



Parkman Paragraphs

Spring 2023



Parkman Congregational Church Bicentennial Celebration 1823 - 2023

(Photo is when the building was moved from the BP / Gulf corner to its current location.)

**Community Website: www.ParkmanOhio.com
Newsletter E-mail: ParkmanOhio@gmail.com**

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

Parkman Paragraphs is published in Spring and Fall.
This Spring 2023 edition is sponsored by the Parkman Trustees.
Cory Anderson, Paragraphs Editor

Parkman Township Trustees

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

For all Township business, call 440-548-2904

Parkman's Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/admin44080>

Parkman's New Trustee E-mail

parkmantownship548@gmail.com

Henry Duchscherer - hduchschererjr@gmail.com
Joyce Peters - joyce_peters2000@yahoo.com
Lance Portman - rdtrustee@gmail.com

Fiscal Officer

Denise Villers - Parkman.F.O@gmail.com

Parkman Community House & Overlook Park Pavilion

Lynn Schiffbauer - Hall Coordinator
For info or reservations call
440-548-2904 or 440-346-0775
or e-mail ParkmanCommunityHouse@gmail.com

Fire & Rescue

Mike Komandt - Fire Chief
440-547-2817 or mike.komandt@gmail.com
Non Emergency Fire Station 440-548-2515

Fire/Medical Emergencies:

CALL 911

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

(Wednesdays 4:30pm - 6pm) at the Community
House or by appointment in the event you cannot
make office hours.

Cell Phone or txt: 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 Number 548-8671

Cemetery Sexton

Dale Komandt - Sexton
440-785-3514 or
dKomandt@hotmail.com

Angela Fox - Assistant Sexton
ParkmanCemetery@gmail.com

Parkman Chamber of Commerce

Denise Villers, President
Sandy Rought, Secretary

Nancy Black, 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 are the: Parkman Pancake Breakfast

Parkman Community House - Sunday's in March (5, 12, 19, 26), 2023 (9am-2pm)
Pancake and Sausage Meal - "Eat In" and "Drive Through" options available

Parkman Easter Egg Hunt

Parkman Overlook Park - Saturday April 8, 2023 (11am)
Adult - \$10 Kids (10 and under) - \$5 Pre-Schoolers - Free

Many thanks to all who help volunteer and support all of our Parkman traditions!

Parkman 2023 Community Event Calendar

Thanks to all for your continued support to our community traditions
and also keeping such traditions safe for everyone to enjoy -
please check ParkmanOhio.com for all updates!!



Parkman Historical Society

Meetings on March 16, May 18, July 20, and September 21, 2023
(7:30 pm) at the Parkman Community House
or e-mail your story to ParkmanOhio@gmail.com
to share on our website

Parkman Chamber's Traditional Pancake Breakfast

Parkman Community House - Sunday's in March (5, 12, 19, 26), 2023 (9am - 1pm)

Adults - \$10 Kids (10 and under) - \$5 Pre-Schoolers - Free

All you can eat breakfast includes - pancakes, sausage and drink.
"Eat In" and "Drive Through" options available

Parkman Chamber's Traditional Easter Egg Hunt

Parkman Overlook Park - April 8, 2023 (11am)

Parkman Congregational Church Bicentennial

Celebrations on June 17th with a Community Carnival at 18265 Madison Road Parkman
and a Bicentennial Luncheon will take place on Sunday, June 18th

Parkman Scrap and Tire Recycle Day

June 24, 2023 (9am - Noon) at the Parkman Community House
<https://startrecycling.com/>

Senior pick up for Parkman is June 21, 22, 23.

Sign up deadline is June 14 2023

You must contact The Geauga County Department on Aging for sign up!

SS Edward Lucy 2023 Car Show / Chicken Dinner

Hosted at St Edwards on August 20th, 2023 (11am - 6pm)

American Red Cross

Parkman Community House Blood Drive Dates for 2023

May 25, 2023 (10am - 3pm)
December 28, 2023 (10am - 3pm)

Many thanks to all who help volunteer and support
all of our Parkman Community traditions!

Gauga County Public Health

Gauga 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

Halloween 2022 (Sunday, October 30th) was filled with candy, snacks, games, and music. Thanks to everyone who volunteered and supported our Halloween party. We would love to see more residents come out to pass out trick-or-treat goodies. It's an awesome opportunity to stay connected to our community and see all the little goblins and superheroes.

Decorating downtown and at the Community House for the holiday season is quite the undertaking, but it's well worth it. We hope you enjoyed all the lights and decorations. Special thanks to our chief design coordinator, Lynn Schiffbauer, for heading up the work crew (Nancy, Mike, Brian and Western Phoenix Lodge).

We enjoyed seeing so many families at our **Breakfast with Santa** in December. Kids, parents and grandparents enjoyed breakfast and the kids received small gifts from Santa. Thanks to our volunteers for a great day. Special thanks to Santa Jeff Heavner for joining us!

Pancake Breakfasts will be DINE-IN this year. We are revamping our take-out set up so watch for signs. As is the situation everywhere, our expenses have increased; so, unfortunately, we need to up our prices. This year we'll be charging adults \$10.00 and children \$5.00 Would you be interested in getting involved? We appreciate all the help we get – there are a lot of jobs to be filled for each of the four weeks (divided into two shifts) Sunday in March (5th , 12th , 19th , and 26th).

Our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** will be the day before Easter – Saturday, April 8th at Overlook Park at 11:00 a.m. It's not a "free-for-all". We start with the toddlers, then we have the pre-schoolers gather eggs, and on up through the grades (through 6th). Our Easter Bunny gives each child a special egg that entitles them to a gift/prize.

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!

Feel free to call me if you have any questions about any of our activities.

Denise Villers (440) 548-2939
denise.villers17880@gmail.com



Below are some photos from Breakfast with Santa and the holiday decorating.
Thanks to everyone who helped support these and all of our activities!



Parkman Trustees

From Lance Portman and Henry Duchscherer

From Lance Portman:

Hello Everyone!

I hope you all had a great Christmas Season.

We gave had a rough season this year with the weather. I wish there was something that I could do to help that. The freeze, thaw and rain are really hurting the roads.

This year, we are still planning to chipseal Patch and Nash roads. I wanted them done last year, but the rain started earlier than anticipated, so we were unable to follow through. I plan to get started earlier this year. We are also planning on doing a few more roads this year. Patch and Nash will just need graded to get them ready. The rest of them, will need to have the ditching done, any cross pipes replaced that need it, and make sure any tree work is done prior to chipseal. This will make it better for travel and should hold up better than dirt.

As always, stay safe and please be careful in work zones. I want everyone to go home at the end of the day!

Parkman Scrap and Tire Recycle Day

Our Township Scrap and Tire Recycle Day is June 24 2023

Once Again we will be having a Scrap and Tire recycling at Parkman Community House from 8AM till 12 Noon in an effort to continue the clean-up of Parkman Township.

PLEASE SEPARATE METAL ITEMS FOR RECYCLING

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Batteries, Liquid Paint, Chemicals, Yard Waste of any kind, Rocks, Dirt, Concrete or Cement, Motor Vehicle Parts,
No Items containing Freon, Oil or Gasoline or Any items containing Asbestos

Senior pick up for Parkman is June 21, 22, 23.

Sign up deadline is June 14 2023

You must contact The Geauga County Department on Aging for sign up!

If you have questions or concerns, feel free to call me or email. I would be glad to answer the best I can.

Thank you!
Sincerely Lance

From Henry Duchscherer Jr:

We have good things happening at Overlook Park this spring. We are planning to build a Horse Shed for a place to park the horses when they come to the Park. Steven Stoftzfus has been instrumental in the planning and we hope to have it built by summer. We are also purchasing a new swing set and we are going to make the tennis court multi use by painting a Pickleball Court on it. We have also installed cameras for your safety.

At the Community House we have installed a new floor in the Dining room and we are going to undertake a major painting project, painting both upstairs and the first floor. We are also adding more lighting to illuminate the parking lot and make it safer. We are also replacing the old wooden chairs with a much more comfortable model.

We have an exciting project resurrecting the original bell from the Old Parkman School. Tim Yoder is building the structure and we are installing it in the Gazebo. These improvements and projects will be paid for with American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Parkman Fire & Rescue

From: Mike Komandt, Fire Chief

Fire is a chemical reaction that requires three elements to be present for the reaction to take place and continue. The three elements are:

Heat, or an ignition source - Fuel - Oxygen

These three elements typically are referred to as the "fire triangle." Fire is the result of the reaction between the fuel and oxygen in the air. Heat, fuel and oxygen must combine in a precise way for a fire to start and continue to burn. If one element of the fire triangle is not present or removed, fire will not start or, if already burning, will extinguish.

Parkman Fire Department is always looking for dedicated volunteers and part time personnel. If you are interested in serving the community, please stop in the fire house and pick up an application, contact us on Facebook, or call the station. All certification training courses for township residents are fully funded by the fire department.

If you wish to reach the Parkman Fire Department on the NON EMERGENCY phone, then please call 440-548-2515

<https://www.facebook.com/Parkman-Township-Fire-Department-105656799483602>

Parkman Township Zoning Inspector

From John M. Spelich

Hello everyone. Well here we go again, believe it or not spring is just around the corner and we had all winter to work on the plans to up grade your home with an addition or a porch or barn or whatever.

The township is divided into districts being:

Residential-R-1, Industrial-I and Commercial-C

the commercial is what is referred to as DOWNTOWN Main Market (422) east and west, then Madison road north and south. Those area's are where most businesses are and with that we will have three new commercial soon: a sports store, a Amish bakery (plus this is on the QT) a hardware store.

WE are still longing for a nice restaurant like we used to have, there is land available if someone wants to step up. Keep in mind when you get ready to add on build new call zoning to double check your side lot set back and back and front set backs and make sure your building on your land and your neighbors.

Your zoning officials are here to help you. Stop by the office, text or call. Cell is 330-219-3698 (text is the same) or email at rcavictor42@aol.com
Office hours: Wednesdays - 430pm - 6pm or by appointments.

Your Zoning Inspector John M. Spelich and Zoning Secretary Jan Helt

Parkman Historical Society Cemetery Restoration Project

The Historical Society took on a job a couple of years ago to restore and straighten the headstones in our Cemeteries. We are looking for donations to help continue this ambition.

Let us remember our ancestors, friends and Veterans of earlier times.

Any amount will be appreciated. Again, Thank You!

Send your help to:

A.D. Komandt, President of Parkman Historical Society,
16114 Center St., Middlefield, Oh 44062.

Thanks to all who help support our community!

More info? Please contact Dale Komandt - 440-785-3514 or dKomandt@hotmail.com



Parkman Congregational Church

18265 Madison Road, Parkman Township, Middlefield, Ohio 44062
440-548-4829

Rev. Will Coley – Pastor

Church office is open Monday and Friday from 9am to 1pm
and Thursday from (9am to 11am)

Email – parkmanchurch@windstream.net

On the web – www.parkmanchurch.com

Facebook – <http://facebook.com/parkmanchurch>



Parkman Congregational Church 1823 -2023 Bicentennial Celebration

Celebrations in June on the 17th with a Community Carnival
at 18265 Madison Road Parkman
and a Bicentennial Luncheon will take place on Sunday, June 18th

Sunday Worship Service Schedule

Sunday School – 9:00 am / Fellowship Time – 10:00 am / Worship Service – 10:30 am

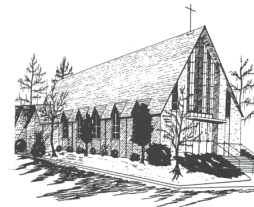
2023 Dinners are served Drive Through Only

at Parkman Congregational Church held from 5pm – 7pm. Dinners are \$15.00 each

March 17th, (Corned Beef Dinner)

May 19th, (Chicken Paprikash Dinner)

September 15th, (Meatloaf Dinner)

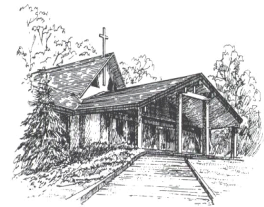


SS. Edward and Lucy Catholic Parish Community

16150 Center St. (P.O. Box 709)

Parkman, Ohio 44080

<http://www.ssedwardlucy.com>



Check out the parish website for the most current masses
and event information

or contact the parish office at 440-548-3812 or office@simcon.net

Rev. Jacob Bearer - Administrator

2023 Annual Car Show / Chicken Dinner

Hosted at St Edwards on August 20th, 2023 (11am - 6pm)

Check out the parish website or contact Parish Office for more info!

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.

Cardinal Schools

<https://cardinalschoools.org/>

Check out the school website for the most current list of events.





Parkman Congregational Church 1823 -2023 Bicentennial Celebration

Celebrations on June 17th with a Community Carnival at 18265 Madison Road Parkman and a Bicentennial Luncheon will take place on June 18th.

** Brief History **

The Parkman Congregational Church was organized on April 28th, 1823 as a Presbyterian church with ten members and Mr Benjamin Fenn as the Pastor. Local Parkman history books state the meetings were irregular at different locations (usually peoples houses) and had times with no formal members were on the roster. After Rev. Fenn, there was a Rev. Woodruff in 1828 as the first regular pastor for one year. Up until 1850, there were at least six other rever-

ends that tried to commit to the obligation. In 1850, a Rev. Hopkins made the first attempt to build a church. He was successful in collecting the needed materials but complications prevented the work to be completed.

In 1852, Rev. Frasier began and he was the longest pastor committing at 9 years. During his tenure (around 1857) the church joined the Plymouth Rock Association of Congregational Churches. The church was reorganized at the time with 14 members.

In 1873, after several other reverends tried to keep the group together, Rev. Taylor from the Home Ministry Society as the new leader and seven members, set forth to finally build the new church building. It was completed and dedicated on December 1, 1878. The only debt was \$500 that was loaned from the Church Building Society.

Rev. Taylor during his 5 years as pastor, added 23 members to the church and made the church self sustaining for the first time. As years went on and reverends come and go, the church successfully grew in members.

In 1923, W. W. Moore and his two sons, Walter and Robert, came to Parkman and operated a garage and service station in the building which has been used by the Fire Department. In 1939, they purchased the lot occupied by the Congregational Church. The church was moved to its current location (the photo on the front cover) and Moore built a new garage.

In 1946, Mr Moore sold the garage to Standard Oil Company. Today it is know as the old BP or newly renovated Gulf Station.

As we get closer to the bicentennial celebrations, more history of the Parkman Congregational Church will be added to our website - www.Parkman Ohio.com.

Thanks to anyone who has historic photos or stories to share and help support this celebration.



GEAUGA PARK

Geauga Park District

<https://www.geaugaparkdistrict.org>
Check out our full adventure list on our website!

<https://www.geaugaparkdistrict.org>

Saps A Rising at Swine Creek Reservation - 3/5/2023 and 3/12/2023

Scout Day at Swine Creek Reservation - 3/4/2023

Parkman Scouts Troop 4076

From Mark Pregritz
Parkman Troop 4076 Scout Master

Summer Camp 2023 at Beaumont

The troop plans another adventurous summer camp at the Lake Erie Council - Beaumont Scout Reservation in Rock Creek Ohio- <https://lecbasa.org/beaumont>



Thanks for supporting the Scouts Annual Chicken Dinner Fundraiser

Thanks to all who joined us at the **Parkman Congregational Church**
Saturday October 22, 2022

Special Thanks to everyone who supported our 2022 fundraisers!

Interested in Scouting feel welcome to call
Scout Master Mark Pegritz at 440-667-7209 or markpegritz@gmail.com



Parkman Polar Bears Snowmobile Club

Check out their Facebook or Email
<https://www.facebook.com/baja1990/>
parkmanpolarbears@yahoo.com
for the most up to date info.

Veterans Of Foreign Wars Middlefield Post #9678

The VFW Middlefield Post #9678 has a facebook.
Check out all of their events - thanks to all who support!
<https://www.facebook.com/vfwpost9678/>
middlefieldvfw9678@gmail.com or (440) 632-1257



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 1st Thursday of every month at 11:30am.
Thanks to all who support this community gathering!

Parkman Historical Society

From Dale Komandt and Nikki Shrock

Historical Society Meetings for 2023

March 16 and May 18 (7:30 pm)
at the Parkman Community House

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



Parkman Community House Celebrating 160 Years of Community Service!!



Photo Circa 1900

1863 – 2023



Photo Circa 1940

Parkman Historical Society validates that our Parkman Community House building was built in 1863 - and is celebrating its 160 years in 2023. The building hosted many various operations - but the cheese house is how it began.

The Parkman Cheese Factory was built in 1863 by a New York company called Stokes and Budlong. It is said that they went into production right away and were very successful. Milk was collected by horse then. Nearly every farm in the community contributed to the supply of milk. In the late 1860's the company changed owners to OC Smith. This became known as the O C Smith Manufacturing Company. There was a patent in 1881 where rotary cheese vats were invented. In one year 260,000 pounds of cheese was made netting a profit of \$27,000.

In the late 1880's, after the death of Smith, the company changed hands again several times and thus managed unsuccessfully. At the turn of the century there was a craze for roller-skating and a new floor was put upstairs to support the new trend. Sometime around 1900ish, the cheese production ceased and the building was closed.

In 1924 the cheese factory was redesigned as the new Parkman Community House. A local group called the Mothers Club donated money to help fix it up. They were active in raising money with fund raisers and bake sales to help organize its construction. It was remodeled to the current look. It hosts a 150 seating capacity community hall for all of our local events. Upstairs (2nd floor) is still an open floor used now as a dancing area.

Here are a few examples of the recent milestones for this historic building.

In 2006 the Parkman Community used fundraising from our annual Pancake Breakfast to remodel a new kitchen to modernize it to current FDA standards. Many local non profit groups and residents have used this kitchen to support their venues and fundraisers as well as Pancake Breakfasts since 1968 - which is our 55th year of serving this tradition.



In May 2011 the Parkman Community House went active with a large 45 panel solar array on its south side roof. This Green Energy project has helped save on our community house electric bill with renewable energy for over a decade. You can visit the Parkman website on the Community House link to actually view the entire span of data that these solar cells have produced since they went active.

The new metal roof was installed onto the Community House in 2015, after noticing major leaking from the old roof. This preservation effort helps give the building an extra-long future. It was decided to spend a little more for the better quality roof since this building is the heartbeat of this community.



In 2017 Parkman decided to professionally replace all of the old style lighting with some newer energy efficient LED lighting in its buildings (community house, fire department, and road department). Also that same year a new generator was added in case of any power outages and all of the old and broken windows on the community house were replaced by brand new and energy efficient windows. Past Parkman Trustee Roger Anderson and his family volunteered and did the entire demo and installing of these new windows.

In 2018 the Parkman Community decided to register its community house as a possible American Red Cross Emergency Response Shelter location. Thus another remodeling project occurred that allowed the Community House accessible to those with special needs such as wheelchair accessibility. The entrance doorway had electronic door opening mechanisms installed and soon there will be an elevator added to the building structure to allow second floor access to those in wheelchairs.

Both the upstairs and downstairs ladies and gentlemen bathrooms were completely redesigned and rebuilt from the stud level to accommodate the ADA current standards. Past Parkman Trustee - Roger Anderson and his family and local Amish volunteers- spent much of the summer to tackle this project. Due to all of this volunteering from our residents, the completed community house restoration project finished under budget and helped save the Parkman community thousands of dollars.

In 2020 a brand new community event digital sign was installed replacing the old snap letter sign. This allows more flexible communications to help promote upcoming events and share community information. New flooring was also installed replacing the old tile that was aged and chipped. The new floor helps to keep the facility clean and modern looking. The exterior of the Community House was recently painted already and the interior is planned to get a fresh coat soon. All of this is to help preserve our local gem.

Many residents have helped volunteer to keep our Community House in good shape and a modern local gem in the last 160 years. It is a passion in this Parkman Township to have such a site that can support many various groups and functions. It is a local treasure and used by the community regularly. Many Geauga County and Parkman non profit groups use this as their primary meeting and fundraising location. The Trustee and Zoning meetings as well as many private functions are hosted there throughout the year. It hosts many Parkman historic items for display. Our Parkman Community House is a very diverse facility.



Each year the Parkman Chamber of Commerce decorates the Community House for the holidays. The team who volunteered were Nancy Black, Brian Blasko, Mike Schiffbauer and Lynn Schiffbauer - many thanks!

**The building continues to have much character to it
and is a symbol of the Parkman community's heritage.
With a little luck, the next 160 years will continue to boast such a rich history.**