

Spring 2014

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PUBLISHER
Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry

EDITOR
Larry St. Jean

ADVERTISING SALES
Patrick Mackie
330-580-8430
Patrick.Mackie@cantonrep.com

LAYOUT & DESIGN
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LETTER FROM THE **MAYOR**



Welcome to the spring issue of *City of Champions Today*.

The chill of an unusually long and cold winter has finally released its grip on Massillon, and our community can begin to enjoy the renewal brought forth by another spring. This spring, the City of Massillon continues to focus on renewal and building for the future.

Our historic Lions Lincoln Theatre is a community treasure, and an anchor for Massillon's downtown. The community has pulled together to organize a fundraiser to help pay for needed capital improvements. Dancing through the Decades, a celebrity ballroom dance challenge, will happen at the Lincoln Theatre on May 3rd. More information about this exciting event is available later in the issue.

The C.O.O.L. (Community Outreach of Love) Project will return to Massillon on Saturday, June 7th. Twenty-seven area churches will be coming together to lend a helping hand in our community. Last year, 1,800 dedicated volunteers worked on fixing homes and other projects in Massillon's southwest neighborhoods. Massillon greatly appreciates the kindness of all involved in this generous project.

I am pleased to announce that Massillon will be designated a Purple Heart City. Later this summer, there will be a dedication ceremony, the raising of the Purple Heart flag, and the unveiling of Massillon's Purple Heart monument. The City of Massillon strongly supports our veterans, and this designation is one more way to affirm our support and to honor those who have honored all of us with their dedicated service.

The Summer Concert Series will be back this year, and once again this popular series will be brought to the community without spending any of our scarce tax dollars. The whole program is paid for by donations from our generous sponsors. We hope you enjoy the shows!

There is a lot happening in Massillon and I hope to see you out in the community. I wish everyone an outstanding spring filled with warmth, sunshine, and the hope that the changing of the season inspires.

Sincerely,

KATHY CATAZARO-PERRY
MAYOR, CITY OF MASSILLON
"CITY OF CHAMPIONS"

GOLD STAR FAMILIES series

Remembering Gold Star SSG Richard Ramey

JERRY AND JULIE RAMEY



SSG Richard Ramey, the son of Jerry and Julie Ramey and the brother of Sarah (Ramey) Beverlin, was born in Canton, Ohio, on November 6, 1976. Growing up, Rich was involved in tee ball, baseball, and Boy Scouts, and he played guard on the Perry High School football team. He enjoyed hunting, camping, fishing, and rock climbing. Rich also became a certified scuba diver.

After graduation, he joined the Army in the fall of 1995. He attended Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Following Basic Training, he reported to Fort Gordon, Georgia, for Advanced Individual Training (AIT) School. His first assignment after AIT school was at Fort Knox, Kentucky, with the 74th Bravo as an Information Systems Operator Analyst. While at Fort Knox, he volunteered for the 55th Delta Explosive Ordination Disposal

(EOD) Unit. In 1999, he was sent to EOD School at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. After graduation from EOD School, he reported to Fort Drum, N.Y., with the 725th EOD unit as a team member. In March 2001, he deployed to Kosovo for 10 months. After returning from Kosovo, he was re-stationed at Fort Knox, where he joined the 703rd EOD Unit. Rich earned EOD Team Leader before being deployed to Iraq in the fall of 2003 with the 703rd EOD Unit. On February 8, 2004, Richard Ramey was killed while trying to render safe his 69th Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Mahmudiyah, Iraq.

While serving in the Army, he completed or earned the following:

- Information Systems Operator Analyst Course
- EOD School
- Primary Leadership Development Course
- Joint Nuclear Course

- Bronze Star Medal
- Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster
- Army Achievement Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters
- Army Good Conduct Medal with Second Award
- National Defense Service Medal
- Kosovo Campaign Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
- War on Terror Service Medal
- Army NCO Professional Development Ribbon
- Army Service Ribbon
- NATO Kosovo Medal
- Combat Action Badge
- Senior EOD Badge
- Drivers Mechanics Badge
- Ohio Medal of Distinction

"We love and miss you very much —"
Mom, Dad and Sarah ❖



Mayor Kathy giving State of the City Address at the Massillon Chamber Mayor's Breakfast. This is one of many addresses the Mayor has been giving around the city.

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Massillon Evening Independent newspaper delivery boy, October 1949. Photograph by Jack Worthington - Collection of the Massillon Museum. Gift of the Evening Independent (91.47.0666)

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City of Massillon Employees of the Year



BRIAN MUNTEAN:

As Police Officer of the Year, Sergeant Muntean has shown great leadership in the Massillon Police Department. Brian applied for a 2,000 dollar grant from WalMart, which the department received. He also has successfully negotiated with other local businesses to procure supplies for the department and candy for its Halloween “Trunk or Treat” participation. Muntean sets a good example for other officers and city employees.



MARGARET ELUM:

Elum is an outstanding asset to the Safety-Service Director’s office. Whether on a phone call or talking with a resident face-to-face, she exhibits excellent customer service with her pleasant attitude and smile. Elum leaves no task incomplete. She usually works extra hours to complete assignments and demonstrates outstanding follow-through.



PEGGY BIEHL:

Biehl is a dedicated volunteer at the Massillon Senior Center. She uses her skills to create handmade quilts, which are given to Hospice Care Centers and the Domestic Violence Project. Biehl logs many hours at the Senior Center as well as home, and is devoted to this project. Her efforts as a volunteer show her commitment to Massillon’s seniors and others.



REGGIE WINTERS:

Through his actions on and off the job, Winters is most worthy of being named Massillon Firefighter of the Year. Through his professional demeanor and compassionate efforts to assist local families in crisis, Winters continues to display outstanding leadership and motivation. Recently recognized by the Cleveland Cavs as an “Every Fan,” the City of Massillon is proud to have Winters on staff at the fire department and thanks him for his selfless service.



TOM BURGASSER:

Chief Burgasser, Department Head of the Year, is an outstanding leader who has the respect of his fellow firefighters. He was successful in writing a grant to return 10 laid-off firefighters to work—a significant benefit to the city. The Chief thinks out of the box and works well with other department heads and colleagues throughout the county. He works hard to make sure the firefighters under his command are well trained. ❖



Safety-Service Director Al Hennon, Margaret Elum, Tom Burgasser, Reggie Winters, Peggy Biehl, Brian Muntean, Mayor Kathy



Your Family Will Love You For It



C.O.O.L.

Community Outreach Of Love



Something C.O.O.L. is happening in Massillon!

CARLA SCHILLERO,
PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR

In January 2013, a woman by the name of Cindy Mandrell approached Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry to offer her nonprofit organization's services to the community of Massillon. She explained that numerous churches in the Canton-Massillon area would like to come and serve the residents in the Southwest Tremont neighborhood by working on their homes ... for FREE.

What seemed too good to be true became a reality! Five months later, more than 1,800 volunteers descended on this neighborhood on "C.O.O.L. Day," bringing a heart of love and service.

The mission of C.O.O.L. (Community Outreach Of Love) is to partner with the Body of Christ to facilitate physical and spiritual impact in our communities. The aim of this mission is to see transformation happen in the lives of those who serve and are being served through the annual C.O.O.L. Day projects.

C.O.O.L. is returning to Massillon in 2014 to serve in the southeast section of the city. The C.O.O.L. Day project will take place Saturday, June 7. Cindy explains, "We have 27 churches that desire to be involved this year,

2014 C.O.O.L. Project Leadership Team
(Left to Right: Carla Schillero, Cindy Mandrell, Jerry Seger)



and our team leaders are already in place for the project. There is a growing excitement on the C.O.O.L. team to meet the residents and make a lasting impact in this neighborhood."

Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry adds, "The C.O.O.L. Day Project's work last year was a shining example of our faith community coming together to give back abundantly to Massillon. We are grateful they have chosen to bring their generosity and dedication to our city again this year."

To stay informed about C.O.O.L. and the 2014 C.O.O.L. Day Project in Massillon, you can visit the website at www.cooldays.org.

For more information, contact:

Cindy Mandrell, Executive Director
PO Box 2741
North Canton, OH 44720
330-904-3865
cmandrell@cooldays.org
Website: www.cooldays.org ❖

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Dancing through the Decades



Dr. Jon Ash is a dentist with a real flare. He met his wife Dorene while both were attending The Ohio State

University College of Dentistry. She is a local periodontist. The couple has two children—Margaret, a sophomore at the Jackson School of the Arts, and Sam, a second grader at Amherst. Ash is the son of a well-known area figure, Red Ash, who coached basketball and also served as a state representative. His practice is in Belden Village, and he also serves on the staff at Mercy Medical, where he volunteers. His volunteer activities keep him busy when he is not enjoying golf, tennis, and boating on Lake Erie. We hope he adds dancing to that list, as he will be performing the Viennese waltz.

Celebrity Ballroom Dance Competition

Saturday, May 3, 2014

7:00pm

at The Lincoln Theatre
156 Lincoln Way East, Massillon

Join us for the VIP Cocktail

Reception from 5:00 - 6:30pm for \$25
(online purchase only)

Join us for the dance competition
\$10 per person general admission
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All proceeds support the Lincoln Theatre Restoration Project
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and information available online:
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Emma and Julia. Coach Hall will be dancing the waltz.



Johnnie Maier, Jr. has a long and illustrious resume including five terms in the Ohio House of Representatives and 15 years as Massillon

Municipal Clerk of Court. It all began when he graduated from Kent State University followed by graduate work at the University of Akron and the University of Alabama. In his spare time, Maier enjoys playing with his band, Visinata, with whom he has produced a CD entitled “An Ethnic Celebration with Visinata.” Visinata plays all throughout northeastern Ohio. Maier and his wife, Debra, reside on a small farm outside of Massillon. They have two adult children, Johnnie III and Natalie.

Appropriately, as Clerk of Court, Johnnie will perform a swing dance to “Jail House Rock.”

Brooke Catazaro is a 2009 graduate of Perry High School and a 2013 graduate of Walsh University, where she earned her bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education/Intervention Specialist. Catazaro currently teaches at St. Mary’s school in Massillon, and also coaches cheerleading at Perry High School. In her spare time, she enjoys spending



time with her family, exercising, watching movies, and traveling when time allows. Catazaro is very excited to learn a new style of dance. Dancing the rumba—and with lots of practice—she hopes to put on a good show for the audience and to assist the historic Lincoln Theatre.

Tracy Piccorelli is one of those women you always can count on to be up for anything. The tall beauty was portraying Elvis Presley when *Dancing through the Decades* caught up with her. She enjoys science fiction, fantasy, and horror books and films. She shares her life with her cat, and enjoys playing volleyball. Tracy works at MCTV in marketing. Lucky for us, she is dancing the quick step.



Jason Hall is a well-known face in Massillon, as the head football coach and athletic director for Massillon City Schools. Coach Hall has a vested interest in the community, both on and off the field. His hobby also centers around football. He and his wife, Katie, have two daughters,



Joe F. Pileggi is a well-known name in the food industry. He currently is with Fishers handling the catering, deli and Marketplaces. Formerly, he owned Joe Pileggi’s and later Lucia. He is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. When Pileggi isn’t cooking, he enjoys landscaping and traveling to culinary destinations with his wife, Lucia, daughter, Sofia, and son, Andrew. Joe Pileggi will be dancing the tango.



continued on page 19

Historic Lincoln Theatre Revitalization Campaign
Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law

“Dancing through the Decades”

- Ballroom Dance Challenge -

Name for Program Listing _____

Company Name (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Sponsorship Levels

_____ **Event Sponsor \$10,000: Designation as Event Sponsor and Recognition at both events plus:**

- 12 complimentary tickets to the kickoff dinner on Friday, May 2, 2014.
- 12 complimentary tickets to the “Dancing through the Decades” performance on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at the Lincoln Theatre.
- Listing as Event Sponsor in the program.
- Your logo on the Lincoln Theatre Marquee for an entire year, and in all publicity and theatre web-page.
- You can select one movie to sponsor during the year. You will receive 100 free admissions to the film you sponsor.
- Invitation to a V.I.P. cocktail party before the dance performance on Saturday, May 3, 2014.

_____ **Major Sponsor \$5,000: Designation as Major Sponsor and Recognition at both events plus:**

- 8 complimentary tickets to the kickoff dinner on Friday, May 2, 2014.
- 8 complimentary tickets to the “Dancing through the Decades” performance on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at the Lincoln Theatre.
- Listing as Major Sponsor in the program, in all publicity, and on the theatre’s web page, with company logo if desired.
- Invitation to the V.I.P. Cocktail Party before the dance performance on Saturday, May 3, 2014.

_____ **Patron Sponsor \$2,500:**

- Receives 6 complimentary tickets to the kickoff dinner on Friday, May 2, 2014.
- 6 complimentary tickets to the “Dancing through the Decades” performance on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at the Lincoln Theatre.
- Listing as Patron Sponsor in the program with company logo if desired.

_____ **Success Sponsor \$1,000:**

- 4 complimentary tickets to the kickoff dinner on Friday, May 2, 2014.
- 4 complimentary tickets to the “Dancing through the Decades” performance on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at the Lincoln Theatre.
- Listing as a Success Sponsor in the program.

_____ **Friend of the Theatre \$500:**

- 2 complimentary tickets to the kickoff dinner on Friday, May 2, 2014.
- 2 complimentary tickets to the “Dancing through the Decades” performance on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at the Lincoln Theatre.
- Listing as a Friend Sponsor in the program.

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Mail to: **156 Lincoln Way E. • Massillon, Ohio 44646**

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Questions? Please call Lynda at 330-832-0717



Success Club at "Black History Celebration—Standing on the Shoulders of Giants"

Bob Ivory, D'Angelo Jackson, Sabryn Hill, Dominique Gordon, LaDaisha Walker, Mayor Kathy, Gayle Danzy (Success instructor), Lexi Smith, and Latesha Williams

PHOTO CREDIT: RON WOODSON PHOTOGRAPHY



Charmaine Gamble and Semaj Williams of the Success Club

PHOTO CREDIT: RON WOODSON PHOTOGRAPHY

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What Does the Health Department Do for You?

TERRI ARGENT,
HEALTH COMMISSIONER

AT THE MASSILLON CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, WE ARE OCCASIONALLY ASKED THE QUESTION, "WHAT DOES THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT DO?"

We are not as visible as the police and fire departments with their flashing lights, but we serve the community in many important ways.

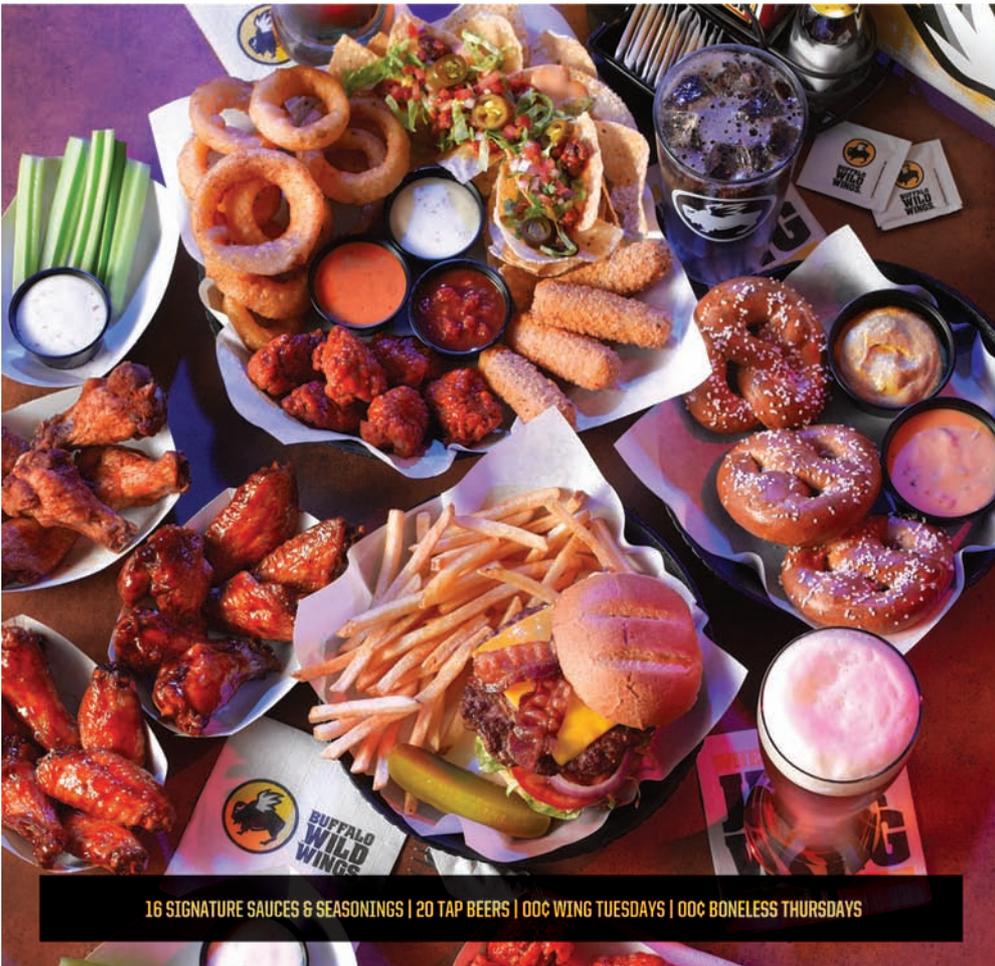
The Health Department is made up of four divisions—Vital Statistics, Environmental, Nursing, and WIC (Women, Infants, and Children). Each division will be featured in subsequent publications, but today we will focus on the Vital Statistics Division.

The Vital Statistics Division monitors all births and deaths for the City of Massillon. Birth certificates, which are required for drivers' licenses, passports, marriage licenses, and retirement bene-

fits, and death certificates, which are needed for funerals and other circumstances, are available for purchase from this division. The statistics taken from birth and death records are necessary for medical research, infant mortality studies, cause-of-death tables, and other important research and studies. This division also monitors health concerns such as animal bites, and providing information which is vital for rabies prevention. Finally, the busy employees in "Vital Stats" process the payroll, pay the bills, and keep the budget balanced for the entire Health Department.



Vicki Theis, Registrar, and Penni Roderick, Deputy Registrar



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Demolition in Massillon to Help Community

DAVID MALEY, CODE ENFORCEMENT



823 Sheffield Ave NE

The City of Massillon, in conjunction with the Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation (SCLRC), and Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC), is in the process of demolishing 20 blighted properties across the city. These demolitions are part of the State of Ohio's grant program called Moving Ohio Forward (MOF), which assists communities in their economic recovery by removing blighted or abandoned residential structures.

According to Massillon Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry, "The Moving Ohio Forward Demolition Program has provided Massillon funding to

remove blighted or abandoned structures that are not only eyesores, but pose a threat to the health and well-being of our community. By removing these structures, we can help eliminate these threats and help restore value to our neighborhoods. Over the past year, we worked hard to assist our partners in making this a reality. I want to thank the SCLRC members for their consideration of Massillon's financial condition throughout its deliberations regarding the funding of demolitions."

The state grant program funding comes from a \$25 billion national

settlement with the nation's five largest mortgage lenders and servicers over foreclosure abuses, fraud, and unacceptable mortgage practices. Out of those funds, Ohio received 95 million dollars, and 2.3 million dollars of this was allocated to Stark County. Of that amount, \$500,000 was available outright as nonmatch hardship funding, and the rest required a match from local communities participating in the program. However, due to Massillon's current financial condition, local match funding was not an option.

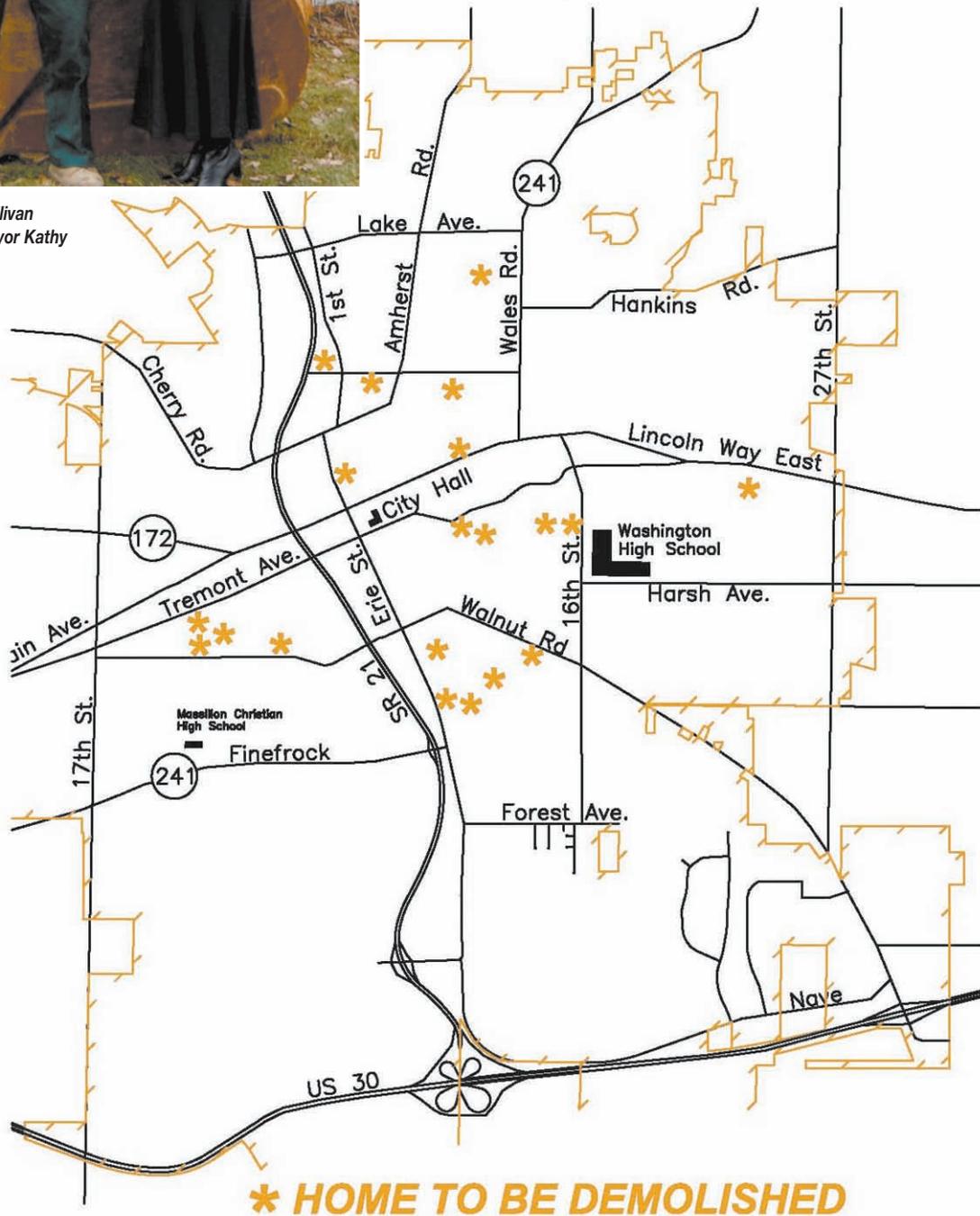
continued on the next page



Rusty Seth from Sullivan
Excavating with Mayor Kathy

The City of Massillon, through the efforts of the mayor and her staff, was fortunate to have 20 blighted structures demolished through the program at a cost savings to the city of \$277,149. All these demolitions using MOF grant funds must be completed by May 31, 2014. The MOF program has had a positive impact on the city by providing funding to demolish homes which have been vacant for many years which required constant

maintenance (grass-cutting, board-ups) by the City. The problem of vacant structures, a continuous issue for cities, is being addressed in Massillon with ordinances that make property owners more accountable for their properties. In the meantime, the mayor and her staff will continue their efforts to rid neighborhoods of blighted properties by working hard to identify future funding (grant) opportunities that are available for demolitions. ◆



*** HOME TO BE DEMOLISHED**



A Purple Heart City

TERRY ROAN

Massillon always has heartily supported its veterans. The impressive Veterans Memorial Park outside of City Hall and the police station in the heart of downtown attests to that support.

With the help of the mayor, Massillon will be designated as a Purple Heart City this year.

Last fall, Mayor Catazaro-Perry researched the possibility of having Massillon designated as a Purple Heart City. When she received information about this prospect, she put together a committee to proceed with the planning.

The committee learned there is an official Purple Heart memorial that could be purchased. With the help of D.A.V. Chapter 38, V.F.W. Post

3124, and American Legion Post 221, \$7,000 were raised in just one week to purchase this memorial, which will be placed in Massillon's Veterans Memorial Park.

The dedication ceremony, to be held on Thursday, August 7, commemorating Massillon's designation as a Purple Heart City, will include the raising of the Purple Heart flag, the unveiling of the Purple Heart monument, patriotic music, and the awarding of certificates and mayoral proclamations to Purple Heart recipients.

If anyone knows of a veteran from the Massillon area who was awarded the Purple Heart, please have him or her contact the mayor's office. We would like to send those honorees a special invitation to the dedication. The number to call is 330-830-1700. ❖

massillonchapter—purpleheartcity.com

The Military Order of the Purple Heart

The Founding

General George Washington, in 1782 at his headquarters at Newbury-on-the-Hudson in New York, created and established the Badge of Military Merit decoration. The award fell into disuse following the Revolutionary War and was not proposed again officially until after World War I.

Chartered by Congress

The Military Order of the Purple Heart is the only Congressionally chartered veterans organization exclusively for combat wounded veterans. This means that the organization is constantly alert to legislation affecting its members.

500 Chapters Nationally

All members of The Order are automatically eligible to participate in local chapters. They offer programs

which meet the needs and interests of members and also provide members with the enjoyment of participating in community-based activities.

Service Foundation

The Military Order of the Purple Heart is a Congressionally chartered national service veterans organization. The funding for veterans services, welfare, rehabilitation, and educational programs comes from the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, Inc.

Contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible. Below are some programs the foundation currently is funding.

- National Service Officer Program
- Educational Program
- Veterans Outreach Program
- Veterans Administration Voluntary Service Program



- Veterans Legislative Program
- Veterans Educational Grants

Ladies Auxiliary

The families of combat wounded veterans continue their support through the auxiliary connected to many chapters. Wives, mothers, and daughters of MOPH members are eligible to join the auxiliary. ❖

The Patriot Project provides care for Wounded Warriors

THE PATRIOT PROJECT

The Patriot Project is a grass roots movement to provide chiropractic care to all active military, their families, Wounded Warriors, and all Gold Star dependents.

Chiropractic care is included in veteran's health benefits, but has not been made readily available for all Wounded Warriors. Many of the ailments currently being treated largely with pain medication and psychotropic drugs can be relieved more conservatively with chiropractic care. It is important to offer our active duty military personnel non-drug, non-surgical options for their painful conditions, and doctors of chiropractic (D. C.) offer such care with attention to the optimum function and health of the whole person.

The Patriot Project aims to make chiropractic care readily available for all active duty personnel, military veterans, and their families, including all Gold Star dependents.

With adequate funding, The Patriot Project will include a USO-type chiropractic care tour, visiting all active forward operating military bases around the world, including Afghanistan and Iraq. The Patriot Project is determined to have chiropractic physicians commissioned in the military similar to the commissioning of other physicians—MD/DOs. The Patriot Project's goal is to have active chiropractic care available in all VA Hospitals across the United States as well. This will ensure the choice of chiropractic care and ready access for all active duty to non-drug, non-surgical options.

HOW YOU CAN HELP Time • Talent • Treasure

Each participating doctor will make time available to treat at least one armed service member a week at no charge. This includes documenting each case with situations and testimonials.

WWW.PATRIOT-PROJECT.ORG



OUR GOALS

To provide chiropractic care to active military, Wounded Warriors, and the dependents of the fallen, free of charge.

To make full chiropractic benefits in TRICARE, readily available for ALL active duty military, retirees, and veterans.

To have chiropractic physicians commissioned as officers in all armed services.

To have chiropractic physicians embedded in all forward operating bases of combat.

To have a chiropractic department in every VA hospital and clinic.

To educate veterans with service-related disabilities that they have chiropractic benefit coverage through the Veterans Administration.



Dancing through the Decades

Join us for this **Ballroom Dance Challenge** to benefit The Historic Lincoln Theatre Restoration Fund

Saturday, May 3 • 7:00 pm

Dancers



Brooke Catazaro



Denise Scala



Jason Hall



Joe Pileggi



Johnnie Maier, Jr.



Jon Ash



Kathleen Prasnal



Terri Roth



Tracy Piccorelli

COST: \$10.00

VOTE for your favorite dancer or purchase tickets to the show at lionslincolntheatre.com

For information on this event or to order VIP tickets call

330-832-0717



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 •40 years (seven years active), Veteran WWII and Korean Wars •VF-41 and VF-191 squadrons aboard *USS Midway* and *USS Oriskany* •Base Architect for MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Florida

Achievements and Awards:

Recognized for service beyond the call of duty (56th CES Squadron) upon retirement—1996, Design Excellence Award/Civilian Category (56th Civil Engineering Squadron at MacDill AFB)—1995, Design Excellence Award (56th Civil Engineering Squadron/Tactical Air Command)—1994, Design Excellence Award (56th Civil Engineering Squadron at MacDill AFB)—1993, Tactical Air Command Design Award (Family Support Center at MacDill AFB)—1991, Citizen of the Year (Stark County SCRPC/SCATS Citizens Advisory Council)—1985, Outstanding Service Award (Trustees of the National Cystic Fibrosis Foundation)—1981, Washington High School Athlete of the Year—1945

Civic & Community Service:

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Stark County, Northern Ohio and Tri-State
 Massillon Kiwanis, Massillon Museum, and Massillon Heritage Foundation
 American Institute of Architects, Eastern Ohio Chapter
 Taught Naval Reserve Officers School including: Meteorology, Space Technology, Anti-submarine Warfare, Atomic, Biological and Chemical Warfare, Oceanography, Naval Aviation, Military Justice

Education:

Washington High School (1945)
 Indiana State Teachers College (1945)
 Stevens Institute of Technology (1945-1946)
 The Ohio State University (1950-1952 and 1955-1956)
 Bachelor of Architecture (1956)



MARGY VOGT
LOCAL HISTORIAN & COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER
 Community Volunteer Boards & Committees include: Massillon Public Library Board (2000–present), Massillon Area Chamber of Commerce Board (four terms–present), Stark County Convention and Visitors’ Bureau Board (three terms–present), City of

Massillon Historic Preservation Commission (2005–present), Charity School of Kendal Foundation Board of Trustees (2005–present), Massillon Parks & Recreation Board, Secretary (2002–10), Massillon/Westark Tourism Council, Chair (1997–2007), Massillon Community Hospital Board (2000–02), Friends of Massillon Community Hospital, Chair (2000–02), Massillon Fourth of July Committee (1978–88, 2010, 2013–present)

Massillon History Books Published:

Fourth Street: A Century of History & Design (1998); *Towpath to Towpath: A History of Massillon, Ohio* (2002); *Massillon: Reflections of a Community* (2007)

Selected Awards:

Stark County Women’s Hall of Fame (Presented by Canton, YWCA) 2013, Ten Most Interesting People in Stark County (Named by *The Repository*) 2012, Humanitarian Award (Presented by Massillon Knights of Columbus) 2007, Paul L. David Humanitarian Award (Presented by Rotary Club) 2004, J.S. “Sandy” Sanders Award (Presented by Massillon Area Chamber of Commerce) 2002

Selected Special Projects:

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Viaduct, Co-Chair (2009–11); Community Blues Dinner Concerts—Back Alley Blues, Co-Chair (2001–03); Bridjazz, Co-Chair (2004–05); Massillon’s Year-long 175th Anniversary Celebration—32 Events, Co-Chair (2001); RezzzyFest, Co-Chair (2001–09); Massillon Main Street/Massillon Museum Gallery in the Alley—Diamond Court History Plaques (1990s)

Education:

Washington High School (1967)
 Kent State University, AA with Honors (1976)

continued on the next page

Washington High School Distinguished Citizen Awards 2014
CONTINUED



RENEE WALLACE BAKER

WARDEN
—ELY STATE PRISON

- First female to serve as Warden for Ely State Prison, a maximum-security prison
- Warden for three minimum-custody camps in addition to Ely State Prison

- Directs an annually combined budget of more than \$29 million
- Completed Nevada Department of Corrections peace officer's standardized training courses, Basic Instructor Development training and obtained Certificate in Supervisory Management
- Career in law enforcement since 1995; positions in juvenile treatment facilities, adult probation, correctional case work, associate warden, and now as warden
- On University of Cincinnati's Dean's List multiple times and honor roll in high school
- Recipient of Patriotic Employer award from the Office of the Secretary of Defense
- Certificate of Commendation—Patriots Award from United States Senator Harry Reid
- Employee of the Month—Nevada Department of Corrections
- Nevada Department of Corrections Instructor of the Quarter

Warden Baker is an active member in her community. She is a board member for the White Pine County Economic Development committee. She was a co-chair for the committee's housing program, working to bring in quality housing at affordable rates for the citizens of White Pine County. She also is a member of the Ely Chamber of Commerce, working diligently with local merchants and civic-minded citizens to promote the growth and development of the Ely area.

Schools Attended:

Washington High School (1991)

University of Cincinnati, (1991-95) Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice (Major) and Sociology (Minor)

Dancing through the Decades
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



Kathleen Prasnal is a registered nurse and is married to Dr. Frank Prasnal. They have four children. Her hobbies include playing tennis and playing the piano. She volunteers for both the Stark County Medical Society Auxiliary and the Ohio State Medical Association Alliance. Her interests include preservation and the Civil War. She is a perfect fit for the Lincoln Theatre. She will be dancing the samba.



Terri Roth is a Stark County native who works part-time as a nurse anesthetist for Ohio-based Physicians Group. She is married to Ed Roth, and they have four children. She is involved with the Aultman Women's Board, Quest Alcohol & Drug Recovery program, and St. Mary's Booster Club, and she

volunteers for Faith United Methodist Church's monthly soup kitchen. Roth is no stranger to the historic Lincoln Theatre stage since she has performed in the Massillon Zombie Thriller dance. No one will be falling asleep when she performs her fox trot.



Denise Scala is a registered nurse and works at Westbrook Park Nursery School. She has been married to her husband, Chris, for 33 years. They have two children—Celina, who lives in Chicago, and Nick, who lives in Silver Springs, Maryland. The family also has two yellow labs, Josey and Maggie.

Scala is a volunteer for the American Red Cross, JRC, and St. Michael's Church, and she and Josey are part of the Doggie Brigade at Akron Children's Hospital. In her rare spare time, she enjoys traveling, baking, gardening, and most importantly, spending time with family and friends. Scala will perform the bolero.



Additional education and training:

National Institute of Corrections—Prison Staffing Analysis

National Institute of Corrections—Executive Training for New Wardens Incident Command Training

FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness

2013 Association of Women Executives in Corrections Conference ❖

Massillon Memorial Day Observance

TERRY ROAN

Memorial Day in Massillon is always special for our city. This year, it will be observed on Monday, May 26. The observance begins with a service at 8:30 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park for Massillon's deceased policemen. After a prayer by the chaplain of the day, a wreath will be placed and a rifle salute offered for our police officers who are no longer with us. Moving to the veterans' memorials, there will be a prayer and a rifle salute for deceased veterans of all wars.

The parade will kick off at 9:30 a.m. with the color guards from V.F.W. Post 3124 and American Legion Post 221 leading the procession. The parade stops at the main fire station for the placing of a wreath and a rifle salute for our deceased firefighters. When the procession reaches Oberlin Road, the color guards will march out onto the Oberlin Road Viaduct over the river, where a prayer is offered and a wreath is thrown into the water to honor our deceased Navy veterans. This is followed by a rifle salute.

The parade ends at the Massillon Cemetery, where our annual Memorial Day service will be held. This year, Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry will be the featured speaker. After the mayor's speech, representatives of Massillon's veterans organizations and individual local veterans will place 22 wreaths around the base of the Civil War memorial. The various wreaths are displayed to honor deceased veterans from the Civil War through our most recent war. The Massillon Tiger Swing Band is always present for the singing of the national anthem and will perform various patriotic songs. After a 21-gun salute, the band will close the ceremony by playing taps.

We hope to see our many patriotic citizens lining the streets for the parade, and we hope they will proceed to Massillon Cemetery for the Memorial Day service.

As in the past, no political signs will be allowed in the parade. ❖



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North Canton, OH 44720

330.236.5100

(Near intersection of Wales & Portage)

Green/Akron

3430 S. Arlington Rd.
Akron, OH 44312

330.475.7777

(Just North of Rt. 619)

CALENDER OF EVENTS

SPRING 2014

Dancing through the Decades Dinner

May 2
6:30 pm
Massillon Museum

Dancing through the Decades Celebrity Ballroom Dance Competition

May 3
7:00 pm
The Lincoln Theatre

Spring Indoor Yard Sale

May 3
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Recreation Center

American Red Cross Lifeguard Training

May 3 & 4 and 10 & 11
10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Recreation Center

Community Book Swap

May 12 & 13, all day: Drop off books
May 15, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm:
Pick up new books
Recreation Center

Night Bike Ride on the Towpath Trail

May 17
8:39 pm
Lake Ave Trailhead (Lake Ave & Rt 21)

Canalway Bicycle Poker Run

May 18
Registration: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Lake Ave Trailhead (Lake Ave & Rt 21)

continued on page 26

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Chief Burgasser, Safety-Service Director Al Hennon, Mayor Kathy, Matthew Burgasser, and family

Fire Department has Some Big News

TOM BURGASSER,
FIRE CHIEF

Recently, the fire department hired two new employees in order to fill vacancies due to retirements. Joseph (JR) Bartolone worked full-time for the Warren Fire Department, and Matthew Burgasser worked part-time for the Lawrence Township and Canal Fulton fire departments. Both already have all certifications needed to serve, so we look forward to having them join the staff.

For several days, the fire department was able to utilize the former FirstMerit building to train on stairwell operations and high-rise fires. Each shift had an opportunity to advance hoselines and practice high-rise operational evolutions before the building was demolished. We are grateful to those who made this training possible.

Inspector Reggie Winters received an award from the Cleveland Cavaliers for his service to the community. Specifically, he went



Safety-Service Director Al Hennon, Joseph Bartolone, Mayor Kathy, Matthew Burgasser, Chief Burgasser

above and beyond the scope of his duty in assisting a family to find an appropriate means of heating their home this winter. Congratulations, Reggie! Keep up the good work!

EMS transport has resulted in many service improvements and has saved many lives. But, did you know that

our residents have saved more than \$900,000 in waived deductibles and co-pays during the past four years? We are proud to provide this service to our residents—the savings to them is a bonus! ❖



Mayor Kathy, Reggie Winters, and Moondog with Cleveland Cavs Cheerleaders, Dance Team, and other personnel

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITE RECIPE TO:
 Istjean@massillonohio.com AND YOU MIGHT SEE IT IN THE NEXT "CITY OF CHAMPIONS TODAY" MAGAZINE

EGG & SAUSAGE (OR HAM) SPECIAL

RECIPE

Egg & Sausage (or Ham) Breakfast Special

Submitted by
 Mayor Catazaro-Perry

Ingredients:

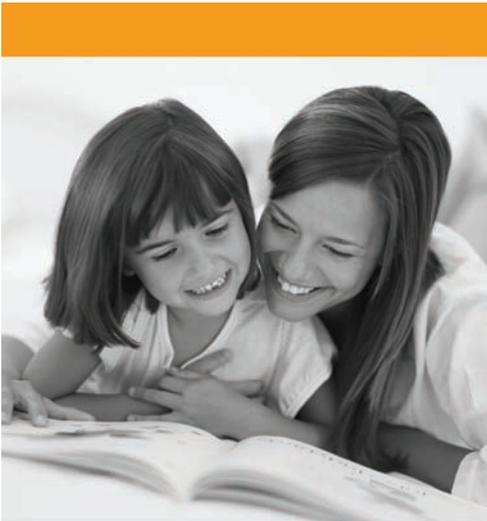
- 6 eggs slightly beaten
- 1lb sausage, browned and drained, or ham cut in small pieces
- 6 pieces of bread cubed
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp dry mustard
- 1 & 1/4 cup cheddar cheese (shredded)
- 1 cup milk

Preparation Directions:

Spray cooking spray in a 9" x 13" pan
 Mix ingredients, place in pan, cover with foil and let stand overnight in refrigerator

Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Enjoy!



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Summer Concert Series 2014

- Thur June 19 (7:30pm) **Jersey**
- Thur June 26 (7:30pm) **The Stickers**
- Thur July 10 (7:30pm) **Clapton Tribute Evolution**
- Thur July 17 (7:30pm) **Jimmy & The Soul Blazers**
- Thur July 24 (7:30pm) **The Belairs**
- Thur July 31 (7:30pm) **The Sweet Beats**

All shows will be held on Lincoln Way E, between 1st & 3rd Streets - Bring a chair
 Donations accepted

Duncan Plaza Concerts

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mon June 2 (7:30pm) | Visinata | Ethnic, Polka & More |
| Mon June 9 (7:30pm) | Clinton Band | Concert Band |
| Mon June 16 (7:30pm) | Meadowbrook Big Band | Big Band |
| Mon June 23 (7:30pm) | TGIF | Favorites |
| Mon June 30 (7:30pm) | Clinton Band | Concert Band |
| Mon July 7 (7:30pm) | Storyville Stompers | Dixieland |
| Mon July 14 (7:30pm) | Renditions | Favorites & Ethnic |
| Mon July 21 (7:30pm) | Bob Hill Orchestra | Favorites |
| Mon July 28 (7:30pm) | Clinton Band | Concert Band |
| Mon Aug 4 (7:00pm) | Canton Concert Band | Concert Band |
| Mon Aug 11 (7:00pm) | Matt Schafer & Friends | Favorites & Ethnic |
| Mon Aug 18 (7:00pm) | Jack Halkides | Jazz |
| Mon Aug 25 (7:00pm) | Visinata | Ethnic, Polka & More |

Duncan Plaza - Located in front of the Massillon Municipal Building - Bring a chair

City of Champions Independence Day Celebration

Fireworks presented by Aqua Ohio @ approximately 10:00 pm

Thursday July 3 (7:30pm) Live music by: **LaFlavour**

Events begin at 6:00 pm @ Paul Brown Tiger Stadium grounds

Website: www.massillonohio.com Phone: 330-830-1700

continued on the next page

Concert Information

Sponsorship Levels

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|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-------|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | \$_____ | | | | |

Name _____

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Please make checks payable to:

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For any questions, please contact the City of Massillon at 330.830.1700 • Please tear off and return with payment.

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 1959, 1961

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**Western Stark Free Clinic
Reverse Raffle**

June 4
6:00 pm
Fraternal Order of Eagles #190

Rose Luncheon

June 4 & 5
Massillon Woman's Club

**Massillon Area Chamber of
Commerce Golf Outing**

June 6
The Legends of Massillon

The C.O.O.L. Project

June 7
Southeast Massillon

Farmer's Market of Massillon

Saturdays, June 7 to October 4
8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Massillon Regal Cinemas Parking Lot

Cruise-On-In and Dance Party

June 14
Downtown Massillon

**Night Bike Ride on the Towpath
Trail**

July 19
8:54 pm
Lake Ave Trailhead (Lake Ave & Rt 21)

Massillon Museum Island Party

July 11
Massillon Museum

**Next Issue of City of Champions
Today**

July 18

Summer Concert Series

See page 24 for Summer Concert Series dates and the City of Champions Independence Day Celebration information.

•Dates are subject to change

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Stanley Ott started having problems with his ambulation after a hernia repair and started falling at home. While attempting to ambulate to the bathroom, Stanley fell and was subsequently transferred to the emergency room at Aultman hospital where he was assessed then admitted with a Cerebral Vascular Accident (a stroke). The doctors at Aultman told him that there was a chance that he may never be able to walk again.

Mr. Ott was admitted to The Laurels of Massillon on October 1, 2013 where he received intensive Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapies over the course of his 3 month stay. Mr. Ott stated, "God designed the human body and man has studied how it is repaired. The staff at The Laurels of Massillon used their knowledge and training to get me to the point of only using a walker to ambulate and perform my activities of daily living, which allowed me to return to my home."

Mr. Ott was able to be successfully discharge to home with his lovely wife on November 27, 2013....just in time for Thanksgiving.

CMS Rating ★★★★★

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Li'l Miss Liberty & Li'l Uncle Sam Event

Paul Brown Tiger Stadium ★ Thursday, July 3 ★ 6:15pm

(Pageant will be held in WHS auditorium in the event of inclement weather)

Rules for Participation

1. The event is open to all boys and girls in the following categories: 3-year-olds, 4-year-olds, 5-year-olds, 6-year-olds, and 7-year-olds.

2. Children are requested to appear in red, white, and blue clothing. No "pageant-style" clothing or costumes are recommended.

3. Children registered for this event will not be accompanied on stage by anyone other than the volunteers from the committee. Children who are unwilling to appear on stage alone should not be forced to enter the event. No parents or guardians are permitted on stage unless the child needs assistance.

4. Parents and guardians are responsible for knowing and abiding by these rules. In



addition, parents and guardians agree to not hold the City Of Champions Independence Day Committee liable if any accidents should occur.

5. A completed entry form (below) can be submitted in the Mayor's office until 4:30 pm on July 2, or at the event from 5:00 to 5:30 pm to receive an official regis-

tration number. Every child must have a number to participate.

6. Participants must report to the registration table by 5:30 pm for line-up. Judging will begin promptly at 6:15 pm. Judging will be based on personality, spontaneity, and interaction with the judges and host.

7. All participants will receive a small gift. Title winners will receive a crown and a prize. Title-winning girls will additionally receive a sash.

8. Submission of this entry form indicates that parents and guardians agree that if their children are winners, their pictures may appear in advertising.

Questions? Contact Margaret Elum at 330-830-1702 ❖

Li'l Miss Liberty & Li'l Uncle Sam Event Entry Form

PLEASE CUT OUT THIS FORM, PRINT INFORMATION AND MAIL TO:
Li'l Miss Liberty & Li'l Uncle Sam Event, 151 Lincolnway East, Massillon, OH 44646

Child's Name: _____

Please circle age: 3 4 5 6 7

Please circle: Boy Girl

Registration # : _____

Office Use Only

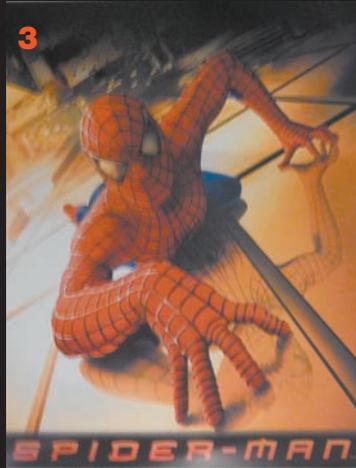
Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Cell phone number: _____



Coming Soon...
Genshaft Park Grand Re-Opening in May!



- 1- Reggie Winters being honored by the Cleveland Cavaliers as the "Every Fan" recipient
- 2- Mayor Kathy with Rick Catazaro on a business visit to EB Display
- 3- EB Display's work—Spider-Man
- 4- The Success Club from Washington High School
- 5- Cub Scout Pack 925 visiting the Mayor's office
- 6- ATHENA Leadership Nominees—Alexandra Nicholis Coon, Denise Penz, Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry, and Judge Taryn Heath
- 7- ATHENA Leadership award winner—Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry

The History of the Purple Heart

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

The Purple Heart is an American decoration — the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first American award made available to the common soldier. Initially, it was created as the Badge of Military Merit by one of the world’s most famed and best-loved heroes — General George Washington.

General George Washington often is pictured as a cold, stern soldier, a proud aristocrat. Yet, we know he showed sympathy and concern for his troops, and was not too proud to pray humbly on his knees for his beloved country and for the men who so bravely and loyally served it.

His keen appreciation of the importance of the common soldier in any campaign impelled him to recognize outstanding valor and merit by granting a commission or an advance in rank to deserving individuals. In the summer of 1782, he was ordered by the Continental Congress to cease doing so — there were no funds to pay the soldiers, much less their officers.

Deprived of his usual means of reward, he must have searched for a substitute. Shortly after receiving the “stop” order from Congress, he wrote his memorable General Orders on August 7, 1782, which read in part as follows:

“The General, ever desirous to cherish virtuous ambition in his soldiers as well as foster and encourage every species of military merit, directs that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings, over his left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk edged with narrow lace or binding. Not only instances of unusual gallantry but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way shall meet with due reward. The name and regiment of the persons so certified are to be enrolled in a Book of Merit which shall be kept in the orderly room.” The order further states: *“Men who have merited this distinction to be suffered to pass all guards and sentinels which officers are permitted to do. The order to be retroactive to the earliest stages of the war; and to be a permanent one.”* Washington ended his order with: *“The road to glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus open to all.”*

Lost or misfiled for almost 150 years among the War Department records at Washington, D.C., this important paper came to light during the search for Washington’s papers prior to the celebration of his bicentennial in 1932. With it were the dramatic accounts of three soldiers who received the decoration at Newburgh, New York at Washington’s headquarters. The Book of Merit had not been found. The U.S. War Department revived the Purple Heart decoration on February 22, 1932. Miss Elizabeth Will, an Army heraldic specialist in the Office of the Quartermaster General, was named to redesign the newly revived medal,

which became known as the Purple Heart. Using general specifications provided to her, Miss Will created the design sketch for the medal, selecting that of John R. Sinnock of the Philadelphia Mint in May 1931. The revived form is of metal, instead of perishable cloth, made in the shape of a rich purple heart bordered with gold. A bust of Washington is in the center along with his coat-of-arms at the top. The latter is believed to have been the source of the stars and stripes of the American Flag.

The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action. It is specifically a combat decoration.

An organization, now known as “The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH),” was formed in 1932 for the protection and mutual interest of all who have received the decoration. Composed exclusively of Purple Heart recipients, it is the only veterans’ service organization comprised strictly of “combat” veterans.

Funds for welfare, rehabilitation and/or service work carried on by the organization are derived through the collection of used household items, the operation of thrift stores, through the donation of automobiles, and at the community level, from the annual distribution of its official flower, the Purple Heart viola. Violas are assembled by disabled and needy veterans, many of whom receive little or no compensation from other sources. Thus, your contribution to programs of the Military Order of the Purple Heart serve a twofold purpose — they help the veterans who participate in these endeavors and enable the organization to do many things on behalf of hospitalized and needy veterans and their families.

Wives, mothers, daughters, step-daughters and adopted daughters of Purple Heart recipients are eligible to belong to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, which also does important work nationally and locally in veterans’ hospitals. Further information about the MOPH and its Ladies Auxiliary may be obtained from the national headquarters as listed below.

Military Order of the Purple Heart

5413-B Backlick Road
Springfield, VA 22151-3960
703-642-5560 (Phone)
703-642-2054 (Fax)
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