

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Your Independent Source For Local News And Opinion – An Official Google News Source

Volume 3, Issue 13, June 26, 2007

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Building A Better Lakewood Together:

Mayor Tom George Announces Intention To Seek Re-Election

Lakewood Mayor Tom George has announced his intention to seek re-election to another four year term.

We are busy building a better Lakewood and are in the midst of an unprecedented building boom in Lakewood. For many years the City of Lakewood suffered from “analysis paralysis” lots of plans, but little action. Our Economic Development Stimulus Program and the community’s cooperation have enabled my administration

to assist in building a record number of projects. In addition, Lakewood has many potential projects that are in various stages of approvals and negotiations that require our full time efforts and attention to assure they see completion.

In addition, Lakewood was recently awarded a very positive financial analysis from Moody’s Investor Service (Aa3). City finances also are a key issue. I am the only candidate ever to havemade a Moody’s presentation and this is no time for experimental and risky financial leadership. “The City needs to continue on its current fiscally responsible financial track,” said George.

“I have no ulterior motives or hidden agendas, my interest is in continuing to move Lakewood forward. I’ve demonstrated I’m unafraid to make the tough decisions to do just that”, said George.

Lakewood will continue to make safety first under the George Administration and remain a leader in nationally recognized initiatives including CitiStat implementation



Mayor Tom George and his wife Jane.

and Youth Master Plan efforts. Green initiatives, regionalism and inter-governmental cooperation will also continue to be priorities.

“As a County official, it has been my pleasure to work with Tom. Although he passionately advocates for the City of Lakewood and its residents, he understands that for his community to flourish, the entire region must pros-

per. Tom has earned re-election,” said County Commissioner Peter Lawson Jones, one of numerous officials and organizations that has already endorsed George for re-election.

George was first elected to City Council in 1988 and elected Mayor in 2003. He and his wife Jane, live on Summit Avenue. He has two children, Meghan and Timothy, both recent college graduates.



See More Photos
From the
Lakewood Public
Library Gala
pages 12-13

Local School Leader, Professor And Attorney Matthew Markling Announces Run For The Lakewood School Board

Staff Writer

Matthew John Markling is proud to announce that he is running for the Lakewood School Board. Markling and his wife, Kathleen, are longtime Belle Avenue residents with two sons, Declan and Nevan. Today, Markling took the first step toward his run for the Lakewood School Board by pulling his petitions.

Markling is running for the school board on a platform of improving academic excellence, school safety, and leadership throughout the school district.

• Improving Academic Excellence: Matthew John Markling has extensive

experience in academic excellence.

• Improving School Safety: Matthew John Markling has extensive experience in school safety. Markling is sharing his legal expertise by teaching two school law courses this summer through the University of Akron School of Law.

• Improving Leadership: Matthew has extensive experience in educational

leadership. Markling has been an active leader in the High School Student Conduct and School Climate Committee and Middle School Student Conduct and School Climate Committee, as well as the Heritage Committee, which were conducted as part of various ongoing district-wide initiatives. Markling was recently awarded the Outstanding

Leadership Award by the Ohio Educational Service Center Association in recognition of his legal leadership to Ohio school districts. Markling also trains future school administrators in educational leadership and is teaching such a course this fall through the Bowling Green State University.

Caring For Kids Cove

by Holly Cooper Whisman

At a time when Lakewood faces numerous challenges, and community members seem divided on how best to manage our future, an opportunity for building on our strengths has risen in our midst—or fallen, rather, like the tire swing in Kids Cove playground at Lakewood Park. In response to the deteriorating condition of the playground, and in an attempt to protect the work completed in 2000 and 2001 when a group of community members collaborated with the City of Lakewood to envision and build a state-of-the-art playground, a city-wide project is developing in order to provide maintenance to Kids Cove.

The Kids Cove committee con-

tracted with a company from New Hampshire called Learning Structures, Inc., and the playground was constructed in 2001. Since its construction, Kids Cove has benefited young children and families from Lakewood, the surrounding communities, and around the globe, serving an important recreational function and providing a community gathering place.

Unfortunately, the City of Lakewood does not have the budget to provide significant maintenance for the playground, other than basic parks services such as grounds maintenance, and the playground has fallen into disrepair. Structures in the playground that were once the proud symbol of what can be accomplished by a group



Matthew John Markling

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City Council

Perceptions? Realities?

With summer temperatures of 93 degrees, outside over 100 people with various public issues sat in the audience for the June 18, 2007 council meeting.

After calling the meeting to order at 7:34 council president Robert Seelie recognized Mary Louise Madigan (ward four). She introduced a resolution recognizing Ennis Court which has been recognized by the Ohio Department of Aging for its excellence. Madigan's mother was a resident there. In the Ennis community audience were notables such as Common Pleas Judge and former Cleveland Browns lineman, Dick Ambrose, and Friend of the Beatles, Jane Scott, formerly of the Plain Dealer.

This resolution was followed by one introduced by Ryan Demro (ward two) recognizing Eagle Scouts Timothy Sweeney and Ronald Giermann.

Seelie then switched the public comment portion of the meeting from the end of the meeting to the beginning. He recognized a ward three constituent, Sandy Donohoe of Baxterly Avenue for comment. Her concern was her perception of an increase in crime and general disregard of standards in her family's neighborhood. For her

and her neighbors, crime is a reality. She cited numerous instances of witnessing crimes, first or second hand, and listed many reported instances of criminal acts and violations. In a well-crafted but very heartfelt presentation, Donohoe seemed to summarize a perception held by some Lakewood residents.

Members of council then weighed in. Edward Fitzgerald (at large) indicated that adding to the police force might require a redirection or addition of resources. Demro suggested the elimination of a city division, possibly trees, in order to supplement the police budget. Nickie Antonio (at large) pointed out the overall need for greater civility and that the newly established community relations board could contribute to this. Fitzgerald did point out the difficulty in having a reasonable, rational conversation in a political year.

Police Chief Malley then took the time to respond on a case by case basis to many of the incidents that Donohoe raised. Several of the crimes he pointed out were committed by people from out of state and had nothing to do with the neighborhood. As to an addition to the staffing of the department, Mal-

Stan Austin
City Council Reporter

ley said that four or five officers could be absorbed if there was funding, but going beyond that level of increase would require a substantial increase in money for equipment, training, and support. Malley also said that the FBI statistical reporting model which the department uses shows a slight decrease in overall crime this year as compared to past years.

Mayor Thomas George added to the discussion by pointing out the various initiatives that the administration has been taking which attack the overall problem. These include increased housing inspections along with special police details.

The next largest audience contingent was thirty members and patrons of the Lakewood Dog Park. That facility is located in the Metroparks right next to the water treatment plant and the Lakewood Animal Shelter. It has become very popular for area dog owners since it opened a few years ago. However, the perception of a small number of Rocky River residents who live on the edge of the cliff overlooking the valley is that barking dogs from the park are creating an intolerable nuisance. The reality is the results of scientific noise tests and monitor-

ing which have been conducted by the city in response to these complaints. Within the past week Human Services Director Dottie Buckon was at the park to supervise the testing. There were no violations of any noise ordinances according to these tests.

Nevertheless, Rocky River Mayor Bobst requested that Lakewood close the park. Mayor George and Law Director Brian Corrigan met with the Rocky River officials last week. Monday night, George said he responded to Mayor Bobst by saying, "closing the park is not going to happen." George and Buckon did point out to the appreciative dog owners that everybody still had to pay attention to the behavior of their pets so that the park could be enjoyed by all.

A final example of perception versus reality: the intersection of Madison and Warren Roads has been busy in the last few years with street construction and the new Walgreens and Sherwin Williams stores on the corners.

Council member Demro claims that this has made this intersection more dangerous and has requested a traffic study.

The reality according to figures from the Lakewood Police Department is that vehicle and pedestrian accidents at this intersection have decreased by over 1000% in the last ten years.



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Lakewood Family YMCA Acquires New Virtual Reality Bikes

The Lakewood Family YMCA is excited to announce the arrival of four new virtual reality bikes. The S2™ bike by Expresso Fitness brings a realistic feel, superior performance and the excitement of the latest virtual reality technology to indoor cardio workouts. The S2™ is the best of its breed; it lends an entirely new dimension of fun and motivation to the workout experience and provides the necessary tools for

you to keep improving. With Expresso's interactive systems, you can personalize your ride experience, gauge your progress, and then check your fitness results on the Web at www.expresso.net. Whether you are a cycling enthusiast or not these bikes are for you. Check them out today at the Lakewood Family YMCA, 16915 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. For more information, contact Anne Mitchell, 216-521-8400.

Lakewood Family YMCA Sports Camp

The kids around Lakewood are coming to the YMCA to get their summer fun. The Lakewood YMCA runs a fun-filled Sports Camp.

The Sports Camp is for kids ages 6 – 12 and focuses on a different sport or activity each week. Sports Camps include: basketball, baseball, soccer, flag football, volleyball and fun camp. While at camp, participants will have fun while making new friends and learning new skills. In addition, the

sports camp features every kid's favorite part of the day ... pool time. Monday through Thursday, camp participants will participate in 30 minutes of pool activities. Sports Camp is Monday through Friday, 9am – 4pm.

For more information about camps at the Lakewood YMCA, contact Paul Rogerson, 216-521-8400 or progerson@clevelandymca.org or stop by the Lakewood YMCA at 16915 Detroit Road, Lakewood, Ohio.



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Lakewood Education

Lakewood Initiative For Financial Education Celebrates 2007 Successes

by Martha Wood

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is designed to help reduce the federal tax burden for low-wage workers. Depending on family size and total income, it can boost a worker's annual income by as much as 40%.

With the outreach efforts begun in 2003 to increase awareness of EITC combined with free tax preparation clinics for eligible income Lakewood residents – the LIFE (Lakewood Initiative for Financial Education) program helps make the credit available to all taxpayers who are entitled to the EITC.

LIFE is sponsored by the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, the Internal Revenue Service, the City of Lakewood, Lakewood Public Library and the Lakewood Christian Service Center. They provide free tax preparation assistance to low-income, elderly, disabled and limited English proficiency taxpayers in convenient locations during convenient hours.

The organization ensures the highest quality of service and works hard to ensure that customers receive their entire refunds. January through April, trained volunteers help eligible Lakewood residents file their returns at both the Lakewood Public Library and the Madison Branch. This is the fourth year the service has been provided and this year saw the most registrants for the Monday evening tax preparation clinics. Over 200 returns were prepared and all returns were filed electronically.

Refunds were sent out in as little as 10 business days and the program brought back over \$270,000 into the Lakewood economy. Most EITC recipients use their refunds to pay household expenses such as rent, groceries and car or home repairs.

Publicity about the EITC program was done through Lakewood Public Library, the city's water bill, and fliers

distributed by Toni Gelsomino at the Lakewood Family Room and events sponsored by the Department of Early Childhood. Lakewood Public Library worked with the Cleveland Saves organization to provide a series of four programs designed to assist individuals who wish to pay down debt, build an emergency fund, and finance an automobile. The third presentation in this year's program series focused on EITC.

The EITC is the largest poverty reduction program in the United States and is critical in lifting our low-income working people out of poverty.

Economists suggest that every increased dollar received by low and

moderate-income families has a multiplier effect of between 1.5 to 2 times the original amount, in terms of its impact on the local economy and how much money is spent in and around the communities where these families live. This means that for every \$1 in EITC funds received, \$1.50 ends up being spent locally.

The federal government reports that up to 20 percent of eligible EITC recipients don't claim the credit. When next year's tax season rolls around, remember that Uncle Sam can owe YOU money if:

You have more than one qualifying child and you earned less than \$35,263 (single) or \$37,263 (married

filing jointly); You have one qualifying child and you earn less than \$31,030 (single) or \$33,030 (married filing jointly); You do not have a qualifying child and you earned \$11,750 (single) or \$13,750 (married filing jointly).

Many thanks go to Dottie Buckon, Toni Gelsomino, John Guscott, Cheryl Johnson, Francis Crook, Ed Krafcik, Bill Andrews and Janetta Andrews for the hard work, time and dedication they put into providing this invaluable service to the Lakewood community. Special thanks are also in order for Site Coordinator Beth-Ann Komara and Feliks Magrian, site coordinator, emeritus.

LEAF Community Continues To Grow



Members of the Lakewood Earth and Food Community distributing community supported agricultural shares. LEAF Community will meet on the eastern lawn of the Lakewood Masonic Temple from 6 to 8 pm on Thursdays 6/28 and 7/5. Thereafter, you can join the LEAF Community for LEAF Nights at the Lakewood Public Library, Main Library, each Thursday evening during the hours of 6 and 8 pm, running from July 12th through October 25th. You can visit <<http://www.leaf-community.org>> www.leafcommunity.org for more information, or contact us via email: <<mailto:info@leafcommunity.org>> info@leafcommunity.org

Left: Annie Stahlhaber goes over the list with Steve Barry.

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Lakewood Hospital News

Lakewood, Fairview And Lutheran Hospitals’ Diabetes Education Programs Merit Prestigious Ada Recognition

by Anne Kuenzel

June 6, 2007 – The Lakewood Hospital Diabetes Education Program, with affiliated outpatient education programs at Fairview and Lutheran Hospitals, was once again awarded the prestigious American Diabetes Association (ADA) Education Recognition Certificate for a quality diabetes self-management education program.

The programs at Fairview and Lutheran Hospitals were recognized as additional sites under the umbrella of the Lakewood Hospital Diabetes Education Program. Lakewood, Fairview and Lutheran Hospitals, all Cleveland Clinic hospitals, collaborated together to receive this recognition. Lakewood Hospital first received ADA Recognition for its Diabetes Education Program in 1989. Fairview and Lutheran Hospitals were first certified as additional sites under Lakewood’s program in 2003. Through this recognition, the ADA believes the hospitals’ Diabetes Education Program offers high-quality diabetes self-management education that is an essential component of effective diabetes treatment. The ADA’s Recognition Certificate assures that educational

programs meet the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education Programs. Programs applying for Recognition voluntarily submit to a rigorous review process by experts in the field of diabetes who evaluate each program on its ability to provide patients with a comprehensive individ-

gives professionals a national standard by which to measure the quality of the services they provide. It also assures patients that they will receive high quality care.”

Elaine Harper, RN, BSN, CDE, coordinator of the Outpatient Diabetes Education Program for the Cleveland

According to the American Diabetes Association, there are 20.8 million people or 7 percent of the population in the United States who have diabetes. While an estimated 14.6 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 6.2 million people are not aware that they have this disease. Each day approximately 4,110 people are diagnosed with diabetes. Many will first learn that they have diabetes when they are treated for one of its life-threatening complications – heart disease and stroke, kidney disease, blindness, and nerve disease and amputation. About 1.5 million new cases of diabetes were diagnosed in people aged 20 years or older in 2005. Diabetes contributed to 224,092 deaths in 2002. Since 1987 the death rate due to diabetes has increased by 45 percent, while the death rates due to heart disease, stroke, and cancer have declined. According to the ADA, there’s something stronger than America’s fastest growing disease: the people who are doing something about it.

Cleveland Clinic regional hospitals are the proud sponsor of the 2007 Step Out to Fight Diabetes walk, formerly America’s Walk for Diabetes. Lakewood Hospital President Jack Gustin is the chairperson for this year’s walk. “This walk is about changing the face of diabetes in our communities – by raising funds to help find a cure and by walking a few miles to bring a greater awareness in the area to this devastating disease,” says Gustin. “Because I feel so passionately about diabetes education, research and prevention, I have eagerly volunteered to chair Step Out to Fight Diabetes.” Gustin goes on to say, “Our diabetes education programs are an integral part in helping those with diabetes control the disease instead of allowing the disease control them. In an effort to bring more awareness about diabetes and to raise funds to find a cure once and for all, I encourage the entire Cleveland area to join the Step Out to Fight Diabetes team and walk on October 6.” To join a team, visit the ADA’s Web site at www.diabetes.org/walk

Lakewood Hospital will take expert diabetes care to the next level with the opening of a new Diabetes Center in August. Lakewood Hospital will be the only hospital in the westshore community to offer comprehensive diabetes care by combining clinical and educational components in one convenient location. “Diabetes is exceedingly prevalent in our area and we continually strive to provide expert care and education. Our west side communities should feel confident they are receiving the best diabetes education possible at Lakewood, Fairview and Lutheran Hospitals,” says DeGrandis. For more information about Outpatient Diabetes Education at Lakewood Hospital, call 216.529.5300, at Fairview Hospital call 216-476-4077, and at Lutheran Hospital call 216-363-2330.

“This walk is about changing the face of diabetes in our communities – by raising funds to help find a cure and by walking a few miles to bring a greater awareness in the area to this devastating disease,” says Gustin.

ualized education program. Programs that achieve recognition status have a staff of knowledgeable health professionals who can provide participants with comprehensive information about diabetes management. “By collaborating together to achieve this prestigious recognition, Lakewood, Fairview and Lutheran Hospitals are able to provide the highest level of diabetes education to our west side communities,” says Fred DeGrandis, president and CEO of Cleveland Clinic regional hospitals. “I’d like to congratulate all of our diabetes educators for the exceptional care they provide. This rigorous process

Clinic west side hospitals, led the ADA Recognition process with assistance from Marty Bakoss, APRN, BC, director of SeniorCare Services at Lakewood Hospital. Harper also worked collaboratively with Mary Ellen Grady, RN, MSN, Outpatient Diabetes Education Program coordinator at Fairview Hospital; and Rosalinde Witkowski, RN, CDE, Outpatient Diabetes Education coordinator and Community Outreach manager at Lutheran Hospital, to achieve Recognition for the three hospitals. Education Recognition status is verified by an official certificate from the ADA and is awarded for three years.

Lakewood Hospital Celebrates Centennial Year By Hosting A Health Fair For Senior Citizens

by Anne Kuenzel

As Lakewood Hospital celebrates a Century of Touching Lives, local senior citizens are invited to a Centennial Senior Health Fair on Tuesday, June 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Lakewood Park, at

the corner of Belle and Lake Avenues in Lakewood.

Known for its unique commitment to seniors, Lakewood Hospital and the city of Lakewood Department of Human Services: Division of Aging, have joined forces to offer a health fair

to celebrate their commitment to supporting the good health of local senior citizens. Lakewood Hospital and the City’s Division of Aging have had a long-standing relationship of providing care to the needs of local senior citizens for more than 30 years.

The health fair will provide free health screenings, including cholesterol/blood sugar, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, glaucoma and distance vision.

Attendees will have an opportunity to “Ask the Doctor” as well as a Lakewood Hospital pharmacist. There will also be food, refreshments, giveaways, a Tai-Chi demonstration, and a Lifeline Program representative.

Transportation for Lakewood seniors is available through the Lakewood Division of Aging. Call 216-529-1515 for more information. Lakewood Hospital is a 400-bed acute care hospital that has served the diverse health care needs of the City of Lakewood and Cleveland’s Westshore communities since 1907. Offering a wide range of health services and education programs for women, men and children, each year Lakewood Hospital provides high-quality and innovative patient care for more than 130,000 patients. In 1997, Lakewood Hospital became part of the Cleveland Clinic health system, a partnership between the Cleveland Clinic and nine community hospitals. www.lakewoodhospital.org



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Lakewood Sports News

Lakewood Man Spreading Lacrosse Fever

by Mike Deneen

As Observer readers know, Lakewood enjoys a wide range of sports. Over the past two years we have done stories covering everything from football and baseball to girls' rugby, speed skating and roller derby. And if Lakewood resident Woody Calleri has his way, Lakewood's wide world of sports will grow even wider. Calleri serves as head lacrosse coach at St. Ignatius High School, and is also director of Burning River Lacrosse, an organization dedicated to developing and promoting the sport.

If you only associate the word "lacrosse" with the 2006 Duke University team's false allegations scandal, you may want to get more familiar with the sport. It is rapidly moving from a regional east coast game into a national game. The NCAA Division I men's championships are now broadcast annually on ESPN, and professional leagues are taking the game from coast to coast. Lakewood kids are increasingly playing, and a growing number are watching. Calleri is not surprised by the sport's growth. "Once you put a stick in a kid's hand, they want to play," he says.

Lacrosse's popularity stems from it's combination of speed and action. The boys' game is played by 10-man teams on a 110-by-60-yard field. Players use the lacrosse stick to carry and pass the ball to teammates. The idea is to score in the other team's six-by-six foot goal. The game is played in the spring, which allows basketball and hockey players to participate. Although there is significant contact (which requires protective pads), players need not be as

large as football linemen. In fact, even at the professional level many of the best players are under 6 feet tall.

Like many lacrosse veterans, Calleri is originally from the East Coast. He played on a club team during his undergrad years at the University at Buffalo. While a graduate student at the University of Maryland, he coached at the prestigious Georgetown Prep school. Upon his graduation from Maryland, he was brought to Lakewood a decade ago by a job at National City Bank. He has coached at St. Ignatius since 2003, taking over as head coach in 2006. He led the team to a 12-9 record in 2007, it's first winning season in seven years.

Calleri has seen firsthand the increased interest in lacrosse. Just a few

years ago, only a handful of incoming St. Ignatius freshmen had ever played the game. By the 2006-07 school year, 24 incoming freshmen had at least one years' playing experience. The sport's growth is being seen throughout the state. There are currently 85 boys varsity and club programs in Ohio. This is short of the 150-school minimum required by the OHSA for official sanction. However, eight schools added programs this year, and at least a half dozen will add programs next year. In the meantime, participating schools are abiding by OHSA rules.

St. Edward High School will soon be shifting from a club to varsity team. St. Edward's club program began a few years ago, and will move to varsity status in the 2008-09 season. Calleri,

who has players from both schools in the Burning River program, is already looking forward to the rivalry.

Columbus area schools such as Upper Arlington have dominated the game in this state. In fact, Upper Arlington High School was recently featured in a major national magazine. However, the Cleveland area is catching up. "The sport has hit critical mass in Northern Ohio," says Calleri. He thinks the sky is the limit for lacrosse. "Kids love the open flow of the game.... it's all about speed."

Burning River Lacrosse offers camps and instruction for boys across many age and skill levels. If you would like to learn more about America's fastest growing team sport, please visit their website www.premierplayerlacrosse.com

Smarts + Speed = Sikes Former Ranger Adds NCAA National Championship To Rhodes Scholarship

by Mike Deneen

Tim Duncan wasn't the only Wake Forest athlete to win a championship this month. Lakewood High School alum Michelle Sikes, a former star for the Ranger track and cross country teams, won an NCAA national championship on June 8. An impressive young woman gifted both intellectually and athletically, Sikes had already been named a Rhodes Scholar this past November.

Sikes, a senior on the Wake Forest University track and field team, ended her senior season by winning the national championship in the 5,000-

meter run at the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Sacramento, California. She became the first Wake Forest female to win a national title in indoor or outdoor track, and is the first Demon Deacon to claim a title in the sport since 1996.

Sikes' running career blossomed at Lakewood High, where she earned eight varsity letters with both the track and cross country teams. She was a two-time state champion in the 3,200 meters, and was named All-American in 2002. Sikes also performed in the classroom, being named a National Merit Commended Scholar.

Sikes' championship capped a brilliant career at Wake Forest, where she earned numerous regional and Atlantic Coast Conference honors in both track and cross country. She served as captain of the women's track and cross country teams. Her success in the classroom continued, as she was named one of only 32 Rhodes Scholars in the country. Sikes plans to go on to Oxford, where she will pursue a Master of Science degree in global health science. At Wake Forest, she



majored in Mathematical Economics with a minor in Health Policy and Administration.

Sikes held an internship last summer with The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research in Washington, D.C. While there, she researched various mathematical models that might increase the number of organ donors. Her honors thesis will focus on using the data collected to propose the best ways to reform the nation's policy on transplantable organs. Sikes, who is a strong candidate to be named 2007 NCAA Woman of the Year, is hoping to race professionally in Europe this summer.

Vintage Baseball in Lakewood

by Rhonda Loje

Vintage Base Ball is base ball (yes, it was two words originally) played by the rules and customs of an earlier period. Ballists don period uniforms and re-create the game 'as it was meant to be played.' The Lakewood Historical Society will host a vintage base ball double-header between the Akron Blackstockings and local dignitaries, including Councilmen Ryan Demro and Kevin Butler on Sunday July 15 at 1 p.m. at the Oldest Stone House field in Lakewood Park.

The mid-nineteenth century game was considerably different than today's game. Ballists played with bare hands until the 1880s and balls caught on one bound were outs until the mid-1860s. Balls are considered fair by where the ball first touches the ground. That is, a ball hit in front of home plate then spins into foul territory is still a fair ball. There are numerous other differences, but modern spectators will still recognize our national pastime.

Historian Scott Longert brings the early history of Cleveland baseball alive during this wonderful presentation that features film, audio and photographs.

The program is a comprehensive look at the history of professional baseball in Cleveland from 1869 to 1920. It covers our first professional team, the Cleveland Forest Citys to the World Champion Cleveland Indians of 1920. Learn how Cleveland became a charter member of the American League in 1901 and the circumstances that lead to Cleveland's first World Series. Key players are discussed including Cy Young, Napoleon Lajoie and Tris Speaker. Audio and rare film will accompany the program. This program will be on Wednesday, July 18 at 7 p.m. at the Women's Pavilion in Lakewood Park.

Scott Longert is the Associate Curator of Sports History at the Western Reserve Historical Society. He has an M.A. degree in history from Cleveland State University. Longert is the author of King of the Pitchers, the biography of Cleveland Hall of Fame pitcher Addie Joss. He has written articles for The National Pastime Magazine, TimeLine, and the Baseball Research Journal.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more information on the events, call 221-7343. For more information on vintage base ball, check out www.vbba.org.

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Lakewood Observer

Detroit Streetscape Design Process Continues

by Mary Ann Crampton

Two community meetings, presented by Main Street Lakewood and facilitated by City Architecture, have been held to solicit the input of residents and business owners for a Detroit Avenue streetscape conceptual design. A third public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 2, at 7:00 p.m. at Grant School.

More than 75 people attended the session held in January, which was interactive in nature. Following introductions and the presentation of project goals, participants broke into four groups:

- 1. Streetscape and Public Realm
- 2. Land Uses
- 3. Traffic Flow and Parking
- 4. Existing Buildings and Development Potential.

In these small groups, participants discussed aspects of the city that they liked or disliked, and brainstormed in regard to possible development areas. Other questions that they answered included: Which buildings do you think contribute best to the character of the district? What would you like to see on Detroit Avenue? Are there specific areas where you feel traffic is a problem or unsafe for drivers? Is there an area where traffic moves well? Following the small group discussions, leaders shared their group's comments with everyone in attendance, and additional input was gathered.

A second community meeting was held at Grant School in April. On the walls of the gymnasium, City Architecture displayed images and drawings of various streetscape and development elements from communities around the region and the country. Participants used red and green adhesive dots to indicate which aspects of these design elements they liked or disliked. Individuals were also provided with sticky notes, on which they could write comments to place on the images. The visuals included development types (residential and commercial), landscape materials/softscaping, paving materials/hardscape, public art/district identity, public areas/areas of

confluence and overall streetscape design. Participants enjoyed considering all the possibilities from pocket parks to fountains to lighting to parking to architectural design. After the dots were placed, volunteers from the audience reviewed the areas of general consensus. Areas where red and green dots overlapped reflected differences of opinion.

While the process is still underway, and community input will continue to be solicited, the general agreement is that Detroit Avenue would benefit from simplified street lane configuration and that Lakewoodites want design elements to be compatible with our architecture and lifestyle. Sites identified by par-

ticipants that could be redeveloped include the Drug Mart strip, the former Giant Eagle building, Harrison's, Peck's, Kaufmann Park, INA Building, Grant School and SBC Building. Public/green spaces are highly desirable for respite and outdoor social activities, such as the Farmer's Market, festivals and outdoor dining.

There is also considerable support to "rebalance" Detroit to better serve pedestrians, bicyclists and car drivers. Most agree that Detroit's sidewalks are too narrow, street jogging should be eliminated, street parking would buffer the sidewalk, existing green spaces could be improved and

that bicyclists could be better accommodated. With regard to parking, participants like the idea of parking lots being screened from the street, and also being more accessible.

This brief summary only touches on the enlightening and engaging streetscaping design process coordinated by Paul Beegan, Lakewood architect and chair of the Design Committee for Main Street Lakewood. Observers are encouraged to contribute to the process as it continues in August. This is a great chance to participate in the future look and function of Lakewood's busiest commercial district.

Care For Kid's Cove continued from page 1...



The tire animals and other parts of the playground are beginning to get worn and unsafe for children.

of concerned citizens are now unsafe, have been vandalized or were broken by heavy use. The minimum groundcover has not been maintained and the surfaces have numerous defects that now create tripping hazards for children and adults. Community members have again joined together in an interest to rehabilitate Kids Cove and provide for its future maintenance and safety.

The original Kids Cove committee worked with the Lakewood Foundation, which functioned as the fiscal agent for the process. When approached regarding the Kids Cove maintenance project, the Lakewood Foundation requested a new committee be formed and that the new chairperson, Joe Whisman, attempt to contact the previous committee co-chair

and then report back to the Foundation. A meeting was held during the week of June 4th to organize and initiate the new Kids Cove committee, "Caring For Kids Cove," consisting of members of the community with vested interests in improving the playground. It is the intent of this committee to work with the Lakewood Foundation, in order to have the proper legal status to receive funding. Volunteers will also be needed for a variety of tasks in the coming months.

As a community, Lakewood has grown increasingly diverse in recent years. A study recently presented to Lakewood's Community Relations Advisory Commission indicated that students of Lakewood schools speak 38 different languages in addition to English, and speakers of foreign languages comprise more than 12% of the student body. When visiting Kids Cove at Lakewood Park, it is not unusual to hear four or five languages being spoken by the families utilizing the park.

By maintaining a safe and widely accessible recreational facility, opportunities are created for people of diverse cultures to interact, as the community

grows to foster understanding and mutual respect among all of its members. Those values are best developed in early childhood—one important reason Lakewood citizens are working to provide Kids Cove with needed repairs and an ongoing maintenance plan.

The Caring For Kids Cove committee understands its goals as supporting the mission of both the Lakewood Foundation and the Department of Human Services, and it seeks to work closely with the City of Lakewood to provide for the long-term maintenance of the playground. Several donors have pledged potential financial support, and once the partnership with the Lakewood Foundation is approved, those offers will be accepted.

The Caring For Kids Cove Committee can be contacted through its website: <http://www.caring4kids Cove.com>. Stay tuned for upcoming events and opportunities to become involved.

Timeframe:

May, 2007: Approach Lakewood Public Works Director; begin organizing committee.

June, 2007: Hold first meeting; assign committee members; submit request to Lakewood Foundation in order to receive donations using its 501(c)(3) status; develop website including message board to communicate with the community; begin circulating flyers and information.

Summer, 2007: Enlist area carpenters to assess playground needs; conduct survey of area children; begin fundraising efforts; develop proposals; seek alternatives to mulch / groundcover such as a porous recycled rubber surface for impact areas.

Fall, 2007: Begin making necessary repairs, sealing wood surfaces, replacing signage with the help of local services

Spring, 2008: Continue the physical maintenance; plan for the continued maintenance of the playground.

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Lakewood Business News

Madison Avenue Summer Walk

by Justine Cooper

A group of businesses have joined together and revitalized Madison Avenue Merchants Association, MAMA. This group is dedicated to keeping Madison Avenue vibrant and thriving. They kicked off on June 16 with Summer Walk which appeared to be a great success. When I strolled along there were several people buzzing around Madison Avenue businesses, including councilperson Mary Louise Madigan and council candidates, Dan Shields and Tom Bullock.

It was refreshing to see not only so many loyal Lakewoodites out to support Lakewood businesses, but dedicated council candidates truly showing support for a great asset to this city, the businesses. Goddess Blessed had a special tarot reader as well as a raffle for a gas card won by Mary Louise Madigan. The owner, Kathy, stated “I think our first event was a success. Thanks to all who participated.”

Class Act Resale had refreshments



Everyone was out walking during the Madison Summer Walk. Here shoppers visited Silhouette Dance and Fine Arts Studio and Class Act Resale Shop. Both stores had artists and specials.

and a raffle for a \$50 gift certificate for Maria’s Restaurant generously donated from the Detroit Avenue business, which was won by Kristen Burns. Lakewood Hardware’s raffle for a \$50 gift certificate made winner Genevieve Vannatter happy to get ready

for some home improvements. Hardware store owner, Glenn Palmer’s wife owns Cuttin Loose across from his business and was thrilled to give winner Ruth Svoboda a gift certificate for her salon.

Silhouette Dance Studio’s owner Donna was excited to offer a free month’s of dance lessons with costume included. Carabel’s owner, Bonnie, stated “It was really nice to see some new faces popping in and hopefully some will come back for a new hair do.”

Joe’s Deli, The Coffee Pot, Lakewood Home Furnishings, Omega

Cuts and Fuzion Martial Arts were also thrilled to be a part of this new community-building group of energized individuals and thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the new and familiar faces coming by.

The big cash winners of the day were Mary Louise Kirk (\$150) and Mike Deneen (\$50) just for stopping by 8 out of 10 of the businesses.

Overall the Summer Walk was a great success in getting people to stop in to new businesses. I enjoy writing about individual business for my Secret Shopper column, but I cannot stress enough the importance of patronizing all Lakewood businesses as a way to contribute to the community and keep Lakewood quaint and unique from other commercialized suburbs. I hear so many comments from friends coming to visit Lakewood how fun and “cool” they think it is. The only way to keep it distinct is to be a part of the community in keeping it safe and clean and visiting the local family-owned businesses.

Kudos to all the loyal residents and out-of-towners who came out to visit businesses in Lakewood and to those who shop locally!

Boy Scout Troop 115 Prepares for Civil War

by Joseph S. Ott



Several Boy Scouts of Troop 115 get a close-up look at a Civil War-era rifle.

Preparing for a weekend campout at Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland the weekend of June 15, Boy Scout Troop 115 of Lakewood hosted Civil War reenactor Jeff Stover on the evening of June 11th as part of their regular meeting.

Troop 115 Scout Master Dave Accetta and Assistant Scout Master Earl Lawrence will be taking the scouts on the trip. Mr. Accetta is retired from the 82nd Airborne and Mr. Lawrence (former Troop 115 Scout Master) is a long-time history buff.

The Troop will be pitching tents on a youth group site on the battlefield. This site is located near Burnside’s Bridge, about 100 yards from Antietam Creek, near the town of Sharpsburg. This is the spot where General Robert E. Lee’s Confederate Army of Northern Virginia was attempting to invade the North. The battle, which took place

on September 17, 1862, has become known as the single most bloody day of the Civil War (and, in fact, American History to date), as 23,000 American soldiers fell.

The Troop will be accompanied by a guide along a 10-mile trail through the area. Along the way they will learn about about all three parts of this day-long battle: the morning, mid-day, and afternoon phases. After the completion of these three phases, more than a quarter of each side’s army had been killed. The day following this bloody battle, Lee’s troops began their withdrawal to Virginia.

Lakewood’s Troop 115 has been an active Troop in Lakewood for over 50 years and has never been shy of high adventure, long backpacking trips, canoe trips, or any weekend trip where there is plenty of mud, rain, or just plain foul weather to be found.

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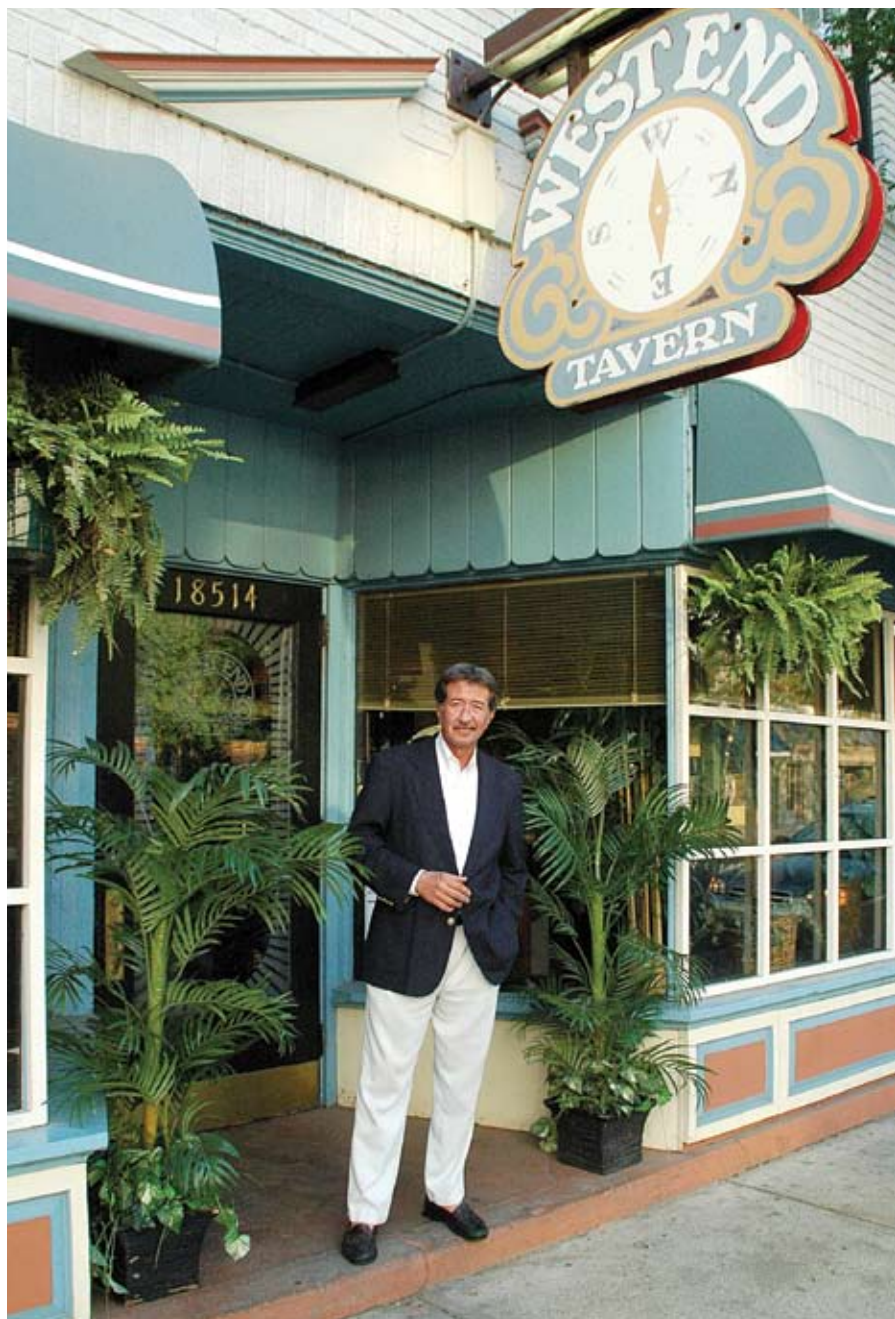
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Lakewood Observer



Business Person of the Year:

Mr. Parnell Egan

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce their 2007 Business Person of the Year: Mr. Parnell Egan of the West End Tavern.

2007 marks the 20th year that the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce has recognized an outstanding member of the business community. Individuals are nominated by Chamber members, with the only requirements stated as follows:

“Nominees should be individuals with a business interest in the community who work to better Lakewood in one or more ways. An individual contributing time and effort in civic, recreational, school and/or church activities would be an ideal nominee.”

Over those 20 years, a veritable Who’s Who of Lakewood business men and women have been honored for their contribution to the community.

This year’s Business Person of the Year is no exception. Parnell Egan of the West End Tavern established his bar and restaurant 21 years ago and became active in helping the community almost immediately. He joined the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce during his first year of business and has provided a tremendous amount of support to the Chamber and business community over the years.

Mr. Egan has given out hundreds of gift certificates, participates in the Halloween window painting contest, hosts community events, and assists numerous non-profit organizations such as St. James Church, various youth leagues, Lakewood Firefighters, the Lakewood Junior Women’s Club, and the Chili Bowl Classic 5k run. He has added a cover charge at the door and given all the proceeds to the Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp. He assists and donates to numerous auctions, raffles, and golf outing fundraisers in town. And as a business owner, he has employed students from the Special Education classes at Lakewood High School.

In addition to his civic contributions, Parnell has developed the West End Tavern into one of the west side’s favorite public houses. The atmosphere is friendly and inviting, the food is exceptional and so is the company. Therefore, it is only fitting that on his 21st anniversary as a Lakewood business owner, the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce recognizes Parnell Egan as the 2007 Business Person of the Year.

Left, Parnell Egan, Lakewood’s Business Person Of The Year, and a arn nice guy. If you live in Lakewood, you know and like Parnell.

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Lakewood Public Library

Lakewood Public Library Events Calendar

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Walking in to the Lakewood Public Library Gala. More photos next page.



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Lakewood Public Library



Mayor Tom George, welcomes Lt. Govenor Lee Fischer, and Representative David *Hobson* (R - OH).



Shannon Strachan, Jeff Endress, and Lynn Foran.



That is not James Bond! It Director of Planning Tom Jordan with his wife Mary Ellen.



FreeTimes Senior Editor Michael Gill and his wife Lisa Shafer-Gill

Unveiling The New Crow

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Photos by: Ivor Karabatkovic, David Lay, Rhonda Loje, and Suzanne Metelko.



Ken Warren beats the skins.



Director of Lakewood Library Kenneth Warren speak with long time past President of the Library Foundation, Eva Weisman and her nephew MARK Newmark, who just returned from 4 years in Russia and India.



ry Gala, June 23, 2007

wn Jewel Of Lakewood

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Lakewood Cuisine

Lakewood Gets a Bit Trendy

by Tim Kanak

The end may be near for the dimly lit taverns of old: A place to have a few cocktails and down an array of bar food - consisting of re-cooked wings, heated pretzels and the like - until closing time. BAR 2, recently opened in the former Niko's space at the corner of Lakeland and Detroit, operates on an entirely different concept – an upscale and trendy bar scene complemented by a complete entrée menu served from the time the doors open at 5 p.m.

I recently sat down with the principals that operate BAR 2. The triumvirate, all in their mid-twenties, includes owner J. R. Dugas, Chef John Cafarelli, and Bartender Mike. As we sat to discuss the recent opening of the new bar and restaurant, they were upfront and candid about what they wanted to do with their establishment.

“When I first walked into Niko’s on Detroit, I was very surprised to see what had already been done on the other side. I looked at what I could do to capitalize on that and what was missing in the community”, said Dugas. “A lot of the bars here are similar. They might offer something different, but they’re mostly the same. There are a lot of young professionals and a very diverse group of individuals that live in Lakewood. I believe what we are doing here is the type of place they will want to come to.”

Stepping off embattled Detroit Avenue into BAR 2, one gets the feeling of being transplanted to somewhere in Tremont or The Warehouse District. Yet, according to Dugas, there is no need to go to those areas when it’s all here in Lakewood. “The type of setting that I personally prefer would have a Tremont, Downtown feel to it,” he said.



Dugas wanted to bring an establishment to Lakewood that is both inviting and upscale, yet allows the individual a place to have fun and relax, all while enjoying an eclectic menu served fully until 2 a.m. According to Dugas, he “... tried to create a fun, exciting and laid-back atmosphere.”

Chef Cafarelli had similar ideas while creating his menu. He said he gets his motivation from his passion of cooking. “I try not to overshadow ingredients; I have the belief that it is better to complement and enhance the ingredients instead,” said Cafarelli. There seems to be no limit to his desire to prepare an exquisite cuisine. Items on BAR 2’s menu vary from Halibut Cheeks, Lobster Ravioli and a delightful Duck Crepe to more exotic choices such as Red Curry Lamb, Stuffed Quail and Grilled Organic King Salmon. There is, of course, no shortage of mainstays in fine dining, including a bevy of Sashimi items, Honey-Rubbed Chai Tea Smoked Pork Tenderloin, and Belgian Ale-Ginger Braised Short Ribs.

All of these palate-pleasing delights can be consumed in a warm and friendly environment from the time the doors open until the kitchen serves its last customer, generally close to 2 a.m. It is rare to find so much variety on a menu that is completely available into the wee hours. Cafarelli explains that his first concern is the quality of the food that comes from his kitchen, followed closely by the pleasure his fare brings the guests. “It is important to take into account what makes food good and exciting,” says Cafarelli. He believes the foils and contradictions between the texture, flavor and aroma

should stand out. “The more contradictions you can get in a dish, the more interesting and ultimately enjoyable it becomes.”

Few seem to embrace the love of food as much as Cafarelli. And BAR 2’s clientele are all the happier for it.

Friends Stacey Hubert of Riverside Drive and Kristen Kostanzo of Hilliard Drive were very pleased with their choices of menu items Sushi 2 and Sushi 1, respectively. “I have had great sushi before, and this was right up there,” said Hubert. While Kostanzo had a different take, “I really like the diversity in the items on the plate; it was just a wonderful blend.”

Tom Rogers of Arthur Ave. and a few friends recently took in a few cocktails at the new hot spot. “While I’m not a drinker, my friends enjoyed theirs’. It was a nice evening all around.”

BAR 2 offers theme nights throughout the week, including Ladies’ Night on Mondays. Cafarelli is entertaining the idea of offering cooking classes on Sunday evenings in the future. The restaurant is closed on Sundays, but would possibly open for early evening classes. *If interested, please contact the restaurant.* “I think it would be a great way to get the community involved in a way that could be fun for all,” stated Cafarelli.

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Chef Geoff

An EGG-cellent Dish

Jeff Endress

In the heat of summer, we like to stay out of the kitchen as much as possible, but if you are willing to bear the heat of your oven for an hour, a soufflé can be a light and satisfying main dish, especially accompanied by a cool salad of mixed greens and a glass of wine.

We have all heard the egg council’s refrain of “the incredible edible egg.” Indeed, the egg is an interesting food item. In addition to the standard fried, scrambled, and hard-boiled preparations, this culinary staple can provide other unique cooking opportunities.

As every shopper knows, eggs come in a variety of colors and sizes - from white to blue to brown and from small to extra large. But, once the shells are cracked, these eggs share the same characteristics. There are two components to an egg: the egg yolk (the primary source of cholesterol in eggs) and the egg white (which is 75% water, but also contains protein). Normally, we don’t think about these two component parts separately - the recipe says “add an egg” and in goes the yolk and the white. As a side note, because the volume of an egg can differ depending on the size, when a recipe calls for an “egg,” the standard to which it is referring is an extra large egg.

However, by separating the parts of an egg, one can cook special recipes. Egg white, in its unaltered state, is not

particularly appealing, but something unique happens when air is added. Using a mixer or a hand whisk, the egg white can be transformed into a substance that looks like whipped cream. Whipped egg whites can serve as the base either for meringue (created by adding sugar) or for one of my favorite dishes – soufflé.

Soufflé mirrors the versatility of the egg and, depending what items are added to it, can be a side dish, an entrée, or a dessert. The contrast in texture of a light, fluffy soufflé with rich chocolate or tangy aged cheese is a delight for the palate. The magic of a soufflé stems from the addition of that secret ingredient – air. In the course of whipping the egg whites, air is encapsulated in the mixture and, when placed in the oven, causes the soufflé to rise significantly (sometimes even double in height) which makes for a spectacular appearance and provides that classic light texture. Any soufflé recipe is a bit more complicated than simple scrambled eggs, but the added time and effort is worth it when the end result is removed from the oven.

Basic Soufflé Recipe

- 6-Cup buttered dish, coated with breadcrumbs
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 2 Tbsp. flour
- 3/4 Cup milk
- 4 Egg yolks
- 6 Egg whites
- Salt and pepper to taste



Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Melt butter in pan; when it bubbles, whisk in flour. Over low heat, gradually blend in milk. Continue to stir until it begins to thicken. Remove from heat and whisk in yolks, one at a time. Transfer to a large bowl and allow to cool. Adjust seasoning. Beat the whites until stiff. Fold the whites into the yolk mixture, combining gently. Pour into prepared dish and immediately (gently) place in preheated oven. Bake 20-25 minutes for a solid center and a fully risen, golden brown (my preference). Additional ingredients, such as finely grated cheese, diced ham, or chopped veggies can be added to the yolk mixture and mixed in fully before adding the egg whites.

When preparing the soufflé, there are several important things to remember. First of all, fresh eggs respond far better than eggs which have been left in the refrigerator for a few weeks. Next, when separating the eggs, make sure that the bowl for the whites is meticulously clean and dry (also, do not allow any yolk to find its way into the whites). If you happen to be lucky enough to own a copper bowl, there is an interesting chemical reaction which occurs between the copper and egg whites which further enhances the addition of air. Also, eggs freshly removed from the refrigerator will respond better than eggs at room temperature. And finally, the whipped egg whites should not be left to sit before proceeding further as they can begin to collapse.

Any ingredient which is to be added to the soufflé, whether it be meat, vegetable, or cheese, must be minced very finely so that the weight of that addition does not hinder the rise of the soufflé. Furthermore, it is important to provide the soufflé with a surface which allows it to climb, like a buttered soufflé dish or ramekin coated in breadcrumbs.

The hardest part of making soufflé is separating the yolks. There are two ways one can attempt this task. You can employ the use of a device (which works quite well) that looks like a mea-

suring cup with slots at the bottom. Or, you can hold the yolk in one half of the cracked shell while the white runs into a bowl beneath it. To avoid contaminating the white with any element of the yolk, it is recommended that separation occur over a different bowl than the one intended for the whites (and then added to the appropriate bowl after separation). Once the eggs have been separated, the whites should be refrigerated and the flavors for the soufflé prepared.

First, melt the butter and whisk in the flour to make a roux, and then add the milk or cream to make a simple white sauce. Whisk each yolk into this white sauce and then fold in the selected ingredients. Once this mixture is cooled, the egg whites can be whipped to fluffy, soft peaks and folded into the yolk mixture. Folding should be done gently so as to keep the whites as aerated as possible. Once the two mixtures have been completely blended, add the product to the soufflé dish and put it in the oven immediately. The soufflé dish should have at least two inches to grow (for a six-cup dish), so that as the mixture rises, it does not run over the edges. It is best not to check on the soufflé too often because there is some truth to the rumor that a slammed oven door will cause it to fall.

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Lakewood Observer

Staying Hydrated in the Summertime

by Karen kilbane

Fatigue, headaches, dry mouth, muscle weakness, dizziness, lightheadedness? All of these are symptoms that your body is dehydrated. A loss of just one or two percent of your body's water weight can wipeout your energy levels, banishing you to the nearest sofa for a midday nap. If you typically wait until you're thirsty before drinking water, it's time to change your habits.

The American College of Sports Medicine advises that by the time you feel thirsty, you're already on the way to dehydration. The key is to intake beverages before you experience noticeable thirst. So, how much water do you need each day? The Institute of Medicine recommends 3.0 liters (approximately 13 cups) per day for men and 2.2 liters (approximately 9 cups) for women. Of course, your body may require more or less, depending upon your level of activity and your environment. A good rule of thumb is that you want to drink enough fluids so that you rarely feel thirsty and your urine is either colorless or just slightly yellow.

During the summer heat, it's especially vital to drink extra fluids. But, don't worry. You won't need to down a bottle of Evian every 10 minutes to maintain proper hydration. In fact, keeping hydrated is easier than you think. Judi Sheppard Missett, founder and CEO of Jazzercise, Inc., offers these suggestions for keeping your fluid intake up to par:

- Drink a glass of water with every meal and between every meal.
- Eat fruits and vegetables that are loaded with water. Cucumbers and watermelon, for example, are nearly 100 percent water.
- Request sparkling water in place of alcoholic drinks at social gatherings.
- Drink water before, during and after your workout.
- If you're not sure how much water to intake, try weighing yourself before and after exercise. Replace every pound lost with 16 ounces of fluid.
- Try a sports drink for longer sessions of intense exercise. Sports drinks replace sodium that is lost in sweat.

This protects your body from hyponatremia, a life-threatening condition caused by decreased sodium levels.

- Increase your fluid intake on hot or humid days. The increased temperature can make you sweat, and that fluid needs to be replaced.
- Be careful about caffeinated beverages. While some of the newest research indicates that caffeinated beverages count towards your daily fluid intake, it's good to remember that caffeine is a diuretic. It speeds up the process of depleting water

from your body before you've had a chance to rehydrate.

- Purchase a water filter for your tap at home. That way, you'll always have clean water accessible and handy. Every system in your body needs water, which comprises about 60 percent of your overall body weight.
- Think beyond the tap and intake more fluids each day through a variety of methods. When you stay hydrated, you'll have more energy for all the summertime activities that you enjoy.

Jazzercise, created by Judi Shep-

pard Missett, is the world's leading dance-fitness program with more than 6,800 instructors teaching 30,000 classes weekly in the U.S. and around the globe. Since 1969, millions of people of all ages and fitness levels have reaped the benefits of this comprehensive program, designed to enhance cardiovascular endurance, strength and flexibility. For more information on Jazzercise in the Lakewood and Rocky River area, contact Karen Kilbane at 440-356-0337 or kkjazzercise@yahoo.com.

Trinity Lutheran Pushes For Food

On July 4th, Trinity Lutheran Church (TLC) will participate in Lakewood's annual 4th of July parade. Pastor Paula Maeder Connor and members of the church will push grocery carts to collect donations for the Lakewood Christian Service Center. The Christian Service Center provides food and assistance to low-income Lakewood residents.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to the parade. Place it in one of the carts as the group walks by and watch out for a special routine! TLC will also be collecting monetary donations, so save some change.

Upcoming events at TLC:

Peace Camp is the week of July 9.

Peace Camp is TLC's summer learning and service program. It emphasizes conflict resolution and character building for children in grades K-6, and junior high students can volunteer to help. This year, the camp will take place just down the street from TLC, at Faith Lutheran Church.

A Free Summer Lunch Program will run from June 18 to August 3. This is a federally supported program that provides free meals to children under the age of 18. Meals are served from 11:30am to 12:30pm, Monday through Friday (except July 4), in the church fellowship hall.

Coming Home is Trinity's child care program, with an arts and music

emphasis. The program is now accepting registration for the summer and the 2007-2008 before- and after-school programs.

The next Community Meal will take place on July 2nd in the church fellowship hall. Meals are scheduled for the first Monday and second Sunday of each month. All are welcome.

Also on July 2nd, the Four Seasons String Quartet from Lakewood High School will perform. The quartet features Alex Krueger and Renee Blackburn on violin, Vicki Hamm on cello, and Samantha Stewart on viola, all recent graduates of LHS. Call the church office at 216-226-8087 with questions or to register.

Ivor Karabatkovic Raises \$1500 At Phoenix For Jerry Gruss Fund



Lakewood High School Graduate and Lakewood Observer Photographer Ivor Karabatkovic raised \$1500 in three days for the Jerry Gruss Fund. The fund, which is established by the Lakewood High School Alumni Foundation and the Class of 1970 will be used for scholarships in Coach Jerry Gruss's name. Ivor's money will go straight to the Baseball Program, where it will be used for equipment and other things. Thank you to all that came out and supported. No panic for those who missed their chance to buy photos and donate, because all prints that were not sold will be displayed at the Bella Dubby during the whole month of July in the Lakewood Observer Photo Show. Hope to see you there!



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The Café Riverwood Wins Top Prize In Buffalo Wing Contest

On Saturday, June 16th, the Lakewood Jaycees hosted the 2nd Annual "Best Wings in Lakewood" Contest. The competition included 14 Lakewood pubs, bars and eateries vying for 5 overall awards.

Best Buffalo Style, Judges' Choice Division: The Café Riverwood
The Best Open Flavor, Judges' Choice Award: Majos.
Crazy Rita's and Merry Arts received honorable mentions in this category.
The Best Buffalo Style, People's Choice Award: The Café Riverwood
Best Open Flavor, People's Choice Category: Buckeye Beer Engine's Fire Alarm Wing.



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Pulse Of The City

Those Among Us-

Pat Ginley... Right Here, Right Now!

Gary Rice

Used to be, wars were far away. Little, if any, information came to us about war until months or even years passed. Not so, these days. With TV and the Internet, war comes to our living rooms and sometimes even to our cities with unexpected and graphic ardor. This column is about one Lakewoodite wanting to make a difference in the midst of the timeless tragedy of war.

Pat Ginley is an old friend and a Lakewood neighbor. As with any friend, I knew quite a bit about him, or so I thought. A great family man, and a man of great faith, Pat worked for years in the Cleveland Clinic operating rooms. Still does, in fact. He was always a good person to engage in conversation concerning a wide variety of topics.

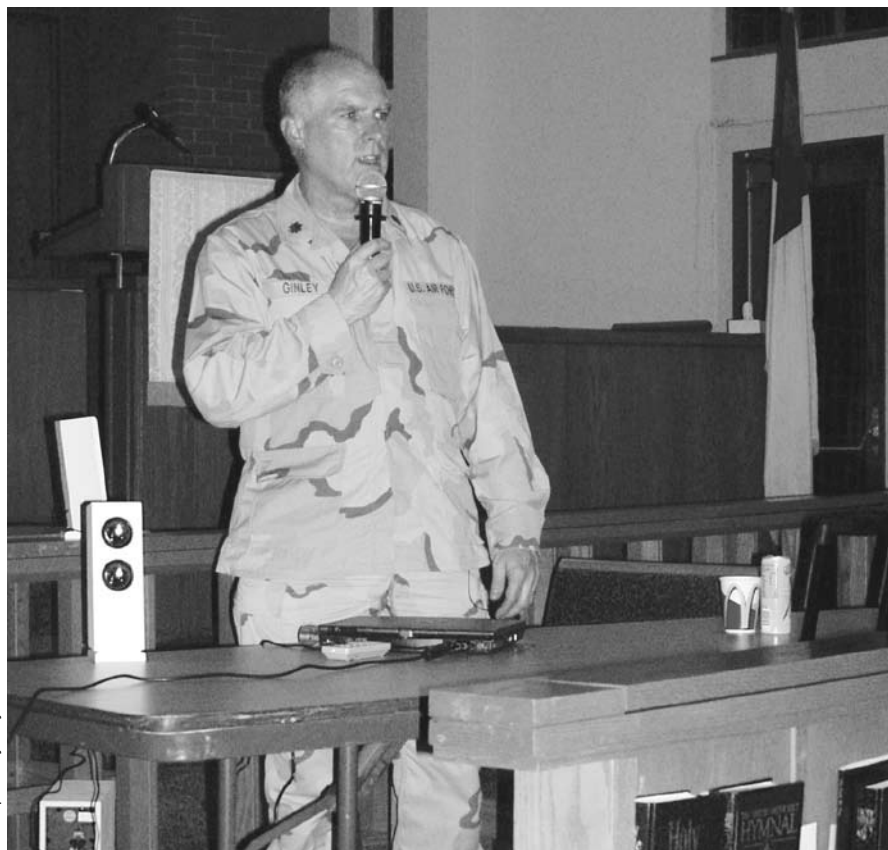
But one topic that we never discussed was the military. Pat's just about my age, so my assumption was that if he'd done any military service, it would have been during the time of Vietnam. That part of his life would have passed long ago.

Would have, that is, but didn't. After a stint in the Navy, Pat decided to join the United States Air Force (Reserves) and stay connected to the service.

Very connected, that is. He recently returned from Iraq.

On May 10th, Pat did a PowerPoint Projection talk at the Rockport United Methodist Church about his experiences over there. He served as a physician's assistant about forty miles north of Baghdad at the end of a narrow concrete walkway identified by a green street sign as the "Hero's Highway." This was at the LSA/Anaconda/Balad air base. That walkway led from a helipad to the emergency room tent, and from there into the various operating rooms and recovery tents at the base.

Every day, in between the mortar rockets and sniper attacks, Blackhawks and other helicopters would land and discharge their casualties of war. Down that "Hero's Highway," the medics would rush with their patients on two-wheeled gurneys making the right angle turn into the ER, often leaving a



Pat Ginley at the Rockport United Methodist Church

trail of bright red arterial blood in the gurney's wake.

I can bear witness to this. I saw it... as it happened. At least, I did so while watching Pat's PowerPoint projection. I did not, however, feel the oppressive heat, nor experience the wafting smells. Or the screams.

I also did not experience it as often as seven hundred times a month. Pat did, though.

In those air-conditioned tents, decorated with US and Iraqi flags, doctors and nurses worked around the clock to repair shattered bones and lives. US, Iraqi, and Coalition Forces all were treated there, as well as insurgents...and women and children too.

Pat related the story of a man whose family was destroyed because he helped the Americans. At that point in the talk, Pat broke down for a moment. He had made a friend of that man. They had discussed fatherhood...

Not all wounds are bloody ones.

Every war produces different types of wounds, and different treatments.

31-07) ran a great story about how Pat started a bicycle ministry, fixing bikes for people on and around the base. As Pat said, "Not so much to get from point A to point B as to get from A/C to A/C" (air conditioning).

To keep things as normal as possible, the base had a bazaar, Burger King, Taco Bell, and Pizza Hut, as well as beauty and barber shops so that soldiers would feel more relaxed. In between the daily rocket and sniper attacks.

Another story Pat related involved a baby that was left in a box outside the base. The soldiers nearly blew the box up as a possible threat until one of them bravely decided to approach the box and look inside. The child survived and was treated for exposure and dehydration.

How little we know about our friends and neighbors. Pat wanted to make a difference, so he left friends and family to go far away to a place the rest of us can hardly conceptualize. Pat also brought some lighter moments to the PowerPoint, showing the brave smiles of the ER staff and the beautiful flowers around the base. He showed us the huge ants and camel spiders that seemed to chase you around until you realized that they were only looking to get into your shadow to escape the sun's hot rays. There was also a photo of two chickadees that somehow found each other over there. Did they fly in on one of our planes? Who knows?

Whatever we feel about our presence over there, we are indeed there. That's the reality of the situation right now, pure and simple. Every day, brave men and women are doing incredible things in that hot and dusty land, to make a better world where they stand.

The mission statement of Pat's 332 EMDG group is as follows: Combat Medical Care for America - Right Here, Right Now

Thanks Pat, and to all your friends over there too. That's not enough, but I know it's more than enough for you. Pat will be retiring from the military in a few months to spend more time with his family.

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Lakewood Perspective

I Protest Your Protest

I'm not an expert in Physics, Chemistry, or Biology. I don't have a doctorate in Climatology, Paleontology, Ornithology, or even Scientology. That said, I can tell you honestly that I believe that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone, but probably not independently. I believe the United States Government keeps many secrets, but an alien crash site isn't one of them. I believe the moon landings were real, but Walter Cronkite's hair wasn't. I'm a skeptic, a critical thinker, and a person who will never cease to question authority. However, quite frankly, I'm baffled by what I encountered in Sinagra Park when coming home from work awhile back.

Working downtown, I'm treated to a plethora of protest events throughout the spring, summer, and fall. From my office, I occasionally hear the voices of dissent belch out their well practiced and overly amplified speech: demanding action, insisting on change, and pleading for Americans everywhere to simply, "Wake up and see the error of your ways!" For the most part, those that choose to take to the street are considerate and polite (considering the nature of what they are doing). And, while I don't necessarily agree with their opinions or support their causes, I very much respect their passion and will always defend their right to free speech.

However, for me, there is one particular cause that seems to fall well outside the lines of reason. I do not understand how in the world anyone can still cling to the delusional thought that the U.S. government was directly responsible for the attacks on 9/11. Yet, there I was, standing in the center of Lakewood, face-to-face with a group demanding another investigation into what has already become one of the most critically reviewed events in U.S. history.

Still, after spending close to an hour arguing back and forth with various members of this group, it occurred to me that, while I thought their logic was completely off-base, I was actually more offended by their complete lack of preparation and utter breakdown in execution. Sure, they had the nice banners, a few catchy slogans, and the obligatory ringleader chanting meaningless redundancies through a bullhorn. However, what they really lacked was focus, which was really quite a shame since they otherwise made for a nicely assembled, clean-cut group.

With so many ex-hippies and extreme liberals holding positions in higher education, you would think that someone somewhere would offer classes on how to pull off successful protests, rallies, or demonstrations. Actually, I can already imagine portions of the curriculum...

- English 103: Creative Conspiracy Writing
- Speech 125: Publicly Speaking Loudly
- Science 205: Fluid Theory as Relates to the Dynamics of Mobs

Bret Callentine

Biology 307: Long-term Effects of Hunger Strikes
Physics 202: The Science of a Successful Sit-in (including a lab that requires you to chain yourself to various objects)
If any of my adversaries that day would have had the benefit of such a course, they might have stood a half a chance at getting something, anything, accomplished.

Case in Point #1: When approached by a confrontational person such as myself, the entire group should not get sucked into the argument. Before starting the protest, identify the participants best suited for individual debate. After all, you're there to spread your story or beliefs to the masses and, with everyone simultaneously yelling at me, you're missing countless opportunities to open dialogue with other passers-by.

Case in Point #2: Always evaluate the area to determine the angles of greatest visibility. Holding your biggest, most creative sign ten feet back and parallel to the street doesn't allow

traffic adequate time to see, read, and comprehend your message (having it underneath a shady tree doesn't help either). I'd bet dollars to donuts that not a single motorist driving by that afternoon discerned that you weren't just the usual bunch of kids hanging out, let alone that you actually had something to say.

Case in Point #3: Have a point! Yes, a catch phrase is fun, but if and when someone finally does ask the critical question, "So what do you want me to do about it?," it's generally considered much more productive if you actually have an answer. And, saying, "Here, read this" isn't good enough. Have a petition prepared. Hand out the phone number or e-mail address of your local representative along with a pre-written statement of what to do. Never demand a person's attention if you don't know what to do when you get it.

Case in Point #4: Think! Isn't that what you're expecting from everyone else? If you don't have your facts straight and ready to be presented,

you won't be able to convince anyone else. Within ten minutes, members of this group gave me three contradictory "facts" regarding a critical part of their argument. Do you really think I'm going to believe your story if you keep changing it?

Personally, my favorite part came when I asked the leader of this group, "If you don't trust the government and you think all the major media sources are in on the cover up, then who exactly do you have in mind to head up this new investigation?" His reply was, "Well, I'm a pretty smart guy – I can ask some good questions."

Yeah, I can see the headlines now... "Congress selects unknown Lakewood, Ohio youth to head 9/11 investigative team – unlimited subpoena powers authorized."

My recommendation is that you go back to your mom's basement and spend a little time on Al Gore's Internet researching effective ways to sway public opinion. Treat the process with as much respect as you demand from the public. Otherwise, good luck with your windmill, Mr. Quixote.

Carlyle Launches Full-Scale Redevelopment Program

by Jeanine Gergel

One of the largest properties on Lakewood's Gold Coast is getting a major makeover. The Carlyle is currently undergoing a \$5 million restoration and redevelopment program to revitalize the building and grounds. Funded entirely by suite owners through a special assessment, the program includes the full restoration and waterproofing of the building's parking deck, replacement of the electrical distribution system, restoration of the outdoor pool and re-landscaping of the outdoor pool area, and a complete overhaul/replacement of the heating system, which will lower utility costs.

In 2008, the front lawn areas will be re-landscaped and the interior areas of the parking garage and balcony privacy panels will be painted. The exercise room will also be overhauled and refurbished with new equipment. In 2009, the lobby and residential corridors will be redesigned and redecorated. Projects under consideration include the construction of green spaces around the building's perimeter and a split-level exercise facility overlooking the lake and downtown Cleveland.

"Our goal is to make the best use of our very special location on the lake," says suite owner and Marketing Committee Chairman Steve Casselman. "We're capitalizing on our shoreline location, getting rid of asphalt and adding more green space to create more of a park-like feel."

Building Manager Brian Van Atta points out that Lakewood's Gold Coast properties are important to the city's economy. Until the recent softening of the Northeast Ohio housing mar-

ket, Carlyle property values steadily increased during the last decade. "With increasing property values comes an increased tax base," says Van Atta. "And with 546 residential suites, we are a significant chunk of Lakewood's tax base." Compared to single-family homes and smaller multi-unit dwellings, Van Atta adds that it is economical for the city of Lakewood to service the Carlyle and other Gold Coast properties. Garbage, for instance, is picked up in one stop for all units.

With 546 suites and a mix of young professionals and retirees, the Carlyle community is diverse. With a dry cleaner, restaurant, deli, beauty salon, exercise room and racquetball court on site, residents almost never have to leave the grounds. "We are almost a city unto ourselves," says Casselman. "Everyone is welcome here."

Casselman says that people are frequently surprised at what a good value suites within the building are. "Often people assume that with our lakefront location, it must be pricey to live here. But, many of our units are extremely affordable."

The impetus for the restoration project is the recognition by suite owners that the Carlyle, like other Gold Coast properties, must maintain its luster to compete with newer condominiums. The past several years have seen many warehouses and other former industrial buildings converted into condos in downtown Cleveland. New condominium construction has also sprouted throughout the region, including elsewhere in Lakewood.

"None of these properties can compete with us in location," says Casselman. Indeed, with a private

beach area, lakeside picnic grounds and volleyball courts, as well as an outdoor pool overlooking Lake Erie, the Carlyle's location is one of its selling points.

Van Atta says the Carlyle offers many other advantages in addition to its lakefront location. "Our location is perfect for quick access to the city without the hassle of living downtown," says Van Atta. "There is no shortage of parking spaces for owners or their visitors. And police and fire department response time is exceptional. If, for instance, you lock your keys in your car, the Lakewood police respond almost immediately."

Unlike some other newer condominium properties, nearly all maintenance at the Carlyle is covered by the association. "In some of the newer projects, all maintenance expenses fall to the suite owner," says Van Atta. "We think the Carlyle is a better investment dollar-for-dollar for the owner when reviewing what's covered in maintenance fees."

Van Atta points out that all the renovations and improvements the property is about to undergo will have a life expectancy of at least 20 years. "Our view is to pay once and be done with it," he says. In addition to being a positive contributor to the city's economy, the Carlyle and the other Gold Coast properties add to Lakewood's vibrancy, says Casselman. "We're a very cosmopolitan community. And we recognize that our ongoing success is inextricably intertwined with Lakewood's success."

For more information on the Carlyle, visit the property's web site at www.carlylecondos1.com.

Minding The Issues

Right Song, Wrong Stanza For Celebrating Our Nation

Our national anthem, as we all well know, is serious business. Why else would we play it at every public event? Why else does an individual, especially a male, risk his safety if he fails to stand when it is played?

We take the national anthem seriously because it expresses our national identity. Conversely, the national anthem helps mold that identity. So we do well to reflect on what the anthem says. Does it express a mindless militarism? Or does it lead us to think on the purposes our nation exists for?

As we approach our most important national holiday this year, we find the international cauldron and the immigra-

tion dilemma, among other things, raising even more strongly the question of what we are as a nation and what we ought to be. That is why I submit again my thoughts on the Star Spangled Banner.

If we thought about the words that come out of our mouths when we sing the national anthem – specifically its first stanza – we’d realize that its only point is to celebrate and glorify victory in battle – it’s a song of war, exulting in victory over our foes, with only a one-line afterthought to show tentatively why we might deserve to be victorious. If I didn’t know better, I might think it’s the war

Gordon Brumm

song of some neo-Fascist group.

The Fourth of July, dedicated to commemoration of our nation’s ideals, might be a good occasion to ask whether the Star-Spangled Banner really expresses those ideals.

This holiday is meant to celebrate our nation’s virtues, its nobility of purpose, and its grand history wherein that nobility and that virtue are displayed. Why, then, do we mark it by singing a song that only commemorates one particular battle – a battle that was part of a stupid and futile war, a battle whose sole distinction is that it was one of the

few that saved the War of 1812 from being remembered as an utter catastrophe. As a patriotic emblem, the first stanza of “The Star Spangled Banner” is a bust.

As we habitually sing the words, do we really mean to imply that the most important fact in our country’s history was that a banner flew over an embattled fort after a long night of fighting? Is mere victory in battle, regardless of our cause, what we wish to celebrate? Has “Our country right or wrong” become our rationale – a rationale that validates our acting with impunity in the world? Are we celebrating “might” with no consideration of “right?” If these are our convictions, they are better left unexpressed.

There is a better alternative, and it is close at hand:

Oh, thus be it ever, when free men shall stand

Between their loved homes and the war’s desolation!

Blessed with vict’ry and peace, may our heav’n-rescued land

Praise the Pow’r that hath made and preserved us a nation!

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,

And this be our motto: “In God is our trust!”

And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave

O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

This of course is the splendid last stanza of “The Star Spangled Banner,” as different from the first stanza as day from night. This last stanza celebrates a nation dedicated to ideals derived from a higher source, and it exhorts us to measure our accomplishments against those ideals. It honors the tragic but noble sacrifices necessary to achieve those ideals in a world where ideals are always in peril.

In saying “...conquer we must, when our cause it is just” (not “for our cause it is just”) the final stanza rejects the “Our country, right or wrong” mentality.

More than poetic taste is involved. After all, the purpose of singing a national anthem is to reinforce certain ways of thinking in the minds of those who sing it. The first stanza of “The Star-Spangled Banner” reinforces an unthinking tribal loyalty to our country, based only on the fact that it is OUR country. This narrow chauvinism puts us on the same plane as any other nation, good, bad or indifferent. Any thought of a virtuous purpose is strictly an afterthought, added on to justify the aggressiveness of the rest. Surely we can do better than that.

By contrast, the final stanza expresses dedication to values greater than mere national existence, values that constitute our greatness and help justify our claim to nobility. We profess to be a nation grateful for its freedom and intent on using that freedom to achieve the best that humans are capable of. That is the best and truest patriotism, and that is what the last stanza of “The Star-Spangled Banner” stands for. It is our proper anthem, and deserves to be recognized as such.

The Buck Stops Here

“Art Is Not A Plaything”

Robert Buckeye

The American poet, George Oppen, who lived in Mexico City for ten years, apparently never learned a word of Spanish. On a bus one day, he heard the driver say something in English, and blurted out, “The man speaks English.” To hear one’s language is a form of recognition. It places you in a world.

Not to know the language spoken around you forces you to stand outside a world and can be considerably disorienting. Several days ago in Bratislava, there was a knock on my apartment door. A workman asked a question of me. I answered him in Slovak, *Nerozumiem po slovensky*. I don’t speak Slovak. He repeated his question. I repeated my answer. Either he did not understand me – my pronunciation may have been bad – or he found it inconceivable that someone in this neighborhood would not know Slovak. He repeated his question several more times. I shrugged, smiled or something. He decided it was easier to leave than get his answer.

How do you understand the world around you when you don’t know the language? Last week I had to go to the hospital in Bratislava. My doctor was the only one in the hospital who spoke

any English at all. The nurse who had to take a blood sample and do other tests pointed, gestured, mimed what she wanted me to do. *Tak, tak*, she would say when I did the right thing. *Dobre, dobre*. At least I knew that meant good. I assumed *tak, tak* was see, see, right.

You feel powerless. In Bertolucci’s film of the Bowles’ novel, *The Sheltering Sky*, Debra Winger is taken in by Bedouins after her husband, John Malkovich, dies in the Sahara. They make no effort to make themselves understood, and she must do what their gestures tell her to do if she is to live.

As every immigrant knows, an imperfect command of the language immediately defines you (and your place), if not puts you at risk. At Roosevelt School in second grade, the teacher asked one day what we slept under. I raised my hand. I sleep under a poophoony I said. Everyone looked puzzled. What’s a *poophoony* the teacher asked. A *poophoony* I answered, not comprehending. I did not know that some of the words my mother taught me were Slovak, not English.

It may happen in our own language. My parents were not formally educated, and some of the words I learned were from reading books (and

understanding meaning from context), not from my parents’ speech. In class one day, I used a word I had learned from Dickens. “Things had gone awry,” I said. I had only seen the word on the page, not heard it. I did not know awry was a-wry.

Language may be corrupted. If the lie is pervasive, how can we know truth? After the Second World War, a number of German writers formed *Gruppe 47* to start the German language fresh. They felt that the Nazis had so corrupted German that it could no longer be used. We see it all around us today (“collateral damage”, for example, to speak of the deaths of civilians).

Thing is, language may include as well as exclude, no matter what ground you stand on. Even the immigrant, who knows his new language imperfectly, or the uneducated worker can use the language he knows effectively. The immigrant can fall back into his own language with his companions at crucial moments to exclude those who know the King’s English. The worker’s English may not be understood by the boss.

“Art is not a plaything,” Rebecca West writes, “but a necessity, and its essence, form, is not a decorative adjustment, but a cup, into which life can be poured and lifted to the lips and tasted.” She is talking about language, is she not?

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Lakewood Arts & Music

Screw Factory Studios Open House

by Ruth A. Koenigsmark

What can you do with an old screw factory? Create the Screw Factory Art Studios! Nestled in historic Birdtown, the former Lake Eric Screw has morphed into very swanky artist studios.

On Thursday, June 21, 2007, the Screw Factory Art Studios opened their doors from 4pm-7pm to an anxious public for their first Open House.

This multimedia exhibition examined the artistic achievements of cohabitants of the Screw Factory Art Studios who, by the soaring caliber of this show, are surely to gain prominence as the parents of the Lakewood Art District.

The group showing was comprised of eight (a very auspicious number with connotations of new beginnings, luck and prosperity). These lucky eight were Ann Caywood Brown, Kristen Cliffler, Martha Cliffler, Rob Durr, Phyllis Kohring Fannin, Martin O'Connor, Randy Rigutto, and Conrad Relitz. Each artist opened their space offering a mini-retrospective of their works, surveying the varied media and phases of his or her career. These included themes of the human condition, sexuality, spirituality (Christian subjects and Zen philosophy) women's rights, self-actualization and identity.

During my walk through the artists' labyrinth with its lofty ceilings and freshly painted hallways, I ventured into artist Phyllis Kohring Fannin's,



Artist Phyllis Kohring Fannin

space whose paintings, drawings and mixed media works may provide the perfect decor to spruce up your walls. In describing her work, Phyllis said "My life's journey has taken me through the glamorization of the domestic career, enlightenment to women's rights, and the 'Superwoman syndrome'. It has challenged me to present these experiences as a humorous combination of past and present, personal and impersonal, with touches of irony and nostalgia."

Another artist's work I studied for a time was that of Kristen Cliffler who's "All She Ever Dreamed Of" sculpture of an oversized handbag was emblematic of the "white picket fence dream".



Kristen Cliffler's "All She Ever Dreamed Of" oversized handbag sculpture

tory Art Studios is a working example of how the arts will revitalize our community and serves as a prototype for other groups to do the same.

Gallery, dance and music news and event information should be forwarded to gallerwatchgals@yahoo.com. Every effort will be made to include it in our next column

Is this dream still alive, the artist asks?

This event was a perfect opportunity to peek into the private spaces of Screw Factory dwellers, to see where they create and work. The Screw Fac-

Local Girl Gallery Celebrates 3rd Birthday!

by Ruth A. Koenigsmark



3rd Birthday Party for Local Girl Gallery

Now in its third year, Local Girl Gallery opened its doors on Friday, June 7 to an eager crowd of collectors, spectators, artists and press to celebrate its grand reopening. This space is bigger and better than ever. The gallery, since its inception, has expanded the number of artists it represents. Works by various artists differ in medium, style and subject matter. From watercolors, oils, mixed media, printmaking & etching, photography to textile, ceramic, sculptures and installation art – these respective mediums can all be found at Local Girl. Linda Goik, owner of Local Girl, stays committed in her objective of providing a platform for young and

established artists to showcase their artwork and in doing so, continue a course of educating and furthering art appreciation among Lakewoodites and beyond. I had the opportunity to speak with a couple of artists at the reception. C.A. Langley, an illustrator, is a favorite among dog enthusiasts for her ability to cleverly capture with color and theme the special relationship between dog and owner. She and jewelry designer and Emerson Middle School Art Teacher, Victoria Gildner, both agree that Linda is a fantastic gallery owner to work with because of her creativity and openness to promote new and upcoming artists. Congratulations, Linda!

Lakewood Concert Calendar
by Bob Ignizio

bela dubby (13321 Madison Ave.)

Saturday June 30 it's Cleveland indie rockers Uva Ursi, roots rockers the Red Balloons and keyboardist extraordinaire Luberace. This all ages show starts at 9 p.m.

The Hi Fi Concert Club (11729 Detroit Ave.)

Saturday June 30 Love Muffin Records and Domain Cleveland present Drago, Mindscape, Tilt 360, Downtown Daggers and Burden. Admission is \$6 for 21 and over, \$9 for 18-20. Show starts at 9 p.m.

Friday July 6 it's Lakewood's own View From Everest with Oval Opus and Readymade Breakup. Show starts at 9 p.m. Admission is \$8 for 21 and over, \$10 for under 21.

Now That's Class (11213 Detroit Ave. - Cleveland)

Saturday June 30 it's Nuslaughter. Cleveland's Nuslaughter have terrorized the world with brand of satanic death metal for two decades, often touring Europe and even Australia. But the legendary band hardly ever plays their hometown (the last time was 2 years ago), so if you're a fan don't miss your chance to see them. Punk rockers Brody's Militia and old school metalers Midnight open the show. Admission is \$5. 18 and over only. Show starts at 9 p.m.

The Phantasy Niteclub (11802 Detroit Ave.)

Friday June 29 the Debunkify Project presents Lunavelis, Marking Twain, Grand Fury and Valley Of Kings. Doors open at 8 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. Admission is \$6 for 21 and over, \$10 for 18-20.

The Winchester Tavern (12112 Madison Ave.)

Friday June 29 it's the Stacy Collins Band CD release party. Stacie mixes country, rock and the blues, belting out soulful vocals and playing a mean harmonica. You can find out for yourself by picking up her new album 'The Lucky Spot.' Better yet, come on out and see her live with Jason and the Scorchers' Warner Hodges providing the six string pyrotechnics. The Jack Fords open. This is an all ages show and admission is \$6. Show starts at 9 p.m.

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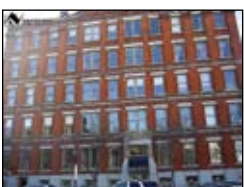
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Real Estate Trivia

The floors of buildings are called stories because early European builders used to paint picture stories on the sides of their houses. Each floor had a different story.

Lakewood Real Estate Information (According to Multiple Listing Service) by Andy Tabor		
May	2006	2007
Condominium Closed	8	6
Condominium Pending (Under Contract)	Unavailable	9
Commercial Closed	0	1
Commercial Pending (Under Contract)	0	1



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 <p>1225 Buns \$219,000</p>	Outstanding brick tudor on a great street! Over 2,000 sq. ft. of living space! Beautiful hwd. Throughout! Remodeled kitchen w/ newer cabinets, flooring & counter tops. 5 th rm. Could be 5th bdrm. Or office. Newer sinks & hardware. Newer light fixtures. Beautifully maintained & renovated.	Spacious colonial in great central Lakewood location. Meticulously updated in last 7 years: drive, furnace, c/a, roof, h2o tank. Beautifully remodeled kitchen. Gleaming hrdwd floors. Bonus space for the whole family-finished basement and walkup third. Relax on your cozy screened porch!	 <p>1566 Belle \$209,900</p>
 <p>1508 Belle \$184,900</p>	Classic Lkw'd charm w/ nat wdwrk, built-in china cabs w/ leaded glass & french drs. 9' Cove ceiling. 1st flr den. Lrg bath w/ jetted tub. Boiler '03, rec rm '05 w/ nwr full bath & gls block. Waterproof & h2o tank '04. Updated elec box. Nwr back foundation. Huge attic. Flowing floor plan. Fenced yd w/ relaxing patio.	Immaculate colonial on desired street! Updates include c/a, furnace, hot water tank, updated kitchen; hardwood floors; finished 3rd floor, partial finished basement; charm and character throughout!	 <p>1288 French \$173,900</p>
 <p>1522 Woodward \$169,900</p>	Great family home in great location! C/a & htwr 5 yrs. new heat exchange on furnace. added insulation, updated wiring & elec panel, windows 2004, updated kitch. 2 Phone lines. All rms cable-ready, finished walk-up 3rd flr.	Western lakewood colonial filled with character! rare deep lot with spectacular deck & landscaping! huge heated workshop/studio off garage* eat-in kitchen, finished rec rm in basement w/ full bath* beautiful natural woodwork throughout* a must see!	 <p>1516 Rockway \$169,900</p>
 <p>1267 Cook \$157,900</p>	Lovely lakewood double, true 3 bedroom each unit. Appliances. 3 Car garage detached w/ opener. 3rd floor walkup. Natural woodwork. Formal dining rooms w/ built-in cabinets. Clean basement.	Beautifully updated kit w/ white cab & breakfast bar* nat wdwrk* hwd flrs* built-ins in formal din rm* 1/2 ba off kit* fin 3rd flr* fin rec rm in bsmt w/ 1/2 ba* relaxing front porch & deck* cozy den on 1st flr*	 <p>1646 Parkwood \$148,900</p>
 <p>1467 Wayne \$148,500</p>	Western Lakewood colonial w/ finished third floor w/ 2 rooms & separate furnace. Woodburning fireplace in large living room w/ adjoining den, formal dining rm & hardwood floors. Modern furnace, a/c & h2o tank plus electric box.	Great western Lakewood double. Natural woodwork throughout. Hardwood floors. Built-in cabinets. Appliances. 4 Season room in each unit. Decorative fireplaces. 3rd floor done.	 <p>1633 Westwood \$144,900</p>
 <p>2040 Morrison \$133,900</p>	Absolutely beautiful! Large eat-in kitchen. Hardwood floors. Leaded glass. Charm! Central air. Nwr h2o tank. Fresh exterior paint. H2O filtration system. Great curb appeal. Relaxing front porch. See your new home today!	A very comfortable home w/ beautiful woodwork. Stunning built-in china cabinets & leaded glass. Tastefully decorated. Eat-in breakfast nook. A/c. Relaxing deck w/ pond. Decorative fireplace. Full attic, basement w/ glass block & shower. Nice location.	 <p>15116 Arden \$124,900</p>

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by Val Mechenbier

by Maggie Fraley

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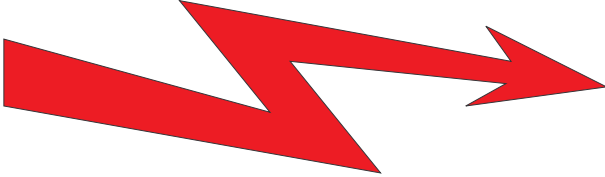
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