

## NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, June 22, 2011 Contact: Jack P. Marschall (440) 885-8181 or (216) 346-9935 (cell)

## PARMA RENAMES RIDGEWOOD LAKE PARK IN HONOR OF ANTHONY ZIELINSKI

**(PARMA)** – The City of Parma will officially rename Ridgewood Lake Park as Anthony C. Zielinski Park during a dedication ceremony Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. The event is open to the public and will include an unveiling of the park's new name and brief comments by Parma City officials.

"This is a fitting tribute to remember one of the most popular elected officials in Parma," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. "Anthony did a lot of work to improve the park, not to mention the positive impact he had as a Parma City Councilman and Treasurer. Zielinski Park will help to preserve his name, his memory and his legacy."

Anthony Zielinski passed away March 25<sup>th</sup> after battling cancer for more than a year. The Parma Democratic Central Committee chose Tom Mastroianni, Clerk of Parma City Council, to succeed Zielinski as Treasurer. Parma City Council elected Ward 7 Councilman Ken Ramser at its June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to succeed Mastroianni as Clerk of City Council.

It was through the efforts of then-Parma City Councilman Anthony Zielinski that thousands of dollars was raised to buy new playground equipment at Ridgewood Lake Park. The improvement program was a partnership between the City of Parma, Walmart and Parmatown Mall. The resolution to change the park's name was sponsored by Parma City Councilman Scott Tuma who succeeded Zielinski as Ward 8 Councilman and Finance Committee Chairman.

"Ridgewood Lake Park always had a special place in Anthony's heart," said Councilman Tuma. "He knew more than anyone that by improving the park he was making Parma a better place for families and residents. It just seems appropriate to attach Anthony's name to the park so we never forget the great contributions he made to our city."

In addition to the park's name change, the Parma School Board recently named the district's Leadership for Tomorrow program in Anthony Zielinski's honor. The program was created in 2007 by Zielinski, State Representative Timothy DeGeeter and Treasurer Tom Mastroianni to educate elementary school students on the workings of city and state government and encourage them to become more active and involved in their community.