

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Lakewood's Only Newspaper And Finest Website – An Official Google News Source

Volume 2, Issue 15, July 25, 2006

Free – Take One!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!

Our Gift To You - Magic in the Wood

Harry and the Potters in Lakewood Park

By Matthew Charboneau and Kenneth Warren

Wednesday, August 16 2006

"It's important to rock and read." This statement, delivered by Joe De George, keyboardist and vocalist for Harry and the Potters, serves as a telling epithet for his Massachusetts-based pop-punk duo. He and older brother Paul, the group's guitarist and vocalist, have spent the last four years recording and playing music based on J.K. Rowling's popular Harry Potter book series. In addition to recording songs about characters and events in the six Potter installments, the band performs live throughout America and the

United Kingdom. Local fans of the fictional teenage wizard will be able to hear the musical incarnation of his adventures when Harry and the Potters perform at the Bandstand at Lakewood Park on Wednesday, August 16 at 6 p.m. thanks to the City of Lakewood, the Lakewood Public Library, the Lakewood Observer, and the Lakewood Jaycees.

The group recently came to the attention of Lakewood Public Library's Andrew Harant, Manager of Children and Youth Services, who jumped at the chance to book Harry and the Potters as part of an end-of-summer event for Lakewood schoolchildren—many of whom participated in the Library's summer reading book club.

"We wanted to make this event a gift to the children and families of Lakewood, and we wanted it to happen in the park," said Kim Senft-Paras, Lakewood Public Library's Deputy Director.

With short notice to organize the event, Paras quickly tapped community partners to make necessary connections.

Shannon Strachan, a trustee for the Lakewood Public Library Foundation, was enlisted as liaison to City Hall to determine the feasibility of holding the event in Lakewood Park.

"I wanted to be involved because of the excitement this event is bringing to the youth and the City of Lakewood. Lakewood is a vibrant

community and events like this highlight what the community can do when we all collaborate on a grass roots level," said Strachan.

Lakewood Observer Publisher Jim O'Bryan signed on as sponsor without hesitation.

"The city of Lakewood and families of Lakewood have worked so hard to make the Lakewood Observer a success that creating some magic in the Wood with Harry and the Potters in Lakewood Park is one of the ways we will say thank you this year," said O'Bryan.

Mayor George provided enthusiastic support and guided the team at City Hall with a can-do spirit of collaboration.

continued on page 4

City Council Approves Project Lightspeed 6-1

**Bryan Wroten
News Reporter**

AT&T Corp.'s Project Lightspeed will move ahead one permit at a time.

Caryn Candinsky, AT&T director of public affairs and media relations, said the company will get to work upgrading its facilities.

The next step in Project Lightspeed following City Council's approval at the July 17 meeting will be working with the city to place the VRADs, or the nodes connecting the fiber optic cables from the central office to the copper telephone wires going into subscriber's homes, she said. Plans call for 43 VRADs around the city, many where AT&T facilities already exist, she said.



"Anytime we build in the right-of-way, we apply for permits," Candinsky said. "If there are any issues that arise, we will work with the administration and the city to hear those concerns. We'll move the boxes (VRADs) if it is an option."

AT&T must apply for a permit for

each VRAD, she said, so the city and the company can discuss concerns over safety and driver's line of sight. She said VRADs could be moved to nearby locations or they could set up fencing or landscaping around the facilities.

The City Council voted 6-1 in favor of Project Lightspeed; Council Vice President Michael Dever was the only one to vote against it. During the Committee of the Whole meeting before the vote, several councilors voted against moving Project Lightspeed to the City Council meeting docket. Dever, Ward 1 Councilman Kevin Butler and Councilman At-Large Edward FitzGerald voted to keep the issue in committee to work out more details.

"I was hoping it would stay in committee," Dever said. "A couple of weeks wouldn't have hurt to iron out the issues."

Dever said he still wants to hear more about placing the VRADs in underground vaults. While engineers from AT&T have told him doing so would be cost prohibitive, he said he thinks their numbers are a bit high.

Butler said he wanted to give more time to this issue to allow for more negotiation.

"I agreed with him (Dever) rather than to rush it through, we should see if we can negotiate these terms," he said.

There was debate in previous meetings about a July 17 deadline for the City Council's vote. It was the last time the council would meet before the summer recess, which lasts a month. AT&T offered \$15,000 to the city to pay for legal fees from the city's legal council, Walter & Haverfield, as an incentive to vote by July 17.

Though he wanted more time to discuss placement of VRADs, Butler said **continued on page 3**

Virginia Marti Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary At The Rock Hall!



Mrs. Virginia Marti Veith with Connie Cibula and a former student Donna Mazarella

In This Issue

Events	2
City Hall	3
Lakewood Library	4
Lakewood Food	5
Buck Stops Here	6
Lakewood Health	7
Lakewood Sports	9
Chef Geoff	10
Minding The Issues	11
Pulse Of The City	12
Lakewood Business	13
Gallery Watch	14
Classified	15

Lakewood Events



29th Annual
*Lakewood Arts
Festival*
Saturday, August 5, 2006
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- 160 artists • musical entertainment
- free admission

**Location: Detroit Avenue
between Belle & Elmwood Avenues**
216-529-6651

St. Luke Hosts Summer Festival

Food, fun, and games galore will highlight this year's Parish Festival at St. Luke Church, located at the corner of Clifton Boulevard and Bunts Road. The festival will be held Friday, July 28 (6-11pm), Saturday, July 29, (5:30-11pm) and Sunday, July 30 (12:30-6pm).

Along with live entertainment and a DJ, there will be games, contests, and inflatables for kids of all ages. Don't miss the fabulous food provided by the Juniper Grille, and a wide selection of beverages to help beat the heat. For more information, contact Tim O'Toole at 216-228-6811.

BIKE LAKEWOOD



Friday, July 28th is Bike to Work Day.

Organized by ClevelandBikes (www.clevelandbikes.org), Cleveland's "Bike to Work Day" is held on the last Friday of every month. Typically, several groups of cyclists meet up at various locations, then bike downtown to A.J. Rocco's near the corner of Prospect and Huron for free coffee, bagels and camaraderie. The Lakewood group leaves from Phoenix (15108 Detroit) at 7:25 AM sharp, with a quick stop at Arabica (116th and Detroit) at 7:50 AM. Typically, Brendan McNamara guides the Lakewood group. Brendan is a dedicated cycling advocate and experienced bike commuter.

So oil your chain, grab your helmet and join us on Friday the 28th for Bike to Work Day. If you've never commuted by bike before, here's a great way to start learning how. Free showers are also available at the Tower City Fitness Center. But it is the opinion of this Observer that sweat doesn't smell. So just take a change of clothes to the office the day before. Ride On!

Grace Lutheran To Hold Vacation Bible School

Grace Lutheran Church, located at 13030 Madison Avenue, will hold their annual Vacation Bible School under the theme: "Jesus Is Our Treasure." The dates for the VBS are July 24-28 from 9-11:00 A.M. and for children 4 years old through 6th grade. The VBS is being co-sponsored by Lakewood Lutheran School located at Lakeland & Detroit in Lakewood.

The chapel at Grace Lutheran will be transformed into a tropical beach/treasure hunt setting. Treasure guides will lead the children from opening to

music to lesson to snack to arts and crafts. Treasure hunts will be featured during each daily session. Snacks will go along with the day's lesson and theme.

The children will also learn about Sri Lanka as the offerings that are received each day will go toward tsunami relief in that island country.

The Lakewood community and vicinity is cordially invited to participate in this year's Vacation Bible School.

For further information, contact the church office at 216-221-4959.

Observer's Observation Deck

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Where Lakewoodites Go To Hang Out And Talk

Topic	Replies	Author	Views	Date
Lakewood Observer TV!	5	Jim O'Bryan	524	Sun Jul 23, 2006 6:00 pm
West Shoreway: even crazier than the Euclid Corridor!	22	DougHuntingdon	683	Mon Jul 24, 2006 4:28 pm
Building/Planning/Mayor - Thank you - Double up on PD	23	Jim O'Bryan	431	Mon Jul 24, 2006 4:19 pm
Is it Time to Raise the Mayor's Salary?	22	Bill Call	406	Mon Jul 24, 2006 4:19 pm
Lakewood's Farmer Market Starts	12	Jim O'Bryan	320	Mon Jul 24, 2006 2:45 pm
3 Birds	28	Bryan Schwegler	607	Mon Jul 24, 2006 9:40 am
From Cocker Park to Lakewood - India Garden	22	Jim O'Bryan	710	Mon Jul 24, 2006 8:14 am
Blackwell forces hard at work in Lakewood	2	Thomas J. George	147	Mon Jul 24, 2006 7:15 am

Become an Observer!

The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 15-100, 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

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

Calendar of Events—To appear on our calendar of events, e-mail: 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

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



Your Independent Source for
Lakewood News & Opinion

The LAKEWOOD OBSERVER is published biweekly by Lakewood Observer, Inc., 14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 309, Lakewood, OH 44107.

216.228.7223

Copyright 2006
Lakewood Observer, Inc.

All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

PUBLISHER
Jim O'Bryan

EDITOR
Heidi Hilty

ADVERTISING
Call 216.228.7223

ADVISORY BOARD CONTRIBUTING
Kenneth Warren WRITERS

Steve Davis Stan Austin
D.L. Meckes Gordun Brumm
Jeff Endress Bob Buckeye

EDITORIAL BOARD Matt Charboneau

Heidi Hilty Bill Davis
Vincent O'Keefe Mike Deneen
Kim Paras Don Farris

Emilia Rhodes Lynn Farris
Casey Ryan Jeff Endress
John Guscott

WEBMASTERS Joe Grimberg
D.L. Meckes Bob Ignizio

Rami Daud Christine A. Kazimer
Dan Ott Ruthie A. Koeningsmark

PRODUCTION Rhonda Loje
Brian Simko D.L. Meckes

PHOTOGRAPHY Anne Palomaki
Rhonda Loje Tom Powell-Bullock

Ivor Karabtkovic Paula Reed
Paul Tepley Gary Rice

Holly Whisman Rita Ryland
Andrea Santi

ILLUSTRATION Natalie Schrimpf
Gary Dumm Holly Whisman
Bryan Wroten

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the publisher and staff.

Lakewood City Hall

A Wrap Before Recess

City Council met on July 17, 2006 for its last meeting before an August recess.

The committee of the whole met at 6 PM to resolve the remaining issues on a proposed agreement with ATT. Council member Michael Dever (at large) still was skeptical about the size, location, and appearance of the equipment boxes needed to house the electronics. Council member Kevin Butler (ward one) wanted reassurance about the investment the city had made with Cox (the current cable provider) for INET and public access channels and equipment. There were no other carry-over issues from the last meeting.

Dever participated in a conference call in which he agreed to the confidentiality of the ATT information about the cost and plans for underground boxes. The purpose was to lay out the engineering facts and dollar figures to show why underground placement of the boxes was not feasible for this technology in a built-out city like Lakewood.

Butler indicated that the question had been answered to his satisfaction.

Council president Robert Seelie (ward three) asked for further comments. Council member Edward Fitzgerald (at large) said that he thought that there were still unresolved issues and delaying the vote by a few weeks might allow them to be addressed.

Council member Mary Louise Madigan (ward four) said, "If we delay this two more weeks, I'm not going to graduate from law school to answer legal questions, and the size of the boxes is not going to change either. I'm voting tonight and I'm voting in favor of it."

On a motion by Seelie and seconded by council member Ryan Demro (ward two) the committee voted four to three to send the ATT proposal to the full council. Dever, Butler, and Fitzgerald voted against.

The regular city council meeting

LightSpeed Project continued from page 1...

his earlier concerns about the loss the city might incur if Cox Communications were to successfully sue under the level playing field provision of its franchise agreement were alleviated by the indemnity provision of the AT&T contract.

In that section, AT&T would pay for the city's defense and any monetary award given to a plaintiff. Butler said he was satisfied when he knew the city would not lose any services.

"All of these services can be quantified in terms of money," he said. "I'm satisfied no judge would permit Cox to stop providing services."

Ward 2 Councilman Ryan Demro said he supported Project Lightspeed because it would be an economic development for the city and lower cable rates in the area. He said he didn't want to delay this issue any more than it had been.

More time was also unnecessary

Stan Austin City Council Reporter

was called to order at 7:44 PM. Reporting out of the actual meeting docket sequence, item four was the ATT proposal. Mayor Thomas George said, "This will be a significant investment in our technical infrastructure that tells prospective new businesses that we have new technology that neighboring cities do not."

Seelie called for the vote. Butler and Fitzgerald agreed to vote for it. The issue passed by a vote of six to one with Dever voting against, passionately repeating his concerns over unsightly boxes and the threat to the city's control over its right of ways. Dever said, "the city should be a leader in this matter and slow things down and work them out before signing a contract."

Returning to the actual docket schedule, council heard a resolution from Madigan and Demro congratulating Max Mueller for his musical achievements in a recent national contest.

Butler and Dever submitted a letter promoting safe bicycle traffic in Lakewood's commercial and residential corridors. Tim Liston, head of the newly formed BikeLakewood group, explained some of the group's goals. David Shaw, president of Lakewood Community Progress, Inc. pledged that group's support for bike racks in the downtown business district. Mayor George emphasized, "The administration is very anxious to be working with the biking community."

In the next docket item, Demro reported on a public meeting he led to air concerns about the condition of Lakewood's parks. Unpleasant, vulgar, and threatening behavior from teenagers was cited as well as physical park conditions. Resident Daren Thoms summarized unsuccessful efforts to deal with young people at Kaufmann Park. Another neighbor suggested that vigilantism was the next step if the city wouldn't step in.

Matt Voicik, longtime employee

for Ward 4 Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan. During the committee meeting, she said another two weeks would not affect her decision. She said she felt confident with all of the advice the law department and outside counsel provided.

"I think Lakewood residents want a choice with their cable and they want to save their money," she said.

There is no set date for Project Lightspeed to rollout in Lakewood, Candinsky said, but she said Lakewood will receive services as soon as possible. Because Lakewood is one of the first communities in Ohio to approve Project Lightspeed, Candinsky said Lakewood will receive services ahead of other cities.

Christy Frederick, Cox director of public relations and governmental affairs, said Cox will petition the City Council to renegotiate parts of its franchise agreement in September when council resumes.

of the Parks Department, explained his constant efforts to remove graffiti from the parks, saying, "I try to get the graffiti off in two hours."

Public Works Director Tony Beno voiced concern about lack of formal notification of the meeting. He emphasized his availability by encouraging people to call the parks department with complaints.

Demro wanted this report referred to the ad hoc Youth and Recreation sub-committee, which he chairs with Butler. After expressing reservations about that referral due to confusion over meeting notifications, Seelie agreed to the referral.

Gold Coast residents representing condominium associations expressed dissatisfaction with police response to crime in their area claiming that detectives disregarded videotape of a burglar taken by building cameras.

Police Chief Malley dispatched himself to a corner of the room to hear these complaints.

Butler then asked to be recognized and questioned Planning Director Thomas Jordan about putting an item on the Planning Commission docket. Butler and council passed a resolution requesting the commission study the status of the Hall House which was under threat

of demolition. That request was never put on the docket and Butler felt that Jordan did not allow it to go on.

Madigan added that this problem of procedure concerned her, too. Seelie indicated that this was part of a larger problem of the working relationship between council and the administration, which is being studied by a Cleveland State consultant.

One of the last docket items was a letter from Police Chief Malley to accept a thermal imaging camera from a grant award. A similar piece of equipment enabled Shep, one of the department's two police dogs, to nab a suspect.

Early Saturday morning on July 8, dispatchers received a call from Westlake about a stolen car, which was proceeding on I-90 through Rocky River. Lakewood Police were waiting at the McKinley exit. The suspect car stopped around Carabel and the driver "bailed." Five Lakewood cars responded and formed a perimeter. An officer asked for the thermal imaging equipment. The desk captain asked if they wanted a police dog. "Call in Shep," was the reply. A vigorous half-hour yard search ensued. Finally the report, "Shep got him!"

Over the radio, Shep enthusiastically barked in his report. The high tech equipment can help Shep and Arco do their jobs.

Now that's a happy family.



FAMILIES TALK FREE

FamilyTime®
 Unlimited In-Network calling
 Unlimited nights and weekends
 National long distance and roaming included

1000 National Shared WHENEVER Minut@s
\$69.99 a month for first 2 lines
 Up to 3 additional lines just \$9.99 each

Special Offer
 \$59.99 after \$50 mail-in rebate and \$100 instant rebate
 Samsung t509
 MSRP \$199.99



Limited time offer. Expires August 15, 2006. New activation required. Rate plan offer requires minimum 1-year agreement. Phone offer requires 2-year agreement and activation per line of service for each phone. Taxes and fees not included.

T-Mobile®

We are open Monday through Saturday from 10am until 9pm and on Sundays from noon until 5pm.

Ask us how T-Mobile can help you

TAKE CONTROL of your monthly phonebills!

Stay connected to the people that mean the most with T-Mobile! Come to your Lakewood store and see just how easy staying connected really can be.

Limited time offer subject to change. **CREDIT APPROVAL/ADDITIONAL COSTS:** Does not apply to pre-paid. Credit approval and \$35/line activation fee required; \$200/line early cancellation fee applies. Regulatory Programs Fee (not a tax or government-mandated charge) of 86¢ per line/mo. applies; additional taxes and fees may add 6-28 % to your monthly bill. Minutes over monthly allotment are 35¢ per additional minute. Partial minutes are rounded up for billing. **SERVICE COVERAGE/IN-NETWORK CALLING:** Service is not available everywhere. In-network calling means directly dialed calls that are between T-Mobile phones and that are transmitted by cell towers located within the "in-network calling area". In-network calling area includes most, but not all, of the T-Mobile service area. For full details, see Coverage Maps available at www.t-mobile.com or at a T-Mobile store. **ABNORMAL CALL PATTERNS:** Call duration and/or your continued eligibility for any rate plan may be limited or terminated for (a) consumer protection purposes or (b) abusive conduct or abnormal call patterns. **NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS:** Weekends are 12:00 a.m. Saturday to 11:59:59 p.m. Sunday, based upon start time of call. Nights are 12:00:01

Lakewood

14875 Detroit Ave
 In the Plaza at the corner of
 Detroit Ave and Warren Rd
 or call us at 216-221-4092

a.m. to 6:59:59 a.m. and 9:00:00 p.m. to 11:59:59 p.m., Monday through Friday, based upon start time of call. **MAIL-IN and INSTANT REBATE OFFER:** Samsung t509 mail-in rebate offer expires 07/31/06. Samsung t509 instant rebate offer expires 08/15/2006. Limited to phone shown; Supplies may be limited and offer may not be available at all dealer locations. T-Mobile reserves the right to substitute different phone models of equal or greater value. Customer must remain on a qualifying T-Mobile rate plan at the time rebate is actually processed. Allow up to 8 weeks for mail-in rebate check. See mail-in rebate form for full details. See T-Mobile's Terms and Conditions (including mandatory arbitration), available at www.t-mobile.com for additional information on cancellation policy, international long-distance, roaming and messaging rates, and this offer and other rate plans, and/or contact T-Mobile Customer Care, at 1-800-937-8997, with questions concerning any T-Mobile offer or rate plan. T-Mobile is a federally registered trademark, and the magenta color is a trademark of Deutsche Telekom AG. Whenever Minutes, FamilyTime and Get More are federally registered trademarks of T-Mobile USA, Inc. © 2006 T-Mobile USA, Inc.

Lakewood Public Library

Harry and the Potters in Lakewood Park

continued from page 1...

"This is another great example of Lakewood's institutions working together to serve the youth of the city and the young at heart," said George.

Events like Harry and the Potters in Lakewood Park are not only fun, but demonstrate to the community and the world, Lakewood's distinctive capacity for institutional alignment.

Lakewood's extraordinary alignment of institutions is exactly the capacity that helped the city obtain the support of the National League of Cities and MetLife Foundation for the Lakewood Youth Master Plan.

The Lakewood Jaycees, whose President Shawn Juris is the chairman of the Lakewood Youth Master Plan Blue Ribbon Task Force, pledged his organization's efforts to the event.

Lakewood's nimble and robust alignment of institutions, so clearly evident in the Harry and Potters in Lakewood Park collaboration, speaks to a successful economic development strategy as well.

"The ability of cities to compete in the national and global economy depends on how effective they are in building good attributes and competencies of young people," said Leon T. Andrews, Jr. Program Director, Youth Development, for the National League of Cities Institute for Youth, Education, and Families.

With all support needed to bring Harry and the Potters to Lakewood, Harant encourages families to make a day of it in Lakewood Park, enjoying picnics, swimming and the evening concert on the Bandstand.

Harry and the Potters' two

brothers—who both somewhat resemble the wispy-haired wizard—don matching Hogwarts-style school sweaters and ties when they perform live. Harant also encourages concertgoers to dress up as their favorite character from the Harry Potter series, noting that CDs, concert posters and other prizes donated by the Lakewood Early Childhood PTA will be raffled off to those who participate in the costume event.

When the group visits Lakewood in mid-August it will be on the last leg of a forty five day tour that takes them from Boston, all the way to the West Coast and back east again. The band most frequently performs in such

traditionally non-rock n' roll venues as public libraries, university book stores, Borders Books and Music and even doughnut shops. In New York City for example, the group will play a matinee show at the New York Public Library then an early evening set at the Knitting Factory: a NYC venue that typically hosts experimental and avant-garde rock and jazz acts.

Never a group to ignore the literary nutrition of their teenage fans, Harry and the Potters will perform at nearly two dozen different public libraries within six weeks this summer, dubbing their journey the Summer Reading and Rocking Tour 2006. It might be safe to assume that no other touring rock

band has gone so far as to create reading assignments for its fans; Harry and the Potters have posted a Summer Reading List '06 on their website, encouraging fans to read one of the selections, write a report and bring it to the concert to receive Harry and the Potters prizes and memorabilia. The authors that appear on the brothers' Reading List range from Madeline L'Engle to Kurt Vonnegut to more recent author Dave Eggers.

With or without book report in-hand, fans of the Harry Potter dynasty should head down to Lakewood Park August 16th to revel in the musical versions of the J.K. Rowling tales, and also enjoy a summer celebration.

Harry and the Potters
Summer Reading & Rocking Tour 2006

LIVE AT THE LAKEWOOD PARK BANDSHELL
with opening act Draco and the Malfoys
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2006 at 6:00 P.M.
REFRESHMENTS - COSTUME CONTEST - PRIZES
Our gift to you: The Lakewood Library, The Lakewood Observer,
The City of Lakewood and COX Communications

FAMILY PICNIC & FREE CONCERT!

Lakewood Public Library Events Calendar

Tuesday, July 25

JOB HUNTING ON THE INTERNET

This hands-on tour of career-related sites will show you how to find a job using the Internet. Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. For more information, visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

Wednesday, July 26

INTRODUCTION TO POWERPOINT

Learn to enhance your presentations and reports with this popular software. Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. For more information, visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

Saturday, July 29

E-MAIL BASICS

It's not too late to join the e-mail revolution. Keep in touch with friends and family. Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. For more information, visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

Sunday, July 30

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS

Will Cheshier makes Jazz, Pop, Funk and more collide in this riveting acoustic performance. 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, August 5

FRIENDS SUMMER BOOK SALE AT MAIN LIBRARY

Join the Friends of Lakewood Public Library for this special one-day book sale held the same day as the Lakewood History Walk and the annual Lakewood Arts Festival. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 5 (cont'd)

LAKEWOOD HISTORY WALK -- The Emerald Canyon

10 km (6.2 mi) with 5 km (3.1) alternate route. The walk is rated easy and is primarily on city sidewalks and Metroparks walking trails. Trail is suitable for strollers and wheelchairs. Written directions and map will be provided. Water and restroom facilities available at start and in the Metroparks. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Main Library

WORD PROCESSING BASICS

Find out for yourself why everybody is getting rid of their typewriters. Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127. For more information, visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

SATURDAY NIGHT VARIETY -- MORE TALENTED KIDS

Young local talents take the stage.. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, August 6

SUNDAY WITH THE FRIENDS

Bill Schilling brings out his collection of both folk-style songs and Instruments for an afternoon of memories. 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

ANIME CLUB

We're back for a new season of Anime theatre and fun with classic and new-release Japanese animation like Irresponsible Captain Tylor, Black Heaven, El-Hazard, Magic Users Club, Bubblegum Crisis, Generator Gawl and more. We'll have trivia and music competitions, too! 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

For more information on upcoming library events, please visit us at <http://www.lkwdpl.org>.

Lakewood Food

Lakewood Observer

Gourmet Food Security Network Holds Harvest Soiree

By Kenneth Warren

Lakewood Observers committed to the model of community supported agriculture (CSA), the taste of fresh gourmet vegetables, good times in Lakewood together and support for local business organized the LO Gourmet Food Security Network and held the First Harvest Soiree at bela dubby on July 13.

In a generous commitment to sustainable agriculture and experiential community building in third places, John Crino, owner of bela dubby, is providing a space for delivery, while hosting weekly Harvest Soirees for the LO Gourmet Food Security Network.

The Harvest Soiree brought the membership together for the first time in a birthday celebration of fresh veg-

etables delivered by Covered Bridge Gardens in Jefferson, Ohio and Lakewood's neighborhood culture fostered through the Lakewood Observer and bela dubby.

Launched on the birthday of Kim Senft-Paras, one of the group's key organizers, the LO Gourmet Food Security Network developed from Holly Whitson's article on Community Supported Agriculture published last summer in the Lakewood Observer.

Holly Whitson's compelling article raised the consciousness of several Lakewood Observers who realized ethical choices in food consumption needed to be made and that sustainable practices between the urban dweller and farmer hinged on mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of local food production.



A small part of the first group to pick up at bela dubby.

Impressed with the idea of Community Supported Agriculture, Lakewood Observers conversed with Holly about taking practical steps to identify a local farm in order to build a network of Lakewood Observers pledged to support its operation so that farmland could become connected with our community.

After some research, Holly identified Covered Bridge Gardens in Jefferson as a worthy local agricultural enterprise that would offer a CSA and delivery of crops to Lakewood.

Members of the LO Gourmet Food Security Network provided the farmer with working capital in advance, while gaining the satisfaction of knowing that the grower will receive a better price for the crops, gain a measure of financial security, as well as getting some relief from the time-consuming chores of marketing and selling at farmer's markets.

At the First Harvest Soiree, members enjoyed munching on bee pollen, snap peas, radish leaves and carrot

cake. Organic eggs and micro brews were also on hand.

Chef Geoff inspected the gourmet produce.

"The onions were superb. And the basil was heavenly," said Chef Geoff.

Jan Henderson provided a recipe for Sautéed Radish and Radish Greens.

Covered Bridge Gardens provided a recipe for pesto.

"We made pesto - according to their recipe and it was incredible. The whole family loved it," says Lynne Farris, who attended the First Harvest Soiree with her husband Don.

LO Gourmet Food Security Network are planning a day trip to Covered Bridge Farm later in the season.

Next year, the goal is enlistment of 50 members in the LO Gourmet Food Security Network with commitments to the Covered Bridge Farm CSA program.

If you are interested in joining the LO Gourmet Food Security Network, stop by the Harvest Soiree held at bela dubby on Thursdays around six p.m.



Photo by Holly Cooper Whisman

Observers that are partying over Food Security and a bond with farmers in the region. From left to right; Kim Senft-Paras, Dan Slife, Ken Warren, Steve Hoffert, Jim O'Bryan, Dottie Buckon, and Julie McClain.

Lakewood Farmers Market Opened July 19

By Bill Davis

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Masonic Temple Parking Lot, 15300 Detroit Avenue. The Farmers Market is being relocated to the Masonic Temple Parking lot due to the construction going on in the area. The Market will operate every Wednesday through October 4th between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 pm.

The Lakewood Farmers Market returned to town Wednesday, July 19, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Market will continue on a weekly basis every Wednesday through October 5. Located adjacent to Kauffman Park, across from the Main Branch of the Library, there is plenty of free parking in the lot behind Drug Mart. The market is operated by the North Union Farmers Market.

Available are fresh tomatoes, corn, potatoes, salad greens, exotic mushrooms and other assorted vegetables. Local fruits including peaches, berries and apples appear as the season allows. Baked goods, jellies, jams, honey and salsas, produced by local kitchens, are available for purchase. Another favorite item is fresh-cut flowers at very reasonable prices.

Guest chefs will conduct cooking demonstrations, using ingredients chosen from the market's stands that day. Learn new recipes for local produce and get free samples too.

The North Union Farmers Market (NUFM) operates authentic producers-only farmers markets around Northeast Ohio in order to educate the public about the benefits of eating locally grown food.

NUFM is a not-for-profit organization, co-founded in 1995 by Market Manager Donita Anderson with the opening of the Shaker Square market in Cleveland. On the first day there were six farmers who sold out in half an hour.

From that beginning, NUFM has expanded to four other markets in Lakewood, Parma, Olmsted Falls and Westlake. It now includes over



Mainstreet's Jennifer Hooper check out the fresh produce on opening day.

87 regional farmers and many local artisans who participate throughout the season and boasts foot traffic of over 2,000 at the Saturday Shaker Square location.

For more information about

NUFM, contact:
North Union Farmers Market
P.O. Box 201074
Cleveland, OH 44120
e-mail: northunionfarmersmarket@yahoo.com

Lakewood Film

Local Film Group Brings Tinsel To Our Town

By Andrea Santi

Lights....Cameras.....Action! Lakewood has come into the spotlight of the film world with the appearance of MilRoy Pictures, an independent film company based right here in our hometown. Producer Robert Swanson is using the colorful streets and businesses of this fair city to make his filmmaking dreams a reality.

With a passion for movies dating back to his childhood days, Swanson recalls spending many afternoons at the Saturday Matinees held in the celluloid castle we know as the Detroit Theater. Here the seed was planted. Following high school, Swanson embarked on a sales career, but realized in his late 20's that motion pictures were his true calling.

Thirsting for knowledge, Swanson entered college where he focused on theater, theater appreciation, acting and filmmaking, eventually earning a degree in the Performing Arts. Upon graduation, New York City and Los Angeles were his homes for several years while he acted in stage productions and worked diligently on two independent film crews, thus rounding out his education.

Quick to realize that "everyone" was making low-budget pictures in New York and L.A., Swanson has-tened back to his home town where

he put together a troupe of ensemble actors and formed MilRoy Pictures (named after his parents, Mildred and Roy). Shooting six full length motion pictures, Swanson utilized his cast much like other "off-Hollywood" producers such as Roger Corman, Ray Dennis Steckler, Jim Jarmusch and Ed Wood.

"There is an abundance of talent in Cleveland, and I'm proud to say that 70% of the performers in my films are Lakewoodites," says Swanson.

"I'm so impressed with the desire and capabilities of my wonderful cast and crew that I could not imagine looking elsewhere."

Casting his actors carefully,

Swanson has a genuine feel for who will be right for the part, and it's fun seeing familiar faces recur in his films: people like Suzy Milano, James Boyle,

Lance Morris, Jim Smith and countless other Lakewood residents who work with Swanson when their "day" jobs aren't occupying their hours.

Local merchants have also been very gracious to Swanson, lending their stores, restaurants, apartment buildings and homes for "on location" shoots.

Swanson even blocked off a section of Madison Avenue one Sunday morning (with the aid of Lakewood Police) to recreate a 1940's street scene for his production of 'The Black Valise',

a semi-factual account of a spy ring that operated from New York City to Cleveland and the theft of secret A-Bomb plans. Our streets were lined with antique cars provided by the late Steve Martin (of Martin's Auto Body) and his friends. Extras were dressed to the hilt in 1940's attire, strolling up and down Madison during a sequence centering on a barber shop (provided by Lakewoodite Sam Bellino).

"I don't believe in using sets," Swanson says. "For the audience to live an adventure, I feel it's a requisite on my part to nurture them with actual locations."

Another key factor in Swanson's unusual filmmaking approach is that he truly cares about the art form of the productions, not fantasizing about how much money they'll earn. Shooting his films for pennies on the "Hollywood" dollar, he makes them available to movie fanatics at a reasonable price. All films are available on DVD for just \$13, and this price includes shipping & handling. To view the line-up, check out his PULP CINEMA website and online store at www.milroypictures.com. Or send \$1 for a catalog to:

MilRoy Pictures
14837 Detroit Avenue #107
Lakewood, Ohio 44107.



The Buck Stops Here

The Rosebud We Utter

By Robert Buckeye

"Time arced over us, all those years, and seemed to enfold us in its arms." —Alicia Metcalf Miller.

At the end of Alicia Miller's novel, *My Life on Mars*, about a city on Lake Erie shore, much like Lakewood, Eliza, a successful writer and illustrator of children's books, returns home to help her mother sell the family home and pack before she returns to Santa Fe with her mother. Her mother asks her to sketch the house before she goes, since she has no photographs, and Eliza finds herself drawing the house, not as it is now in winter, but as she wants to remember it. "The trees around it became leafy, not barren as they actually were; ivy surrounded their trunks the way it did in the summer....I wasn't a camera. This was the way the house begged to be remembered."

This is not the only story. If we remember the past we want — construct it so it is the story we tell — there is also a past that flashes up in front of us at unexpected moments, whether we want it to or not, that we cannot escape and whose truth may not become clear for years, if ever. The last word Citizen Kane says in Orson Welles's great film is "Rosebud," the name of his childhood sled. Such illumination is crucial, because it comes back so forcefully, however we under-

stand it.

I can't say I understood — or even understand — my youth in Lakewood. It was not until I went to college and roomed with a prep school graduate that I understood that Lakewood classmates who went to summer camp had a different life than I did; that we came from different backgrounds. I had never been out of state until the track team went to Wheeling, West Virginia for a meet my senior year.

The playground in my neighborhood was the street. One day I broke free, caught a pass in full stride, and raced for the fifth house from the corner, which was the end zone, only to be blind-sided. I had run full speed into a car. The memory does not fade, and part of my understanding of the street has to do with that sudden, excruciating pain.

At Harding, I was told by a teacher to ignore some test scores. They must be wrong, because no one from my neighborhood ever scored that high. "The talking heads are talking," Joan Jett sings. "Listen to what they say. How to sit in judgment." I didn't. It is only now that I am able to appreciate that my test scores would always be wrong, and I wanted it that way. I

never learned to listen to what they say.

I understood nothing about love, but the taste of my first love's lips against mine in high school would remain the promise I returned to each time I was in love.

Some years back, I contacted an artist, a graduate of Middlebury College, to include work of his in an exhibit at the college I curated. He was a well-

known artist and had been selected to represent America at the 1999 Venice Biennale. When he called back, his first question was not about the exhibit or what work of his I was interested in, but whether I remembered him as a student in a class of mine. I did not anticipate the question. Our past has its way of surprising us and changes what it is. The rosebud we utter at the end of our lives has a long history, and even when there is no time left, we're still trying to understand.

blend the fruit, pulse, pulse
shake it up, pour it on ice
Fresh squeezed lemonade
—A Phoenix Haiku

We blend fresh fruit smoothies
We blend fresh coffee smoothies

15108 Detroit Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 216.226.4401

Lakewood Observer

Lakewood House and Garden Tour

Article and Photo By Rhonda Loje

Mark your calendars now for the Lakewood Historical Society's Biennial House Tour. This year's tour will be held on Sunday, September 10 from 1-6pm. Our long awaited tour not only provides the society with a major source of funds, but also gives us the opportunity to showcase the wonderful variety of homes in our community. The homes are chosen from community nominations and are sure to be favorites!

This year's Come Home to Lakewood tour features seven historically or architecturally significant Lakewood residences, one prominent community building and the Nicholson House. The proceeds will help maintain the society's Oldest Stone House Museum and Nicholson House

A highlight of the tour is a three-story Georgian Lake Avenue home designed by renowned architect Clarence Mack. Mack designed, built and furnished upper middle class housing in Cleveland's emerging suburbs of Lakewood, Shaker Heights and Rocky River. Mack built 19 homes in Lakewood during a five year period. Built in 1925, this house was first owned by James W. Fraser, who worked at Bituminous Construction. The cur-



rent owner has re-designed the interior of the home in a dramatic contemporary style.

The Patron Party will be held Saturday, September 9th from 6 - 9 p.m. in an elegant brick Tudor with tranquil lake views. Patron Party tickets are \$100 for a Golden Sponsor or \$75 for a regular attendee. Both include a tour ticket. You may purchase these tickets by contacting the Oldest Stone House at 216-221-7343 or www.lakewoodhistory.net.

Advance sale tickets for the House

Tour are \$15.00 and will be available beginning August 1st. Tickets may be purchased by mail, at the Oldest Stone House or at the retail outlets listed below. Tickets will also be sold at the Historical Society's booth at the Lakewood Arts Festival on August 5th. A limited number of tickets may be available the day of the tour for \$20 at the Nicholson House. For more tour and benefit information, contact the Oldest Stone House at 216 221-7343 or www.lakewoodhistory.org

- Beck Center for the Arts**
17801 Detroit Avenue
- Borders**
Promenade of Westlake
30121 Detroit Avenue
- First Federal of Lakewood**
14806 Detroit Avenue
- Geiger's Clothing & Sports**
14710 Detroit Avenue
- Geiger's Store for Women**
19126 Old Detroit Road
- Local Girl Gallery**
16106 Detroit Avenue
- Rozi's Wine House**
14900 Detroit Avenue
- V Regalo/The Desk Set**
19315 Detroit Avenue

Tony Beno And Crew To The Rescue!



Last week the flower baskets for LCPI's Mainstreet Program were hung from sturdy hooks for all to see and enjoy. Almost instantly there were problems when Davy Tree Service of North Royalton could not find the time to come in and water the plants. No problem, Tony Beno and his crew jumped in and created all the tools necessary to water flowers 16' in the air. "Jim, it was never a problem, we were more than too happy to help out where we can when needed," said Tony.

ATTORNEY ROGER STEARNS

- PERSONAL INJURY
- BANKRUPTCY
- CRIMINAL
- DIVORCE

FREE CONSULTATION
1387 Marlowe Ave, Lakewood

216 521-0200
a debt relief agency

AROUND THE CORNER

The Patio is Now
OPEN! 

Great Food, Wings, & Fish Frys!

MONDAYS 2-4-1 Burgers 

OPEN FOR LUNCH

Breakfast Brunch
Saturday 11-2
Sunday 9:30-2

18616-20 Detroit, Lakewood
216-521-4413

Bank On Your Community!


FIRST FEDERAL LAKEWOOD
We've Been Here. We'll Be Here.

216.529.2700 **FFL.net**

 **\$4.00 FREE** drycleaning or laundry no strings attached

Society Dry Cleaners is proud to offer a drycleaning service second to none. Casual clothes stay bright, keep their shape and fit better, longer, when cleaned in our gentle system. Maintaining the look and feel of your clothing investment is our primary concern. We combine clean natural solvents and professional training, to provide the premium care your clothes deserve.

216-521-6226

13415 Detroit Rd. Lakewood, OH 44107
Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30 am - 6:30 pm • Sat 7:30 am - 5 pm

- Same Day Service
- Drycleaning & Laundry
- Leather & Suede
- Alterations & Repairs
- Gown Preservation
- Linens & Tablecloths
- Fur Cleaning & Storage
- Drapery Pleating
- Comforters & Bedspreads

* Please present this ad with incoming order. Not valid with any other offer. Expires Aug.15, 2006

Lakewood Health News

Lakewood Hospital Foundation

Celebrates 50 Years Of Giving To Lakewood Hospital

By Kris Griesmar

On Thursday, July 13th, longtime, dedicated friends and donors came together to celebrate Lakewood Hospital Foundation's 50 Years of Giving to Lakewood Hospital.

Lakewood Hospital Foundation was founded in 1956 for the encouragement and administration of gifts, grants and bequests to the hospital; a mission that became successful even beyond the fondest hopes of its founders. For generations, community leaders have translated their philanthropic spirit and dedication into activities that encouraged area residents and businesses to give generously, resulting in millions of dollars for Lakewood Hospital. Community support provides the hospital a valuable financial base and is directed toward initiatives such as free and subsidized care for the most vulnerable community members, new programs, education, leading-edge equipment and capital expansion.

Among the most noticeable enhancements funded by the Foundation efforts are: SeniorCare Program, Community Health Center, Teen Health Center, The Heart Center/Cardiac Care, Surgery, Educational and Scholarship Funds, Health Education Resource Center, new and expanded Emergency Department facilities, Employee Care Fund, acquisition of

state-of-the-art technology, extensive interior and exterior remodeling, and countless additional enhancements of Lakewood Hospital's facilities, technological capabilities and services.

Today and beyond, philanthropy will play an even greater role at Lakewood Hospital. As the cost of new technologies continue to rise and reimbursements decline, the financial strain of providing quality health care has become an even greater challenge. Gifts to the Foundation impact people's health and touch their lives.

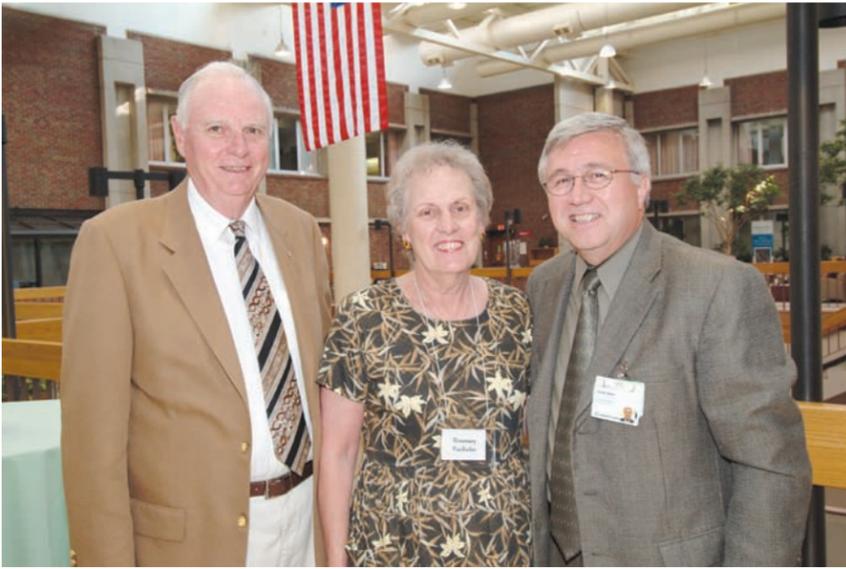
As a part of the celebration, a new donor wall was unveiled. Located in the hospital's recently renovated lobby area, the donor wall is a permanent tribute to those who, by their generous support and interest, have or will help to advance patient care at Lakewood Hospital. To acknowledge Lakewood Hospital's deep appreciation of its donors, gifts are recognized according to donor categories that include lifetime, annual, and deferred giving, as well as employee and special gifts. The donor wall will be an ongoing recognition of giving and will be updated yearly with future donations. It is just one way in which the Lakewood Hospital Foundation works to recognize its many supporters, as philanthropy is a vital ingredient in the formula that has made Lakewood Hospital the high-quality institution it is today.



Lakewood Hospital Foundation Trustees Chas Geiger & Joe Gibbons



Dr. Duret Smith- Lakewood Hospital medical staff; Jack Gustin- Lakewood Hospital CAO; & Michele Thoman- Vice President- Chief Nursing Officer, Vice President Patient Care Services



Larry Faulhaber- Lakewood Hospital Foundation Trustee with along wife Rosemary & Jim Rowe- Vice President of Operation, Lakewood Hospital.



NA

Nickels & Andrade
Funeral Home

'Committed To Caring'

Fred G. Nickels
John C. Andrade
Nancy J. Andrade

14500 Madison Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
(216)221-7800



**FOURTH ANNUAL
LAKEWOOD
HISTORY WALK
EMERALD
CANYON**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2006

**SEE SOME OF LAKEWOOD'S MOST
SPECTACULAR SCENERY!**

- ◆ Infamous taverns and scintillating entertainment
 - ◆ Murder among Wagar descendents
 - ◆ Lakewood's sanitarium for dropsy
 - ◆ How one man created the Metroparks

You can start anytime between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
We ask that you finish no later than 4 p.m.
The full route is 10 km (6.2 miles); an alternate route is 5 km (3.1 miles).
It is an easy walk on sidewalks suitable for strollers and wheelchairs.
Restrooms and water are available at the start of the walk.

Registration is free and all are welcome to participate.
<http://www.lkwdpl.org/paths/historywalk/>

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

You can stroll through other parts of Lakewood reading even more interesting tidbits anytime you want. Just ask at the Technology Center for a copy of any of the first three History Walks - including Birdtown Trail and Clifton Park.

Lakewood Sports

Major Fun In The Minor Leagues

By Mike Deneen

Living in Lakewood, many of us take for granted having Major League Baseball nearby. We grew up cheering on the Cleveland Indians, either down at the old Stadium or at Jacobs Field. Even during the 1970s and 80s, with many losing seasons and small crowds, we enjoyed the fact that we had Major League Baseball. Even though the Indians' talent often resembled a minor league team, we looked down at smaller towns like Toledo and Buffalo that lacked our "big league" status.

A decade ago, minor league baseball was unfamiliar to greater Clevelanders. Our only exposure to the minors was through films like "Bull Durham". For many of us big league fans, the term "minor league" conjured images of hungry ballplayers riding old buses from one hick town to another. We considered it nothing more than has-been or never-were ballplayers playing in broken down, empty stadiums.

However, a recent arrival to the Cleveland sports scene has changed a lot of minds. The Lake County Captains began play in Eastlake in 2003, and have built a large fan following throughout Greater Cleveland. With affordable tickets, in-game contests and lots of creative giveaway promotions, the new franchise has become the preferred local professional baseball team of many fans.

The Captains play their home games at Classic Park, located just off Route 2 in Eastlake. Unlike minor league parks of yesteryear, this stadium offers all the amenities found at major league parks; plenty of concessions, a wide, clean concourse and even an inflatable game



Councilman Mike Dever and family enjoy last year's Chamber outing.

area for the kids. Even better, every one of the over 7,000 seats offers a close-up, unobstructed view of the field.

The Captains' success reflects the national renaissance of minor league baseball. Attendance at minor league stadiums has skyrocketed over the past 15 years. Many factors have contributed to the trend. Perhaps most importantly, minor league ticket prices are a fraction of their major league counterparts. Top tickets for minor league teams are still less than \$10, as compared to tickets well over \$50 in the majors. For a family of four, a trip to a major league stadium can easily run into hundreds of dollars, especially when considering concession prices, parking and souvenirs.

Second, minor league organi-

zations have adopted a fan-friendly attitude. This means lots of giveaway promotions, fireworks shows and in-game contests. These promotions were the brainchild of former Major League owner Bill Veeck, who introduced the idea that "ballparks should be happy places". Veeck's attitude lives on through his son, Mike Veeck, who currently owns some minor league teams. In the minors, virtually every game features some sort of promotion. These range from traditional giveaway items such as baseballs and caps to theme nights such as "Bring Your Dog Night" or "70s Night". The gimmickry continues during the game as well. For example, the Captains have a nightly "designated strikeout" contest. Each game, one

member of the opposing team is named the "designated strikeout" batter. If that player strikes out during the game, everyone in the crowd wins a free White Castle hamburger. (Sure, the burger isn't worth much, but the fans take to its feet whenever that guy gets to two strikes.) Not surprisingly, major league teams such as the Indians have greatly increased their number of promotions in recent years, following the trend set in the minors.

In addition to the above reasons, many fans attend Captains games so that they can see future Indians players in action. The Captains are a "Single-A" affiliate of the Cleveland Indians. That means that young potential Indians players are assigned to play for the Captains. If the player performs well, he can be promoted to a higher affiliate such as the "Double-A" Akron Aeros. From Akron, players can be promoted directly to the Indians or to the "Triple-A" team in Buffalo, New York.

Unlike the majors, the minor league baseball season ends around Labor Day. That means you still have a few weeks left to check out the Captains. Don't forget that Thursday, August 11th will be "Lakewood Day" at Classic Ball Park. Lakewood-themed festivities include a pre-game parade by all the kids in Lakewood Rec's summer programs. In addition, Mayor George will throw out the first pitch, Lakewood resident Susan Wagner will sing the national anthem and Boy Scout Group 115 will serve as Color Guard. It will also be Fireworks Night. For ticket information, contact the Lakewood Observer at 216.228.7223. For more information on the Captains, visit their website www.captainsbaseball.com

Another Reason To Love Lakewood!
 Voted Best...Pizza, Ribb, Wings, Happy Hour and Sports Pub...Thank You!
We Deliver: 216-529-1400
17103 Detroit Ave. Beautiful Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Chef Geoff

Happy Birthday, Julia

By Jeff Endress

It never ceases to amaze me the profound impact that people we have never met, or only met in passing, can have on our lives. I'm not speaking of political office holders whose mandates impact our finances and every manner of our lives, but rather the person whose message hits a deep resonance within our being and brings about some change in our lives. Many of us have read a book, heard a speaker or listened to a musical performance that has caused some epiphany within, an awakening that causes us to take a different path. Though it is unlikely that we will ever have the opportunity to meet the person who has had the impact, the reality of the effect remains. Some refer to such influences as their Muse. They provide us with inspiration.

I have always enjoyed eating and food. Some people eat to live, while others live to eat, a category into which I, without question, fall. It was my mother who instilled in me an interest in cooking, but it was another woman who inspired me to take my interest to a higher level. In the days before cable and satellite, before hundreds of channels (some in HDTV!), before the Food Network, the Cooking Channel or HGTV, there were only a few options, unlike today's veritable smorgasbord. Now you can get cooking 24/7, Iron Chef to Mario Batali, from "Food Unwrapped" to Rachel Rae. I certainly enjoy watching some of these programs; indeed I was quite excited when a chance to meet Rachel face to face, perhaps dinner, almost came to fruition as a part of her 2005 book tour. But as entertaining as the new cooking shows may be, their stars are certainly not pioneers. In the old pre-cable days, you had only the major three networks, maybe a UHF channel or two and PBS. And there were precious few brave souls in those days that served as culinary pioneers, with short spots on local talk shows or full-blown productions on PBS. There was Graham Kerr, the "Galloping Gourmet", wine glass at the ready. Later there was Jeff Smith, "the frugal gourmet," and Justin Wilson with his Cajun "gare rohn tee." But first there was Julia. No last name needed.

Julia Child was born August 15, 1912, Julia Carolyn McWilliams. While her youth and young adult years are certainly interesting, the event that led to her influence in my life occurred well before my birth. In 1944, when as an employee of the OSS, she was posted to Sri Lanka (then Ceylon), where she met her future husband Paul Child. After their 1946 marriage, Paul, an employee of the U.S. Foreign Service, was posted to Paris as an exhibits officer with the United States Information Agency in 1948. While in Paris Julia attended Le Cordon Bleu and studied with notable French Chefs. In 1951, Child, in collaboration with Simone Beck and Louisette Bertholle, began work on a French Cookbook designed for Americans. Ten years later, Alford

English Muffins (Adapted From Julia Child's Julia And Company)

Equipment:

6 crumpet rings, made from removing tops and bottoms from a tuna, or other similar 6 oz. can.
Griddle large enough to hold all six rings

Ingredients:

1 tbsp. dry yeast, dissolved in 1/4 cup warm water
2 tbsp. instant mashed potatoes reconstituted in 1/2 cup scalded milk
1/2 cup cold water
2 1/2 cups all purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp. salt dissolved in 3 tbsp. water
1/2 cup raisins
1 tbsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. cornmeal

Add the cold water to the potato mixture, combining completely.

In a larger bowl (you'll need space to allow for rising) combine the flour with the potato water mixture.

When cool, add the yeast/water mixture, and stir to completely combine. The mixture will be heavier than pancake batter. Cover and allow to rise in a warm spot, until large bubbles appear, and the batter roughly doubles in volume. Stir the batter down. At this stage, the batter can be refrigerated overnight (covered), and the recipe completed in the morning. Beat in the salt/water mixture, stir to combine. Add the raisin, stir to distribute evenly. Sprinkle the cinnamon over the batter and fold in, allowing it to form ribbons (not at all necessary to mix in completely).

Allow to rise again until the bubbles appear on the surface (45 mins). While waiting for the second rise, liberally butter the rings (or spray with unflavored cooking spray). Lightly oil the griddle, and dust with cornmeal. Place over medium heat. Heat is right when a drop of water "dances" on the griddle...if it is immediately reduced to steam it's too hot. Place rings on the griddle, and spoon approx. 1/2 cup batter into each ring (1/2 way up the ring). Muffins should cook slowly, so as not to burn the bottom. When bubbles break on the top, it's time to flip the muffin, about 8 minutes (at this point it's okay if it comes out of the ring). Allow other side to brown (3-4 mins). Cool the muffins slightly and split.



A. Knopf published *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, still considered a seminal culinary work, whose 734 pages, clear instructions and illustrations led to critical acclaim and a rebirth of American interest in French cuisine. In 1962, Julia appeared on PBS affiliate WGBH's book review program and delighted viewers with her demonstration of preparing an omelet. By 1963, Julia's first television program, *The French Chef* had begun its ten-year run (not counting reruns).

I first met Julia Child (figuratively) in 1978. It was shortly after my marriage and starting law school, and finances and time were both extremely tight. Julia became our weekly entertainment as we watched every episode of *Julia Child and Company*, which was followed in 1980 by its sequel, *Julia Child and More Company*. Each show presented a complete menu, with variations, for everything from Dinner for the Boss to a Breakfast Party. There were many recipes that were just beyond our budget, but an equal number that provided us with new horizons in the kitchen. We saved tuna cans, turned them into crumpet rings and mastered homemade English muffins. While we couldn't afford lobster, we could buy monkfish (the ugliest animal on earth) and enjoy the poor man's version. Julia taught us how to make our own pita bread, butterfly a leg of lamb and make a towering gateau Mont Saint Michel. There was leek and rabbit pie, cassoulet with goose and white beans, tarts, sliced pineapple "en boat," French onion soup gratinee, bananas foster and Pate en Croute. Julia not only taught how and what to cook, but taught me to trust my tastes and abilities so that I could expand and substitute, build upon and invent. I think that to whatever degree I am accomplished in the kitchen, Julia

gave me the foundations on which I later built.

In 1989, Julia Child's *The Way to Cook* was published by Alfred A. Knopf and it became (and remains) an absolute required volume in any cookbook collection. I was indeed fortunate that she appeared in Cleveland as a part of the book tour as a guest of the local chapter of a national chef's organization. I was able to meet this imposing woman and thank her. The crowd in the Old English Oak Room was large, and there was precious little time for a conversation, but I did manage to tell Julia, face to face, that her books and programs had enriched my life, to which she replied simply, "I'm so glad." I was, too.

Julia Child passed away On August 13, 2004 two days shy of her 92nd birthday. She left behind a legacy of 18 cookbooks, 11 television series, a Saturday Night Live sketch featuring Dan Akroyd with a "dickens of a cut," and a kitchen which is on display in the Smithsonian, unique for its high counters designed to accom-

modate her height. Also a part of her continuing legacy is an entire generation of culinary enthusiasts for whom Julia opened the door of learning and exploration. And so, anticipating what would be Julia Child's 94th birthday it is entirely appropriate to acknowledge her contributions, thank her for sharing her love of food with so many, and on a more personal note, give her credit for the impact that she has had in my life.

While a birthday cake would certainly be appropriate, my choice for celebrating and remembering is a bit more basic. First I'll retrieve the crumpet rings we made 25 years ago by removing both ends of the tuna cans, I still remember her English Muffin recipe by heart, although I have made a few substitutions (and I think she would approve). And on August 15, instead of a bagel or bowl of cold granola, I'll arise a little early, and spoon batter into those tin forms and bake a batch of English Muffins in memory and celebration of my muse.

Kitchen Gadget



What Is This?

If you know and are the first letter we receive correctly identifying this kitchen gadget, you will receive a Lakewood Observer T-Shirt! Write to :

The Lakewood Observer, Gadget Contest
14900 Detroit Ave., Suite # 205
Lakewood, OH 44107

Minding The Issues

Seven (Or Eight) Reasons Why Bush Will Be Ranked Among Our Worst Presidents

By Gordon Brumm

Let's begin with the positive. Let's look at those projects aimed (at least ostensibly) at worthwhile goals:

AFGHANISTAN: The invasion of Afghanistan was justified. The Taliban were protecting the terrorists who attacked us; the world was on our side. But then the troops and resources needed to secure the country were diverted to Iraq, and now Afghanistan is largely in the hands of the warlords, the Taliban and the opium dealers—a tragedy.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS: It's time to incorporate drugs into the Medicare system, but not the way Bush has done it. The most significant provision of his plan is a prohibition against the government's negotiating prices with the pharmaceutical companies. This means the cost of drugs can escalate without hindrance; the main effect of the program will be to shift ever-rising costs from Medicare recipients to taxpayers. (Don't count on the magical competition between insurance companies; they can't charge less than the price they have to pay producers.)

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND: Again, a noble goal—insuring that every child is competent in reading and elementary math. But why are some states rebelling—led by Utah, of all places? One explanation is irrational rigidity and biased rules, an example of which has appeared here in Lakewood. Another is insufficient funding. Together, these have led more than one observer to wonder whether the NCLB Act isn't really aimed at privatization of the public school systems.

IMMIGRATION: Here, I have to agree somewhat with Bush's basic position, which goes beyond mere border security. But ironically, Bush has raised such disgust across the political spectrum that he can't even get a bill passed, much less a worthwhile one.

CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I was quite impressed with John Roberts' intelligence. But I'm beginning to wonder whether I had stars in my eyes. Is Roberts to be the leader of the pack that implements conservative dogma under cover of a silly originalist theory?

All in all, then, Bush's administration is deeply flawed. The small successes and the (presumably) good intentions are swamped by the bad intentions and the catastrophic results that have harmed the American people and American government. These coalesce into a number of general flaws that will lead historians to place Bush at or near the bottom of the catalogue of presidents, along with the likes of James Buchanan, Warren Harding and Millard Fillmore. Here is my list:

1) AGGRESSIVE UNILATERALISM IN FOREIGN POLICY. The Bush administration has generally ignored or defied the UN and other international institutions (unless they are under U.S. control). The prime example is of course the Iraq War. Among other examples: The U.S. has not only opposed the International Criminal Court but has tried to bully smaller nations into signing agreements of immunity for U.S. citizens. In the area of climate change, Bush withdrew the U.S. signature from the Kyoto Protocol, and U.S. opposition hampered attempts to implement the Protocol at the 2005 Montreal Conference.

To be sure, the United Nations is flawed, and so is the Kyoto Protocol. They need to be improved. But instead of trying to improve these institutions, Bush seizes on their flaws to justify an attitude that is dismissive at best and hostile at worst. A notorious expression of this view was Bush's appointment as UN ambassador (without Senate approval) of John Bolton, scornful and imperious and seen by many as a bull in the UN china shop.

Bush's unilateralist stance is sharply at odds with U.S. foreign policy of the last 60 years, which leaned heavily toward cooperation through organizations such as the UN. Not only that, but Bush's policies are also different from the isolationist policies of the 1920s and 1930s (steering clear of the world instead of trying to change it). Bush's new direction has had disastrous results, not the least of which is the fact that the world hates us.

2) REJECTION AND DISTORTION OF SCIENCE: In 2004, a group of 60 top U.S. scientists, including 20 Nobel Laureates, issued a statement that reproached the Bush administration for censoring and distorting scientific analysis from federal agencies as well as stacking advisory panels with its own politically-oriented appointees.

The scientists' statement is only the tip of the critical spear leveled against the Bush administration for perverting science to political and corporate ends. To give one often-cited example, James E. Hansen, a NASA scientist who called for limitations on heat-trapping gases that contribute to global warming, was threatened by White House appointees in the agency with "dire consequences" if he continued.

Besides global warming, areas involved include stem-cell research, contraceptive drugs, marijuana use, missile defense, and air/water pollution. Besides NASA, agencies implicated include the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

3) MISMANAGEMENT AND EMPTY RHETORIC: Bush has been touted as a "can-do guy." But when faced with major tests, he showed himself to be woefully incompetent.

The Iraq War is of course the stand-out example. Bush and his appointed subordinates failed to see the problems of occupation, they failed to provide enough resources to handle those problems, and they had no idea how to handle the problems when they arose.

Hurricane Katrina was the second big test, and Bush seemed to be paralyzed by the problems that faced him. In two other examples, the port-management controversy and implementation of the prescription drug plan, he showed lack of foresight.

Instead of effective management, Bush offers rhetoric. After 9/11 Bush talked tough and made some brave pronouncements. Out of this came one success—overthrow of the Taliban. Since then, little has been done to improve our security situation beyond the obvious steps that any national leader would take. Osama bin Laden remains at large. Con-

tainer security is thin at best. Our borders, in particular the Mexican border, are not secure. Bush's rhetoric has proven to be empty.

4) CRONYISM: Closely related to Bush's mismanagement is his cronyism. The most bizarre example is the nomination of Harriet Miers as Supreme Court Justice; the example with the most practical impact is Mike Brown as head of FEMA. Other crony appointees, on a lower level, make the news from time to time, and on a corporate level there is of course Richard Cheney's crony, Halliburton.

Cronyism involves not only appointing unqualified people, but also retaining those who should clearly be replaced. The primary instance is of course is Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. With mule-stubborn loyalty, Bush has kept Rumsfeld on long past the time when he has been thoroughly discredited.

5) FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY: It has often been remarked that Bush is the only president who has not called for the nation to sacrifice during wartime. Instead, tax cuts have been his continuing obsession, with the wealthiest taxpayers being by far the largest beneficiaries. (How not to be fooled by the spin: Don't ask what the average tax reduction would be. Ask what the reduction would be for the median taxpayer—i.e., the individual at a place where half of the taxpayers pay more and half pay less.)

The last year of the Clinton administration saw a treasury surplus. Bush soon turned that around. Faced with the enormous expenses of the Iraq War, Hurricane Katrina recovery and his prescription drug plan, his response was simply to put it all on the national credit card; he continued to push his drastic tax cuts.

The estimated loss to the government from these cuts was \$651 billion between 2001 and 2004. If the cuts remain in effect until 2014 the estimated loss will be somewhere between \$3.3 and \$4.6 trillion.

Consequently, record deficits arose—\$378 billion for 2003, \$412 billion for 2004—and the national debt (which is of course the accumulation of deficits) rose from \$5.7 trillion in 2000 to \$7.9 trillion in 2005. As of this month it is \$8.4 trillion. The deficits and the rise in the debt are unprecedented.

I'll leave it to economists to explicate the full damage, but two things are clear: The debt puts us in hock to China and other nations; and the larger the debt, the larger the slice of the federal budget that must go to interest payments.

Bush's defense is that his tax cuts will fuel the economy and create jobs, thereby paying for themselves. This argument has been hotly contested. In any case, Bush hasn't come close to erasing the enormous increase in debt that he has saddled us with.

6) PRESIDENTIAL POWER GRABS: Bush has attempted to expand his powers at the expense of Congress and the courts—to become a law unto himself—in defiance of the Constitution and treaties which the U.S. is committed to.

Let me count the ways: warrantless wiretapping by the NSA; phone-records spying; bank-records spying; indefinite detention of "unlawful combatants"; cre-

ation of special military tribunals to try detainees; signing statements attached to bills he has signed, including those that attempt "court stripping."

(Signing statements are declarations by Bush in which he specifies what provisions of the bill he will carry out—thus changing the law as he sees fit. When the signing statement serves to cut down the power of the courts, that is "court stripping.")

In some of these instances Bush could have gained authorization from Congress but didn't. This suggests that part of his purpose was to extend his power as a matter of principle.

7) APPEARING, IN PUBLIC AT LEAST, AS A SEMI-LITERATE DOLT: Bush's intellectual incompetence extends from his inability to pronounce "nuclear" (corrected, apparently, for his second term), to his laborious attempts to join the subject of a simple sentence to its predicate, to his breathless proclamation of some platitude as if he had just uncovered a profound truth.

(And has any president ever made a more idiotic statement—whether judged at the time or in retrospect—than Bush when he said that he looked into Putin's eyes and saw a like-minded soul?)

Perhaps this doesn't bother you—perhaps you don't mind our country's being an international laughing-stock. But consider the example of Dizzy Dean. Dizzy was a star pitcher for the St. Louis Cardinals during the 1930s and later a baseball announcer on radio. Not having enjoyed much schooling, he would often come up with locutions such as "He slud into third!" School teachers across the country were aghast at the model he presented. Today, it is supremely important that our youth learn to think well and articulate clearly. Bush offers an even worse model than Dizzy Dean.

Such is my list of reasons why Bush will be ranked as one of our worst presidents. You may have other reasons to add, e.g., his energy policy, his stance toward the environment, or his exacerbation of the divisions within U.S. society.

My list does not include the Iraq War, since I have been dealing only with general flaws, not specific projects. However, this evil, fatuous, misguided and incredibly mismanaged war must not be set aside. Nor should we allow the Bush administration to divert attention from its malfeasance by deceit, logical trickery or the re-writing of history. Every new setback in Iraq, every revelation of a new hurdle is spun by Bush as further reason to follow his brave leadership and "stay the course," but in actuality it is an additional count in the indictment against Bush for taking our nation into this ghastly quagmire from which there is no good way out.

And don't be taken in when Bush says "We're fighting them over there so we don't need to fight them here." For the terrorists are saying "Why should we kill them over there in America, when we can so easily kill them here?"

What are we to do? Neutralize the harmful effects of Bush's policies and muddle through the best we can until January 2009, when Bush will be swept into the dustbin of history, and we can hope to start a new day.

The Pulse Of The City

The Native Americans:

Where Did They Go, and Why?

By Gary Rice

September, 1655, at the entrance to Rocky River:

The six canoes of the dirty and wounded Eriehronon warriors made landfall on the Northern end of what today is known as Yacht Club Island.

The trip from Pennsylvania had been stormy and troubled, as, indeed, was the future of the Eriehronon peoples, also known as the Erie. During some games held with the Five Nations, war had broken out, and these few warriors and their families comprised some of the remnants of this once-proud people. The Erie were referred to as the "Cat Nation" by the French, although the tribe identified more with raccoons than with the wildcats and pumas along our North Coast. The Erie were not equipped with modern weapons, and were therefore unprepared for the incoming migrations: first by other Eastern tribes, and later by Whites.

The Five Nations, known as the Hau de no sau nee, or by their French name, Iroquois, had united into a federation long before, under Hiawatha, in about 1575, to face such a threat as the Erie had mounted. Having a centralized confederation, they were also pragmatic and quickly allied with the French. Later, after the French and Indian War ended to favor the British, the Iroquois shifted their alliance to the British Crown. When we Americans won our Revolution, the Iroquois would pay dearly for this decision.

The tribes of the Five Nations were equipped with firearms from their French allies; and the Erie were not. The resulting Iroquois extermination of the Eries was virtually a foregone conclusion. Even though the poisoned arrowheads of the Eries extracted a dear price from their enemies, firearm technology held the advantage. The Iroquois could stop well away from their adversaries, and cut them into ribbons. The Erie fought bravely and well. As many as seven or eight of their arrows could be shot for every single musket ball that came their way. Still, with disciplined musket fire, the Iroquois prevailed. The few Eries remaining, who were not killed or tortured, were allowed to return to their burial ground to bury their leaders, and mourn their passing into history.

Behind them, only a few miles away, were the Iroquois war parties of Senecas, Cayugas, Mohawks, Onondagas, and Oneidas, waiting only for the end of the Erie warriors' funeral ceremonies. Soon, the remaining Erie warriors and their families would unite with the Five Nations, and the Cat Nation would be no more.

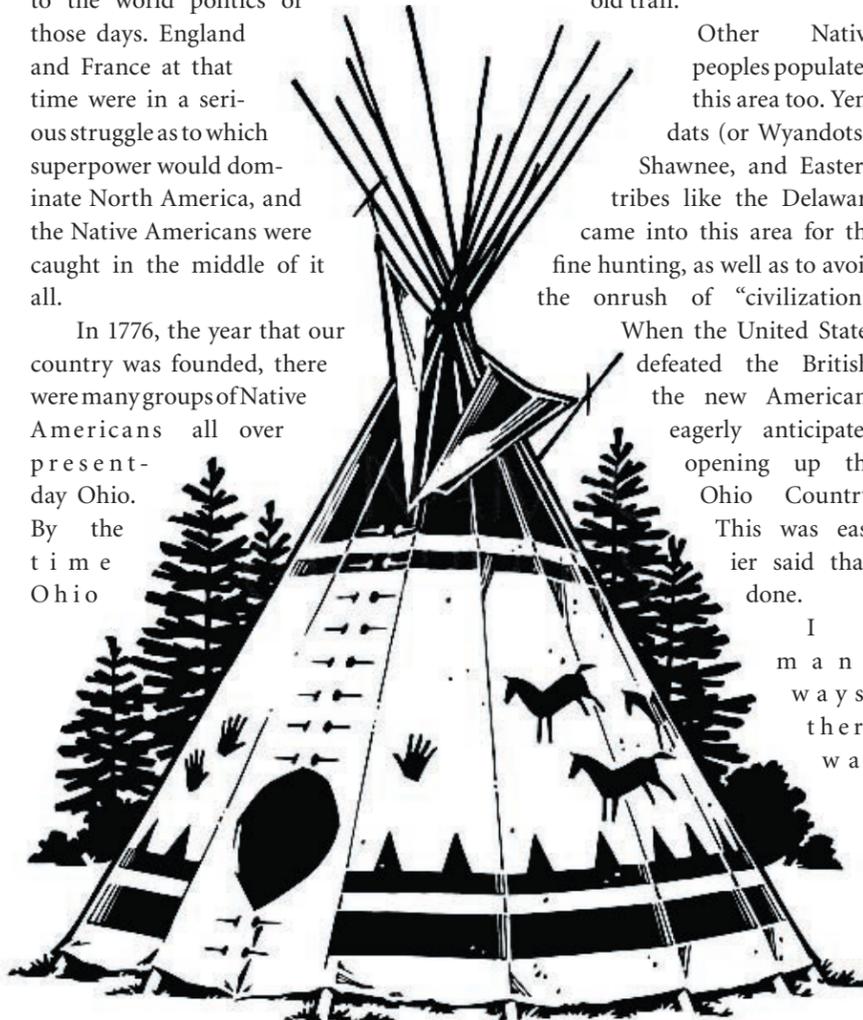
It would not be long before many of the warriors of the Five Nations, too, would be gone.

The story of Ohio's Native peoples is inconclusive and filled with mystery. The story above is fiction. Parts of the story are probably true. Years ago, Lakewood Sun Post columnist Dan Chabek wrote about the existence

of Native American burial grounds at Yacht Club Island, as well as the removal of bones and artifacts from that place. We are grateful to some of the Jesuit Fathers as well for their contribution to our knowledge of the Eries in the late 1600's.

The history of the demise of the Native Americans in Ohio is shrouded in intrigue, and is intricately connected to the world politics of those days. England and France at that time were in a serious struggle as to which superpower would dominate North America, and the Native Americans were caught in the middle of it all.

In 1776, the year that our country was founded, there were many groups of Native Americans all over present-day Ohio. By the time Ohio



became a state in 1803, very few remained. Where did they all go in just 27 short years?

About a thousand years before the Iroquois and Erie peoples battled for the land now known as Ohio, the Mound Builders occupied much of the Midwest. Yes, there were many mounds, even here in Northeast Ohio, although the majority of the remaining mounds are in the Central and Southern parts of the state. Hopewell, Fort Ancient, and Adena are names given to these mound building cultures, although, in truth, their original names are lost to history. There are also old Native American stories concerning the demise of the Mound Builders by "Serpent-People" from the South. Possibly, this group of "Serpent-People" took over the land from the Mound Builders, and this may be the hidden symbolism of the Serpent Mound in Southern Ohio.

After the demise of the Eries, the better part of Ohio came under control of the Iroquois. The Lakewood area had a number of "Indian" trails. In the first place, the old former shorelines of the receding Lake Erie were natural trails, with few encumbrances to get

in the way of the many active war and hunting parties of the Five, and later, Six Nations. (The Tuscarororas later allied with the Iroquois.) Present-day streets like Clifton and Detroit were often part of those former beaches of the shrinking Great Lake, and therefore made excellent passageways for Native Americans. It is well known that today's Warren Road was also an old trail.

Other Native peoples populated this area too. Yendats (or Wyandots), Shawnee, and Eastern tribes like the Delaware came into this area for the fine hunting, as well as to avoid the onrush of "civilization."

When the United States defeated the British, the new Americans eagerly anticipated opening up the Ohio Country. This was easier said than done.

In many ways, there was

great cooperation and mutual benefit in the beginning between Whites and Native Americans in this area. Trade in furs gave an immense economic boost to both groups, although the Native Americans began to lose much of their culture and identity.

Eventually, conflicts arose, and these turned bloody very quickly. Hundreds of killings and kidnappings occurred on both sides, and brutal murders by guns, knives and tomahawks turned dialogue and peacemaking into broken dreams. Bitter stories tell about the use of biological warfare, with smallpox-infested blankets killing off countless Ohio Native Americans (supposedly given to them at peace talks!). The stories of Tecumseh, Blue Jacket, Anthony Wayne, and The Battle of Fallen Timbers (in an area near Toledo) all serve to document the sad end of Native American efforts to hold onto Ohio. By the early 1800's, the few Native American groups left in Ohio were confined to reservations west of the Cuyahoga River.

After a time, the American government, pressured by military and

business interests, decided that Native groups must move west of the Mississippi; so the Indian Removal Act was passed. Every school child knows about the Cherokee Trail of Tears in the South. Less well-known were the many other trails of tears of the other tribes...

The Wyandots were the last to leave Ohio in 1846. They left Upper Sandusky, travelled to Cincinnati, then boarded steamers for their own sad trip to the West a climax to what was possibly one of the worst acts of national ethnic cleansing that world had ever seen.

The Methodist Wyandot Mission in Upper Sandusky is a reminder of their former presence there and presents compelling evidence of Methodist assistance to these Native Americans. An early Methodist missionary, John Stewart, was part Black, part White, and part Native American. He was instrumental in helping establish warm relations between the Methodists and the Wyandots.

This past April, The American Indian Intertribal Association joined with Lakewood United Methodist Church to present a Spring/Easter party for Native American children. This marked the first time, to my knowledge, since the Indian Removal Act that an actual Native American activity has been held in Lakewood. It was a personal honor for me to assist with this historic event.

Although officially gone from most of the East for decades, in the 1960's Native Americans were encouraged to move back East to the cities from their reservations. Many did so. Several thousand are presently in the Cleveland area, although this is difficult to measure, since many people are of mixed lineage. In fact, even back in the early days of Ohio history, there were numerous documentations of mixed interracial marriages. After the Removal Act, many of these were probably kept secret, for obvious reasons.

As we welcome Native Americans back in their return to Lakewood, perhaps it would be well to ponder these somber words taken from Hardesty's 1886 Military History of Ohio (in reference to the "Indians" who came after the Mound Builders):

"These invaders are now being driven westward by the march of civilization, and as years roll on they will doubtless be blotted from the face of the earth, as their numbers are being rapidly diminished. Is it but a just act of retaliation, ordained by an all-wise Providence?" There are other statements, too, in that book: "all attempts at civilization have proved abortive," and "Their nature cannot be changed."

With these words, we find ourselves transported back to a mindset that could justify just about anything in the name of "progress." Hopefully, these days, our progress will be much better.

Lakewood Businesses

Brennan's Floral Gift Shop Has Deep Roots In Lakewood

By Natalie Schrimpf

There's no doubt about it. Daniel Brennan truly believes in Lakewood.

When the owner of Brennan's Floral Gift Shop planned to expand his business a couple of years ago, he explored several relocation possibilities, including adjacent suburbs. But this lifelong Lakewoodite concluded that the best location would continue to be the city in which he has the most financial and emotional investment – Lakewood, Ohio.

"I couldn't leave Lakewood, because it has been very good to my family and me," he explained. In fact, this florist has served locals since the opening of his original store in 1982.

And after targeting a viable new site and undergoing a series of negotiations with its property owner, Brennan purchased the vacant property on the corner of Lewis Drive at 13396 Madison Avenue.

As a strong advocate of local businesses, Brennan hired Lakewood-based Larsen Architects to design a store with tremendous curb appeal, and it wasn't long before neighbors witnessed a blossoming transformation of the property.

The new location is significantly more visible from the street than the florist's previous site near the corner of Madison and Robin Avenues in Birdtown – the store's address since 1989. Prior to this location, it was originally housed on Detroit Avenue between Lakeland and Summit Avenues.



Artist rendition of Brennan's when it was in Birdtown.



After months of work and effort, Dan Brennan opened the newest location this year.

According to Brennan, the new store's 40-foot sign and aesthetic, detailed landscaping attract attention of drivers and pedestrians alike. In addition, its parking lot facilitates easy customer access to the front entrance, he said.

"The parking makes a huge difference," he explained. "It goes with the clientele of today who are looking for convenience." This convenience factor, combined with visibility, signage and creativity are paramount to the continued success of his business, Brennan added.

Admittedly, Brennan was never a firm believer in the old adage that "location, location, location" is what drives a business' success. He maintained that while location was important, a store's name and reputation alone would be enough to succeed.

And although he still believes that this in part is true, it's difficult to ignore the results since the move. The amount of walk-in business has increased noticeably. "Now my storefront has the curb appeal of a business," he said. "It proves that if you spend the money on the outside, people do come."

In fact, Brennan's customers have been quite vocal in thanking him for staying in Lakewood and for creating such a beautiful addition to the neighborhood. "It's a good feeling that people really notice," he added.

One neighbor was so impressed

with the new store, that he nominated Brennan's Floral Gift Shop for the city's and Chamber of Commerce's "Keep Lakewood Beautiful Business Award," which it subsequently won in 2005.

And while the store services new customers, there are also the locals who have been shopping there since the first shop opened 24 years ago, Brennan said.

Brennan describes his business as a traditional flower shop with emphasis on convenience and impulse buying. And although it services weddings and funerals, the florist also features an array of fresh cut flowers, daily specials and a great deal of cash and carry items, he said.

In a changing consumer society where customer loyalty usually takes a back seat to convenience, it is increasingly important for businesses to identify their market niche, Brennan noted.

He said that his market niche has been convenience, presence on the street and specials which can easily be advertised on the store's curbside sign. "This has kept my business going and growing," he added.

"What's happened in our industry is that big box stores have taken a lot away from your traditional flower shop," Brennan explained. "And every time someone buys something off the internet or from a catalog rather than from a local flower shop, they're damaging their local busi-

ness. How do you educate consumers on this?"

This convenience-driven consumer lifestyle has prompted Brennan's business to adapt to the times, he said.

For instance, customers can order off the store's website, and the shop's hours of operation have expanded to include Sundays. There is even a 24-hour answering service seven days a week. And don't be surprised if you drive by the store as early as 8:15 in the morning and see the "open" sign – another example of catering to customers' desire for convenience.

One might say that the seeds of local entrepreneurship were planted early on in Daniel Brennan's life. His family is no stranger to Lakewood business ownership. In fact, his father owned Robin Party Center and Brennan's Grocery on Madison Avenue.

And Daniel Brennan is proud to continue the family tradition of growing his business in a dynamic Lakewood.

"I understand this city," he said. "It's changing all the time. Our clientele has changed, and that's the growing part of it. It's a good change – that the old ones (from the previous location) and the new ones come back." This is what's happening, and he believes this is an accurate gauge that he's doing something right.

For more information call 216/221-8200 or visit the shop's website at www.brennansflorist.com.



Everyone shops Brennan's! Here Daniel Brennan welcomes Mayor Tom George during their annual roses for charity sale.

Custom Slipcovers



*Tired, Worn Furniture?
Dated Upholstery? Need Or Want A Change?
Get A Fresh, New Look For Your Furniture
At A Fraction Of The Cost Of Total Replacement!
Call Now For Information, Ideas & Prices:
216-226-2333*

Save Our Software
Navigating Software Solutions

- Personal, home office & small business
- Desktop, file organization & backup
- Hardware/Software consulting
- Virus, ad ware, spy ware removal
- Performance improvement & DSL/Cable
- System cleanup & recovery
- Very competitive rates

P. David Matlock, President/Senior Consultant
12540 Edgewater Drive, Suite 1102, Lakewood
Phone 216.228.2120 • Cell 216.390.5425 • matlockinc@aol.com

PET'S GENERAL STORE

16821 MADISON AVE. (216)226-0886
(One Block East Of Mckinley, Next To Convenient Store)



CALIFORNIA NATURAL INNOVA WELLNESS CANIDAE

MON - FRI 11-8 • SAT 10-6 • Closed Sundays

*Voted Best Wine Shop In Cleveland
Plain Dealer | Free Times | Scene*

We are proud to live and work in Lakewood for over 60 years.

Rozi's
WINE HOUSE

Rozi's Wine & Liquor House, Inc.
14900 Detroit Avenue • 216-221-1119

We Deliver • www.rozis.com

Lakewood Arts

Gallery Watch

By Ruth A. Koenigsmark and Christine A. Kazimer



Samara Peddle at her Local Girl Gallery opening.

bela dubby and Local Girl Gallery hosted two vividly lucid and expressive shows on the evening of Saturday, July 15th.

bela dubby hosted "No Surf in Cleveland". This show is curated by skateboarding enthusiasts Vince Frantz and Stosh Burgess. Vince and Stosh both skated in the 70s and 80s and are advocates for the sport and riders today. In talking with Vince he will tell you that the show was the idea of Stosh about 18 months ago. This show is a documentary of the sport's evolution and a photo-expression of an art form.

The show consists of some 300 photographs of the Cleveland Skateboarding scene during the last 35 years. To collect the photos Stosh and Vince put the word out to skate shops in the area and asked for photos, videos, newspaper articles or anything having to do with skateboarding in Northeast Ohio. The result-- a flurry of response—which continues and will be the catalyst for future shows.

And in case you didn't know and as the title of the show hints, skateboarding was originally tied to the surfing culture. As skateboarding migrated across the US to places unfamiliar with the surfing or its culture, it developed it's own, which as you peruse the pictures, you will quickly realize. Skateboarding has long been tied to the punk subculture, too, but over the last decade with skaters like Tony Hawk and Andrew Reynolds it has become more mainstream in the sense of being viewed as a competitive sport while still retaining its "cool" and "artistic" elements.

In attendance was professional skateboarder Kristian Svitak accompanied by his wife Trisha. Kristian is a Northeast Ohio native who made a special appearance to check out the

show. There are even a few photos of him back when he was still living and skating here.

Before I left, I asked a young skateboarder, Hunter Masters, age 8, his initial impression of the show, and he gave me the "thumbs up"...and I would have to agree.

Same night, down the street at Local Girl Gallery, artist Samara Peddle presented "Stripped Simple" a collection of various pieces from her body of work. Samara graduated with a BA in studio arts from Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN. Her previous exhibits include Rapid Stasis: Time and Space on Cleveland's Transit Lines at GOPA and Structured Through Frames-- a study of the beauty and sadness relating to land, society, homeless and the lonely found in the US and Europe.

In this show, Samara exhibits photography from her numerous visits to Europe along with a collection of nude paintings. When I asked Samara her inspiration for the nude work, she simply said that is was her means of expressing her feelings when she was "coming out".

I then asked Samara how she came to find Local Girl Gallery, and she said that she had heard about Local Girl through a friend, and that Linda is fantastic about promoting upcoming artists. And as usual, Linda hosted a well attended and thoughtfully planned soiree for her guests and the featured artist.

At the end of our interview, Samara handed me one of her poems and I found these few lines were a prolific way to describe this show,

"A simple charcoal line finding the harmony beauty mystery my expression of admiration of freedom love stripped simple"

Both shows will remain installed for the next week or so, so hurry in.

Lakewood Galleries and Events

Beck Center For The Arts

17801 Detroit Avenue, 216.521.2540

bela dubby

13221 Madison Avenue - 216.221.4479

bela dubby presents the Car Kulture Art Show Aug. 1st-31st

Featuring the artwork of: Hadley Conner, Jeremy "J-Bird" Lockard, Lori Diemer, Psychoarts, Scott Menke & Kevin Moore.

Artist's reception Sat. Aug. 5th 6pm

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 am – 10 pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-midnight.

Local Girl Gallery

16106 Detroit Avenue, 216.228.1802

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12-5pm, Friday and Saturday, 12-6pm.

Pop Shop Gallery and Studio

17020 Madison Avenue, 216.227.8440

9pm-2am. Hours: Monday-Friday 4pm-8pm, Saturday 2pm-6pm.

Wobblefoot Gallery and Frame Studio

1662 Mars Avenue, 216.226.2971

Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm.

Art gallery news and event information should be forwarded to gallerywatchgals@yahoo.com. Every effort will be made to include it in our next column.

Lakewood Music Events Calendar

The Winchester

Friday August 4th: It's Karla Bonoff. Bonoff started as a member of the folk rock group Bryndle, who cut an album for A&M Records in 1969 that was never released. Some members of Bryndle wound up in Linda Rondstadt's band, and brought Bonoff's songwriting to their employer's attention. After writing three songs for Rondstadt's 1976 album 'Hasten Down the Wind', Karla Bonoff scored a record deal of her own resulting in four albums, the last of which was 1988's 'New World'. Since then she's done the odd song here and there for soundtrack albums ('Footloose' and '8 Seconds'), and has released a couple of albums with her old Bryndle bandmates. Showtime is 8:30 and tickets are \$22.

Thursday August 10th: It's Pete Best. Best was the drummer for The Beatles before Ringo Starr joined and played with them during the now legendary Hamburg period. He recorded one album with the band backing up singer Tony Sheridan, and also played on a few audition tapes and a BBC session. Some of this material was included in the Beatles 'Anthology 1' CD. In recent years, Best has also released a few albums of his own, mixing new compositions with covers of The Beatles and other early rock n rollers. The show starts at 8:30pm and admission is \$25.

Coffee • Art • Beer • Tattoos • Cars



13321 Madison Ave 216-221-4479

Phoenix Roasted Coffees • Big Microbrews Selection

Tues-Thurs 10am-10pm Fri - Sat 10am - 12am Sunday/Monday Closed

Adopt A Pet



This Basket o' Kitties are available for adoption at the Lakewood Animal Shelter. These three are all female and very affectionate,



Mittens



Scruffy

If you'd like to adopt, visit the LAKEWOOD ANIMAL SHELTER in the Metroparks off Detroit Road 216-529-5020

More Pets Online at <http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Advertisements

Classified ads can be placed online using your credit card at www.lakewoodobserver.com under classifieds or by stopping in to the Lakewood Observer office at 14900 Detroit Ave., suite #205.

Looking for the perfect home in Lakewood?



TURN KEY STYLE - Perfectly, completely re-done! Gorgeous decor; fabulous open floor plan; architectural details; huge new kitchen and baths. Beautiful gardens and yard. Featured in TV ad campaign and Lakewood Tour of Homes. Walk to everything in the heart of Lakewood!
4BR+ \$189,900 **1522 Mars Avenue**

Dolores Pescatrice, Howard Hanna-Smythe Cramer 216.870.2600

**HOME ALONE
PET SITTING INC.**
*In Home Pet Care
While You Are Away*

Experienced veterinarian technician
Bonded and insured

216-226-7337

EMAIL: d.hokin@sbcglobal.net



**4th Annual
Kar Kulture Show
August 26, 2006**

Now registering vendors!
Booths start at \$50.00.

216-228-7223



**TREE &
LANDSCAPE
SERVICES**

- LANDSCAPING • MAINTENANCE
- TREE PRUNING & REMOVAL
- PATIOS • DECKS • FENCES
- TOPSOIL • MULCH • STONE

**WEEKEND & NIGHT
DELIVERY AVAILABLE**

1-216-526-3954

CAR FOR SALE

1991 Subaru Legacy Wagon
Good Condition, some rust,
low mileage
\$2,000 OBO

216.407.4250

NOW OPEN IN LAKEWOOD



We're Local and It Shows.
We are one of the few locally owned and operated real estate companies in Northeast Ohio.

**LOCALLY OWNED AND
OPERATED SINCE 1986**



- **LAKEWOOD:** \$105,900 3 BR 1 BA Col w/wide lot, tool shed. Lots of wdwk, huge closet in MBR.
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$96,500 1 BR 1 BA Carlyle Condominium w/west wooded view. Cer & wd flrs, eat-in kit. Appl's stay. Heated gar space.
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$159,000 3 BR 1.5 BA Brick home w/renov'd kit, hwdwd flrs, FP, open flr plan, sunroom, deck, hot tub.
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$144,900 3 BR 2 BA spacious home w/hwdwd flrs, nat wdwk, brick frplc in LR, ample KT w/built in appls. & room for table. 3rd flr partially fnshd w/BA.
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$149,900 3 BR 1 BA Col. Bright & airy, hwdwd flrs, new gar, ext paint. Lg front porch, security system, beautiful street!
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$79,900 1 BR 1 BA condo w/panoramic view, eatin kit, cer. Flr, rooftop deck.
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$169,500 Great property, outstanding value. Great potential for monthly income. Many updates.
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$165,000 Well maint'd 2 fam. Walk to Lakewood Park, restaurants & coffee shops. Many updates.
- **LAKEWOOD:** \$109,900 Large Double near highways schools & dwntrwn. Family owned and occupied. Needs a little TLC, great potential for owner or investor.



LAKEWOOD: Rockport Square. 1-3 BR Townhomes have quality finishes and a 5 year tax abatement. Townhomes start at \$250,000. \$5,000 in FREE UPGRADES when you purchase an existing Townhome! **Sales center OPEN DAILY from 12-5p, 1422 Hopkins Rd. (West of 117, off of Detroit).**

**20
ANNIVERSARY**

216.228.6440

For over 26 years, one company – **Cox Communications** – has served **Lakewood** with the most reliable, **leading edge telecommunications** products and services available, and we back it up with **unmatched customer service!**

Now, Bundle Your Cable and Internet Services with **Cox Digital Telephone** starting **under \$80/month** for 1 year!

<p>\$79.95* for 1 year /mo</p> <p>VALUE BUNDLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Service • High Speed Internet (Value) • Cox Basic Local Exchange Primary Phone Line 	<p>\$99.95* for 6 months /mo</p> <p>PREFERRED BUNDLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Service • Digital More (Includes Receiver) • High Speed Internet (Preferred) • Digital Telephone Connection 100* • Service Assurance Plan 	<p>\$124.95* for 6 months /mo</p> <p>PREMIER BUNDLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Service • Digital More • DVR Service (Includes Receiver) • HBO® and One Additional Premium Channel • High Speed Internet (Preferred) • Digital Telephone Unlimited Connection* • Service Assurance Plan
---	---	--

*Offer expires 9/30/06. Services available to residential customers in Cox Cleveland locations. All Connection plan long distance minutes are limited to direct-dialed local, in-state and state-to-state calls within the U.S. and each plan requires subscription to Cox for local, toll and long distance services. A customer must subscribe to all bundled products to retain discount. After discount period, regular monthly rate will apply. All rates are subject to change. See <http://www.cox.com/cleveland/telephone> for details. Cable Telephone modem equipment required. Modem uses household electrical power to operate and has backup battery power provided by Cox if electricity is disrupted. Modem and battery backup shall remain the property of Cox and must be returned upon discontinuation of service. If modem is disconnected or removed, or battery is not charged or otherwise fails, telephone service, including access to emergency 911 services, will not be available. Installation, inside wiring, jacks, activation fees, taxes and surcharges additional. Telephone service provided by Cox Ohio Telcom, L.L.C. Other restrictions apply. ©2006 Cox Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.

OFFERS END SOON!

**CALL
216-535-3500**

For additional offers, go to
www.coxcleveland.com



Your Friend in the Digital Age®

Starry Night

Lakewood Arts Festival Kick-off Event

Join us as we kick off the annual Lakewood Arts Festival and help create brighter futures.

Friday, August 4

6 to 7 p.m. VIP Artist Reception

7 to 10 p.m. Cocktails & Gourmet Food Stations

On Belle Avenue at Detroit Avenue

Mingle with friends, enjoy music under the stars and dine on several different types of cuisine – all while helping to raise money for two worthwhile causes — the **Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund** and the expansion of **Lakewood Hospital diabetes services**, including community education and wellness programs.

Tickets: \$100 (\$50 tax deductible) Corporate and individual sponsorship levels are also available, which will include a pre-event VIP artist reception from 6 to 7 p.m. to meet and visit with acclaimed artists **Hector Vega, David Bordine, Roger Coast, Sarah Coast, Rebekah Hodous** and **Earl James**. *Individual sponsorship levels include: \$500 Leader Ticket(s) (\$420 tax deductible) and \$150 Celebration Ticket(s) (\$70 tax deductible), both include VIP artist reception and program book listing. Corporate sponsorship levels are also available, which include VIP artist reception, program book listing and table recognition.*

Event questions? Call Debbie Gaebelein, 216.529.7419. To reserve your tickets, please contact the Lakewood Hospital Foundation at 216.529.7009 or email foundation@lkwh.org.

