

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Lakewood's Only Newspaper And Finest Website

Volume 1, Issue 6, September 6, 2005

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## Lakewood Academy Goes Live

*Dr. David Estrop's remarks:*

"I am extremely pleased and honored to make a few comments today about the vision we have for the Lakewood City Academy. This year we have planned and are building *five* new schools. You have probably heard that we are in the process of constructing two new elementary schools and two new middle schools. What you may not have heard is that we built another new school, entitled the Lakewood City Academy, a conversion charter school sponsored by the Lakewood City School District.

What we are talking about is a school never before built in Lakewood or for that matter in Cuyahoga County. This is a school that's a combination of a traditional "bricks and mortar" school, as well as an online digital school. This is a flexible school, built to provide more options for students, parents, and staff than ever before in the history of this school system. A school designed to meet the various and expanding needs of students in grades 6 through 12 by providing new options, as well as combinations of new and existing options. A school designed to address academic needs through the use of customized academic programs. A school designed to address other needs of students and their families (needs that often stand in the way of learning) through the coordination of community services using the Lakewood Cares Model to provide



*Rick Wair addresses the group, including School Board President Ed Favre (center), Board Member Debra Sweeney to his right. To Ed's left are Councilman Ryan Patrick Demro and Kathy Berkshire from the Chamber of Commerce.*

a variety of services to students and families in a more efficient and effective manner. A school designed to be a flexible facility that can change with changing needs.

This is Lakewood's newest school, the Lakewood City Academy, designed with one vision in mind, to improve stu-

dent performance in Lakewood. That's it, that's the target, "Improving Student Performance." Why? Because in Lakewood we understand that student success, school success and community success are all linked. We know that in order to have a strong and viable community, we must have strong schools

and successful students. Lakewood does indeed know this and through the Lakewood City Academy is once again acting on this belief. Ladies and Gentlemen, "This Is Lakewood's Time!"

More in Lakewood Schools section page 4 and What's Going On pages 10 and 11.

## Lakewood Students Celebrate Better Grades



*Students leaving the Junior Class Celebration last Friday, September 2. The party, which included a DJ and gift bags for everyone, was thrown to celebrate passing the OGT (Ohio Graduation Test) and Lakewood High School's Excellent rating from the Ohio Department of Education. It was great watching the students relax and have fun while their hard work was rewarded.*

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# Lakewood News

## Ed Favre and Betsy Shaughnessy Run Unopposed in Election Again

With the passing of the filing deadline, Lakewood Board of Education Members Edward Favre and Betsy Shaughnessy will be unopposed in the November election. This will be the third consecutive time that both have been unopposed.

Favre, the current Board President, is completing his second term. He joined the Board in 1997. Shaughnessy, the current Vice President, is completing her third. She joined the Board in a contested race in 1993.

“It’s certainly flattering to be unopposed. We hope this is a reflection of Lakewood’s satisfaction with our performance and the direction in which the Schools are going. We do not take our responsibility to Lakewood for its school district lightly,” said Favre. “It’s a pleasure to work with Board Members who are genuinely concerned and free of politics, and a professional, highly motivated administration and staff.”

“Improving communication between the schools and the community has been very important to us and to the continued success of this district,” said Shaughnessy. “I know Ed and I look forward to continued progress and cooperation with our City and community partners. The energy and creativity of the staff of the Lakewood

Schools make being a Board Member an extremely rewarding experience and I am very grateful to the community for this opportunity.”

Lakewood City Schools are rated “Effective” by the Ohio Department of Education. Lakewood High School and Lincoln Elementary are rated “Excellent.” The District is undertaking the largest rebuilding program in its history. In 2004, voters approved a \$93 million bond issue. For the last eight consecutive years, the District has received “Unqualified” audits, the highest rating, from the States Auditor’s Office. The District has ongoing initiatives to improve student academic performance and student conduct. School Match, a national school rating organization, has placed Lakewood Schools with a handful nationwide that received their “What Parents Want” award for over the last 10 years.



Ed and Betsy at the Lakewood Academy.



Jim O'Bryan and Ken Warren speak with LO's Arts and Cultural Affairs editor Matthew Charboneau at Phoenix Coffee on Detroit Avenue.

## Lakewood Observer Wins Grow Ohio's "Thinkers of the Week"

Grow Ohio, an initiative started by Sherrod Brown, awarded the staff of the *Lakewood Observer* “Thinker of the Week.” This is awarded to people or projects that are making positive impacts in Ohio.

“The *Lakewood Observer* came to our attention through various e-mails and phone calls. After looking at the website and then the hard copy paper, we were amazed at the dedication and

effort the *Lakewood Observer* staff made at getting out the message of fellow residents. It was decided we should highlight it,” said Eva Wolkowitz

The Advisory Board accepted the award on behalf of all members of the *Lakewood Observer* Observation Deck and those that work on the hard copy of the paper.

<http://www.growohio.org/story/2005/8/17/104311/782#readmore>

### Hot Off The Deck

Join the discussion online – visit the OBSERVATION DECK

Topics	Replies	Author	Views	Last Post
<b>LAKEWOOD DISCUSSION</b>				
REGISTER TO VOTE!	0	Announcement	21	Wed Aug 31, 2005 8:16 pm
Blackwell to Speak	0	Announcement	48	Mon Aug 29, 2005 11:45 am
1,200 FREE Roses at Brennan's	1	Announcement	119	Thu Aug 25, 2005 2:19 pm
Lakewood Thesi	5	Savannah Farris	115	Sat Sep 03, 2005 10:09 pm
Lakewood's Disaster Preparedness	8	Ellen Malonis	76	Sun Sep 04, 2005 4:32 pm
Need Space/Weekly Dance Class	4	Ruthie Koenigsmark	66	Sun Sep 04, 2005 2:35 pm
Block Watch	6	Jim O'Bryan	166	Sun Sep 04, 2005 6:59 am
Lakewood Response to Hurricane Thomas J. George	0	Thomas J. George	33	Sat Sep 03, 2005 9:32 am
Help for the Older Residents	4	Mark Crnolatas	130	Thu Sep 01, 2005 5:15 pm
<b>GLOBAL DISCUSSION</b>				
New Orleans Blog - Best we have seen	4	Jim O'Bryan	77	Sat Sep 03, 2005 7:15 pm
GWB is responsible ...	34	Donald Farris	384	Sun Sep 04, 2005 7:08 am
Good Samaritan Stories	0	Ellen Malonis	13	Sun Sep 04, 2005 6:44 am
New Orleans & Lakewood Nightmares	3	stephen davis	60	Sat Sep 03, 2005 3:25 pm
Feable FEMA	11	Jeff Endress	88	Fri Sep 02, 2005 2:19 pm
Gas Prices	5	Jim O'Bryan	67	Thu Sep 01, 2005 10:58 am

### Become an Observer!

The *Lakewood Observer* is looking for people, ages 18–100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help.

If you are interested, e-mail to: [publisher@lakewoodobserver.com](mailto:publisher@lakewoodobserver.com)

**News releases**—If you have information on an event, organization, program or news on *anything* that has to do with Lakewood, send it to: [city.editor@lakewoodobserver.com](mailto:city.editor@lakewoodobserver.com)

**Calendar of Events**—To appear on our calendar of events, e-mail: [events@lakewoodobserver.com](mailto:events@lakewoodobserver.com)

**Newsies/Delivery People**—The *Lakewood Observer* is looking for people that would like to help deliver the newspaper. If interested, e-mail: [delivery@lakewoodobserver.com](mailto:delivery@lakewoodobserver.com)

**We need you to get involved! If you have or know of a story, we want it!**

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Your Independent Source for Lakewood News & Opinion

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Lakewood News

Lakewood Police Force Tall Texan from High Horse

by Kenneth Warren

Lakewood Police forced tall Texan Howard Wooldridge from his high horse Sam on August 29. A former law enforcement officer himself, Wooldridge is “riding Sam across the country America from Los Angeles to New York to bring awareness that the nation’s policy of the war on drugs—drug prohibition—is a catastrophic failure.”

Wooldridge is a member of the Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP), an organization of current and former members of law enforcement who support drug regulation rather than prohibition.

Wooldridge has logged 5,500 miles across America on two trips so far. Lakewood marks his first close encounter with police concerned the Paul Revere horse ride through this densely populated city could have been broken a law.

“This is first time I had patrol officers literally jump out of the patrol car to stop me and to see if what I was doing was breaking the law. It was quite a shock,” says Wooldridge.

The officers consulted supervisory

staff about laws concerning horse-riding in the city. There was nothing on Lakewood’s law books to stop the Tall Texan from continuing to ride his horse Sam.

Wooldridge, who served as a police officer in Bath and DeWitt Townships, near Lansing, Michigan, rides approximately 20 miles each day. He expects to reach New York City by October 1.

The war on drugs, says Wooldridge, has increased the rates of crime death and disease, while filling our kids world with drugs and drug dealers. “It’s a failure on all its aims and objectives.”

“Drug abuse is a health matter best handled by professionals in that field, not by police and prisons,” says Wooldridge. “The police cannot protect people from their own stupidity. It hasn’t worked in 35 years and won’t work in 2005.”

Wooldridge wants government to focus resources on those drinking and driving and child molesters.

“Protect and Serve is in my blood,” declares Wooldridge, “and now that motto takes the shape of ending prohibition and promoting personal responsibility for those who choose to use any drug.”



Howard Wooldridge talks with Lakewood Police who did not know what to expect when the call went out for “A cowboy on horseback riding down Detroit in front of Dairy Queen.” They quickly made sure no laws were broken and wished Howard and his horse Sam happy trails.



From left to right: Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons from Rocky River Municipal Court, Judge Pat Carroll from Lakewood Municipal Court and Judge K. J. Montgomery from Shaker Heights Municipal Court.

Lakewood’s Municipal Judge Pat Carroll Hosts Cuyahoga Mental Health Court Initiative

Lakewood City Court was the spot chosen for the Cuyahoga County Mental Health Court Initiative meeting last week. The CMHI is a groundbreaking group of judges, police and mental health workers from around the county who have dedicated themselves to improving and streamlining the process of booking, holding and trying law breakers likely to have mental health problems or chemical dependencies.

The CMHI is looking at effective ways to contain costs of processing such people while accessing their mental health conditions.

Their goal is to identify at the earliest opportunity a MDO/MRO who becomes involved with the criminal justice systems; to obtain social service assistance to divert MDO/MRO from the justice system; to reduce MDO/MRO jail populations; to better prepare MDO/MRO inmates for re-entry after jail; to address non-jail housing needs; to (re)connect with available social services and to maximize effectiveness of available resources on a county-wide basis regardless of where within the justice system the MDO/MRO becomes involved.



Mayor Tom George shows off part of Lakewood’s latest step to keep Lakewood safe. This is the monitor from a security system that was recently seized in an arrest. Our city and others often keep impounded items that were used in the commission of a crime. This system will be used in Madison Park; other units will now be put in the Skate Park and Kaufman Park.

Lakewood Schools

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
Lakewood City Academy

September 1, 2005

Good morning. My name is Rick Wair. I'm the Assistant Superintendent for middle, high and alternative schools. Welcome to the Lakewood City Academy and the ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate the development and the opening of a truly new school in the city of Lakewood. It is my pleasure to introduce Dr. Dave Estrop, Superintendent of the Lakewood City Schools.

A year ago, as we opened the 2004-05 school year, Lakewood High School began the year with a well-conceived plan to address the academic needs of freshmen students experiencing difficulties. It was a good plan but it lacked the resources and support required to address the vision Dr. Estrop just spoke to.

Lakewood City Academy is by definition, a community school sponsored by the Lakewood Board of Education. Practically speaking, Lakewood City Academy has the "flexibility" to create an educational program and schedule that will better meet the educational learning styles and personal needs of a group of students that sometimes did not have their needs met in a traditional school setting.

A few facts I would like you to know and a few people that deserve recognition:

Program

An online program for students that would choose a home school environment. Tri-Rivers Education Computer Association provides that program for our students.

An onsite program designed to provide a focused learning experience in the core content areas: English/language arts, math, science, and social studies.

Suspension/Expulsion program that keeps kids connected with school-work, off the streets and engaged with the school.

The only community school in Northeast Ohio to receive a school "start up" grant. The grant will provide \$150,000 per year for three years to help defray costs for curricular development, instructional materials and administration.

Enrollment

TRECA: 33 Students

Kdg	1	Lakewood Resident
8th	1	1 - Horace Mann
9th	6	2 - LHS 3 - Inactive 1 - Out of district school/facility
10th	14	12 - LHS 1 - Inactive 1 - Lutheran West
11th	6	5 - LHS 1 - Inactive
12th	5	5 - LHS

Lakewood City Academy: 61 Students

6th	2	2 - HMMS
7th	2	1 - Harding 1 - HMMS
8th	7	1 - Emerson 3 - Harding 1 - HMMS 1 - Inactive 1 - Cleveland
9th	29	1 - Harding 2 - HMMS 21 - LHS 3 - Inactive 1 - Cleveland 1 - Milwaukee
9th/10th	1	California
10th	15	11 - LHS 4 - Inactive
11th	5	5 - LHS

Lakewood Lutheran School  
Launches Tutoring Program

This September, students will have a new place in Lakewood to find help in math and reading, as Lakewood Lutheran School (LLS) launches a tutoring program, free and open to the public. The tutoring program is part of a regional initiative called "Each One, Teach One" that matches volunteers with elementary school students who are in academic need. Volunteers and students meet for an hour each week, one-on-one.

At LLS, the tutoring sessions will take place on Tuesday evenings, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., beginning September 20. Tutors will begin to be assigned in early September on a first-come, first-serve basis, so parents are encouraged to register students now by calling LLS at 216.221.6941. The expected age range for students is first through eighth grades.

"Each One, Teach One" enables LLS and three other new sites to launch

in 2005, and is made possible through assistance from Building Hope in the City (an urban mission organization) and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans (a faith-based membership organization focusing on financial security, wellness, and caring for others). The new sites are joining a highly successful tutoring program pioneered at Trinity Lutheran Church and Luther Memorial School on Cleveland's near west side. Plans are also underway to supplement the tutoring sessions with free, family-oriented sessions that cover topics such as parenting, communication, and money management.

LLS is located at 15501 Detroit Ave. at the southwest corner of Detroit and Arthur, across the street from the main branch of the Lakewood Public Library

Contact: Luanne Bole-Becker, LLS tutoring coordinator 216.228.8355 or Bbvideo@sbcglobal.net or Gary Dittmar, LLS principal 216.221.6941

Top Bands March into  
Lakewood 8-17-05

by Mike Deneen

It's not easy being in the marching band. Most modern football fans have forgotten the fact that marching bands were once considered as much a part of the game as the teams on the field. The sound, color and pageantry of halftime shows attracted fans to high school and college stadiums around the country. In earlier days of the NFL, the Baltimore Colts also featured their own marching band. However, the rise of television in recent decades has turned the halftime focus of most fans to video highlights, in-studio analysts, scoring updates from other games, prize contests and even pre-packaged top-40 music acts. Outside of historically Black colleges such as Florida A&M and Grambling, the contributions of marching bands are often overlooked. Despite this, over 100 LHS students dedicate hundreds of hours of rehearsal time and effort to the marching band, all without receiving academic credit.

On September 17 at Lakewood Stadium, Lakewood High will be hosting its 19th annual LHS Marching Band Invitational Festival beginning at 7:15 p.m. High school bands from Brooklyn, Fairview, Garfield Heights, Midview, West Geauga, Massillon Jackson and

See **Band**, page 19

Thank You's

Dr. Estrop and the Lakewood Board of Education for their support and assistance,

Mr. Berdine for his assistance, leadership, and guidance with all issues related to finance contracts and the development of the grant proposal,

Mrs. Kathe Stack for advice and writing assistance on the grant proposal,

Mrs. Terri Bornino-Elwell for grant development and all other tasks associated with creating and developing a new school,

Carrie Laws, Julie Fetterman, Dr. Bill Wagner, Rosemary Wagoner, Madeline Liss, Mary Ellen Marcus, Chris Shaw and Dolly Pajak,

Finally, the LCA Board of Directors:

Dave Estrop  
Rick Berdine  
Dottie Buckon  
Dave Shaw  
Bob DelQuadri  
Dr. David Kirkton  
Colleen McNamara

The Grades are In!

Ohio Department of Education

REPORT CARD

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The Lakewood Board of Education  
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Lakewood Sports

Rally Falls Short in Opener

by Mike Deneen

After a long, hot summer, Lakewood was ready for some football. Ranger fans filled the homeside stands (now located on the west side of the stadium), the band was fired up and the team was finally ready to hit somebody in a game that mattered. The Lakewood Rangers hosted the Berea Braves on Friday, August 26, in the season opener for both teams. An entertaining night of football ended with the Braves holding off a late Ranger rally to win 21-16.

The game got off to a good start for the Rangers. The Rangers took a 7-0 lead with a two-yard touchdown run by Junior Nicco Maddaluna with 4:30 left in the first quarter. Lakewood held the lead until the second quarter, when Berea senior Julian Taylor scored on a one-yard touchdown run with 10:03 to go before the half.

The first half epitomized old-fashioned hard-hitting football. Both teams opted to feature their running games. This was quite understandable, especially for the Rangers, who were starting sophomore quarterback Jim Guzay in his first varsity game. Running backs Maddaluna and senior Chris Kenney carried the offensive load for Lakewood, which went to halftime tied at 7-7.

Berea began the second half by throwing the ball more. Senior quarterback Eli Kemperer put the Braves ahead 14-7 with 5:53 left in the third quarter on a nine-yard touchdown pass to senior receiver Miles Cross. Although the offense was struggling to score

points, the defense kept Lakewood in the game by forcing and recovering three Berea fumbles in the first three quarters. The Ranger defense held its own on the line of scrimmage despite the presence of Berea offensive lineman Dan Gully, rated one of the best 20 players in Greater Cleveland.

Berea appeared to put the game away with a 30-yard touchdown pass from Kemperer to Cross with 8:41 left in the fourth quarter. The Braves led 21-7, and the Ranger offense was having trouble scoring. That's when things really got interesting.

Lakewood got the ball in Berea territory with 4:22 left. During this drive Guzay completed key passes to receivers Joe Wooley and Zack Schreiber to drive the team to the three-yard line. Mad-

See Berea, page 19



Lakewood's Josh Sobe applies pressure to Berea's quarterback Eli Klemperer.



LHS Varsity Volleyball team for 2005/2006. From left to right, sitting: Emily Swindell, Sara Swindell; kneeling: Mallory Hughes, Clare Kmieck, Katie Kmieck, Kelly Stasko; 3rd row: Sara Mason, Chelsea Mason, Julie Schreiner, Britney Jurchenko; top row: Kali Koz, Kayla Kovach, Katharine Stroka.

Varsity Girls Volleyball

by Chuck Greanoff

Question: "What combination of elements creates excellence, be it in athletics, academics, business, or in life?" To find out, you could read a boring self-help/management book, or you could check out the defending Lake Erie League Champion Lakewood Ranger Girls Volleyball team.

On the field you'll witness that special blend of talent, hard-work, commitment and coaching that makes Lakewood's team, once again, a model of excellence and a league and district contender. If you saw these girls beat highly touted Akron-Hoban (21-14, 27-25) and Clearview (25-12, 25-11) in this season's opening tournament, you would forget about the book.

Here's what you would see: This is not your mother's volleyball team. It's not even your older sister's. Like many women's sports, the caliber of play has grown to where the games are almost unrecognizable compared to those played 20 years ago. Many girls play all summer, attend camps, and maintain superb conditioning. The competition is fierce, and Lakewood, 22-2 last season, is again one of the best

teams in this area. Talent matters, and the Rangers have plenty. Senior co-captain Britney Jurchenko is a real killer, a high compliment in volleyball parlance. An outside-middle hitter, last year, on her way to being named to the all district team and Lake Erie League MVP, Jurchenko racked up 274 kills and over 100 digs and 29 solo blocks. But statistics are dry, like those tedious management books—they can't show how versatile she is, how powerful her skills are, how well she sees the floor, and how strong she is defensively. Go to a game. Senior co-captain Sara Mason, who third year coach Brigid Arbeznic believes has been overshadowed thus far, is poised to shine. Another outside-middle hitter, Mason is an outstanding athlete with the one commonality that seems to run through the whole team—a strong work ethic.

Junior co-captain Kali Koz is another returning letter winner who, according to Arbeznic, has improved to the point where she will also rarely leave the floor.

See Volleyball, page 19

Rangers Drop 2nd 34-7 to Brunswick



Lakewood prepares to score in the fourth quarter.

by Cindy and John Boylan

- Quarter 1 (Lakewood 0 - Brunswick 7)
- Brunswick scores midway through quarter.
- Brunswick goes for it on fourth down and Lakewood's defense stops them.
- Lakewood fumbles and Brunswick recovers with 1:46 left in quarter.
- Quarter 2 (Lakewood 0 - Brunswick 21)
- Brunswick scores early.
- Brunswick intercepts ball on Lakewood's 15 yard line with 7:15 left to half.
- Brunswick scores again with 3:13 left in the half.
- Quarter 3 (Lakewood 0 - Brunswick 28)
- Brunswick makes it 28-0 early in the third quarter.
- Quarter 4 (Lakewood 7 - Brunswick 34)
- Lakewood scores with 10:38 left in the game.
- Brunswick scores once more with 8:29 left in the game.

**Final Lakewood 7 Brunswick 34**  
It was a hard-fought game the team never gave up. There was an excellent showing by Lakewood fans and supporters that made the trip, and the marching band was great to hear on this crisp night.

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# Lakewood Arts & Music

## Shoot the Cold, Cold Breeze

by Matthew Charboneau  
Arts and Cultural Affairs Desk

As you drive down the Lakewood side of W. 117th straddling the Cleveland border, you wouldn't know by passing the nondescript houses wedged in between blue-collar watering holes that a musical revelation takes place nearby nightly. OK, perhaps revelation is too grandiose a word to describe this particular group—even they would be the first ones to dissuade using such descriptors in relation to their band. Musical refreshment might be a better phrase. The band in question is Coffinberry—made up of brothers Nick and Tony Cross on guitar/vocals and drums respectively, Tony Janicek on guitar, and Pat O'Connor on bass. They have existed since 2000, the last two years of which living together in the same four bedroom house/rehearsal studio/ad hoc recording studio/epicenter for rock and roll hipsters looking for an after-party following a show at the Beachland Tavern or Grog Shop. Normally when band mates cohabit it is a recipe for disaster and infighting (I don't care how good a musician you are ... nobody, but nobody touches my Nutella). Not so in Coffinberry's case. The band has managed to crank out five to six rehearsals per week, record three releases, play several dozens of shows a year, and have actual friendships—all without reenacting any Making the Band-esque roommate squabbles. It really is a lesson in band diplomacy and interpersonal relationships. They affect a scene not unlike a scruffy, dirtier, more bohemian version of the Monkees—but with talent.

Their location on the periphery of Lakewood can also be seen as symbolic of their existence as outsiders on the cusp of the Cleveland's music scene. While they are known as a regular fixture at the Beachland or Grog Shop, their whimsical approach, laissez-faire attitude towards "making it," and indifference to local music styles or trends is a refreshing poke at a rock scene that all too often evaluates bands according to the current musical status quo or the collective number of tattoos the band possesses. When others scream atonal and angst ridden lyrics and thrash at their instruments, Coffinberry sings harmonized Kinks inspired melodies, and takes the time to craft an arrangement or mood for each particular song. While other bands are overtly political to the point of self-righteousness, these guys go about their business with a humble understatement and no pious agenda.

A prime example of this outsider

appeal is the very format of their latest release; the eight-song self-produced Sleush EP. While Coffinberry have had local labels put out their vinyl singles, and a debut seven-song compact disc will be released nationally on Morpheus Records, they have chosen to release Sleush themselves on, of all formats, cassette tape. Putting out a release on tape, an archaic format by today's iPod-culture standards, seems either destined to fail, pompous, ill timed, or a cheeky thumb-nosing at their fans and other bands alike. In the case of Coffinberry it is all of the above, and more. According to Tony Cross many different elements factored into releasing this "tape EP." Most importantly, he said, was "seeing something tangible while waiting and dealing with the frustrations or setbacks involved with the national release, From Now On." Their release of Sleush also served the purpose of satiating a home recording interest, facilitating a return to the vocal mic for Tony—currently the group's drummer, but originally the lead vocalist. The Sleush EP also acted as a creative outlet to release short song ideas that might not ever make it into Coffinberry's live set. At some points in the EP it seems that the boys are even toying with their listeners by crafting saccharine-sweet 1960s inspired melodies, and then yanking them from our jowls after a mere minute or two. In fact, not one of the eight songs on this release is more than 3:30 in length. There are some bands whose bloated self-indulgent intros to their songs are not even that compact.

Many would say that the first song on Sleush, Just Like the Light Through Trees Do is an obvious nod to some of the quieter, moody early 1990s Nirvana songs such as Polly or All Apologies, but because some of the members of Coffinberry were still in short-pants when Nevermind came out, I will be fair to include the other discernibly moody influences on this acoustic track. Dissonant and arty influences on the song include the Pixies, Smog, Elliott Smith, an even more bummed out Nick Drake, and the darker elements of Neil Young's 1970s output, like Needle and the Damage Done. The melancholy song is dominated by a single acoustic guitar and weary voice, until minimalist backing instruments kick in with the chorus.

Fans of Guided by Voices' early 1990s masterpiece albums Alien Lanes and Bee Thousand will immediately appreciate and gravitate towards Sleush's Your Comeback, I Hide it Well, and Flesh Eating Air. Each of these songs is a pastiche of British Invasion melodicism, cryptic lyrics, and "blink and you missed" it performances. Flesh Eating Air in particular has more melody packed into its one and a half minutes than most bands have in their careers. The overall mood brings to mind the tuneful singing and serpentine melodies of another current melodic revivalists band, the Shins.

The fifth track on the EP, Frog Leg Shuffle, can only be described as a cross between Hüsker Dü and the band from the Muppet Show. It is a noisy and haphazard instrumental ride full of swinging Keith Moon/Animal drum fills and tweaked guitar runs that sound like Carl Perkins after a few too many cans of Jolt Cola.

At Last is the most nostalgic of the songs for this writer, as its loose indie feeling and fuzzed-out production harkens back to the heyday of the "lo-fi" era in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Upon hearing singer Nick Cross' strained yelp kicking off the droning verse, I was transplanted back to hearing Pavement's archetypal slacker rock Slanted and Enchanted album for the first time, and the epiphany that a song needn't be measured by virtuosity or the production qualities of the recording. This song teeters on the edge, and could seemingly collapse at any moment—part of the brilliant charm of it all.

The lyrics on Sleush run the gamut from sublime pop (Your Return) to surreal non sequiturs ("I bury ammunition, I've not been kissed like this since prison" from At Last). Although the band joked that the lyrical content of the album was farcical at best, such bizarre fragments do play into a tradition of wordplay in pop song construction seldom seen since the Lewis Carroll-inspired psychedelic lyrics of John Lennon, the metaphysical tales of Bob Dylan, or the cynical double entendres of early Elvis Costello. The lyrical content of modern pop and rock music has regrettably become too literal and devoid of metaphors. It is no surprise that this creative wordplay finds its way into Coffinberry's music—a glance around their home/rehearsal studio reveals a scattering of novels by verbal trapeze artists such as Charles Bukowski, Kurt Vonnegut, and Hunter S. Thompson.

A good conclusion to the review of Sleush, and my meeting with the boys in Coffinberry, might be to ask them where they see themselves in the coming years. Such a question would probably get me laughed out of the room so I'll keep quiet for now and avoid any sanctions against returning to their pad in the near future.

Upcoming shows include:

Thursday, September 29 at the Beachland Ballroom

Saturday, October 8 with the Detroit Cobras and The Reigning Sound at the Beachland Ballroom. Call the club at 216-383-1124 for more information.

The Sleush EP, 7" vinyl singles, and forthcoming From Now On CD can all be obtained by visiting the band's website at [www.coffinberry.net](http://www.coffinberry.net)

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Lakewood Library

FEATURED PROGRAM SERIES

Lakewood Future Tools: Listening to the City

Frank A. Mills from Urban Paradoxes (<http://www.urbanparadoxes.com/>) and Stephen Calhoun of squareONE: Experiential Toolmakers (<http://squareone-learning.com/>) present a series of workshops and discussions aimed at local-minded visionaries seeking new perspectives on the future of the city.

These free lectures will be held in the Lakewood Public Library Main Auditorium. There is no need to register. Please call (216) 226-8275 ext. 127 for more details.

THE WAY OF LISTENING

Sunday, September 11, 4 p.m.

Frank A. Mills and Stephen Calhoun offer a variety of methods for engaging the body, mind and life of the community. Walk away with exciting tools to try out in your own community.

THE IDLE MAN-ABOUT-TOWN

Saturday, September 17, 2 p.m.

Take a stroll around Lakewood as a flâneur, the “idle man-about-town” who, in his wandering, learns to hear the narrative of the city. Frank A. Mills will demonstrate how everyday life has particular value when it takes place in the gaps of larger contexts. The walk begins at 2:30 and ends at 5:30, followed by a brief discussion.

THE CITY THAT KNEW ITSELF BETTER THAN ANY OTHER

Sunday, September 25, 4 p.m.

Stephen Calhoun presents a galvanizing vision for the pursuit of transformative knowledge via the exploration of everyday urban life. Participants are encouraged to offer their own ideas about how this knowledge could be sought, created, captured, and documented. The program ends with a discussion on the process of learning and knowledge creation and, finally, the possibility of the city that came to know itself better than any other.

Introduction: 4:00 p.m.  
Experiential Warm-up: “Dance of Opposites” 5:00 p.m.

Brainstorm: “How to set the world record” 5:30 p.m.

Discussion: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

WHAT WAS HEARD?

Sunday, October 2, 4 p.m.

First, participants debrief in a collaborative dialogue—the results of their own investigations and encounters during the previous three weeks of Lakewood Future Tools: Listening to the City. Second, Mills and Calhoun moderate a panel and participant discussion oriented around the twin themes of self-knowledge and civic transformation. The panel discussion engages its members and attendees in a free-flowing exploration of possibilities evoked by participants’ knowledge, discoveries and insight.

Summer Reading at the Library

by Tracie Drake

August 13 marked the conclusion of another fun and successful Summer Reading Club at Lakewood Public Library. As the Library and Lakewood City Schools embarked on their construction projects, this year’s theme was “Building Better Readers.” The 3,006 children who joined the club were asked to complete 30 books or 30 hours of reading by summer’s end, and each received a reading record, sticker, pencil and bookmark just for signing up. Those who finished each received a “Caution: Reader at Work” door hanger, a certificate of completion, and a free meal coupon to the Hometown Buffet. They also autographed hard-hat nameplates and became part of our Reader’s Wall of Fame. Two lucky finishers even won traffic lights for their rooms at home.

Children in the club also had the opportunity to win a \$20 gift card to Border’s bookstore, sponsored by The Friends of Lakewood Public Library. Drawings were held on a weekly basis and 16 children won gift cards.

Additionally, the library offered a variety of programming in conjunction with the Summer Reading Club. Children visited the library and participated in the Construction Junction program. This program consisted of crafts, games and reading activities designed for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Kids loved making their own construction vehicles, tool belts and participating in exciting games such as The Price Is Right.

Another component of the Summer Reading Club was the special Friday performances. Parents and children enjoyed the entertainment of the Animal Guys, the Great Lakes Science Center, the Mad Mountain Juggler and the Bill Gang Magic Show.

If your children missed out on the fun and excitement of the 2005 Summer Reading Club, make sure it doesn’t happen again. Registration for next summer begins in May 2006, and all children birth through high school are encouraged to join. Planning is already underway for next year’s club and it is guaranteed to be great.

FUN FOR LAKEWOOD PARENTS AND LAKEWOOD CHILDREN, TOO

Tuesday, September 13, 7 p.m.

Toni Gelsomino from the Lakewood Family Room and Michelle Todd from our Parent’s Page will report on the wide variety of resources and opportunities awaiting Lakewood families. In the meantime, check out the Parent’s Page at <http://www.lkwdpl.org/parents>.

PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

“DRUMMING IN A THUNDERSTORM” FEATURING JENNIFFER ALLEN and CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS

Saturday, September 10, 7:30 p.m.

Singer-songwriters Jennifer Allen and Christopher Reynolds trade songs and invite the audience to drum along.

This program is a part of Lakewood Public Library’s Second Saturday Folk Music program. The series, presented by Fritz Schaufele, Curator of Folk Music Arts, is an eclectic sampling of some of Northeast Ohio’s best folk musicians.

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS: RED, WHITE AND BLUES

Sunday, September 11, 2 p.m.

J Blues plays the Blues in a tribute to the spirit of American music.

FREE COLOR CONSULTATION FOR OLDER HOMES

Monday, September 12, 7 p.m.

If you’re looking to paint your older home, the Cleveland Restoration Society has advice on paint preparation, picking a contractor and the pitfalls of siding. They’ll also provide consultations on color schemes.

This program is part of Lakewood Public Library’s “Your Lakewood Home,” a series of presentations and programs dealing with home renovation, restoration, and maintenance.

BOOKED FOR MURDER: A Mystery Book Discussion Group

Thursday, September 15, 7 p.m.

Booked for Murder is a book discussion group for lovers of murder, mystery and mayhem. Every month we read a spine-tingling mystery and meet up at the Lakewood Public Library to review the evidence and share our thoughts.

This month we’re reading *Canis* by Robert Armstrong. It isn’t long before Dr. Duncan MacDonell begins to suspect the killer might be human.

Computer Classes at the Library

Reservations for computer classes at Lakewood Public Library begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call 216-226-8275, ext. 127

INTERNET BASICS

Get familiar with online basics and find out what the Internet is all about. Saturday, September 10 at 3 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center



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\$4 Burger	\$4 Burger
\$5 Large - Single Topping Pizza	\$5 Large - Single Topping Pizza

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## Slife of Life

### The Outing of a Petty Charter Myth

# Open Source Civic Journalism as Community Firewall

by Dan Slife

Some people believed in his snake-oil cures for the ills of a struggling public institution. Few took the time to examine his charter school mythology in a critical light. It seemed cool, counter-cultural, esoteric and wildly anarchic. Behind the charter school mythology was the pagan friar named Brother Petty. Now he is known by the Lakewood and Rocky River Police Departments as Phillip J. Distasio.

On August 24, Distasio was arrested by the Rocky River Police and

chops sprung from Lakewood's open source civic journalism project, the *Lakewood Observer*.

In the beginning the anarchic friar managed to strike a sympathetic chord with some of Lakewood's "indie" Gen X parents. The "indie" appeal hinged on a counter-cultural rejection of hierarchical institutions, moralizing traditions and laws. Typically a sympathetic Gen X parent was interested

ronment of our public schools. From pagan drum circles in Euclid to a self-alleged application for a position with the Lakewood City Schools, he has been relentless in pursuit of grass-roots support for his alternative educational practices, which were based out of his Wooster Road apartment in Rocky River.

On several occasions Distasio had been spotted in Lakewood venues such

Quentin Crisp and Patch Adams—people who opened their lives to the point of unconditional giving and receiving," he proclaims.

It's not surprising that Distasio's profession of a weird Dionysian faith should induce panic. The kind of giving and receiving pushed as pedagogy seems rather consistent with the orgiastic flavor of the Dionysian cults from ancient Athens. The Dionysian nexus of sex and narcotics crossing gender and generations has inspired Distasio to twist and twist further a perverse orgiastic logic into his charter school myth.

"If you start with the perverse, if you start with the twisted, then everything else above that is okay," Distasio says. Thus Distasio attempts to frame his "inclusive" ideology through a perversely twisted cornerstone of childhood development.

In the beginning, Distasio's attempt to infiltrate Lakewood's "indie" community started in Phoenix Coffee. Distasio first approached owner Julie Hutchison about hosting raffles and meet-ups at her establishment, intending to secure some subsidy for his "education" venture.

Hutchison, who holds a minor in dance from CSU, was initially interested in assisting with the arts portion of the alternative school curriculum. However, Distasio was not interested in her formal help with his program. In fact he recoiled from collaboration when Hutchison expressed concern over the lack of structure to his method.



charged with both corrupting another with drugs, a fourth-degree felony, and contributing to the delinquency of a minor, a misdemeanor.

According to Detective Sgt. Carl Gulas, Distasio has been transferred from Rocky River's jail to a Cuyahoga County facility in anticipation of additional charges. With bond set at \$500,000 Distasio is likely to be facing far more serious charges.

Back in June, Distasio encountered an inquiring team of Lakewood Observers, who quickly deconstructed a pathogenic myth disguised as a utopian educational program. Distasio was using alternative charter school pedagogy to mask a perverted agenda. With a charter school and sanctuary in mind, Distasio said he wanted to create a safe place "where a child can point at a man's penis and say 'I want that,' without being ridiculed by society [as victim]."

There was a very dark secret behind Distasio's obsession with child safety, privacy and religious sanctuary. Hidden below confusing layers of religious and mythological symbolism mixed with strands of anarchic, revolutionary thought, Distasio's dark secret needed camouflage.

Distasio's alternative-minded audience seemed captive, at least before his values were laid bare by critical

*Above: Class Cutters' "school" closed by Rocky River Police. Right: Phillip Distasio at the time of arrest.*

in home schooling. In another case, a parent was in the process of deciding the child's educational fate—public, private, charter or home school.

The common denominator joining the friar's charter school myth to his "indie" target audience was longing for the most comprehensive and progressive education that could be imagined for their children. These young Gen X parents were seeking a holistic approach to childhood education.

"I invited him to speak to my mothers' group. I'm a tough judge of character and I don't trust very many people. But I trusted this guy. He's slick," explains one mother, who wishes to remain anonymous.

As the self-proclaimed friar looked to set up a charter school within Lakewood, Distasio promised parents he could deliver the alternative education dream.

For over a year now, Distasio has been evangelizing an alternative education program called "Class Cutters." Across the region, he has promised that his students would spend more time out in the world experiencing arts and culture, and less time memorizing "useless fact" in the "abusive" envi-



as Cyber City and Phoenix Coffee in the company of several boys between the ages of 10 to 14. In an interview, he claimed support from at least two families who had entrusted their children to his care. He claimed to enjoy financial backing from at least one partner.

At "Open Mic Night" in Phoenix Coffee, Distasio advocated the legalization of marijuana as his young students looked on, brought there to experience what he called a "Dionysian" taste of culture whereby teacher and pupil study art during the day and party during the night.

Distasio professes a weird Dionysian faith. On his website, Arcadian Fields, he links the goat god Pan and Saint Francis. "The spirit of Dionysus is present in such historical figures as Aristotle, St. Francis, Machiavelli,

In short she worried that academics had been left in the dust.

He then informed Hutchison his interest was not in academics. Instead he requested from her Phoenix Coffee gift certificates for raffle prizes at his fundraiser gatherings.

"He kept talking about 'The Man' and how everybody was trying to keep him down," Hutchison recalls.

In an interview with the *Lakewood Observer*, Distasio hammered the same theme, stating, "People are denying other people fundamental rights because of what they put in their mouths and what time of day and with who." Whether espousing a sacred right to illegal sexual acts with minors or the illegal consumption of drugs,

See **Petty File**, page 18



## Minding the Issues

# Supreme Court: What Locke Actually Said

by Gordon Brumm

In the last issue I talked about supposedly “activist” judges, defined in three ways: (1) ignoring the original text of the Constitution; (2) overriding the decisions of Congress, the president and the states; (3) disregarding precedents. Activist judges, so-called, are usually thought to be liberal, but there is one group of activist judges, in the third sense listed, that is decidedly conservative. Bush’s second appointment to the Supreme Court may come from this group.

These judges, as well as the scholars associated with them, are interested in economic issues. In particular they assert the absolute right to property, i.e. the right of property owners to use their property as they see fit, without interference from the government. In other words, they put property rights on the same plane as civil rights: just as we have an absolute right to act freely as long as we don’t interfere with others, this group says, so we have an absolute right to use our property as we see fit.

This group sees absolute property rights as prescribed in the Constitution, and they see themselves as rescuing the Constitution from the corruption it has suffered. (Thus they are definitely not “activist” in the first sense mentioned above.) So they sometimes refer to themselves as the “Constitution in Exile” movement. For a good rundown, read Jeffrey Rosen’s article in the *New York Times Magazine* of April 17, 2005, especially page 48. Cass R. Sunstein’s op-ed column in the *Plain Dealer* of July 13 also alludes to this movement.

This is serious business, because the believers in absolute economic rights would like to strike down the New Deal (yes, strike down the New Deal!) and to repeal many government regulatory programs as violations of property rights. They hold that the Supreme Court took a wrong turn—an unconstitutional turn—in agreeing to New Deal legislation and all that followed.

How do these theorists justify their extremist theory? It seems they would have a hard time of it, for their view of justice and the proper role of government is squarely opposed to the national consensus (as shown by the overwhelming support for Social Security, to give one example), and in my opinion is opposed to any civilized viewpoint.

One of their strategies, therefore, is to overlook the national consensus in favor of history and philosophy. In particular, they appeal to the 17th-century English philosopher John Locke, who is famous for proclaiming the innate (inalienable) rights to Life, Liberty and Property. This is of course the model for Thomas Jefferson’s “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness,” and Locke’s views are often looked on as the main source for the Declaration of Independence. Therefore any viewpoint that follows from Locke can claim a certain authenticity and command a great deal of prestige.

Locke makes a moral claim (or claim of justice). He says that individuals have

innate rights to life, liberty and property, and that any government infringing on these rights or failing to protect them is unjust. This is what the believers in absolute economic rights appeal to.

So let’s take a look at what John Locke actually said. His writings on the subject appear in his *Second Treatise on Government*, Chapter Five.

Locke bases his theory on the supposition of a “State of Nature,” that is, a situation (real or imagined) prior to the formation of any government. In the State of Nature, every person has two innate, God-given rights: the right to exist (Life), and the right to act freely (Liberty). What about the right to property? This must be acquired through a process of applying one’s labor to raw nature. Here are Locke’s relevant words:

“... I shall endeavor to show how men might come to have a property in several parts of that which God gave to mankind in common, and that without any express compact of all the commoners.” (para. 25)

... every man has a property in his own person; this nobody has any right to but himself. The labor of his body and the work of his hands, we may say, are properly his. Whatsoever then he removes out of the state that nature has provided and left it in, he has mixed his

that having acquired a stock of goods through labor, a person may voluntarily trade with others, and whatever he acquires through such voluntary exchange is his by innate right also.

There are two key points in Locke’s explanation:

(1) A person acquires the initial right to a piece of property by creating it through exertion of his own labor on the undeveloped and unclaimed wilderness (for example, by clearing and improving a tract of land to make a farm).

(2) The person has a right to this property only on condition that “there is enough and as good left in common for others”—i.e., that he doesn’t deprive anyone else of an equal chance to appropriate unclaimed land.

In other words, Locke paints a picture of a frontier situation, in which a person may go out into the wilderness and through individual effort carve out a piece of land. In this situation, the piece of land that the individual has carved out is an extension of himself, so he has as much right to it as he has to his own hand or leg.

This picture may have been true of England in Locke’s time (and it certainly was true of some parts of America when the Constitution was written), but it clearly and definitely is not true of any modern industrial society such as the

***So Locke’s essential presuppositions simply don’t hold true in our society. His argument is groundless, in the present day, and any appeal to Locke as a justification for absolute economic rights is fraudulent.***

labor with, and joined to it something that is his own, and thereby makes it his property. It being by him removed from the common state nature has placed it in, it has by this labor something annexed to it that excludes the common right of other men. For this labor being the unquestionable property of the laborer, no man but he can have a right to what that is once joined to, at least where there is enough and as good left in common for others.” (para. 27)

Locke is saying, in other words, that a person’s body is his by right (based on his right to life and liberty) and what the person gains by using his own body (what he has “mixed his labor with”) is an extension of his body. When a person exerts his bodily labor on what was originally common property, therefore, he carves something out of the public (common) realm that is his alone and his by right—it is his property by the same right that he has to his own body (“person”). The government does not confer this right to property, just as it does not confer the right to life and liberty. Rather, the government has an obligation to protect the right to property and to refrain from interfering with it.

In a further passage, Locke says

United States. Consider any manufacturing or service organization. It is a complex process in which the efforts of a multitude of people are interwoven, from the executives to white collar workers to manual workers. Their efforts all blend together to achieve the final product; it is absolutely impossible to identify the product of one person’s labors, because there is no product produced by only one person’s labors. Even farmers or miners (whose situation is probably closest to the one Locke pictures) depend on equipment and transportation provided by others.

Furthermore, since we compete with one another, and since there are no longer unlimited resources, we cannot say that our own efforts to acquire property leave others with just as much as before.

So Locke’s essential presuppositions simply don’t hold true in our society. His argument is groundless, in the present day, and any appeal to Locke as a justification for absolute economic rights is fraudulent.

The subject at hand is distributive justice—the question as to how, by what formula, the material goods of society are to be distributed among its members. This is a large subject that has been controversial for many centu-

ries. I can’t begin to provide an answer, except to say that the supposition of absolute economic rights is not the answer. And a few remarks on a basic level may serve as a beginning::

(1) Don’t confuse the “is” with the “ought.” Don’t confuse factual truths with statements of morality or justice. For example, it is probably true that free-market capitalism is the system most productive of total output, but that doesn’t imply that capitalism is necessarily the most just system. On the other hand, our conclusions about justice must be tempered by the hard fact that we would be killing the goose that lays the golden egg if we reject a system that is not completely just but produces abundantly.

(2) Be careful about calculating the “contribution” a person makes as the basis for the income he or she is to receive. Consider the CEO of a corporation and a machinist who helps turn out the corporation’s product. The CEO of course is awarded more. Do you want to say it’s because he or she contributes more than the machinist? Why? Because the machinist couldn’t do his or her work without the CEO? But neither could the CEO do his or her work without the machinist (or the group of machinists). Is it because there are many machinists but only one CEO? Why is that justification for paying the CEO more? (Suppose there are many machinists but only one janitor—is that a reason for paying the janitor more?) Is it because CEOs are worth more on the market? That is a fact, to be sure, but can you claim it as a moral justification, without confusing the “is” with the “ought?”

(3) Perhaps the most widely accepted principle of distributive justice in our society is equality of opportunity. Opportunity is the ability to achieve a certain result through one’s effort. Equal opportunity therefore means that we achieve equal results through equal efforts. In the United States we don’t come anywhere near achieving equality of opportunity. (The CEO, the machinist and the janitor may put forth roughly equal efforts, but the resulting incomes are far from equal.) Indeed we probably couldn’t come close to complete equality of opportunity without sacrificing the capitalist-free-market golden goose. But we can get closer than we are now, at least by compensating for the inequalities of income through political measures such as universal health care, Earned Income Tax Credit and the like.

There is much to think about here, and little hope of ever coming up with a universally acceptable answer. But let’s at least reject simplistic and bogus solutions such as the theory of absolute economic rights. Let’s at least reject solutions that see our society not as a joint enterprise but rather as a sort of jungle in which the economically powerful prosper and everyone else scrambles to get what they can.



Lakewood – WI



## Brennan's Floral Shop Will Give Away 1,200 FREE Roses

Wednesday September 7, 2005 residents of Lakewood will have a unique opportunity to meet each other and develop new friendships when Brennan's Floral and Gift Shop hosts the annual FTD Good Neighbor Day event. Beginning at 9 a.m. Brennan's Floral Gift Shop at 13396 Madison Avenue, will give away 1,200 roses in bunches of a dozen absolutely *free* to anyone who visits the shop, while supplies last.

There is a catch, however. Dan Brennan, the owner of Brennan's Floral Gift Shop hopes the goodwill is exactly that—"catching." We are asking you to make a donation to Lakewood Christian Service Center (LCSC is the hunger center for Lakewood and serves 300 families a month, located at 1412 Marlowe Ave.), and then you will be given a dozen *free* roses. We will ask you to sign a promise to keep one of the roses for yourself and give the others away to 11 different people—spreading the goodwill and friendship and helping others less fortunate in the community.

## Water Aerobics Return

September 12 at Lakewood High Pool. For those that have never tried water aerobics and have problems with other forms of exercise should try it. In addition to the physical benefits of exercising in water, it also offers the participants a fun experience and a chance to socialize with others.

"This past summer was a great success" said instructor Pamela Dietz. With the enthusiasm of good people like the Aquatics Manager for the City of Lakewood Mike Callahan and staff helping with music, guarding and whenever called upon.

If you are interested and would like to sign up or need additional information, please call the Lakewood Recreation Department.



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## LakewoodAlive Announces Fall Forum Series

LakewoodAlive's Fall Forum Series will feature two sessions. The first session, "The Insider's Perspective on the Grow Lakewood Report," will be held on Wednesday, September 28 at 7:00 p.m. at Grant Elementary School. The Grow Lakewood Committee is a citizen task force appointed by the mayor and City Council. The committee was asked to identify issues and potential solutions regarding the city's infrastructure, facilities and economic development issues. Participants will hear the Grow Lakewood Committee's final report that was presented to the mayor and City Council and have the opportunity to participate in a discussion about the findings in a town hall format.

The second session, "Accountability and Efficiency: One City's Turnaround Story," will feature Leif Dormsjo, the Chief of Staff for the Baltimore Department of Transportation and formerly a member of Mayor Martin O'Malley's CitiStat team. CitiStat is a national model of government innovation designed to improve the delivery of public services. Andrew W. Boyd, a CitiStat consultant retained by the City of Lakewood, will explain how government efficiency enhances economic development opportunities. Participants will gain insight into the innovative CitiStat program and how it might benefit the City of Lakewood. This session will be held on Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Grant Elementary School.

Both events are free and open to the public. Grant Elementary School is located at 1470 Victoria Ave. Registration is encouraged but not required. Registration can be completed by sending an e-mail message with your name and organization (if applicable) to [info@lakewoodalive.com](mailto:info@lakewoodalive.com). To learn more about LakewoodAlive, visit [www.lakewoodalive.com](http://www.lakewoodalive.com).

LakewoodAlive is an independent nonpartisan citizens' group devoted to promoting economic development in Lakewood and enhancing how Lakewood is perceived inside and outside its borders. LakewoodAlive's efforts benefit all Lakewood residents by stabilizing and building our tax base, attracting and retaining residents, and preserving and improving the unique quality of life our inner-ring community offers.

## Blackwell to Speak at Voter Forum in Lakewood

Ohio Secretary of State, J. Kenneth Blackwell, is scheduled to speak at a Voter Education Series Forum presented by the Lakewood Republican Organization on Thursday, September 8, 2005, from 7-8 p.m. at Lakewood City Hall Auditorium, 12650 Detroit Avenue. The will be followed by a town hall style question and answer session. Forum 2 will feature Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro, and Forum 3 featuring Ohio Auditor Betty Montgomery, dates to be announced.



## Manor Park Street Restoration

Manor Park residents are excited about the activity on their street this summer—earth movers, backhoes, dump trucks, water trucks, front end loaders, piles of gravel, slabs of concrete, all sizes of turquoise pipes, new fire hydrants waiting to be installed, old bricks and lots of friendly workers knowing exactly what to do with everything. Even the young people got involved. Pictured above are Tommy Daugherty, Brian Keeting, and Tyler Krebs, who were anxious to support the workers with some lemonade to cool their thirst on hot summer days.

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# What's Going On



photo by Scott Purks

## Andrews Avenue Block Party 2005

by Toni Kotz

Crazy weather was the dictator of our block party again this year. However, we did manage to have some fun in between the major thunderstorm warnings. It started with rain, then cleared to allow the approximately 20 kids to play golf at Lakewood’s Little Links. The party received a visit from the Lakewood Fire Department. The firemen were great answering everyone’s questions and letting the kids climb on the big truck. Betty Karslake, of Andrews Avenue, held a cupcake decorating demonstration and contest. The residents voted and Maddy Elaban won Best of Show and Lara Van Dale took second place.

Later, the Pizza Tasting Contest started as the rain returned. Luckily, Lakewood homes have big front porches and the party was moved from the street to the dry porches. Everyone tasted and judged 25 different pizzas that had been donated by 10 local pizza shops. The winners were:

- Best Overall: Italian Creations
- Adult Choice: Italian Creations White Sauce Chicken Pizza
- Kid’s Choice: Tie between Roman Fountain and Hungry Howie’s
- Most Original: Zeppe’s Dog Bone Pizza
- Most Generous: Roman Fountain
- Best Presentation: Tie between Pronto’s Greek and PaPa John’s Pineapple Pizzas
- Best Pepperoni Pizza: Tie between Angelo’s and Pizza Pan
- Best Cheese Pizza: Geppetto’s
- Best Crust: Carlucci’s
- Best Deluxe Pizza: Pronto’s



## Brake-4-Kids

September is Speed Awareness Month and the Brake-4-Kids campaign sponsored by the Lakewood Early Childhood PTA. Display your sign through the month of September. Brake-4-Kids signs are free and are now available at the following locations: Steve Barry Buick, Geiger’s Sporting Goods, and City Hall.

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## 18th Annual Lakewood Community Festival

Saturday, September 10 (rain date September 17)



This Saturday one of the Observer’s favorite community festivals kicks off at 10 a.m. at Madison Park (13029 Madison Ave.). Until 5 p.m. families, friends, neighbors and visitors will be able to sample foods from around that world, take part in a 5K Kiel-basa Run (9 a.m.), 12 Mile Children’s Run (10 a.m.), take part in children’s games, pony rides, visit Lake Erie Science Center and the NASA Bus. The day is filled with entertainment and craft and game booths worth visiting.

## Historical Society Series House: A Memoir

Do you own an old house? Then Michael Ruhlman’s discussion of his latest book, *House: A Memoir*, is a must see. The Lakewood Historical Society will host Mr. Ruhlman on Wednesday, September 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Woman’s Pavilion in Lakewood Park, at the intersection of Lake and Belle in Lakewood, Ohio.

Ruhlman recounts his infatuation with a large, dilapidated old house in Cleveland Heights. His renovation of the beautiful old home nearly pushed him to the brink of psychological and financial ruin. Ruhlman details his home’s complete history, from its construction in 1869 to the renovation in 2001. In addition, the author explores the rise of American suburbia and our strong need for a place to call home.

From the huge hole in the kitchen floor to the crumbling mortar, you’ll be fascinated, and more than a little familiar, with Ruhlman’s adventures as the owner of an old house. After his talk, Mr. Ruhlman will be signing books. Books are available for purchase courtesy of Joseph Beth Booksellers.

This program is free and open to the public. The program is part of the “Your Lakewood Home” lecture series sponsored by the Lakewood Historical Society and the Lakewood Public Library.

Call 216 221-7343 for complete ticket and tour information.

**LAKEWOODOIDS** BY GREG BUDGETT AND GARY DUMM  
COLOR BY LAURA DUMM

LAKEWOOD, FOUNDED ON THE BANKS OF THE ROCKY RIVER, WAS ORIGINALLY CALLED EAST ROCKPORT BY THE EARLY SETTLERS. IF THE TREND TOWARD ROCKY NAMES HAD CAUGHT ON, THE SURROUNDING AREA MIGHT HAVE SOUNDED VERY YABBA-DABBA-DIFFERENT.

CLAY VILLAGE  
WESTSLATE  
ROCKY RIVER  
EAST ROCKPORT  
CLIFFLAND  
FUTURE BIRTHPLACE OF ROCK

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# Lakewood Eats

## Meat-Free in Lakewood

by Laura Walter

Lakewood’s vegetarian residents are discovering increasing community resources to support a meat-free lifestyle. Vegetarians abstain from eating any meat, fish or fowl while vegans avoid all animal products, including dairy and eggs. A well-planned vegan or vegetarian diet can satisfy all nutritional requirements, promote health and offer varied and delicious foods. Congressman Dennis Kucinich is a vegan, and many Lakewood residents are turning to meat-free and healthful diets.

For Amee Shah, vegetarianism has always been a normal part of life. Shah was born in Gujarat, India, and was raised as a vegetarian in Bombay. She realized that moving to America might mean trying meat, but she held on to her convictions and has still never tried meat. “I don’t want to eat anything that was alive,” she explains. “I take principles from Gandhi ... if you have the heart to kill something, you start to change.” When Shah moved to Lakewood, she was pleased to enter a community that attracts others interested in a healthy lifestyle. “I’m glad to be in Lakewood because there are a lot of health conscious, energetic people,” she says. She shops in Lakewood’s mainstream grocery stores like Topps and Giant Eagle and especially relies on fresh produce.

Shah is proof that a vegetarian can survive by shopping in a regular grocery store, but Lakewood residents can also take advantage of Nature’s Bin for vegetarian specialty items. Nature’s Bin, located at 18120 Sloane Avenue, is a natural food store that also offers employment-training opportunities for people with disabilities.

Executive Director Scott Duennes explains that when Nature’s Bin opened in Lakewood in 1991, he researched the natural foods industry to see what types of items they should carry. He quickly found that many customers are interested in vegetarian and vegan items. “Vegetarianism has caught on with a lot of young people,” Duennes



Lakewood City Schools teachers Lauri Hageman (left) and Kathy Rog talk over smoothies at Flora Cafe on Detroit Avenue.

observes. “It’s a lifestyle change, and it’s not an area the mass market stores pay attention to.” He says meat substitutes and soy products have especially enjoyed recent increased popularity.

Nature’s Bin is currently expanding to add extra room to increase the vegetarian options by supporting a larger frozen foods section and other items. The expansion should be complete in mid-September. Nature’s Bin also provides vegetarian catered meals for special events or weddings.

Sharon Sparkes grew up in Lakewood and is glad to see that Nature’s Bin is expanding. Sparkes, who became a vegetarian and then vegan while still in high school, says Nature’s Bin was a lifesaver at that time, and is still the most useful resource in Lakewood for vegetarians. Sparkes recently relocated to another town in Ohio, and she misses Lakewood’s vegetarian-friendly establishments. She cites Aladdin’s Eatery as a welcoming resource when she became a vegetarian.

Aladdin’s Eatery, located on 14536 Detroit Avenue, offers a lot more than just hummus (which, incidentally, is made from chickpeas and not eggs). A total of 19 Aladdin’s restaurants are located in northeast Ohio and in cities such as Washington, DC and Chicago, but the Lakewood location is the original establishment. Assistant Manager

Anne Murphy, a vegetarian herself, says meat-free options have been a part of the menu since the restaurant opened in 1994. “At least half of the menu is vegetarian,” she says, and many of the items are also vegan-friendly. Aladdin’s features natural, unprocessed foods and caters to customers’ increased awareness and concern regarding health and nutrition.

Vegetarians can also venture to a smaller, family-owned restaurant not far from Aladdin’s. Flora Café, located at 14809 Detroit Avenue, offers a variety of Mediterranean food with many vegetarian options. Customers can choose from eggplant dishes (both fried and smoked), veggie wraps, tabouli, hummus, grape leaves, and baba ghanoush. The café features daily specials, like a Portobello mushroom and artichoke salad or homemade gazpacho soup. Flora Café also serves fruit smoothies,

and its juice bar is popular with many health-conscious Lakewood residents. The juices offer customers a healthy and refreshing drink full of vitamins and enzymes. “Our juice bar is very popular,” says Sayed Halim. Halim, his brother Mike and Maber Ebrahim prepare the food at Flora Café.

Phoenix Cafe, located at 15108 Detroit Avenue, offers vegans a dairy-free cup of coffee. Owner and vegetarian Julie Hutchison works to provide vegetarian or vegan options at the café. “We always have soy milk for the coffee, and sometimes we have rice milk,” she says. The café also serves vegetarian soup in the winter, and excluding varieties with cheese, it is often vegan. Depending on availability, Phoenix is sometimes able to stock vegan desserts.

Lakewood clearly offers an assortment of vegetarian-friendly establishments for residents considering eliminating or reducing their meat consumption. Vegetarians often have varied reasons for their dietary choices, including health concerns or refusing to support the factory farming industry. Most vegans recognize the connection between the meat, egg and dairy industries and that dairy cows and egg-laying hens are often exposed to treatment more inhumane than animals raised for meat.

Longtime vegetarian and Lakewood resident Peter Garver doesn’t think vegan or vegetarian diets have to be complex. “Some people think vegetarianism is for those who think meat is immoral, but that’s not always the case. It’s just a healthier way to live, and the diet is better suited to our bodies.”



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# Chef Geoff

## The Breakfast Mystique



### Sunday Morning Breakfast (serves 6)

- Cinnamon Spiced Coffee
- Apple Flapjacks
- Apricot-Glazed Canadian Bacon
- Mimosas
- Fresh Melon

#### Ingredients

##### For the Apricot-Glazed Canadian Bacon:

- 1/2 cup apricot preserves
- 1 tbsp. Honey
- 1 tbsp. Dijon Mustard
- 1 tbsp. Soy
- 1 & 1/2 lb. piece of Canadian bacon

##### For the Cinnamon Spiced Coffee:

- Coffee
- 2 cinnamon sticks, crushed
- 1/4 cup brown sugar

##### For the Apple Flapjacks:

- 2 Granny Smith apples quartered with skin left on
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup milk
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 3 tbsp. cinnamon
- 3 tbsp. sugar
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. baking powder
- 3 tbsp. vegetable Oil (or melted butter)

##### For the Mimosas:

- 1 quart fresh squeezed orange juice
- Bottle of Brut Champagne

- 1 fresh, ripe melon

#### Procedure:

- (1) As you rub the sleep from your eyes, prepare coffee as you would normally, but add the brown sugar and crushed cinnamon stick to the brewing basket.
- (2) Preheat oven to 375°. Place Canadian bacon in a shallow pan. Mix apricot preserves, honey, mustard and soy together and spoon over bacon, and place in preheated oven, uncovered. Cook 30 minutes.
- (3) Slice melon in half, clean out seeds. Slice each half into 4 equal sections. In a single slice, cut the fruit from the rind (cutting 1/4 inch off). The separated rind can serve as a “bowl” for the fruit by cutting the fruit once lengthwise and 10-12 times width-wise. Maintain the shape of the sliced fruit and return to its original position on the rind. This is more of a presentation issue—it is certainly okay to simply whack the melon up into bite sized chunks and spoon it into side dishes.
- (4) Preheat a griddle or large frying pan. Place eggs, milk, vanilla, cinnamon, sugar apples, oil and salt in blender or food processor. Process until smooth. Add flour and baking powder. Process until well combined. Lightly oil preheated griddle and ladle 1/3 cup of batter per flapjack. When the sides appear dry, flip. Cooking time is longer than standard pancakes, and the final product quite moist.
- (5) Remove bacon from oven, slice. Serve with flapjacks (with powdered sugar or butter and syrup) with the melon on the side.
- (6) For mimosas, simultaneously pour equal amounts of chilled Champagne and orange juice into large wine glasses.
- (7) Retire to a sunny spot in the living room, enjoy your breakfast, and do the *New York Times* crossword.

by Jeff Endress

Of the three daily meals, somehow breakfast always seems to get more attention and notice than its counterparts, lunch and dinner. We hear people talk about “meeting for lunch” or “dinner and the theatre” but there just isn’t the same emotional reaction we attach to breakfast. Perhaps the cause of our focus on breakfast has to do with morning hunger and “breaking the fast.” Perhaps it is due to our ability to rationalize that a sticky, gooey Danish or cinnamon bun that would be a decadent dessert in any other context, is a reasonable breakfast. It could be that our attachment stems from the fact that for most of us, “making our own breakfast” was our first passage into the world of cooking. When our parents deemed us responsible enough, on Saturday morning we could get our own cereal and watch the cartoons while mom and dad got a few extra minutes of sleep. While it may have only been pouring some chocolate-coated sugar bombs into a bowl and adding milk, we could feel a small sense of self-sufficiency. If I was the cynical type (and I am) I might venture that it may even be related to caffeine addiction and getting that morning fix.

While I don’t really know why breakfast overshadows the other meals, it clearly does. “Breakfast is the most important meal of the day.” It would be a rarity to hear someone give any importance at all to lunch. Denny’s has breakfast available 24/7, but try to get a burger or a salad at 9 a.m. Dads whose culinary abilities are otherwise limited to burning a burger on the grill nevertheless pride themselves on making pancakes every Sunday morning. Then of course there are the franchises that were built on breakfast, IHOP, Waffle House and Bob Evans. There’s



the romantic’s dream of having a special date, asking him or her up for a nightcap and hoping that they will stay for breakfast. What do we do when we want to give someone extra special treatment? Why, it’s breakfast in bed. (Although for the life of me, I’ve never understood how sleeping on crushed shredded wheat afterward makes you feel special.) And while there’s “My Dinner with Andre” it pales by comparison to “Breakfast at Tiffany’s.” Young children are treated to Breakfast with Santa and countless fundraisers have annual all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts.

But as with many favorite relationships, sometimes we fall into a rut. Open the box, pour out the granola. Slice the bagel, into the toaster. Scramble an egg, pour out the orange juice. The shortcuts become habit and the magic evaporates. The good news is that it doesn’t have to be that way. You can rekindle your love affair with breakfast right at home, without getting out of your bathrobe and without ordering the Grand Slam Skillet. While admittedly, making a less than ordinary breakfast will take a bit more time than filling a cereal bowl, the 30 minutes invested is well worth the effort.

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# The Buck Stops Here

## To Write the City

by Robert Buckeye

Leslie Kaplan, a French poet who at one time worked in a factory, wrote a book-length poem of her experience, *L'excès-l'usine*, which took her more than 10 years to finish. In an interview, she comments that she did not want as much to write about the factory as to actually write the factory. It is not uncommon for writers to write about cities and the lives of people in them. Dickens comes to mind, Joyce, and, close by, Sherwood Anderson's account of people in Clyde in Winesburg, Ohio. But how many writers write the city, as Kaplan does the factory, and not just write about it? How, we might ask, would one write Lakewood?

We might look to some examples in American writing: Charles Olson's *The Maximus Poems*, about Gloucester, Massachusetts; William Carlos Williams' poem about his hometown, *Paterson* (an imaginary town in New Jersey, the *Times Literary Supplement* noted in its review of Williams' book); Ruth McKenney's *Industrial Valley*, a report of the 1934 rubber workers strike in Akron, Ohio; Michael Lesy's *Wisconsin Death Trip*, a small town in Wisconsin at the beginning of the 20th century seen through the photographs of its town photographer and articles in the local paper.

In all of these, information and data are crucial. McKenney, Lesy and Williams cite news accounts and historic material, but Williams also includes a fashionable grocery list and

depth measurements for an artesian well while McKenney reports that of Akron's population of 255,000 in 1934, 152,000 residents were Southern-born whites. People are significant, although, to some extent, many are memento mori. Olson speaks of fishermen long gone, fishermen whose work gave them the dignity of their labor; Williams of Sam Patch, who "jumped from a rocky ledge at Goat Island into the Niagara River"; McKenney of Stanley Mikolajsk, an unemployed rubber worker, who jumped to his death from the North Hill Viaduct. That *The Maximus Poems* and *Paterson* were the works of a lifetime that stretched into six books each suggests how incomplete such a project is, no matter how necessary.

The poet, Allen Ginsberg, who lived in Paterson at the time the first volume of *Paterson* appears, writes Williams: "I have been walking the streets and discovering the bars—especially around the great Mill and River Streets. Do you know this part of Paterson? I have seen so many things—negroes, gypsies, an incoherent bartender." It was a Paterson Williams did not know, but it did not diminish what Williams accomplished. "Limits are what any of us are inside of," Olson notes, and the question of writing the city (as opposed to writing about it) is one of recognition, not imagination. To see what we see wherever it can be seen. We have eyes.

I would begin with Bird Town, the Madison branch of the Lakewood Public Library, with its large collection

of works in Slavic, German, Polish, Russian and Hungarian, the junior high school teacher who told me to ignore my test scores, since they were obviously in error—no one from my neighborhood ever scored that high. I would include the fault lines Clifton Park and Lake Road established that extended even to football at high school, where those from Clifton Park and Lake were favored over those from other parts of town. On my first trip to the Clifton Park Beach Club, I saw children pull used rubbers out of Lake Erie that had been discarded by those partying on yachts. I was 30 before I was 18.

The names of those who stay, even though they may be gone: Richard Kiefer, who left high school to play trumpet in big bands; Mario

Moraitis, who was given no chance to play because he was a transfer from St. Edward's, even though he was a better running back than I was; Miss Warner, who asked why I would do a stupid thing like play football when I told her I could not join history club because it interfered with practice; Alicia Metcalf, who showed me there was more in books than I ever thought possible; Tom Gannon, who understood that the playing field was not level, but that was no reason for excuses; Joan Franklin, who showed me what love was, although neither of us knew what that meant then.

Recently I met a Lakewood graduate who had just moved to my small town in Vermont. Where was he from? Where was I from? You that football guy? he asked me.

### Where in Lakewood?

by Rhonda Loje



The Lakewood Observer is starting a new contest with the help of our photographer Rhonda Loje.

#### Where in Lakewood?

Every now and then we will post and print a photo of somewhere in Lakewood. The first five people to mail their answers to:

**Lakewood Observer, Inc.**  
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**Lakewood Ohio 44107**  
... will win their choice of *Lakewood Observer* gear.

**So where do you think it is?**

## Lakewood Mail

### Return to Lakewood? Ya Sure, You Betcha!

I was born in Lakewood ... 62 years ago. My parents met when they were age 35 as different as night and day. Dad a big city, Cleveland dentist, Jewish; my mother a dairy farm girl from the town of Brice (near Columbus), Methodist and Pennsylvania-Dutch. They were drawn together by the recreational/social justice movement of the mid-1940s; they met at a cooperative camp in northern Michigan, Circle Pines Center; my mother calling square dances, my father joyfully dancing!

They began their married life in a tiny house on Brockley Street (I always thought it would be spelled like the vegetable!). When I moved here, I was thrilled to find Nature's Bin right around the corner since eating organically and locally is very important to me. My mother died last year at age 96 and among her papers, I found a shopping list from the Lakewood Food Co-op dated April 1942: "Oranges (2), \$.06; Milk, \$.14" Today, I bought some lovely produce at the Arthur Extension Farmer's Market; Lakewood continues its tradition of good food, at reasonable prices!

When I was 5, we moved to Bowling Green where I grew up. Through the years, announcing the place of my birth as Lakewood, Ohio left me with a fondness for the place. So, when I decided to retire from my position as the Administrator of the Northwestern Academy of Homeopathy in Minneapolis, Minnesota, I began to think seriously of returning to my home state. Our two boys, 25 and 26, were on their own; my husband and I had grown our separate ways. I attended a mighty-fun annual contra dance, The Dandelion Romp, on the Oberlin campus where I went to college and decided I wanted to return to the Cleveland area. So, my husband and I arranged an amicable divorce and I drove out to Cleveland to house-hunt.

By luck, I ran into a real estate agent in Lakewood, Jim Nagy, when I drove by his home on the lakefront and asked about prevailing home prices. Definitely a Lakewood booster, Jim nevertheless stayed neutral for me through my home surveys of Lakewood, west Cleveland, Berea, North Olmsted, and Westlake. Throughout my search, I never heard a bad word about Lakewood. Folks always said: "Oh, I love Lakewood! I grew up there and always enjoy my return visits" or, "Yes, I've always

felt safe in Lakewood; the city services, especially the police, are just terrific!"

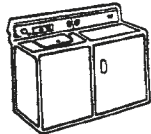
In the end, I decided that Lakewood was the place for me and a month ago, I purchased a house near Clifton Boulevard built in 1910. It has been rental property for a few years and needs lots of work, but the neighbors and the city have given me a wonderfully warm welcome! I have been able to secure a renovation loan through the Lakewood Community Development Division. Their support in contracting out work on my new home has been invaluable!

I was invited to attend meetings of the Lakewood Democratic Club and one month, we heard about this exciting neighborhood venture, the Lakewood Observer. The next month, School Board member Betsy Shaughnessy paid a visit; I was stunned to learn that there is no school busing in Lakewood—how many cities can boast that advantage?! It speaks to the attraction that Lakewood holds for me—a community of diversity, whose citizens take an active part in building its future. While I enjoyed my 31 years in Scandahoovia-land (Minnesota) raising a family, am I glad to return to Lakewood? Ya sure, you betcha!

Jan Greenfield  
Lakewood

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# Lakewood Healthcare

## What’s Happening at Lakewood Hospital

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For a complete listing of all upcoming health programs, visit our Web site at [www.lakewoodhospital.org/calendar](http://www.lakewoodhospital.org/calendar).

If you would like a quarterly health calendar mailed to your home, please call us at 216-476-4926.

## Health Programs

**Simply Women, Simply Wonderful**

Join us for our third annual women’s health event —a relaxing day with updates on women’s health, a gourmet lunch, and a fun fashion presentation. Regina Brett, *Plain Dealer* Metro columnist, will give the keynote address “The Power of Women: Faith, Courage and Compassion.” Saturday, September 17 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Signature at LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility, 25777 Detroit Rd. in Westlake. Cost for this event is a non-refundable fee of \$25. Limited seating. Register early. Call toll-free at 1-877-234-FITT (3488).

## Osteoporosis Screenings:

How strong are your bones? Are you at risk for developing osteoporosis?



This clinic will assess your overall risk as well as measure your level of bone loss that is usually painless until a fracture occurs. Register for the next clinic.

September 27, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.: Lakewood Community Health Center, second floor, 1450 Belle Ave., Lakewood. Reservations: 877-234-FITT

**Communicating with a Person with a Hearing Loss:**

Talking with a person who suffers from a hearing loss can be frustrating and confusing, but with simple strategies discussed at this forum, you can improve your conversations and relationships.

Thursday, September 8, 7:00 p.m., Westlake Medical Campus, Building A, 850 Columbia Road, Westlake.

## Lakewood Hospital Interns Gain Valuable Experience

by Laura Walter

The Cleveland Clinic launched an internship program this summer to encourage high school students to explore their interests in science and medicine.

The Science Intern Program created more than 40 internship positions for students from 13 Cleveland-area high schools. Various hospitals hosted students for the nine-week program, and Lakewood Hospital was able to accommodate two interns.

Kellen Welch of St. Edwards High School and Nicole Rambo of Lakewood High School were awarded the intern positions at Lakewood Hospital. The program, which ran from June 13 to August 12, consisted of 40-hour workweeks complete with workshops and individual research projects. Each intern explored a specialty and gave a final presentation to the hospital’s senior leadership.

Nicole Rambo, 17, will be a senior at Lakewood High School this year. She was in the fourth grade when she decided she wanted to be a doctor, and her internship experience may lead her closer to that goal.

Rambo’s project at Lakewood Hospital involved finding the therapeutic range for the drug Heparin. Heparin is an anticoagulant and can prevent harmful clots from forming in blood vessels. The drug’s therapeutic range produces the best results with the fewest side effects. For her research project, Nicole used a machine to test blood in order to determine the best Heparin levels.

When she wasn’t conducting her experiment, Rambo was able to work with everyone in the lab. “Most people stayed in their departments, and I moved on to different areas when I was needed,” she explains. She’s grateful for the chance to work with different people and gain varied experience.

Perhaps the most valuable lesson Rambo learned during the internship involved communication between the lab and doctors. “I noticed some of the doctors were a bit impatient with the lab,” she observes. “This taught me to be patient to the lab workers when I’m a doctor.”

Besides participating in the internship, Nicole is preparing for a medical career by taking appropriate courses at Lakewood High School. She’s already completed advanced or AP courses in biology, chemistry and anatomy. During her senior year, she will take physics. While she hasn’t made any decisions on college yet, she may consider Ohio State University or Purdue University. “This experience was even better than I expected,” she says.

Kellen Welch, 17, will be a junior this year at St. Edwards High School.

Welch entered the internship program just as the Western Region of the Cleveland Clinic was developing a research project designed to optimize beta blockade in patients with congestive heart and pulmonary disease. The research team quickly welcomed Welch into the project and provided him with guidance and experience. Welch even wrote the abstract for the research project, which will ultimately be funded and published.

Jennifer Andrey, Director of Cardiac Program Development for the Western Region, acted as Welch’s mentor throughout the project. “Working on this project from the ground up gave Kellen some great experience,” Andrey says. “He learned how to set up a research project, obtain internal review approval, and more. He’s a really quick study.”

Andrey adds that while the team worked on concepts beyond medical school level, Welch readily absorbed everything. She applauds his ability to work independently, and says he created a PowerPoint presentation, the project’s abstract and a poster presentation with minimal outside help.

The internship allowed Welch to learn more about heart failure and even watch surgeries. He viewed open-heart surgery, angioplasty, and more. “I was wearing scrubs and was right up there next to the patient,” he says. “The doctors were really helpful and explained everything to me.”

Welch also cites the opportunity to improve his communication and organizational skills as a valuable aspect of the internship. He had a chance to practice those communication skills during his presentation at the internship’s conclusion. “He presented himself so articulately, I think we all forgot he was a high school student,” Andrey says.

Welch, whose own father is a doctor at MetroHealth Hospital, has no doubts about studying medicine himself. He hopes to enter an accelerated program to complete premed and medical school at once. “I’m definitely sure I want to be a doctor, so I’d like to take the fastest track,” he says.

Jennifer Andrey expects Lakewood Hospital will host two more students for next summer’s internship program. Applicants must express an interest in science or medicine and must be enrolled in high school for the upcoming year.

“If you are admitted to this internship, just soak it all up. Ask a ton of questions, because it really helps,” Welch advises.

“I never would have known about the internship unless my anatomy teacher gave me the application,” Rambo adds. “Talk to your guidance counselor to find out what’s available so you don’t miss an opportunity like this.”

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# Lakewood's Emerald Canyon News

## Rocky River Watershed Festival



**September 24, 2005**

Everyone lives in a watershed. Come learn more about the Rocky River watershed at one of three venues in the watershed: Rocky River Nature Center in North Olmsted; Hinckley Reservation in Hinckley, or the Scenic Park at the Emerald Necklace Marina in Lakewood. The Rocky River Watershed Council, in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, NOACA, the Cuyahoga and Medina Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Ohio State University Extension and Cleveland Metroparks, are sponsoring this family focused event to raise awareness of how human activities can impact their river and its surrounding habitat.

**Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Nature Center**  
Educational Entertainment  
24000 Valley Pkwy.; North Olmsted  
(11 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

Highlights will include live music by Alex Bevan. Musician Brian Henke will also be performing through out the day as well as storytelling by the Cleveland Metroparks. There will be a number of educational and fun activities for families including information on fish and wildlife, demonstrations on biological sampling, and fish seining. Food will be provided by the Road Kill Grill on Wheels. Face painting and tee shirt decoration will be available for children (free tee shirts will be provided). Children are also welcome to locate their homes on a watershed map and play the Watershed Game to discover how pollutants get into the river.

**Hinckley Reservation**  
Fishing Derby & Casting Contest  
Hinckley, Ohio  
(8 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

Activities begin at 8 a.m. with a fishing contest for children aged 14 and under. A Casting Contest for the same age group will follow the Fishing Contest. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health are sponsoring both contests. PRIZES will be awarded to the winners. In the afternoon, fish seining and electro-shocking demonstrations will be provided as well as information on water quality pollution.

**Scenic Park at the Emerald Necklace Marina**  
Valley Parkway, Lakewood  
Fishing Contest: 8 a.m. until Noon  
Entertainment, crafts, food: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Emerald Necklace Marina sits near the mouth of the Rocky River where it enters Lake Erie. This venue will include a number of educational and family activities such as food, crafts, information on fish and wildlife, and boating safety. The Central Basin Steelheaders will host a fishing event for children 14 and under, with prizes for the winners. Face painting and tee shirt decoration will be available for children (free tee shirts will be provided), who are also welcome to locate their homes on a watershed map. There will be live entertainment featuring the Green Elvis and Late-As-Usual, so bring lawn chairs or a blanket and enjoy the show.

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# Gallery Watch



bela dubby’s new show features the black-and-white photos of Hadley K. Conner. Her photos really capture the feel of the car culture from the ’50s until now. The turn-out at the opening party showed a strong following from all cultures, but body art was very much evident everywhere, and the hot rods parked outside of bela were like a trip back to the ’50s and a bygone era.

## Gallery Watch

by Chelsea L. Waschek

**bela dubby**  
13321 Madison  
(south side near Clarence)

Announcing Swing Night! Friday, September 23, 9 p.m.-11:30 p.m. swing music to listen and dance to will be played. A free swing dance lesson for beginners will be given starting at 8 p.m.

The current featured artist is Hadley K. Conner. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Thursday 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-12 a.m. bela dubby offers free Wi-Fi and is smoke free.

**Wobblefoot**  
1662 Mars

Wobblefoot presents: “The American Image” by Tim O’Connor. The show opens Friday, September 16 with reception from 6-9 p.m. Tim O’Connor’s paintings are exclusive to Wobblefoot. Come meet him at the reception. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Every four to six weeks anyone may visit Wobblefoot’s website, [www.wobblefoot.com](http://www.wobblefoot.com), and enter their name and address in a drawing, to win a limited edition print, that will be shipped to the winner anywhere in the world, free of charge!

**Local Girl**  
16106 Detroit

A very special event will be taking place Friday, October 14. Local Girl Gallery will be hosting a Breast Cancer Fundraiser called, “Art Across the Heart.” Artists will be designing bras for the live auction Friday, Oct. 14 from 6-10 p.m. If there is anyone interested in designing a bra/using one for a canvas, for the auction should call Linda Goik at 228-1802. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Thursday 12-5 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 12-6 p.m.

**Pop Shop**  
17020 Madison

Announcing the “Catch All Show,” a group show catching all realms of art. Opening reception Saturday September 17 from 6-9 p.m. After party hosted by Mullens (next to gallery).

As always The Pop Shop is looking for artists young or old that wake up in the morning with the passion to create, not re-create. Owner Rich Cihlar would like to support Lakewood artists and show our community what it holds. Interested artists should call 227-8440 or e-mail Rich at [thepopshop@gmail.com](mailto:thepopshop@gmail.com). Gallery hours are Tuesday 4-9 p.m. and Wednesday 1-9 p.m. or by appointment.

## Scents and Accents



Scents and Accents at 14319 Madison Ave. is a new Lakewood gallery that specializes in art, clothing, beads and other interesting items. Check it out for that special gift.

LAKEWOOD

This spacious 3-bedroom has newer windows, exterior paint and central air.  
**\$134,900 J. Vedaa 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Four bedroom, 2 full bath colonial with high ceilings and exposed beams.  
**\$145,000 J. Vedaa 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

3-bedroom with stunning woodwork and updated modern kitchen and full bath.  
**\$149,900 McAfee/McAfee 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Winton Place lifestyle includes 24-HR desk, security, pool and fitness room.  
**\$157,000 L. Lehecka 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Charm and architectural details abound! F/P in master, 3BR and 2 full baths.  
**\$166,900 A. Swider 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Details! Striking double staircase, window seat, inlaid oak floors, and colonnade.  
**\$179,900 C. Carpadis 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

2-Tier deck with koi pond! 3BR Home includes granite counters and WB F/P.  
**\$184,900 J. Vedaa 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Beautiful home with newer furnace, A/C H2O & kitchen with tons of cabinet space.  
**\$184,900 M. Lucarelli 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Finished 3rd floor with 4th BR. New roof in 2000. Enormous and private yard.  
**\$189,900 Kuhen/Robinson 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Spacious eat-in kitchen, gorgeous woodwork, F/P in oversized LR and built-ins.  
**\$199,900 McAfee/McAfee 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

This must-see, 3 BR colonial has newer driveway, roof, electrical & waterproofing.  
**\$209,000 L. Vyhnalek 216-521-9300**

LAKEWOOD

Light and airy colonial features 4 BRs plus a fifth on the 3rd floor with its own bath.  
**\$330,000 Kuhen/Robinson 216-521-9300**

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# Slife of Life



The backyard where Class Cutters entertained potential parents and children.

## Petty File

continued from page 8

the educational focus was easily lost in Distasio's ranting.

While hanging out at Phoenix Coffee, Distasio and his young company began to raise red flags with several people. For example, one Phoenix employee witnessed Distasio hanging out with two underage boys during her shift. She grew suspicious about the manner in which the children and Distasio were interacting. As she explained her take on the dynamics, the boys seemed embarrassed to be with Distasio. They often cursed him. His response was to smile and offer them sweets and pastries.

No discipline. No structure. A weird student-teacher dynamic. Slack by day. Party by night. All in view at Phoenix Coffee, as Distasio's "Class Cutters" attempted to advance the cause of an alternative charter school in Lakewood. Of course, it was an unconvincing antidote to the "abusive" environment of our public schools, which he so opposed. But who was really paying attention?

The pagan friar from Rocky River first appeared on the *Lakewood Observer's* radar screen when I met him at Phoenix Coffee earlier this summer. Approaching the counter I overheard a man in his early 30s talking about Jungian shamanism, Bob Marley, Jack Kerouac and the evils of our public school systems—all in nearly one breath. This, I thought to myself, would be a great story.

After nearly two hours of conversation, Distasio's intentions began to surface. It was clear that he was pushing a wacky idea that would find no traction in Lakewood, a charter school that was less about learning than it was about hanging out with a "youth ministry," unaffiliated with any established local church. As Distasio's arrest now suggests, there may be something more dangerous lurking below the surface than a slack teacher with bonehead ideas for a charter school.

Soon enough, the *Lakewood Observer* faced Distasio's challenge head-on. On June 15, after informing the *Lakewood Observer* advisory board of the pagan friar's presence in the city, I received an e-mail about a recent registrant on the L.O. Observation Deck who was refusing to play by the rules. Friar Petty had joined the online forum.

All participants in the *Observer's* online forum are required to use real first and last names when registering with the site. This is the one and only rule. However Brother Petty, whose legal name is Phillip Distasio, refused to comply with this rule. Instead, he registered as Brother Petty, and began posting links to his Yahoo group's web page, Arcadian Fields Ministry.

Consequently, members of the *Lakewood Observer* advisory board received complaints from community members concerned about postings made under a fake name. Having heard enough from citizens concerned about

**"You're into symbols. You're into the Tarot.  
I've got a card for you. It's called the  
Tower of Destruction.  
Your school is the tower, the language of the  
Lakewood Observer is the lightning."**

**—Ken Warren**

the violation of the rule, *Lakewood Observer* advisory board member Steve Davis demanded instant action on the issue.

When Distasio was asked to re-register with his legal name, a battle of e-mails ensued. Distasio continued to register under different pseudonyms and protested the legal name requirement.

"We can hide safely behind our pseudonyms in order to express outlandish ideas that we'd never share in public. Uninhibitedness, so essential to the creative process, can now be applied from the very beginning of any venture and we can be free to associate with each other and seek each other out on the basis of mutual interests and beliefs alone," Distasio posted on the forum.

In an e-mail letter to the *Observer* advisory board, Distasio objected to a vetting process that would insist on the link between real name and message. "I maintained already, this *is* my real name; it's only that certain bureaucracies don't acknowledge it as such. The fault is in your system, not mine. This is a matter of belief, the change of name represents a re-birth, a re-acquisition and initiation into a new faith. It doesn't matter what you or the state or anyone else says, it is my name."

The anarchic friar needed to bring a level of legitimacy to his ministry and charter school. He wanted in through the *Lakewood Observer*. Only he insisted on doing so according to his terms.

Unfortunately for Distasio, when one plans on teaching children in the City of Lakewood, even in an alternative charter school well below the radar screen, the community's interest in knowing their personal history, intentions, values and pedagogy is acute. *The Lakewood Observer* could not be buffaloeed by the anarchic friar.

In recalling Distasio's first post on the LO Observation Deck publisher Jim O'Bryan notes, "What he posted was like Kool-Aid, in a flavor that any parent would want to drink—sugar free, low cholesterol and able to turn any child into an intellectual and athlete. It was the thing that was going to cure all ills." It was the counter-cultural, anarchic thrust of his vision that attracted positive responses within certain niches, while alarming others right off the bat.

Advisory board member Kenneth Warren explains, "Brother Petty tried to replace the principled, lawful kernel within Lakewood's open source model of citizen journalism with an anarchic and demonic kernel. That won't fly in the *Lakewood Observer*."

In open source computer programming, the "kernel" is the source code upon which the program and its variants are based, and which is open

No sooner did Distasio join the forum than his intention and charter school pedagogy were put to the online community's test. On June 25 O'Bryan asked advisory board members for input on resolving complaints about Distasio's use of a faux name. There was debate about conducting an inquiry as to whether Brother Petty was, in fact, a legal name and whether such a fact would entitle Distasio to post or simply whether he should be deleted from the board.

Shortly thereafter, O'Bryan, Warren and advisory board member Steve Calhoun went to Phoenix Coffee to discuss the strategy for informing Brother Petty that a real name is required for posting. As coincidence would have it, a man noticed them because they were wearing *Lakewood Observer* tee-shirts. O'Bryan and Warren asked, "Are you Brother Petty?" He was. They invited him to pull up a chair and began a discussion about the rules of the forum and the need for a real name.

With Distasio's consent, the *Lakewood Observer* team conducted an intense four-hour interdisciplinary inquiry into his dreams, intentions, life, ministry, mythology, needs and values, while explaining conditions in Lakewood and the *Lakewood Observer*. In the process, however, the pagan friar's explanation of his life and mission raised substantial concerns among the *Lakewood Observer* team about his ministry and work with children, particularly his concept of religious sanctuary and the protection of children.

Frequently Distasio explained how sanctuary is the legal protection of the accused who wish to hide within the confines of a religious institution rather than face punishment by law. He spoke about his life in Columbus, remarking that he was disturbed adults were cruising for children at the Matthew Shepherd candle rally in Columbus, and that therefore children needed protection in a sanctuary. He mentioned he worked with gay children. He spoke about a murder. In another instance he mentioned talking to the FBI.

"At the conclusion of the session we believed his remarks raised the suspicion that he could be a pedophile trolling for Lakewood children under 'indie' charter school guise," said Warren.

"His expressed desire for religious sanctuary and the charter school, coupled with his belief that drug use and sexual relations between adults and



Distasio would often frequent many hot spots in a night, including Cyber City.



Slife of Life

minors are healthy rites, raised more red flags. We felt a nagging suspicion that he had not only a theory but a capacity to act out,” explained Warren.

At one point in the meeting Petty began playing with the symbolism of the Tarot deck. To which Warren, fluent in mythology and semiotics replied, “You’re into symbols. You’re into the Tarot. I’ve got a card for you. It’s called the Tower of Destruction. Your school is the tower, the language of the *Lakewood Observer* is the lightning.”

On Sunday, June 26, O’Bryan contacted Lakewood Law Director Brian Corrigan who advised him that the *Lakewood Observer* team should speak with a police detective on Monday.

On that same day, Distasio provided his real name and address to this *Lakewood Observer* reporter in the hope that he could make use of the open source media to promote his charter school and mission. After obtaining the legal name, *Lakewood Observer* webmaster DL Meckes and advisor Steve Calhoun conducted an Internet search that retrieved data—sometimes using Way Back, the archive of old web data—which might lend additional credence to the initial assessment that the man posed harm to the welfare of children.

O’Bryan filed a report with the Lakewood Police on Monday, June 27.

That same day, Distasio wrote an e-mail to O’Bryan, Calhoun and Slife: “Lock me away? Fine. I guarantee you that if I end up behind bars I’ll do my best to contract every disease, destroy every piece of public property, endanger myself and every inmate, and spend

as much time as I can in the hospital and the court room so that I can make myself the most expensive inmate in Lakewood’s history. And when I’ve got your attention that way, I’ll make any statements I please. Because I have nothing to lose.”

On Tuesday, June 28, the Rocky River Police were informed of the presence of Distasio’s Class Cutters on Wooster Road.

Following the *Lakewood Observer*’s discovery of Distasio’s belief in “high touch” pedagogy, Phoenix Coffee owner Julie Hutchison banned him from her establishment. As the cautionary word about the anarchic friar’s teachings spread like wildfire, Distasio

***“Lock me away? Fine. I guarantee you that if I end up behind bars I’ll do my best to contract every disease, destroy every piece of public property, endanger myself and every inmate, and spend as much time as I can in the hospital and the court room so that I can make myself the most expensive inmate in Lakewood’s history. And when I’ve got your attention that way, I’ll make any statements I please. Because I have nothing to lose.”***

***—Phillip Distasio***

sio’s loose knit social support network in Lakewood quickly unraveled.

Distasio remained desperate for an audience and access to open source media, inviting members of the *Lakewood Observer* to attend a keg party at Cyber City on Detroit Road in downtown Lakewood.

Distasio approached the Cleveland Food Not Bombs group to cater one of his parties. However, because the lawful kernel of the *Lakewood Observer* had already exposed his twisted “high touch” pedagogy, some Lakewoodite members of the group were already alert to his presence.

One member, Lynn Thompson, explained that “until we were led to believe that he wasn’t doing the things he was doing, we weren’t going to work with him.” Ian, another member of Cleveland Food Not Bombs, said of Petty’s thwarted infiltration, “he asked at least one member in the group if he could watch their son. ... He was showing up at our meetings and being

being excluded from Phoenix, Distasio made harassing phone calls to the establishment. On nearly a daily basis Distasio would plead, demand and attempt to manipulate a way back into the store, desperate to pitch his charter school to the coffee shop’s considerable alternative culture customer base.

Weeks went by before Distasio was finally arrested on August 24 by the Rocky River Police Department. According to Rocky River detective Phil Morron, efforts were coordinated with Lakewood detective Leslie Wilkins.

While the allegations, charges and trial will unfold for Distasio in the proper course of time, it is already clear that his charter school myth envisions the construction of an abusive environment far more sinister than that of an overcrowded public school class room with disciplinary policy and standardized testing. While extolling the “virtues” of religious sanctuary, privacy and spiritual sacrifice, Distasio’s twisted imagination turned sacred space into a zone of Dionysian orgy. In the sanctuary he believed there should be legal protection from prosecution so that drug-induced sexual intercourse between minors and adults could occur.

There is myth; there is fact. If facts prove true that Distasio was acting on the ideas behind the twisted pedagogy of Dionysian myth, then the charter school and sanctuary were conceptual tools deployed to justify crimes against children. While a Petty myth has been outed in the *Lakewood Observer*, the court will ultimately determine what fact informs Distasio’s fate.

Spilled Ink

Volleyball

continued from page 5

Junior Kayla Kovach, an outside hitter, was all-district honorable mention last season and will rarely leave the floor.

The backcourt will be anchored by the Kmieck sisters—juniors Katie, a setter, and Clare, the libero. Both are excellent diggers.

Junior Katharine Sroka will see much more playing time this year due to improved hand-eye coordination and foot work. She is also a solid blocker.

Other team members vying for playing time include: juniors Mallory Hughes, Julie Schreiner, Kelly Stasko, twin sisters Emily and Sara Swindell; and sophomore Chelsea Mason, Sara’s sister.

Coaching matters, too, and the Rangers have a good one. Just ask Dale Brogan, former head coach who serves as program assistant, about Arbeznik, and you will hear words like “passionate,” “dedicated,” “the perfect person for the job.” A three-year starter at St. Joseph’s Academy, Arbeznik played club volleyball at Bowling Green after being recruited by several division 1 schools. She teaches Physical Education at LHS.

Spend five minutes with her, and you’ll notice her passion for the sport, her commitment to the team, and an intense focus on all aspects of coaching.

She doesn’t need to consult notes when discussing her team statistics, accomplishments, goals, and weaknesses.

Aberznik believes, and who can argue with the results, that winning requires more than physical skills and practice. Team building—creating the right chemistry—is an essential element of winning and developing a solid program. This summer, for example, Aberznik sent her team off on a local photo-hunt to help build team unity and chemistry. Clearly, her formula for excellence goes beyond teaching the technical aspects of the game. She covers all the bases.

Commitment and hard work matter, and the Rangers show no shortage of either. In fact, Arbeznik believes that the single most important factor in the team’s success has been the willingness of the girls to make the commitment, in terms of time and effort, to work on all aspects of their games. Most girls played on highly competitive summer Junior Olympic teams and practice virtually year round.

So, check out the schedule for an opportunity to enjoy some fine volleyball played by a bunch of hardworking Lakewood girls. You’ll definitely be entertained, you’ll probably find yourself clapping and yelling, and you might even be inspired. After all, when was the last time a book did that for you?



Band

continued from page 4

North Royalton will be attending. In addition, the Mount Union College band from Alliance will be performing. The event includes a “pass and review” of each band, followed by each individual band’s on-field performance.

This is an exhibition, not a com-

petition. This helps the kids to have a good time and enjoy their performances and the performances of other bands without added pressure.

Admission cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for kids. Proceeds benefit the Lakewood Music Boosters.

Berea

continued from page 5

daluna then ran the ball into the end zone with 2:57 left, apparently cutting the lead to 21-13. However, a very late penalty flag negated the play, and the Ranger drive was stopped at the one-yard line. Berea still led 21-7 with 1:33 to go and had the ball.

The Rangers refused to give up. On the very first Berea offensive play, the

Rangers forced a safety, cutting the lead to 21-9 and getting the ball back with 1:28 to play. Lakewood quickly passed its way down the field, and Guzay hit Wooley with a two-yard touchdown pass. The lead was cut to 21-16 with 30 seconds to play. However, the ensuing onside kick was recovered by the Braves, who ran the clock out to win the game.



# Lakewood Pets

## There’s a Diva in the Dog House

by Mike Deneen

Lakewood is home to a growing number of dogs, as well as to a rising number of owners who don’t have the time or energy to groom their four-legged companions. Many owners choose to go to a groomer to have their pets clipped and cleaned. However, even that can be time-consuming. One Lakewood resident has introduced a business that will bring the comfort and convenience of dog grooming right to your door.

Lisa Arstone always thought she wanted to be a veterinarian, but she became a pet groomer instead. “It took me a while to figure out what I wanted to do. I’ve always loved being around animals and children,” she said. Lisa graduated from Xavier University with a degree in Elementary Education. “After being in the classroom I decided teaching wasn’t for me. A light went off when I heard of mobile grooming. What a great way for me to be around animals and work independently!”

In an attempt to help busy pet owners keep their pets looking and feeling

great, Doggie Diva Mobile Pet Grooming offers a pet grooming service that comes to your doorstep. Doggie Diva offers a totally self-contained grooming salon on wheels in the convenience of your driveway. The unit is equipped with a generator, water heater, air conditioner, fresh and gray water tanks and all the conveniences of a regular grooming salon.

“I use all-natural products to avoid the toxic effects that chemicals can have on the skin,” said Lisa. Her products include nourishing botanical extracts for the skin such as chamomile, jojoba oil, tea tree oil and oatmeal. “My Hydro-Massage bathing system penetrates through the dog’s coat to its skin and pulls the dirt out.” During the drying stage, the dog’s undercoat gets blown out, creating a whirlwind of hair. Lisa can see right down to the skin for any ticks, sores or burns, she said. When it’s all said and done, the dog’s skin can breathe, which makes the pet happy and more comfortable.

“Many grooming salons keep your pet in a crate until they are ready to



Lisa Arstone giving this springer spaniel the full diva.

be groomed,” said Lisa. This frightens many animals, some of whom fear they are being abandoned by their owners at a shelter. By contrast, Doggie Diva clients never leave the familiar surroundings of their home. This service allows your pets to be pampered without the nervous emotions that come with being around several animals in an unfamiliar environment. Your pet feels great because it’s already at home.

There are a wide variety of services available. These include luxury hydro-massage bath, use of natural aromatherapy products and botanical pad balm. For more information about Doggie Diva Mobile Pet Grooming service, visit [www.doggiedivagrooming.com](http://www.doggiedivagrooming.com)



### Lakewood Dog Park's Doggy Swim Party

**When:** Tuesday, September 6

**Where:** Foster Pool - Lakewood Park

**Why:** To Benefit The Lakewood Dog Park

**Costs:** \$5.00 for One Dog  
\$8.00 for Two Dogs

**What Else:** Life Guard On Duty

**Dog Owners Are Asked To Bring Their Own Towels**

**For More Information Call:**

**Mike**  
216-226-5536

**Website**  
[www.lakewooddogpark.com](http://www.lakewooddogpark.com)

### 8th Annual Dog Wash to Benefit the Lakewood Animal Shelter

The Citizens Committee for a Lakewood Animal Shelter (CCLAS) will be hosting their 8th Annual Dog Wash on Saturday, September 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Lakewood Animal Shelter.

CCLAS is a non-profit organization that helps support the Lakewood Animal Shelter. Expenses covered by CCLAS include adoption kits, spay/neuter costs, and other incurred by the Shelter.

The Dog Wash is at a new location this year. The event will be held at the Lakewood Masonic Temple on 15300 Detroit Road. The Dog Wash will be set up in the parking lot located on Andrews Avenue, behind the Lakewood Masonic Temple.

In past years, Nature’s Bin has sponsored the event with CCLAS, due to the construction for the store expansion and the construction on Sloane Avenue, Nature’s Bin was unable to host the event. We hope to team up with them again next year.

Prices for the Dog Wash are \$7 for small dogs, \$10 for medium, and \$15 for large. Nail trims are available at an additional \$5. CCLAS asks that patrons bring their own towels.

If you’re interested in volunteering at the event or have any additional questions, please contact the event coordinator, Lisa Ellis, at 216-221-3290 or [lisaellis@ameritech.net](mailto:lisaellis@ameritech.net). Also, visit CCLAS at [www.cclas.org](http://www.cclas.org).

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