shut-down week. The final two Sundays in March we staffed the kitchen minimally and set up a drive-thru carry-out system. We were thankful for those that came and picked up meals. Special thanks to our volunteers and the men of Parkman's Western Phoenix Lodge.

Our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** also adapted into a drive-thru activity for the kids (in conjunction with Parkman Congregational Church) at the Community House parking lot. Each child received at least a dozen eggs with candy and prizes. We were pleasantly surprised at the turn-out and folks were happy that we were able to provide something for the kids.

## Upcoming Activities:

### TRICK OR TREATING – Be sure to check the website for updates

The last few years the Chamber of Commerce has hosted an indoor Halloween Party / Trick-or-Treating at the Community House - to keep our trick-or-treaters safe and off the streets. The township is no longer providing for safe crossings in town due to the lack of children going house-to-house here in Parkman.

We ask the residents to bring their treats here to the community house instead of their homes. We provide tables and chairs and everyone gets to see the parade of "ninja warriors and princesses" together. We are continuing this activity and invite everyone to join us on Sunday, October 25th from 6:30 until 7:30 p.m.

### \*\* Be sure to check the website for any updates \*\*

We've been hosting **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** for a few years now and it has been well-received. The kids get to visit with Santa, receive a small gift and then they enjoy a yummy breakfast with their parents/grandparents. This year's breakfast will be on Saturday, December 5th from 8:30 until 10:00 a.m. A child's breakfast is only \$3.00 and adults can eat for \$5.00.

The holidays also include decorating and un-decorating the center of town. We would certainly appreciate some helping hands with this project – give us a call!

As always, everyone is welcome to join the Chamber of Commerce (not just business owners – we're more of a community group). We normally meet on the 3rd Mondays in January, February, April, September, October, and November at 7:00 p.m. at the Community House. We would love to see you there!

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions about any of our activities.  
Denise Villers (440) 548-2939 or [denise.villers17880@gmail.com](mailto:denise.villers17880@gmail.com)

## Parkman Community House & Overlook Park Pavilion

Please contact Meri Lynn Klingensmith for info or reservations  
call 548-5548 or [ParkmanCommunityHouse@gmail.com](mailto:ParkmanCommunityHouse@gmail.com).

# Parkman Trustees Fall 2020 Review

From Roger Anderson

Well I guess we all know that 2020 has been a very different year for all. We have had tons of confusion, changes and different directions on a daily basis. I certainly hope that everyone has proceeded to a new level of comfort and we can get past this time of uncertainty. I also hope everyone has filled out the CENSUS information if not please do it soon. This information helps the township with funding and representation. Going forward we still have a variety of items that are still in the (wait and see) stage.

**Some updates:** We will definitely have in person voting at the Community House on November 3. The Board of Elections has made some modifications so that 'social distancing' and sterile options are maintained. **YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK.** Early voting and absentee are still options that are available, vote early for these options to make sure your vote is counted.

We will sterilize the Community House before and after voting to insure safety. There is a renewal road levy on the ballot. **PLEASE VOTE!!!**

The Board of Trustees is still discussing the best solution for the fire department. We all agree that 24 hour coverage is definitely needed to provide a proper level of safety for our residents, how we achieve this with a plan that is sustainable is a continuing discussion. We will have a fire levy on the ballot in the spring. Please attend a trustee meeting soon to input your feelings as to what should be the future of Parkman Fire & Rescue.

The Post Office should be returning soon to the center of town in the BP lot, although they don't seem to be in any hurry. The BP construction should also be done and a new flow there. The Gazebo will be getting a much needed paint job as well as the front of the Community House. Please stay safe and healthy in the upcoming fall and winter months.

From Henry Duchscherer

Keeping Parkman Voters Safe for the November 3rd Election

We are completely disinfecting the Community House the day before and the day after the Election. It is being done by Alan and Dawn Mighton of Smylies here in Parkman.

The Board Of Elections has reconfigured the voting booths and sign-in tables to insure proper distancing. Wipes, sanitizer, single use pens and single use gloves for the touch screens will be available. There will be a separate entrance and a separate exit.

Masks are required by State Mandate  
SO VOTE WITH CONFIDENCE NOVEMBER 3rd



## Parkman's "Little Free Library"

From: Joe and Dorrie Keough  
[dorriekeough@gmail.com](mailto:dorriekeough@gmail.com)

Located in front of the Parkman Old Postal Cottage  
(on right - next to stairs)

We are pleased to report that there is now a Little Free Library in front of the Old Postal Cottage (formerly the Parkman post office).

Joe Keough modeled it after the building on a scale of 12:1.

It is registered with the Little Free Library organization, and will appear on their international map.

It will be supported, in part, by Women United, and the United Way.  
The public is welcome to "take a book, leave a book", and enjoy the free materials



## Parkman Roads

From Superintendent Eric Mathews

Hello , I hope everyone has been able to enjoy the beautiful weather we are having this summer. I would like to give just a basic rough agenda as far as the plans for the roads. FIRST I would like to thank those of you who have been understanding and left us messages with positive feedback when we are able to get to and maintain your roads. This year has been tough because even though the weather was beautiful the heat was not so friendly to us in regards to our dust control on the dirt roads. The material that was applied is activated by moisture which then gives the road the wet look and knocks the dust down. Unfortunately we do not have a water truck or an effective means of watering the roads and it hurt us this year between no moisture and the multiple days and weeks of high temperatures early this summer. As some of you may have notice we have been fighting washboard on the roads all season this year.

We have had a couple major road projects that we had to complete and we have been trying to maintain the roads in between. As far as the dirt road residents we are starting to use asphalt grindings on the roads now. We tested this three years ago on Patch road and although it will still produce dust in high heat we noticed the amount of holes and dust cut down significantly.

The week of 8-31 thru 9-4 we will be finishing our last major road project and will return our focus on attempting to have the roads prepared for the fall and winter season. This will include lightly grading and dragging (while the roads are wet), spreading grindings and or gravel where needed, full road side mowing from the road edge to the right of way. As long as weather and time permits we will conduct ditching and cutting of berms on multiple roads. We have completed crack sealing of asphalt roads and will be spending one day in the very near future filling some holes on the asphalt roads.

For your information only please be aware that there are only three members of the road dept. that try to keep up maintenance on 18 miles of dirt roads and roughly 10 miles of paved. We will never purposely avoid or ignore a road however I would ask that you please contact one of the 2 phone numbers below and kindly advise me if you feel there is something that needs done.

Please leave a message if there is no answer as if I am in operating a machine or driving I will return your call. Please help us help you. This Fall and Winter if you see us grading or dragging, ditching, or plowing please pass us with care and if possible pull off into a drive way. I respectfully ask this because if we stop and lift the blade of the grader, drag and or plow while pushing snow it is difficult for us to resume pushing the material again and adequately continue.

I have made multiple reports with the Sherriff's office in regards to the vandalism on the roads with ATV's. If you see anyone doing damage to the roads please help us by contacting the Law and or call us and we will come see how bad the damage is and try to fix it in a timely matter.

Lastly I would like to clear up some of the questions in regards to the Newcomb Road Paving. This project is being funded and managed by both the State and County. The last information provided to me is that the bidding for the project will be given out in October. I am unsure when the bids will be opened and the work started. Yes, Newcomb road is scheduled to be paved from Shedd Rd south to Rt 168. NO we as the township are not doing it or handling the project however I will be more than happy to try and answer any questions you may have and or attempt to find an answer for you. FYI in the days or weeks coming NEWCOMB ROAD RESIDENTS the speed limit will be changed to 45 MPH prior to the start of the project. I wish the best to everyone and thank you for the continued support and understanding and hope you have a safe and enjoyable fall.

**Superintendent Eric Mathews - Road Garage 440-548-8671 - Road Dept Cell 440-904-0655**

## Parkman Congregational Church

18265 Madison Road Parkman Ohio 44080  
New Mailing Address - 18265 Madison Road Middlefield Ohio 44062

**Rev. Will Coley - Pastor**

Check out the website for the most current event information  
**[www.parkmanchurch.com](http://www.parkmanchurch.com)**  
or contact the church office (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri) at 440-548-4829

### Church in Person or via YouTube

We've opened our doors for "church in person" on June 21st, 10:30am. We will also continue to stream our services, so please don't feel pressured to return until you're ready.

Check the website for the precautions we're taking to keep our families safe.

Join us Sunday morning at 10:30 by going to [Parkmanchurch.com](http://Parkmanchurch.com) and clicking on the Parkman Church live frame or by clicking on this link...  
**<http://youtube.com/parkmanchurch>**

### Drive thru meals being offered at Parkman Congregational Church

Parkman Congregational Church has begun hosting monthly dinners to raise funds for the GEAUGA FAITH RESCUE MISSION. If you don't know about this wonderful organization, check them out at <https://gfrmission.org/>

**Dinners are being held on the 3rd Friday of each month (excluding December)  
The menu is varied.**

Since we are all social distancing these days, we have set up a drive-thru carry-out system at the church. The cost is \$12.00 each. (We are unable to offer any discounts due to the costs involved for take-out containers.)

Join us at 18265 Madison Road (Parkman Township)  
for a great dinner and support this local mission.

### Upcoming Dinners:

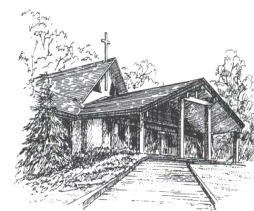
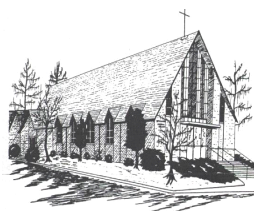
September 18th - Meatloaf  
October 16th - Cabbage Rolls  
November 20th - Soups and Sandwiches

## SS. Edward and Lucy

**Catholic Parish Community**

16150 Center St. (P.O. Box 709)  
Parkman, Ohio 44080

**Rev. John Burkley - Pastor**



-- Check out the parish website for the most current masses and event information --  
**<http://www.ssedwardlucy.com>**  
or contact the parish office at 440-548-3812 or [KT@simcon.net](mailto:KT@simcon.net)

Though we canceled several traditional events including the 2020 Car Show due to Covid  
**Special Thanks** to all who supported our 2020 Raffle Fundraiser!

-- Lets try again in 2021 --

Volunteers are always welcomed and needed at our monthly visit to the St. Vincent Food Kitchen in Warren on the 4th Saturday of every month.

Contact Parish Office for more info!

# Parkman Township Zoning Inspector

From John M. Spelich

To all Parkman Township residents:

For several years the Board of Trustees and the Zoning Department have been working hand and hand to rid the Township of junk. Junk vehicles, unlicensed vehicles, and noxious weeds, overgrowth and high grass all tends to bring down your property value.

ARTICLE 4 "PROHIBITED USES IN ALL DISTRICTS "

Section "D" - states "storage of junk vehicles"

Section "E" - junk yards: and the storage of junk

Section "F" - automotive wrecking and recycling is prohibited

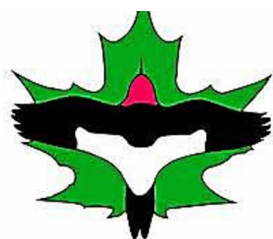
The Zoning Inspector with written notice will notify the violator and request that they remove the junk or junk vehicle within thirty days, noting in the letter what section of the code is being violated. The provision of the resolution shall govern the minimum conditions and responsibilities of the property owner, structures, equipment and exterior of your property.

The Goal of the Township is to be JUNK FREE, free of inoperable or unlicensed vehicles on any property in the township. Recently we have cited property owners with steel storage containers. This item is not allowed within the township it is a PROHIBITED within our regulations. For further information or if you have questions please feel free to call me at 330-219-3698 or email at rcavictor42@aol.com

You all have a safe fall.

*Sincerely:*

*John M. Spelich*



**GEAUGA PARK**

## Geauga Park District

<https://www.geaugaparkdistrict.org>

There are many Fall 2020 events have been designed to meet the current Social Distancing Regulations. Check a full list of family friendly activities on their website. Always thanks to everyone for your participation and support of our parks.

## Parkman Plant Swap 2021

From Jane Zajackowski

**Saturday - June 5, 2021 at the Parkman Community House**

Mark the date! After our experience with living through this pandemic, the plant swap will be even more special next year. Everyone will be so happy to see each other again!

Sharing plants is always fun, but it's the wonderful people who participate in the plant swap that makes the event extra special.

Since the official 2020 Parkman Plant Swap was cancelled by the pandemic, there was a virtual plant swap located on the ParkmanOhio.com website. Look for the 2020 Virtual Connections in the menu.

## Parkman 55 Plus Club

Please feel welcome to join us and share a delicious potluck lunch and fellowship. We meet at the Parkman Community House on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at 11:30am.



## Veterans Of Foreign Wars Middlefield Post #9678

The VFW Middlefield Post #9678 has a new web site.  
Check out all of their events - thanks to all who support!

**[www.vfw9678.org](http://www.vfw9678.org)**

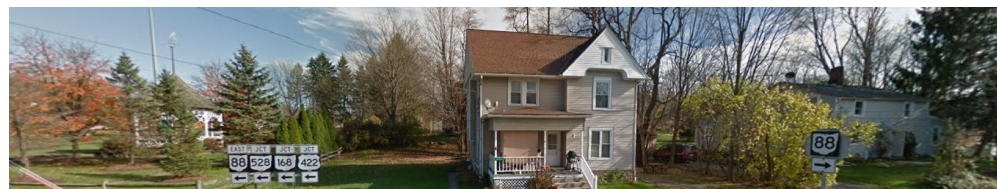
## Parkman Historical Society

September 17, 2020 (7:30 pm )

at the Parkman Community House

Please feel welcome to join us as we preserve our local history!

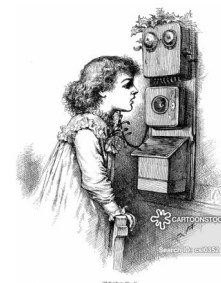
Thanks to all who help support our community!



## Parkman Telephone Company

From Mary Ellen Finch Nixon

My adopted parents, Frank and Elsie Finch operated the old Parkman Telephone Company.



The Finches worked for the Parkman Telephone Company first time in the 1910 area – then took a job with Ohio Bell in Mantua, Ohio. That is when they adopted me. When that company went to dial, they came back to Parkman as the company was in financial straits due to the operation of the fellow that was hired in the meantime.

My adopted parents, Frank and Elsie Finch operated the Parkman Telephone Company from 1935 until it went to dial. My foster father did all the manual labor with the help of one other fellow. We ALL worked the switchboard. Sorry that I don't have any photos of the switchboard. Wish my father could see the telephones that are in use today.

We lived in the big house at the southeast corner of the gazebo park just off route 422 and the road north to Middlefield, the house was the first one on the east side of the road going south. When I lived there, the telephone exchange was in our house, in the front room on the south of the building, on the main floor.

After dad died, mother operated the company up until the time they went dial and then bought the house. I graduated from Parkman High School in 1940. I lived there until I married in 1947 and then moved to Warren, Ohio.

I now live in Arizona. I am sure that there have been many changes since I lived in Parkman.

Thank you Mary for sharing your story with our Parkman Community. I can only picture the Parkman Telephone Company like a scene from Lilly Tomlin's comic Ernestine the Switch Board Operator. As you said, it is amazing how advance the technology of phones is these days compared to when it began. Happy 98th Birthday from all of us in Parkman!!!

Cory Anderson







## On the Cover - Parkman's Moss Mill and Dam - 1910?

From Cory Anderson

Old Parkman photos always get sent to the Parkman Email. It is always fun to share them. Like the many other Parkman photos posted on our website, there usually is no story or timeframe of them, especially this one. But after some personal research, I think this one was from the 1910 era. I am basing this off of the unique car that is traveling across the McCall Road (Rt 88) bridge.

The photo on the cover shows one of the older Grand River bridge designs and dam construction...unlike the same view today where you will find the new Shangri La Event Center in the background.

<https://www.shangrilalake.com/>



The car in the photo on the left is a 1911 Stearns, a car made from local Cleveland Ohio company. The cars in both photos are very similar. I am not a pro, just an amateur gusser. Please advise me if needed - I welcome any input!

Photo 1911 Stearns photo is from the Stearns Automotive page found on the wiki link: [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stearns\\_\(automobile\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stearns_(automobile))



## Parkman Boy Scouts Troop 4076

From Mark Pregritz - Parkman Troop Master

Parkman Boy Scouts are still active during COVID 19! It's been a challenging year for the scouts with COVID 19. Summer Camp was on, then it was a maybe but, in the end, it was canceled. However, the scout persevered. With the cancellation of summer camp, they found a way to safely camp and earn ranks and merit badges while complying with BSA and Ohio's COVID regulations.

In June we held our Court of Honor at Meadow Ridge Events. Aaron Troyer, Joseph Zurma, Aaden Gardner and Caleb McBride achieve the Tenderfoot rank, Eric Rought achieved second class, and Raymond Kozelka achieved first class. Thank you to Meadow Ridge Events for allowing to hold our Court of Honor at your facility -

<https://meadowridgefarm.com/>



A big "Thank You" to Jim and Jill Vinecourt and an anonymous party for their generous donations to the scouts as our fund-raising activities have been curtailed. It allowed the scouts to create their own "Summer Camp" and continue their journey towards Eagle.

In addition to monetary donations the troop received a full 1932 Boy Scout uniform with campaign hat and merit badge sash from Mrs. Murphy of Middlefield Ohio. The troop is investigating ways to share and display this artifact for others to enjoy as it is a valuable piece of Boy Scout history.

Boys interested in scouting call Scout Master Mark Pegritz at 440-667-7209.

## Parkman Fire & Rescue

From: Mike Komandt, Fire Chief



Earlier this year the 5 mil Fire Levy that was placed on the ballot failed. If this levy would have passed in the Spring of 2020, the Fire Department would have been funded for the next 30 years! To our knowledge, this is the first time that a ballot initiative for Parkman Fire has failed at the poles. The Fire Department and Township Board of Trustees are actively engaged in the planning of another ballot measure in the spring (May) of 2021. The level of funding to be requested has not been determined nor has the duration of the levy.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!! The Fire Department and the Trustees need to hear the voice of the township. Your voice needs to be heard, and can be by Email, phone calls, or by attending a trustees meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at the Parkman Community House. We need to hear what services the township expects from the Fire Department.

We have not seen much of a decrease in requests for assistance due to the pandemic, but the significant incidents for Parkman have increased significantly in the first half of 2020. We have responded to 8 significant fires this year in Parkman, 2 of which required State Fire Investigator assistance due to the nature and cause.

Parkman Fire continues to support our residents and businesses at their time of need, if Parkman is not available, long standing agreements have been solidified, to automatically dispatch additional departments to your emergency further reducing the time it take for assistance to arrive.

Any residents that wish to serve the community as a firefighter or EMT please reach out to us, the community needs your help. In most cases your training is covered by the Fire Department after a criminal history check, drug test, and physical, that are requirements set forth by the State.

You can contact your Trustees, the Fire Department, or the Fire Chief to have your input heard or questions answered.



Check out all current Pack 3141 events and info at  
<http://www.pack3141.org>  
[middlefieldpack3141@gmail.com](mailto:middlefieldpack3141@gmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/middlefieldpack3141>



## Parkman Memorial Day 2020 and Troop 3141 ambitions

Special Thanks to the Cub Scout Pack 3141 for flagging our Parkman Cemeteries this 2020 Memorial Day. Even though we had to virtually celebrate the day while honoring Jeannette Smith Loomis, Cub Scout Pack 3141 was there to honor our Veterans during the pandemic. Many thanks for taking the time to accomplish this tradition!

