

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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

Volume 3, Issue 24, November 27, 2007

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## Light Up Lakewood And Holiday Hop

# Kick Off Lakewood's Holiday Season

by Jenni Baker & Jennifer Raynor

*Presented by Main Street Lakewood and LakewoodAlive*

Dear Lakewood Residents and Friends:

We hope you and your family and friends will come out to ring in the holiday season at Light Up Lakewood on Friday, November 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. You will be treated to a spectacular community holiday lighting ceremony and celebration. Downtown Lakewood—Detroit Ave. from Marlowe to Arthur—will become an old-fashioned main street featuring a sparkling tree lighting ceremony, a visit from Santa Claus & Friends, entertainment at multiple venues, refreshments, and good cheer.

Here are some tips, suggestions and schedules that will help you to make the most of this wonderful evening for you and your family:

Remember to bring a non-perishable food item for the Lakewood Christian Service Center for Lakewood families in need. The Lakewood Earth and Food (LEAF) Community will coordinate the collection and delivery of the food items that evening.

Bring your camera! Santa & Friends will be at the Lakewood Public Library for photo opportunities and visits with children! The library will also have special holiday activities and story hour throughout the evening.

Put on "walking shoes" and bring a wagon (or sled?) for the kids! Detroit Ave. from Marlowe to Arthur will be closed for the evening to allow extra space for wonderful holiday entertainment, refreshments, and strolling carolers. Main Street merchants will stay open for holiday shopping, hot drinks, or a bite to eat!

Let the kids be creative! Lakewood's H2O group will be offering an opportunity for the little ones to shop for mom and dad, grandparents or siblings. A special holiday shop will be open inside Geiger's during Light Up Lakewood and offer small handmade gift items. The YMCA Adventure Guides will help children create a snowflake craft that will then be used to decorate the YMCA for the holidays. The library will also have a special children's craft and a story hour throughout the evening.

Plan ahead for parking! A downtown Lakewood parking map can be found on [www.lightuplakewood.com](http://www.lightuplakewood.com).

You can also ride Lolly the Trolley to Light Up Lakewood -- park at the Rockport Square firehouse at 1422 Hopkins Ave. and catch Lolly the Trolley to Marlowe Avenue (and back!) from 5:30 - 8:30 pm, courtesy of Rockport Square.

Make your holiday shopping lists early! You can purchase a Lakewood Gift Certificate, "Certifichcks," for special teachers, babysitters, friends and family! Certificates will be on sale at the library and are good at participating Lakewood retailers. For more information about the "Certifichcks" program, visit [www.lakewoodalive.com](http://www.lakewoodalive.com).

We'd like to thank several community organizations for coordinating and/or donating refreshments or services for the evening, including Kiwanis Club of Lakewood, Curry Printing, Winking Lizard, Aladdin's Eatery, Dough Boys, Burger King, Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops of Lakewood, and the YMCA Adventure Guides.

We'd also like to thank our very generous sponsors for their financial support of Light Up Lakewood: Shining Star Sponsor Lakewood Hospital, City



Lakewood Holiday Lighting Festival At Lakewood Hospital from a 'Christmas Past.'

of Lakewood, Discount Drug Mart, First Energy, First Federal Lakewood, Giant Eagle, Hinkley Lighting, The Coral Company, Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, Lakewood Observer, and Rockport Square.

Finally, a special thanks to the Light Up Lakewood volunteer committee. It is through their love of Lakewood,

creative ideas, and hard work that this evening will be enjoyed by all!

We look forward to seeing you on Friday, Nov. 30th - be sure to keep checking [www.lightuplakewood.com](http://www.lightuplakewood.com) for more event updates!

Happy Holidays!

Jenni Baker & Jennifer Raynor  
Light Up Lakewood Co-Chairs

## Gala To Benefit Cardiovascular Programs At Cleveland Clinic Hospitals: Straight From The Heart Gala This February

Would you like to win \$100,000 or one of 39 other incredible prizes offered through the fourth annual Straight from the Heart Raffle to benefit the cardiovascular programs at Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals.

Sponsored by the Lakewood Hos-

pital Foundation and the Community West Foundation, the Straight from the Heart Raffle will culminate with a drawing of the 40 prizewinners on Saturday, February 16, 2008, at the Straight from the Heart Red-Tie Gala. All entries received by December 14,

2007, are also eligible for a \$2,500 Early Bird Drawing.

Raffle tickets are available at [fairviewhospital.org](http://fairviewhospital.org), [lakewoodhospital.org](http://lakewoodhospital.org), or [lutheranhospital.org](http://lutheranhospital.org), or by calling toll-free at 1-866-542-3627. Good luck!



Eva Weissman and Jan Buis of Netherland Bulb Company. You can still order Dutch Amaryllis bulbs. Call Eva Weissman, Campaign Chairperson, Huntington's Disease Society of America Northeast Ohio Chapter at (216) 226-6633.

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## Events & Notices

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

### Letter To The Editor:

## A Huge Thanks To The City And The Dept. Of Forestry

As a proud citizen of Lakewood, I would like to thank everyone involved in the huge effort in keeping Lakewood a beautiful city. Nine years ago my wife and I decided to make Lakewood our home. We rented here for some time before planting roots. We bought an amazing house on Granger that we fell in love with for its great bones and beautiful yard with a gorgeous tree on the tree lawn that added richness to the overall appearance.

Last year the tree was stricken and it was taken down. My wife was crushed; she really loves her plants. I called the Department of Forestry and a caring, amazing lady who was as

truly concerned as we were put us on a list to receive a new tree. Shortly after my call the city was there to grind up the stump and replant the grass. They were so professional.

To my surprise one day at work my wife called me to say "We have a tree, we have a tree!". It was if we had another child. We would look out the window at times to admire it; it was so pretty. It might seem corny, but we're now the proud parents of a beautiful young life, a gift of nature

Thank you for your understanding and your concern. It's obvious that this city really is for the people.

*Paul Burns*



## Adopt-A-Spot Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

by Gail Higgins

The Keep Lakewood Beautiful organization hosted an appreciation breakfast for more than fifty volunteer gardeners who have given unselfishly of their time and talents throughout the summer of 2007. Several of our wonderful volunteers have maintained their colorful public spots since the beginning of the program in 1993.

Many gardeners provide their own plant materials; however, the city gladly purchases and delivers healthy flats of annuals to any of the city owned gardens. Some of the chores associated with the Adopt-a-Spots are preparing the flower beds for planting, planting, weeding, watering, deadheading spent blooms, picking up litter in the area, sweeping and cleaning up the flower beds at the end of the growing season. The gardens come in all shapes and sizes. There are presently 54, an increase from 7 at the onset of the program.

Some comments made at the recent breakfast honoring the volunteers relayed the words of thanks they received from passersby as they tended to their gardens. The gardeners spoke of the gratification they've received from their accomplish-

ments. These floral masterpieces make Lakewood a prettier place to live and inspire homeowners and businesses to take more pride in their own properties. "Beauty begets beauty!"

If you would like to join the ranks of the Adopt-a-Spot volunteers, call Gail Higgins in the Keep Lakewood Beautiful office at 216-529-6170. Let's keep Lakewood blooming!

## Lakewood Meals On Wheels



by Donna Ballou

MEALS ON WHEELS Lakewood Meals on Wheels needs your help. Although there are many ways to help, first let me tell you about the program. Chef Jan LeBeau makes about 50 meals a day, five days a week, except on holidays. Meals On Wheels feeds people who cannot get out of their home for various reasons. For some of these people the volunteers are the only people they have contact with that day. Most of us working at Meals on Wheels are retirees, who donate a few hours a day. We are a nonprofit organization that works out of the Lakewood United Methodist church on the corner of Detroit Road and Summit Ave. A typical meal is milk, a sandwich, cookies, fruit for lunch; protien, vegetable, starch and dessert for dinner. We vary the entrees so people do not keep getting the same thing each week.

There are many ways you can help. Like every volunteer organization, we need money to keep our prices down; we charge \$5.50 a day. One way we keep prices down is through the efforts of local gardeners like Emil Girod,

who donates fresh vegetables from his Lakewood garden. If you can't do that but would like to donate, please send money to: Lakewood Meals on Wheels, in care of Betty Bassi at 3167 Lindey, Rock River, Ohio, 44116. Make check pay to Lakewood Meals on Wheels. We are also looking for drivers to deliver the meals, hoppers who ride along to take the food into the homes, and helpers with preparing the meals. If you can help in any way, please call Jan at 216-226-8644 or Ann Wright at 440-331-0798. If you or someone you know would like Meals on Wheels delivered to your Lakewood home, or for more information, please call at 216-226-8644. By helping others, we are helping ourselves. The most important people are the ones we help. Therefore, Lakewood Meals on Wheels helps all of us.

## A Request For Help From Your Postmaster

My name is Shirley Franklin. I am the Postmaster for the Lakewood Post Office. Over the past few years, the Lakewood Post Office has had a serious problem with injuries to our carriers while on their routes. Last year alone, seven carriers were absent from duty due to injuries incurred on the job. Carriers suffered everything from fractured bones to sprained ankles. Had some precautions been taken all of

these injuries could have been prevented. When we have several carriers absent from duty, it makes it very difficult to give prompt, accurate delivery services to our customers. The Post Office is asking for your help with this matter. Within the next couple of weeks you will be receiving a memo from our safety committee. The memo share information that will inform you on how to assist us with issue to ensure carrier safety and excellent service. We hope you can take the time to read this important memo.

With winter fast approaching, we need to take every precaution on a daily basis. Our goal is to keep every carrier safe this winter season and throughout the year. Please read the great suggestions the safety committee has offered. If you have any questions, and or suggestions, please feel free to call at 216-226-9691.

Sincerely,  
Shirley Franklin, Postmaster  
Safety Committee Memeber

## Lakewood Methodists Host Native American Spirit Feast

by Gary Rice

On Wednesday, November 14th, Lakewood United Methodist Church hosted a Native American Spirit Feast; sponsored by the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church, and by the American Indian Intertribal Association of Toledo.

This event, formerly held in Cleveland for many years, has now

moved to the Lakewood church, and was well attended.

A Spirit Feast celebrates the ancestors and the time of harvest. It also marks a rededication to Grandfather (as Diety is often referred to by Native Americans).

A Christmas time Native American Gathering is also scheduled at Lakewood United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 8th, from 12:30-4:00pm.

 **THE LAKWOOD OBSERVER**

Your Independent Source for  
Lakewood News & Opinion

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# Straight from the Heart

## Win Incredible Prizes!

# Grand Prize \$100,000

Winners to be drawn at the Straight from the Heart Gala on February 16, 2008 and need not be present to win.

All proceeds to benefit the cardiovascular programs at Fairview, Lakewood and Lutheran Hospitals.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 2nd Prize..... 24 month lease on 2007 Corvette arranged by Ganley Chevrolet*               | 13th Prize ... 7-day trip for two to Punta Cana (all inclusive)                  | 25th Prize ... \$2,000 Shopping Spree donated by Basista Furniture    |
| 3rd Prize .... 24 month lease on S-Jaguar arranged by Westside Automotive Group*           | 14th Prize ... Diamond Necklace and Earrings arranged by Rivchun Jewelers        | 26th Prize ... Weekend Getaway for two to New York City               |
| 4th Prize .... 24 month lease on LR2 Landrover arranged by Westside Automotive*            | 15th Prize ... 7-day cruise for two to Alaska                                    | 27th Prize ... \$1,500 Cash Prize                                     |
| 5th Prize ..... \$10,000 Cash Prize  | 16th Prize ... 7-day cruise for two to the Caribbean                             | 28th Prize ... \$1,500 Cash Prize                                     |
| 6th Prize .... Honda Personal Watercraft arranged by Honda of Avon*                        | 17th Prize ... 7-day trip for four to Walt Disney World                          | 29th Prize ... 3-night trip for two to Las Vegas                      |
| 7th Prize ..... \$10,000 Cash Prize  | 18th Prize ... Diamond and Sapphire Tennis Bracelet arranged by Rivchun Jewelers | 30th Prize ... \$1,500 Cash Prize                                     |
| 8th Prize .... Harley-Davidson Sportster Motorcycle arranged by Lake Erie Harley-Davidson* | 19th Prize ... \$2,500 Cash Prize  | 31st Prize ... \$1,500 Cash Prize                                     |
| 9th Prize ..... \$5,000 Cash Prize   | 20th Prize ... 7-day trip for two to California Wine Country                     | 32nd Prize .. Weekend Getaway for two to Chicago                      |
| 10th Prize ... 7-day trip for two to Hawaii  | 21st Prize ... Plasma HD TV arranged by Audio Craft                              | 33rd Prize ... \$1,000 Cash Prize                                     |
| 11th Prize ... \$5,000 Landscape Package donated by Monteleone Landscaping                 | 22nd Prize .. 3-night trip for two to Cancun                                     | 34th Prize ... \$1,000 Cash Prize                                     |
| 12th Prize ... 7-day trip for two to Atlantis Bahamas                                      | 23rd Prize ... \$2,000 Cash Prize  | 35th Prize ... \$1,000 Cash Prize                                     |
|  | 24th Prize ... \$2,000 Cash Prize  | 36th Prize ... \$1,000 Travel Voucher provided by Independence Travel |
|  |  | 37th Prize ... \$1,000 Cash Prize                                     |
|  |  | 38th Prize ... \$1,000 Cash Prize                                     |
|  |  | 39th Prize ... \$1,000 Cash Prize                                     |
|  |  | 40th Prize ... \$1,000 Cash Prize                                     |

### WIN \$2,500: Two Early Bird Raffle Winners

All raffle entry forms received by December 14, 2007 will go into an "early bird" raffle for two \$2,500 prizes. (Early bird winner will also be eligible for all prizes, including the \$100,000 Grand Prize.)

\*Cash options available for 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 at 75% of prize value.  
All trip arrangements sponsored by Independence Travel.

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**Ticket Raffle: For information, call 1.866.542.3627**

or visit [www.fairviewhospital.org](http://www.fairviewhospital.org), [www.lakewoodhospital.org](http://www.lakewoodhospital.org) or [www.lutheranhospital.org](http://www.lutheranhospital.org)

# Lakewood Public Library

## Yuk It Up With The Cleveland Comedy Kitchen

by Ben Burdick

About ten years ago, Rodney Bengston whipped up something very special in his kitchen. It reportedly smelled something like liver. "I'd get all my comedian friends together about once a month in the kitchen and we'd eat, laugh and help each other develop new material," recounts Bengston. Once they realized it was actually working, the friends decided to dub themselves the Cleveland Comedy Kitchen. The group continues to this day under its increasingly appropriate moniker, polishing off Bengston's food as they polish up their acts. "I get kind of annoyed when I don't get any new jokes out of it. Nothing's too funny about an empty fridge."

Since then, the Cleveland Comedy Kitchen has performed at venues throughout the Midwest. "We do library shows, comedy clubs, charities and corporate events," says John David Sidley, another founding Kitchen member. "We'll go wherever people want to laugh."

One Kitchen member has enjoyed performing library shows so much he has written a whole routine just for library crowds. "When I get my HBO special," Mike Scanlon quips, "it's going to be called 'Mike Scanlon: Overdue.'"

Besides stand-up and sketch com-

edy, the Cleveland Comedy Kitchen is branching out into other areas. Bengston is the "Comic Capers" columnist for the Sun News while Sidley has been busy winning national comedy writing awards. Next year, he will put his award-winning experience to work teaching the craft of stand-up comedy at Cuyahoga Community College's Western Campus. And in addition

to performing as a duo on the Sports Time Ohio show "Sports Mock: LIVE" the two have also begun performing as an old fashioned comedy team under the name, "Bengston & Sidley."

For veteran Kitchen comic Al Hohf, however, comedy is still all about the solo stand-up experience. "Performing helps me to tell audiences all about my problems. This way

I don't have to see a therapist."

Sample the Cleveland Comedy Kitchen for yourself on Sunday, December 2 at 2:00 p.m. in the new Lakewood Public Library Auditorium. To learn more call Rodney Bengston in his kitchen at (440) 243-1378. This program is sponsored by the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

### A Holiday Tradition...

## Christmas Sale On The Grounds

by Paula Reed

The annual Sale on the Grounds in May has been major Historical Society fundraiser for many years. In 2004, we received large donations of wonderful Christmas items from members who downsized, including 25 beautiful nativity sets. Beautiful as the items were, almost none of them sold. We decided that people just aren't in the mood to buy holiday merchandise in May, and thus was hatched the idea of another sale dedicated to all things festive, to be held in December.

This year marks the third annual Christmas Sale on the Grounds, which is now an established tradition of its own. Held in the historic Nicholson House decorated for the season, the sale provides the perfect opening to



your holiday shopping.

The sale features our Antiques Room where you can find a one-of-a-kind gift or sentimental collectible for the person who has everything. You'll also find quality vintage linens, glassware and silver, as well as antique ornaments (and even a vintage color wheel if you have a 1950's aluminum tree you need to light!). The other three rooms will be fully stocked with new and nearly-new gift items; tree trimmings, decorations, wrapping paper and anything you need for holiday entertaining. Baking cookies for the neighbors? Present them on one of the many lovely but inexpensive serving dishes or trays you'll find at Christmas Sale on the Grounds.

Know any bird enthusiasts or collectors of angels or music boxes? We received a huge donation of figurines that will delight that person on your shopping list. We also received a donation of old china from the Harding Home Ec room. Wouldn't it be fun to surprise the Harding alumni in your family with a cup & saucer from the set they used in middle school?

The prices and variety at the sale are fabulous. We are passionate about recycling and reusing and want all our items to go home with a happy shopper before the end of the weekend. Sunday will be half-price day in every room except the Antiques Room. But don't wait till Sunday to come—you don't want to miss the already bargain-priced wonderful things that will fly off the shelves on Saturday.

The best quote from last year's Christmas Sale on the Grounds: "I'm not buying a single thing next year until after I've shopped here!"

Shop Christmas Sale on the Grounds at the Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit, on Saturday, December 1, 10:00 – 3:00 and Sunday, December 2, noon – 3:00. We accept cash, checks, VISA, Mastercard and CertifiChecks, the Lakewood gift certificates. Parking is available across the street at St. Ed's.

All proceeds support the programs and projects of the Lakewood Historical Society. Questions? Call the Society at 216-221-7343.

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# Lakewood Public Library

## Middle School Students Spin Tales For Youngsters

by Tracie Drake

On Tuesday November 13th, six students in fifth and sixth grade entertained children and parents with a special "Under the Sea" story time at the Lakewood Public Library's Madison Branch. These six students were part of "Can YA Tell Stories?", an innovative new program created in conjunction with the library's participation in Case Western Reserve University's Treu-Mart Youth Development Fellowship. The Treu-Mart Fellowship and the "Can YA Tell Stories?" program emphasize resiliency and youth development in middle school students.

The special story time presentation was the culmination of five interactive workshops in which the students learned how to read to children. The workshops discussed all facets of conducting a story time including: book selection for toddlers and preschoolers, tips for being a great reader and strategies for handling disruptions during story time. The participants also decided on the theme for their story time, chose their books, finger-plays, songs, movements and visual stories and presented the story time to members of the Lakewood Early Childhood PTA and their children.

The six participants in the program, Jenny Byczek, Jessica Murphy, Carleigh Spence, Grace

Therber, Hannah Tyburski and Meghan Tyburski, were recognized for their accomplishment with a certificate of achievement and a Borders' gift card. Following the story time, everyone in attendance enjoyed a cookies and punch reception.

After construction of Main Library is complete, the Children and Youth Services Department plans to offer "Can YA Tell Stories?" during after school hours. The ultimate goal of the program is to have middle school students read to younger children after school at the library.



Jenny Byczek, Carleigh Spence, Grace Therber, Jessica Murphy, Hannah Tyburski and Meghan Tyburski "shake their sillies out" with children and parents at a special story time presentation.

## MISGIVINGS And The Slippery Slope Of Unethical Conduct

by Ben Burdick

On Thursday, December 6, a new local author will visit the Lakewood Public Library.

Bob Calsin, the celebrated CFO behind ideastream, WVIZ and WCPN will present **MISGIVINGS and the Slippery Slope of Unethical Conduct** at 7:00 p.m. in the New Main Library Auditorium.

This innovative lecture will weave readings from Calsin's debut novel, **MISGIVINGS**, into a larger discussion concerning the birth of ethical standards with practical examples (on a local and national scale) of how greed, power

and ego can impair vision and how we as individuals can act as catalysts in our society to take the high road.

In a world exposed to Enron, WorldCom, and the burst of the dot-com bubble, **MISGIVINGS** challenges reader's sensibilities, making each question his or her own principles through the eyes of a character trapped in a world of questionable decisions.

Ellen Tanner Marsh, a New York Times best-selling author, proclaims, "**MISGIVINGS** is an intriguing mix of *The Firm* and *Devil's Advocate*, with a little Wall Street thrown in for good measure. Calsin's rapier-edged commentary, evocative of Bret Easton Ellis,

is the driving strength of the book, while his intensive character development and attention to detail are a remarkably and refreshingly rare addition to contemporary fiction."

The author will have copies of his novel available for sale and signing at the event. The book is also available for checkout at the Library and for sale at Borders in the Promenade of Westlake. Future book signings include Liberty Books in Rocky River on December 8, Crooked River Book Club in the Galleria in downtown Cleveland on December 13, and the Borders Express in Tower City on December 14.

### LAKWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS CALENDAR

#### Sunday With the Friends

New Main Library Auditorium 2:00 p.m.

**December 2 Cleveland Comedy Kitchen** What's cooking in the kitchen? Treat yourself to a slab of stand-up comedy from up-and-coming performers eager to try out their latest material on a hungry audience. Don't forget to save room for Bengston & Sidley!

**December 16 Tracy Marie & Friends** With special mystery guests along for the ride, sweetheart singer-songwriter Tracy Marie serenades the new Library with her original rock, country and blues and a larger-than-life voice that must be heard and felt to be believed.

#### Lakewood Public Cinema

**The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)** Directed by Brian Henson G

We always knew that Michael Caine was a Muppet, but who knew he was such a fine actor? His heartbroken miser truly stands out from the crowded field of great Scrooge performances. And a Victorian world filled with singing Muppets neatly illustrates both Ebenezer's isolation and the open arms of holiday cheer. Saturday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the new Main Library Auditorium

**The Legend of Drunken Master (1994)** Directed by Chia-Liang Liu R

Is it possible that the greatest Kung Fu movie of all time is comedy? Yes, and it's a fact-loose historical drama as well. Don't bother looking for any wires on Jackie Chan as the legendary Wong-Fei-Hong. The young master must return to the forbidden art of drunken boxing to stop westerners from smuggling priceless artifacts out of China during the Ching Dynasty. Saturday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the new Main Library Auditorium

Lakewood Historical Society and the Lakewood Public Library Present:

**Streetcar: A Film by Jasper Woods (1955)** Two Showings!

Back by popular demand – a rare treat for film lovers and local history enthusiasts alike! Relive the last days of the streetcar in Cleveland with this lyrical, avant-garde film completed shortly after they were gone forever. Catch a glimpse of Cleveland in the 1950s and witness people from all walks of life rubbing shoulders in cramped cars as seen through the lens of acclaimed photographer Jasper Woods. Thursday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. in the new Main Library Auditorium

#### Friends of Lakewood Public Library Book Sale

Saturday December 8 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Omni 13000 Athens Avenue  
Family Weekend Wonders

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:

November 30, December 1 and 2 Stuffed Animal Parade

December 7, 8 and 9 What's Inside?

#### \*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

#### Homework ER: for students in kindergarten through eighth grade

**Tuesday, September 4, 2007 – Thursday, May 22, 2008** Need a little extra help with your homework or just want a cool place to work? We transform part of the library into the Homework ER with helpers and a cart full of resources. Homework ER will be closed for school holidays and vacations. No need to register.

**Monday-Thursday, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Madison Branch**

**Four O'clock Club: for students in kindergarten through eighth grade**

**Tuesday, September 4, 2007 – Friday, May 23, 2008** Join the Club! Come for a different activity each weekday. No need to register.

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Make-It-Take-It (craft day)
Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	Marvelous Mysteries (surprise day)
Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Twist, Shout, Act It Out
Thursday	4:00 p.m.	Games Galore (game to play or make)
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Make-It-Take-It (craft day)

# Lakewood Public Library

## The Gill Family Creates Clam Boy And Big Sister Kitty

by Kenneth Warren

From broken bottles to plastic bags, the litter of things across the urban landscape is cause for both irritation and engagement for Michael Gill, a Lakewood poet and senior editor for Cleveland Free Times. With his two children Eliot and Grace, Gill has conceived and constructed on hand-carved linoleum block an inspiring tale of text and images, **Clam Boy and Big Sister Kitty Liberate the Tree and the Sun and Moon and the Entire Landscape**, available for sale at Local Girl Gallery and the Lakewood Phoenix Coffee Shop, and for borrowing at Lakewood Public Library.

Gill's appealing and meticulously hand-crafted picture book reveals under the pressure of mass consumption a subtle emotional ecology born from his family's commitment to acts of imagination, pragmatic good neighbor litter pick-up and planetary restoration.

"This book was conceived in the intersection of several independent concerns. On the one hand it is simply a book for my children, and a response to a common, ugly scene – a blue plastic grocery bag snagged in a tree, a blot on an otherwise graceful landscape, and for me a symbol of consumer society," explains Gill, a graduate of Saint Ignatius High School, who moved to Lakewood in 1995.

The title - **Clam Boy and Big Sister Kitty Liberate the Tree and the Sun and Moon and the Entire Landscape** – suggests Gill's unmistakable intention to pack the book with personal meaning registered through an attentive and engaged fatherhood. While the back story hinges on Gill's love for his children and trust in the creative process, the front end of **Clam Boy and Big Sister Kitty Liberate the Tree and the Sun and Moon and the Entire Landscape** will prove to be a relevant and lasting inspiration to children and families at large.

The genesis of Clam Boy is itself testament to the creative and disciplinary matrix that a father and son can inhabit together.

"Our son Eliot was probably six when he conceived Clam Boy. He was in a super hero phase, taking in the likes of Batman, and he had been to annual family clam bakes, after which he enjoyed playing with hinged shells. His version of the character Clam Boy is more muscular and super-hero-like than this one, a little more like Spider Man, and he has powers that are not evident in this first installment of what I plan to be a series of stories in which the two characters aim to confront and, little by little, rectify some of the common results of carelessness and neglect in cities," notes Gill.

As an attentive father and accomplished poet with three published chapbooks, including **The Atheist at Prayer** (1990), **388 Lines for My Imaginary Goddess** (1994), and **The Solution**



**to the Crisis is Revolution: Graffiti of Ecuador** (1994), Gill knows each child must find a way into the moral of the story and that he must yield and measure their place in a creative and social process aimed at raising ecological consciousness within both his family and the world.

Watchful over the family's sibling dynamics, he credits Grace for Big Sister Kitty.

"Our daughter Grace invented Big Sister Kitty when she was four years old. Grace is a little sister, and that is a significant factor in her life right now. She is not a major fan of superheroes, but she likes to play with Eliot when he is nice to her, and she follows his example in many ways. Through it all though, no matter how well they are getting along I think she wishes she

weren't the little sister. This, combined with the fact that we have two affectionate cats, is how she invented Big Sister Kitty."

"What my children have taken from it is the simple message that litter is ugly, and picking it up for proper disposal is a good thing to do. It has been a pleasure for me to take the characters they created and give them back with a message about the world. Eliot and Grace and I walk to McKinley Elementary most days, where he is in the 2nd grade, and she is in Kindergarten. We pick up bits of litter as we go, and I hope they understand that even these tiny acts can make Lakewood and the world a better place," says Gill.

Four hours of hands-on work go into each copy of **Clam Boy and Big Sister Kitty Liberate the Tree and the**

**Sun and Moon and the Entire Landscape**. As Gill explains the process, "The printing plates are hand-carved linoleum block. Text and images are transferred onto the linoleum in reverse, then carved with chisel-like tools. Different colors require different printing plates that have to be meticulously matched in order to have color line up in its proper space. There are ten printing plates required for each copy of this book. Each plate is inked one at a time with a rolling pin-like tool called a brayer. A single sheet of paper is laid upon the block then, and cranked by hand through the steel roller of a large press. Once printed with all their colors on both sides, the sheets are cut into pages, hand-stitched into a cloth-reinforced signature, and then bound to a cover of matt board sheathed in cotton broad cloth."

For Gill production values that scale from handcraft and entirely natural materials go against the grain of the ubiquitous plastic grocery bags that "simply end up in landfills at best, or waterlogged, their loop handles to become a hazard for ducks, or the end up riding the wind until they snag somewhere."

In contemplating the disposable values of modern times, the hands-on world of medieval craft and guilds evokes from Gill a complex response.

"Also at play on an entirely different level in this book is the hand-made manner of production. It is a rejection of the impersonal, mass-produced, digital world (not that I don't depend on it as much as anyone), an embrace of the tactile rewards of medieval technology," says Gill.

Gill recognizes that "all this is exceedingly labor-intensive and conceptually weighty for what is in the end a children's book."

At once Gill manages to amplify and simplify complex levels of craft, image, planet, relationship and text in **Clam Boy and Big Sister Kitty Liberate the Tree and the Sun and Moon and the Entire Landscape**. With uncommon gifts, he compels trust that his labor of love will shimmer for children with authenticity, moral force and restorative powers. ative powers.

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**Santa's Favorites**  
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**216-228-2966**

## Lakewood Cares

# Lakewood Christian Service Center Offers Help, Hope And Humanity

by Heather Holdsworth  
Burkons-Brandt Insurance  
Agency Inc

25 years ago in the basement of Faith Presbyterian Church, one part-time staff person and 30 volunteers from surrounding churches came together with a mission to help others. Today the Lakewood Christian Service Center located at 1412 Marlowe Ave. continues to be a place where people make a difference in the lives of those in need. **Through neighbors helping neighbors**, LCSC serves primarily the Lakewood community by providing basic need assistance and personalized resource and referral services, thereby empowering each individual to move toward greater self sufficiency.

During its first year, LCSC served 1,915 clients. As the end of 2007 approaches, an estimated 12,000 clients have received assistance. There are many stories of hope and success that are a direct result of the work at LCSC. The following accounts are a testament to humanity and represent a sample of the thousands helped by the center.

Susan is a woman who lived at the Edna House, a place where drug and alcohol dependent women receive treatment and transition assistance. Susan's daughter Amanda had been placed in foster care. In order for Amanda to be permitted to live with Susan, she was required to provide a complete bedroom. This entailed buying a bed, dresser, linens, comforter and other necessities. LCSC obtained funding from a grant awarded by the

Ratner Foundation to help provide Susan with the money to purchase what she needed. Through the jobs program she was matched with a job, and her daughter enrolled in school. The center also helped Amanda get into programs at the Beck Center and YMCA, in addition to an after school program.

John's story is one of great hope as well. John is Mentally Retarded Developmentally Delayed (MRDD). He lived with his mother and was dependent upon her. When she was moved to a nursing home, John was unable to pay his rent and was in danger of being evicted. LCSC intervened and when a meeting between the landlord and a MRDD worker took place, the center was able to negotiate on John's behalf. He was given the funds to pay catch up and pay his rent. The center also helped to place him in a job at McDonald's and he is frequently given bus passes.

Jenny fled from her domestic violence situation in Florida with her three children and the clothes on their backs. She chose Cleveland because she had a brother in town, but soon realized her situation here was becoming increasingly violent. Jenny turned to Lakewood Christian Service Center and was given help with housing. She was provided

with beds through another local agency, was referred for dental care and was given Section 8 vouchers. Given her situation, she received counseling for her children and herself to cope with the domestic violence issues.

The Brenners, a family of six (including an infant), had been living together, but were forced to split up at their next temporary facility because it was designated for women and children only. After coming to the center, they were provided with housing and some furniture. The father was able to obtain work and the mother is completing a computer training class. The family has regained its stability thanks to the caring people at LCSC.

Unfortunately, there are many similar situations all around us. The good news is that there is help. LCSC does not simply put a Band-Aid over a wound; rather, it provides a comprehensive plan that strives to get individuals and families to achieve self sufficiency. The center maintains a follow up for two years with clients to ensure that they have achieved this goal.

If you are interested in learning more about the Lakewood Christian Service Center, please visit our web site at [www.lkwldpl.org/lcsc](http://www.lkwldpl.org/lcsc) or call 216-226-6466.



## Dedication of Lakewood Presbyterian Church Building

by William Limkemann

Lakewood Presbyterian Church will dedicate the new L. Wilson Kilgore Ministry Center at its 10:30 worship service on Sunday December 2, 2007. The new sixteen thousand square foot building replaces an older structure and will house Christian education, meeting, music, and administrative functions. The three million dollar project reflects the confidence that the growing Lakewood Presbyterian Church congregation has for the future ministry of the church.

The new building is named in honor of the Rev. Dr. L. Wilson Kilgore, senior pastor from 1953-1964. Dr. Kilgore will return to Lakewood from his home in Arizona to deliver the sermon at the dedication service.

The church engaged the Cleveland architectural firm AoDK, with the objectives of ensuring a new church facility that is welcoming, attractive, energy efficient, accessible, and has flexibility in programming. AoDK's creative experience both in church

design and in renovation of older buildings resulted in a functional and attractive structure. Their work on the Lakewood Presbyterian Church recently won the "Best Large Building Design" award from the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. The Simmons Brothers Construction Company of Medina was the general contractor. In addition to the new structure, the entire Lakewood Presbyterian Church facility has been renovated and updated.

Founded in 1905, Lakewood Presbyterian Church has a strong history of vibrant worship and music, religious education, and service. Rev. James Butler, current pastor of the church, says about the new facility, "The beautiful new Kilgore Center and the entire facility renovation is already attracting new people to the church. I am convinced it will enable our mission and ministry to flourish for a second century of service."

*Lakewood Presbyterian Church is located at 14502 Detroit Avenue, at Marlowe, in the heart of Lakewood. For further information about the dedication service, call the church office at 216-226-0514.*

### COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

#### Annual Christmas Music Festival

Sunday, December 9, 2007 7:00p.m.



Featuring:

**Chancel Choir  
Bell Choir**

**Soloist - Ms. Ivra Jackson  
Guitarist - Clarence Chavers  
Clarinetist - Teresa Christopher  
Duet - Lauri and Eric Beach**

**Special Bell Choir skit -  
"Mary, Joseph and the Baby"  
Mark Christopher as the donkey  
Gwen Seaman as the mother lamb**

**There will be individual performances  
as well as combined pieces.  
We will have congregational singing of familiar  
carols and other Christmas songs.  
We wish you to join us in participating in  
the Advent season with a joyful song!**

**12501 Lake Avenue Lakewood, OH 216-521-7424**

# Light Up Lakewood

## Lakewood Shops Main Street 3 Days, 24 Businesses, \$450 Prizes

by Mary Anne Crampton

Main Street Lakewood, in collaboration with Lakewood Hospital, welcomes all residents and guests to kick off the holiday season by shopping the old-fashioned way. Stroll down Main Street (our Detroit avenue, in this case), meeting neighbors and friends and enjoying special store decorations and promotions. Visit 24 merchants any time on Friday, November 30th, Saturday, December 1 or Sunday, December 2 and be automatically registered to win merchant prizes totaling over \$450.

This is a "rain or shine" event. Main Street Lakewood visitors may enter the event at any of the participating merchants along Detroit Avenue between Marlowe and Arthur Avenues. Look for special promotions and decorations all along Main Street. Registration forms are available from any of the participating merchants or can be downloaded from [lightuplakewood.com](http://lightuplakewood.com)

Participants who check in with all 24 of the participating stores and leave their completed forms at the Lakewood Library will be entered into the raffle

drawing. No purchase required. Drawing will be held Tuesday, December 4th. Winner need not be present.

**Participating Merchants:**

- Phoenix Coffee**  
15108 Detroit
- Lion & Blue**  
15106 Detroit
- The Exchange**  
15100 Detroit
- Cerny Shoes**  
15002 Detroit
- Rozi's Wine & Liquor House**  
14900 Detroit
- Lakewood Cleat's**  
14810 Detroit
- Melt Bar & Grilled**  
14718 Detroit
- Geiger's Clothing & Sports**  
14710 Detroit
- Pacer's**  
14600 Detroit
- Aladdin's**  
14524 Detroit
- Cosmic Collectibles**  
14532 Detroit
- Blue Onion Catering & Take-Out**  
14404 Detroit
- Plantation Home**  
14401 Detroit

- Déjà Vu**  
14411 Detroit
- T.J.'s Butcher Block & Deli**  
14415 Detroit
- Beran's Studio**  
14417 Detroit
- Einstein Bagels**  
14615 Detroit
- The Souper Market**  
14809 Detroit
- Dave's Cosmic Subs**  
14811 Detroit
- Chipotle Mexican Grill**  
14881 Detroit

- Game Stop**  
Marc's Plaza
- Ink Stop**  
Marc's Plaza
- Caribou Coffee**  
15105 Detroit
- Dramatics Hair Design**  
15211 Detroit
- CVS/pharmacy**  
15311 Detroit

Explore some new businesses, and say hello to old friends, all while enjoying the experience of wonderful, walkable, downtown Lakewood.

## Ride Lolly The Trolley To Light Up Lakewood!

by Mary Anne Crampton

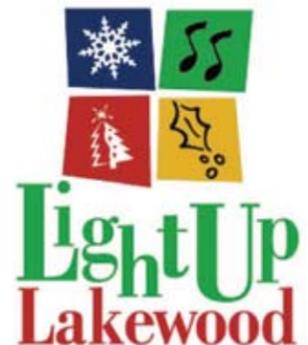
Brighten up your weekend and start the holiday season with a bang! Join in the overflowing holiday cheer at Light Up Lakewood, our city's own old-fashioned community lighting ceremony and celebration. The festivities will run from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Friday, November 30th in downtown Lakewood.

Make getting there part of the fun with Lolly the Trolley. Thanks to Rockport Square, Lolly the Trolley will be offering free shuttle service from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Just hop on the trolley at the Rockport Square fire station, 1422 Hopkins Avenue, and Lolly will drop you off at the festivities in the heart of downtown. The return trip is just as fun! Those who prefer to drive will find plenty of free parking at the Board of Education on Warren Road, Grant Elementary on Elmwood Avenue, behind the INA Bldg. off St. Charles Avenue,

the municipal lots between Gladys and St. Charles avenues and behind the Drug Mart plaza. Also, USA Parking is offering free parking at its St. Charles garage, north of Detroit and its metered lot on St. Charles, south of Detroit.

With such convenient parking options, there's no reason to miss this event. Light Up Lakewood is sure to become a local tradition.

For a schedule of entertainment and more information, visit [www.lightuplakewood.com](http://www.lightuplakewood.com)



Support Lakewood businesses by buying and giving Lakewood CertifiCheck gift certificates this holiday season! Brought to the community by Main Street Lakewood and LakewoodAlive, these Lakewood gift certificates are redeemable at full face value at over 150 registered Lakewood businesses. A list of participating businesses can be found in the special Light Up Lakewood pull-out section of today's paper.

**Buy local! Spend it here • Keep it here**



### ORDER FORM

YES! We understand the importance of shopping locally and supporting Lakewood businesses. Please process our order for Lakewood CertifiChecks gift certificates redeemable at any registered Lakewood business:

Quantity	Denomination	Total
_____	\$5.00	_____
_____	\$10.00	_____
_____	\$25.00	_____
_____	\$50.00	_____

Please add \$.50 if you want your Lakewood gift certificates mailed to you \_\_\_\_\_  
Contribution to Main Street Lakewood\* \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAND TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make out checks to Main Street Lakewood and mail to or drop off at:  
**14701 Detroit Avenue #130 Lakewood, OH 44107**  
(flower boxes mark the spot!)

Orders received before November 26th will be available for pick-up at Lakewood Public Library on November 30th after the holiday lighting ceremony until 8 p.m. and thereafter, during business hours at the Main Street Lakewood office (please call first! 521-0655).

Lakewood CertifiChecks will be available for direct sale at the Lakewood Library during Light Up Lakewood ceremonies. After December 3rd, Lakewood CertifiChecks will be available at the Main Street Lakewood office & at Phoenix Coffee.

\* Main Street Lakewood is dedicated to the revitalization of Lakewood's historic downtown district and is a program of Lakewood Community Progress Inc, a 501-c(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

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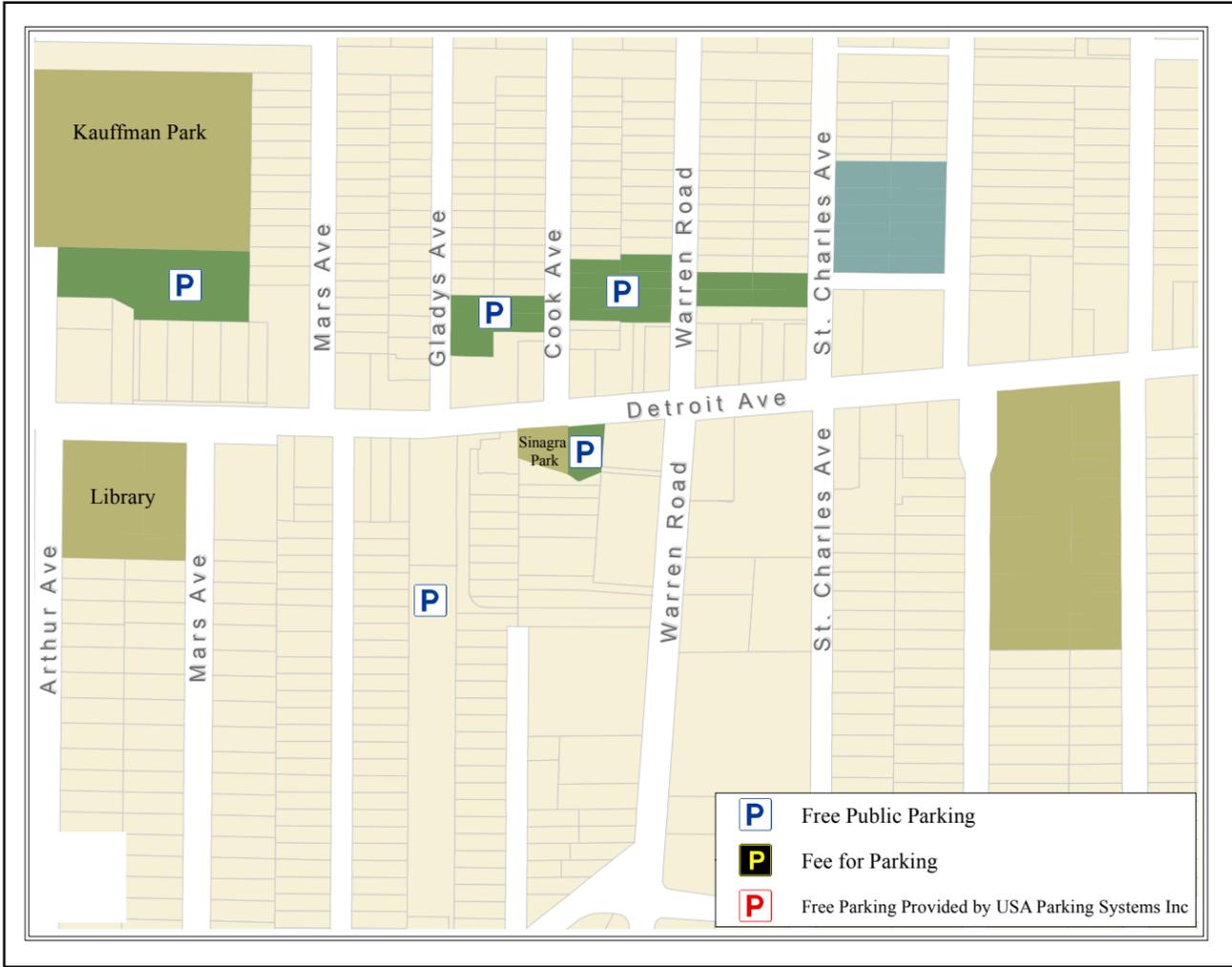
**Rozi's Wine House**  
14900 Detroit Avenue • 216-221-1119  
Celebrate Light Up Lakewood with us at our annual  
**Holiday Wine Tasting**  
November 30th, 6-9pm

~Enjoy a glass of Hot Mulled Wine outdoors while sitting by an open flame  
~ Come inside & experience one of our Award-Winning Wine Tastings

**Featured wines include:**  
Regional Icewines ~ Vintage Ports  
Hand-Selected Cabernets & Merlots  
And other choice wines perfect for the season  
\$15 includes all wines & gourmet food pairings

**~ No Reservations Required ~**

# Light Up Lakewood



### Light Up Lakewood Schedule

- 6-8:00 pm** Detroit Avenue, from Marlowe Avenue to Arthur Avenue, will be closed to traffic. Enjoy refreshments, entertainment and special holiday surprises all evening along the avenue. In addition, Main Street Lakewood businesses will be open with special promotions for Light Up Lakewood.
- 6:00 pm** St. Edward's Trash Talkers kick off our lighting ceremony at the Lakewood Hospital Green.
- 6:00 pm** Lakewood Public Library will also feature holiday activities, story hour every 30 minutes (beginning at 6 pm) and more!
- 6:15 pm** Santa Claus arrives at the Lakewood Hospital Green
- 6:20 pm** Holiday Lighting Ceremony at Lakewood Hospital Green begins.
  - Hosted by Lakewood resident and WTAM personality Darren Toms
  - Special appearance by Peddlers of Mirth strolling carolers
  - Santa Claus will be joined by Mayor Tom George and Lakewood Hospital President Jack Gustin
  - Winner of "Why I Love Lakewood" fourth-grade essay contest assists in holiday lighting
- 6:35 pm** Santa rides in style down to Lakewood Public Library. Santa & Friends will be available for visits until 9:00 pm \*\*Bring your camera!\*\*
- 6:45-7:30 pm** Local choral groups will perform at Sinagra Park (in front of Marc's Plaza), including: McKinley, Hayes and Lincoln elementary school choirs, Lakewood Catholic Academy choir and Beck Center entertainers.
- 7:00 pm** Lakewood Catholic Academy Band performs in front of Lakewood Public Library.



## Lakewood Shops Main Street

Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
November 30, December 1 and 2

<p><b>Arthur Ave.</b> _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Library</p> <p><b>Mars Ave.</b> _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> CVS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dramatics Hair Salon</p> <p><b>Elmwood Ave.</b> _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chipotle</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ink Stop</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Game Stop</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dave's Cosmic Subs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The Souper Market</p> <p><b>Warren Ave.</b> _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Einstein Bagel</p> <p><b>Belle Ave.</b> _____</p> <p><b>Marlowe Ave.</b> _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Beran's Studio</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> TJ's Butcher Block &amp; Deli</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Déjà vu</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Plantation Home</p> <p><b>Robinwood Ave.</b> _____</p>	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold;">DETROIT AVENUE</p> <p>Phoenix Coffee <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Lion &amp; Blue <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The Music Exchange <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Gladys Ave.</b> _____</p> <p>Cerny Shoes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Rozi's <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Cook Ave.</b> _____</p> <p>Cleats <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Warren Ave.</b> _____</p> <p>The Melt <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Geiger's <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>St. Charles Ave.</b> _____</p> <p>Pacer's <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Belle Ave.</b> _____</p> <p>Aladdins <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Cosmic Collectibles <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Marlowe Ave.</b> _____</p> <p>Blue Onion <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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Lakewood is Ohio's most walkable City! Come and join the fun of shopping the old fashion way, strolling along Detroit Avenue, meeting your neighbors and enjoying special Main Street promotions as you shop!

- During Light Up Lakewood weekend, visit the *Main Street Lakewood* merchants listed on the left and they will note your visit on this form. More forms are available at [lightuplakewood.com](http://lightuplakewood.com).
- Turn in the completed form at the Lakewood Library circulation desk.
- You will be automatically entered into a drawing.
  - **Grand Prize:** \$150 in Main Street gift certificates, a \$50 Rozi's gift basket and \$50 in Lakewood CertifiChecks.
  - **Second Prize:** \$50 in Main Street gift certificates and \$50 in Lakewood CertifiChecks.
  - **Third Prize:** \$20 in Main Street gift certificates and \$25 in Lakewood CertifiChecks
- Drawing will be Tuesday, December 4th. Winners need not be present.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

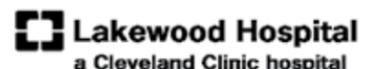
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Main Street Lakewood mini survey:**

Did you  walk,  drive or  bike to this Main Street Lakewood activity?

If you drove, where did you park? \_\_\_\_\_



## Holiday Hop

# Holiday Hop - MAMA's Twelve Shops Of Christmas

by Justine Cooper

Mark your calendars for the weekend of November 30th to December 1st to be a part of Lakewood's Holiday Magic. Start with Light up Lakewood November 30th filled with family holiday events, and follow with Saturday, December 1st for a variety of Open Houses and a cash contest on Madison Avenue.

The following participating businesses with their listed hours and events will be participating in the Twelve Shops of Christmas contest! Just for stopping in and getting your card signed and saying hello to the owner, you will be entered to win \$150 or a bag full of gift certificates in Mama's raffle! Who couldn't use extra Christmas cash!

Visit twelve of these businesses on 11/30 OR 12/1 and get your card signed and drop off at the twelfth business! This can be a family "scavenger hunt" as you discover new businesses or an event to enjoy with friends, stopping in for refreshments and Santa and professional carolers, along with vendors for unique holiday shopping!

#### Goddess Blessed

15729 Madison Ave.;

11-7 Friday and Saturday! \*enter



into gift raffle with any purchase over \$5 for\*\*\$25 gift certificate for goddess blessed\*\*\$50 gift certificate for Maria's restaurant \*meet the reiki team members\* tarot readings by Miss Mai! Professional Carolers at 4 PM!

#### Lakewood Hardware

16608 Madison Ave.;

226-8822

#### Cuttin Loose

16621 Madison Ave.

#### Fuzion Martial Arts

15721 Madison Ave.;

Carolers at 4 PM!

#### Wobblefoot Gallery

1662 Mars Ave.; behind Mars bar- refreshments and silhouette drawings (great gifts!) Friday and Saturday! And peruse the gallery!

#### Pop Shop Gallery

17020 Madison Ave; 12-7 PM Friday and 1-9 PM Saturday; 3rd annual True Value Vintage show, a show dedicated to toys, video games, and childhood memories. On Saturday December 1st, from 1-4pm and 6-9pm the festivities will fill the Pop Shop. In addition to the TVV show, we will be housing a holiday jewelry show!

#### Mullens of Letterfrack

17014 Madison Ave.; stop in for a beer and get your card signed or come for the after-hour party after Pop Shop's vintage show!

#### Coffee Pot Restaurant

12415 Madison Ave.; Stop in for a bite and free dessert and professional carolers at 3 PM!

#### bela duby

13321 Madison Ave.; 10-12 Friday or Sat. Live Bands both nights, Group Art Show, Phoenix Coffee and Beer! Free Coffee or discounted beers these days!

#### Madison Avenue Library

13229 Madison Ave.; 2:00 Children's activities w/Family Weekend Wonders! Professional Carolers at 2:00!

#### Mahall's Bowling

13200 Madison Ave.; Come visit with Santa! 12-3 PM Bring your cameras to get pictures with Santa along with jewelry artists and holiday vendors for unique gifts! Table set up w/ stationary to Santa so kids can write their letters personally! Christmas Carolers at 2:00 outside Mahall's, bela, and the library for old fashioned spirit!

#### Connie's Classics I

12603 Madison Ave.; Fri-Sat 11-6; Come peruse vintage treasures and other art! Carolers at 3:00!

#### Lakewood Tavern Supply

15609 Madison Ave.; 227-0219 Fri-Sat 9-7 PM; Stop in and see what this restaurant/bar supply shop sells to local businesses and now to the public for your party needs! Newest Mama member!

#### Carabel's Beauty Salon

15309 Madison Ave.; Fri. 9-9, Sat. 9-5; Holiday gift bag w/ \$20 purchase. Hair care gift sets for the family, stocking stuffers for females of all ages, hair and nail products, headbands, etc!

#### Silhouette East End Dance Studio

12501 Madison Ave.; 228-3871; Come in and watch dance lessons or have your kids join in! Sat. 11 AM ballet/tap ages 4-9, 12 PM acrobats ages 6-10; 1 PM acrobats ages 10-teen; 2 PM hip hop ages 8-preteen; adult classes during the week! Get your card signed and pick up a schedule and meet the owner, Donna!

#### Leather Naturally

17106 Madison Ave;

[www.lakewoodnaturally.com](http://www.lakewoodnaturally.com)

#### Joe's Deli Madison;

17750 Madison Ave.; Stop in for a free cup of coffee don't miss the food!!! Hours 6 AM-3 PM.

#### Pet's General Store Madison;

16821 Madison Ave.; 11-8 Friday or 10-6 Saturday; Santa Claus is here from 4-6 PM for pictures with your pet! Bring your camera!

#### Metropolitan Staging

15226 Madison Ave.; Lakewood's newest business! Come see demonstrations of Uppercase living vinyl self expression 12-5 or stop in for Open House with wine and cheese! Owners Robby and Kurt Zettler own a winery on Kelly's Island so come enjoy their wine and say hello!

#### Omega Cuts

11833 Franklin; Stop in here Saturday and it counts for two stops out of your twelve for the contest! Visit owner Christina and have some cookies while you meet jewelry artists!

#### Sacred Arts and Healing Center

13351 Madison Ave; Stop in 10-12 Sat for a mind-body-spirit fitness with Kim Miller (\$5 off) or just get your card signed; 7-9 PM Barefoot Boogie-stop in to watch or join in and get a free mini massage to relive your stress!

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## Pulse Of The City

# The Classical Spanish Guitar And The Torch Of Change

Gary Rice

This column is derived from a guitar article I wrote for a music-related publication a few years ago. As I happened across the original writing, it occurred to me that there was a message within that could be applied to the Lakewood world, as we consider the dialectic between old and new, tradition and technology, and passing the torch of change in our beautiful city.

The so-called traditional "classical," or Spanish six-string, cat-gut guitar has been with us since the early 1800's. By 1833, the Martin guitar was being built here in this country, and America was soon toting these and other similar instruments across the Rockies and on to California to play in the cantinas and mining camps of the west, where players soon came in contact with similar instruments from Mexico and Spain.

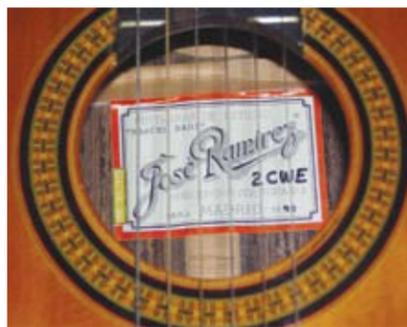
Contrary to popular opinion, and to appease all of my cat-loving friends, the intestines of sheep were a far more popular source for the strings of the guitar than anything that your poor cat might come up with. To make ALL animal lovers feel better, by the 1940's, people in the coastal towns of France, Portugal, and Spain started using the various thicknesses of DuPont's new nylon fiber fishline for their treble strings. Soon, companies were making complete nylon string sets for the classical. When classical guitar expert Maestro Andre Segovia starting using nylon strings, the world followed suit. Not long afterwards, there were many new brands of classical guitar, as well as types of nylon strings available.

The classical guitar uses these lower-tension strings, while many other types of guitar use steel strings. Steel strings should never be used on a classical guitar due to the possibility of damage to the instrument.

My experiences with the classical guitar in Lakewood have been interesting. Often, I have been able to find them for sale for a song, at least until recently, as buyers seemed to be pretty hard to find for them. Our dried-out winters can also be brutal on instruments constructed in warm, humid climates. Still, when kept in a proper case or humidity-balanced environment, a classical guitar can last a long time.

More people have used these so-called classicals than you might imagine. At least three of the Beatles had Ramirez classicals, according to Amalia Ramirez, who should well know, as she is with Ramirez Guitars--perhaps the most famous and honored name for the classical guitar. Peter, Paul, and Mary, as well as countless country and rock acts, keep classicals close by to fill out a song track now and then. Also, who can forget Willie Nelson's Martin classical guitar? That nylon string guitar has a damage hole so big I think I could almost stick my fist through it. And yet, what a sound! Its warm piano-like tone more than makes up for whatever perceived shortcomings this instrument might otherwise have.

Those of you who have put up with me as I have written this column these



Ramirez "Marcel Dadi" guitar, with souvenir Lakewood Band uniform pillow. Change is in the air; for music, and for Lakewood!

many months know of my ongoing dialectical discussions about Lakewood's traditions and changes, and believe it or not, the classical guitar has a story about that type of dilemma too. If you waded into the classical stream, you will soon observe that this particular type of guitar has rigidly set parameters of construction and design. The many fine builders of this style of guitar have generally kept to very definite guidelines and the result seems to have been

*Those of you who have put up with me as I have written this column these many months know of my ongoing dialectical discussions about Lakewood's traditions and changes, and believe it or not, the classical guitar has a story about that type of dilemma too.*

the development of an increasingly functional and subtly refined (albeit conservative) instrument design.

Enter Jose Ramirez III. As I wrote earlier, the Ramirez guitar was considered a benchmark of quality for this type of instrument. Founded in the 1800's, the Ramirez family brought stunningly beautiful instruments to the world. Jose III's father, Jose II, built amazing guitars as well. Jose III continued to build the fine Ramirez guitar, and I understand that a number of folks who started in the Ramirez shop later went on to build fine guitars under their own names. Jose III, however, seemed to be convinced that even better guitar designs could be built through his own efforts. In a collaboration with the young guitarist Marcel Dadi, a project



photos by Gary Rice

began that would change the very heart of the classical guitar world forever.

Marcel Dadi seemed to be able to play anything well. The young Tunisian-born musician even began a collaborative friendship with Chet Atkins, and their work together marked a superlative milestone in country

music. When Marcel and Jose III got together to build the young genius a guitar, the guitar's soundboard was constructed of red cedar, a sacred tone-wood long used for the making of our Native American flutes, but little else. The fingerboard's width was reduced, a cutaway to the body was incorporated, and an electric under-saddle

pickup was added as well! Now, how do you suppose the conservative classical world reacted to these changes to their precious traditionally-inspired guitar?

I feel certain that for these, and other innovations, Jose Ramirez III probably took an unfair share of grief. And Marcel? Shortly after being honored at the Country Music Hall of Fame, the 46-year-old perished in the explosion of TWA flight 800 in the skies over Long Island Sound, New York.

The idea of passing the torch has almost become a cliché these days, but as with most of these sad stories, someone always seems to step in to pick that torch back up. Amalia Ramirez and her family seem to have picked up the torch at Ramirez Guitars most admirably since the passing of Jose III in 1995. In her letter to me, she wrote concerning a number of good things, including the news that an instrument similar to the type of guitar used by Marcel continues to be around, and that the similar type of guitar used by George Harrison has once again been made available to the public. What a legacy, and what a fine company!

Dadi's legacy also continues with his fine musical recordings. Just prior to his death, he was honored by the placement of his star upon the Country Music Hall of Fame's famous Walkway of the Stars--the first non-American to be so honored.

I feel most fortunate to be able to show you this photo of an original Ramirez guitar designed for Marcel Dadi and made under the supervision of Jose Ramirez III. Today, you certainly can find guitars with similar features made by Ramirez and virtually all of the other major classical companies. This represents a truly fitting legacy to that synergistic blend of old and new, tradition and technology, and passing the torch of change that helps move ourselves, our city, and our planet forward.

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Wednesday, December 5th, 2007  
The Winchester's 5th Anniversary Show! Wishbone Ash - Wishbone Ash is lead by Andy Powell and they have been credited as a major influence on Thin Lizzy and a number of dual guitar bands and are a sizzling live act. opens at 9pm. \$15.00.

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## Lakewood Perspective

# My Primary Concern In The Primaries

Bret Callentine

While I've only just recently started paying close attention to presidential campaign issues and debates, I think I've already come across the single most frightening term used by a candidate. While there are lots of individual issues for us to be concerned with this coming election year, my new focus has been narrowed to two little words: "Shared Prosperity". I first came across the term while watching clips of one of Hillary Clinton's speeches, but since then I've heard the term come up from other candidates and various political analysts pressing their points on radio or TV.

A quick browse through most of the candidates' websites will show you that no one is really committed to this as an official position. Rather, they're all throwing the term out there to try to get an indication of its popularity before claiming ownership, like a five-year-old whispering, "Is it okay if I have a cookie?", hoping anyone who might say "no" is nowhere within earshot.

What really scares me are not the words themselves--after all, how can anybody actually be against sharing prosperity?--It's the method behind the moniker that makes all the difference. And unfortunately, the way it is being discussed, "Shared Prosperity" is just politi-speak for forced charity. And I've got a big problem with the concept of forced charity.

First of all, I'm all for neighbors helping neighbors, but I'm not sure that neighbors helping our government help neighbors is such a good idea. Along those same lines, I'm not that big of a fan of the United Way. Sure, they have those nice commercials and they bring in millions of dollars for charity, but I'm always skeptical of people or businesses that essentially do nothing more than act as a middle man. I make a point to donate to several area charities, but never did I think to myself, "Why don't I just give my money to a third-party first, and hope that all of it gets to the people I originally had in mind?"

Having previously worked in a non-profit agency, I was shocked at how much time and effort is spent trying to cajole funding out of our federal government. I don't know if there was ever a definitive conclusion on whether Reagan's "trickle-down economics" was successful or not, but I can tell you right now, "trickle-down charity" is a complete failure.

But above even the problems of losing money in transition, I have a hard time trying to figure out how in the world a federal agency is supposed to decide which local charity makes for the best place to allocate funds. Better

yet, why would they even try? This is the same government that can't run the veterans hospitals, is handcuffing our schools with testing rather than teaching, and has already pushed Social Security to the edge of collapse. And now some candidates want to dabble in Socialism by attempting to "re-distribute" the wealth of the nation? Be afraid, be very afraid.

On the surface, using taxes to help those in need seems like a noble cause. However, the very concept of prosperity isn't something the government can even properly define, let alone control. Prosperity isn't a minimum wage or a comprehensive health care plan; it's an individual sense of security both spiritual and financial. Further, it requires a sense of drive, a dedication to set, work for, attain, and then re-evaluate an ever-changing list of personal goals.

And on a greater scale, prosperity isn't just about getting as much as you can for yourself. True prosperity is a process: A great-grandparent working in the fields all day so that his sons and daughters wouldn't have to, those sons and daughters finishing school and working hard to possibly send their kids to college, and those kids finishing college and creating a savings so that their own children might start life

a little better than their ancestors.

Prosperity isn't as much a place as it is a path. It's achieved through a desire to better yourself, your family, and your community. And no matter what their motives, the United States government can't give people that motivation--it has to come from within-- otherwise it's just another handout. And handouts, for the most part, only motivate people to wait for more handouts.

To that end, sharing prosperity has nothing to do with money, and everything to do with helping individuals rise to the challenge. As the old saying goes, give a man a fish and he eats for a day, but teach a man to fish and he eats for a lifetime. To that end, "Shared Prosperity" can only really happen with one-on-one interaction; with one person showing another the way to get back into the game, and that person answering the challenge.

True "Shared Prosperity" is not about doling out checks, and it's not about taxing the rich to feed the poor, it's about offering a helping hand. It has nothing to do with money and everything to do with commitment, compassion, and especially character, qualities that, quite frankly, I don't see our government being able to exhort.

In other news, here is the recently updated PSI for November 2007...

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## Chef Geoff

# Untraditional Tradition

Jeff Endress

We now find ourselves in the midst of the season which is filled more, perhaps, than any other with family traditions. While, as I write this column, I am still anticipating the feast preparation, as you read this, Thanksgiving is a fond memory, as we finish off the last of the leftovers. Soon to follow are the Christmas holidays and New Years. In the matter of a few weeks, we will once again pass through the holiday. That period of time, which is replete with our yearly family gatherings and their traditions, is the stuff of which our memories are made.

I guess it is safe to state that I am truly a traditionalist. If insanity can be defined as doing the same thing over and over and hoping for a different result, then I suppose that the height of sanity would be tradition--when one repeats the same process over and over hoping to obtain the same result. The aim of Thanksgiving, which I think may be my family's favorite holiday, is, of course, to produce "the best turkey ever". That feast, which is the centerpiece of the holiday, is, in my mind, the embodiment of tradition, something I have produced enough times that it proceeds on auto pilot.

Inevitably, it is at this time of the year that my spouse will suggest that we actually change an element in that traditional celebration. It can be a very simple, well-intentioned suggestion, something as innocuous as, "This year let's replace the candied turnips with this great recipe for parsnips that I saw in Healthy Living", but in my mind it smacks of blasphemy. When there is a formula that has been a success for decades, one shouldn't tinker with tradition. That is even truer when we are

discussing my traditional Thanksgiving Day feast. This is not to say that I am absolutely immune to change. Sometimes change can be good. Sometimes change is necessary, but if we want to experience that new parsnip recipe, it would be my preference to wait until the Friday after the second to last Thursday of November.

But, it could be this year that the holiday winds might change. Basically, as I write this, laying in the supplies for the feast, I am on the horns of a dilemma. It has been suggested that I might actually enjoy some culinary experimentation; that perhaps I am becoming bored with yearly preparation of the same dishes and side dishes, that perhaps my family is becoming bored (how could that possibly be?!). It has been suggested that, were I to add a novel element, I could better showcase my flair. I must admit that these considerations present an intriguing challenge.

I think I have arrived at an accommodation that will allow me the ability to experiment and change while at the same time remaining essentially the same. A few weeks ago, the Board of Trustees at the Lakewood Public Library Foundation hosted a dinner at the house of Board President, Lynn Foran. One of the items that had been offered for auction at the Foundation's Gala, "The First to See the Best", had been a dinner party for eight that I had volunteered to prepare. I believe that the event was successful. Certainly the service provided by the Trustees was excellent and the diners were complimentary of the meal. In the course of developing that menu, I had worked on a recipe for a cream of pumpkin soup which I felt would be entirely fitting for a fall meal.

### Pumpkin Soup (Serves 8)

*Note: This can be served in individual pumpkin shells. Simply cut off the top inch of 8 very small "sugar" or pie pumpkins, scoop out, rub with oil, and bake for 350° for an hour, then ladle the hot soup directly into these individual "bowls".*

- 2 small pie pumpkins
- 2/3 cup finely chopped onion
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 1 dried chipotle chili
- ¼ tsp grated nutmeg
- 1 tbsp fresh grated ginger
- ½ cup apple cider
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 generous pinch of curry powder



Clean pumpkins, bake shells 350° for an hour, or until tender. Scoop out pulp and save it for later. Sweat the onions in olive oil, until translucent. Add stock, pumpkin pulp, chipotle chili, cider, nutmeg, ginger, salt. Simmer until chili is very soft. Discard the chili. Run through food processor until very smooth. Return to pan, add cream, bring to simmer (do not boil) and add curry, salt and pepper to taste. Can be thinned with stock.

Now the thought occurs to me that my traditional Thanksgiving dinner never included soup. It would be possible to make the change by its addition without actually impacting the traditional meal itself. There won't be a substitution. None of the traditional elements will be left out. But, my sense of tradition isn't offended by adding

a new element. And so, this year, the intention is to add to the feast, while it remains otherwise unchanged. Perhaps it will become a new tradition. But for now, I'll be sticking with the turnips, sage dressing, Mom's broccoli and corn casserole and relish tray. But, I might think about that parsnip recipe for Christmas.

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# Conservation Corner

## Keeping Out The Cold

by Heather Ramsey

I didn't want to cover this topic yet, but I'm afraid it has become necessary—snow has fallen, so it is time to discuss how to save energy this winter. Forty-five percent of the average energy bill goes to heating and cooling our homes, emitting 150 million tons of carbon dioxide in the process, according to the Department of Energy. Turning down the thermostat 5° could save up to 10% on those bills. Energy Star recommends setting your thermostat at 68° while awake and at home, and 60° while asleep or away from home (programmable thermostats are the easiest and most recommended way to achieve this and could save you more than \$100 a year).

One way to prevent heat leakage is to make sure your heating system is working as efficiently as possible. This means sealing your ducts, cleaning and replacing your filters regularly, having

a professional check your equipment, and possibly replacing it altogether if it is more than fifteen years old. An estimated 10-30% of the energy being used to heat a home leaks out through duct surfaces. The heating system must then compensate for this loss by working harder, using more energy, and costing you more money. To reduce or eliminate this leakage, begin with ducts located in attics, crawlspaces, garages, and unfinished basements, as these areas are most likely to be sources of heat loss. Then proceed through the rest of the house. If sealing the ducts yourself, simply purchase duct sealant or metal-backed tape and seal the seams and connections or wrap them in insulation. Several do-it-yourself guides for sealing your home are available at [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov).

Windows and doors should be another important target of your

heat-saving efforts. If you have south-facing windows, you can open your curtains or blinds during the day to let in heat from the sunlight, then close them at night. Also, you can use caulk to seal any drafts coming in through the windows, or cover them with plastic (kits are readily available at many stores). If you have blinds or thin curtains, consider switching to heavier drapes for the winter, as these will help block any drafts you do have. Similarly, weather-stripping your doors can help keep in heat and keep out the cold.

Aside from these methods, you can also install slow-moving fans to circulate heat, insulate your water heater (consult a professional heating contractor, as this is not always recommended), reduce your usage of exhaust fans to a minimum, and move furniture and carpets away from

vents. Additionally, the Department of Energy suggests that those with radiators put up simple reflectors against exterior walls in order to catch and repel the heat that is propelled in that direction. This will help to effectively use the heat normally trapped between the wall and the radiator.

According to Home Depot's Eco Options webpage, if the average home reduced their energy consumption by 15% (possible by following all of these guidelines), they would be saving 500 pounds of coal from being burned. But I imagine to most homeowners the more important statistic is that nearly half of the average \$1,900 energy bill faced by the typical home is spent on heating and cooling. And that by turning down or programming the thermostat, sealing windows, and other simple steps, you could save a great deal of that money!!

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# Lakewood Arts And Events

## Gallery Watch

by Ruth A. Koenigsmark

**THERE'S AN ART WORLD JOKE** that nobody rushes out to buy art as a stocking stuffer. But these days, they might. "Small works" shows are all the rage this holiday season and the price for one of these pieces can drop as low as two figures. **MAMA's Holiday Hop** on Madison Avenue December 1st, put on by the Madison Avenue Merchants Association, will offer a multitude of shopping options from 12pm-5pm. Mahall's Bowling Alley, for example, will be home for the day to many crafters and artists selling their handmade masterpieces ready to wrap and put under the tree. In conjunction with the **Holiday Hop**, the Pop Shop will have it's annual True Value Vintage Show opening reception from 1pm-4pm and 6pm-9pm- featuring artist works inspired by their own holiday memories. After "Hopping," if you're still up for shopping on December 1st, jump over to Local Girl Gallery for the Sip Into the Holidays Auction. This will be a benefit for the Lakewood Commission on Aging, where you can pick



up a handpainted wine, champagne, or martini glass to be ready to toast to the Holidays in style. The Auction runs from 7pm-10pm.

Word on the street is that when in doubt, you should buy jewelry for girls. Let's take this a step further; make it more original. Instead of getting her a simple silver something-or-other from Tiffany's, or some diamonds (not always a girl's best friend), try checking out Bela Dubby's annual **Holiday Bazaar** on Saturday, December 8 to find a one of a kind designed piece for that special someone. Find her something nobody else has – she'll love it (and you)!

**Jim Hamilton, Timothy O'Connor and Dean Kulhanek** are just several of the local and national artists that you will find at Wobblefoot Gallery this holiday shopping season. For those more prudent gift giving types, think of art as an investment vehicle and valuable part of any estate. Large or

small it will be a gift that will be treasured for many, many years to come.

This year, why not forget the battery-operated whassa-magie or the mass-produced widget and give a one-of-a-kind gift made by an artist? Of course, if you're recession-proof and confident of your taste, you can spring

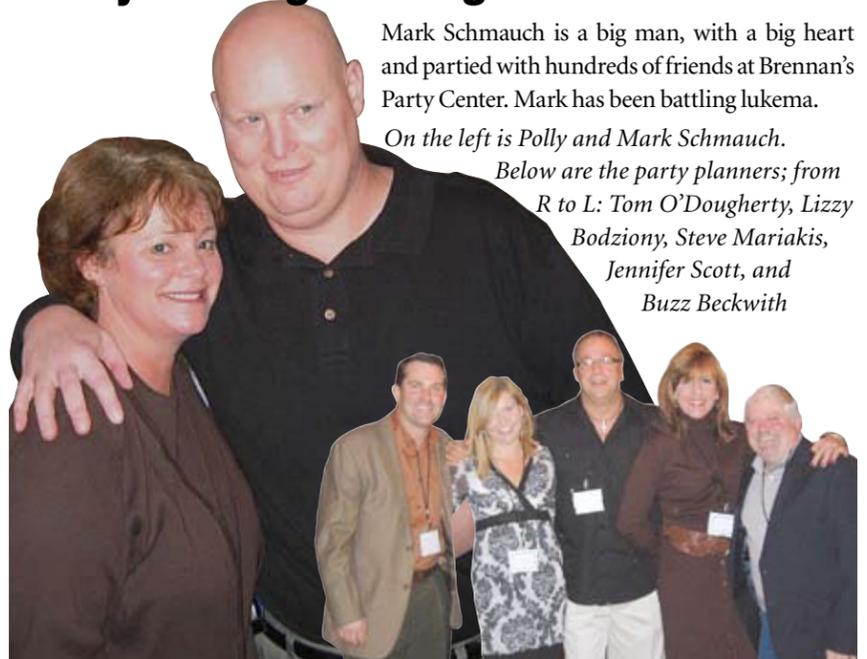
for a contemporary painting or sculpture. If not, remember the holidays are a time when many galleries cater to once-a-year gift shoppers, offering smaller works, decorative objects and even wonderful Holiday decorations—perfect for that stocking (even if it's yours).

## Friends Of Mark Schmauch Party All Night Long For Good Man

Mark Schmauch is a big man, with a big heart and partied with hundreds of friends at Brennan's Party Center. Mark has been battling leukemia.

On the left is Polly and Mark Schmauch.

Below are the party planners; from R to L: Tom O'Dougherty, Lizzy Bodziony, Steve Mariakis, Jennifer Scott, and Buzz Beckwith



photos by Steve Mariakis

## Real Estate

### Marketing Your Home During The Holidays

by Val Mechenbier

Prudential Lucien Realtor

Some home sellers are hesitant to list – or keep – their homes on the market during the holidays. For every perceived reason not to put a house on the market, however, there is a corresponding reason why it is advantageous to do so.

Perception: There is a smaller inventory of buyers. Reality: Serious buyers, including those who are relocating, shop during the holidays.

Perception: The home can always go back on the market as a new listing in January, thereby drawing more traffic because it's fresh. Reality: Sure it can, but do you really want to miss the activity that does occur during the late fall and winter months when less competition makes your house stand out more?

Perception: Real estate agents take December off and are unavailable. Reality: Serious agents continue to work hard during the holidays. Stories abound of agents closing offers on Christmas Eve!

A house is often most appealing when decorated for the holidays. Consider these tips when staging your home:

Show restraint when your home is on the market. Since first impressions are critical, exterior decorations should be limited to a simple but lovely wreath on your front door.

Allow buyers to imagine putting their own furniture in each room. They can't do that if your holiday decorations take center stage. Limit your

display this year – less is more when you are trying to sell.

Don't block or cover up important selling features, such as leaded-glass windows or fireplace mantels.

Consider setting up a smaller tree this year and storing wrapped presents in a closet – a large tree with gifts spilling out over the floor might make the room appear smaller.

In addition to appealing to the

buyers' sense of sight, this festive season is a good time for sellers to appeal to the buyers' senses of touch (a velvet table runner on the dining room table, fluffy hand towels in the bathroom), smell (a simmering pot of cider on the stove), sound (soft instrumental seasonal music) and taste (a plate of homemade holiday treats)!

Before showings, be sure to remove snow, ice and leaves from walkways,

driveways and porches. Place a mat by the front door so that buyers can wipe their feet. Make it easy for buyers to get out of their warm car to view your property.

If you're selling during the holiday season, keep the decorating simple, and try using a few home staging techniques to make buyers want to linger. You may find a buyer who falls in love with your home because of the coziness, warmth and holiday feeling it exudes!

### Realty Reality

## Questions From Our Readers

by Maggie Fraley

Prudential Lucien Realtor

"What about fireplaces?"

As the winter months approach, many people naturally "nest" and enjoy the warmth of their homes. A fireplace is a wonderful way to add more warmth – figuratively and literally. There are woodburning, gas burning and electric options in numerous styles. Some are ventless and easily installed into almost any room in your home.

In communities with older architecture, woodburning fireplaces are fairly common. These should be cleaned regularly by a reputable chimney sweep for maximum enjoyment and safety. Whether considering the purchase of a new home with a fireplace or already enjoying a home that has one, people frequently ask about these fireplace terms:

**Facing** is the material on the wall (brick, tile, stone, metal or most any fireproof material) surrounding the

opening of the fireplace. It must meet building code requirements.

A **mantel** or mantelpiece is what frames the facing. Many styles are widely available and can change the look of a room. From a simple horizontal shelf to a heavy, ornate molding, the choice of a mantelpiece adds to the architecture or design elements of a house.

**Hearth** is the fireproof material in front of the fireplace, usually 12-18 inches deep, that must meet building code requirements. It's either on floor level or a raised platform.

The **firebox** is the 'floor' of a fireplace, where the fire is lit and burns.

A **chimney** is where smoke is drawn up and outside. The damper regulates the airflow by opening and closing, and must be open when a fire is lit so the smoke can safely escape.

The **flue** is the fireproof passageway lined in a material such as clay or concrete, where smoke goes up through the chimney.

When coming in from the cold this winter, we may choose to relax by curling up with a good book and some hot cocoa or with the comfortable conversation of family and friends. But whatever our choice, it can be wonderfully warmed by the addition of a fireplace.

### Lakewood Real Estate Information

(According to Multiple Listing Service)

by Andy Tabor, Realtor, GRI-Prudential Lucien

September	2006	2007
Multi-Family Closed	10	6
Multi-Family Pending (Under Contract)	11	8

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