



# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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Volume 3, Issue 2, January 23, 2007

*Lakewood Police, CERT, SWAT, Work Together Smoothly*

## Eastside Terrorized By Man From Avon Lake

by David Lay

A nine-hour standoff came to a dramatic end on the evening of January 20, with SWAT shooting tear gas into a suspect's home on Fry Avenue.

The situation started at 2:30pm Saturday afternoon at 1325 Fry Avenue, when EMS crews were called to the home of Jason Pollack, 31. He had become despondent after his family called for EMS to take him to the hospital for psychological testing. He became hostile when they arrived, so they called for police backup.

When the officers arrived, the man threatened to light several propane and oxygen tanks, and implode the house. Police retreated, and left the man in his home. The man refused to come out, leading to the standoff.

Westshore SWAT was deployed at 6pm. At 6:30 pm, as a precaution, the

police & fire departments evacuated approximately 150 homes nearby, and CERT was deployed.

A robot, attempting to dialogue with the man was sent in, with little result. Just before midnight, officers sent tear gas into the home, which forced the man to the front door, opening and slamming it shut, as if to taunt the officers. They sent more tear gas into the home, forcing the man onto the porch. Officers quickly swarmed him and took him into custody.

Residents were offered shelter at Lakewood High School, where the Red Cross provided food, cots, and coffee. Over 50 residents were still at the shelter as of Sunday morning.

According to police, no one was injured in the standoff, and they're working with the Prosecutor to determine what charges will be filed against Pollack. The case has been bound over to a Grand Jury.



Photo by David Lay

Aerial view of the SWAT layout, command truck, safety trucks, command center.

## Lakewood Observer Comes Of Age

LO Staff

Citizen journalism and the Lakewood Observer came of age last Saturday. With ears to the police scanner and hearts that beat with city, Lakewood Observers were quick to deploy to the Fry Avenue site where an Avon Lake family had stashed an unstable son who terrorized the east side of Lakewood.

"I get a call from Stan Austin telling me to get down to Fry, right away. We have a situation there. I just got off the phone with the Mayor," explains O'Bryan. "I assure Stan I'm on my way, notify other Observers." O'Bryan quickly found out that photographer David Lay had been on the scene since the first call went out on the scanner.

"Next, I notified other Observers who listen to police scanners to let them know who is on the scene and where," says O'Bryan. "They become the eyes-ears-and directors for those of us on the ground. With Stan Austin, Bill Davis, and DL Meckes at their scanners, we were ready to go in. We give a quick check-in with a couple of officials so they know we're here, and

off we go," says O'Bryan.

Within minutes Lay and O'Bryan are bringing it all back home to Stan Austin for posting on the LO Observation Deck. "It's moments like these that makes us thankful that the Lakewood Observer enjoys an ever-growing web of volunteers upon whom the city can count to capture what's happening on the ground," says O'Bryan.

In the last three local hostage situations (all started by people from outside of Lakewood) over the past year the Lakewood Observer was live and on the scene, reporting within a lot of the action. "This project has truly become the pulse of the city," O'Bryan says with considerable pride.

**MORE ON PAGES 3 and 4**

## CERT's Debut Solid



Photo by David Lay

A CERT Team headed by Richard Healey heads West on Detroit Ave.

by DL Meckes

The incident on Fry Ave. was the first time that Lakewood CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) was deployed. This program, started in Lakewood by Mayor George, implemented by Kevin Galvin and now overseen by Fire Inspector Scott Gilman, trains Lakewood volunteers to help the fire and police departments and assist the Red Cross in case of an emergency.

At the direction of CERT commander Richard Healy, Frank Murtaugh worked the phone tree. We got our call at 4:45 PM and were at our

command post within fifteen minutes. As CERT volunteers gathered, some were deployed to assist the LPD and LFD in evacuating several streets while others were sent to City Hall to register the folks who were taking temporary shelter there.

After the evacuation, a team was sent to Lakewood High School to assist the Red Cross with shelter registration.

The Red Cross people said they were happy to see CERT and were sorry we couldn't have been called up for the recent Highland Avenue apartment fire. CERT seemed to flow seamlessly in assisting LPD, LFD, and the Red Cross.

At about 11:30, Mayor George and Commander Healy instructed volunteers that we could go home for a while since it was going to take time for the situation to be resolved. Still cold and now quite tired, we were happy to head home.

This was one example where CERT was called upon, but in the event of a natural disaster, we'd also want to pitch in. Some of the most important ways of helping include keeping track of the people who are being assisted, so no special physical requirements are necessary. You must be 18 if you want to do the training. You can find out more at <http://certlakewood.com>.

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# Events & Notices

The Lakewood Observer is pleased to publish Notices on a first-come first-serve basis. Please be patient with us as we have a limited amount of free space available for these items. All notices must be submitted through the Member Center at [www.lakewoodobserver.com](http://www.lakewoodobserver.com)

## Winking Lizard Teams Up with Lakewood Hospital for Fund Raiser

Enjoy a meal out while raising money for Lakewood Hospital. How much easier can it get?

On Wednesday, January 24, 2007- 10% of all dine-in sales (food only) at the Winking Lizard in Lakewood from 11 AM until close will be donated to Lakewood Hospital. This is a great excuse for not cooking, getting out during the week and having some fun while

raising money for Lakewood Hospital.

Make plans now for your family and friends to meet for lunch, dinner or a late night snack. You can also watch the Cavs take on the 76ers in The Lizards non-smoking bar.

The more food eaten the more money that will be raised for your community hospital. Spread the word- it will be a FUN day.

## Leadership Academy to be held at Lakewood United Methodist Church

The North Coast United Methodist Church District will hold their Annual Leadership Academy at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 15700 Detroit Avenue on Saturday, February 3rd from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the fee is \$6.00. The Rev. Dr. Paul W. Chilcote, ordained United Methodist elder, professor, missionary, author and editor will be the keynote speaker. His address will be "Easter Vision/ Missional Church: Recapturing the

Vision/Mission with the Wesleys' Help." This speech will include the significant developments in the rediscovery of the missional church.

The academy will include worship, praise, prayer and learning. There will be an opportunity to sign up for four workshops out of a selection of 35. Lunch will be served in the Daniels Dining Hall. All are welcome. Contact the church at 216-226-8644 for more information or to preregister. Brochures are available in the church office.

## Out with the Old and in with the New

Do you have items at home and in your closets that you no longer use? Bring them to Around the Corner, located at 18616 Detroit Avenue, and get rid of them in style. Around the Corner hosts a "Swap Party" on the first Wednesday of every month, bringing this New York trend to Lakewood.

Everyone is welcome to contribute clothing and small household items to the Swap. It's a great way to clear out your clutter and find some freebies for yourself. Leftover clothing is donated to Dress for Success and other local chari-

ties. The \$10 charge for table rental goes to charity and a different organization receives this money each month. In December, collections were donated to the Juvenile Court Christmas Fund.

This is a perfect way to help others and yourself. Call Jodi Lume, Promotions Manager of Around the Corner, at (330) 221-6775 to make reservations. You can refer to the website [www.atc-cafe.com](http://www.atc-cafe.com) for more dates. The next Swap will be held from 7 – 9 p.m. on February 7. Come and enjoy the party, meet new people, have great food, and help others.

## Around The Corner Event 24th To Raise Money And Awarness Of St. James' Community Meals Program

Mickey Krivosh will host a fundraiser for St. James Community Meals Program on January 24 from 5:00p.m. till 10:00p.m. Wednesday night.

The St. James Community Meals programs serve dinner to those in need, the third Wednesday of every month at the parish, at 17514 Detroit Avenue.

However this Wednesday Mickey will have some guest waiters and servers, serving customers to fill the coffers of this much needed program.

"A portion of all food sales that night will go towards the St. James

Community Meals Program." said Krivosh "This is one of my favorite charities and I thought this would be good fun for all, while helping those that need our help. We will also have raffles and music.

Serving food that night will be the pleasure of Reverend Jim Klein, Mike Riley who also head up the program. Some of the members of the parish serving that night include Bob White, and Mike Turtle.

Should be a great night, join us at Around the Corner, 18616 Detroit Ave.

## Recovery, Inc. Begins New Younger People's Support Group

Recovery, Inc., a mental health support group program active in Lakewood for over 45 years, is pleased to announce the formation of a Younger People's Recovery, Inc. group in Lakewood.

Focusing on people 18-35 years old, the new support group meets Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in the second floor parlor of Faith Presbyterian Church, 12601 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood. Parking is available on Detroit across the street from the church. Additional information about this meeting may be obtained from Deanna (216) 466-2737 or Tina (216) 221-6463. Those over 35 are welcome at the Recovery, Inc. meeting at Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 14502 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood which also meets Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.

Recovery, Inc. is a peer-to-peer self-help nonprofit mental health program founded in 1937 by Chicago psychiatrist Abraham Low, M.D. Participants at Recovery, Inc. meetings

learn coping tools and life skills which help them deal with temperamental behaviors, nervous symptoms and fears. Recovery, Inc. is an international organization with 600 weekly support groups meeting throughout North America, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Spain, Israel and India. There are 31 Recovery, Inc. group meetings in the greater Cleveland area. Additional information about the program is available at [www.neorecovery.org](http://www.neorecovery.org) or by calling (216) 267-1674.



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



### 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.

**YOU COULD WIN AN IPOD!**News releases—If you have information for a story, news, events email [city.editor@lakewoodobserver.com](mailto:city.editor@lakewoodobserver.com)**Calendar of Events**—Free listings for lakewood events online at - <http://lakewoodobserver.com>

### Pick Up A Copy Of The Lakewood Observer At Any Of These Locations:

Division of Aging	Angelo's Pizza	Crestmont	Progressive Urban Realty	Geppettos'
The Coffee Pot	My Mind's Eye	Ennis Court	Westwood Dry Cleaners	Breadsmith
Bi-Rite Grocery	Madison Ave. Dental	Div of Aging	Roman Fountain	Donatos
The Winchester	The Place To Be	Fedor Manor	Merry Arts	Color By Numbers
Mahall's	First Federal	Society Cleaners	Barry Buick	Clifton Barber Shop
Beverage Square	Chamber Of Commerce	Dough Boys	Lacey Paraphernalia	West End Tavern
bela dubby	Geigers Clothing	Virginia Mart	Sweet Design	YMCA
Waterbury Coachouse	Cosmic Collectibles	The Hi-Fi Club	Local Girl Gallery	Around the Corner
Sullivan's Pub	Einstein's Bagels	Rozi's Wine House	Mr. Hero	Arc Ancient
Brennan's Flowers	Lakewood Hospital	Phoenix Coffee	Hungry Howie's	Heinen's
Players Pizza	The Westerly	Lion in Blue	Dairy Queen	Lakewood Library/
El Tango Taqueria	Barton Center	Howard Hanna	Rush Inn	Madison & Detroit
Fire Department	Plantation Home	Quizno's	Beck Center	School Board
The Doughnut Kitchen	Giant Eagle	CVS	India Food Emporium	Post Office
The Pop Shop	Winking Lizard	Drug Mart	UDF	Regos
Pets General Store	Moon's Beverage	Rite Aid	Tobacco Shop	Nature's Bin
Convenient Store	City Hall Lobby	Subway	Candy Boutique	Winterhurst
Goddess Blessed	Aristocrat	Domino's Pizza	Johny Malloy's/	



City Council

# Catch A Train? Neighborhood Car Rental?

Have you had ever thought about riding a train out to the western suburbs or downtown? Or how about a neighborhood car rental? Council put the “wheels” in motion on those two ideas at its meeting of January 16, 2007.

First, council approved the contract between Firefighters and the City. This was reviewed at a committee of the whole meeting last week and approved by a unanimous vote. Council president Robert Seelie commended the administration and the firefighters for achieving an agreement efficiently and quickly. Mayor Thomas George pointed out that a new procedure of quarterly meetings between the union and the city resolved many issues early on so that the negotiations could be conducted on the main issues.

Another committee of the whole report recommended passage of the Clifton Boulevard Streetscape Enhancement Project which was produced by the Planning Commission and presented at the last meeting. Planning Director Thomas Jordan indicated that the series of public hearings which provided input to the plan was the most extensive for any project of its kind in Lakewood. The hearings took place over the past year and were held in various locations throughout Lakewood as well as one in Cleveland. Clifton Boulevard is a main artery connecting downtown with the western suburbs so input from the Cleveland perspective was helpful according to Jordan. Preceding this project will be



Morgen Schroeder, Sam Norris, Dan Michaels, and Bill Schneider show a model of a possible train station on the possible commuter rail system.

the replacement of an old water main along the entire length of Clifton. This upgrade will dramatically improve fire safety north of Clifton with more fire hydrants which can be supplied by a bigger water main. Council passed this Planning Commission report.

Changes in store locations or ownership in many cases require liquor permit transfers. Such was the case when Topps went out of business. Giant Eagle moved into that location, and the new sidekick operation to the grocery store, GetGo gas, at the former Sunoco

location at Manor Park and Detroit. In the particular jargon used in liquor permits, council voted “not to object” to transfers of the permits to the new owners.

Observer readers will recall an article written by Edward Favre of the administration which explained the history of the Nickle Plate railroad through Lakewood and how, today, that line could be used for a commuter rail line between downtown Cleveland and the western suburbs.

Mayor George has indicated that there is a strong interest among the westshore mayors in this idea and he put in front of council a request to NOACCA (Northeast Areawide Coordinating Agency) for funds to further study this idea. That agency is responsible for regional transportation planning and is a conduit for federal transportation funds to localities.

To continue the transportation theme, council members Nickie Antonio (at large) and Mary Louise Madigan (ward 4) sent a communication to council about car sharing. This is actually a car rental program that is neighborhood based. It is known as CityWheels in Washington D.C. and Seattle, Washington. Basically, if a person wants to rent a car for a few hours for local trips or errands this usage falls in between a longer term car rental and public transportation. So this “car sharing” would fill that gap. According to Ryan McKenzie who is starting this service in Cleveland, a city provides a few centralized, public parking spaces where the rental cars can be parked. A customer sets up an account online with the service, is provided with a key fob to the cars which can then be programmed to allow the cars to be unlocked according to online reservations.

The benefit of this system is that an individual doesn’t have to buy a car for transportation but rather can have the use of a car for short-term needs. The benefits to a community are fewer cars on the road which means less congestion and pollution and more transportation options for people.

McKenzie says that the only qualifications to rent are minimum age of 21 and accident free or three points or less on a drivers license.

Antonio and Madigan are requesting that the public works committee explore how the city might work with CityWheels to start such a program.

Finally, Finance Director Jennifer Pae requested authorization to purchase a brand spanking new MICR Check Laser Printing System. Look to future issues of the Observer for complete coverage of this space age machine (no pictures of sample checks, however).

## Mad Avon Lake Man Brings Out Community Respect for Lakewood Mayor as Man of Action

by Kenneth Warren

When the pulse of the city is threatened with ravings of madmen, it is auspicious to have a Mayor who is a Man of Action. As is well known, Mayor Tom George defines himself as a man of action. His performance during the Fry Avenue ordeal did not go unnoticed.

“I have definitely come to know that our Mayor is a man of action,” declared David Lay on the LO Observation Deck.

Indeed, there was an impressive

calm, control and fullness to the Mayor’s expression and image when viewed on the evening news the night of the Fry Avenue ordeal. It seemed like a Giuliani moment.

In all these hostage situations - with madmen from other cities coming to Lakewood and acting out violently in quiet neighborhoods - certain realizations about the skillful use of safety forces, the quality of community, the value of the man of action and the connections that keep Lakewood a good and strong place to call home inevitably come to pass.



Congressman for the 10th District and Presidential Candidate Dennis Kucinich answers a question from Belinda Prinz, of Fox8 News. Announcing his recent appointment to Chairman of the Domestic Policy Subcommittee of Government Oversight. The Congressman assured the local media that his new appointment would help the area along with the country, and that his running for President will not get in the way of his work here in the 10th District.

NEW MENU ITEMS

Grilled Panini Sandwiches

Hot Soups

NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN

Honey's Grilled Hot Dogs & Bratwurst,

Honey Ice Cream & Gelato

ice cream cakes and pints & quarts to go

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14877 Detroit Rd., Marc's Plaza (next to Chipotle)

TRADITIONAL ITALIAN PANINI

Pepperoni, salami, ham, mozzarella cheese, marinara sauce.

MONTEREY CHICKEN PANINI

Chicken strips, bacon, Monterey jack cheese, roasted onions, roasted red & green peppers, ranch sauce.



# Lakewood Observers

## Observation Deck...First & Best

Stan Austin - The following posts from the Observation Deck illustrate the immediacy of our Lakewood reporting. Some of the posts are a little ragged since they were done on the fly or out in the field. So, they might not have the polished look of the high priced media. But, we brought it to you first, fast, and personal. By the way, this is as close to real-time reporting as you can get. The Plain Dealer got it after it was over. Some TV stations got 30 seconds.

A sampling from the Observation Deck during the standoff.

**Stan Austin, Sat. Jan. 20, 4:42 pm**

Lakewood Observer on the Scene  
Fry Avenue between Detroit and Clifton is closed and residents are being evacuated. A disturbed individual has barricaded himself in a house with a tank of propane and a tank of oxygen and is threatening to ignite them.

This explosive mixture has caused the SWAT team, Lakewood Fire Department as well as police to respond.

The Mayor is on site and closely monitoring first responder activities. TV cameras are on scene so look for reports.

Exclusive from scanner monitoring and on site observations.

**4:47 p.m.**

The call has just gone out by Officer Fiorilli to have the Westshore SWAT members respond at 1800 hours.

**4:57 p.m.**

Lakewood CERT called into service. The Lakewood CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) under the volunteer command of Richard Healy has been called into service in this situation. CERT volunteers have been enlisted to help evacuate and escort residents on Fry Avenue to the City Hall Auditorium.

**5:29 p.m.**

O'Bryan and Lay are imbedded at an observation point behind the house in question.

**Doug Huntingdon, 5:56 p.m.**

Ok. I hope no one innocent gets harmed. Thanks to you, Jim, and David for on the spot reporting.

**Stan Austin, 6:08 p.m.**

Further update: Beach Avenue has been evacuated. O'Bryan reports that the SWAT response vehicle is on location.

**6:14 p.m.**

Lakewood Sgt. Spazial as quoted to Channel 5 News, "We're going to wait this one out. We're talking to him by cell phone now."

**David Lay, 6:43 p.m.**

Just got back from the scene -- photos coming shortly.

**Doug Huntingdon, 6:56 p.m.**

Great work, David. Here is channel 5 link for any who may be interested (also includes pictures) <http://www.newsnet5.com/news/10802472/detail.html>

**David Lay, 7:29 p.m.**

Photoblog is up: <http://lakewoodobserver.com/photoblogs/david-lay/swat-on-fry>

**Jim O'Bryan, 7:29 p.m.**

After being placed behind lines, David and I took to some alleys I knew from the Alley Rally (August 16th this year). Crawling under some wires, and cutting through some bushes we found ourselves one house away from the hostage house.

A woman came out with a Boxer and we had to compromise our position to warn the woman. We still stayed near her apartment about 50 yards from the house until Lakewood CERT group warned us of the dangers and asked us to move...

**David Lay, 10:56 p.m.**

For those with scanners....SWAT is on 155.850

**11:01 p.m.**

Just heard on the SWAT frequency that they're about to deploy gas.

**11:10 p.m.**

I just heard on the SWAT Frequency that they're deploying a robot into the home.

**11:28 p.m.**

SWAT is talking with the suspect.

**11:34 p.m.**

Report hissing sound in the house.

**11:39 p.m.**

SWAT told to 'get as much gas in there as possible.'

**11:41 p.m.**

Officer O'Neil told to deploy CS.

info rather than Cleveland.com or Newsnet 5. No update on those sites. Does anyone know if the coast is officially clear? I'm still hiding out in Parma until the morning.

**Jim O'Bryan, 6:59 am**

Observers were everywhere. David and I were supported in our photo efforts by Stan Austin, Bill Davis, DL Meckes working the scanner and the phones. On the ground we had Bill Grulich and DL who work for CERT, and some other very high people in official capacities helping us stay on top of everything.

This is has become a very interesting project as the Observer Family grows and begins to work together. Members on most blocks, with a network that borders on amazing.

It would seem the police and City Hall were all over this doing a grand job in a cold tough situation. While there might be discussion if the guy could have blown up a city block or not, everyone admitted it would have been a pretty big bang, and could have hurt many.



SWAT deployed in the driveway next to the house. To our immediate left were two more SWAT members, ready for action.

**11:42 p.m.**

Tear gas being deployed.

**11:44 p.m.**

Officers told to deploy remaining tear gas, then start 'putting stuff through the windows.'

**11:46 p.m.**

Suspect at front door yelling, has something in his hand, taunting officers. Keeps opening and closing door.

**11:47 p.m.**

Officers fire stage rounds, suspect retreats back into house.

**11:48 p.m.**

Call for a taser.

**11:49 p.m.**

Officers storm home, Suspect in custody.

**Doug Huntingdon, 1:51 am**

Thanks for the updates...sounds like the SWAT team did a good job.

**Brian Pedaci, 2:15 am**

Should have known to come here for

**David Lay, 9:05 am**

I second that, Jim...great job to all.

**10:09 am**

For being called up for the first time, CERT definitely worked like a well-oiled machine. My kudos to you and the rest of the CERT team on a job well done.

**10:23 am**

I have definitely come to know that our Mayor is a man of action.

Kudos also to Lakewood PD/FD/EMS, and Westshore SWAT, for going in the face of danger, and still being professionals. Great job to all.

**Jim O'Bryan, 10:36 am**

The police, fire, were really on their game, and SWAT, as I said, got it together with a couple of minor glitches. CERT was pretty amazing for newbies. It gives you a weird vibe seeing friends and neighbors dressed for emergency response. Makes it all very real.

Three standoffs this year. ALL FROM OUTSIDERS, and the police and fire got all three right. Very impressive.

**David Lay, 10:38 am**

It definitely does, knowing your friends and neighbors are out there helping to bring safety to the community. Maybe I should put my ham license to work and join CERT!

**Scott MacGregor, 11:04 am**

Our town endures the same problems that are reflective of our society on whole. However, what happened yesterday and the responsive actions of our safety forces, concerned citizens, citizen groups, and community leaders proved once again that Lakewood is a town with enormous heart and soul. I'm proud to say that I live in Lakewood, Ohio.

I just want to compliment the great job performed by all involved individuals and great coverage from all of those Lakewood Observers! You provided spell-binding, highly visual reporting throughout the entire ordeal.

Wow, LO is really coming of age after such humble beginnings.

**Esther Hazlett, 12:00 p.m.**

Awesome job! It is comforting to know that I live in a community where there is so much concern for public safety.

**Jim O'Bryan, 12:25 p.m.**

"Esther Hazlett wrote: Are you guys nuts? Great reporting, nonetheless!"

Esther,

I want to assure you we are not nuts. David and I both have some history covering events, and understand what is foolish and not. When we realized we were in front of SWAT we fell back.

One amazing thing is that we have reached a number where Observers are everywhere. It does give us amazing coverage of news and events that no one else can keep up with. The last three hostage situations had at least one Observer within a house or two.

Last night while walking around, David and I ran into at least 10 other Observers. I was speaking with tech people and I think we have found a way to broadcast to the net live from these situations. This is really some groundbreaking stuff.

Thanks for the kind words, without people like you; it would not be as much fun.



Lakewood Public Library

Women in History Website  
Linked Nationally & Awarded



by Michelle Todd

Many of the Lakewood Public Library's Women in History web-site biographies are linked on such nationally recognized and accessed websites as the Encyclopedia Britannica and Wikipedia. Encyclopedia Britannica has named Women in History biographies as an official "iGuide site."

In addition, the Jane Addams biography was awarded as an exceptional educational site on the

web by BigChalk.com in March 2001. This site offers award-winning research products, teacher resources, homework help, online field trips, standards information, and more. (The ProQuest Company acquired it in 2003.)

"Out of the more than 110,000 sites reviewed," wrote BigChalk.com, "we found yours to be in the top 2% based on your rich content and its academic relevance." At the time, the Jane Addams web-page had nearly 33,000 hits from researchers world-wide. The next year, it had 43,795 hits and in 2006, it had over 120,000 hits!

In case you didn't already know, these biographies – including almost 200 historical figures – are well-researched and extensively referenced with books and online resources. You can visit them at [www.lkwdpl.org/wihohio/](http://www.lkwdpl.org/wihohio/).

Lakewood Public Library Events Calendar  
January 23rd through February 5th

**Tuesday, January 23**

Come Out of Your Shell: Part 2 of Stephanie Harbin's dynamic four-week course will get you moving, motivated and on the road to achieving your goals. Learn seven simple yet effective strategies to get cracking. If you're stuck in a rut or tired of the routine, this course is for you. Space is limited. Please call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Thursday, January 25**

Business Book Talk With Tim Zaun and Friends: Attention movers and shakers! Our new bimonthly book club will keep you up-to-date on the latest ideas floating around in the business world and put you face-to-face with like-minded Lakewoodites. Refreshments will be provided! Tonight's book is Never Eat Alone by Keith Ferrazzi. The youngest man to make partner at Deloitte and Touche emphasizes the power of building personal and professional relationships. We'll also examine exclusive multimedia content from the author. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Saturday, January 27**

E-mail Basics: It's not too late to join the e-mail revolution. Keep in touch with friends and family. For more information about our class schedule, visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

**Monday, January 29**

Smart Auto Financing: Help enrich your community by saving money and enhancing your financial security. After all, you're one of Lakewood's most valuable resources and the good folks at L.I.F.E. (Lakewood Initiative for Financial Education) want to help you prosper with this series of lectures, filled with good sound financial advice. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Friday, February 2**

Films on Friday: The King of Comedy, Directed by Martin Scorsese (1983) Robert DeNiro devastates in the story of the man who would be funny. It's no laughing matter. This film is rated PG. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Saturday, February 3**

Word Processing Basics: Find out for yourself why everybody is getting rid of their typewriters. For more information about our class schedule, visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

Saturday Night Variety: The Love Bug. Doesn't your special sweetheart deserve an evening of love songs performed live by local favorites? Features our own Tracy Marie! 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Sunday, February 4**

Sunday With The Friends: Chamber Music by Elegance. Soprano, flute, violin, guitar and clarinet perform works by Schubert and more. 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Monday, February 5**

Ubuntu Basics: Are you ready to move beyond Microsoft and Apple computers? Ubuntu is a complete Linux-based operating system, freely available with both community and professional support. It is developed by a large community and you are invited to participate. The best part is - everybody goes home with free software that's ready to use. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center



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# Lakewood Business News

## Public To Decide Future Look of Detroit Avenue

Have you ever been frustrated when driving down Detroit Avenue at 5 p.m. and found yourself stuck in gridlock? Is Detroit two lanes in either direction or one lane in two directions? Are you a restaurant or coffee shop owner who would like to provide outdoor café seating to your patrons? Are you an art lover who would like to see more public art? Now is your chance to play a role in designing the future of Lakewood's Main Street. On Wednesday, January 31st Lakewood businesses and residents will have their first opportunity to voice concerns, opinions and ideas on ways to make Detroit Avenue more attractive and more pedestrian friendly. This is the first in a series of three public meetings. The meeting will take place at Grant Elementary School at 7:00 p.m. and is open to everyone in

**Jennifer Hooper - Executive Director  
Lakewood Community Progress Inc. (LCPI)**

the community. The end result of the process will be the Detroit Avenue Streetscape Master Plan. The changes recommended in the Plan will serve as a guide for implementing street improvements and directing future development. The improvements to Detroit Avenue could include but are not limited to, reconfiguring traffic patterns, adding or eliminating on-street parking, creating public gathering places, rebuilding the sidewalks with decorative materials, public art, new landscaping and lighting. The planning process is the result of a \$75,000 "TLCI" grant that was awarded jointly to Main Street Lakewood / LCPI and the City of

Lakewood. This is the same program that is funding the Hogsback Lane Access Improvement Project. Lakewood was the only community to receive two grants. TLCI stands for Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative and is a program of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA). NOACA is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for five counties of Northeast Ohio which includes the greater Cleveland and Lorain areas. City Architecture was awarded the contract for the Detroit Avenue Streetscape Plan to bring professional expertise and guidance to the process. They will also provide cost estimates and recommendations for improvements based on public input. The estimates are an essential part of the process in order to begin fundraising for the improvements. Although City Architecture will assist in leading the process, the Master Plan will be created largely from the opinions and suggestions of the community. Most of the information gathering will take place at the first public meeting. There will be a second public meeting at the end of March where

City Architecture will present ideas for dealing with the issues raised at the first meeting. Public input on the preliminary plans will also be gathered. The third public meeting will take place at the end of April and the consultant will present final plans based on recommendations made at the second meeting. Main Street Lakewood is Lakewood's independent nonprofit community development corporation that is focused on commercial district revitalization by using the Main Street four point approach. The four point approach outlines four committee's that communities use to help direct economic development in their primary commercial districts; in Lakewood's case, that is Detroit Avenue. Main Street Lakewood and its parent organization, LCPI, is led by a volunteer board of directors that is made up of business leaders, a one person staff and resident and business volunteers who serve on the committees of Promotion, Design, Organization and Economic Restructuring. The first public meeting of the Detroit Avenue Streetscape Master Plan will take place on Wednesday, January 31st at 7:00 p.m. at Grant Elementary School, 1470 Victoria. Call the Main Street office at 216-521-0655 or email [jhooper@lcpi.org](mailto:jhooper@lcpi.org) for more information.

## Ohio City's Popular Souper Market Opens New Store in Lakewood

*by Philip Florian* Lakewood will soon be home to what has become a staple of good eats in Ohio City. If all goes as planned, The Souper Market, a soup and salad stop near Cleveland's West Side Market, will open its doors on Detroit Avenue in the location formally occupied by the Flora Café. Five years ago, chef Matthew Moore recognized the need for a specialty food establishment, such as a "soup house," and opened his own business. The Souper Market specializes in creating fresh, hand-crafted soups and stocks from available ingredients, using no additives or preservatives. As a result, its menu changes with the seasons. Weekly specials are available and current features include Green Chili Stew and Sweet Potato and Red Pepper Soup. These will give way to lighter or chilled soups and salads as the weather gets warmer. Jambalaya and Roasted Red Pepper Bisque, a vegetarian choice, are staples available throughout the year. All soups come with a hearty hunk of bread. A long-time Lakewood resident, Moore has always been excited about the possibility of opening a restaurant

in the city. With the new establishment, Moore is aiming for a "pub-like" feel and more dining space. His current Ohio City stop caters mostly to carry-out customers, but the new location will have a winding hardwood bar that diners can sidle up to when ordering their food. They can stay there while eating to chat with other customers or watch the cooks at work in the open kitchen. Moore is excited about the overall design and renovation for the Lakewood site, which includes exposing and finishing the hardwood floors and original ceiling along with commissioning a wall-sized mural by a local artist. All Souper Market staples and seasonal menu items will be available at the Lakewood location. Moore noted that he is also planning to upgrade diner experiences by bringing more of his fine dining background to the menu. This might include braised items, like braised short ribs, along with sandwiches and items he calls "comfort food." Moore hopes to open in Lakewood by the end of January or beginning of February. Until then, check out the website: [www.thesoupermarket.com](http://www.thesoupermarket.com) for information about current menu selections at the Ohio City location.

## Lakewood Home-Based Business Brothers Run Up 20K Cleveland Bar Tab

*by Kenneth Warren* Business partness partners Brad and Bryan Frey have launched their first issue of a hand-sized, full color, glossy magazine – Cleveland Bar Tab: Cleveland's Restaurant, Bar and Nightlife Guide. Twenty thousand copies of the new guide were published and made available for free at bars throughout the city. By way of introduction, the Frey brothers celebrate with bold attitudes the sacred moment of their publication's birth in 2007. With Cleveland Bar Tab, they have installed "a new regime of hip, cool and no holds-barred (pun intended) nightlife guide for this, the Holy City of Ohio – Cleveland."

Cleveland Bar Tab is, indeed, fifty-six pages of fun. It's filled with articles, listings, photographs and profiles of party animals, smartly designed to inspire young people to let the good times roll in the "Holy City." "We felt Cleveland needed a full color, nice, handy, easy to read guide to nightlife," said Brad Frey, who first noticed the Bar Tab franchise concept while living and working in Florida. With a background in the advertising industry, Brad Frey set up shop with his brother. Working from their Nicholson Avenue home until they can find office space, the brothers are sold on Lakewood for its location. "We've always liked Lakewood. It's a good in-between place that puts us in the center of things."

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# The Buck Stops Here

## If Only We Hesitated

“Do not move, let the wind speak.”  
-- Ezra Pound.

It’s not so much that we live speeded-up lives, but that technology has made it impossible for us to live any other way. If the nineteenth century ended when the airplane was invented, the twentieth reached its nadir with the computer. In the War of 1812, the Battle of New Orleans was fought after the war was over because it took more than a week for news of peace to reach the armies. We saw 9/11 on our computers as it happened. Increasingly, the premise of film – thirty frames per second per second – is the story of our lives. Computers give us answers faster than we can come up with them. Cameras preserve memory better than we can. Instant replay permits us to see what our eyes cannot assimilate. Remote controls lower our threshold of boredom, or distraction.

Speed kills, goes the slogan, and, in fact, it does. It shortens time, our time, and our experience of it is transformed. Before a spectator can think about what he has seen in the theater, the image on the screen has changed and he must run after it to catch up. “The principles of journalistic information (newness, brevity, clarity, and, above all, lack of connection between individual items),” Walter Benjamin argues, “isolate events from the realm in which they could affect the experience of the reader.” We assimilate data and information in newspapers, but rarely understanding. (We are a nation increasingly trained to compete on Jeopardy.) We may put a book down for a moment to think about what we have read, but the only way to do that in front of a television is to turn it off.

To shorten or lengthen time changes how we live and what we understand. To sit in front of a painting for a half hour changes how we understand it. Walking permits us to see things that driving causes us to miss. If we live moment by moment (which is how the media conditions us to live), the past is lost and the future always changes.

I am reminded of an experience I had watching Alexander Sokurov’s Mother and Son. In the last minute of the film, the screen went dark, and we heard birds singing, the rustle of wind in the trees, the memory of the intermittent chug-chugging of a laboring locomotive fading in the distance. At the same time, in the theater, I became aware, suddenly, of a cough, a seat creaking, my own heartbeat. No one said anything, and the silence was palpable. In this silence, I thought, we know what stillness is, and what it is like if nothing follows.

These thoughts were triggered by my assessment of the best films I saw this year. I realized that the films that affected me most strongly were those that went against Hollywood in slowing time down. Spike Lee’s When the

Levees Broke, his film about the impact of Katrina, was more than four hours long and needed that time (if not more) for us to make what happened part of us. In I Don’t Want to Sleep Alone, a group of young men take a half-hour to lug a mattress they have found in a dumpster across Taipei to their loft. At first, I became restless as they crossed

### Secret Shopper: Lacey Paraphernalia

by Justine Cooper

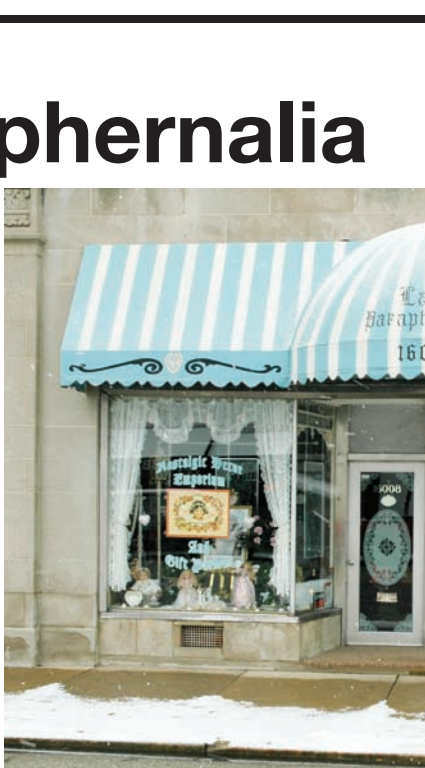
The first Christmas that I remember was when I was in Kindergarten in snowy Massachusetts. There were six of us born in four years (yes, two sets of twins) to parents in their young twenties. We rented a big old house, and I never knew at the time that we did not have money. I only have happy memories of that era of my life. My grandmother sewed all of our Halloween costumes, my mother baked and decorated all of our birthday cakes, my dad worked long hours but always played outside with us on his downtime. Somehow my parents made life happy for us on a shoestring budget, including Christmas. I look back now and am amazed that the things we wanted most on our list always. I often find it difficult to feel that I am giving enough to my children, even though they have so much more materially.

Having a “magical” Christmas for me, encompasses several elements, from spirituality, to giving, to spending family time together, to baking, to sending out Christmas cards, and even decorating. On Christmas Eve I wanted to create a tradition for my children of one special gift from me, something not on their list for Santa. For my only daughter there was only one place to get such a gift, Lacy’s Paraphernalia, the boutique for the princess in every girl.

I first patronized Lacey Paraphernalia last spring, a few months after they opened their doors. I was immediately impressed with the stunning eye-catching window display the owner Dare and her husband created. When business owners create such a beautiful renovation, it pushes the city up one more notch in uniqueness and small-town attraction. And, the difference between a small town with a variety of unique small shops compared to a small town with an abundance of empty storefronts affects every single citizen in the city. That is why I find it imperative to at least stop into every locally-owned business, even if it is just to let them know I appreciate them being here.

On my first visit to Lacey’s I was impressed with the two rooms transformed into the Victorian era. What better city for a Victorian reproduction boutique, than Lakewood with its rich history of historical houses. The boutique was filled with Victorian dolls, jew-

elry, home décor, Victorian Doll lamps, Angels, candles, etc. But what stood out the most was the warm welcome from Dare, a Lakewood resident, and her husband Lee, who helped his wife realize her passion and dream. Dare’s eyes beamed with the realization of that dream surrounding her. At that time I bought Kaleidoscopes and other small items for my children’s Easter Baskets. But I made a note to come back for one of the Victorian dolls for my daughter.



town, but the time it took underlined what they needed (and we all need) – that we have a bed to lie in and that there be someone alongside us – and what it is like without it. It needed that half-hour to make its impact. Andrea Arnold’s Red Road is a film about a woman whose job it is to watch surveillance cameras, hour after hour,

day after day. And yet drama rises out of this most tedious of jobs, as drama rises out of each of our lives, if we but slow down to see it.

Miles Davis once advised musicians “not to play all the notes you could play, but to wait, hesitate, let space become part of the configuration.” He was leading us back to what we have lost, what we might gain, if we only hesitated, waited.

elry, home décor, Victorian Doll lamps, Angels, candles, etc. But what stood out the most was the warm welcome from Dare, a Lakewood resident, and her husband Lee, who helped his wife realize her passion and dream. Dare’s eyes beamed with the realization of that dream surrounding her. At that time I bought Kaleidoscopes and other small items for my children’s Easter Baskets. But I made a note to come back for one of the Victorian dolls for my daughter.

So after I knew Santa’s list was taken care of, I headed to Lacey’s for what I hoped was the special gift I needed for my daughter. As usual, Dare welcomed me with warmth you cannot buy in a corporate chain. I felt almost like family and enjoyed the pastries and coffee she offered to weary Christmas shoppers. My eyes immediately went to a collection of Bears, called “Chantilly Lane”, Victorian style, well-made unique bears. Each female bear came dressed with satin or silk hats, matching scarves, and their own song. They ranged from Red Hat Society to Breast Cancer Awareness to simple well-dressed bears. As soon as I picked up the mommy bear holding her baby with matching pink satin hats and singing the tune of “Be My Little Baby”,

I knew I had the right gift. My daughter’s favorite play game is playing mommy.

What I could not predict is that it truly was my daughter’s favorite gift. She actually had tears in her eyes when she held the bear and continually played the song while rocking in the rocking chair. I have never seen her with tears in her eyes over a gift, so I knew this would be the gift, long after the other plastic toys were gone to Goodwill or the garbage, that she would keep through childhood, college, and hopefully until she is a mother. It may seem like a small gesture, but somehow it brought me back to the sentiments of my early childhood, and to my loving mother and father, who I now know made childhood magical because of the time and heart they gave us every day. I wonder now if that is why I ended up in Lakewood, Ohio, in a big old house. Maybe I want to capture that spirit in a different day and time. If you want to capture some of the Victorian spirit, please visit Lacey Paraphernalia.

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# Lakewood Schools & Sports

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	7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.	All Ages
Wednesday	1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.	Adults Only
	4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Skills Practice/All Ages
Thursday	8:30 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.	Adults Only (Live Organ Music)
Friday	8:30 P.M. - 10:30 P.M.	All Ages
Saturday	10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.	All Ages
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by Danielle Masters

On Sunday January 14 Winterhurst Ice Rink and Trinity Special Olympics hosted the Annual Special Olympics of Greater Cleveland Speed and Figure Skating Meet. This year the event drew over 60 Special Olympians from around the Greater Cleveland area.

The event began with a traditional parade of athletes followed by a group recitation of the Special Olympics Oath. "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt" echoed throughout Winterhurst. The oath is fitting as these athletes are indeed brave in their attempts.

Various events went on throughout the day. The speed skaters raced in several individual races, a few relay races and ended with the

always entertaining bucket relay races. In the bucket relay the athletes push a coach who is seated on a 5 gallon bucket around the course. The figure skaters also competed in several events that tested their various skills. Their skills were indeed impressive. Every time a particularly difficult move was completed, the crowd went wild. After a long day of competition the athletes received their medals as the crowd cheered on.

This annual event was pulled off flawlessly due in large part to coordinator Sharon Stark along with the numerous volunteers and the wonderful athletes. I encourage everyone to come out next year and support this fabulous event that we are so privileged to have in Lakewood.

## St. Edward High School Serves the Community

by Benjamin J. Szweda

Residents of Cleveland's inner-city are not the only ones who must choose between heating their homes, getting their kids holiday gifts and buying food. During this holiday season, people in the suburbs made these tough decisions as well. According to the September Plain Dealer article, "Hunger Growing in the Suburbs," within the past year, hunger in the suburbs increased by 40 percent and the need for food stamps went up by 89 percent.

Coming to the aid of these citizens, many people help out by collecting money, food and even gifts through the concept of a "giving tree." Students from St. Edward High School, Lakewood's all-male Catholic high school, helped the community by participating in a giving tree. They were encouraged to take ornaments from the tree and purchase items

listed on the ornaments. The giving tree provided toys, games and clothes for local children.

St. Edward also held its annual food drive for needy Lakewood families. Between November 7 and November 15, 2006, students brought in 2,300 pounds of non-perishable food items. They were donated to the Lakewood Christian Service Center and the Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation, part of the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland. Together, these organizations are responsible for 80 percent of all free meals distributed throughout the area.

Another food drive will be held this spring to benefit Lakewood citizens. During this food drive, the Eagles are asking local families to participate. Students will drop off collection bags at nearby homes and will pick up bags that are filled with non-perishable food a few days later. Dates to be announced.

## Kayla Kovach Moves Into Second On All-time Scoring List

by Mike Deneen

Lakewood High School girls basketball player Kayla Kovach has become the second leading scorer in program history, surpassing Ranger legend Summer Erb. Erb, who led the team to a 26-1 record and the state championship game in 1995, scored a total of 955 points in her Lakewood career. Erb went on to star at North Carolina State University, and had

a three year career in the WNBA. Kovach, currently a senior, surpassed Erb during the January 6th game against Shaker Heights. "Her accomplishments are a result of her hard work, dedication, and desire to be the best she can be" says LHS coach Nicole Anderson. Kovach has signed a letter of intent to play Division I college ball at Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne. Danielle Mueller remains the leading scorer in LHS history, with a career total of 1,179 points.



# Lakewood Sports

## St. Edward to Host Big Ten Wrestling Meet February 4th: Buckeyes to Face NU Here in Lakewood



by Mike Deneen

Lakewood has hosted numerous major sporting events over the years. However, on Sunday February 4th, something new will come to town. Ohio State University will be hosting Northwestern University in a collegiate dual wrestling meet at St. Edward High School at 2 p.m. This is the first-ever Big Ten athletic event ever held in Lakewood, and it features two programs from collegiate wrestling's most prestigious conference.

Ohio State Head Coach Tom Ryan credits St. Edward varsity coach Greg Urbas for bringing the event to Lakewood. "Coach Urbas reached out to us about wrestling a college match at St. Eds" says Ryan, "Coach is willing to do anything possible to promote the sport of wrestling". Ryan, currently in his first year at Ohio State, liked the idea of coming to Lakewood. This area is widely considered to have the best high school wrestling in the country, and is a prime recruiting ground for collegiate wrestling coaches. Ryan hopes to showcase OSU's program to Cleveland area fans and wrestlers

in the hopes that it will further boost OSU recruiting.

The meet will be a homecoming for many wrestlers on both teams, including five former St. Edward wrestlers. Ohio State features five Cleveland area wrestlers, including former Eagles Chris Vanduskra (a senior 165 pounder) and Lance Palmer (a freshman 149 pounder). Within the Big Ten, Vandruska and Palmer are ranked third and seventh in their respective weight classes. Northwestern, whose program is ranked in the top ten nationally, features three former Eagles. Kevin Sulzer (133 lbs.) and Kyle Bertin (157 lbs.) are both freshmen. Junior Ryan Lang (141 lbs.) is ranked first in his class and is a favorite to win the NCAA title in March. Coach Ryan says his former Eagles are excited to be coming back to St. Edward. "They both have very strong feelings about their experience at St.Eds academically, athletically and socially."

The match will be a major challenge for OSU, as Northwestern features one of the top teams in the entire country. "They are a quality team with several outstanding individuals" says Ryan, "we will have to wrestle extremely well to beat Northwestern." In addition to Ryan Lang, NU has another wrestler ranked first in his weight class. Junior Jake Herbert went 36-1 last season, losing only in the NCAA championship final. He is currently undefeated this season.

The event will bring a lot of excitement to Lakewood. "The gym holds 2,000 people and we expect it to be a packed" says Ryan. Mayor Tom George has even declared February 4th "OSU

Wrestling Day" in Lakewood. "Thanks to St. Edward High School for hosting this event" says George, an OSU alum and lifelong Buckeye fan, "clearly St. Edward's reputation is countrywide and this key wrestling matchup is fur-

ther proof of the respect St. Edward's wrestling program enjoys." Tickets, which cost \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids, still remain for the event. To purchase tickets, contact the OSU ticket office at 1-800-GOBUCKS

## LHS Wrestling Season Rolling On



Senior Brennan Pomposelli looks to take down his opponent

by Mike Deneen

Of course, St. Edward isn't the only wrestling program in town. The Lakewood High School varsity wrestling team won two matches on January 12, beating Lutheran West 58-16 and Westerville North 38-30 at the Lakewood High School gym. This pushed the team's record to 8-1 on the season. The Rangers were led by 103 lb. sophomore Christian Cerda-Smith, 125 lb. sophomore Tony Sclementi, 130 lb. junior Pat Duffy, 140 lb. sophomore Peti "The Hungarian Hammer"

Tapolyai, 160 lb. junior Vinny Fox and 189 lb. sophomore Madhi Doud. Each of these wrestlers went 2-0 on the day. The Westerville North match came down to the final bout at 103 pounds. Lakewood 's Christian Cerda-Smith dominated the match winning 7-0 and giving the Rangers the 38-30 victory. Other big matches for the Rangers were 215 lb. Gahad Suleiman getting a first period pin and sophomore 189 Madhi Doud edging out a 5-4 decision. To learn more about the LHS wrestling program, visit their website at [www.rangerwrestling.com](http://www.rangerwrestling.com)

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Lakewood Perspective

# Resolutions Revisited

If the statistics are correct, then, by the time you're reading this, you're halfway through a bowl of ice cream wondering what happened to your vow to lose weight. You've only gotten four pages into that great American novel you swore you'd read. And, there's still a pile of wood where you promised your wife a handmade bookshelf using your brand-new power tools.

Although it's easy to forgive yourself for failing to stick to your New Year's resolutions, unfortunately this is also the time of year when most of us are reminded of a shortcoming that is bigger and much more difficult to dismiss: cash. By now, most of us have received the first credit card statement of the new year. And, suddenly and unceremoniously, the holiday season is officially over.

The average American household has a combined credit card balance of nearly \$10,000. The truly disheartening part of that statistic comes with the realization that, depending on the interest rates, that household can spend around \$2,000 each year on the finance charges alone. Forget about losing your pocket change in the couch cushions - that payment is the equivalent of losing five dollars a day, every single day of the year.

Well, I'll be the last person to say anything about the ice cream you're eating, but, if you are one of the people

who fit this fiscally problematic profile, I am going to suggest that you need to make a change.

Credit spending is as addictive as any drug. However, it doesn't garner the same sort of social awareness and action as crack or even cigarettes. Try taking the credit cards out of your wallet or purse for a while and see if you can live without the high that comes from wielding impromptu purchasing power.

*I know what you're thinking... "I don't need my credit cards, I just use them for the convenience." Or, "I don't have a problem - I just haven't paid down the balance in a while." Or, "I just had a bad month, but I'm fine." Step back for a second.*

I know what you're thinking... "I don't need my credit cards, I just use them for the convenience." Or, "I don't have a problem - I just haven't paid down the balance in a while." Or, "I just had a bad month, but I'm fine." Step back for a second. Those arguments don't work for alcoholics and drug addicts, and they don't work here either. The truth is this: if you've got a balance at the end of the month, any balance, then you're throwing money out the window, and that can be a problem.

Fortunately, the solution is simple. It's not easy, but it's simple. Stop

spending tomorrow's money today. As a society we've become accustomed to borrowing against our own future. We want, so we buy. We're hooked on instant gratification and we've convinced ourselves that our ability to borrow validates our desire to spend.

For some, the problem is compounded by the desire to live above one's means. But, for most, it boils down to a lack of respect for proper

financial planning. When my wife and I were first married, the mountains of bills were unavoidable: two sets of college loans, several credit cards, car payments, etc. Despite this massive debt, however, my wife and I were not even comfortable discussing the issue.

Make no mistake about it - both of us knew we were heavily in debt and that we were probably wasting money by not paying enough toward the right bills. But, talking about savings and spending seemed like such a pessimistic and fatalistic topic that we held tight to the premise that "ignorance is bliss." There is a certain sense of shame that comes with the admission that you owe money. And, in many families, discussion of personal finance is as taboo a topic as sex and drugs.

Luckily, my wife and I conquered our pride and decided to address the

issue. And, yes, the sacrifices we made at first seemed rough. But, once we started down the path, it was amazing to see how quickly the bills began to disappear. If you pay off one credit card, all of the sudden, it's easier to pay off the next. Once those bills dried up, the car payments became easy. And, when we finally whittled everything down, we discovered that day-to-day purchases were a piece of cake.

However, the first step is definitely the hardest. Re-training yourself is crucial. And, making the hard choices requires great strength of character. But, I'm here to say, for those that succeed, the freedom you will feel is incredible.

There are many ways to go about making the change. If you're hard pressed to come up with your own methods, there are a number of credit counseling services that can help. Keep in mind, though, like trying to lose weight or quit smoking, commitment is the most critical ingredient. And, to that end, I'm begging you - get help! Get someone you trust, be they friend or family member, and share the burden of this undertaking. Talk about it. Compare your strengths and weaknesses and, most of all, frequently discuss your progress. Accomplishing any task is easier when you have someone keeping you honest and accountable.

The year is well under way. If you need to, get to a gym. If you want to, pick up a book. And, if you're supposed to, plug in your power tools. But, even if all else fails, force yourself to make 2007 the beginning of the end of your personal debt.

## Barton Center Announces Programs for 2007

by Kris Griesmar

The Barton Senior Center rolled-out a full schedule of activities and programs for the New Year. Social activities topped the list with events planned daily. Table-top bowling leagues return on a bi-weekly schedule. BINGO is played every Monday afternoon and two Wednesday evenings per month. A dinner/show event is scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m., while a monthly Birthday Lunch with entertainment is slotted for the 4th Friday at noon. Interactive games like Wheel of Fortune and Name That Tune are scheduled on an ongoing basis. In addition, the Barton Center Singers are soliciting new participants.

Personal well-being and educational programs are abundant with Creative Writing, Book Club, Bible Fellowship and wellness programs presented by health professionals. Many of the classic Arts and Crafts classes are still held, including Ceramics, Handcrafts, Woodcrafts, Crafts and Sewing. New in January is the Acrylic Paints on


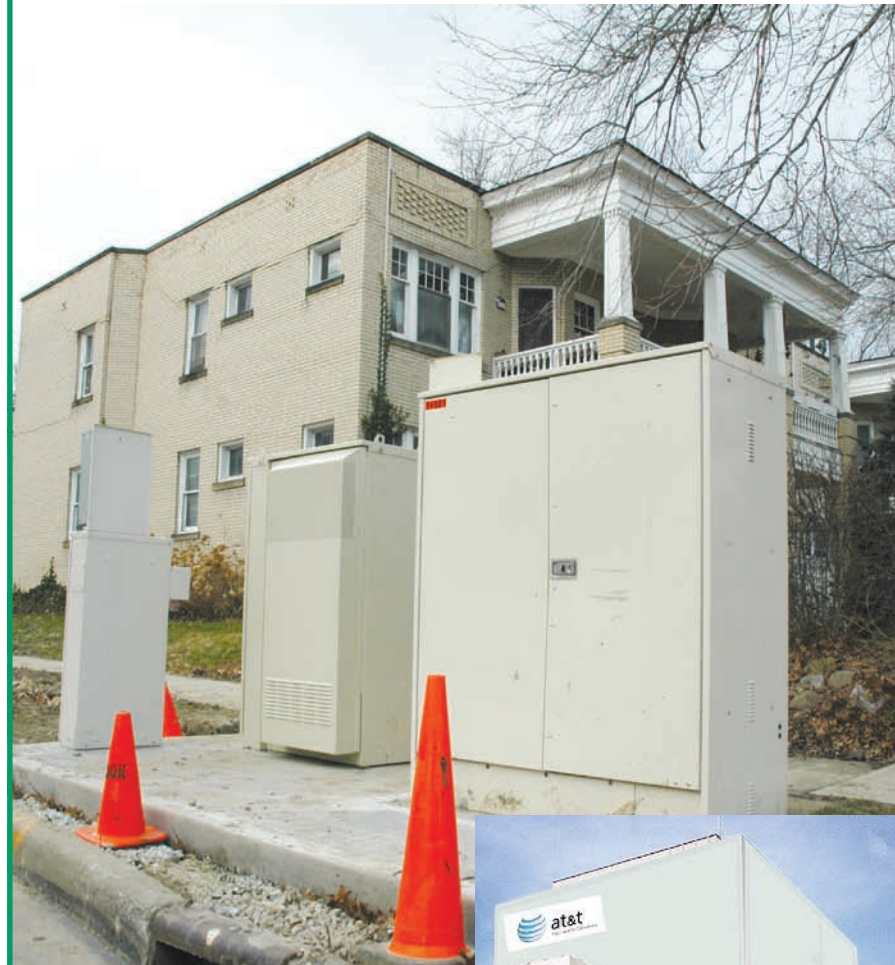
Slate or Stone class. Exercise and computer classes are also offered twice a week. AARP tax volunteers will be available for the next several months to assist with tax preparation and questions.

Off-site activities are also popular among Barton seniors. Shopping trips to Great Northern Mall take place each month. Daily car transportation is available to destinations located in Lakewood for all members.

The Barton Center Shops are very busy during the winter months, with the Hodge Podge furniture and resale shop and the Book Nook open every Tuesday and Thursday. The Greenhouse is open four days per week and the Corner Store is open Monday through Friday.

Membership to the Barton Community Center is available to individuals who are at least 55 for only \$15 per year. To find out more about Ohio's oldest senior center, or to volunteer, call the Barton Center office at (216) 221-3400. Barton Center is located on the Ground Floor of the Westerly Apartments at 14300 Detroit Ave. and is open from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. on weekdays.

### What Is This Observation?



What are these images of? What are Lakewoodites saying about them? Check out The Lakewood Observer's - Observation Deck.

<http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>

Topic: Ahead At Lightspeed

It where Lakewoodites meet to talk about what is going on in our neighborhoods. No sign up required to read all the news and conversations.



Chef Geoff

Chutsa: Neither Salsa nor Chutney

Jeff Endress

There has been an ongoing discussion on the Lakewood Observer Observation Deck about how (or if) chutney differs from salsa and how both differ from the generic relish. A determination of where chutney ends and salsa begins and how both relate to relish is not of monumental importance. If you happen to like the taste of any product, it really doesn't matter how it's classified - just spoon it out and enjoy! What makes this quandary a trifle more interesting is how the demarcations between the three have blurred and how that reflects the larger issue of our own food standards morphing as new influences are incorporated. To understand this phenomenon, let's first return to the pure state of each, before the lines began to blur.

Originally, the natively Spanish salsa was generally viewed as a preparation of vegetables into a sauce. Indeed, salsa is Spanish for sauce. When we think of salsas, we generally have in mind the Mexican incarnation, which includes several basic types. There is pico de gallo or salsa cruda: an uncooked sauce of coarsely chopped vegetables, usually tomato, chiles, onion seasoned with lime, garlic, and cilantro. Another type is salsa roja, which is a cooked sauce using essentially the same ingredients as its cousin, cruda. Then, there is salsa verde: a green salsa made with tomatillos and chiles. While each is different, they are nevertheless classified under the generic "salsa" due to their similarity in ingredients, as well as their common use as a condiment. Salsas entered into our culinary lexicon through the popularity of southwestern and Tex-Mex restaurants and cooking.

Chutney had its genesis in India and South Asia. Unlike the vegetable makeup of salsa, chutney (which can be either wet or dry) was generally a fruit-based preparation. There is some ingredient overlap with salsas; specifically, cilantro and chiles are also often used in chutneys. The most standard types of chutneys include tamarind, mango, and coconut, all of which are typically spicy, but possess an element of sweetness not present in salsas. Chutneys owe their acceptance in western cooking to the British Empire which, along with gin and tonic and India Pale

Ales, imported the condiment from its colonial holdings in the area. My extensive research on the subject reveals that in the late 1970's or early 1980's, probably near the area of Ponca City, Oklahoma, various eastbound salsa recipes, making their way out of the Nogales area, ran head-long into various westbound chutney recipes, working their way past St. Louis. The result of that collision was the first pineapple salsa. It wasn't really a salsa, but, by the same token, it certainly wasn't chutney. The two had melded and morphed into salsney (admittedly, some have elected to refer to the resulting concoction as chutsa... either is correct).

The trend, of course, had been on the horizon for some time before the actual culinary collision. Salsas typically did not include vinegar, as they were usually prepared and served fresh. However, as salsas became more popular and more commercially available, it was necessary to modify the homemade recipes to allow for grocery store shelf life. Not only were salsas then generally cooked, but vinegar was also added as a preservative. The texture of the traditional salsa crude became more akin to a chunky store-bought spaghetti sauce.

At the same time, chutney was becoming popular enough to necessitate grocery store availability, meaning that it, too, had a need for added shelf life. This was usually accomplished by the addition of an acidic base such as citrus juice. Thus, well before the Ponca City culinary collision, a metamorphosis had already begun with commercial salsa taking on the vinegar and savory overtones of homemade chutney and commercial chutney taking on the citrus overtones of homemade salsa.

So, where are we now? We have any number of salsas with a fruit component - everything from pineapple and mango to raspberries and peaches. Of course, traditional chutney is still available, most notably imported by Crosse and Blackwell, and there are still any number of commercial salsas, but the trend seems to be towards the more exotic chutsas and salsneys, which draw upon the traditions of both, but, in fact, are neither one nor the other.

Mango Chutney

- Ingredients:
- 1/2 tsp. oil
  - 1 Clove garlic, crushed
  - 1 Jalapeño chili, seeded and finely diced
  - 1/8 tsp. cumin seeds
  - 1 Large sweet mango, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
  - 1/8 tsp. ground coriander
  - 2 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar
  - 2 Tbsp. sugar
  - 1/8 tsp. salt



Sauté the garlic, chili, and cumin seeds in 1/2 tsp. oil until golden brown. Add the remaining ingredients, mix well, and refrigerate overnight. Serve as a condiment for roasted chicken or pork.

Classic Salsa Cruda

- Ingredients:
- 2 Cups seeded, chopped tomatoes, diced
  - 1/2 Cup stemmed, chopped cilantro
  - 6 Cloves fresh finely minced garlic
  - 2/3 Cup diced onion
  - 1 Jalapeño or Chipotle (seeded for a milder salsa) finely chopped
  - 1 tsp. salt
  - juice of 1/2 lime



Combine all ingredients. Chill overnight. Serve as a side with quesadillas or during football games with tortilla chips and cold beer.

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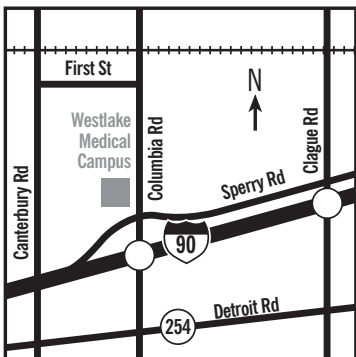


Welcome  
Roger A. Mansnerus, M.D.

We are pleased to welcome Roger A. Mansnerus, M.D., to his new office located at the Westlake Medical Campus, 850 Columbia Road, Suite 105, Westlake. Dr. Mansnerus is board-certified in internal medicine and has provided expert care to Cleveland's west side communities for more than 25 years.

As a specialist in internal medicine, he has had extensive training in caring for a wide range of adult diseases and has a special interest in the treatment of hypertension, hypolipidemia, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and headaches.

Dr. Mansnerus is welcoming new and current patients.  
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## Minding The Issues

# Immigration: What to do About It? -- Everything

Gordon Brumm

In a previous column I admitted to having no solution to the immigration problem. But discussions with the Lakewood Library's "Great Decisions" group changed my perspective. And immigration is worth another round of discussion, for under the new and (hopefully) improved Congress it might again be on the table.

Illegal immigration from Mexico is a process. It begins with the need to migrate on the part of Mexicans (as well as those who migrate *through* Mexico, e.g. Central Americans – or terrorists). It ends with the attempt to find employment in the U.S. This process must be attacked at every point. Think of a dike with many leaks. If we leave any leak unplugged we will be drowned. To the extent that we fail in any aspect of the immigration program we run the danger of being overrun.

But we can't try for perfection. All we can hope for – and all we should aim for -- is to transform illegal immigration from a desperate necessity into a foolish risk.

We can do this by lessening the need to immigrate, by making illegal immigration more difficult, and by making the alternative (i.e., legal immigration) more realizable.

To this end, I offer a five-point proposal.

### 1) EXPAND THE LEGAL IMMIGRATION PROGRAM:

Currently, immigration is governed by a complicated quota system that produces long waiting lines and is strongly slanted in favor of relatives of those already in the country – relatives that are probably not in the work force. As far as immigration from Mexico is concerned, the system allows far fewer adults to enter than the number who wish to. The rest, as we know, stream across the border illegally.

On the U.S. side, the demand for these illegal immigrants shows that our businesses need far more Mexican immigrants than the immigration laws now permit.

How many more? What number of adult immigrants should be allowed to enter legally from Mexico and Central America – what should the legal quota be? The required number is clearly greater than the legal quotas now in effect and is presumably smaller than the current number of illegal immigrants.

This question of the legal quota is a political one, to be resolved by balancing interests, mainly the interests of businesses in getting Mexican workers versus the interests of American labor in minimizing competition from these workers. Rather than allowing the question to be settled by anecdotal claims and partisan broadsides, we need to settle it through open deliberation based on all the facts with all sides participating.

Congress must make the final decision, but it should do so on the basis of recommendations from a conference and/or commission representing all stakeholders and marshalling all the

expertise available. The experts will be asked to determine exactly what the consequences would be (primarily economic consequences, but also social consequences) for any given number of immigrants. (And perhaps in calculating these consequences we should expand the experts' numbers by, say, 5% to allow for leakage in the system.) Using these factual estimates, the participants in the conference(s) and/or commission could hammer out a fair and equitable number of immigrants to allow in each year, and transmit their findings to Congress.

(With the increase in the number of legal immigrants, a guest-worker program will be unnecessary. It is also unwise, for the same reason that it would be unwise not to provide amnesty, as discussed below.)

This quota of legal immigrants would represent a national consensus, and its establishment would leave no legitimate grounds for complaint about the number being legally admitted and no room arguments against preventing others from entering illegally.

What remains is to take the measures that will insure against illegal entry.

The basic and obvious problem is that the illegal immigrants' motivation to immigrate is stronger than the barriers set up to stop them. So one necessary point of attack is to decrease the pressure for immigration at the source:

### 2) DECREASE THE ECONOMIC NEED TO MIGRATE:

We need to make life in Mexico more viable for small farmers in Mexico and Central America. I see two ways of doing so:

First, inaugurate an extensive program of micro-credit throughout Mexico, especially southern Mexico, and in all relevant parts of Central America.

Micro-credit, as you may know from recent news stories, is a program for lending small amounts of money to poor people – people too poor to get loans from normal banks. Begun in Bangladesh, it has spread around the world and has proven spectacularly successful, both in terms of repayment of the loans and in terms of lifting recipients out of poverty. In fact it has been so successful that its originator, Muhammad Yunus, recently won the Nobel Peace Prize.

With a relatively small amount of working capital and with the consent of the Mexican government, the U.S. could initiate micro-credit programs throughout the poorer areas of Mexico and Central America. Farmers would be enabled to switch to higher-yield crops (see the next recommendation), and workmen would be enabled to start their own cottage industries. These measures would alleviate some of the poverty that drives so many Mexicans and Central Americans northward.

Second, stop the sale of U.S. corn in Mexico. Small-scale Mexican farmers, it is reported, cannot compete with exports from U.S. producers and must go out of business. Their only alternative is to go north. This process, it is claimed, is worsened by government subsidies to U.S. farmers. How big a role such subsidies play is open to dispute; in any case, all reports indicate that U.S. corn is driving Mexican farmers off the land.

The Mexican government supposedly allowed for this possibility by initiating programs through which corn farmers could switch to more profitable crops, as well as by encouraging farmers to take the manufacturing jobs that NAFTA would bring in. But the former program has not reached all the farmers it is intended to benefit, and many of the factory jobs have gone to China.

Beyond this one instance of corn exports, the larger question of NAFTA should be explored. We are familiar with complaints that NAFTA hurts U.S. workers, but the opposite seems to be taking place as well – exports from the U. S., under NAFTA, are hurting Mexicans and forcing them to emigrate.

Of course, banning agricultural or other exports is a violation of free trade principles, and as such may hurt various interests in the U.S. and perhaps in Mexico as well. But it is necessary if illegal immigration is to be minimized. If we are serious about minimizing illegal immigration, we will take the steps necessary to do so, regardless of complaints from the agriculture sector (mainly agrobusiness).

There is a historical analogy to the events now transpiring in Mexico: In England, mainly between 1750 and 1850, large landowners put through a system of laws known as the Enclosure Acts (or "Inclosure Acts"). Prior to these measures, much of the grazing and farm land was common property, available to all villagers. The Enclosure Acts transformed these common lands into private holdings. The rationale, presumably, was that privatized farming was more efficient. But the result was that many of the poorer herders and farmers were forced off the land and had to make a living elsewhere, often migrating to the cities where they formed the ill-paid labor force that kindled industrialization and the rise of capitalism. After the Enclosure Acts, English farmers went to London. After NAFTA, Mexican farmers are coming to the United States.

### 3) EXTERNAL PREVENTION: THE BORDER FENCE

I know the arguments against: If you build a 12-foot fence, there will be a run on 13-foot ladders, not to mention tunneling equipment. But I'm not claiming that the fence, or any one provision of the program, will be sufficient. Please remember that we're not aiming for a cure-all but for disincentives – the

more the better. And a patrolled fence will certainly be a disincentive.

The fence might especially work to prevent the entry of terrorists, because it will increase the need to cross the border in small disciplined groups, with a "coyote" in command. In such close contact with their coyote and their fellow travelers, Islamic terrorists would find it more difficult to pass themselves off as Mexicans. (To increase this effect, the Congress might pass a law providing severe penalties for anyone who knowingly *or* unknowingly abets a terrorist's entry into the U.S.)

### 4) INTERNAL PREVENTION: PROHIBITING EMPLOYMENT OF ILLEGALS

The prohibition on employment of illegal aliens should be strictly enforced. If illegal aliens cannot get a job, their predominant reason for illegal immigration is removed. This prohibition is of course defeated if the illegal immigrant can forge his or her immigration documents. What is needed, then, is a forgery-proof identity card.

So far so good. But identity cards will have to be issued not only to immigrants but to everyone in the labor force, native-born and immigrant alike, so that employers will have no excuse for failing to demand proper identification.

Of course, the universal identity card is what evokes cries of Big Brother and the Police State.

But would it really be that bad? Such an identity card would have only two elements: first, some foolproof (and forgery-proof) means of linking the card to the physical presence of its holder (here biometric techniques might be useful), and second, the person's immigration status. Nothing else would be on the card. Furthermore, such an identity card wouldn't really be universal; it need be carried only by those who might seek employment. (Retired people, for example, wouldn't need one)

Criticism of identity cards involves two aspects: what the card contains, and how it is used (e.g., it might be used to track library checkouts, travel, etc.) The identity cards I am thinking about would contain only one thing, namely immigration status; and they would be used for only one purpose, namely applying for a job; that would be the only information that could be tracked. As a proud card-carrying member of the ACLU, I ask my fellow members: What is wrong with that?

### 5) AMNESTY

Yes, I know the arguments against amnesty: It rewards illegality. And it's unfair to those who have come in legally. Nevertheless it is necessary now. Without amnesty, the millions of illegal immigrants already in the U.S. will go/stay underground and remain a huge undigested lump in the body politic. Trying to root them out is futile.

*continued on next page...*



Pulse Of The City

The Protest Song That Didn't

Before I get into more Lakewood-related topics, there's something I would like to share. I have tried my best to be honest with you, and to bring you as much opinionated information as possible. I wish that I could tell you more at times, but if I did so, legal issues could result. They say that you can't be sued for an opinion, but there are gray areas-- and these often serve to blunt freedom of speech far better than some dictator.

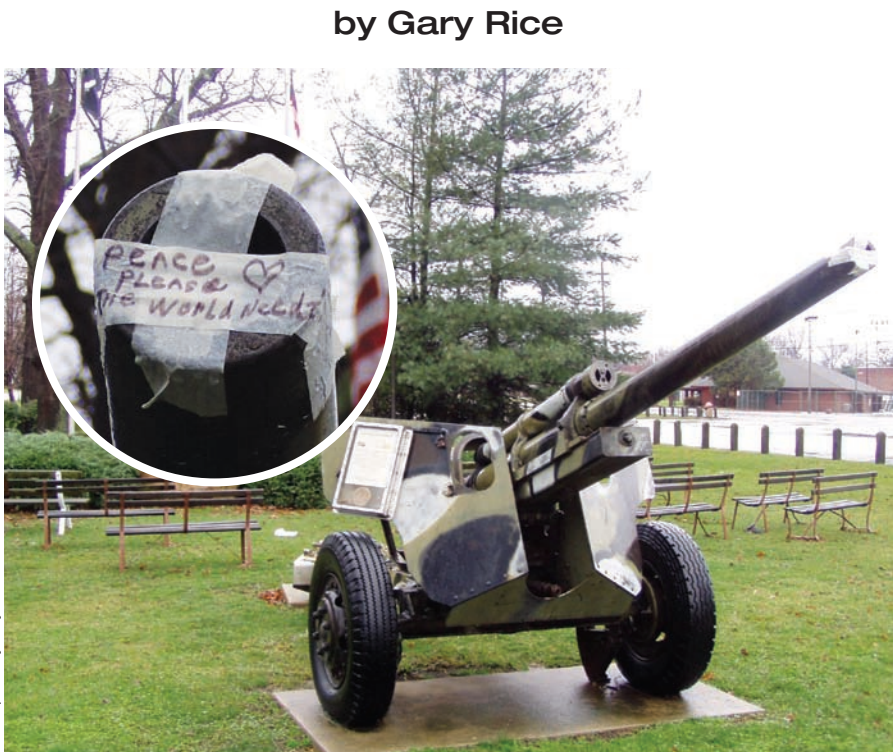
On the other hand, there are times when perhaps we should say more than we do, and although I have really enjoyed writing columns, I will tell you that the struggle of WHAT to say and HOW MUCH often causes me to have white knuckles at my keyboard.

One such topic is the war in Iraq. At one time, I intended to share a protest song that I wrote about the war in another periodical. I did not share it. This was partly due to my having friends and former students in the Armed Services, and partly due to not wanting to use the war to push a song. As well, in no way did I want to criticize our dedicated uniformed men and women or their honored service to our country.

Additionally, this topic was such an open wound on the soul of America, that well-meaning people had already discussed just about all sides of the conflict in the public forum.

So I was silent, and wrote about a protest song that didn't. And it was a cute article...nobody was offended...at least I didn't hear about it.

We went to war...(or did we? I do not recall that we declared it as such). We saw that "Mission Accomplished" sign...Since that time, thousands of Americans have died, with so many more wounded...and untold others on the other side, as well...and what about those in our



Here's a shot of the Lakewood War Memorial, with cannon's barrel taped over supposedly protective custody?

And I was silent...  
And yeah, one of those who died was a former student from my school. It seems like only yesterday that I saw him happily running through the halls. Not long ago, I stood numbly by his casket, along with his bereaved family.

And I was silent...  
Maybe my song could have raised awareness, changed a mind, saved a life? Probably not...maybe so.

And I was silent...  
Three thoughts came into my mind about all this. One was the painting, "The Scream," by Munch. Remember it? That curvaceous person with hands to ears and mouth, opened in silent horror, yet we do not hear.

Silence...  
Also, the words attributed to Pastor Martin Niemoller, persecuted in

Nazi Germany. Remember? I think he said that first the Nazis came (for other groups)...and he did not speak up. Then they came for him, and there was no one left to speak up.

And I, too, was silent...  
And I seemed to remember hearing some stern and scary words from history... I think from some old Nazi propaganda newsreel... something about how a nation's VOLK (folk) must sing with one voice.

And I was silent...  
Even now, I am certain there are

readers who would prefer to return to a discussion of Lakewood streets, squirrels, elephants and deer, and I suppose we will...but not right now. I'm particularly good at writing about stuff that DOES NOT REALLY amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world...or maybe it does.

But I was silent...  
Perhaps there are those, even now, who would prefer to limit controversial discussions. Perhaps they are right...Yet where are opinions welcome today?

And now, I've been seeing something that I've never seen before in this country...people who criticize you for raising any constructive voice that might be in opposition to the status quo.

What does all this have to do with Lakewood, you might ask? This is, after all, a local paper. Don't we have enough to discuss concerning local issues?

Well, there's a sacred monument in Lakewood Park with honored names on it. That's about as local as it gets. There's one of those in just about every town in America, I suppose. That's local....real local.

Did I say that I had been silent? I think I probably should have screamed..... or at least SANG...and with my OWN voice...whether I was right or wrong.

And now? They're sending even more of our young men and women over there. What about you...and your own voice? I don't know about you, but I'm picking my guitar back up.

My silence stops now.  
An earlier version of this

Minding The Issues

continued from previous page...

The only alternative is to absorb them.

The amnesty program should operate along much the same line as has been proposed: At a certain time all illegal aliens could apply; they would go through a process of applying for citizenship according to set provisions (and perhaps paying certain penalties, though I don't see how the penalties accomplish anything). And after a certain date all those who were not on their way to citizenship would be subject to deportation. (And two-time offenders should perhaps be imprisoned, if there is room for them.)

The amnesty program could be complemented by what we might call an "anti-amnesty" program, i.e. ways of penalizing those who opt to remain illegal. For example, they might be refused certain social services, or their children, even those born within the U.S., might be denied citizenship. (The latter might require amending the Constitution, but I doubt that would be a problem.)

This five-point program of immi-

gration control would cost a lot of money, but if illegal immigration is as serious as claimed, we should be willing to spend whatever is needed. In short: Put up or shut up.

Those who champion partial solutions aren't really giving illegal immigration the serious consideration they claim it deserves. I suspect they have some other agenda in mind, ahead of, or instead of, immigration control. The hardliners who propose a fence and punitive measures are fooling themselves if they think that those two measures alone will solve the problem. Or maybe they're not fooling themselves, but rather pandering to the anti-foreigner bias of a certain type of voter.

As for those on the other end of the spectrum -- those who protest against any measures to crack down on immigrants, illegal or otherwise -- I just don't know what to think of them. Do they really want to erase the distinction between legality and illegality? Or are they just trying to show their sympathetic natures, in contrast to their mean-spirited opponents? They will have to explain their reasoning; I'm not up to it.

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# Lakewood Music

## An interview with Brother Ant and Brother Ed of Uncle Scratch's Gospel Revival - Spreading the Word

by Bob Ignizio

Lakewood's own Uncle Scratch's Gospel Revival have been spreading their unique version of the "good news" via trashy garage rock since 2001, simultaneously winning new converts and leaving others confused. This is a band that has done absolutely nothing the way you're supposed to. They've been known to simply set up their equipment on the street and start playing, guerilla style. When they do get a real gig, they're more likely to be playing on the floor of the venue next to the bathroom than on the stage. They don't even have a real drum set, their percussion consisting of a collection of cardboard and metal junk.

And yet in spite of their odd approach, or maybe because of it, they've become one of the most popular bands in the Cleveland area. Now they're in a movie, the locally produced horror film 'The Horror Convention Massacre'. The film is going to be screened Saturday January 27th at The Beachland Tavern on Cleveland's east side, and Uncle Scratch (along with Lords of the Highway and Horror of 59) will be playing a set of tunes afterwards. So it seemed like a good time to sit down and chat with the duo of Brother Ant (guitar, vocals) and Brother Ed (drums, vocals).

**Lakewood Observer:** How did you get involved with the movie?

**Ant:** Joe Ostrica came to us and said we'd like to kill you in a movie. We figured we'd be crucified, but it didn't turn out that way. We thought he'd kill us for real, because we've been wanting to go for at least five years now. But when we found out it was a fake killing, we were already committed. Plus he said there'd be naked girls in the movie.

**LO:** Were you happy with the end result, other than not being actually killed?



Brother Ant and Brother Ed give proof that it is not hard to find a great local Gospel Revival still using snakes.

**Ed:** No. To be slaughtered in a satanic, secular movie was horrifying. I thought it was going to be more like a passion of the Christ film, and instead I wound up taking a drumstick through the eye. It's just a filthy, dirty, secular horror film. That we can recommend extremely.

**LO:** So are you hoping Mel Gibson will give you a call now that you've had your film debut?

**Ant:** Very good question. We were hoping he'd do a sequel to 'The Passion of the Christ'. I've never made it through the whole movie, I just see the first five minutes and I weep. But I think we'll get a call from him.

**Ed:** I don't know, I don't think 'The Horror Convention Massacre' was bloody enough for Mel.

**Ant:** We always thought he should have done the NC-17 movie of 'The Nativity'.

**LO:** How has your latest album, 'North of Hell', been doing? What are

the major differences between this one and your first?

**Ed:** We've moved dozens of copies. It's gotten out there a lot further now that we're on Rock N Roll Purgatory (nationally distributed punk rock and rockabilly magazine). This one is available on the internet. Which is weird to be selling our music over the secular, hedonistic internet.

**Ant:** We're in Elyria, Medina, and some people in Erie, PA have mentioned they've seen it. So the distribution is

wonderful. I think the main difference is the first album took us four hours to record, and this one took us upwards of seven or eight. And I think you can hear the difference.

**LO:** So what's bothering you in the world these days as devout Christians?

**Ed:** Besides this interview?

**Ant:** The turnout at the recent election. We've mentioned before that the first thing you'll find in hell is all the politicians, and I was shocked that once again politicians were elected.

**Ed:** Hell's going to be filled to the brim with Democrats AND Republicans

**Ant:** We can only write-in Oral Roberts so many times before we get discouraged with the system.

**LO:** How has the city of Lakewood treated you guys?

**Ed:** Pretty well. The police were called on us one time when we were doing a sidewalk show. 3 squad cars showed up while we were playing. They didn't beat us to death with billy clubs. Instead, they told us we could play one more song.

**Ant:** Then we thanked them for not beating us senseless.

**Ed:** They watched us pack up all of our stuff and then they left.

**Ant:** What does it mean when a policeman tells you never to come back to the city again? It seemed like some sort of veiled Christian message from the old days of persecution.

## Concert Calendar

### The Hi Fi Concert Club (11729 Detroit Avenue. Lakewood, OH)

Friday, January 26th it's View From Everest with Oval Opus, Embassy, and Joe Hedges. Show starts at 9pm and admission is \$5 for 21 and over, \$8 for 18-20. 18 and over only.

Saturday, January 27th it's Lost State of Franklin with Good Morning Valentine, Madison Crawl, Northern Spy, Dan Brenner, December 8th, and Greg Kells. This is also the CD release party for Lost State of Franklin. For more details call the club at (216) 521-8878.

### Mocha Dreams Café (20672 Center Ridge Road. Rocky River, OH)

Saturday, Jan. 27th it's comedy night with Skitzobill, Michael Ivy, Lee Honeycutt, Cristi Cattle, plus a special guest comedian from New York. The entertainment starts at 8pm. Donations are suggested.

### The Phantasy Concert Club (11802 Detroit Avenue. Lakewood, OH)

Saturday, January 27th it's Larry Mac's annual cancer benefit featuring.. B&B Abriance, 2nd Half, Ampleyus and guests tba. Doors open at 8:30 pm, show starts at 9:30. Admission is \$6 for 21 and over, \$9 for 18-20.

Saturday, February 3rd it's RIA, Psych Ward, Mista Jaymz and P Rock, Scheme D, J Swagg and guests tba. Doors open at 8:30 pm, show starts at 9:30. Admission is \$6 for 21 and over, \$9 for 18-20.

### The Winchester Tavern (12112 Madison Avenue. Lakewood, OH)

Saturday, January 27th it's the Mikhal Caldwell band with guests the Doug Johns Duo and EGO. This evening of jazz/fusion is presented by Randy Allar of WCSB's 'The Fusion Show'. Show starts at 9pm. All ages. Admission is \$10.

Saturday, February 3rd it's The Kelly Richey Band. Blues Review Magazine says "She's overflowing with confidence and the kind of star power that can't be faked." Guitar Player Magazine states "It's Richey's fast powerful picking hand that sets her apart from typical blues-drenched rockers...to say that Richey has bonded with her guitar is an understatement." Show starts at 9:30pm. All ages. Admission is \$10.

## Shows Go On At The Phantasy



Members of the DeFrasia family, of Rocky River, look on as Lakewood Fire Fighters clean up after putting out a fire in the first floor of the Phantasy Theater complex. The were no casualties, but one woman was severely burned and taken to the Metro General Burn Unit. The rest of the complex was able to stay open for their normal schedule.



# Lakewood Arts

## Upcoming Events:

### Beck Center for the Arts 17801 Detroit Avenue 216.521.2540

The Beck Center for the Arts is proud to present its annual Faculty Art Show opening February 1 in the Jean Bulicek Art Galleria. Artwork on exhibit will include a variety of media such as ceramics, drawing, photography, watercolors, and oil painting and features the work of the following accomplished artists – Nancy Cintron, Susan Gallagher, Mel Grunau, Susan Miranda, Patricia H. Sigmier, and Marilyn Szalay. The Beck Center’s Director of Education, Ed Gallagher notes, “The annual Beck Center Faculty Art Show is an opportunity for our faculty members, who are all talented teachers and visual artists, to share their artistic talents with the community.” The Beck Center welcomes visitors to tour this exciting exhibition through March 18. This exhibit is free and open to the public. Please call the Beck Center at 216-521-2540 for gallery hours.

### bela dubby 13221 Madison Avenue 216.221.4479

This month photographer Dallas Sells displays his black and white photography of Germany taken with vintage plastic cameras. Next month, Chris Swieger is back with a brand new show called “Pieces” with works using resin. A little birdie told me he has a new line of jewelry that is sure to impress. The opening is scheduled for Saturday, February 3rd, from 6pm-12am. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 am – 10 pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-midnight.

### Local Girl Gallery 16106 Detroit Avenue 216.228.1802

“A Day of Decoupage” Saturday, January 27th, Open House 12-5 Sunday, January 28th 12-5 registration required. To benefit Pilgrim St. Paul’s, “Kid’s Church Mission” where once a month, free lunches are served to inner city children during their Saturday Bible classes. Bring in the kid’s for a creative & messy day where they will create a unique piece of artwork! Kids are encouraged to bring in any items or memorabilia that they would like to include in the project. \$20.00 fee per student goes directly to Pilgrim St. Paul’s Kid’s Church Mission. Contact Linda @ Local Girl to register.

Saturday, February 10th, 7-10pm—“Change for Change”—A benefit supporting the Cleveland Colectivo—Artist inspired “Social Change” banks will be auctioned. For more info regarding the Cleveland Colectivo go to <http://www.clevelandcolectivo.org>. What an amazing mission. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12-5pm, Friday and Saturday, 12-6pm.

### Pop Shop Gallery and Studio 17020 Madison Avenue 216.227.8440

Next up “The Real King James” - Opening Saturday, February 10th from 6pm-9pm..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.

## MUSIC

### Waterbury Couch House 13333 Madison Ave.

Wednesdays with Gerry Keating (vocal) and Neil Kammiller (keyboard). Fridays “Jazz you like it” featuring Doris Long (vocal) joined by Neil Kammiller with guest musicians on drums & guitar. 7:00-10:30 p.m.

## DANCE

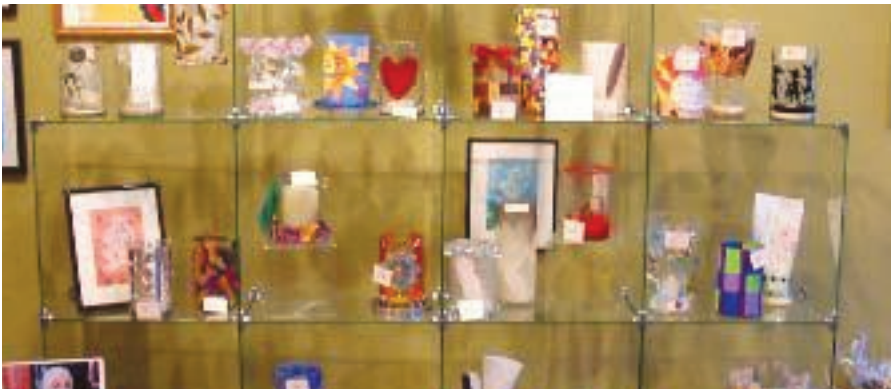
### NeOhio Dance Committee For National Dance Week Dance Teacher Of The Year

New for 2007!! The Northeast Ohio Committee for National Dance Week will be naming a teacher of the year who has given outstanding education and guidance to his/her dancers. Please send nominations for this honor to the committee at the address listed below. Nominations should include the teacher’s name, address and phone, and a summary of the accomplishments/highlights of his/her career in the dance world.

Send to: Margaret Holden  
1540 Chesterland Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
Swing Dances  
2nd Fridays of every month.  
COST: \$10/person, \$7/student.  
TIME: 8pm – midnight.  
LIVE Band & DJ music. Get Hep.  
Swing Jitterbug lesson from 8-9pm  
LOCATION: Lakewood Masonic Temple

Gallery, Dance and Music news and event information should be forwarded to [gallerywatchgals@yahoo.com](mailto:gallerywatchgals@yahoo.com). Every effort will be made to include it in our next column.

## Arts & Entertainment Watch



In 2005, talented artisans transformed glass candle shelters into dazzling luminaries to be auctioned off for this important cause, raising \$1200. This year they were able to raise almost \$4000.

by Ruth A. Koenigsmark

Local Girl Gallery popped the cork on the New Year of gallery showings and fundraisers by hosting another amazing gathering. Thirty artists contributed to the “Lights of Hope Benefit” by creating unique luminaries that were auctioned off to a packed house on Saturday raising almost \$4,000 for the Domestic Violence Center for Cleveland’s Stalking Awareness Programs.

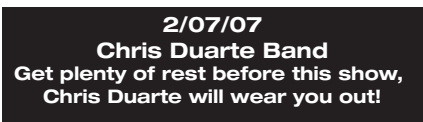
This January marks the fourth



1/26/07  
Goddess Blessed Singles Night  
FREE NIGHT for anyone interested



2/03/07  
Kelly Richey Band  
Amazing blues guitarist



216-226-5681  
12112 Madison Ave., Lakewood  
[www.thewinchester.net](http://www.thewinchester.net)

annual observance of National Stalking Awareness Month (NSAM), started in 2004 by the National Center for Victims of Crime. Since its inception, NSAM has become a unifying force for victim service providers across the country to raise awareness about the serious and deadly crime that victimizes more than one million women and nearly 400,000 men in America each year.

From the look of things—seems like this year will be a banner year for our local art galleries—get out and take a look!



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- \* Mai Tanski-certified herbalist
- \* Paul-tarot reader, every Wednesday, 4 – 7 p.m.
- \* Rebecca-reiki practioner, every Thursday, 2 – 7 p.m.
- \* John-using Tuning Forks to relieve stress by drawing your body into a centered space. Every Saturday, noon – 6 p.m.

Goddess Blessed (216)221-8755  
15729 Madison Avenue  
Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
Tuesday - Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### Rent A Husband

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- Tree Service/Pigeon Problems
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(Building code violation corrections) • **Rich Toth at 440-777-8353**

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# Classifieds/Real Estate

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



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**\$134,900**  
**2163 Elbur Avenue**  
**216-521-0643**

## OPEN HOUSE Sunday 1 to 5

Lakewood Home for Sale by Owner. OPEN HOUSE - Sunday 1 to 5. 2163 Elbur Avenue 134,900. Nothing to do, but move into this lovely 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath home. Central Air, and New, New, New. For private showing Contact Scott at (216) 521-0643. For More Info go to [www.Quicklistings.com](http://www.Quicklistings.com) listing ID #326

# New At The Lakewood Observer

## Observer Partners with NonProfits

The Lakewood Observer has four great ways to get out any information about your group to the residents of Lakewood. All FREE!!

1) Calendar of Events - This appears on the front page of the website on the right side of the page. Possibly the largest, most-used online calendar in Lakewood. You can post any event or function you are inviting people to or want publicized.

2) Lakewood Shopping Directory - Click the Lakewood Shopping button on the left side of the first page. You can list your group under various categories. This database is searchable by internet search engines. The basic listing is FREE. Make sure you are listed.

3) Connections - A section on the

“Observation Deck” that allows non-profits, civic or educational groups, churches, etc. to post anything from text to photos.

4) The Lakewood Observer Newspaper - write the story and send it in. If your group serves the residents and businesses of Lakewood, the Lakewood Observer is ready to partner with you to get your information out in a timely matter to everyone that might be interested.

You can announce the program, write the preview, take and post photos, and review the event, in seconds for thousands of people.

Together, we can make this city stronger, better, and more enjoyable for everyone.

Together we make a stand.  
Visit us at [lakewoodobserver.com](http://lakewoodobserver.com).

## ...& Other Great Additions

### QUESTION OF THE DAY!

Stop by the Lakewood Observer’s website at <http://lakewoodobserver.com> and help us define what is important in Lakewood. Every day we are posting a different question for any and all to answer. Favorite lunch place? Which street is nicest? Lakewood’s best business district? Should we raise taxes? Should new schools be “green?” What store would you like to see in Lakewood? Which bar is not complying with the no-smoking legislation? Stop in and give us your answer so we can see what others see and think. You can also suggest a question you would like to ask all of Lakewood. Available only at the Lakewood Observer, Lakewood’s award-winning civic journalism project.

**RESTAURANT REVIEWS!**

Stop by the Lakewood Observer’s Website at <http://lakewoodobserver.com>.

com and help us review Lakewood’s many fine eateries. Restaurants are opening so fast it is hard for us to keep up. And we know not everyone agrees with our reviews. So here’s your chance: YOU WRITE THE REVIEW - -- AND WIN DINNER ON US! That’s right, post the review at our website on any meal you recently had and you will get a chance to win the cost of that dinner. Since we are Lakewood’s paper, reviews should be limited to Lakewood pubs and restaurants. From McDonalds to Three Birds, from The Place To Be to Pier W. Share your thoughts, and you might have just eaten for FREE on us. If we pick a review to publish in the paper, the author may win the cost of the meal they reviewed(some limits apply, see website for details). See what your neighbors are thinking at Lakewood’s One-Stop Website, your portal to all that is Lakewood and the world.

## Hot Topics On The Observation Deck!

Topic	Who Started It	Views
What’s a Streetscape?	Mark Timieski	276
Robbery - 1/22/07	Esther Hazlett	41
Citistat Urinal Hasn’t Worked	Bill Call	838
Lakewood Hardware Store	Jeff Endress	836
Bars in complience	Jim O’Bryan	661
SWAT On Fry	Stan Austin	1044
YMCA	Lynn Farris	504
Ahead at Lightspeed	Jim O’Bryan	5697
Youth Master Plan	Gordon Brumm	476
Coming back to Lakewood	Bryan Schwegler	1294
Accident Bunts and Madison, police car versus Hyundai	Jim O’Bryan	285
Fire near the Phantasy?	DougHuntingdon	198
Hogsback Lane Needs Your Help!	Bill Grulich	445
Lakewood Food Collective	Chris Trapp	232
Panhandlers in Lakewood	stephen davis	2697



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