

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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

Volume 3, Issue 15, July 24, 2007

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A Life Lost Too Soon

by Tim Kanak

Robert Shawn Joslin
March 2, 1981 – July 7, 2007

Robert Shawn Joslin, who was 26, was laid to rest Friday, July 13 at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Avon. He was buried a mere 30 feet in front of his son, whom was born four months premature and lived less than a day. Most citizens did not know Shawn, but those who did, loved him.

Three viewings were held between Wednesday the 11th and Thursday the 12th at Busch Funeral Home in Fairview Park. More than 60 people attended the wakes and over two hundred attended the funeral. The Lakewood High School Band also attended with a special tribute to Shawn.

LHS Band Leader Bryan Mas-

cow gave an emotional eulogy that included a story of Shawn's band contribution. "He was the band manager, but one of his dreams was to be on the field with everyone else. We allowed him to play the tuba and he made it his own. Although he wasn't as musically inclined as some of the others, you would never know it. He played his heart out," stated Mascow.

Although he was only on the field half a season, playing the tuba, the LHS band was a vital piece of Shawn's life. "He was so passionate about everything; from the band to sports to holidays and karaoke. He absolutely loved karaoke," said his sister Jeni Joslin. His favorite song to sing was "I Love This Bar," by country music star Toby Keith.

Since the tragic and untimely pass-



ing of Shawn, many have shared their memories of his spirit, his heart, and his never-ending zest for life. "I knew

Shawn when we were in high school. He was a regular at the record store I used to manage. He was extremely sweet and always smiling, just a really great kid. He was someone you were always glad to see," said Laura Klasa.

Dan Slife described Shawn as a stand-up citizen. "He was a year ahead of me at LHS, but he was such a good guy. He was involved in the marching band and volunteered in the community. He will be greatly missed," said Slife.

Ron Salo, Shawn's guidance counselor at Horace Mann Elementary, spoke of how Shawn had been on Channel 3, WKYC (the local NBC affiliate), about six weeks ago, talking about the Cavaliers. "He was a huge fan of Cleveland sports' teams. He had a great sense of humor and was able to laugh at himself. He was the kind of kid who always wanted to help everyone around him."

continued on page 2...

Starry Night Party Of The Year For A Great Cause - Diabetes

by Jim O'Bryan

Set aside Friday, August 3rd for the return of Starring Night at the Lakewood Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic Hospital. Starry Night is a Lakewood Hospital fundraising event which helps to support the fight against diabetes, enhancements at the new Diabetes Center, and the Lakewood Arts Festival scholarship Fund. Last year's Starry Night was the best of Lakewood's summer season outdoor parties and events. Jack Gustin, president of Lakewood Hospital, who generated the idea for Starry Night, recently reflected on last year's event in an interview. "Jim, it was a great event last year, we raised funds

for the Lakewood Arts Festival scholarship fund as well as our new Diabetes Center, and made great inroads on Diabetes Awareness. This year we will have an open house where Starry Night party goers will be able to see first hand the new diabetes center," said Gustin.

The New Diabetes Center will be open for tours during the Starry Night event, marking its grand opening. With the opening of the New Diabetes Center, Lakewood Hospital continues to expand and increase health services offered in our community. The center will serve diabetes patients in Lakewood and surrounding communities.

Tickets can be purchased at the \$100

"Friend" or \$150 "Celebration" levels. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. A VIP reception will be held from 6 to 7p.m. for sponsors and those purchasing tickets at the "Celebration" level, where they can mix and mingle with acclaimed artists and enjoy various creative activities. Raffle baskets containing hundreds of fun items, including a Len Barker autographed baseball, 4 season tickets to the Browns, a wood model of Municipal Stadium, a Holiday Inn package worth \$350.00 and much more will be auctioned at the event.

What about food, you ask? There

continued on page 2...

Lakewood Arts Festival Coming August 4



The 30th Annual Lakewood Arts Festival will be held on Saturday, August 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

on Detroit Ave. between Elmwood and Belle.

The Lakewood Arts Festival is a nonprofit organization that administers the show with the help of a hard-working team of volunteers and the cooperation of the city of Lakewood. The festival supports itself entirely with money raised by artists' fees, donations from community merchants, sponsorships and T-shirt sales. Besides supporting the festival, funds donated by patrons go directly toward a scholarship for a local high school graduate pursuing a degree in fine arts. Additionally, grants are awarded to organizations that present art programs for children and seniors in Lakewood.

More than 350 artists apply to exhibit each year and 160 are selected. Each artist submits slides of his or her work and booth, and a panel of artists

conducts the selection process. The goal is to create a mix of exhibitors, including painters, printmakers and photographers, sculptors and jewelers, ceramists and glass artists, as well as artists who work in leather, wood and fiber.

Through the help of local business funding, awards are presented to artists in these categories: Best Creative Presentation, Best New Artist, Best of Show, and First, Second, Third and Fourth Place.

A fine line-up of musical entertainment is scheduled throughout the day. The information booth at the intersection of Warren and Detroit will have a list of times for entertainment. Festival T-shirts are available for purchase there as well.

For a complete artist listing and other information, visit www.lakewoodartsfest.com.

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Events & Notices

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



The 'Men Of Independence' At Lakewood Park

"The Men of Independence barbershop chorus grace the stage of the Lakewood park band shell, conducted by Tom Scott. Lakewood residents Dan Lenahan and Dave Slife performed with both the chorus and The Sunshine Committee (yellow shirts), their skillfully harmonious barbershop quartet. The Lakewood Park Sunday evening concert series continues next week with Ernie Krivda & the Fat Tuesday Big Band. All Sunday evening concerts are free and open to the public and begin at 7:00. Go to http://www.ci.lakewood.oh.us/citynews_press.html for the season schedule."

Red Cross Blood Drive At Winterhurst Ice Rink

Winterhurst Ice Rink will be the site for the American Red Cross Blood Drive this summer. The date for this drive is **Saturday, August 23, 2007 between 10:00 am and 2:00pm**. All donors will receive a certificate for one admission to any public skating session at Winterhurst ice Rink.

Going Birdy On Manor Park

by Tobin Northrup

A few months ago we noticed we had no song birds feeding from our birdfeeder outside our picture window. After finding dead sparrows and chipmunks in our driveway, we discovered that some Cooper's Hawks had decided to nest in our backyard. On 4th of July weekend, we saw more of them nesting in our neighbors' tree in their front yard. So far we have seen at least 4 of

these large (around 14 inches high with a wingspan of approximately 2.5 feet) predatory birds! We were told that they don't cause much of a threat, though they do eat chipmunks, squirrels, robins, jays, and an assortment of other small animals, and will mostly likely relocate after awhile.

So, anyone driving down Manor Park may happen to see hawks in the air (and perhaps a few rabbits or an occasional deer in the lawns, as those have

A Life Lost Too Soon continued from page 1...

"Shawn was not only a fan of Cleveland sport teams, he was borderline obsessed," said his brother Christopher. He went on to say that Shawn loved all sports, but especially the Indians. "He loved them so much that he worked at Jacobs Field as an usher for about a year. He always wanted to try out for the major leagues, but felt like he was a part of the team and the games when he was working," stated Christopher.

Jeni, one of Shawn's sisters, is sporting a new tattoo. It is a huge red rose with a cross coming out of it and the initials R.I.P. on it. The bottom of the tattoo has a scroll with his name on it. The

other siblings and friends are also planning to ink themselves in his honor.

Perhaps the saddest news of all is that Shannon Anderson, Shawn's girlfriend of two months, is pregnant, possibly with his baby. The family will not know until early to middle September, when a DNA test can be performed.

The family wants everyone to remember Shawn for whom he was, not for the way he died. "He loved life no matter what anyone thought. Whether he knew people or not - he would talk to everyone. He just loved people. He loved his family and friends more than life itself."

Wing Seeks Open Ward 3 Council Seat

Citing concerns about the direction of the future of Lakewood, Ward 3 resident Colleen Wing has thrown her hat in the ring to replace longtime Councilman Robert Seelie. As a mother of two, Wing believes that Lakewood has so much to offer as a community but it will take involvement from its citizens and effective leadership.

Wing's community resume

includes serving on the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Community Development Block Grants, Chairperson - Lakewood Early Childhood PTA's Legislation and Bylaws Committees, and also serving on the St. Luke's Parish Council. Colleen and husband, Eric have two sons, Benjamin and Nathan and reside on Bunts Road.



Vernice Northrup

also been spotted in the area). Perhaps the additional wildlife will encourage drivers to take it a bit slower on the road!

Sincerely, The Northrups

Deadline For New Homestead Exemption Is October 1st ; Take Action Now!

The New Homestead Exemption is a tax benefit available to all Ohio homeowners who are over 65 years old or permanently disabled. Here's how it works: regardless of income, qualified seniors and disabled Ohioans can shield up to \$25,000 of their home's market value from property taxes. So, if your home is appraised at \$190,000, you can shield \$25,000 and your tax bill will be assessed as if it were worth \$165,000. This is NOT tied to income: no matter what a homeowner's income, he or she can still qualify for the full \$25,000 exemption. The state-

wide average will be \$400 lower taxes per year per homeowner. THE ABILITY TO APPLY FOR THIS NEW PROGRAM FOR 2007 ENDS ON OCTOBER 1, SO

QUALIFIED HOMEOWNERS MUST APPLY BY THIS DATE.

Homeowners should contact their tax professionals for information.

'Starry Night Party' continued from page 1

will be a competition between the various kitchens of the Cleveland Clinic regional hospitals. This is not your typical hospital food. Imagine a series of large, specialty buffet tables. Last year, there were a staggering number of items to choose from.

Included among the many items offered last year were some of the most mouth watering lamb chops I have ever tasted, and I have tasted many. So I just had to ask, "Jack, will the lamb chops be back?" Jack chuckled and said, "Our AVI team has put together another phenomenal menu representing the different eras of Lakewood Hospital's 100-year history. I promise you won't leave hungry." What a great time the party was. Expect no less on August 3rd.

This year's Starry Night is brought

to you by the generous support of four major sponsors: Regency Construction, Donald Martin's Ambulance, Anthem Insurance and the Cleveland Clinic Western Market regional hospitals -- Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals. Make no mistake, I have been to many parties in my life, but Starry Night will once again be the best night out in Lakewood this summer. You can bet on that. Come enjoy the festivities, while helping a good cause at the same time. I hope to see you all there.

You can purchase your tickets online at www.lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight or by calling the Lakewood Hospital Foundation at 216-529-7009. Checks and credit cards are accepted. For more event information, contact the Lakewood Hospital Foundation.

Edina Cosic is looking for her father, Mustafa Cosic. He is 65 and according to Edina his last known address is 1446 Mars Avenue. If you have any information about Mr. Cosic and his current whereabouts, please contact city.editor@lakewood-observer.com. Thank you.



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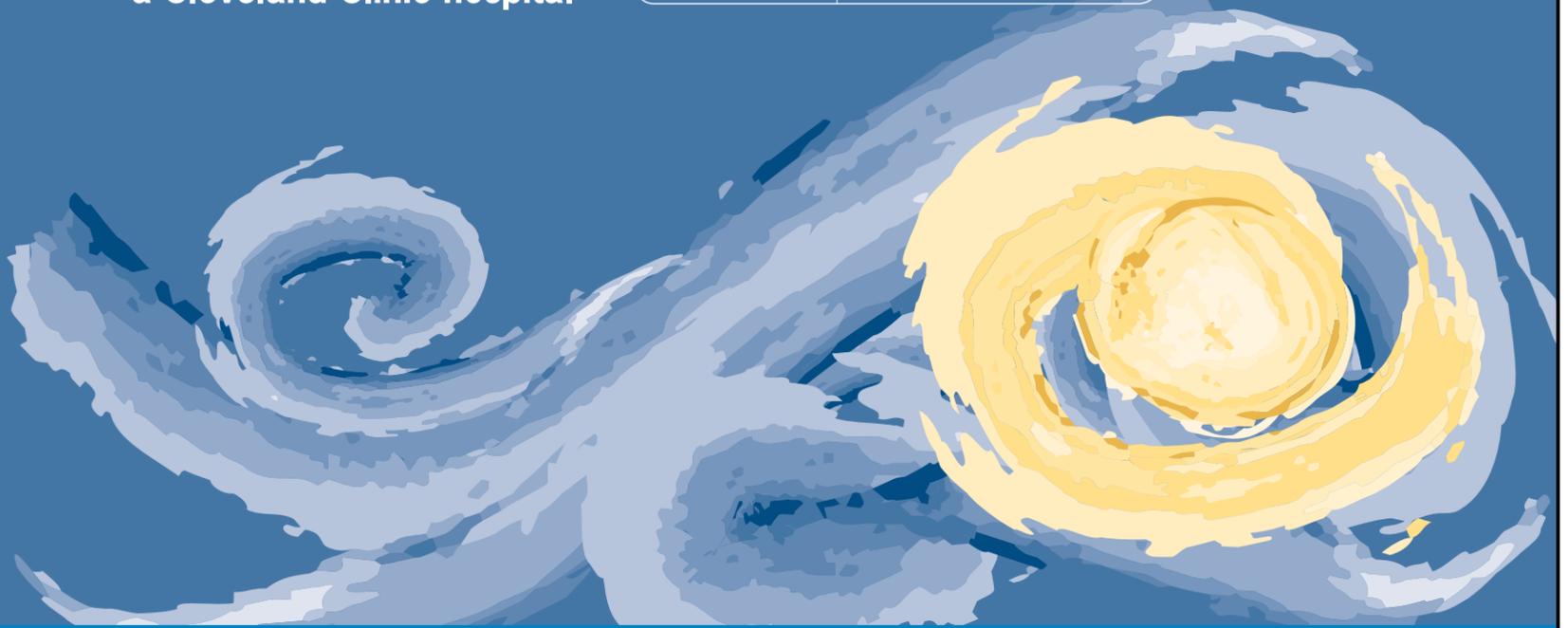
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 **Lakewood Hospital**
a Cleveland Clinic hospital

100
years

A Century
of Touching Lives.



Starry Night

Lakewood Arts Festival
Kick-off Event

Join us as we help create
brighter futures!

Friday, August 3, 2007

6 to 7 p.m. | VIP Artist Reception

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

14519 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

Mingle with friends, enjoy music under the stars at Belle and Detroit Avenues, and dine on several types of cuisine, all while helping to raise money for two worthwhile causes:

- Diabetes Services at Lakewood Hospital
- The Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship Fund

Throughout the evening: Guided tours of the new Diabetes Center, raffles featuring artwork from our VIP artists' collections and more!

Visit lakewoodhospital.org/starrynight or call 216.529.7009.

Personal check and/or credit card accepted.

Ticket prices begin at \$100.



City Council

It's Blowin' In The Wind

Council held its last meeting before an August recess on July 16. The traditional resolutions from Mayor Thomas George and council following the Fourth of July Parade were presented. In this case Dr. Richard Parks, Pastor of Lakewood United Methodist Church was commended for his duties as Parade Grand Marshall. Another resolution welcomed Pastor Michael Bartolone and Lakewood Chapel at their new home on Warren Road.

Under new business the Housing Advisory Panel issued its report. A year ago the Grow Lakewood Committee identified housing as a key issue for Lakewood's economic vitality. The task of the panel was to analyze the multitude of issues surrounding housing and develop a plan and make recommendations to preserve and grow housing values.

Steven M. Ott took the challenge of chairing this group, with over twenty volunteers with backgrounds from real estate, city departments, bankers, and developers serving on this committee and issued its final report. In his letter to council, Ott said that the first task was "to put our arms around this enormous topic." The group defined four broad areas of study: Marketing and Public Relations; Rental Markets/Properties; Housing as an Economic Development Opportunity; and Housing Conditions.

Under marketing, the committee

noted that Lakewood must be marketed to potential and existing residents. A strong need exists for coordination of marketing initiatives.

In the rental area the group made several recommendations including annual inspections of rental property, establishing customer-focused building department policies, encouraging renters to be owners, and help for landlords in finding tenants.

Housing can be an economic development opportunity. This can be accomplished by establishing an aggressive policy of employee residency through incentives. Also included would be the establishment of a land bank and promotion of energy efficient new construction.

To improve housing condition of Lakewood's 100 year old housing stock the group emphasized the continuing inspection program which was begun three years ago along with the creation of a homeowner education program.

Next on the evening's agenda, a routine request from the Finance Director was caught in a whirlpool of political currents. At the end of paving and construction contracts final bills come in and through efficiencies on the part of the city and contractors

Stan Austin
City Council Reporter

a surplus is sometimes realized. The money for these projects is provided by strictly defined bond issuances and any surpluses must be spent on paving projects as defined by the financial note. Director Pae requested that the several hundred thousand dollars be applied to the next in line streets on the City Engineer's pavement condition report which prioritizes street repairs.

Ryan Demro (ward two) objected indicating that he wanted additional time to look at the priority of streets on the list. Council president Robert Seelie (ward three) in heated comments said of Demro's request "this is so disingenuous or you simply do not understand the workings of government."

Nicki Antonio (at large) said "we all agreed at one time that this should be the process. We have already had an opportunity to discuss this."

It will also be noted that Demro who is a candidate for mayor lists on his

campaign website that one of his accomplishments is that he supported the "scientific prioritization" of street repair.

Finally, have you been wondering about alternative energy sources? Energy for homes generated from the sun, wind, and geothermal have been receiving increasing attention in the last few years. Lakewood Observer readers might remember an extensive and ambitious Lakewood Park renovation proposal made by resident Savannah Farris two years ago had a strong element of wind generated power.

Michael Dever (at large) thinks that it is time for the city to get some guidelines on the books for Wind Energy Facilities (windmills). These requirements would include structures in Lakewood and as far as two miles out on Lake Erie.

Dever's proposal then outlines various criteria for turbines such as placement, size, appearance, electrical equipment and safety, and setbacks.

Readers might also note that the County and State have started programs to encourage wind turbine development. Perhaps Dever's proactive approach could set the table for innovative wind turbine projects in Lakewood.

First Federal Of Lakewood Sponsors The 15th Annual Classic At Mastick 5k Run

First Federal of Lakewood is proud to sponsor the 15th annual Classic at Mastick 5K Run on Wednesday, August 8th at the Mastick Woods Picnic Area in the Rocky River Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks. The men's race is set to begin at 6 p.m., while the women's race will begin at 6:45. The entry deadline for runners is August 2nd, 2007.

As part of its sponsorship, First Federal of Lakewood will award Classic at Mastick Scholarships to several area high school senior runners, based on nominations from high school cross-country coaches. The scholarships will be presented in November at First Federal of Lakewood's corporate headquarters.

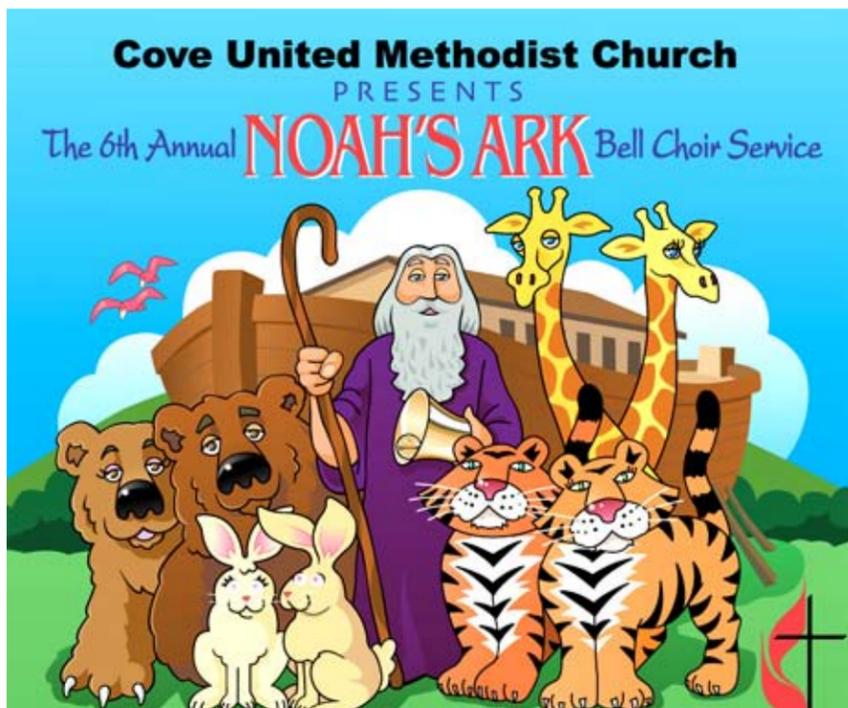
"First Federal of Lakewood's partnership with the Classic at Mastick supports fitness and education in our communities, and is a fun event we look forward to each year," said Gary Fix, First Federal of Lakewood president, CEO, and managing officer. "It is a great event for casual runners, as well as avid runners and high school

cross country teams preparing for the fall season."

The entry fee is \$15 per runner, with cash awards for the top three overall finishers for both men and women. The first 450 entries receive a complimentary tote bag and all runners are eligible for the post-race prize raffle. Runners can register by mail (postmarked no later than August 2), with registration form and a check payable to "The Classic at Mastick," attention: John Nakel, Race Director, 35281 Saddle Creek Dr., Avon, OH 44011. There is no race day registration. For a registration form, visit: www.hermescleveland.com.

First Federal of Lakewood, with 12 locations in Northeast Ohio, has total assets exceeding \$1 billion. Founded in 1935, First Federal of Lakewood is a community savings and loan institution with a deep-rooted tradition of financial strength, stability, and integrity. Visit www.FFL.net for additional information.

Cove United Methodist Church
PRESENTS
The 6th Annual **NOAH'S ARK** Bell Choir Service



Rarely in a lifetime do you hear music so sweet and wonderful that it stirs your very soul! This is your opportunity to hear such a performance. Share this moment with your whole family!

Join us as the 11 member Cove United Methodist Church Bell Choir performs *Noah and the Ark*, composed by Tammy Waldrop and narrated by Kinzer Habecker. The one-hour service concludes with the Cove United Methodist Church Bell Choir's postlude, a stirring performance of *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* by Joseph Haydn.

The Bell Choir Service includes the Cove United Methodist Church Chancel Choir under the guidance of Director of Music Barbara Habecker, performing *Bless the Beast and the Children* by Barry DeVorzon and Perry Botkin Jr. Service performed by Rev. Jan Munsey Fischer.

"A spectacular performance..." "...the Bell Choir stirs the soul!"

September 9, 2007
10:45 AM
12501 Lake Ave. • Lakewood, Ohio 44017 • 216-521-7424

LAKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE VALLEY VAGABONDS PRESENT
THE FIFTH ANNUAL HISTORIC WALK

GOLD COAST WALK
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2007



What is a Volksmarch? A Volksmarch is an organized non-competitive hike or walk designed to appeal to everyone.

It is a great family activity that is extremely popular in European countries. The Lakewood Gold Coast Walk is organized by the Lakewood Public Library and the Valley Vagabonds.

Start/Finish Location: Lakewood Public Library Madison Branch, 13259 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, OH 4412-7

Time: Start between 9:00 am -1:00 pm. Finish no later than 4 pm. Event held in any weather.

REGISTRATION IS FREE, AND ALL ARE WELCOME

For More Information: Call Dave Simon at 440.572.1675 or email deval17@aol.com or call Kim Paras at 216.226.8275, ext. 102

Lakewood Public Library

Lakewood Public Library: A Period of Transition

by Kenneth Warren

While the public's reception to the new library has been immensely positive, seeing the beauty and civic scale of the design by Robert A.M. Stern Architects, there several limitations and transitional aspects due to the phasing of the project that may detract from an initial impression of the design and functionality of the program.

A phased project imposes limitations and demands flexibility. As the staff and public adjust to these challenges over the final six months of this phased project, kindly bear these points in mind:

Circulation Desk

The Circulation Desk is centrally located in the hallway on the first floor. Staff work and sorting space is quite limited at this time.

Children's and Youth Services

Only a very small segment of space is currently available for the collections and programs of Children's and Youth Services. The Children's Computer Connections Room is open for service on the first floor.

First Floor (New Books, Magazines and Audio-Visual Media)

In addition to new books and magazines, CDs, DVDs and videos will be temporarily located here on book shelves. These materials will be relocated upon installation of audio visual fixtures on the second floor of the renovated building early next year.

Access to the Second Floor (Reference, Fiction, Non-Fiction and Newspapers)

Due to the phased nature of the project, access to the second floor is only possible through a stairwell in the northeast corner of the building and an elevator in the south entry. This elevator's primary purposes are to serve the materials movement to the second floor

and access to the lower level. Therefore, making your way to the second floor will seem cumbersome and unnatural for now. Upon completion of the renovation in early 2008, a sky-lit grand stairway and two additional elevators will serve as logical and primary points of access to the second floor.

Technology Center

Access to an expanded Technology Center, with 80 computers, will resume on the second floor upon completion of the renovation.

The Quiet Room, Study Rooms and Meeting Room

During the renovation period these spaces will serve temporarily as office and staff areas.

These spaces will be assigned for public use upon completion of the renovation.

Again, the final six months of this phased project will be a period of improvements, limitations and transitions. I apologize for any inconvenience. Your continuing patience and support are appreciated.

Middle School Summer Reading Open For Discussion

by Andrew Harant

Once again, Lakewood Public Library and Lakewood City Schools are teaming up to provide middle school students a quick and fun way to complete their summer reading assignments—participate in a book discussion group at the library. After selecting one of eight titles from the middle school list for which the library is offering discussions, students simply must read the book in its entirety and participate in the hour-long book discussion to fulfill their assignment for the summer. There are other options for students, but this is the quickest. (It's also very educational, as it requires literary analysis, critical thinking, fact recall and public speaking, but don't tell that to the kids.)

The book discussion program, called "What Novel Ideas!," was piloted in August 2003 in partnership with Horace Mann Middle School as

an optional program to assist students with ideas for their journaling. In 2004, Horace Mann offered participation in a discussion at the library as an accepted way of completing their assignment. Librarians in Children's and Youth Services and Madison Branch conducted the book discussions in July and August. Names of the students who participated and demonstrated to the librarians that they had completed their reading were forwarded to the school at the beginning of the upcoming school year. In 2004, 147 students completed part or all of their assignments this way. Last year, both Harding and Emerson Middle Schools offered the book discussions to their students as well.

Summer reading assignments help limit what experts term "summer learning loss," a drop in skills and abilities that occurs when school is out, especially in reading and math. Many sources, including VOYA (Voice

for Youth Advocates,) suggest that the best school summer reading assignments provide students with numerous different options for assessment, with book discussion groups being a favorite option. Not only do book discussions provide a platform to develop the skills mentioned above, it also creates a shared experience among the group members, engendering solidarity among students.

Each Tuesday and Thursday evening from July 24 through August 16, Lakewood Public Library will offer a discussion on one of the novels from this summer's middle school reading list for all incoming sixth, seventh and eighth graders at Harding and Garfield Middle Schools. All programs begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the Auditorium in the basement of the Madison Branch. For a schedule of book titles, to register for a discussion or to ask questions, please call the Madison Branch at (216) 228-7428 or check the library's Web site at www.lakewoodpubliclibrary.com.

Harry Potter Is Having A Birthday Party And You're Invited

by Andrea Fisher

The Harry Potter frenzy has overtaken the world this month with the release of the fifth movie and the final

book in the series last week. What better way to honor the beloved J.K. Rowling series than to celebrate the birthday of Harry Potter. While the actual date of the wizard's birth is July 31st (also Rowling's birthday), the Children's and Youth Services department of the Lakewood Public Library is celebrating one week early on July 25th from 5 to 8 p.m. at Madison Park. The whole family is invited to attend the Harry Potter Birthday Bash which will feature a variety of enchanting activities for wizards, squibs and even the average muggle. Attendees are encouraged to come in costume and enter the costume contest which will award prizes for the best-dressed wizard kid in their respective age group. There will be four separate age groups for the costume contest, which will include high school students and adults. For the experts who seek a challenge, there will be a

trivia contest to test their Harry Potter knowledge with prizes awarded for the highest scores. A "Wizard Duel" game was created for the event and is similar to the "War" card game, which will allow fans of all ages and skill to compete in a luck of the draw showdown. The library is also hoping to involve some community partners to join in the excitement of Harry Potter and to help out with activities at the event.

Spirits are high in the city, not only for Harry Potter, but with the great new library facility. "We are happy to be celebrating Harry Potter, the end of a fantastic series of books. But we are also celebrating the reopening of the main library," said children's librarian Audrey Sumser. While the magic of Harry Potter exists in a far away fantasy, the magic of the enjoyment of reading for the whole family lives in the hearts of many, and is the idea behind the birthday celebration.

Library Events Calendar

Make the library a part of your family weekend time with programs featuring stories, activities, music and crafts for children. Our staff will provide materials and ideas for families wishing to continue reading and storytelling at home. The programs are free and there is no need to register in advance. Choose the day and time most convenient for you.

Upcoming Themes: July 27, 28 and 29

Beat the Heat August 3, 4 and 5 How Many? *Day Time*

Friday 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 2:00 p.m. In the Madison Branch auditorium **HARRY POTTER BASH** Wizards and muggles of all ages are invited to Madison Park to celebrate Harry's birthday with costume contests, trivia, games and much more. Bring the whole family! Wednesday, July 25 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Madison Park Pavilion **WHAT NOVEL IDEAS!** Book discussions for students sixth through eighth grade Need to read before school begins? Choose from the following books and participate in book discussions designed to help with your summer reading assignments. Books must be read before the program to participate. to register, please stop in or call 216.226.8275 ext. 140

July 24 *Artemis Fowl* by Eoin Colfer Thursday,

July 26 *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan Tuesday,

July 31 *The Tiger Rising* by Kate DiCamillo Thursday,

August 2 *Surviving the Applewhites* by Stephanie S. Tolan Tuesday,

August 7 *Son of the Mob* by Gordon Korman Thursday,

August 9 *Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief* by Wendelin Van Draanen Tuesday,

August 14 *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town* by Kimberly Willis Holt Thursday,

August 16 *Hole in My Life* by Jack Gantos 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the

Madison Branch



18514 Detroit Avenue,
Lakewood, OH 44107
phone: 216-521-7684
fax: 216-521-9518

Sunday

Gourmet ala carte Brunch

Saturday Brunch

ala carte Breakfast & Lunch
with our original "Create Your Own" Bloody Mary Bar

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

2 Dozen steamed Mussels,
Broth & Garlic Bread \$3.95

Thursday Night

Live Music Series

Weekly Drink Discounts,
Beer/Liquor Sponsors,
Prizes & Giveaways!

Early Bird
Summer Discount
25% discount on all food
if ordered before 7:00 pm

Lakewood Health News

Fitness On A Budget

by Karen Kilbane

You've decided to start exercising. Your family and friends are supportive. Your motivation is soaring. But, your pocketbook is too lean to meet the demands of most fitness programs.

Don't despair! You don't need to join an elite gym or purchase a state-of-the-art treadmill in order to achieve a fitter you. There are dozens of activities that you can do for free or minimal charge to increase your fitness level. Jazzercise Founder and CEO Judi Sheppard Missett recommends these inexpensive fitness options:

Go back to school – Many colleges and universities offer non-student memberships to their gyms and athletic facilities for a low rate.

Walk it off – Walk, run or climb stairs in the great outdoors. Try walking along trails in your city park or map out a route through your neighborhood. You may even want to find several routes, so you won't get bored making the same trek day after day.

Rent a video – Select a video that matches your current fitness level. Your local library may even have exercise videos that you can rent for free. Look for a video with the endorsement of a reputable organization, such as the American Council on Exercise or the American College of Sports Medicine.

Turn on the television – Check out your local public access television station's schedule to see what fitness programs air on a regular basis. Jazz Cardio Strength Stretch airs on Cox Cable in the Lakewood area.

Buy the basics – You don't need hefty machines for resistance training. Purchase a set of dumbbell weights and a resistance band. You can even change the difficulty level on your resistance band, as you progress in your fitness level, by changing the amount of slack that you hold in the band.

Investigate your insurance plan – Many insurers and corporations negotiate discounted rates with local gyms to encourage employees to exercise. Some employers will even pay the gym's monthly fee on your behalf. Con-

tact your human resources department to find out what is available to you.

Say "no" to exercise foods – Don't spend money on highly advertised sports drinks and foods. Just add a little peanut butter on a banana to achieve a carbohydrate and protein combination that will give you the energy you need.

Talk to an expert – Your budget may not allow for a personal trainer, but consider making a one-time appointment. Participate in one group training session at a local gym or one Personal Touch class at your local Jazzercise facility. Learn how to perform moves safely and effectively, then you can replicate the workout at home on your own.

Make it a family affair – If you have kids, join them in their active play.

Walk them to the park, play a game of freeze tag or dance to upbeat tunes.

Expensive machines and high-priced equipment are never necessary for a workout. If your budget is slim, try getting active in inexpensive ways. The results will be greater than money can buy.

Jazzercise, created by Judi Sheppard 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 classes in Lakewood and Rocky River contact Karen Kilbane at 440-356-0337 or kkjazzrize@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Events For Youth At The Lakewood YMCA

There are two important dates to remember for the Lakewood YMCA coming up in August: On August 6th, we will open registration for our two Fall Youth Leagues; and on August 11th we will be hosting a Back To School Family Rally.

The YMCA is offering two Fall Youth Leagues for children ages 3 to 14. Flag Football is available for ages 3-14 and Rippa Rugby for ages 5-14. Flag Football for ages 3-4 will be an instruc-

tional league. The 5-14 year-old age group will have practices during the week with games on Saturdays. Rippa Rugby is a league for all age groups and will include a half hour practice before games on Saturdays.

On Saturday, August 11th, the Lakewood YMCA will be hosting a Back To School Family Rally from 10am-1pm. The Lakewood YMCA is accepting donations of school supplies until August 7th. By donating, you will earn tickets that

can be used at the August 11th event for activities such as the Bounce House, Pie in the Face, Water Balloon Toss, and many other activities, including hot dogs and pop for lunch.

For more information about either of the Youth Sports Leagues or the Back To School Family Rally at the Lakewood YMCA, contact Paul Rogerson: 216-521-8400 or progerson@clevelandymca.org, or stop by the Lakewood YMCA at 16915 Detroit Avenue.

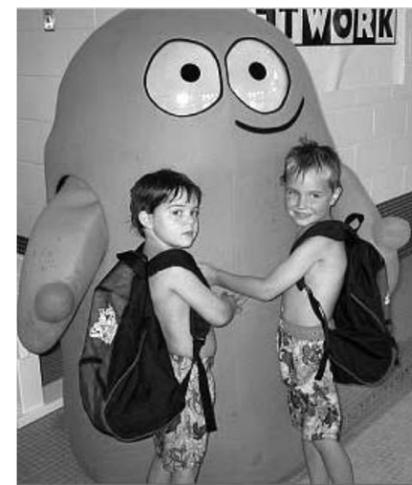
Bloo and Cox Take Over Lakewood YMCA

by Kelly McGrath

This past Friday, Cox made a big SPLASH at the Lakewood YMCA! Cox and the Cartoon Network hosted a free Dive-In Movie at the Y for members of the community. Kids splashed around and watched a Cartoon Network reel before Bloo came out for a visit and hugs. There were giveaways and fun for all. Evan and Alex (pictured left) each won a prize from Cox and Cartoon Network that included a Bloo backpack, notepad, water bottle and three months of Cox High Speed Internet service.

"I loved watching a movie in the pool," said Audrey, one happy movie-goer. "It was so cool to see Bloo at the pool and I loved the tattoos and Frisbees!"

"This is yet another way for Cox



to show our commitment and involvement in the communities we serve," stated Kelly McGrath, Public Affairs at Cox Communications. "It was fun to see the kids splashing around in the water while watching a movie. They thought that was so cool!" she added.

Lakewood YMCA Offers Group Cycling Classes

Experience the ride of your life in a Group Cycling class at the new Lakewood Family YMCA. You will encounter slow climbs, short sprints, and recovery spins for a time efficient, high calorie-burning workout. The class is designed for all fitness levels because it allows you to control your own pace while benefiting from the group atmosphere, motivating music, and professional coaching.

Classes are on-going and free with your YMCA membership. Come check out the new wall mural in the Lakewood Family YMCA's Cycling Studio painted by the YMCA's own Ed Libal. This new mural will give you the feeling of riding with the pack in a race. Check it out today at the new Lakewood Family YMCA, 16915 Detroit Avenue, or call 216-521-8400 for class days and times.

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Dr. Fisher joins David Brill, D.O., in the Lakewood Hospital Professional Building, Suite 260. Enjoy same-day appointments as well as quick call back to all inquiries.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Fisher, please call 440.356.3640.

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Lakewood Observer

Beware - Ohio Passes Weak Eminent Domain Reform Law Most Homes in Lakewood Could Be Blighted

by Lynn Farris and Julie Wiltse

Ohio, along with states across the country, has been working on new laws to protect the property rights of its citizens since the US Supreme Court's *Kelo vs. City of New London* Eminent Domain Decision. At the end of June the Ohio Legislature missed the opportunity for real reform and instead passed one of the weakest eminent domain reform laws in the nation according to the Institute for Justice. Companion legislation that would have put a Constitutional Amendment on the ballot that would have required local governments to conform to this law also failed to pass. Now because of Home Rule local governments are free to continue to use their own rules or establish new rules on how blight is defined and how eminent domain will be used.

The Ohio Supreme Court ruled unanimously one year ago in *Norwood v. Horney* that right to property is a fundamental right. The Court also ruled that a law must be clear and understandable so that citizens can obey the law. It is the state's definition of blight that gives cause for concern. The vast majority of Lakewood homes could be blighted using this new definition depending on the

interpretation used. If any two of the following vague criteria are met, your home could be blighted.

Dilapidation and deterioration: The Ohio Supreme Court ruled in *Norwood v. Horney* that the use of the word "deteriorating" was void for vagueness, yet it appears again in a variation on the theme in the state law. The use of the words "deterioration" and "dilapidation" do not give the property owner any clearer understanding of what is expected of him then did the use of the word "deteriorating".

Age and obsolescence: At what age does a house or building fit this condition? Is it 5 years, 10 years? Does this condition include the lack of the amenities of modern construction such as two-car garages, two and a half baths, central air and at least three bedrooms? With technology in the building trades advancing so rapidly, couldn't any building be blighted using this condition?

Excessive dwelling unit density: What is meant by excessive dwelling unit density? Who makes that determination? Lakewood zoning codes include a high-density multi-family designation. How do you distinguish between Lakewood's high-density wording and the state's word excessive?

Is located in an area of defective or inadequate street layout: Our street layout plans (which homeowners have no control over, but rather is a government function) were deemed adequate and adopted years ago. Do those original street layout plans, which are often highly sought after for their tranquility, now justify the blight designation and the use of eminent domain? Many million-dollar homes on the lake are at the end of dead end streets. Would they be considered blighted under this condition? Would homes on streets that now dead end into I-90 or Clifton Boulevard be considered blighted under this condition?

Overcrowding of buildings on the land: How many buildings per acre constitute overcrowding? Who makes this determination and based on what objective criteria? How do you differentiate between neighborhoods with homes built on small lots and so-called cluster homes? Again, vagueness and subjectivity permeates the state law with the inevitable result being the loss of our property and our rights.

Non compliance with building, housing or other codes: If a home or business is built or established meeting all code requirements, does it become blighted when the city changes its

codes? This condition endangers all our property since Lakewood updates its codes on a regular cycle.

Faulty lot layout in relation to size, adequacy, accessibility or usefulness: What does faulty lot layout mean? Who makes that determination and based on what objective criteria? While it is true that the new law requires 70% of the parcels in a neighborhood be blighted for properties to be taken by eminent domain, the above conditions illustrate how easily any Lakewood neighborhood could be blighted. In the May 2004 election about 70% of Lakewood voters said the West End was not blighted, yet as illustrated above, the State's blight definition includes all the same blighting factors used in the West End Blight Study.

There are some good reforms in the new State law that address important issues including just compensation, appraisal and procedures when your property is taken by eminent domain. But because of the weak blight definition your property can be taken from you for economic development under the pretext that the city is removing blight. Beware Lakewood property owners; your property rights are no more protected today than they were in 2004.

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Lakewood Opinion

Conservationism Vs. Progressionism: Can The Two Co-exist?

by Mike McNutt

In the last few years all of us have noticed that the world is becoming smaller. I remember at a young age feeling that the corners of the globe were mystical and ancient, majestic and intriguing, remote and very far away. But recently I have found evidence to the contrary. As I drive my Volkswagen Jetta to the filling station, I am still amazed that finding gas for \$2.86 is, in today's terms, a bargain. It never occurred to me that my family budget would become governed by

high gas prices. One less date with the wife, one less ice cream outing with the kids, one less pizza night – all of the things we enjoy doing. It has become clear to me that my dependence on gasoline is essential to my life. I need to go to work. I need to buy my groceries which have been transported across state lines. I need to have my garbage picked up. All of these services and items are in some fashion dictated by the price of gasoline. However, as our cost of living continues to increase, our wages and income stay the same. So how can we get ahead? How do we save

a little for ourselves?

A while back I was thinking about the inception and westward expansion of our great country. We held high the banner of "manifest destiny." We wanted to conquer and engineer everything. We wanted to build, build, and build some more. In 200 years we have been able to create some incredible things: the Empire State Building, the Hoover Dam, the National Park System, and the Panama Canal. But as we expanded, so did the rest of the world. We are now at a tenuous crossroads between pioneering a new era of

sustainability while still carrying the banner of "manifest destiny," but in a new "green" direction.

Conservationism is to maintain the health of our natural world. Progress is to move forward or grow. Progressionism is the process of moving forward. I once heard the following quote: "Vision without action is a daydream; action without vision is a nightmare." We often do things without knowing the consequences of our actions. For instance, when you wash your car on your driveway, do you know where the water goes? It goes into the gutter in the street. But what about after that? There is a whole infrastructure underground called the storm sewer system. This is a network of pipes that carry water away from our roads, and is completely different from the pipes that carry water from our toilets and sinks. This water flows, untreated, to the nearest stream. Therefore, the soap from washing your car will ultimately find its way to Lake Erie. "So what?" you might ask. After all, you are only one person, right? But what happens when thousands of people do it on the same day? That's a lot of soap!

Benefits from conservation practices are not just valued in the ecological sense. Communities are beginning to recognize the associated worth of those natural resources with increases in property values, reductions in municipal infrastructure costs, and increases in the quality of life of residents. The "free" services offered by Mother Nature not only benefit the environment by providing biological habitat, but also offer floodwater storage, erosion control, nutrient removal, and recreational opportunities for communities.

None of us are purposefully doing things that harm the earth. Only now are the consequences of our past actions becoming apparent. Did we have vision long ago? Absolutely. Are there things we could have done differently? Of course. But the question now arises, how do we balance growth and maintain the health of our earth so as to avoid a nightmare in the future? What are we willing to change in our personal daily routines that can have a cumulative positive impact on our earth? How do we create a sustainable infrastructure for renewable energy? How do we change an ideology that revolves around individual best interest, rather than the common good?

Since the earth is the only planet in our solar system that can sustain life, it is in our best interest to recognize the need to change our course from consumption to conservation. Our society will continue to grow, and with that growth, important decisions will need to be made. Perhaps it is time to connect vision and action, rather than having one without the other. Otherwise, the lack of balance between progress and conservation will lead us down a road to disaster.

Sicko: At Least the Title is Right

by Mark Moran

The cause of publicly funded national health insurance, derided and betrayed and postponed for forty years, has never lacked for enemies or misfortune.

And now (so I thought) along comes Michael Moore, who paid his country such a disservice with Fahrenheit 911, with his new movie, "Sicko," to demonstrate that good causes can attract the worst of friends.

Except that Sicko is not that bad, or not as bad as I was expecting. Part of what makes Sicko work is the fact that, for the most part, Moore manages to keep his ego out of the picture. Well, not quite. The last quarter of the film has him pulling one of his trademark stunts, hauling ailing 9-11 volunteers off to Guantanamo Bay for a taste of Cuban style "free" healthcare.

The other thing that makes this movie hard to dislike is that he has chosen such a ripe and easy target. Everyone—everyone—knows that the American for-profit healthcare system is unsustainable in its current state. While it is true that a Canadian style single-payer national health insurance system is still a minority preference, and many people are vehemently opposed to it, nobody is happy with the status quo. So it could not have been hard for Moore to find American patients who have been damaged by the insurance industry, or doctors who despise the current system, or laborers in the insurance industry who hate the

way they make a living. One especially riveting scene is a clip of Dr. Linda Peeno, a former medical director for a managed care company, testifying before a stunned Congressional panel that she had personally been responsible for the deaths of patients for whom she had denied care, in the interest of corporate profit.

Another strength of Sicko is that, uncharacteristically, Moore doesn't only demonize the insurance industry, but turns an accusing finger back on his audience. "What have we become?" he asks following a devastating sequence depicting the dumping of indigent patients by a Los Angeles hospital onto skid row. In contrast to this moral squalor is the attitude expressed by Canadians and Brits and French citizens who state as a matter of course that, naturally, everyone receives basic medical care. "That's just the way we do things," the Canadian gent said.

But skepticism is always advisable when watching a movie by Michael Moore, who is not a stickler for facts. One of his grosser misrepresentations—there are more than a few—is about the Clinton healthcare proposal. He touts Hillary as a hero and the healthcare plan that failed as a heroic endeavor.

My own opinion is that the Clinton plan was one of the worst things to ever happen to the cause of national health insurance. The Clinton plan was many things—some of them good—but it was not publicly funded national health insurance. It was a huge private managed care industry plan with a vast overlay of government regulation. The insurance industry vilified it as "government controlled healthcare" because it didn't want the regulation, but how many people know that the Clinton plan would have privatized the Medicaid program?

In the end it failed, and the American people got stuck with managed care without the government regulation. What followed was a shameful period in the 90's, with the insurance and managed care industry free to control costs by slashing doctor fees and withholding care. Healthcare costs were held in check for a decade (though at the expense of the public health and possibly some individual lives---we'll never know whether Dr. Peeno's experience was an anomaly or the norm), helping to fuel the economic

boom of that decade, for which the Clintons could then take credit.

And certainly Moore's depictions of healthcare in Canada, England and France are shamelessly one-sided. No one is getting "free" healthcare—citizens of those countries are taxed heavily, and France's economy has ground to a halt under the burden of its massive social welfare network. As for Cuba, we can rest assured that Moore would have had to search a lot longer to find a Cuban doctor working in state controlled communist dictatorship willing to admit on film that things on the Island aren't wonderful.

Healthcare is a problem, everywhere, because medical progress continues to offer new, more expensive ways to push back death and master disease; meanwhile people continue to get injured, get sick, and to die. No healthcare system can change that, it can only ration the suffering fairly or unfairly.

Still, his interviews with doctors and citizens in those countries may help to puncture the myth, born of fifty years of mis- and dis-information, that the people of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom--citizens who inexplicably like and support their healthcare systems—are dropping like flies in the street or else languishing in dingy socialist waiting rooms of diseases they would otherwise be treated for if they could only get coverage by an American insurance company.

What a joke. The American for-profit healthcare system is in shambles and is not going to last. The CEOs of the largest insurance companies know this—they know this—and so do many Americans who are hale and healthy and have benefited from quality medical care here. On the way out of the theater I asked an older couple who were leaving—they looked like Mr. and Mrs. Well-to-Do from, maybe, Avon Lake—what they thought of the film. "Makes me want to move to Canada," the lady of the couple said. "It was truthful." No, in many ways this movie is not truthful. But Michael Moore did at least get the title right, describing the state of a healthcare system that, one way or another, is headed for the grave.



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Lakewood Pets

CCLAS To Host Guest Speaker August 7th

Are You And Your Pets Prepared For A Major Disaster?

by Donna Blakesmith

As a nation, as citizens of this planet, we have watched many catastrophes unfold. We were warned of Hurricane Katrina, and as I saw the devastation, my heart ached for those who survived the winds and water, but whose lives were forever changed. I cheered for the heroes, and prayed for their continued strength and mental stability as they mopped up that mess.

Because of events like Katrina, and 9/11, our communities were told to prepare ourselves. We were told to gather people who could be called upon to help our safety forces in case of emergencies and disasters. Lakewood has done this, and we proudly have our Community Emergency Response Team. CERT has been in force for about two years now, and the group is ever getting continued training. Sometimes the training is medical, sometimes it is search-procedure practice, but it is ongoing and pertinent.

So, you ask me, this is all well and good, and I'm sure you're as happy as I am to know that Lakewood is pre-

pared should something bad happen -- but what does all this have to do with CCLAS (Citizens' Committee for a Lakewood Animal Shelter)? Let me tell you! On March 20, CERT had a speaker, Sue Gundich, from the Animals' Disaster Team. As she talked, she told us what many of us already knew. We watched the aftermaths on TV, where although the people were evacuated, animals were left behind and their owners were frantic. We read stories of people who refused to leave their homes, choosing to brave the coming storms, rather than be separated from their pets. She told of a little town that had to be quarantined, and all the people taken to shelters, because of a toxic spill. As the clean-up dragged into weeks, pet owners were crossing the safety lines in the dark of night, risking their own contamination, to check on their furry family members, to feed, water, and comfort them for a little bit. Sue asked us if we were prepared for our animals, should we have to be evacuated. Cat owners, where are your carriers -- are they quickly accessible?

Dog owners, do you know, right now, where your dog's leash and collar are?

The Animals' Disaster Team is activated when called by the person of the safety force, in charge of trying to handle an emergency, or by another official of the community, such as the mayor. As she put it, once you begin to evacuate people, her team steps in to evacuate their animals. This force goes into homes to gather them, and owners can help the process with a little forethought. Carriers are at a premium. If you have yours available, one your pet already knows, one with information and medical history attached (in a waterproof container), life might be easier for your pet until you are reunited. Get your animals microchipped!!! Repeat -- get your pets microchipped!!! In a major evacuation, although these rescue teams come in and try to set up an animal shelter near the shelter for the people, in case cages and carriers get mixed up, a microchip will positively prove you belong to your pet. Put tags with names and contact numbers on everything. (Remember to include a contact number away from your locality. Using Katrina as an example, if someone had used their home phone number only as a means to be reached, after Katrina, that number was not accessible. However, including the number of an out-of-state relative would give rescuers another avenue to reach a pet owner).

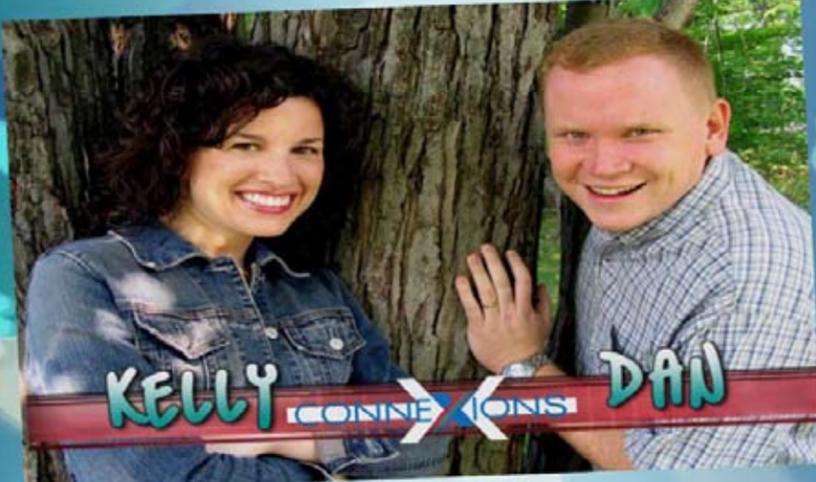
This may seem a bit much for those of us in Lakewood -- and yet back in January, CERT was called for the first time. A man on Fry Avenue was having problems, and he panicked, and threatened his neighborhood with a bomb. While the fire and police forces dealt with him, CERT helped them as they evacuated the surrounding houses. As per health and sanitation regulations, pets were not allowed to accompany

their owners to the shelter until all was safe again. One woman just could not stand the thought of leaving her cat behind, perhaps in harm's way, so she took the cat with her anyway. Our warden, Mike Stewart, had to go to the shelter and retrieve the cat, ensuring the owner that he would take care of it, and bring it back to the Lakewood Animal Shelter until she could pick it up.

Our Shelter is a little shelter (for now!). We have only seven dog runs, and fifteen cages for cats and other furies, such as bunnies, ferrets, etc. If Lakewood had a lengthy evacuation due to some disaster, or potential disaster, there would not be enough room or supplies to handle very many animals. This is where the Animals' Disaster Team shines. I have asked Sue to be our guest speaker for our August 7 CCLAS meeting. Because this is such a timely and important subject, the fine folks at the Rocky River Nature Center have agreed to let us hold our gathering there. Sue will not be able to join us, but she has arranged for another member of her Disaster Team to speak.

In the meantime, think of what I have written here. Find your carriers. Make a list of how many animals are in your home so none are left behind! Make a list of things needed to know about each pet. My one cat is allergic to Dad's brand of cat food. His rescuer will need to know this. Figure out, if you had but one minute to leave the house, and had to leave your animals, what would you do? Dump all the dry food out so the animals could get to it? Leave a faucet running, ever so slightly, so there is always fresh water? These are only my ideas, and I plan on asking our speaker, just to make sure. If you don't want to wait until August for information, you can reach the Animals' Disaster Team, Cuyahoga Chapter, at 216-661-2292.

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Lakewood Schools

Why Can't Johnny Read? Why Does It Matter?

by Dr. Chuck Greanoff

Back in the early eighties, Don Henley penned the song "Johnny Can't Read" lamenting the fact that there are many "Johnnys" out there who can't read—and, by inference, can't function well in society. Whatever one thinks of Henley's take on our nation's "Johnnys", few dispute that many of our students perform splendidly, while a certain percentage, to put it charitably, fail to thrive.

The so-called achievement gap has spurred conversation, theories and research examining the role/merits of school funding, privatization, standardized testing, phonics instruction, etc. Ohio has addressed all these possible remedies, but has tied its future to one remedy above all the others. During the Voinovich and Taft Administrations, Ohio led the nation in the school privatization movement, with prolific funding of for-profit charter schools and school vouchers. Privatize the system, or as much of it as possible, and the market will fix the problem. Then, more "Johnnys" will be able to read. Or, will they?

According to a 2006 study released by the Department of Education, when students of similar backgrounds are compared, public school students generally either match or exceed the performance of students in private schools.

If you know this positive informa-

tion (you are in a distinct minority) about public schools, congratulations—you have done your homework. If not, it might be because the Bush Administration released this report not with fanfare and celebration, but quietly after 5pm on a Friday last summer (the 14th of July, to be exact). Perhaps it is irritating when data conflict with the carefully marketed grand narrative about the magic of the market/privatization as applied to all things. Imagine the audacity, research that actually seeks to isolate the impact of schools themselves and fails to present a distorted, de-contextualized comparison of public and private school performance. How dare scientific rigor get in the way of the grand project of undermining confidence in public schools?

Even worse, the cherished "charters", privately managed often for-profit schools, have consistently served Johnny poorly in virtually every study that has been conducted. Not surprising when you consider the incentives that spur private business—profits—and the ways these profits are often derived by cutting costs, including those associated with special education students, extra-curricular activities, school nurses, etc.. Distressing, however, when one considers that public dollars that flow out of public schools to the for-profits don't much reduce the costs of operating the de-funded public schools the students leave. Last year Lakewood public schools lost \$700,000 to schools that they have no say in operating. In essence, we fund more schools than our community through its democratic process determined was appropriate given our educational goals and financial situation.

The worst effect of the privatization movement is not, however, its anti-democratic, anti-public accountability ideology, nor its financial drain on public schools, nor even its abject failure to deliver on promised results. Its most insidious outcome is its opportunity costs. We spend so much time either promoting or debunking the myth of market magic, as applied to public education, that we miss the opportunity to act on the most meaningful research on why some children

fail miserably in whatever type of school they might be. To be sure, there are many and varied reasons that some students thrive while others founder. Research clearly identifies two at-home factors outside the direct control of K-12 schools that greatly impact educational performance: vocabulary used in the home and parental attitudes toward their children and life in general.

The classic research of Betty Hart and Todd Risley, University of Kansas Child Psychologists, found a significant relationship between language exposure in early life and IQ scores, which in turn have a strong, positive correlation with school performance. (For a full rendering, read "Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Life of Young American Children"). This research showed that future high IQ children by age three knew twice as many words as their low IQ counterparts, a result of both the amount of interaction with adults and the quality of that interaction. For example, on average, the students with brighter academic futures heard 487 utterances per hour in the home, including talking, singing and rhyming games; whereas children with academic difficulties ahead had an impoverished language experience, hearing on average about 178 utterances per hour.

(One side note: whatever the limitations of IQ tests, grades or other measures of intelligence/achievement, there is no getting around the fact that success in our society has much to do with mastery of language. Try to become a doctor or a lawyer without a strong vocabulary.)

Hart and Risley also found significant differences in the types of words and underlying attitudes conveyed between future high and future low achievers. The high achievers heard many more encouragements, words of praise and approval ("nice climbing, but that's dangerous, so you'll have to get down") whereas the low achievers tended to hear prohibitions and discouragement ("get down from there, you idiot"). Research by Jeanne Brooks-Gunn of Columbia University found that specific elements of parental nurturance to be positively associated with

better academic outcomes, including more encouragements, more sensitivity and a less detached attitude toward children and their learning.

Thus, the intellectual and emotional infrastructure of learning and memory is largely in place before Johnny ever walks into kindergarten. Behind from day one, the script often plays out as follows. Around third or fourth grade, Johnny begins to realize that he is not keeping up with classmates, with teacher expectations, or even his own notion of success. He begins to get discouraged, disengaged and even disruptive, as a way of blunting the frustration of failure. Even though Johnny is hard wired to be intellectually curious, he begins to exhibit two of the more dysfunctional and unnatural characteristics imaginable—"laziness and apathy." His disengagement eases the pain of failure or inadequacy—at the price of limiting his imagination of what his life could be.

As the years progress, Johnny finds Suzy and others in the same boat, and they begin to form individual and group identities that includes a rejection of school. Not always tragic in and of itself—some school "rejecters" turn out to be productive, creative and happy adults. Often, however, school rejecters reject not just school but learning in general, to their peril and to the detriment of their communities. So, is there anything we can do to meaningfully address this issue?

If we are serious about the achievement gap, we will begin to frame the problem as one of society, not exclusively schools. Our popular culture, values and home life should be critiqued and challenged by those who value the intellectual and emotional development of all of our children. We need to be frank about the consequences of a language impoverished home life filled with discouragement. Wherever possible, we need to offer at-risk students greater attention and care during the early years, before an identity associated with school disengagement can take root. We need to recognize that an equitable education does not mean treating everyone the same, but giving those who need it early and continuous intervention, especially with respect to language development.

Finally, we need to acknowledge that the overwhelming majority of those middle and high school students who we deem to be "lazy" or "apathetic" are actually not so. Despite their flagging self esteem and acting out behaviors, they still have a spark within them that yearns to learn and access a rich range of life experiences. This is where creative, emotionally engaged teachers come in, with an attitude of never giving up on our at-risk kids. Schools and teachers clearly matter. But we do ourselves a profound disservice by thinking, contrary to all available evidence, that any school reforms by themselves can solve a problem rooted in the larger society.

CORRECTION

Scholarship Winners from the Lakewood Arts Festival



Katie Michalko won the Lakewood Arts Festival Scholarship of \$4000. She will be attending Loyola University in the Fall.

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Lakewood Sports

New Schools, New Teams Expected To Increase Participation, Boost Competitiveness

A New Era Begins For Lakewood Middle School Athletics

by Mike Deneen

As you may already know, this fall the Lakewood School District is consolidating from three middle schools down to two. This transformation has presented an opportunity to re-shape the city's athletic program for 7th to 8th graders. Beginning this year, competition for these kids will be shifting away from recreation department programs and toward athletic programs based at each of the two middle schools.

Lakewood's middle schools will be Harding and Garfield. Harding has moved to a brand new building on Madison Avenue near Northland. Garfield is re-opening in a new building at 13114 Detroit Avenue. Each of these schools will feature a separate 7th grade and an 8th grade team for the following sports: football, volleyball, and boys and girls basketball. There will continue to be one combined wrestling team consisting of boys from both grades at both schools, and there will be a combined track program, with one team for each grade.

Athletes at each school will have the opportunity to play against kids from other school districts in the new Northeast Ohio Conference, which Lakewood High is joining this year. Since each grade at each school will have its own team, more athletes will have a chance to play against top competition. In the past, the three Lakewood middle schools fielded one combined travel team to face other towns. Kids not on the travel team were able to play rec-league sports, but only against other Lakewood teams. Under this new system, 7th and 8th grade students will only be able to play for their school teams. Rec-league teams will still exist only for 6th graders, who are not eligible to play on the school teams.

Coaches are optimistic that the new scheme will encourage increased participation. For example, Harry Manos, head coach of the new Garfield 8th grade team, hopes to have 25-35 boys on each team (four teams total, two 7th grade teams and two 8th grade teams). Last year, there were only 31 boys (only 9 of which were 7th graders) on the combined 7th/8th grade travel team.

In football, the Harding and Garfield teams will each play a seven-game schedule, with home games for each school to be played at Garfield's new stadium. The season will culminate with the "Crosstown Showdown" game between the two schools at Lakewood High Stadium. The game is scheduled for Wednesday night, October 17, and both schools hope to make the game into an annual event. The staffs at each school are hoping to arrange festivities such as guest captains, bands, prizes, and a guest speaker for the big game in an effort to get the community involved.

In addition to improving student participation, the new middle school arrangement is expected to boost Lakewood High's varsity programs in the longer run. The 7th and 8th graders

of today are potential varsity players in three or four years. An increased number of traveling middle school teams results in more playing time for young players.

This experience helps these players to develop, and hopefully move up to the next level.

Coaches at the middle schools hope to prepare kids to someday playing high school competition. "I feel that it will have a great impact on the varsity program," says Ramos. "We try very hard to run the same drills, offense, and defense, as the varsity. This provides for a much



smoother transition."

Coaches also feel that the new arrangement will result in better school pride and bonding between teammates.

"It will bring the school pride back," says Ramos, "Instead of having an amalgamation of students from three middle schools playing together, you will now have student-athletes representing their respective schools."

New Field Installed At Garfield Middle School

Lakewood High isn't the only

school getting a new athletic field this year. A new FieldTurf surface is being installed at Garfield Middle School as part of a new stadium. The facility will serve as home field for both middle school programs, both Garfield and Harding. The new stadium has a concession stand, a press box, built-in bleachers, and a new scoreboard.

"The new field will benefit the student-athletes immensely," says Garfield 8th-grade football coach Harry Ramos. The new field is expected to be ready for the teams' first scrimmage, which is scheduled for August 22. If the field isn't ready, the teams will use the Lakewood Stadium.

For more information on the new stadium or Garfield Athletics, visit their website <http://teacherweb.com/OH/GarfieldMiddleSchool/GarfieldMiddleSchoolAthletics/>

Summer Of Change For LHS Athletics

by Mike Deneen

Fans of LHS athletics will see a lot of changes on the field this fall. After seven decades in the Lake Erie League, LHS jumps to the new Northeast Ohio Conference (NOC). The Northeast Ohio Conference was created through a merger of the remaining teams in the Western Reserve and Pioneer Conferences, along with Garfield Heights and Lakewood High Schools, which had previously expressed interest in joining. The new Northeast Ohio Conference will be the biggest conference in northeast Ohio. The new conference includes these sports: Football, Basketball, Tennis, Cross Country, Swimming, Gymnastics, Track, Softball, Baseball, Golf, Wrestling, Volleyball, and Soccer.

The conference switch has been in the works for many months. The new Northeast Ohio Conference features 18 schools from across the Cleveland area. The conference is divided into three six-team divisions for each sport. A unique aspect of the conference is that division assignments can change every two years, allowing schools to be more evenly matched in each particular sport. For example, if a school is strong in wrestling but struggles in

softball, it can remain in the toughest wrestling division and be moved to an easier softball division. The original division assignments were made based upon traditional strength and the caliber of their freshman and sophomore classes at the time.

The NEO conference commissioner is former LHS athletic director Dan Gerome. Although his new commissioner role is not as stressful as being an AD, it has its challenges. "Especially working with 18 AD's and principals and trying to get them to think NEO conference instead of their old league ways," he says.

Although they are in a new league, one thing remains the same -- regardless of sport, LHS will still be in one of the toughest conferences in the state. In ten of the league's 17 sports, LHS is in the conference's toughest division. For example, in football the Rangers will share a division with Brunswick, Solon, Medina, Strongsville and Elyria. All five of those schools had winning records in 2006, and some of them are considered among the finest programs in the state. In most sports, schools will play each of their division mates once or twice per year, plus play some games against schools from the other divi-

sions. Other LHS programs that have been placed in the NOC's toughest division (called the Valley Division) are volleyball, boy's soccer, boy's basketball, track, boy's golf, softball, cross country, swimming and diving, and gymnastics. For more information on the conference, including a complete rundown of divisional breakouts and schedule formula for every sport, visit the conference website www.neohc.org.

New Turf At Lakewood Stadium

Not only will LHS fans see new teams on the field this fall, but they will see a new field. Lakewood Stadium has been resurfaced with state-of-the-art FieldTurf. Unlike old-fashioned fake turf, which feels and plays like a carpet, FieldTurf is an artificial surface that is designed to replicate grass. FieldTurf is used in hundreds of stadiums and practice facilities around the country, including by the National Football League, Major League Soccer and NCAA college football teams. The project cost over \$600,000, nearly two-thirds of which will be paid from rental fees. In addition to being home to LHS teams, the stadium is used for St. Edward football games, CYO events, and other activities.

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Pulse Of The City

What's A Kid To Do?

Gary Rice

There's no doubt about it. The Lakewood Observer Project has been a fantastic way to promote all that's good about our fair city. Those of us who write for this paper are acutely aware of our responsibility to show our town in a positive light.

That's not hard to do, either. In so many ways, Lakewood is the kind of town that people only dream of. It's such a friendly place--of beautiful homes, great businesses, and minutes-away access to Lake Erie, the Metroparks, and downtown Cleveland.

While we are certainly an aging, inner-ring suburb, we also seem to do a great job staying on top of necessary updates and improvements. New schools, a fine updated library, and scheduled street repairs have all given evidence that we continue to be on the right track in many areas.

There is one area of concern, however, that seems to pop up quite a bit in our discussions around town: youth activities. Let's face it, there's not a lot of space around town available for informal activities for young people.

This is not a new problem either. Growing up on a Lakewood side street, we "young-uns" were constantly in trouble with neighbors who somehow objected to having some kid hiding in their rosebushes or swatting a baseball through a window. Back then, one of the most popular shows on TV was



Half-Pipe Heaven? Gary's circa 1959 Roller Derby skateboard and vintage leather helmet (sitting atop an also-vintage plastic model skull)

"Combat!" starring Vic Morrow and Rick Jason. World War II was a big part of our vivid imaginations, so some of us played "war" with half our crew playing the part of "the enemy" and the other, the good guys. We would stage attacks up and down the street all day with our toy guns. Can you imagine what would happen today if a Lakewood resident saw a bunch of young people running up the street with toy guns? Even though toy guns these days seem to come with bright red barrel tips, I

would suspect that the SWAT team would be out in force in no time, and the youngsters' pseudo-military uniforms would quickly be exchanged for orange jump suits!

Yes, these days it seems any group of young people running up the street for any reason would cause someone to call the law.

So what's a kid to do? Bike riding was fun then and now. Even though new laws have afforded greater clarity for cycles using the public roadways, using one's bike on a Lakewood roadway is a reason for vigilance. There are so many cars and (let's just call them) distracted drivers out there that even riding one's bike on a Lakewood side street can be a harrowing experience.

Skateboards have been popular with young people for many years. Modern 'boarders are often surprised to learn that skateboards were even around in my day. Originally, some of these (like mine) had metal wheels, styled from those sidewalk skates that we used to try to go up and down Lakewood's often-uneven sidewalks. In the late fifties, I believe that it was the Roller Derby company who came out with the first production skateboards; although scooters and gliding soap-

boxes had been fashioned from parts of old roller skates for years. As kids became more skilled with their skateboards, it became fashionable to ride on concrete steps or metal railings. This probably contributed to a number of banged-up heads, knees, and elbows. Some also felt that skateboards might cause expensive damage to property. Eventually, we put in a skatepark at Lakewood Park, perhaps to lure the half-pipe crowd away from Lakewood's downtown buildings?

Tennis used to be quite popular, too. It is still an enjoyable pastime, and tennis courts may still be found around town. Lakewood's Little Link golf course used to be a popular pastime, however this year the facility remains closed.

Another closed group of facilities includes the schools' outdoor basketball courts. There has been quite a bit of discussion on the Lakewood Observer's on-line "Observation Deck" regarding this topic. Many people would like to see those hoops put back up, while others are glad that they have come down. Basketball, especially this summer with the Cleveland team in the playoffs, has been incredibly popular. It is, however, a loud game played by enthusiastic participants, and that can be bothersome to a quiet community. I would imagine that there would also be the problem of liability for anyone who gets hurt during a game. In fact, I would guess that concerns of liability have closed doors to a number of activities for young people in the past several years. This can make it more difficult for young people to find ways to have unsupervised fun in a densely populated suburb like ours.

Fortunately, Lakewood does have a number of ways for young people to have supervised fun. Sports activities, as well as Scouting programs and other community activities, are happening all the time. Sometimes they can be a little hard to find, but calls to the schools, the library, area churches, and city hall will usually uncover some of the many supervised activities going on around here for young people as we mark the pulse of this city.

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Chef Geoff

Going Around In Circles

Jeff Endress

We are clearly at the height of barbeque season. If anyone has any doubts, all it takes a walk down the streets of Lakewood which will most certainly feature the aroma of charcoal, in addition to other things. In previous columns, I have touched upon grilling, smoking, and certain variations of my favorite outdoor cooking pastime. There are so many possibilities it can positively make your head spin. While your head is spinning, why not take that as a sign and look into what can be accomplished when your meal is also spinning. I am, of course, talking about rotisserie.

Rotisserie cooking is a technique where meat is strung on a metal spear and slowly turned over indirect heat. It was an ancient form of cooking which most likely originated with early man. The word means simply to roast, from the Germanic verb "rostir." The method is ideal for cooking large portions of meat, particularly whole animals. Whole hogs, steer, or wild game can be fastened onto a spit and slowly spun over a low fire for hours. Both the spinning motion and the extended cooking time are key; the rotation causes the meat to self-baste and the slow-cooking results in a particularly tender product. It was not uncommon for European manors and castles to have built-in rotisseries in the fireplaces of their great halls. These early rotisseries were manual: the chef would turn the meat a quarter turn, lock the spit into position, and repeat the process several times an hour until the meat was done. As technology advanced, this process was simplified by the clockwork motor, which would slowly turn the rotisserie continuously. Modern rotisseries are powered by electricity and use a low-gear ratio that allows for slow speed, yet provides enough power to turn the weight of a large roast. For those who require portable feasts, there are even battery-powered versions available. My friend and camping companion, Ken Burney, has even devised a portable, folding rotisserie stand. These innovations make it possible to enjoy a spit-roasted pork loin in the backwoods.

We have, of course, all seen rotisseries at work: every grocery store features rotisserie chickens. While we generally

Spit-roasted, Fennel-encrusted Eye of Round (Serves 6)

- 3 lb. Eye of Round roast
- 2 C. Coffee
- 1/4 C. Olive oil
- 1 T. Ground pepper
- 1 T. Coarse salt
- 3 T. Fennel seeds

In a loaf pan, mix the coffee, oil salt and pepper. Add the beef and marinate overnight, turning occasionally. Prepare fire or preheat grill. Allow meat to come to room temperature. Reserve the marinade. Pat meat dry, string on spit, and roll in fennel seeds, pressing them into the meat. Rotiss for an hour and a half, over indirect heat (for medium rare). Baste with the reserved marinade for the last 1/2-hour. Allow the meat to rest, off the spit, for 5-10 minutes before carving. Slice thinly; serve with roasted Vidalia onions, rice pilaf and a sliced tomato and basil salad, dressed with a sprinkle of balsamic. A light summer merlot is a perfect accompaniment.



A variety of Rotisserie implements (from the top) Rib basket Spit with forks Flat fish basket

think of rotisseries as horizontal, there are certainly vertical examples, like the ever-popular gyros. Rounds of herbed lamb are strung on a vertical spit, with the heat source located behind the meat. This allows the chef to slice off servings from the cooked outside while the remainder continues to spin away. Anyone who wants to see this action firsthand can stop by La Pita Express and order up a Shwarma.

There are all manner of additional gadgets used to increase the versatility of a simple spit. First of all, there are many other foods which could benefit from the slow-cooking method, but are difficult to affix to a spit. To provide for those items, you can affix stainless steel baskets to the spit to cook fish steaks and fillets. Other attachments allow a carousel of hot dogs or a basket of ribs to cook on a rotisserie.

The key to rotisserie cooking is

the use of indirect heat. There are a number of grill manufacturers, such as a Ducane, which feature a vertical burner specifically for that purpose. Lacking a dedicated rotisserie burner, it is still possible to cook with indirect heat. In a three-burner gas grill, the center burner can be turned off to allow the heat to radiate from the outside burners. Likewise, if using a charcoal grill, the charcoal can be banked on the outside of the grill body. The aim is to allow the meat, while turning, to self-baste, while the indirect heat provides a much slower method of cooking than direct grill heat. Furthermore, due to the nature of the metal spear, the food cooks, to some degree, from the inside out as the heat from the fire is transmitted to the spit which, in turn, passes through the center of the meat.

As we enter the dog days of summer, cooking and the associated heat drives us out of the kitchen. But, even our outdoor grills, when fired up to sear a steak, can add a level of unwelcome heat. The use of a rotisserie requires less effort on behalf of the outdoor cook, less attention to the grill, and less heat. Indeed, a Zen-like relaxation can descend upon you as you are sitting in your lounge chair with a cold drink on a hot afternoon, listening to the whirring of the rotisserie motor as the smell of roasted meat wafts through the air. It's enough to make your head spin.

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Lakewood Perspectives

The New Definition Of "Junk" Mail

Bret Callentine

Does anyone over the age of ten actually look forward to checking their mailbox anymore? I'm not talking about your e-mail mailbox, I'm talking about the actual box in front of your house that, unless you are unusually lucky, contains only two types of items: bills and bulk advertising.

As a part of my daily ritual, I've found that I can sort the mail in about 2.4 seconds with bills going into one pile and everything else going straight into the garbage. However, a few days ago I received a piece that caused me to start a second pile: a bulk mail flyer that actually made it past the trash cut-off. It wasn't colorful or particularly

eye-catching, but its combination of words piqued my curiosity, although not in a good way.

That combination of words was the name, "Dennis J. Kucinich," and the disclosure: "This mailing was prepared, published, and mailed at taxpayer expense."

The reason it caught my attention was that, for the life of me, I couldn't figure out what he's done lately that would warrant individual notification of every mailing address in his constituency. So, my curiosity got the better of me. And, to my great surprise, it

really paid off. After suffering through stories about "hot" gas, Medicare, and foreclosures, low and behold, there it was: the Kucinich 12-step plan for immediate withdrawal from Iraq.

For the benefit of those that did not spare the flyer, what follows is an exact reprint of his plan (HR 1234), as detailed in the mailing:

1. The U.S. announces it will end the occupation, close military bases, and withdraw.

2. The U.S. announces it will use existing funds to bring the troops home and necessary equipment home.

3. Order a simultaneous return of all U.S. contractors to the U.S. and turn over all contracting work to the Iraqi government.

4. Convene a regional conference for the purpose of developing a security and stabilization force for Iraq

5. Prepare an international security and peacekeeping force to move in, replace U.S. troops who then return home.

6. Develop and fund a process of reconciliation.

7. Reconstruction and Jobs.

8. Reparations.

9. Political Sovereignty.

10. Dealing with the Iraq economy.

11. Economic sovereignty for Iraq.

12. A process of international truth and reconciliation between the people of the United States and the People of Iraq.

Admittedly, I'm a firm supporter of not just the troops, but also the war itself (now, please don't start arguing with me about WMD's, the U.S. oil interests, or anything else along that line). However, regardless of my position, I'm always ready to listen and give any idea a fair shake, so here goes...

With regard to Kucinich's plan: I feel that steps 1-3 are pretty straightforward, if not a little redundant. He wants everyone home and home now. I have no problem with that perspective. I don't agree, but I have no problem with his position.

Step 4 is where his plan gets interesting. The choice of the word "regional" has me a little scared. Please tell me that you're looking for more input than that of Iran, Syria, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia, because I don't think we need to convene a conference to know their position.

If step 4 was cause for concern, then step 5 is where he lost me completely. If it's your argument that the U.S. can't control the sectarian violence, exactly where do you propose to find a peacekeeping force that can? Please do not dare respond by uttering the words "United Nations." If they had any ability to keep the peace, we wouldn't have needed to invade in the first place.

And it doesn't get any more logical in steps 6-8. As for reconciliation, can we just send flowers, or should we invite the Sunnis and Shiites over for a barbeque? I'm not sure American Greetings has a card that says, "We're sorry your previous leader violated international treaties, forcing us to come back and kick your ass." And, for me, a little more information is required for step 7 because I'm not sure how to help with reconstruction and jobs if we've removed all the personnel and equipment. Perhaps we can send them a bunch of Home Depot gift cards to go with the flowers. And, if I understand step 8 correctly, apparently the flowers and gift cards aren't enough, because for what the situation really calls is cold, hard cash.

continued on next page...

Letter To The Editor: 9/11 Truth Protest

by Dele Balogun

As a member of the Cleveland 911 campaign, I am appalled to have read your article. I remember our encounter well. I would say it started off well; unfortunately it felt like you had no wish to understand our points of interest. You had stated you read Popular Mechanics books and that it answered all your questions. I felt you had failed to research some of the most troubling topics as we spoke. You said to me, "what is the strongest argument you can produce?" I replied "thermite and sulfur found in the steel of the wreckage." You asked if that could be a natural composition of its chemical makeup. I told you that it was not. I asked you if you had ever seen WTC 7 come down and you said you would like to see that. At this point I felt confident that I would have you researching again.

Then things went sour -- voices started to rise, people began feeling attacked personally (both sides included). And I feel like both of us acted inappropriately, which I do not feel was out of context, as this is a topic that has great emotion; for we try to provide a voice to the victim's family members who struggle with this tragedy, trying

to have their questions answered. Your first case in point is correct and as we move forward, we strive to set emotion aside and just be scholarly. Your other case points seem to have been skewed.

Case in point 2, we have surveyed that area well, especially since this was the second time we had been in that location promoting a new investigation of 911. Unfortunately we had to keep our sign parallel to the street so that we would not impede pedestrian traffic (police request); that is why our smaller signs were facing the traffic stops. And yes many people stopped, honked, and gave us thumbs up. Also, many stopped to pick up the care package that we pass out with every demonstration, unfortunately you had refused.

Case in point 3, this care package contains a DVD that had multiple documentaries wrapped in our personal flyer with our website (and others) so you can learn more (we passed out 350 that day). From that flyer you can begin your own research, (we do not feel you should take our word as gold, rather research the hard evidence and allow yourself the ability to decide what holds the most weight). We would gladly send you one if you like!

Response To 9/11 Truth Protest

Dear Dele Balogun,

Following the tragedy of 9/11, evidence was slowly uncovered explaining the causes and effects of the events that took place. Following this period of scantily documented speculation, the 9/11 Commission published its report. Some time after that event, various theories which contradicted this explanation began to emerge. And, following that, several groups, including the magazine "Popular Mechanics," began publishing counterarguments to these contradictory claims. Unless I'm mistaken, that is where we stand today. And, if you recall, that was the initial nature of my inquiry. My question stands: "Do you have anything new to add or anything that refutes the scientific evidence that has been used to disprove your theories?" The ball is in your court.

The problem here seems to be one of perspective. From what I can tell,

your group seems to be focused only on the pieces of evidence which prove your point, not the entire body of information available. You find a picture of cut steel and completely disregard when it was taken. You take as fact the testimony of those that suit you and disregard the rest as clueless, uninformed, or outright liars. Believe it or not, I have done the research, I've watched the documentaries, I've listened to the lectures, and I've visited almost every site you suggested. In my opinion, the facts are rather plain to see and, unfortunately for you, they don't seem to be in your favor. You can point people to any website you want; I only need to give you one: www.debunking911.com. When you can refute those claims with something more substantial than "liar, liar, pants on fire," I'll look forward to reading your article.

Respectfully yours,
Bret Callentine

Lakewood Observer

Counter-Perspective:

A Radical Voice From The Other Side

by Alex Ippolito

I would like to respond to the article, "I Protest Your Protest" by Bret Callentine. I am a student of astrophysics, classical guitar performance, and history of science at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. I also pursue interests in radical political theory, cultural studies, and continental philosophy. I graduated Lakewood High School in 2004 and I am here for the summer. I think it is important that a voice be heard in this paper from what Mr. Callentine may consider to be on the 'other' side of his own position.

I will start by addressing Mr. Callentine's comment about a 9/11 conspiracy theory. He states that such theories "fall well outside the lines of reason" and describes the 9/11 event as "one of the most critically reviewed events in U.S. history." However, he provides no arguments or support for these claims. That is, he dismisses these theories as absurd, but does not explain with any concrete evidence why they are absurd. From my perspective, however, it is irrelevant whether or not the Bush administration had a hand in the 9/11 attacks because the issue redirects attention to a critique of the Bush administration that could more fruitfully be directed towards a deeper understanding of the power relations that structure (post)modern industrialized society as a whole. That is, Bush or Obama (Coke or Pepsi, McDonalds or Burger King, etc.), the general configuration of politico-economic power remains intact: there is still the de facto law that a person must have millions of dollars or the help of millionaires even to consider a presidential campaign. This is something I learned in government class in high school. Mr. Callentine even acknowledges this lack of empowerment in a jibe about a Lakewood youth:

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

It is much more shocking to

me that people simply accept the denial of the average Jane's political power, in a supposedly democratic society, than it is that an average Jane would express her potential to gather and mobilize the resources needed to conduct an investigation. Even without the de facto economic prerequisite for political campaigning, the nature of the United States government (and any representative 'democracy') demands that a small group have more political power than the rest of the people.

Secondly, I would like to address the concepts of 'focus', 'organization', and 'ring leader'. My first impulse is to address these using the resources of anarchist thought, but anarchist thought often comes across as abrasive, immature, or even worse, physically harmful to others (if implemented). To avoid the endless cycle of bantering that may arise there, I'll instead turn to one of anarchism's academic cousins: post-structuralism. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, there began to emerge racial problems within the women's rights movement: all of the leaders were white women. As I understand the problem, it became apparent that women of color were oppressed within the very organization that was to free them from oppression. In other words, the rigid boundaries and leadership structure that partly defined these activist groups - or, the mutual exclusivity and hierarchical organization of liberal, feminist, black, queer, environmental, authoritarian socialist, and even some anarchist groups - became a major issue in the radical milieu. The 'solution' that emerged on the ground - complex and diverse horizontal networking rather than fragmented vertical group organization -- paralleled the emergence of post-structuralist theory in the academy. Some ideas included: critiques of normalizing tendencies (or as Mr. Callentine would have it: 'nicely assembled', 'clean cut'), power as a complex web of relationships (Michel Foucault), a critique of gender as identity (Judith Butler), a critique of desire as lack (Deleuze and Guattari), the dangers

of simulation (Baudrillard, Virilio; the Matrix, anyone?), and more. Getting back to the point, Foucault once described fascism as the desire to be led. Lyotard questioned the notion of a singular historical 'meta-narrative.' Derrida introduced deconstruction to purposefully obscure 'focus' and the authoritarian reign of Enlightenment rationality over all other forms of thought. And anarchist thinkers like Bakunin had begun locating the hypocrisy of most forms of libratory organization and representation even during Marx's lifetime. Thus, 'focus' (agenda, party line, etc.), 'organization', and 'ring leader' are usually not of divine relevance in any political movement influenced by post-structuralism and/or anarchism. Of course there is room for organization but only as it emerges or dissolves from below. The worldwide anti-globalization movement is an excellent example. It is "a movement of one no and many yes's," as Zapatista Subcommandante Marcos has described it.

Finally, Mr. Callentine's statement about 'extreme liberals'...I assume he's referring to the radical community which has mostly gotten past the reductive two sided coin of liberal-conservative. For those who believe that disorder (which is NOT the absence of all order) necessarily leads to chaos, and justify it with a singular competitive human nature inaugurated by Charles Darwin, Google 'Kropotkin.' Observe the unpredictable beauty of fractals, or check out www.wikipedia.org or the Linux operating system, which continue to run non-hierarchically by volunteers because of the impulse for 'mutual aid.' Or think about the picnics you share, the communal spaces you have, think about your dinner parties with friends, or the people who hang around the Phoenix coffee shop. Sure Kropotkin's work on 'mutual aid' is not widely known...but that just reminds me of a sign posted throughout Lakewood High School's classrooms: 'what is popular is not always right, and what is right is not always popular.' Moreover, for those who look down upon anarchism and radical politics as immature and idiotic, don't forget: Noam Chomsky arguably one the most important minds of the 20th Century for revolutionizing the field of linguistics; Albert Einstein, socialist; Leo Tolstoy, author of Russian masterpieces War and Peace and Anna Karenina; The IWW or Wobblies, who brought you the 8 hour work day; Bertrand Russell, great analytical philosopher and mathematician of the 20th Century; Murray Bookchin, founder of the field of human ecology; Emma Goldman, early fighter for women's rights; Howard Zinn, historian and author of People's History of the United States; The Catholic Workers; The work of William Gibson, science fiction author considered to have started the subgenre

of 'cyberpunk' and coiner of the term 'cyberspace'; The Situationist Internationale; John Cage, probably the most important American composer of the 20th Century; Paul Virilio, preminent French critical theorist; The punk rock movement; Abbie Hoffman and the Yippies; Sal Restivo, probably the most important sociologist of mathematics and editor of Science, Technology, and Society; and Encyclopedia (and expert weight lifter); Cleveland Food Not Bombs, serving free food to the hungry downtown every week, no religious strings attached; Critical Mass, promoting bicycling as a sustainable alternative to driving; The early American Indian Movement; Jesus Christ, perhaps? And the list goes on...and yes, there are many valid criticisms to be made of anarchism and other theories of grassroots action...why not help make them better, or synthesize them with something else, or best of all devise your own grassroots praxis?

In terms of Mr. Callentine's curriculum, I very much appreciate his "Science 205: Fluid Theory as Relates to the Dynamics of Mobs." I've thought about this one quite a bit myself, and the beautiful people I know demand more than fluid dynamics. No, the people I know are charged particles, so this is a plasma. I'm talking complex motions, not just the electrons, but the ions. We're playing on intersecting fields, so there must be electric and magnetic fields. Yes, I'm talking about magnetohydrodynamics and Alfvén waves. And don't forget thermal and radiative effects. Sorry to disappoint, but this movement is not about the motion of water through boring pipelines, it is not about the motion of people through bureaucratic processes and obsolete party politics. This movement is nothing else but the luminous material of a galactic jet.

That all being said, thank you Mr. Callentine for your excellent practical suggestions/Cases in Points. I hope I haven't insulted you, of course it's all in good fun!

Peace and Love, Alex

'Junk Mail' continued from last page...

And if the last steps were hard to understand, just get a load of numbers 9-11. Does Mr. Kucinich understand the definition of the word "sovereignty"?

To paraphrase, the plan can be summed up into three major sections:

A. Replace our force with someone else's.

B. Give them complete sovereignty, yet retain responsibility for reconstruction, jobs, and their overall economy.

C. Find a way to reconcile our differences. In other words, "can't we all just get along?"

Okay, maybe I gave it a little less

than a fair shake, but, come on: if nothing else, let's just explore his definition of the word "immediate." By my calculations, steps 1-3 could take months, step 5 could take more than a year, and step 12 even longer than either of those two.

My advice is to deep six the 12-step plan and focus on the evils of "hot" gas. If you don't trust my analysis and would like to keep an eye on this and all of the other proposals of your representatives yourself, I highly recommend visiting the Library of Congress website at www.thomas.gov.

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Minding The Issues

The Lakewood Youth Commission: Prospects and Pitfalls

by Gordon Brumm, Nadhal Eadeh,
Robert Overman & Dan Slife

Some important organizational engineering is on the near horizon for Lakewood. At issue is whether Lakewood will evoke and harness the ideas and experiences of its citizens or whether it will be content with the bureaucratic complacency and narrow-mindedness that smothers innovation and improvement.

Last January the Youth Master Plan process began, under the auspices of the city's Division of Human Services (headed by Dottie Buckon) and supervised by the Center for Community Solutions. The basic purpose was to involve interested members of the public in formulating an overall plan under which all of Lakewood's youth and families would "belong and thrive." The process involved four Community Action Teams (Education, Families, Health and Safety, and Recreation), with each meeting about ten times, out of which a final Plan would emerge. (We participated in the Education team.)

In the eyes of the Education team at least (and education seems to be the most important of the four subject-areas), the process imposed on these meetings was somewhere between trivial and useless, as reported in previous Observers. Nor was it user friendly; many participants defected.

But there were good results: The participants who remained got to know and respect one another. We identified certain subjects and directions of major concern, such as poverty and student diversity. (This is not to say that we defined everything that might profitably be pursued. There are undoubtedly other areas to be explored and many projects that would benefit the city even though they don't address any identifiable problem.)

And finally, we came to realize the kind of organization we need, namely, working groups, with each such group

working on its own in its own specific subject-area, gaining understanding of the subject in a cumulative fashion and finally formulating a plan of action, *which representatives from the city government and schools would work to implement.* (This process contrasts sharply with the process we had been going through during the YMP meetings. In that process, each Action Team had to deal with several subjects at each meeting, so we never had a chance to deal adequately with any of them. In addition, our discussions were squeezed into a rigid, time and concept-bound format that blocked fruitful exploration. As for implementation by representatives of the city or schools, that never appeared.) The Youth Commission.

The payoff of the process was to be a continuing organization, named the "Youth Commission." At this point we could have really used some help from the Center for Community Solutions in the form of advice on how to deal with the city bureaucracies. But this is where the Center said "Sayonara – best of luck, you're on your own now." And so we were. At the second-last meeting, on May 30, we were given a draft of the By Laws for the Commission, written by a representative of the Division of Human Services. At the last meeting, June 13, we were shown the By Laws again and – despite some sharp criticisms and suggestions for drastic changes – in their "revised" form, they were essentially the same as those first shown.

The By Laws left much to be desired, in our view. Among the major faults we found were these:

-- The purpose of the Commission was framed in terms of implementing the "Master Plan," yet no such Master Plan had emerged from our discussions.

-- There was no provision for input from the general public.

-- There was no provision for working groups addressing specific problems, as described above. (Instead, the By Laws provided for "Action Committees" whose function was unclear.)

-- There was no stipulation that institutional representatives would work to implement proposals for specific projects.

-- Only three of the 23 members of the Commission would be young people. (Judging from previous experience, such a small number of young people would probably feel swamped and lose interest. A better idea would be to have a separate committee of young people, but this did not appear in the By Laws.)

At the June 13 meeting, we were led to believe that the By Laws would be discussed and adopted at a meeting a week hence (Wednesday, June 20), and that all suggestions for criticisms would have to be submitted by the following Monday, June 18. We were appalled at the tight deadlines presented to us; they suggested an effort to squelch dissent and push the By Laws through in their original form. We thought of creating a separate organization,

However, Dottie Buckon subsequently informed us (after the June 20 meeting, which none of us attended), that the June 20 meeting was not final, and that the By Laws were open to discussion. What now? Organizational culture. And that is where we stand. Should we try to perfect the Youth Commission so that it can attain the goals of the YMP? Should we establish a separate organization, formal or informal, to supplement the Youth Commission?

Whatever organization there may

be, its success clearly rests on two essentials: 1) There must be working groups, each (as described) working in its own subject-area, at its own pace, until it arrives at an action plan. 2) There must be representatives of the relevant branches of city government and the school system who have the authority to work toward implementing these action plans and will indeed work to do so. (Is this possible? The past record leaves some doubt, but the very fact that the city undertook a new initiative betokens the possibility of a new outlook.)

These are the essentials if the original purpose of the Youth Master Plan – to harness the ideas and energies of the public in the service of innovation and improvement – is to be realized. Our concern with the By Laws has led us to focus on structure – the structure of the Youth Commission in particular. But considering the two essentials, we see that the crucial consideration is not structure; rather, it is organizational culture – the organizational culture of the city agencies and the school system.

We need to insure an organization culture in which ideas from the public are appreciatively entertained; in which new ideas are not dismissed by saying they are already being carried out when all the evidence is to the contrary; in which criticisms or proposals are treated as opportunities for improvement rather than as public-relations problems to be solved; in which the city government and the school system are ready and willing to cooperate with the members of the public in bringing new and valuable innovations into being.

If this is the atmosphere that guides the city's efforts, the possibilities for transforming innovations are endless; without it, we are in danger of slipping back into the weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable.



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Lakewood Arts

Can Dogs Teach You To Paint? Local Artist Offers Innovative Class

by Mike Deneen

Lakewood is an eclectic town of many tastes. However, two things most widely loved by Lakewoodites are art and pets. One Lakewood artist is offering a new class that brings together these passions in an interesting way. In her class, your pooch helps to bring out your inner Picasso.

Anne Hayes, a local Lakewood artist, was recently inspired to start a "Paint Your Own Pet" class. "I am one of those dog people," Hayes says. "My dog, Seamus, is my baby." She got the idea when she began taking Seamus to doggie day care. "I quickly realized there are quite a few of us 'dog people' out there. So naturally, my passions for painting and dogs were bound to merge at some point," she added.

The class is designed completely for amateurs. All students need are a photo of their beloved and a desire to paint. From that photo Anne creates an outline on a 16x20 canvas. Encouragement and enthusiasm are generously applied, and students create their own masterpieces. Class cost is \$65 and includes all materials, instruction, and a few snacks.

Most students choose to paint their dog, but there are exceptions. Some have painted cats, and one painted a guinea pig. There was even one student that painted their pet rabbit. Anne encourages students to bring new pets. "I would love for someone to paint a horse one of these days," she says.

Many students discover that they have more artistic talent than they originally believed. Some have taken the class three or four times, once for each of their pets. "Painting is relaxing," says Hayes. "You have to forget about all your daily worries and troubles. You use a different part of your brain. Your passion for your pet becomes the catalyst. People are able to dig in to that creativity that they didn't know they have."

Students have also had a great deal of fun in the class. "I can honestly say that I have a 100% success rate in the fun department," Hayes declares. "I get hugs and heartfelt thank you e-mails after class. It's very gratifying."

Anne Hayes is a native Lakewoodite that graduated from Lakewood

High School in 1985. Her strongest influence in school was Phyllis Fannin, her art teacher at LHS. Hayes credits Fannin with teaching and motivating a number of talented artists, including Kristen Cliffler, Liz Maugans, and Ingrid Hoegner.

Hayes held her first class at Metrobark, her doggie daycare. It was a success, and now classes are held at The Grateful Dog Bakery in North Ridgeville and Local Girl Gallery in Lakewood. Her next classes are scheduled for Metrobark on August 12 and Grateful Dog Bakery on August 26. For a complete list of classes and information on how to enroll, visit www.paintyourownpet.com.



Linda Goik (background) and Maggie Pizzo (child) at a class at Local Girl Gallery

Celebrate Birdtown On The National Register

by Mazie Adams

One of Lakewood's most interesting neighborhoods, Birdtown, is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The city administration is to be commended for nominating this wonderful neighborhood and submitting a successful application.

Created by the National Carbon Company to house its workers, the Birdtown neighborhood originally attracted immigrants from Eastern Europe. These immigrants brought their traditions, food, architecture and sense of community with them to Lakewood.

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. As a part of the National Register, a district or property is given: recognition as a historic site, eligibility of property owners for federal tax benefits and consideration in planning for federal and federally-assisted projects. Birdtown residents can take great pride in their neighborhood's history.

The Historical Society will celebrate this important achievement at its Vintages for Vintage Homes Wine Tasting on Thursday, July 26. Special guests will include Mayor George, Assistant Planner Meredith Karger (author of the application), other members of the city administration and three Birdtown

residents who were instrumental in this project: Helen Pohorence, Rose Slavik and Marge Stopiak. The event will also feature a Birdtown documentary created by second and third grade students from Grant Elementary School. The students and their teacher will be on hand to share their knowledge of Birdtown.

Vintages for Vintage Homes is the kick-off event for the Lakewood Pres-

ervation Fund. The Fund enables the Society to react to specific, local preservation issues, such as saving the Mathew Hall house from demolition. Proceeds from the wine tasting and other contributions will be applied to the \$30,000 cost of moving the Hall house to a safe location.

Join us at this preservation event on Thursday, July 26, from 6-9 p.m. RSVP to 216-221-7343 or lakewoodhistory@bge.net.

Lakewood Arts Festival Awards Scholarships

by Helen Oshaben

The Lakewood Arts Festival prides itself in supporting young artists. Each year, at least one student residing in Lakewood is awarded a scholarship toward a college degree in an art-related field. Since 1981, more than 75 students have received the honor.

This year, the Festival's \$4,000 scholarship was presented to Lakewood High School graduate Katie Michalko. "Art has always been my greatest passion," Katie says. She will begin studies at Loyola University, Chicago in the fall. Katie selected Loyola because of its variety of museums, studios and galleries. She also sees the importance of a well-rounded education in order to have flexibility to pursue her passion. In the future, Katie hopes to incorporate art into a life-long career.

The Festival also presented a \$500

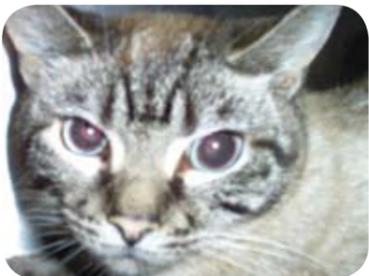
scholarship to Crystal Gray of Lakewood High School. Crystal has a natural drive to create, referring to herself as "a very visual person." In the fall, Crystal will begin studies at the Cleveland Institute of Art. She hopes to pursue a career in commercial interior design.

Samples of the scholarship winners' artwork are on display through August 4. Katie's work is on display at Landfall Travel, located at 14724 Detroit Ave. and Crystal's work can be seen at Geiger's Clothing & Sports, located at 14710 Detroit Ave. Special thanks to Landfall and Geiger's for their participation.

We welcome your donations to the Lakewood Arts Festival scholarship fund. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to Lakewood Arts Festival, PO Box 771288, Lakewood, Ohio 44107. Thank you for your support!

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Real Estate

Living And Playing In Lakewood

by Andy Tabor

I think by now we've all heard the statistics that Lakewood is the most densely populated City between Chicago and New York City... we know we have lots of houses within our 6.7 or so square miles. But here's some other trivia—did you know how much dedicated “greenspace” we have within these same borders?

The answer is a surprising 75 acres! Where is all that space you might ask? Tucked in and around most of our neighborhoods!. Lakewood has a total of 15 dedicated parks inside of its borders- not bad for a city this size.

The largest of these is of course Lakewood Park, which pretty much everyone is familiar with. You've probably gone there for an activity ranging from swimming lessons, a Sunday concert, a volleyball game, or a run along the new

pathway. You may have also visited Madison Park to go to the pool or for soccer practice. And chances are you've been to Kauffman Park as well, behind the Drug Mart shopping plaza, for an evening softball game or to Lakewood Little Links our own “putt-putt” golf course.

But I wonder how many of us could name the other 12 parks within our City limits?

The five characterized as “Neighborhood Parks” (up to 3 acres) are Webb, Edwards, Wagar, Merl and Cove. The remaining “Pocket Parks” (less than 1 acre) are Park Row, Celeste, Niagara, Sloane, Sinagra, Isaac Warren, and Clifton Prado.

Take an evening this summer and check out one of these that you might not have visited lately. You'll get another glimpse of why Lakewood's neighborhoods make it such a great place to live.

Realty Reality: Questions From Our Readers

by Maggie Fraley

Some of our older homes in Lakewood have materials found in them that at one time were commonly used and were considered safe, but are now thought to be potentially harmful. For example, homeowners and potential buyers often wonder:

Q: If the ducts in the basement are wrapped with asbestos, should I have the asbestos removed?

A: If you do an internet search on asbestos, or talk to an inspector or other expert, you'll find that asbestos is considered harmless as long as it is not airborne. Problems arise when very small airborne particles are inhaled deep into the lungs. Thus,

if you think asbestos may be in your home, you needn't panic. Usually the best mode of action is to leave asbestos material alone, so long as it is in good condition, as material in good condition generally will not release asbestos fiber particles. Even if particles have already been released, they usually do not become airborne unless they are disturbed. If the material is no longer in good condition, a professional can remove the asbestos or it can be covered with an impermeable surface that prohibits the particles from becoming airborne. Of course, as in any situation that is a potential safety concern, any specific questions involving asbestos in the home would be best addressed by consulting a professional.

HUMOR:

Realtor sign--We have “lots” to be thankful for.

Lakewood Real Estate Information

(According to Multiple Listing Service)

by Kathy Lewis

June	2006	2007
Residential Closed	62	48
Residential Pending (Under Contract)	51	34
Multi-family Closed	15	3
Multi-family Pending (Under Contract)	18	7

Interesting Real Estate Information:

Lakewood Condominiums Currently for Sale in the Multiple Listing: 141

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Call Kathy Lewis, 216-226-4673, ext. 2060



1428 W. Clifton Blvd.
\$260,000 - \$279,876

Stunning Expanded Center Hall Colonial in prime western Lakewood location. Totally renovated with oak flooring, crown moldings, & chair rails. Mantel with marble surround, Beveled & leaded glass entry with marble floor foyer. 2 story addition with family room & game room. See photos at 1428wclifton.lucienrealty.com
Andy Tabor 216.235.5352



16927 Clifton Rd.
\$219,500

Brick Colonial with 5 bdrms, natural woodwork, french doors to fam.rm, formal din. rm, eat-in kitchen, sun room, deep and fully fenced backyard. Excellent Value!
www.16927clifton.lucienrealty.com
Marjorie Corrigan, 216-226-4673



13822 Clifton
\$210,000 - \$229,876

“Possible Lease Option!” This 5 bedroom colonial has been reduced to move! Gleaming hardwood floors, newer furnace & central air, updated kitchen, 1st floor family room & large deck make it perfect for any family. See photos at 13822clifton.lucienrealty.com
Andy Tabor 216.235.5352 www.andytabor.com.



1487 Grace Ave.
\$189,900

REDUCED! Picturesque Victorian with a beautiful streetscape. Inviting décor with character filled century features throughout. Inside and out you'll be charmed by this lovely home and friendly neighborhood.
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2227 Bunts Rd
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4 bedroom Colonial with first floor Master Suite & Bath, 1st floor family room.
2227bunts.lucienrealty.com for more information.
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1307 Hathaway
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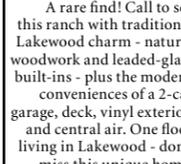
1263 Brockley
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For more details visit 1263Brockley.lucienrealty.com.
Maria Lucien 440-668-5328



1239 Gladys Ave.
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Kathy Lewis 216-226-4673 ext.2060



2178 Chesterland
\$104,900

A rare find! Call to see this ranch with traditional Lakewood charm - natural woodwork and leaded-glass built-ins - plus the modern conveniences of a 2-car garage, deck, vinyl exterior, and central air. One floor living in Lakewood - don't miss this unique home.
Val Mechenbier 216-226-4673 x2023 www.valsinfo.com



13316 Hazelwood
\$99,000

Possible Lease Purchase! Priced to move, this 3 bedroom colonial w/ newer furnace, hwtank, windows & electrical can be purchased for less than most rent payments. For full details, go to: 13316hazelwood.lucienrealty.com For more listings see www.andytabor.com.
Andy Tabor 216.235.5352



2191 Eldred
\$91,900

Great Opportunity! Fantastic price and nice layout! Deep backyard, two car garage, New bath'04. Western Lakewood location.
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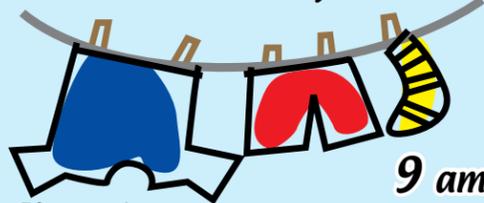
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