

Summer 2015

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Today!

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Also Inside:

• Letter from the Mayor • *Your Massillon* Photo Gallery • Recipe

Image courtesy Mandy Altimus Pond

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LETTER FROM THE **MAYOR**



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

Summer is upon us in Massillon, and having survived a harsher-than-usual winter, and a wetter than normal spring, we are eagerly anticipating a sun-splashed summer!

On Father's Day weekend, Downtown Massillon celebrated the 26th Annual Cruise-On-In and Dance Party. Despite the inclement weather early on, by late afternoon the rain clouds cleared, and Massillon enjoyed a great evening of music, fun, and fireworks.

We once again observed our nation's birthday at the third annual City of Champions Independence Day Celebration. While we celebrated our independence on this American holiday, we are continually reminded that the cost of our freedom is high. We are proud that Massillon has always supported our veterans. On Sunday, July 26, Massillon will once again demonstrate that support as we dedicate a Blue Star Memorial in Massillon Veterans Park to honor our military families, and show camaraderie and support to those who serve us.

The 2015 Summer Concert Series is in full swing on Thursday nights, and if you have not attended a concert, I urge you to join us downtown for an evening of great music. The concerts run through Thursday, August 6th, and start at 7:30 p.m.

High school football season is just around the corner. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Massillon Tiger Football Kickoff Rally in August as we welcome coach Nate Moore to the tradition and passion that is Massillon Tiger Football.

While so much good is happening in the City of Champions, we realize jobs and economic development are the key to a strong community. And Massillon is working hard to grow jobs. Stay tuned for exciting news that shows Massillon is a city with a great future.

I wish everyone a safe summer of family, fun, and hopefully sun. Massillon is a community with a proud spirit, and it is the people of our community who truly make Massillon the "City of Champions."

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

The C.O.O.L. Project— One...Two...THREE!



Rotary with Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry on C.O.O.L. Project

BY KATHY
CATAZARO-PERRY,
MAYOR



On June 6, 2015, the C.O.O.L. (Community Outreach Of Love) project came to Massillon for the third straight year to bring what some consider to be another small “miracle” to the Wellman neighborhood on the southeast side of town. With almost 740 volunteer workers from within our community, the C.O.O.L. Project completed numerous projects that included: roofs, decks, porches, windows and doors, painting, concrete projects, gutters and downspouts, landscaping, general maintenance, and more.

The C.O.O.L. Project is a faith-based program that started with a vision in 2007 and has sprouted to become an initiative that is as rewarding to the volunteers as it is to the residents whose property is being renovated and improved.

According to Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry, "This is the third year for the C.O.O.L. Project's work in Massillon, and as in the past, it was a shining example of our faith community coming together to give back generously to the community. The leadership, love, and friendship provided by all those involved in the C.O.O.L. Project will always be remembered." Along with the volunteers, more than 16 local churches and 29 local businesses and community groups participated by providing assistance, materials, equipment, and financial donations.

The City of Massillon and its residents are greatly indebted to the C.O.O.L. Project for their hard work and for having faith in our community. We are also greatly indebted to the volunteers and businesses that participated on the project. Without their dedication and donations, none of this great work would be possible. The C.O.O.L. Project is always welcome in our city and we thank all those involved over the past three years for their efforts to better our community. If you would like to get involved or learn more about the C.O.O.L. Project, go to their website at www.cool-days.org or like them on Facebook.



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Central Presbyterian Church on the Move
Faith Community Fellowship
First Baptist Church
First United Methodist Church
Frontline Worship Center
Liberty Baptist Church
LifeHope Community Church
Living Water Community Church
Newman Baptist Church
RiverTree Christian Church
St. Barbara's Catholic Church
St. Mary's Catholic Church
St. James AME Zion Church
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Massillon Fire Department News

NEW HIRE

Patrick Eddy—Patrick Eddy was sworn in as a firefighter on May 4. Patrick has been in fire and EMS service since 2002 as a part-time firefighter and volunteer. He is a Level 2 Firefighter and EMT-P. He also holds a state safety fire inspector's card and is trained in Hazmat and confined-space rescue.



Massillon Assistant Fire Chief, Matt Heck; Kristin Eddy; new firefighter/paramedic, Patrick Eddy; and Massillon Fire Chief Tom Burgasser

PROMOTIONS

Asst. Chief Pat Rhodes —Assistant Chief Rhodes began his fire service career as a volunteer with the Perry Township Fire Dept. in 1998 after serving three years in the U.S.Army's 75th Ranger Regiment. He received EMT training while in the military and completed his paramedic training in the Aultman Paramedic program in 1999. He also completed his 240-hour firefighter training at Perry Township Fire Dept. in 1999. He was hired on the Canton Fire Dept. as a full-time fire/medic in July 2000 and left to take a full-time position at Massillon in October of 2000. Chief Rhodes was promoted to Captain in April of 2008.



Promotion of Patrick W. Rhodes to Assistant Chief; with his wife, Jodee; Massillon Fire Chief Tom Burgasser, and Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry

Captain Christopher Schweier—Captain Schweier began his career with the Fairlawn Fire Dept., working part-time for 17 years until he joined the Massillon Fire Dept. in 1999. He holds an Associate's Degree from the University of Akron in Fire Science and graduated from Akron General's Paramedic Program. Captain Schweier has served the city in the capacity as a fire-medic and certified State of Ohio fire instructor. He also serves as a technician on the County Hazmat Team. ❖



Promotion of Christopher O. Schweier to Captain with his wife, Kris; Massillon Fire Chief Tom Burgasser, and Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry

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As of the week of June 15, an exciting new addition has been added to Duncan Plaza and Veterans Park. That addition is free WiFi courtesy of MCTV. So, join your friends and surf downtown for free. Sorry, web surfing only.

Knox Boxes Help Safety Forces and You

BY CAPTION DONALD SMITH, FIRE MARSHAL



WHO CAN USE A KNOX BOX

These are good for anyone who would like one. They are especially good for people with disabilities or the elderly who may have trouble coming to the door when help arrives if needed. Boxes are mounted next to the main entrance unless otherwise approved by the City Fire Marshal.

Dept. vehicle carries a key that opens the Knox Box. To gain access to the key, personnel must enter a personal identification code to get the key out of the vehicle. This records the person who removed the key and the date and time that it happened. These Knox Boxes are good for City of Massillon residents only. If you live in another jurisdiction you must contact that jurisdiction for information about its program if it has one.

HOW THEY WORK

Once a Knox Box has been installed, the owner calls the Massillon Fire Dept., which places any keys in it that are necessary for fire dept. personnel to gain access to the home or business. Only fire department personnel have keys to a Knox Box. Each Massillon Fire

COST

The cost of a Knox Box is the responsibility of the resident. Residential Knox Boxes start at \$170. The City of Massillon does not receive any of this money. To order a Knox Box, go to knoxbox.com and follow the ordering instructions. ❖

The City of Massillon has a residential Knox Box Program. A Knox Box is a secure small metal safe in which keys are kept so emergency responders can gain entry into residential and business structures.

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Massillon Welcomes a New Safety Service Director



JOEL P. SMITH
DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE

Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry announced the appointment of a new Safety Service Director on April 27, 2015. Joel P. Smith, age 57, a native of Massillon joined the City of Champions team after a long career with the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Director Smith graduated from Massillon Washington High School in 1975. He lived in and around Massillon during his early years out of high school and was a member of the Perry Police Dept. for five years prior to joining the Highway Patrol in 1982. He served at the Lisbon, Marietta, Akron, Massillon, Wooster, Canton, Warren, and Brook Park posts and/or district headquarters throughout his career with the Highway Patrol. During his 32-year career with the Patrol he served the last 26 in supervisory and management positions. He has a broad level of experience dealing with employee relations, union contracts, all administrative functions of the agency, and direct field leadership during crisis situations. He has led multi-agency enforcement initiatives within the cities of Canton, Akron, Cleveland, Youngstown, and Warren. He led patrol efforts while assisting the Secret Service during the last 12 years with dignitary protection to include four

presidents, vice-presidents, and numerous presidential candidates during their visits to Northeast Ohio.

Director Smith has kept strong ties to Massillon throughout his life. He is an avid fan of the Massillon Tigers football team, having attended most games with his father Jim for the past 40 years. His son Joel graduated from Massillon in 1994 and was a two-year starter at middle linebacker for the team. His son, wife Vicki, and two children live in Massillon. Granddaughter Lindsie is a member of the high school volleyball team. His daughter Nicole, husband Steve, and their two children also live in Massillon. Grandson Hunter is a member of the high school football team.

Since joining the team, Director Smith has spent his time getting to know our employees and meeting with agency directors. He is learning the issues facing our city as we move forward. He has made himself available to City Council to assist with neighborhood issues and work directly with our residents to deal with issues the city can assist them with. As you see the Director around town please feel free to approach him and discuss any issue facing our proud city. ❖

2015 Mayor's Scholarships Awarded

BY KATHY CATAZARO-PERRY, MAYOR

In conjunction with several colleges and universities, the Mayor of the City of Massillon created a college scholarship program to provide additional financial resources to graduating high school seniors who live within the City of Massillon and attend Massillon Washington High School. These additional resources will be in the form of a tuition scholarship voucher.

2015 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Dane Brahler | Stark State College |
| Zachary Wolfe | University of Mount Union |
| Morgan Flesher | Kent State University Stark |
| Malia Turley | Walsh University |

According to Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry, "On behalf of the City of Massillon, I want to congratulate the scholarship winners and thank our partners at Brown Mackie College, Kent State University Stark, Malone University, Stark State College, University of Mount Union, and Walsh University for their continuing commitment to the young people of our city."

For additional information about the scholarship program, please contact the Massillon Civil Service Commission at 330-830-1763. ❖



Zachary Wolfe, Dane Brahler, Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry, & Malia Turley



Dane Brahler, Morgan Flesher, Zachary Wolfe

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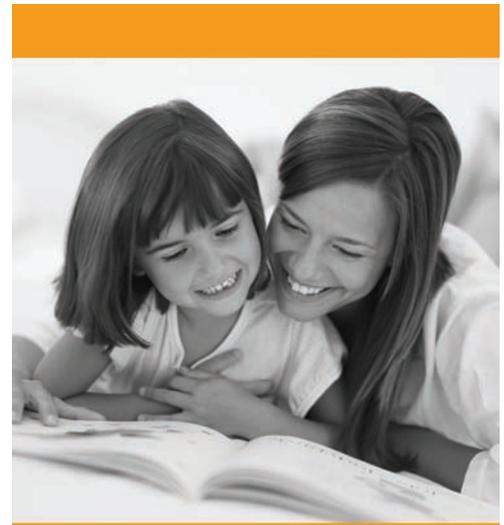


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Let's Play the Feud!

BY DAVID HARDING

Yes, that game of games is happening right here in Massillon! Friendly Feud will take place on Saturday, August 29, at 7:00, at Massillon Recreation Center (505 North Erie Street, Massillon). The event is organized by Massillon's 20/20 Committee.

Here are the details: Teams consist of as many as five players or as few as four competitors. Teams must be sponsored by an organization, be it a church, a downtown merchant, an organization, a business...you get the idea. The entry fee is just \$100 per team, and only 12 teams will be accepted...so hurry and enter now!

The deadline for all entries is Thursday, July 30, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. Forms may be obtained at the Massillon Museum or the Mayor's office. They may be mailed to or dropped off to the attention of Scot Phillips at the Massillon Museum (121 Lincoln Way East, Massillon).

The games will be played like Family Feud that you love on television with one exception...points do not matter. The winning team in a match is the first to win two of the three individual games for that match. All matches are single elimination.

The winning team will receive \$500 and the second place prize is \$100. The remaining funds will become the seed money for a live performance program in the city.

Team photos and logos will be needed for publicity purposes. They may accompany the submission or may be emailed to vogt@sssnet.com at the same time. If any team needs a group photo, Margy Vogt will be available in front of the Chamber of Commerce office (137 Lincoln Way East, Massillon) on Friday, July 17, at 8:00 p.m. If a team does not submit a logo, the committee will create a type-based logo for publicity purposes.

If interested...and we know you are...please form your teams...raise the entry fee...and mail/drop off the form (along with the entry fee) at the Museum.

Admission to the Friendly Feud event on August 29 will be free, but donations will be encouraged to help fund Massillon's live theatre effort.

Contact Dave Harding (330-837-1829 or dave12148@sssnet.com) for additional information.

This will be fun-tastic!!! ❖

High Grass & Weeds

BY DAVID MALEY, CODE ENFORCEMENT

Are your neighbors not cutting their grass? The City of Massillon has an ordinance that states, ***“No person, whether as owner, lessee, agent, tenant, or any other person having charge or care of parcels in the City, shall permit noxious weeds or other undesirable vegetation, grasses, etc., to grow thereon to a height in excess of twelve inches, or to mature their seeds thereon, or fail to cut and destroy such weeds and other undesirable vegetation when notified by the Director of Public Safety and Service to do so.”*** Massillon Ordinance 557.08 requires property owners to cut high grass/weeds within five days of notification.

In the event the property owner does not comply with the posted order to cut or destroy undesirable vegetation within the time limit, the Director shall cause such undesirable vegetation to be cut and

destroyed, and will employ the necessary labor and equipment to perform such task, together with any cleanup work required.

In addition, the property owner is liable to the City for expenses incurred. The minimum fee charged is fifty dollars (\$50.00) per man-hour. Additionally, the following cost shall be included:

- (1) Administration = \$150.00
- (2) Transportation of equipment = \$50.00
- (3) Equipment rental
- (4) Equipment operator
- (5) Incidental labor

Fees are then certified to the County Auditor to be entered on the tax duplicate as a lien on the owner's property tax bill. For additional information or to report high grass, contact the Code Enforcement Office at 330-830-1724. ❖

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GOLD STAR FAMILIES series

Lance Corporal Daniel M. McVicker

BY: MOLLIE McVICKER (DANNY'S SISTER)

When I was asked to write something about my brother, Lance Corporal Daniel M. McVicker, I thought: how do I summarize this amazing person in only a few paragraphs?! So, here is my best attempt.

The events that occurred on September 11, 2001, decided what Danny's career choice would be. He was going to join the Marines. He specifically wanted to wait until his 18th birthday to sign himself up. He took a lot of pride in signing his own name on that paper.

After boot camp, he was off to Virginia to train for his MOS. He was going to be a bulk fuel specialist. While he was there, he did what every young military guy does...he got some tattoos. One of them was Daniel 10:6 from the Bible. Danny thought this depicted a Marine.

After Virginia, Danny was stationed in Cherry Point, North Carolina. While he was there, he volunteered to go overseas. The third time was the charm—Danny got his orders. He was to leave February 2006 to help with the war in Iraq. Just when I got prepared to have my brother deploy in six months, we got a phone call in the middle of the week saying that if we wanted to say our goodbyes to him, we had to come down that weekend, because he was leaving Sunday.

When we were all in the lobby of the hotel saying our goodbyes to him, he was so strong. He kept saying, "I will see you later"...never "goodbye." Thirteen days after getting his orders for February, he left us in that lobby. It was Danny's wish to have his belongings from the base taken home with us. He could have left them at Cherry Point, but he was adamant about our taking them back with us.

While overseas, we knew that Danny wasn't doing the safest job over there. He was in the second combat security detachment, and he was conducting surveillance while driving humvees in a convoy. In one email, Danny mentioned that he was able to make the humvee do donuts in the sand. That sounded like the fun, carefree Danny we knew so well, so it brought comfort to us.

Another email he sent us didn't bring that much comfort. It stated:

Sent: Sunday, October 02, 2005 8:41 AM

"bey all this email is to let you all know whats is kinda gonna happen we have a big operation about to go in a few days operation river run or somethin like that we were told pretty vague things but in a town of baditba and its is going to take up a lot of this month so you may not here from me but mail will still work the same so ont think you stuff wont get to me. also you wont need to worry because if somethin, WHICH IT WONT, were to happen yall wouylbde notified. my squad has a theme song Dead or alive by bon jovi!!! but we are all good and ready so i love you all! dan"

Four days after that email, my mom and I were watching the news. A big group of military men and women had just arrived at the Akron Canton airport. We both said we couldn't wait until we could go watch Danny do that.

Mom left for work, and I continued to get ready for school. As I was getting ready, I heard a knock at the door. My heart stopped, because I was home alone and it was early in the morning. Eventually, I walked out into the kitchen and I saw two Marines dressed in uniform standing at the door. My heart fell. I opened the door and they asked for my mom. I told them that she left for work already, and they replied that they couldn't say anything else until they spoke to my mom. I started to cry, and I told them that I already knew exactly why they were there. What felt like an

eternity and many phone calls later, my family was seated in the kitchen together. That's when the one Marine proceeded to tell us that the humvee Danny was driving went over an IED, and he was killed by the explosion on October 6, 2005.

A few things to re-cap... First, the tattoo—Daniel 10:6. Danny died on October 6 (10/6). Second, Danny wanted his belongings home with us, not at Cherry Point. Third, he sent that e-mail explaining what would take place if something bad happened to him. After thinking about these events more and more, we felt that Danny knew his time here on earth would be cut short. In his 20 years of life, Danny lived every minute to its fullest potential. We couldn't be more proud of him even if it means we can't see him for awhile. ❖

12/27/84 - 10/06/05



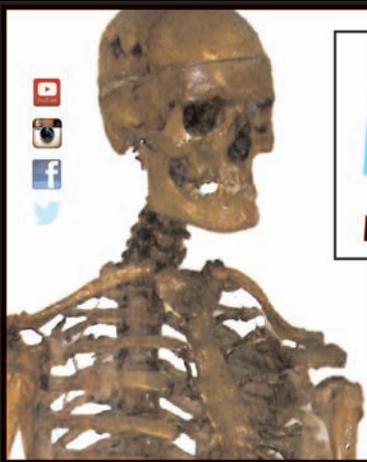
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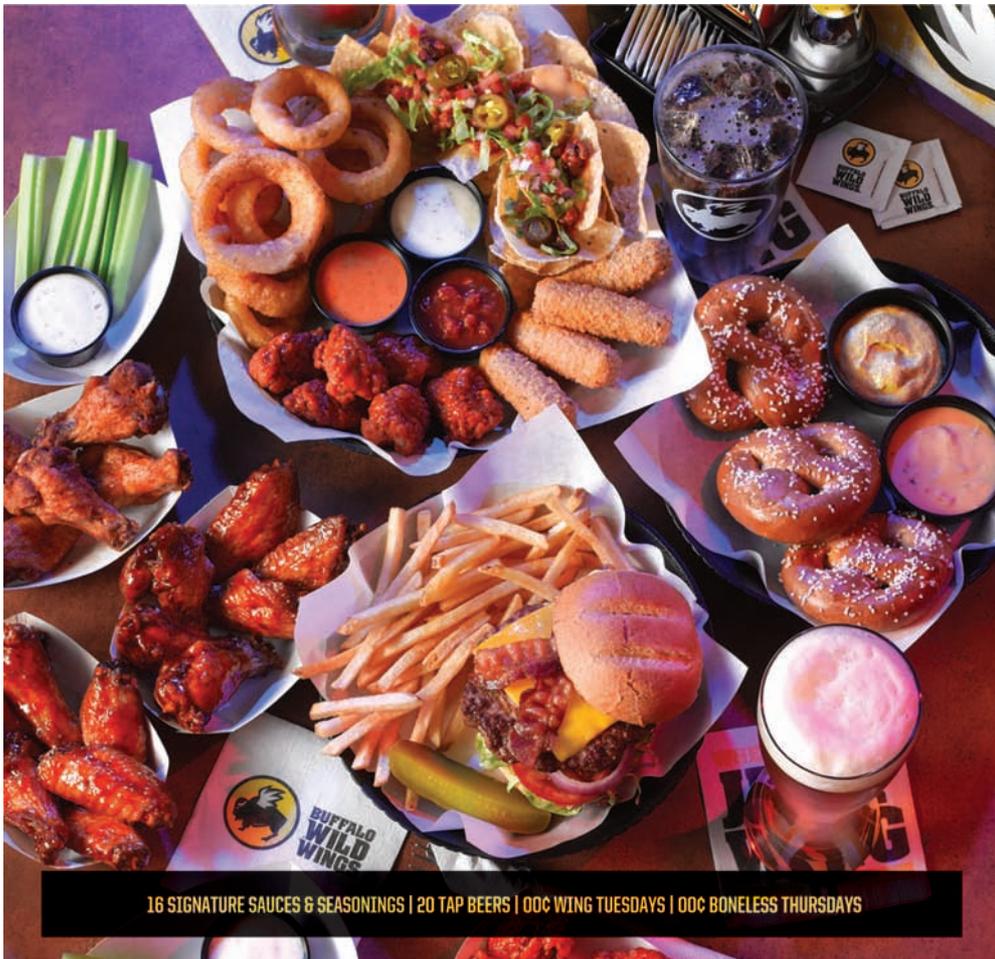
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Summer Emergency Preparedness



BY TERRY ARGENT
HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Summer is the time for outdoor activities—it is also the time for severe thunderstorms and even tornadoes! Is your family ready if a disaster hits? You could be required to remain at home or move to an emergency shelter. It is recommended that you be prepared for three days of emergency survival.

The most likely events for our area are storms, tornadoes, floods, fire, excessive heat, and power outages. The State of Ohio has a website—www.Ready.gov—where you can go for sample emergency plans and survival information. The four Health Dept.s in Stark County have a program called "Ready in 3." The three steps for readiness are:

1. MAKE A PLAN

Get your family together and plan emergency contact numbers, an alternative family meeting place, Social Security numbers, medical information, and any other important information.

2. MAKE A KIT

Supplies could include: water, food, batteries, radio,

medicine, first-aid kit, matches, can opener, infant supplies, and any other necessary items.

3. LISTEN FOR INFORMATION

Tune into a local radio station, TV station, or go online to your local Health Dept.. Local radio stations include NOAA weather radio (162.4), WHBC (1480), WKSU (89.7). Your local Health Dept. web address is www.massillonohio.com/health

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency can be contacted for assistance after an emergency. The American Red Cross can respond during a disaster.

Please do not forget to include your pets in your emergency plans. Also, be sure to review your plan yearly for changes or updates. ◆

Correction Notice:

A correction to the Spring 2015 edition of the City of Champions Today. The article titled "Is Your Home a Healthy Home" should have been by Denaye Hagi, RN Public Health Nurse, not by Terri Argent, Health Commissioner.

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Massillon Police News

OFFICER TRAINING UPDATE

On behalf of the City of Massillon and the officers of the Massillon Police Dept., we would like to congratulate Sergeant Jason Saintenoy for recently completing the STEP (Supervisor Training and Education Program) course in Columbus, Ohio. This training program was established to assist in the development of first-line law enforcement supervisors. The course is split into three segments over a three-month period and is sponsored by The Law Enforcement Foundation and The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police. There were 26 participants in the 13th graduating class of STEP, who represented police departments from across the state.

This training will assist him to better serve his subordinates, the Massillon Police Dept., and the citizens of our diverse community. Our police department is fortunate to be able to participate in training programs such as this one. Sgt. Saintenoy will have the opportunity to apply what he has learned in this course, which in turn will assure that the command staff of the Massillon Police Dept. is trusted and respected by those they serve and lead.



Sgt. Jason Saintenoy

NEW HIRES SWORN-IN

Theodore "Teddy" Hyatt was born in Akron, Ohio, but raised in Massillon. He attended L.J. Smith Elementary in Massillon and graduated from Tuslaw in 2009. After high school, he attended the University of Akron, where he received an associate degree in applied science in criminal justice studies. He then attended the police academy through Bryant & Stratton College in Akron. Teddy started with the Massillon Police Dept. on May 18.

Derick Spangler graduated from Waterloo High School in 2011. The following fall he enrolled at Kent State University and graduated with an associate degree in justice studies. He then attended Kent State University Police Academy, where he received an award for academic excellence upon graduation. In January 2015, Derick was hired as a part-time police officer in the Village of Brewster and worked there for several months until he was hired full-time with the City of Massillon. ❖



Theodore Hyatt III getting a congratulatory shake from Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry as Theodore's family watches along with Police Chief Keith Moser



Derick Spangler receiving the Oath of Office from Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry as Derick's family and Police Chief Keith Moser watch

Mayor Welcomes Intern

JOSHUA WHITACRE

In May, Mayor Catazaro-Perry and her staff welcomed to her office Joshua Whitacre, who is serving as an intern over the course of this year. Josh is no stranger to the public service sector, having spent the past four years, working on community-oriented campaigns and being involved in community development. Josh is a fourth year senior at Kent State University studying political science and public policy. When asked why he wanted to intern in the Massillon mayor's office, his reply was that he wanted to work within the Massillon community again after getting his start here four years ago. He believes Massillon is a great city with a great past, and that it has a great future. ❖



Humvee

BY SERGEANT JASON SANTENOY

A few years ago, the Massillon Police Dept. was the recipient of a military surplus Humvee. The vehicle was received through the federal government “1033” program. The program gives surplus military items to law enforcement agencies to be placed into service at a local level. At the time the Humvee was received, the department had an active SWAT team that would have used it for tactical operations. The Humvee was a heavily armored version and was perfect for SWAT operations. Unfortunately, shortly after receiving the vehicle, the SWAT team had to be disbanded due to a significant cut in manpower. The result was the Humvee being stored outdoors at the city street department parking lot, where its unique capabilities were not put to use. The lack of use was detrimental to the maintenance of the vehicle and it was not living up to its potential as a benefit to the police department.

In the late summer of 2014, I saw some of the events occurring around the country involving law enforcement and the public. Many of the stories in the media did not portray police officers in a favorable manner. This sparked the idea of finding ways to create positive interactions with the public and specifically maintaining the trust of our community. I felt that it was necessary to actively seek out ways to create positive interactions with the public and partake in them whenever possible. The concept was reviewed by Captain Bill Peel, who agreed that the police department needed to do more to improve community relations. The Community Outreach Officer position was commissioned as a collateral duty and I was more than excited to fill the position.

In early October of 2014, I saw the under-appreciated and rarely utilized Humvee as a diamond in the rough. I also thought it could be a catalyst for a community outreach program. Authorization to re-invent the vehicle was given by Chief Keith Moser. A plan was set in place and work began with one caveat. There was no budget for the vehicle. I was advised that I would need to find ways to either have all outside work towards the project donated or be given monetary donations to assist with the refurbishing of the Humvee. It was not an easy task to take on.

With the help of local businesses that donated either their services or picked up the bill for work done, a unique police vehicle was created. The vision for the Humvee was to grab the attention of the citizens of Massillon and make them want to approach it out of curiosity. Rather than covering the desert khaki paint with flat black or a “tactical” paint scheme, the vehicle



Humvee after conversion for use by the Massillon PD



Humvee before it was converted for Massillon PD use

was painted white and outfitted with similar decals as the departments patrol vehicles. Rather than intimidation, intrigue and curiosity are the real emotional goals we hope to elicit from citizens. Another way to do this (besides the paint scheme) was by removing most of the heavy armor. The ballistic doors were replaced with soft doors similar to those found on a Jeep, the bullet proof glass windshields replaced, and LED police lighting was mounted. The finished product is a vehicle that has the appearance of a “beefy off-road police vehicle.”

The Humvee made its debut in the 2015 Massillon Memorial Day parade, which it led, as a Massillon PD vehicle always does. Plans for the vehicle are for it to be used at local community events such as the annual “Cruise-on-In and Dance Party,” Independence Day fireworks, Fun Fest, and other parades as well. Events such as these are all perfect opportunities to give citizens a chance to check out the “Massillon Police” version of a former military combat vehicle. The officers look forward to seeing young children crawling in and out of the Humvee while speaking to their parents. These are the interactions that we need more of and we hope will be encouraged by the MPD Humvee in the future. ◆

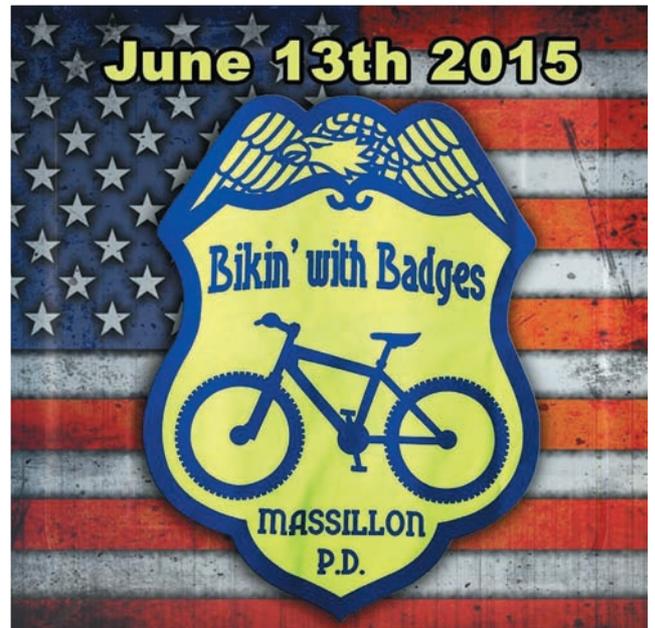
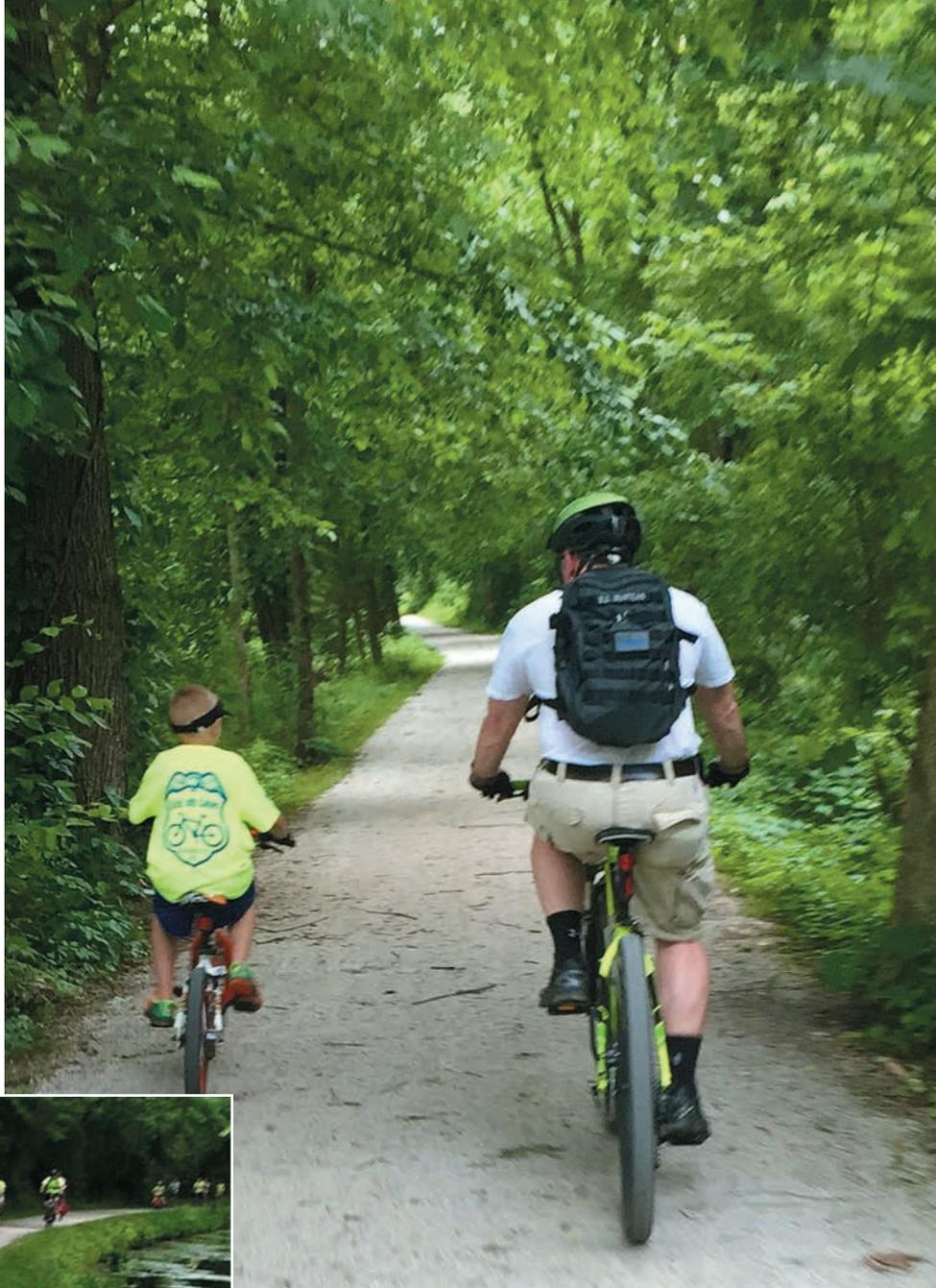
Bikin' with Badges

BY SERGEANT BRIAN MUNTEAN

Bikin' with Badges 2015 was a success. We had approximately 200 riders of all age groups and skill levels. We handed out about 130 Bikin' with Badges t-shirts, about 40 programmable bike locks, and about 40 LED light kits. We proceeded to have a safety briefing, and ventured on to the trail—the 16-mile ride from Heritage Park in Canal Fulton to Ernie's Bike Shop in Massillon, and back. We had riders from southern Ohio and a police officer from Cleveland Police Dept. who came because they read about it in the news.

The Ohio bi-polar weather cooperated for the most part, and only a few riders got wet. When the ride was over, we ventured over to Oser's and had some ice cream. It was certainly a positive experience for us as well as the public that we serve.

A huge "thank you" to Patriot Towing, REACT, WalMart, Massillon Fire Dept., Canal Fulton Fire Dept., Stark County Sheriff's Office, Oser's, Cliff Franks (TDT), Stark Parks, McDonalds, Paris Enterprises, WHBC, and The Inde. ❖



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Mayor's Reading Challenge

On May 23, 2015, Mayor Catazaro-Perry read to 350 first graders from the Massillon City Schools, launching this year's Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge. The event, which was hosted in the Duncan Plaza, started with Mayor Catazaro-Perry stressing the importance of reading during the summertime. The Mayor enjoyed reading *The Berenstain Bears Mama* for Mayor to the students. Afterwards, she enjoyed a picnic lunch with the students, which was provided by the event's sponsors. Members of the Massillon Police and Fire Departments, along with volunteers from the United Way and City Bible Church, volunteered to help with the event—passing out lunches, distributing reusable sports bags, and talking with students about the importance of reading and safety.



The Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge is to read at least 15 books over the course of the summer. For every 15 books read, a student gets to pay a visit to the mayor's office where they can pick out a new book to add to their own collection. Each child who reads 15 books can enter a drawing for the chance to have lunch with the mayor. The drawing will be held on August 7. The challenge is meant to emphasize the fun and value of reading for students of all ages, especially during the course of the summer.

Reading is an important part of growing and expanding the minds of our youth. By challenging them to read, we are challenging them to better themselves and expand upon their horizons.

Sponsors of the event—Buehler's, Shearer's, Sunny Slope Orchard, and the United Way of Greater Stark County—provided hot dogs, chips, apples, and water for lunch. United Way also provided sports bags for the children. Additional sponsors of the reading program are the Massillon Public Library and Papa John's Pizza. ❖

Job Fair Matches Potential Employers with Job Seekers



BY LARRY MARCUS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry announced that the Massillon Job Fair at the Massillon Recreation Center in May was a success and Massillon employers have jobs to fill. The number of companies that participated was capped at 70 employers. There was a steady stream of job seekers who attended the three-hour morning event. The number of job seekers was estimated to be more than 600 people.

The Mayor reported, "I am encouraged that since adding many new jobs there are many new jobs available to our residents. Companies like Freshmark, Heinz, Shearer's, MCTV, Quest, Grief, A.R.E., Peoples Services, and others are hiring."

The Job Fair is a valuable event, helping local employers to help fill open positions. The Mayor encourages residents to contact local employers online for employment. The City of Massillon thanks the Ohio Means Jobs Stark County staff for organizing the event and The Independent, Massillon Area Chamber of Commerce, and Massillon Parks and Recreation Dept. for their generous sponsorship. ❖

Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry
Campaign Cabinet volunteer

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUMMER 2015

Farmer's Market of Massillon

Saturdays, June 6 to October 3
8:00 am to 12:00 pm
Recreation Center Parking Lot

Flags of Honor Opening Ceremony

Friday, July 24
6:00 p.m.
Duncan Plaza

Christmas in July

Saturday, July 25
The Legends

Flags of Honor Closing Ceremony & Dedication of Blue Star Memorial

Sunday, July 26
2:00 pm
Duncan Plaza

Fun Fest

August 1
10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Downtown Massillon

Drum Corps International Competition

August 3
7:30 pm
Paul Brown Tiger Stadium

Bring in New School Supplies and Swim for Half-off

August 10 to August 14
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Recreation Center

Pizza & Wing Wars

Thursday, August 20
5:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Duncan Plaza
Band—Jake Friel and the Last Train South

Massillon Tiger Kick-Off Pep Rally

Tuesday, August 25
6:30 p.m.
Duncan Plaza

Fall Fest

September 12
5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Duncan Plaza
Band—Visinata

New York City Bus Trip

Thursday - Saturday, October 8 to October 10
7:00 am to 11:00 pm
Recreation Center
Sign up by Friday, July 31

Friendly Feud

Saturday, August 29
7:00 pm
Recreation Center

continued on page 21

Massillon, The City I Love

I have always loved Massillon. It is my city. I have been rooted in the deep Massillon soil.

In my fourth year, my family moved to our new home at 143 Highland Avenue, a community outside the city of Massillon: it was then called Genoa. We had a Massillon address here, where I spent my years until I married Jim at the age of 23.

The grade school in our community was a part of the Stark County School System and when it came time to enter high school, we had the choice of going to Canton or Massillon to school. Since the Stark County Schools supplied bus transportation for those attending the Massillon schools, many Genoa kids went to Longfellow Junior High School for their ninth year and on the Washington High School for their tenth, eleventh, and twelfth years. I chose Massillon due to the free transportation, but mostly because I dreamed of being a part of George Bird's famous Tiger Swing Band.

Here my love for football, the Tiger Swing Band, and Massillon became part of me.

In 1962, Jim and I purchased our large three-story home at 2135 Lincoln Way West from the Faith Lutheran Church. We lived here for 27 years. Our children attended both St. Barbara and the Massillon City Schools. When Kev entered school I became lonesome and the next year I became employed by Massillon City Schools as a part-time aide. I was very proud of our schools and our kids did well; all became members of Washington High School National Honor Society. Later, after completing my degree at Kent State I was hired as a teacher in the Massillon School System, where I worked throughout my career, retiring at the age of 66. I still feel a part of the Massillon Schools and recently I worked with the American Legion to achieve a way to get more of our city students to become candidates for Boys State.

Recently, along with my newspaper I received a magazine section entitled City of Champions Today. The love of Massillon once more surfaced. The cover of the magazine spoke to me; I just loved it. It pictured a group of young Boy Scouts or Cub Scouts, holding American flags. Some wore scout shirts while several stood proudly in the front row wearing patriotic shirts—no uniforms needed here; they were part of the group, and that is all that mattered. I loved the ordinariness of the boys, just Massillon boys, proud to be Scouts, proud to wave the American flag, and proud to be in the picture.

Page three welcomed our new Coach Nate Moore and his family; page five told how Massillon was named for an 18th-century French bishop, Jean-Baptiste Massillon. On another page I found a large Cecchini Enterprises advertisement with a huge yellow "M" highlighting the page. I remember how Kev worked at McDonalds during his junior and senior years at WHS and how proud I was of him, being part of the clean-cut staff of young boys in their sharp uniform shirts. On page 14 was a picture of my new grocery store, Buehler's; pages 20, 21, and 22 featured Washington High School Distinguished Citizens. I turned the page to find the Massillon Summer Concert Series and Duncan Plaza Concerts. Page 25 told of Massillon's Memorial Day observance and the parade I have often attended. Several pages later, colored photos highlighted our mayor, Kathy Catazaro-Perry, surrounded by students of Whittier School. And then, on the inside back cover, information pertaining to the Mayor's scholarship program could be found. Such a well done publication!

Yes, I still love Massillon. I feel sad with some people talk down my city, but for me, Massillon is still the City of Champions, and I am a proud Massillonian.

Alma Martin

April 22, 2015 ❖

Massillon Municipal Court

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS *continued from page 20*

Junk In Your Trunk

October 10
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Recreation Center Parking Lot

Community Book Swap

October 12 & 13
All day: Drop off books
October 15
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm: Pick up new books
Recreation Center

Next Issue of

City of Champions Today

October 21

Trunk or Treat

October 22
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Recreation Center

Wheeling Island Casino/Oglebay Bus Trip

Friday, December 11
10:00 am to 9:00 pm
Recreation Center
Sign up by Monday, November 2

See page 29 for Summer Concert Series dates.

•Dates are subject to change

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Yung "Woo" Hwang

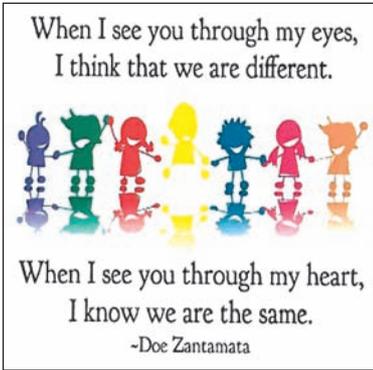
Massillon Man Voted to be on Survivor Again

BY LARRY ST. JEAN

The Summer 2014 edition of City of Champions Today featured an article about Yung "Woo" Hwang, who was a runner-up in the CBS show, Survivor. Well, Survivor created a new twist, inviting fans to vote on the next season's contestants. We are happy to report that "Woo" was voted in as a fan favorite to join the next set of 18 castaways with a chance to win the ultimate prize of one million dollars. ◆

Serving Our Diverse Community Awards Breakfast Congratulations!

BY MAYOR KATHY CATAZARO-PERRY



The City of Massillon recognized and honored outstanding achievement in service to our community at the first annual “Serving Our Diverse Community Awards Breakfast” on Friday, April 17. The event highlight was the

2014 City of Massillon Employee of the Year awards, Community Service awards, and the Massillon Senior Citizen of the Year award. The guest speaker, Ron Ponder, host of the “Ron Ponder Show” on WHBC, spoke eloquently about the issue of diversity, recalling past experiences while commenting on the current unrest in our country.

Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry presented the awards and the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy Scholarship. According to Mayor Kathy, “This event was a great opportunity for us to recognize individuals who have excelled in their service to our community. It also

was a forum to continue our discussion about diversity.” A special thanks to National Feedscrew & Machining (NFM) for its sponsorship of this very successful event.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

- Employee of the Year Ron Boylard
- Department Director of the Year Terri Argent
- Firefighter of the Year Jason Castile
- Police Officer of the Year Jason Gohlike

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

- Pastor Berry Carter Rick Mirenyi
- Judge Eddie Elum Margy Vogt
- Downtown Massillon Association Terry Roan
- Community Outreach of Love (C.O.O.L.)

COMMUNITY BUSINESS AWARDS

- Smiley's Ristorante & Pizzeria Aqua Ohio

SENIOR CITIZEN AWARD

- Senior Citizen of the Year Joan Walsh

OHIO PEACE OFFICER TRAINING ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP

- Scholarship Award Tonio Pettis



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

FROZEN PINK LEMONADE DESSERT

RECIPE

Frozen Pink Lemonade Dessert



Ingredients:

- graham cracker crust (make your own)
- 12 ounce can evaporated milk
- 6 ounce can pink lemonade concentrate
- 2 cups freshly whipped cream (8 ounce container whipped topping)

Press the graham cracker crust into a 9x9-inch pan, reserving 3-4 tablespoons

for topping. Mix evaporated milk, lemonade concentrate, and whipped cream. (Add a couple drops of red food coloring for a more pink effect if you wish.) Pour into crust. Top with remaining graham cracker crumbs. Freeze for several hours or overnight. Serve frozen.

*** Alternatively, use a prepared graham cracker pie crust and cut into pie pieces, garnishing with a lemon or lime slice.

[Recipe and photo from amysfinethings.com](http://amysfinethings.com)

New Leadership at The Legends of Massillon

BY JOEL P. SMITH
DIRECTOR OF SAFETY AND SERVICE

The Legends of Massillon is taking a new direction to provide area golfers with a positive golfing experience. Under the direction of Class “A” PGA Professional Carrie Lowry, there will be more player-friendly pricing, a better selection of items in the pro shop, improvements to the course, and a staff that wants to make your time at The Legends enjoyable and fun.

Carrie brings a fresh attitude and a wealth of experience to The Legends. As a teenager, she started working at Bob-O-Link, wanting to know everything there is to know about running a golf course—from mowing greens, fairways, and rough to managing the driving range to working inside the pro shop. From there, she went on to The Ohio State University, where she became a proud Big Ten player on the women’s golf team. She obtained her Business Management degree while also working toward her Class “A” PGA card through the PGA of America Golf Management School. Carrie has more than 25 years of experience in the golf business working



as the Assistant Golf Professional at Union Country Club, Glenmoor Country Club, and Tam O’Shanter Golf Course (10 years). With her knowledge and experience, she is determined to make The Legends of Massillon the best golf course in Stark County!

Carrie can bring a wealth of knowledge to your game. She has worked with touring professionals on the Sunbelt Senior Tour who have gone on and played on the Champions Tour. During the seven years she was the assistant coach of the girls and boys Jackson High School golf teams, both squads made it to state tournament numerous times. Many of her students have gone on to play college golf at Division 1, 2 and 3 schools.

She has numerous clinics available for beginning, intermediate, and advanced golfers as well as junior camps, private lessons, semi-private lessons, and video and playing lessons. Get your game on the right course! Contact Carrie to have a more enjoyable golfing experience! ◆

Union Memorial Park

BY LISA BENTON
CITY OF MASSILLON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL EVENTS & MARKETING SUPERVISOR

As we celebrated Memorial Day with our families and reflected on the loved ones we’ve lost, some of us may have also visited them in one of our memorial parks. The Massillon Parks & Recreation Dept. is home to over 30 parks and open spaces but two of these are special places of remembrance. Union Memorial Park and Veterans Memorial Park are tokens of love and history for many families right here in Massillon.

Union Memorial Park, previously known as Union Cemetery, is one of Massillon’s oldest historical landmarks. It is located at 290 Ninth Street NE. The first person was laid to rest there in 1811 and it was used until 1848 just after Massillon Cemetery was founded. As the city continued to grow, land was needed to build homes, and part of the cemetery was used for dwellings. In 1870, after receiving petitions, Massillon City Council was able to save a part of the cemetery for those remains to be at peace.

In 1908, after remaining dormant for almost 40 years, Mr. Brownell, a Massillon City Councilman, sought for it to be converted into a park. His efforts were success-



ful, and in 1916 the City of Massillon spent a small amount of money to save part of the park and honor the remains of loved ones. As the city’s financial situation fluctuated, so did ideas on what to do with the park. Many people wanted to sell the land but with the efforts of Mrs. Nell Tipping, a woman who lived adjacent to the memorial for sixty years, and many other citizens standing behind her, they dedicated time and attention to ensuring the park would remain a peaceful place of remembrance. Mrs. Tipping kept the grounds tended and raised the flag on all memorial holidays until her death in 1968. In addition to saving the memorial she also kept a journal, logging all activity surrounding it, which was later donated to the Massillon Museum. Today Union Memorial Cemetery is maintained by the staff of the Massillon Parks and Recreation Dept. and remains a place to visit to reflect on lives lost centuries ago. ◆

Pizza & Wing Wars Will be Here Before You Know It!

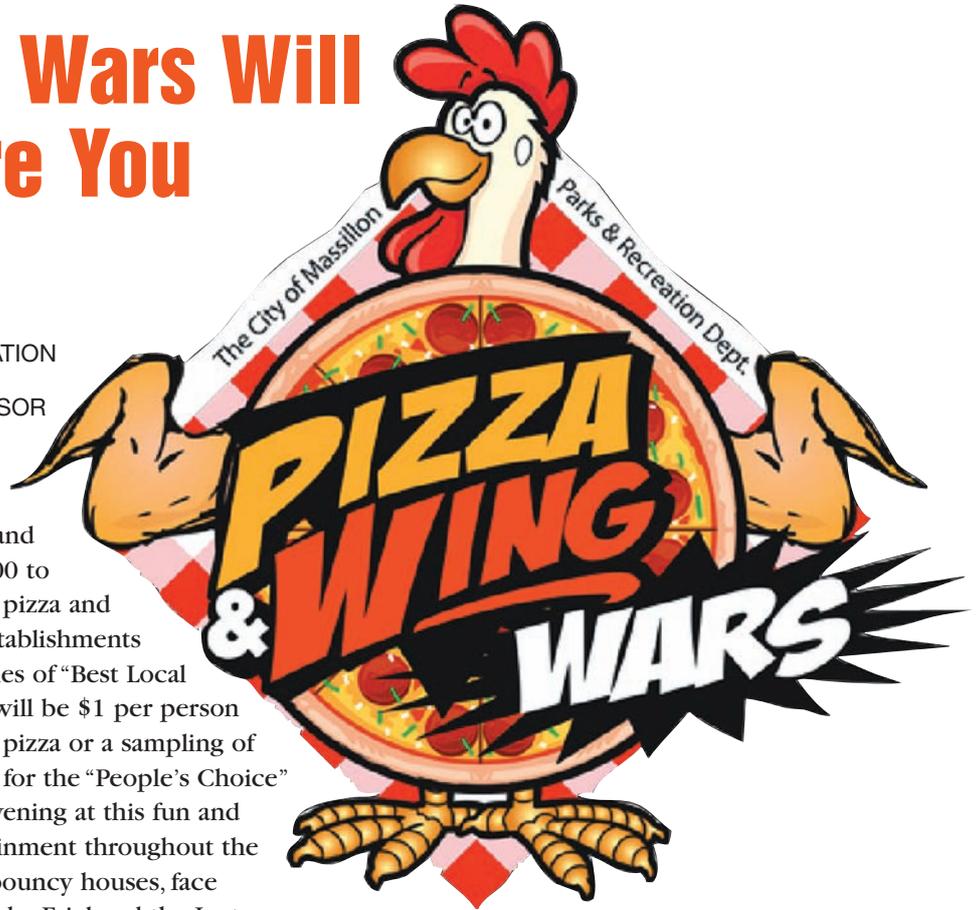
BY LISA BENTON
CITY OF MASSILLON PARKS AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL EVENTS & MARKETING SUPERVISOR

The Massillon Parks and Recreation Dept. is steaming ahead with plans for its annual Pizza and Wing Wars event. Pizza and Wing Wars—Thursday, August 13, from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m., at Duncan Plaza—will feature pizza and wings from many local vendors. These establishments will go bite-for-bite to compete for the titles of “Best Local Pizza” and “Best Local Wings.” Admission will be \$1 per person and food tickets will cost \$3 for a slice of pizza or a sampling of wings. Taste them all, then cast your vote for the “People’s Choice” winner. Bring your family to spend the evening at this fun and flavorful community festival. Live entertainment throughout the event will include a children’s area with bouncy houses, face painting, and crafts along with music by Jake Friel and the Last Train South.

Want to get in for free and get two free samples? Volunteer to work a shift at the event! Contact Lisa at 330-832-1621 ext. 125 or lbenton@massillonparks.com for more information!

Proceeds from this event will help support the Massillon Recreation Center’s Youth Scholarship Fund. The scholarship program provides financial assistance to Massillon City School children for Recreation Center memberships.

For more information, contact the Massillon Parks and Recreation Dept. at 330-832-1621 or visit www.massillonrecreation.com. The Massillon Recreation Center is located at 505 Erie Street North, just north of downtown Massillon. ❖



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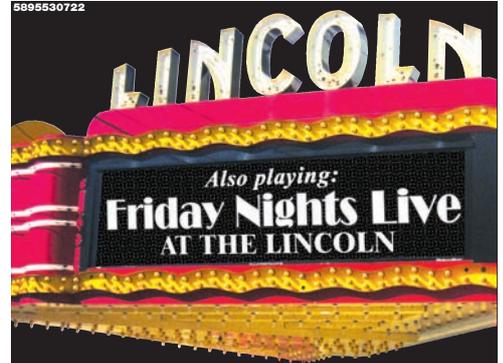
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Aug. 15th & 16th
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Annie (1983)



Aug. 29th & 30th
The Princess Bride

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IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT • Sept. 19 & 20
THE BIG LEBOWSKI • Sept. 26 & 27

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Neighborhood Associations

BY LORETTA RITTENHOUSE

All of Massillon's neighborhood associations participate in the Leadership Council as a way to not only reach their own neighborhoods, but to also touch and change our entire community.

On May 2, 2015, the Massillon Neighborhood Associations (leadership council) came together to clean different areas in need of a good spring spruce-up. We picked places that impact first impressions of our community for visitors and travelers, and, of course, our own residents. It is our mission to not only keep our neighborhoods, but our entire community, desirable.

On our spring clean-up day, we showed up in force to show Massillon that it takes a village to take care of its own. It is the responsibility of everyone to keep our town thriving and hold others accountable for behaviors and actions that devalue our community. We cleaned major intersections, parks, and neighborhoods that were in need of some TLC. We repaired seating at the kiddie park (Rotch Park). Volunteers filled the valley by the waterfall to accommodate smooth access to our park,



Starting the clean up with a group picture at Whitmer Arms

cleaned and repaired the tennis courts, cut down dangerous limbs and branches for safety and all over park appeal, cleaned up dangerous debris from neighborhoods where children play.



Removing dead and dangerous branches at Reservoir Park, mowing, and fixing tennis courts

More than 65 volunteers helped that day. We were so proud of the difference we made to the city of Massillon. It was a lot of work, but we came together and had so much fun that the day flew by. ❖

At your location or ours, we've got you **covered.**

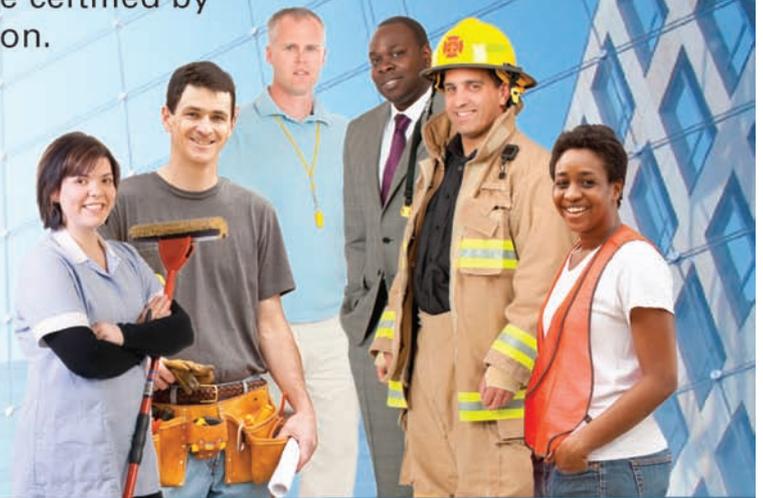
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SPARK Ohio: Partnering with the Massillon City School District Since 2010.

SPARK is a voluntary, family-focused intervention program that works with families, schools, and the community to help children get ready for kindergarten by building reading, language, and social skills. The program helps families with preschool-age children to support and ensure their children's success in school.



How Does SPARK Work?

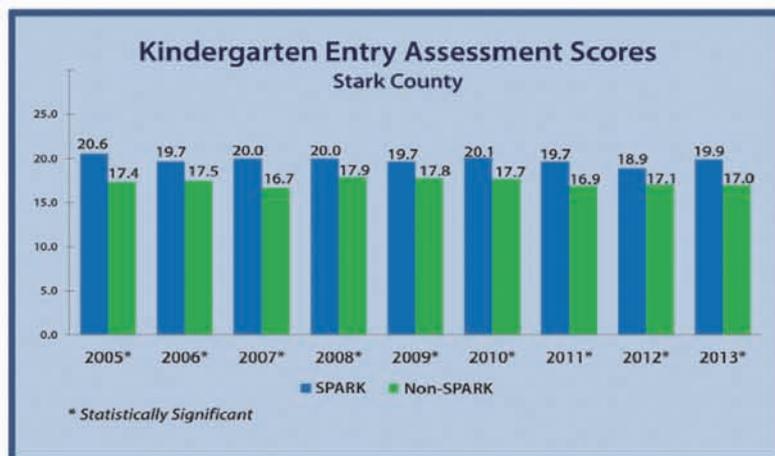
Each SPARK family works with a specially trained parent partner who visits each month, bringing books and supplies, activities, and resources.

SPARK families receive social and emotional support, and can meet other families who are getting ready for kindergarten. SPARK lessons are developed around Ohio's Early Learning Standards, to help SPARK families focus on the things their children will need to know to be ready for kindergarten.

SPARK also conducts developmental screenings and provides referrals and links to community resources. Parent partners consult professionals in the fields of early childhood education, mental health, and speech and language development to identify and address barriers to school readiness, long before a child shows up at the schoolhouse door.



SPARK services are free for participating families.



According to the Ohio Department of Education, a two-point difference on the KRA-L can sometimes determine whether a child will need remediation or other interventions.

All children beginning kindergarten in Ohio's public schools are assessed to measure their mastery of the early reading skills that are essential for success in school.

Stark County SPARK children score significantly higher than their non-SPARK peers in the same classrooms. SPARK children begin school more ready to succeed.

And SPARK children retain their advantage for years; they had higher attendance rates at each grade through third grade and were promoted on time more often than non-SPARK children.

SPARK children also scored higher on the fifth grade Ohio Achievement Assessments in reading and math—six years after leaving the program.

To join SPARK, to donate, or to learn more about the program, visit sparkohio.org or contact SPARK Parent Partner Marybeth Flinner at (234) 521-0265 or at mflinner@csstark.org



1 Dravyn, student at William Malloy Head Start

2 Sangria Stand patrons

3 Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry with Loretta Rittenhouse

4 Princess Victoria Wilson (pink and white), Karissa Endlich (princess), Natalie Ryder (Cinderella)



5 Beautification Day in conjunction with United Way to clean up our city

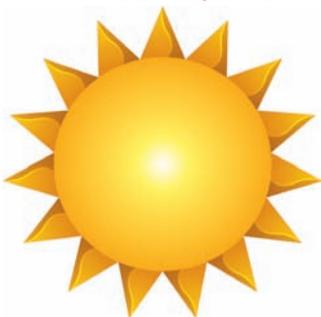
6 Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry reading to Franklin Elementary

7 Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry with Ruth Lash after presenting her with a proclamation for her work with the Massillon Woman's Club

8 Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry presenting Rita "Pinkie" Ringley a proclamation for her work with the Massillon Woman's Club



Summer Concert Series 2015



Thur June 18 (7:30pm)	The Avalons
Thur June 25 (7:30pm)	The Stickers
Thur July 9 (7:30pm)	The Avenue
Thur July 16 (7:30pm)	Jimmy & The Soul Blazers
Thur July 23 (7:30pm)	The Belairs
Thur July 30 (7:30pm)	The Sweet Beats
Thur Aug 6 (7:30pm)	LaFlavour

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

Duncan Plaza Concerts

Mon June 1 (7:30 pm)	Visinata	Ethnic, Polka & More
Mon June 8 (7:30 pm)	Clinton Band	Concert Band
Mon June 15 (7:30 pm)	TGIF	Favorites
Mon June 22 (7:30 pm)	Matt Schafer & Friends	Favorites & Ethnic
Mon June 29 (7:30 pm)	Clinton Band	Concert Band
Mon July 6 (7:30 pm)	Storyville Stompers	Dixieland
Mon July 13 (7:30 pm)	Meadowbrook Big Band	Big Band
Mon July 20 (7:30 pm)	Canton Concert Band	Concert Band
Mon July 27 (7:00 pm)	Clinton Band	Concert Band
Mon Aug 3 (7:00 pm)	Renditions	Favorites & Ethnic
Mon Aug 10 (7:00 pm)	Bob Hill Orchestra	Favorites
Mon Aug 17 (7:00 pm)	Savoy	Jazz
Mon Aug 24 (7:00 pm)	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

Friday July 3 (7:30 pm) Live music by: **New Wave Nation**

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

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



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