

May 2009



**City of Parma and
Parma Police
Department**

**Parma City Hall
209 S. Broad
P.O. Box 668
573-357-4375**

Mayor: Randall Ramsey
Board of Alderman:
Barry Aycock
Oscar Sapp
Simon Wofford
Debbie Lewis
City/Court Clerk:
Jackie Bradshaw
City Judge: Phillip Santie
City Attorney: Amy Preyer
City Treasurer: Kim Hampton

City Maintenance

Water Plant: 573-357-4808

Manager: Steve Lewis
Foreman: Rick Seuell
Alice Holmes

Police Department

Office: 573-357-4641
Emergency: 911

Chief of Police: Trish Cohen
Officer Rinda Williams
Officer Lisa McFarlen

Fire Department

Office: 573-357-2006
Emergency: 911

Fire Chief: Chris Blackburn
Assistant Fire Chief: Mike Collum
Captain: Justin Kinsey

**New Madrid County
Library in Parma**

Hours:
Tuesday and Friday
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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PARMA NEWSLETTER



Volume1, Issue 4

City Hall News and Updates

COUNTY MAYORS ASSOCIATION

At the May meeting the Mayor's economic Developer announced that he is working with a very large industry that may locate in New Madrid County. The company manufactures parts and assemblies for the electric generating industry. Two new Canadian companies have started construction on their facilities at the County River Harbor and expect to be in operation in early 2010. They will create several new jobs for the area. Also the county Commission is working with the Mayor's to obtain equipment and facilities to be used in any future emergencies or disasters. This will be an on-going project for the next couple of years.

ICE DISASTER 2009

We are all certainly glad to get the Ice Storm cleanup behind us. The few limb piles that are left will be picked up this summer by the City crew. So far there has been 22,000 cubic yards of limbs picked up. A cubic yard is the size of an automatic washer. The County Highway crew, State Highway Contractors, City FEMA Contractor, and the City crew all picked up the limbs. At the Warming Station in the Fire Building, the Fire Department crew served approximately 1200 meals to local and area residents plus the Ameren UE Electric repair crews. The City Officials have completed all of the FEMA claims and documents and they have been submitted to the Washington, DC offices. The total cost of cleanup, damage to City buildings and vehicles was documented at \$97,453.00. A part of this cost will be paid by the City Insurance carrier with the balance of \$62,559.00 to be reimbursed to the City by FEMA. A lot of people donated their time and services during this disaster period. Without these people's help it would have been very difficult for the City to have survived and made it through as well as we did.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND
HAPPY SUMMER AND 4TH OF JULY.**



NEW PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASSIFICATION

In February the Insurance Services Company was in Parma to inspect the Fire Department and Water Department for fire protection services and homeowners insurance rating purposes. Three years ago the City was inspected and the insurance rate was lowered from Class 8 to Class 7. The City was recently notified after the last inspection with all the improvements made by the Fire Department and Water Department, the rate will be lowered to Class 6 effective August 1, 2009. This Class 6 rate will lower the premiums on homeowners insurance policies. So when your insurance policy renews, be sure your agent knows Parma has a **Class 6 ISO Rating**.

MAYORS NOTES

As you all know this has been a very trying year so far. However we have gotten the tough part behind us and we can now work toward improving our community. All of the hard work and time the Firemen and Volunteers put in during the Ice Storm helping other people, cooking, serving meals was outstanding. There is not enough thanks that we can give to these people. When I go to meetings with other City Officials, I can tell most of them had more problems than we did simply because they did not have the volunteers like we did to get it all together. The City employees did their job very well, policing the community, operating the water and sewer systems, clearing the streets and driveways, maintaining the electric generator. All of them worked extra hours to keep all systems operating and the town safe. The most important thing we can do as residents is to keep our town clean and neat. This improves the quality of life in the community and helps very much when people are looking for a new place to live or when a business is wanting to locate or expand in the community. I would like to invite residents to attend the City Council meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Your opinion or ideas on how to manage and improve the City are certainly welcome.

Randall Ramsey

COMMUNITY NEWS

DOWN HOME DAYS

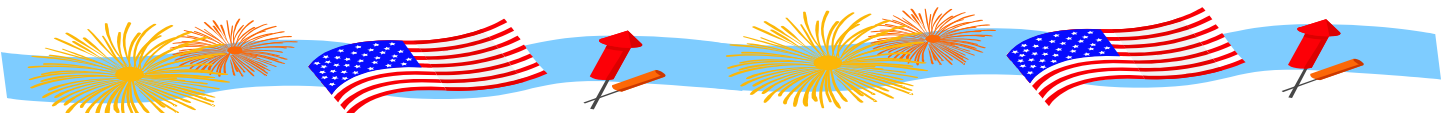
This year the City of Parma's Down Home Days annual picnic will be July 3rd and 4th. Everyone is encouraged to attend the festivities and enjoy the fun.

CITY HALL HOURS

**Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 a.m.**

Below is a list of telephone numbers for utility, phone company, sanitation, and cable company servicing the Parma area:

- AmerenUE 800-552-7583
- New Wave Cable 888-863-9928
- BPS Telephone 573-293-2277 or 800-785-8630
- Best Sanitation 573-475-9395



Police Department News and Updates

ATTENTION: JULY 4TH ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to increased calls, complaints, problems, etc. in the past, the City has decided that everyone will be allowed to set off fireworks on **July 4th from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.** only. **No Bottle Rockets or Roman Candles** will be allowed to be discharged. Children are to be supervised with the fireworks. **Anyone discharging fireworks prior to or after will receive a summons to court and the fireworks will be confiscated.** We would appreciate everyone's cooperation and wish for a safe and happy 4th of July.

Police Chief Notes

I would like to announce that the Police Department has rehired Lisa McFarlen. I hope everyone will welcome her back and extend your support. I truly feel she is an excellent officer and she is certainly a great asset to me. I hope Lisa will stay with us for many years to come. I would also like to let everyone know that in the past few months I have been busy working with the Mayor and FEMA on the Ice Storm Disaster. We finished up with the FEMA paperwork about two weeks ago and now I am trying to catch up with everything else that has been put aside due to the disaster. I hope everyone fared well and is a little more prepared. This community has been wonderful at pulling together and standing strong.

During the months spent working with FEMA, I was also able to apply for two grants under the President's Recovery Act Stimulus Package to help with the recession. One of the grants is called the COPS Grant and is set up to keep law enforcement officer's working and I applied for two full time officers. The other grant I applied for is for a full time investigating officer. Both grants combined total is \$234,547.84 for a period of three (3) years and they are **100%** funded by the federal government at no cost to the City of Parma. We are waiting for the grants to be processed and approved with an expectation date of September. On June 1st, I will also be applying for another grant for needed equipment for the Police Department. I appreciate everyone's support to the Police Department and wish everyone a safe and happy summer.

This next section is information on the types and amounts of calls the police department has received and tickets that have been written from **December 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.**

TYPES OF CALLS RECEIVED

1 Open Door	3 Curfew	3 Breaking and Entering
7 Ambulance Assist	9 Thefts	10 Assist other Law Enforcement
6 Assaults	1 Dispute	1 Loud Music
5 Trespassing	1 Phone Harassment	1 Complaint regarding Limb Cleanup
2 Dog at Large	3 Disturbance	1 Report of Man with Shotgun
4 Property Damage/Vandalism	1 Verbal Argument	1 Lost License Plate
1 Strong Odor	1 Prowler	1 Identity Theft
1 Open Window	10 Domestic	1 Assist Division of Children's Services
1 Check Fraud	1 Verbal Assault	2 911 Hang-up Call
1 Peace Disturbance	1 Peeping Tom	1 Air Evac
2 Well Being Check	1 Funeral Escort	1 Attempted Shooting (unfounded)
1 Child Molestation	1 Disorderly Conduct	3 Neighbor Disputes
3 Blocking Traffic Flow	1 Home Invasion	1 Motor Vehicle Tampering
1 Loitering	1 Water Meter Tampering	1 Careless & Imprudent Driving
10 Alarm	1 Littering	

TICKETS WRITTEN

1 Improper Registration	2 Disorderly Conduct	5 Peace Disturbance
1 Tampering With Water Meter	2 Trespassing	18 Blocking Traffic Flow
1 Property Damage	1 Domestic Assault	1 Junk
3 Assault	1 Harassment of Victim	2 Interfering With Police Officer
6 Code Violations/Nuisance	1 Itinerant Junk Dealer	1 Failure to Maintain Insurance
2 Private Peace Disturbance	1 Junk Dealer No License	1 Fleeing to Avoid Felony Arrest
1 Possession of Marijuana	1 Curfew	1 Verbal Assault



To date for the year of 2009 the Fire Department has had a total of 17 (seventeen) fire calls. Of those 17, three (3) were for severe weather watches, three (3) were other calls (such as false alarms, vehicle accidents, gas spills, service calls, etc.). Four (4) calls were for structure fires including mutual aid. There were a total of 8 (eight) calls to standby/medical assist for helicopter landings.

ANNOUNCEMENT

After the Ice Storm Disaster this past winter, the City Council turned the old school cafeteria over to the Fire Department for an emergency shelter. The Fire Department has been working to get the cafeteria ready for when needed. We need and would appreciate any and all volunteers to assist us in getting it ready. We want to be prepared for the next emergency/disaster and we would also like to remind everyone to be prepared at all times for emergencies/disasters. We would also like to thank all of the volunteers that helped us with the warming shelter during the Ice Storm. You are greatly appreciated.

P.E.R.T. OBJECTIVE

Our goal is to establish a volunteer Emergency Response Team for the Parma area. This group will repair and clean the cafeteria to a usable condition to be used during an emergency, such as the recent ice storm, for a warming center and to provide hot meals for residents of Parma and surrounding areas. The group of volunteer's will also help out when the warming center is needed for emergencies.



We ask that all residents assist us with updating/ advising of citizens on oxygen, dialysis, etc. This list of citizens is needed so that when our City is with out power, etc. for an extended time, we can check on each one to make sure that they are doing fine and get them oxygen if needed. Please notify us or the City Hall of any changes or updates. Thank You!



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We know this is not the most common way to build our ranks. However, as of late the Fire Department has been losing our members for one reason or the other. We are in need of dependable, healthy people who are willing to show up and work with the current members of the department. It is a strenuous, hard job to volunteer for but well worth it. We are down to just a few members at this time. Understandably all can not show up at every fire but with more members, the more probable to have enough people on scene. We will provide in house training along with training from MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute. We will not ask any that is willing to help, to do something we are not willing to do ourselves. If you think you are interested, contact any fire department member you know or we meet every FIRST Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at the station on Main Street or call 357-2006 and leave a message.