

As summer approaches final preparations are underway for this year's first charter on the St Helena III. It's been raining so the boat has had to have water pumped out of it. A lot of time and work goes into maintaining and operating a canal boat and the team of horses that pulls it. Thanks to the Canal Fulton Heritage Society we have one of the only canal boats still operating on the Ohio & Erie Canal which opened for service in our fine town in 1827. If you want to take a ride in the canal boat, or want to help out, the Heritage Society can be reached at (330) 854-3808.

The Floyd Browne Group has been contracted to develop a Park Master Plan for the Puffenberger property that was purchased at the end of last year. Their subsidiary, Environmental Design Group, has worked with us in the past and has developed Park Master Plans for Stark Parks and the cities of Massillon and Green to name a few. We will be seeking input throughout our community through a series of public meetings conducted by the Floyd Browne Group in conjunction with the Canal Fulton Parks & Recreation Board.

Representatives from City of Canal Fulton and Lawrence Township have been meeting to discuss the merits of collaborating on a Comprehensive Plan for our community. The Stark County Regional Planning Commission has indicated that they may be able to assist us in this process. We are hopeful that this may become a planning model for all of Stark County. As the City of Canal Fulton's Sanitary Sewer and Water Study nears completion we will know our full capability and potential to extend these services where they are needed most. This information will be a critical component of our Comprehensive Plan.

We are becoming an enterprising community. Communities who don't, begin to decay. We will continue to explore various avenues of economic development, some popular, some not so popular. We have a hard working Mayor and Council. Please give us your input so that we can grow and learn together.