

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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

Volume 4, Issue 4, February 19, 2008

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Not Just Your Average School Board Meeting

Ron Lewis Back And Congressman Kucinich



At the last School Board meeting Congressman Kucinich and his wife Elizabeth stopped in to give the team a Congressional Proclamation for the hard work done in creating the video that won the senior class their “Dream Prom.” Congressman Kucinich invited them to Washington to show the video to congress.

Art Mone Celebrates 104 Years



Art Mone celebrated his 104th birthday at Crestmont Nursing Home last week. Art who has to be the oldest Lakewood resident, was surprised by a letter from President George Bush and a proclamation from Mayor Edward FitzGerald. While the letter from George Bush was appreciated it was the kind words and memories from the Mayor that brought Art to tears, as he looked back. The party was well attended, and everyone got ice cream and cake. Art thought that was nice, and is looking forward to next year’s party as well.



Ron Lewis the father watches as his son Ron Lewis speaks on how nice it is to be back in Lakewood, as the new coach of the LHS Varsity Football team. Ron the father was also a coach many years ago for Lakewood. Go Rangers!

New Lakewood High School Football Coach Returning “Home”

by Susan Adams

The Lakewood City School District has hired Ron Lewis as its new Head Varsity Football Coach. Mr. Lewis is a Lakewood High School graduate. He teaches Social Studies and has taught AP History and Economics. He stresses excellence in the classroom, and wants every student he coaches to play in college.

Mr. Lewis is married and is the father of two young daughters. He is the youngest of six boys and the family has had children in the Lakewood Schools for more than 30 years.

Mr. Lewis is currently teaching and is Head Varsity Football Coach at Rocky River. He most recently led the Rocky River football team to the playoffs in 2006 and a playoff victory in 2007. He was chosen Associated Press All-Ohio Coach of the Year Division 3 for 2007. He has a 20 and 3 record over the last two seasons.

Lewis’ plans for Lakewood include: to put in place a strong middle school staff to teach fundamentals and build the program. Then expand to the younger boys through the Recreation Department. At the high school, he wants to bring back tradition and pride. Lewis says his job is to motivate kids and he coaches to win. “There is always some kid who will make a difference for the team. And there is always some kid for whom you can make a difference in their lives.” said Mr. Lewis.

Ron Lewis is very happy to be returning to Lakewood to teach and coach, where he and many of his family have gone to school. We welcome him to the Lakewood Schools!



School Board President Chaz Geiger helps Ron Lewis try on a more suitable jacket for the upcoming season of LHS Varsity Football.

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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

Child Life Month

by Halle Bishop

March 1st kicks off a month long appreciation for child-life specialists, a profession many people do not know about, but one that makes all the difference for the families of children who are undergoing surgery or other medical care. Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital Department of Child Life has dedicated specialists to help children and their parents through a hospital stay including a surgery. It is a scary time for families, but these amazing individuals relieve anxiety by providing information and support. From tours of the hospital to coloring books to completely helping

parents and their child understand what will happen during their surgery, these specialists are essential to the function of the hospital. If you are interested in following a family and a Child Life Specialist through this process, contact Halle Bishop at 216.444.0141 or email BishopH@ccf.org.

Rakhamaalika Hoffer is our Child Life Specialist who specializes in surgery. She is actually a graduate of the University of Akron and currently a resident in Lakewood. Let me know if this story interests you. We would be more than happy to let you take a look into a day in her shoes or set-up an interview. Look forward to hearing from you.

Lakewood Alive Hosts

Making Cents of Lakewood's Finances

On Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m. at Harrison Elementary School LakewoodAlive will be presenting the first of a two part forum series entitled Making "Cents" of Lakewood's Finances. A panel of experts will discuss the details and current challenges of municipal finance facing communities in this region. Local speakers will also directly address Lakewood's current financial position, challenges and opportunities.

"The forum series will provide an opportunity for all of us to learn more about the intricacies of municipal finance and connect the dots to Lakewood's finances," said Jay Foran, President of LakewoodAlive.

The speakers participating in the February 26 forum include Lakewood Mayor Edward FitzGerald; Yvette Ittu, Chief Financial Officer and VP Cleveland Development Advisors, Greater Cleveland Partnership; Kevin O'Brien, Executive Director, The Center for Public Management and the Great Lakes Environmental Finance Center, The Maxine-Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland

State University; Jennifer Pae, Finance Director, City of Lakewood; and Mike Summers, Lakewood City Council and Leader of the Structural Taskforce Citizens Committee.

Joe Gibbons, a LakewoodAlive founding member, will moderate the forum. The event is free and advanced registration is not required. Harrison Elementary is located at 2080 Quail Avenue in Lakewood.

The second part of the series will be held on Tuesday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Hayes Elementary School in Lakewood and will focus specifically on Lakewood's 2008 city budget.

LakewoodAlive is a non-partisan citizen group that informs and engages our community about issues that impact economic development and our quality of life. LakewoodAlive seeks to provide the residents of Cleveland's greatest suburb with opportunities to learn how to better navigate the complex issues associated with economic development. For more information about the forum series or about LakewoodAlive please visit www.lakewoodalive.com.

Friends Of Madison Park To Meet March 1st

An organizational meeting of the "Friends of Madison Park" will be held on Saturday, March 1st at 3 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at the Madison Branch Library. A group of interested neighbors is organizing to work with our Councilwoman, Mary Louis Madigan, the Fitzgerald Administration, and the Parks Department to revitalize Madison Park. Any interested neighbors, business owners, churches and civic groups are encouraged to join our efforts.

Madison Park, in the historic East End of Lakewood, is the second largest park in the city. With its proximity to the Madison Branch Library, the Madison Village Commercial District, and a number of diverse residential neighborhoods, Madison Park has the potential to be one of the City's most utilized and vibrant parks. Today, the Park is a hodgepodge of poorly planned spaces with aging playground equipment and benches. In fact, some equipment was damaged or unsafe and has been removed. Mayor FitzGerald has already convened a team—including the Parks Department, Community Development, Human Services, and the Police--to consider recommendations for Madison Park, but also seeks the input of residents.

The goal of the Friends of Madison Park group is to be able to work with the City to plan improvements to the park, plan events and beautification projects, implement a safety plan for the park, undertake grant-writing and fundraising efforts to supplement the City's investments, and help be stewards of this important community resource. If you are interested in assisting, join us on the first. If you have questions, call Michael Fleenor at 216-529-1790.

Artists, Musicians, Writers, Photographers, Buskers Calling All Artists

Lakewood Is Art's Spring/Summer Events

Lakewood is Art is collaborating with several groups this upcoming season in efforts to meet the community's cultural needs and to fulfill LIA goals of providing equity and access to the arts, providing exhibition opportunities for Lakewood-based artists, and allowing community members – both audiences and artists alike – to experience the arts in unexpected places; giving us all a new perspective on the boundless possibilities of who and what art can be and where it can happen. Or sign up at: <http://lakewoodisart.com>

The following opportunities exist:

MAMA LIA Artwalk—In collaboration with The Madison Avenue Merchants Association (MAMA), Lakewood is Art is looking for artists, musicians, cinematographers and street performers to enhance this Spring event. The tentative date for this event has been set for Saturday, May 17, 2008.

BandTogether—an innovative program to cultivate the musical talent of young Lakewood Rock Band musicians by providing a venue for outdoor stage performances in downtown Lakewood on Friday evenings in July and August. Programming will also include family-friendly music professionals. The goal of this year's BandTogether concert series is to showcase the talents of young musicians of middle school and high school age bringing our community together to celebrate our rich talent and diversity. Partners include LCPI-Mainstreet and Vance Music. We are looking for young Lakewood musicians to Audition at the Winchester on Saturday, April 12 from 1-3pm

Bands interested in auditioning must return an application to Vance Music(16420 Madison Ave)no later than Wednesday, April 9, 2008. Applications can be picked at Vance Music or found online at <http://.lakewoodisart.com>

Walk + Roll—Lakewood is Art will coordinate entertainment for this LCPI-Mainstreet event that will include professional buskers, such as stilt walkers, fire-spinners, dancers, chalk artists, etc. This event will be held on July 19, 2008.

Busking Days—*Busking is the practice of doing live performances in public places to entertain people, usually to solicit donations and tips.* Lakewood is Art is looking at two Busking Days one in the spring and one in the fall. Lakewood Is Art is dedicated to showcasing the entire city as an art haven, and no better way than busking!

Community Art Census—

Lakewood Is Art was founded with the belief that in a city filled with artists that small "art zones" make no sense. That the city is filled with "artists" musicians, designers, photographers, media artists, crafts people of every description. This summer LIA will undertake the first "Art Census" trying to find out how many in this wonderful city take part in the arts, and working to bring them together and their art to the city and the world.

Interested Artists should contact Ruth Koenigsmark at rkoenigsmark@yahoo.com

Get Involved with Lakewood is Art Volunteer Positions are available. Please contact Ruth Koenigsmark, Lakewood is Art Chair, at rkoenigsmark@yahoo.com



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OBSERVER**

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Lakewood News & Opinion

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Lakewood Hospital Partners With Players On Madison

Restaurant To Offer ‘Flavors Of Health’

by Aimee Smith

Lakewood Hospital has partnered with Players on Madison Restaurant in Lakewood to promote heart-healthy eating in the community through a new program called “Flavors of Health” on Monday, February 25. Participants will have the opportunity to learn some healthy cooking tips while also enjoying food that not only tastes good, but is good for you.

Poor eating habits can increase a person’s risk of developing heart disease and obesity. Cardiovascular disease is the nation’s No. 1 killer and obesity is now recognized as a major risk factor for coronary heart disease, which can lead to heart attack.

“Lakewood Hospital is dedicated to educating and empowering the community with the knowledge to making healthy lifestyle decisions,” says Jack Gustin, president of Lakewood Hospital. “By partnering with Players on Madison Restaurant we will be able to educate diners on ways to incorporate nutritious foods and ingredients to help manage their health in a fun and inviting atmosphere.”

The new program, Flavors of Health, will give Lakewood Hospital’s Carolyn Bouquot, R.D., L.D., clinical nutrition manager, and Anthony Romano, executive chef at Players on Madison Restaurant, the opportunity to prepare a four-course meal comprised entirely with natural, organic and/or healthy food ingredients.

Before each course, Bouquot and Romano will describe the entrée and its nutritional value. At the end of the meal, every diner will be provided with the healthy recipes to take home and prepare for themselves.

“Players on Madison has served the community of Lakewood for 24 years with quality food and gracious hospitality,” states Gary Lucarelli, proprietor of Players on Madison Restaurant. “We have seen many changes in the culinary world and have consistently endeavored to meet those trends. Promoting and preparing heart healthy, yet memorable cuisine is a challenge, which we accept and look forward to with enthusiasm. We are truly honored to be a partner with Lakewood Hospital in this culinary endeavor, which hopefully, will promote a more healthful lifestyle for our guests and the community.”

Reservations are required and seating is limited. Call Players on Madison Restaurant at 216.226.5200 to reserve your seat at the table today!

14527 Madison Avenue,
Lakewood
Monday, February 25, 6 p.m.
\$30 per person. (Cash bar.)
Players on Madison has been known for years for their outstand-

ing service, innovative menu and extensive wine list. Made famous for the award winning “Create Your Own” gourmet pizzas and pastas, Players is open nightly for dinner and carry out and boasts stylish decor and a beautiful patio courtyard. The restaurant is available for private lunch functions tailored just for your group of up to 100.

Lakewood Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic hospital, is a 400-bed acute care hospital that has served the diverse health care needs of the City of Lakewood and Cleveland’s Westshore communities since 1907. Offering a wide range of health services and education programs for women, men and children, each year Lakewood Hospital provides high quality and innovative patient care for more than 130,000 patients.

Flavors of Health

Monday, February 25 at 6:00 p.m.

\$30 per person

Dinner Menu*

Lime & Cilantro Marinated and Grilled Shrimp

With scotch bonnet spiked mango coulis

Potato and Apple Pancakes

With roasted apple & walnut compote

Dried Fig and Crispy Prosciutto Salad

With aged vella jack, pine nuts, and a spiced port vinaigrette

Almond & Bran Encrusted Chilean Sea Bass

With jasmine rice; a salad of pink grapefruit, avocado & crab with an orange-tarragon vinaigrette

Herb Marinated Grilled Lamb Loin

With rosemary roasted potatoes and grilled squash with a balsamic reduction

Social plate of assorted dark chocolate truffles and dried fruits

Cash Bar

*The above heart-healthy menu items will be prepared by Players' Executive Chef and nutritional contents reviewed by a registered dietitian at Lakewood Hospital.

Reserve your place at the table today!

presented by

Lakewood Hospital

a Cleveland Clinic hospital

PLAYERS

PLAYERS ON MADISON



Flavors of Health



Healthy Nutrition Meets Fine Dining

Lakewood Hospital and Players on Madison Restaurant in Lakewood are joining forces to bring healthier food choices to the community.

Lakewood Hospital's Carolyn Bouquot, R.D., L.D., clinical nutrition manager, and Anthony Romano, executive chef at Players on Madison Restaurant, have brought their expertise together to prepare a four-course meal comprised entirely with natural, organic and/or healthy food ingredients. Before each course, Carolyn and Anthony will describe the entrée and its nutritional value. Diners will be provided with the list of the ingredients used for each course.

Reservations are required, seating is limited.
Call Players on Madison Restaurant at 216.226.5200 to reserve your seat at the table today!

14527 Madison Avenue, Lakewood
Monday, February 25, 6 p.m.
\$30 per person | Cash Bar



Lakewood City Council

This Boards For You

Council President Michael Dever called the February 4, 2008 meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

The beginning of the year brings the departure of board and commission members and the appointment of new members. Resolutions offered by Dever to council commended the service of two members of the Board of Building Standards/Architectural Board of Review/Sign Review Board. The two members who completed a full five-year term were George Kubas II, and Traci Nelligan. During their tenure they served as Chairman and Vice Chairman of that body.

Mayor Edward FitzGerald announced several mayoral appoint-

by Stan Austin
LO's 8th Man On Council

ments. He appointed Tamara Karel to the Planning Commission for a six year term; Heather Rudge and Marcia Moll to the Heritage Advisory Board for a four-year term; Tracy Jemison, Peter Matera and Cindy Marx to the Division of Community Development Loan Approval Board for a five-year term and Jeff Snyder to that board as an alternate member.

Dever then communicated to council that several boards and commissions had appointments that council nominees would fill. He stated that interested Lakewood citizens should apply by

sending in a resume to Clerk of Council Mary Hagan. The following is a list of those boards and commissions that have council nominee appointments and a brief description of those bodies.

The Board of Building Standards reviews applications for variances to the Building Code. The architectural Board of Review considers architectural proposal for commercial and residential properties. The Sign Review Board reviews all sign proposals, including those that require a variance. The time commitment includes two Monday night meetings per month.

The Board of Zoning Appeals reviews applications for variances to the zoning code. That board meets once a month on Tuesday evenings.

The Planning Commission reviews requests for lot consolidations, lot splits, major and minor subdivisions, determination of similar and conditional use. This body meets once

a month for formal meetings. It might be noted that most major developments in the city have plans reviewed by this commission. Some of the preliminary work to be completed by this commission are improvements to Clifton Boulevard and the rebuilding of the Hogsback entrance to the Metroparks. This commission we see construction soon.

Lakewood leases its hospital to the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. The hospital is governed by the Lakewood Hospital Governing Board. Both the Mayor and Council have appointments to that board. Council is seeking applicants for one of the terms.

Finally, Acting Director of Public Works Dennis Albrecht announced the anonymous donation of \$5,000 to fund the payment of an organist for live music at the Thursday night adult only skate at Winterhurst Ice Rink. As council passed a resolution accepting the donation, member Nickie Antonio (at large) expressed the community's gratitude to the donor.



**THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE
FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:**

HOME PROGRAM – First-time homebuyer down payment assistance. \$7,500.00 for a condo, \$10,000.00 for a single and \$14,000.00 for a double. Call to attend a seminar.

OPERATION PAINTBRUSH – Free paint and labor for low income, owner occupied, singles and doubles.

LOW INTEREST HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN – 3% Loan for owner occupied homes.

DEFERRED LOAN – 0% Home improvement loan for owner occupied homes. Minimum age, 62, whole house inspection required.

**CALL 529-4663 TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY
ALL PROGRAMS HAVE INCOME GUIDELINES**

letter To The Editor:
Managing The Grand Stan

The pages of the Lakewood Observer are certainly not an appropriate forum in which to air your petty grievances with a volunteer columnist. Your column was in extremely poor taste and a poor reflection on both you and the paper.

Stan's columns have always been interesting, informative, and thought provoking. Case in point, the recent article you criticized.

Mike Flynn

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Lakewood Public Library

Stan Lee And Pekar And Takaya, Oh My!!

by Christine Weaver

If you have not yet been initiated as a fan of the graphic novel genre, there is no reason to wait another second. No matter what styles, themes or character types you enjoy, you are guaranteed find something you'll love in our collection.

Fans of classic DC and Marvel superheroes rub elbows with readers of brand new Japanese shojo and shonen manga at Lakewood Public Library. And whether or not you liked the movie versions of "The Fantastic Four," "V for Vendetta," or "American Splendor," you can check out the artwork and stories that inspired the films. The adage that the original books are even better than the movie versions holds true with regards to graphic novels, too.

A good introduction to reading your books and getting pictures, too, are "Houdini, the Handcuff King" by Jason Lutes or "Blankets" by Craig Thompson. The first is an intriguing look at a favorite celebrity; the other is a story about love, loss and confusion that will speak to any reader. A good bet would also be "Epileptic" by David B. or "Persepolis" by Marjane Satrapi, both of which are slightly more dream-like visually, but which tell gripping stories about characters you'll care for.

For something a little more strange or unsettling, try anything by Daniel Clowes or take a look at "Abandon the

Old in Tokyo" by Yoshihiro Tatsumi. It might just make the hair on your neck to stand up.

Tony Millionaire's "Sock Monkey" and "Maakie" stories are loads of fun and also slightly absurd, but in a fairy-tale-with-a-twist kind of way. Couple these with Cathy Malkasian's "Percy Gloom" or Bryan Talbot's "Alice in Sunderland," you'll end up feeling you've fallen down a rabbit hole of your own.

Fans of hard-boiled, action-packed stories will love Frank Miller's

"Sin City" series or Alan Moore's epic "Watchmen." For something a little more subversive with a dash of black humor, try "The Preacher" comics by Garth Ennis or the "Transmetropolitan" series by Warren Ellis.

If you're curious what the hubbub is surrounding action-packed Japanese manga and other genres, check out favorite series like "Vagabond" by Takehiko Inoue or "Fullmetal Alchemist" by Hiromu Arakawa. Both will quench your thirst for adventure. If you are looking

for a lighter read, try "Fruits Basket" by Natsuki Takaya or "Chobits" by Clamp.

And never fear, all you fans of newspaper staples like "Calvin & Hobbes," "Doonesbury" or "For Better or For Worse"! Just take a look in our non-fiction collection under 741.5973 for those favorites and others like "Dilbert," "Red Meat" and "Perry Bible Fellowship." But keep in mind that the Children's Department claimed "Garfield" for themselves long ago. Perhaps our younger patrons will let you take a peek...

Free Theater Performance At Lakewood Public Library March 3

by Amy Kloss

What happens when government oversteps the bounds of its power and infringes upon the rights of citizens? This question will be examined in a one act play at the Lakewood Public Library auditorium on Monday, March 3 at 7 p.m.

A creation of the Great Lakes Theater Festival (GLTF), *Seeing Red* dramatizes the actual testimony of four witnesses who spoke before the House Un-American Activities Committee, which investigated real and suspected Communists in positions of influence in American society. The first such

investigation looked into allegations of Communists in the Federal Theatre Project. *Seeing Red* captures a pivotal time in our nation's history, beginning in 1938 with Federal Theater Project director Hallie Flanagan's testimony and progressing through Arthur Miller's testimony in 1956.

Written by GLTF Director of Education, Daniel Hahn, *Seeing Red* was conceived as an educational companion piece to Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, which will be produced at the Ohio Theatre at Playhouse Square during March and April. Although *The Crucible* describes events surrounding the accusations of witchcraft in Salem, Mas-

sachusetts of 1692, Miller was inspired to write the play by the congressional witch hunts of the 1940s and 1950s. *Seeing Red* provides a historical context for the Festival's spring production of *The Crucible* and raises important questions about our government's current political policies in the war on terror.

Seeing Red is a seventy-minute program that includes an introduction and post-performance discussion; it features a touring company of four actors. The March 3rd Lakewood Library performance is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library auditorium, 15425 Detroit Avenue.

It's A Stellar Trajectory For Susan Weber & Monet's Orbit

by Martha Wood

Noted songwriter, guitarist and lead singer Susan Weber and her band **Monet's Orbit** will perform her award-winning original music on the Lakewood Public Library stage Sunday, February 24 at 2 p.m. The "2006 winner of the *Cleveland Free Times* Music Award for Best Singer Songwriter" will be accompanied by bassist Walt Campbell and Trees Mausser on drums and percussion.

Cleveland Scene's Michael Galucci describes Susan as "a heartland version of Patti Smith who injects Midwest muscle into her songs." In the *Cleveland Free Times*, Anastasia Pantisios calls her "a Cleveland version of PJ Harvey." In 2003 Weber received The Great American Song Contest's coveted Honor Award and Cool Cleveland Magazine called her 'a huge local talent.'

During the '90s, Weber, a resident of Cleveland Heights, was an acoustic folkie who wrote more folk-oriented songs. She got away from the music scene for a while to raise her family and she got into songwriting when her kids were little. Her children are grown now which is one reason she has time to devote to her music. She says, "Everything is shifting from acoustic to eclectic, folk to rock, solo to band, from storytelling to a more poetic way of writing." Another turning point in her life was buying an electric guitar,

which was suggested to her by her guitar teacher, Michele Temple, guitarist for Pere Ubu. Temple told Susan she knew someone who was selling a Telecaster and wondered if Susan would be interested. Weber says, "I didn't know if I'd be interested but I'm glad I went ahead and did it. It really changed my songwriting to where it is now. This feels more native, more true."

Monet's Orbit was formed in 2004. Susan had already been collaborating with local folksinger Walt Campbell, the bass player in her band. The two of them placed an ad in a local e-mail newsletter and found percussionist Trees Mausser. Susan says she and Walt and Trees have really good chemistry and love creating arrangements together. Weber calls their sound "lean rock." "We have a lot to draw from," she says. "My drummer has a background in jazz, rock, and musical theater. And my bass player is a sponge. We're definitely a collaborative effort."

Their latest creation is the 11-track CD, also called *Monet's Orbit*, which was recorded at Jay Bentoff's Dark Tree Studios. Bentoff is one of a number of guest musicians who helped expand the band's sonic range on the CD.

With her new album completed, Susan & her band continue to crank up momentum with main-stage and high profile performances at many local ven-

ues as well as an appearance on the Emmy Award winning cable TV program "Words & Music" where regional songwriters discuss the songwriting process.

When asked about playing at the library Susan says, "I always enjoy sharing my music with the diverse audience attracted to Lakewood Library con-

certs. Listeners and musicians are in the music, in community and in the moment of each song." Be sure to join her on Sunday, February 24 in the Main Library auditorium at 2 p.m. The program is free and open to the public and copies of the *Monet's Orbit* CD will be available for sale after the concert.

Lakewood Public Library Services: 24 Hour Phone Renewal

by LaTasha Redding

Have you ever had your sleep interrupted because in the middle of the night you remembered something you forgot to do? Well, rest assured if one of those things is renewing your library materials, you still have time even after the library is closed. Lakewood Public Library has a 24 hour 7 days a week renewal line. Library materials may be

renewed anytime by calling (216) 226-8275 ext. 150. Please clearly state your name, spelling it for additional clarity, and give your telephone number. Any items being requested by another patron cannot be renewed. In this case, you will receive a call from one of our Customer Service supervisors asking you to return the reserved materials. Otherwise, it's safe to assume your item(s) will be due back 2 weeks after the date you call in.



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Lakewood Public Library

The Sixties: A Time Of Social Change

by Martha Wood

"People today are still living off the table scraps of the sixties. They are still being passed around - the music and the ideas". -- Bob Dylan

As someone who grew up during the 1960s I can attest to the fact that the music of that era was incredible. Hearing both Bob Dylan and

the Beatles for the first time before the age of 13 was a huge influence on my life. Musically the 1960s were filled with groundbreaking, innovative sound, starting with the folk revival in Greenwich Village in 1960 to the British invasion in 1963-64 and the emergence of rock music. On Sunday March 2 at 2:00 p.m., Bob Frank from Roots of

American Music, will present "The Sixties: A Time of Social Change," for Lakewood Public Library's free "Sunday with the Friends" series. Through discussion and live music, Bob will take us on an exploration of what is often said to have been the most turbulent decade of the twentieth century. It was a decade of social activism, with the civil

rights movement and the mass anti-war protest movements, both of which shared a vision distinctly different from the prevailing political values of the day. Change was as constant as Bob Dylan's song, "The Times They Are A-Changin'," suggests.

The program will look at some of the most important musical forces of the 1960s including Bob Dylan, The Beatles, John Coltrane and Leonard Bernstein. Mr. Frank will discuss the "folk boom" and the rediscovery of the blues that lead up to the popularity and influence of Bob Dylan's music. The tremendous impact of the Beatles will be examined as well as the influences of Indian and psychedelic music.

Kevin T. Richards, founder and Executive Director of Roots of American Music (ROAM) and creator of the Sixties program says a considerable portion of the program is devoted to the importance of the Civil Rights Movement, particularly Lyndon Johnson's Civil Rights Act of 1964, the landmark legislation that outlawed segregation in U.S. schools and public places. The Viet Nam War and the pro- and anti-war songs surrounding it are talked about from the points of view of the anti-war protestors as well as the supporters of Richard Nixon. The program ends with a discussion the shootings at Kent State on May 4, 1970; the tragic conclusion to a tumultuous decade.

Bob Frank, the program's presenter, is co-leader of the award winning jump/blues/swing band, Blue Lunch. He is also director of Program Development for Roots of American Music. In the past 25 years, Bob has fronted over 2,500 traditional American music assembly programs for Roots of American Music and numerous other art organizations.

Kevin Richards is also the Founder and Director of the Fairmount School of Music where he has taught since 1988. Kevin developed ROAM in order to utilize traditional American music as a learning tool for non-musicians such as students and professional educators. ROAM uses arts-based non-textbook teaching to reinforce geography, history, social studies and other academic subjects. Kevin developed the Sixties program at the request of a professor from John Carroll University.

Author Retraces Steps Through WWII

by Ben Burdick

In S. Joseph Krause's new novel, *Falling Out and Belonging: A Foot-Soldier's Life*, readers are taken on a vivid, gritty, and historically accurate journey into the life of a young infantryman during World War II. Thanks to the sponsorship of the Columbia University Club of Cleveland and the Friends of Lakewood Public Library, Lakewoodites will have a chance to meet the author in person and listen to him discuss his experiences writing the book and surviving World War II on Saturday, March 1 at 2:00 p.m. in the New Main Library Auditorium.

The novel portrays in journal-based detail the stressful day-to-day experiences of combat infantrymen as they go into continuous attacks, enduring the unendurable. Shared loyalty helps keep the men going, along with their jaundiced attitude toward the Army's notorious foul-ups. Amid the constant fear there is comradeship and an unspoken sense of belonging, a "culture of caring," as articulated by their chap-

lain. There are, however, some who "fall out," unable to take it anymore.

Specifically traced are the bonds of six comrades in arms, three of whom are killed, three wounded, as their combat roles play out. The novel is divided into four parts, each of which examines an aspect of the brutal realities of war. Part One deals with the naïve ideas of the innocent recruits, who are gradually sobered by incidental casualties on the way up, which initiates them into the wartime inconsequence of death. Part Two takes readers into the fierce Battle of Hurtgen Forest where, in a typical attack, a revered sergeant takes out a machine gun nest while covered by the narrator, only to be killed by an unseen sniper. An officer insisting on night action gets his legs blown off by a mine, and twists on another that kills soldiers nearby.

Part Three records the Luxembourg campaign. On their way to Osweiler, one of the towns along the Sauer River that the Germans wanted to roll through, the guys find them-



S. Joseph Krause

selves pinned down out in the open, in foot-deep snow, fearing the worst. Posted in the woods outside of town, the remnant of their company repels several attacks, but success comes at a high price. In Part Four, the narrator is wounded and recuperates in a rear-echelon element. Though he is relieved to be back from the Front, this soldier can't abide rear-echelon debauchery and prefers the world of reality.

During World War II, Krause served with the 4th Infantry Division during two of its bitterest campaigns. Thanks largely to the G.I. Bill of Rights, he earned a master's degree from Yale and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. A retired English professor, Krause has published numerous articles and is the author of another book, *Mark Twain As Critic*. Following Fulbright Professorships at the Universities of Copenhagen and Tübingen, he lectured in Holland, Germany, Portugal, Rome and Warsaw. Invited to a ceremony in Luxembourg, presided over by the U.S. Ambassador, Krause was recently awarded a medal for his company's role in the Breakthrough. More information is available at www.footsoldierstory.com.

HELP WANTED - LAKEWOOD LIBRARY Cleaning/Janitorial

Lakewood Public Library is seeking an energetic, organized individual to perform maintenance routines including dusting, floor care (buffing); collecting litter/trash; cleaning restrooms; shoveling snow; basic electrical and plumbing; must be able to lift 75 lbs. Valid Ohio drivers license required. Day, evening and weekend work. 40 hours per week. Salary is \$12.00 per hour. Qualified and interested applicants may call Kim Paras at (216) 226-8275 ext. 102 to arrange for an application. Lakewood Public Library is an EEOE.

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LAKEWOOD OWNED AND OPERATED

Lakewood Politics

Dennis Kucinich
Two-Hours With Our Congressman

by Ivor Karabatkovic

With the housing market on the decline and the national economy heading into recession, it is imperative for citizens of the 10th District to know who they want as their elected representative. In the present, it is the West side's own Dennis Kucinich.

Congressman Kucinich knows Cleveland very well. At the age of 31, he was elected as Cleveland's youngest mayor, in 1994 he was elected to the State Senate and in 1996 he represented the region as the Congressman from the 10th District. He has fought for the region since his career began in 1967. He knows the psychology of the people of Cleveland because he has been a part of it his entire life.

"My life has always been one of service," Kucinich explained in a candid interview at his Lakewood office. "Also, to speak the truth, which is an obligation to those of us who serve" he added.

Dennis was quick to point out how Abraham Lincoln stated that the US Government should be "Of the people, by the people, for the people". His public service career was carved out of his experiences growing up. His family never owned a home, and Dennis was often on the move as child; He sometimes lived in a car to make ends meet. His knowledge of the streets of Cleveland have been shaped by Kucinich's upbringing as an impoverished child.

Kucinich's motivation is to provide people with their basic necessities, such as jobs, health care, education from pre-school to college, retirement security, and housing. His office is located right next to the senior citizen building in the heart of Lakewood, and for good reason. Congressman Kucinich states that the office should be accesible to citizens seeking help.

He calls Lakewood "A community that comes together to celebrate the arts and culture, and has many different countries represented in its schools". He explained that the many different cultures and ethnicities that are in Lakewood add strength to the city because it creates "A beautiful mosaic".

"We're proud to be part of the community," Dennis adds. "Lakewood



photo by Ivor Karabatkovic

"I can't be bought"

Dennis Kucinich

"And neither can his seat"

Elizabeth Kucinich.

represents all the potential that the state of Ohio has".

On the national level, Congressman Kucinich has made many friends in Congress, the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the United Nations. Presidential hopeful and Republican

maverick Ron Paul endorsed Kucinich as the person he would likely vote for in the 2008 Presidential Election. Ultimately, that respect and network helps this region get a fair representation within Washington DC.

Kucinich's long career is full of

many memories. Three that specifically came to mind in this interview, the first, when he met his wife, Elizabeth, in Washington DC after a hearing.

"Love at first sight," he recalls. "It was amazing".

The second was when he meet Pope John Paul II, who gave him the key to the Vatican. The Pope placed his hand over Kucinich's head and gave Dennis a personal blessing.

"He put his hand on my head and said 'My son I give you my special blessing' and I felt something", Kucinich explained. "It was very powerful".

The third occurred one morning when Dennis was the mayor of Cleveland. He was on his way to work and saw a man collapse on the sidewalk. Dennis pulled his car over and performed CPR on the man until the paramedics arrived. Kucinich's heroic actions helped to save the man's life. In the end, the man passed away a few weeks later, due to a heart attack.

His accomplishments in the last decade as the Congressman from the 10th district are noteworthy. Kucinich was the driving force that helped save the Social Security building in downtown Lakewood. He helped to work out the largest and only deal with the nation's leading railroad system. This accomplishment helped to divert trains and facilitated the rebuilding of infrastructure of the railways in the southern part of the district with an \$88 million infusion into the railway system. Before Kucinich's stand against heavy train traffic, 48 trains would move through the 10th district daily and created nuisance violations and safety concerns. In communities like Lakewood and Rocky River, where backyards are so close to the tracks, this legislation was essential to keeping the peace. Dennis helped to limit the number to 12 trains per day maximum, a maximum which is rarely met.

He also worked closely with the Steel factories and helped to save Cleveland. Currently, Cleveland's steel mills are the anchor of the steel industry in America. This was due to the fact that

continued on next page



Lakewood Politics

Dennis Kucinich Two-Hours With Our Congressman

continued from previous page

Kucinich did not give up on the region or its workers.

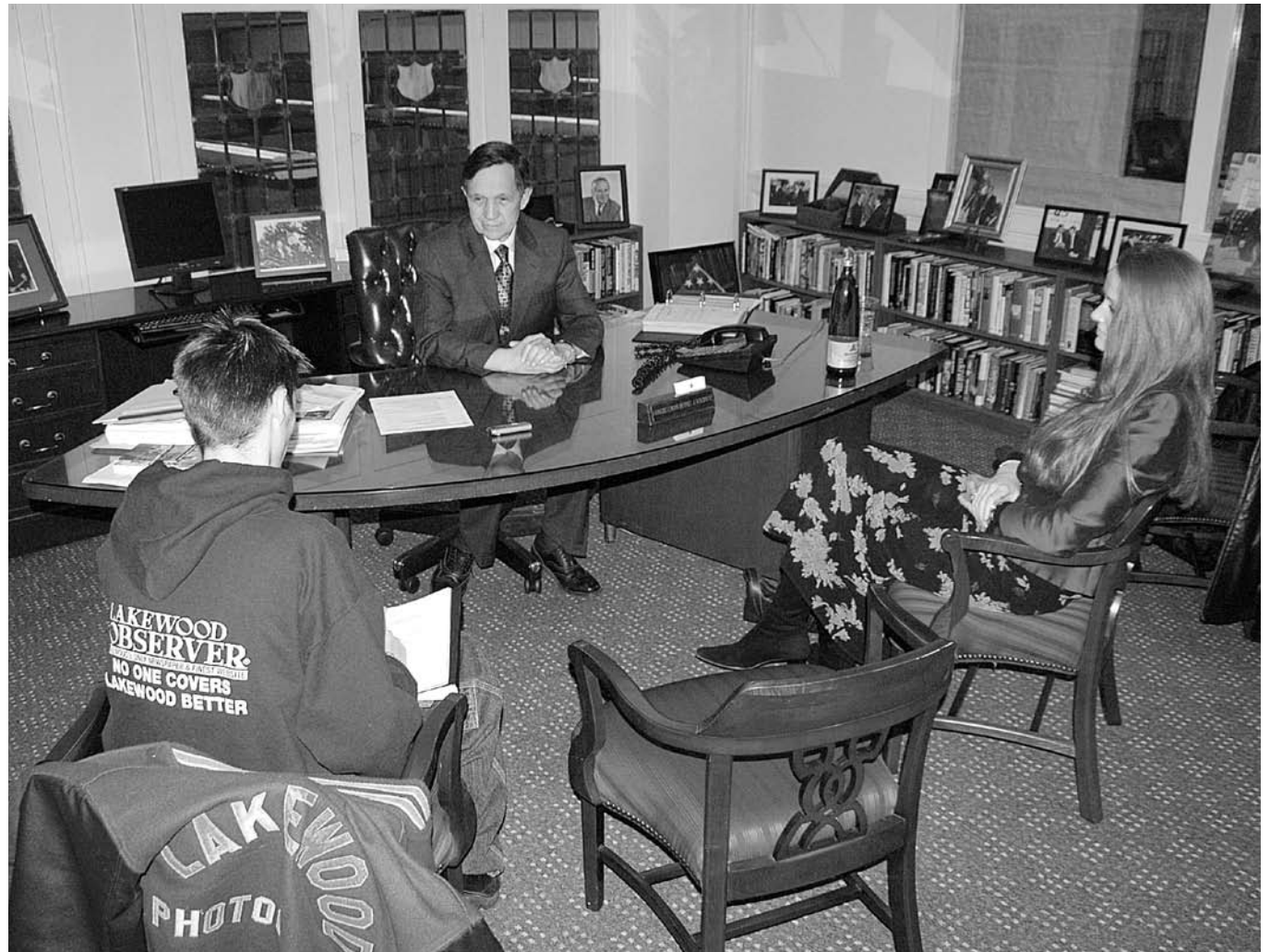
Kucinich has been a man of truth, compassion and diplomacy. In 1978, Cleveland's banks demanded that he sell the city's 70 year-old municipally-owned electric system to its private competitor. Otherwise, the banks threatened, they would not roll the city's debt until the next year's tax revenues were received. Kucinich refused to sell Muny Light, the banks decided not to roll over the city's debt which pushed the city into default. It turned out the banks were associated with the private utility, CEI, which would have become a monopoly after buying Muny Light from the city.

Muny Light is now Cleveland Public Power. It is a big part of the city that saved its customers \$195 million over what they would have paid CEI. Kucinich sticks to his word and doesn't let any private investors, banks, business men, or developers buy his seat. In this era of corporate power, Kucinich refused to back down from the power brokers who so often drive public policy in the name of the public good.

"Developers are only concerned with protecting their economic interests and they're not concerned with the community", Kucinich states. "Throughout my career, I've been standing up for people."

Dennis Kucinich is a qualified representative of this district and state because he has over 40 years of experience.

"The question is:" Kucinich proposed, "Where does your experience



Ivor Karabaticovic speaks with Congressman Kucinich and his wife Elizabeth during a two hour interview.

come from and does it come at the expense of other people? If you sell out the American people, or you sell out your community, you might have experience in office but to what avail?" Kucinich said.

"My career started in 1967", Dennis said, "throughout my career I've been standing up for people. It started with saving an electric system, pro-

moting environmental sustainability or saving a Steel Mill. Promoting peaceful exchange by bringing groups of Muslims, Jews and Christians [to his Lakewood office] to have inter-faith discussions, or going to the Middle East and working there", he continued. Dennis and his wife Elizabeth took a trip to the Middle East to see things first hand and to speak with ambassadors and politicians about resolving issues of conflict.

"All these things encompass a lifetime of experience, which really is the knowledge of people", Dennis added. "It's really not about what offices you've held, do you know people? Because if you understand people then you can make a contribution far beyond what you can even imagine. The only way to know people is to be with them and to serve them".

Kucinich says he's not afraid to stand up for the citizens of Cleveland and do what feels right for his district and country.

"I'm not a guy who can be lead by the nose." Kucinich stated. His actions speak for themselves as he has consistently been on target from the WMD threat in Iraq, to the failure of the Patriot Act.

"I was against the Patriot Act because I read it." He joked.

The wide spectrum of cultures that embody Cleveland makes it the type of place that Dennis Kucinich wants to represent. He firmly believes in diplomacy, talking not only to those that are for him but also those that are against his campaign. He has a keen sense of what is good for this region; he knows

the people and knows their struggle. His strong compassion for people from all backgrounds and situations will lead him to do what is right. Dennis Kucinich is perhaps the most modest public service official now working in government. He has no intentions of taking money from investors, private organizations, developers or any interested intent on financial gain at the expense of the common citizen.

Dennis Kucinich has always stood by what he believes is right. He carries a small Constitution in his coat pocket to remind himself of what this country was founded upon. Notes, underlined sentences, and asterisks fill the pages of the pocket sized Declaration of Independence and Constitution. He reads these documents on a consistent basis and works hard to represent his district in Washington DC. In this era where the desecration of the constitution is allowed by the mainstream media, Kucinich has stood firm in his rejection of the Patriot Act.

Dennis has four challengers that are vying for the seat he has held for the past 11 years. He has stayed true to his district for those 11 years, never taking "dirty money" which can tilt and shift an election. His election to the seat in 1996 and his re-elections in 2000, and 2004 are rooted in the person that Dennis Kucinich is and the things that he has done for the 10th District of Ohio. Hopefully, his character will stand out again, delivering a Kucinich victory in the 2008 election.

"I can't be bought" Dennis Kucinich explained, "And neither can his seat" his wife Elizabeth added.



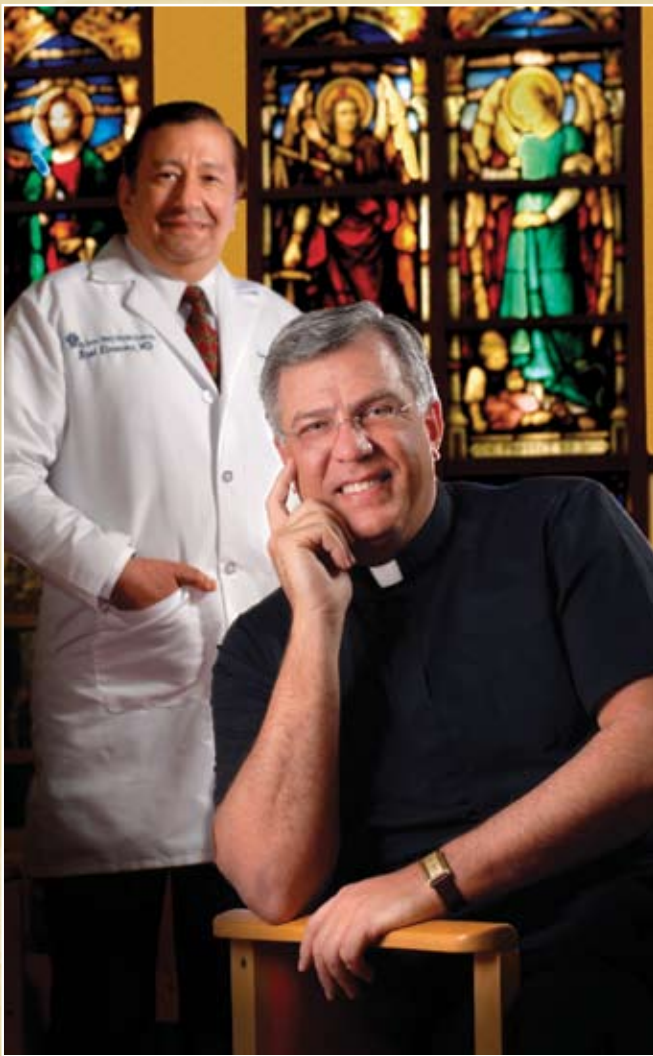
Congressman Kucinich shows Ivor his copy of a pocket Constitution signed by Senator Robert Byrd.

6

IN A SERIES



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Atef Eltomay, MD with Father George Vrabel

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A Priest Dedicated to Helping Others Turns to Spine Expert at St. John West Shore Hospital to Continue the Work He Loves

For decades, Father George Vrabel has dedicated his life to helping others. But recently, his schedule of 12- to 14-hour days spent presiding over his congregation at St. Mary’s Church in Berea came to an abrupt halt.

That’s when his chronic back problems reached a level he had never before experienced. He ruptured a lumbar disk in his back, resulting in the loss of motor function in his left leg and foot. In excruciating pain, he was left unable to complete the work he loves—helping others in need.

After spending nearly 20 years visiting physicians for his back problems and gaining little or no relief, he turned to a new doctor for assistance, Atef Eltomay, MD, Chief of Neurosurgery at St. John West Shore Hospital. Dr. Eltomay evaluated and diagnosed Father Vrabel’s condition and performed microscopic surgery. Father Vrabel agrees that Dr. Eltomay is a first-rate physician and was extremely impressed with the amount of time the doctor spent with him during his visits to the office, as well as to the hospital.

Within hours of surgery, Father Vrabel was walking. Within a few weeks, his pain and numbness were completely gone, he was walking three miles a day as part of a strengthening routine, and he was free of any pain medication. Most importantly, thanks to the high-quality healthcare he received from Dr. Eltomay and St. John West Shore Hospital, Father Vrabel was back to doing what he enjoys most—helping others.

For a physician referral, please call 1-866-733-9112.

Lakewood Perspective

It's Like Deja Vu All Over Again

by Bret Callentine

Here we go again. Perhaps it's only a sad indication as to what Columbus really thinks of us, that we're once again discussing a proposal for state-run gambling. Our government has got to either think we're stupid enough not to remember Issue 3, or that we're lazy enough not to care. Either way, I'm not impressed.

Regardless of numerous failed attempts to pass off personal greed as an opportunity for educational funding, Governor Strickland now thinks the answer is to put Keno machines in Ohio bars. And the best part is that their plan doesn't include any kind of public vote, since (get ready for this) Keno isn't really gambling. It's like a lottery, which is already allowed by state law.

Brilliant! Next time you get pulled over after a night of drinking, be sure to try that logic with the police: "You can't arrest me for D.U.I. officer, because I was drinking wine, and wine is essentially grape juice, and driving under the influence of grape juice isn't illegal." I'm sure they'll see things your way.

I'm embarrassed that we, as a state, are represented by someone--anyone--who would think that this is not only legal, but a good idea. Didn't the state just spend a lot of time and effort removing a different kind of electronic gaming machine from a lot of Cleveland bars? I guess the problem wasn't the gambling, it was that the state wasn't getting its cut of the profits.

Once again, I feel the need to

point out that I'm not against gambling. I'm actually all for having hotels and casinos line both sides of the Cuyahoga River in the flats. What I'm against, however, is the State of Ohio tripping over quarters to pick up a dime.

Remember, this isn't about letting the gambling genie out of the bottle. We can already bet on horse races on the East side, play blackjack and poker in the Flats, and purchase instant lotto tickets at a thousand different vending machines. We already have legalized gambling. The real problem is that the State of Ohio wants to keep pretending that it has some sort of false sense of morality as they continue to be completely incompetent in maximizing their returns.

Governor Strickland has suggested that the benefit of having these machines would be an additional \$73 million in revenue for Ohio education. So my question is this: If \$73 million is good, wouldn't \$100 million be better? Why not \$150 million? And why just focus on revenue, why not add jobs; why not boost tourism?

Look, I'm not by any means suggesting that casinos will solve all of our financial issues. I'm merely suggesting that there is definitely a better way. And if you're already dancing with the devil, you might as well let him buy you dinner. My point is this: according to their website, the Michigan Gaming Control Board reported a revenue of over \$160 million dollars

in wagering taxes collected during the year 2007. A nominal fee, considering that the three casinos took in an estimated \$1.3 billion in total adjusted gross receipts.

In addition to the wagering tax, don't forget that between the three casinos we're talking about thousands of additional jobs, meaning additional payroll taxes, as well as new hotels, which increase room tax. And don't forget that each casino pays an annual license fee (more revenue), which pays for the Gaming Control Board (more jobs).

]And that's just three casinos in one city. I'm guessing that Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati could all sustain at least one or two. But another key is not limiting the licensing. Let the free market determine what gets built and where. What killed Issue 3 wasn't the slot machines themselves, but rather, that only a few hand-picked businessmen would be profiting from the legislation.

What's the point of trying to increase tax revenue, if you give it

right back in tax abatements and government appropriated land deals? Do you really think that if an Ohio Gaming Commission announced an open bid for a limited number of casino licenses, it would have to offer some sort of subsidy to attract potential bidders? You'd have more ownership groups step forward in one week than the total number that bid for the new Cleveland Browns franchise.

Look, we can set the limits wherever we want, but there are more than a few successful operational models out there to choose from. However, there is also a definite time limit for action. As the surrounding states increase their acceptance, the market will quickly become saturated. And once the music stops, anyone without a chair is pretty much out of luck.

The State of Ohio reminds me of the fat lady who slowly picks away at a cake in the refrigerator pretending that she's sticking to her diet. We all know that she's going to finish the thing off eventually, why not just cut a big slice, drop the guilt trip, and enjoy the calories?

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Society's Child

Lakewood Shows Heart at Rozi's

by Jennifer Scott - Society's Child
Photos By Rhonda Loje

A few years ago, while having lunch with my father at Kiwanis I met the publisher of the Lakewood Observer. After a brief conversation of what I liked (and a lot of what I didn't like about the paper) he invited me to basically "put up or shut up". So I have finally accepted the challenge. My goal in this column will be to introduce you, the reader, to a lighter, often happier, less complicated side of Lakewood. Introducing the people that live, work, and socialize here, to really amplify some of the more enjoyable aspects of this city that makes it great.

February 7th. I was invited to attend a wonderful fund raiser held at Rozis Wine House. The party was held to raise money and awareness for the Jordan Foundation. Over \$10,000 was raised that evening for the foundation which supports research into congenital heart disease. More than 200 people attended this wine tasting and dinner. Matt Harlan, executive chief at Lolita's provided lots of delicious food while Tom Rees from St. Supery in Napa introduced an array of wines. A heart felt thanks to Corey and Kara Rossen for a very enjoyable evening.



John and Joanne Brinkman and their daughter Jennifer Scott (LO's Society's Child).



Behind the Scenes: Kathy Haber and Carol Rossen



Executive Chef of Lolita, Matt Harlan



Kate and Tom Gibbons



George Patrick and Natalie Cervelli



Dan Shields, Tom Bullock and Shannon Rodgers.



Mimi Penick and Jim Marquard from Lakewood



Steve Barry, Beth Shiekh and George Shiekh from Lakewood



Jeff Suhanic and Lisa Molnar, Wendy and Chris Hopkins from Bay Village



Cindy Shambley, Meryl Closs, Lindsay Silverstein, Patti Hart from the American Heart Association



Bob and Mary Calsin from Lakewood



Ron Auck, Corey Rossen, Matthey Auck (Chef for the March 27th Wine Tasting at Rozi's)



School Board Member Matt Markling with his lovely wife Katie



Sharon Meixmer and Bob Whitcraft from Little Italy

Lakewood Schools P.T.A.

This year’s unit
PTA winners are:

EARLY CHILDHOOD PTA

Jane Jusko	Visual Arts
Charlotte Milenski	Visual Arts
Liam Rogers	Visual Arts
Aidan Smith	Visual Arts
Nate Stienecker	Visual Arts
Christina Westlake	Visual Arts
Julia Westlake	Visual Arts
Sarah Whitkofski	Visual Arts

ROOSEVELT PTA

Kerry Dezsi	
Literature	
Alonzo Griffin	Literature
Jack McDermott	Literature
Leah Roberston	Literature
Sarah Shienkaruk	Literature
Gregory Watson	Literature
Omar Fattah	Visual Arts
Asia Ibarra	Visual Arts
Johnathon Thompson	Visual Arts
Rose Summers	Visual Arts
Christina Westlake	Visual Arts
Chad Wilson-Karcher	Visual Arts

MCKINLEY PTA

Emma Yonkers	Literature
Taylor Booth	Visual Arts
Kaitlen Bradick	Visual Arts
Daisey Bryant	Visual Arts
Gregory Comstock	Visual Arts
Amena Herbawi	Visual Arts
Marriyam Ibrahim	Visual Arts
Grace Lavelle	Visual Arts
Skyler Lawson	Visual Arts
Megan McHugh	Visual Arts
Sophia Nanni	Visual Arts
Truman Ospelt	Visual Arts
Sophia Parker	Visual Arts
Amy Ritschel	Visual Arts
Jennifer Rudin	Visual Arts
Shannon Wood	Photography (4)

HARRISON PTA

Ersa Sala	Literature
Isabelle Cooper	Visual Arts
Chloe Holcker	Visual Arts
Lidia Logan	Visual Arts
Sarah Nolan	Visual Arts
Muayad Shahin	Visual Arts
Angus Willie	Visual Arts

PTA Reflections
by Brenda Budzar and

The PTA Reflections Program is an annual art contest sponsored by the National PTA. The program offers students from preschool through grade 12 the opportunity to create a piece of art around a particular theme in one of six categories: literature, dance choreography, film/video production, musical composition, photography, and visual arts (which includes, but is not limited to, art forms such as drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage). The theme for the 2007-08 program is, “I Can Make a Difference by . . .”. Entries are collected and judged blindly at the unit, council, state and finally national PTA level, with 24 pieces advancing at each step.

The Lakewood PTA takes an active role in promoting the PTA Reflections Program throughout its nine eligible units: Lakewood Early Childhood PTA (LECPTA), Roosevelt Elementary PTA, McKinley Elementary PTA, Harrison Elementary PTA, Grant Elementary PTA, Lincoln Elementary PTA, Garfield Middle School PTA, Harding Middle School PTA, and Lakewood High School PTA. This year Lakewood had

GRANT PTA

G. Daniel Bender	Literature
Rachel Daso	Literature
Britney Gadd	Literature
Micah Inak	Literature
John Kompier	Literature
Veronica Lee	Literature
Elena Mulready	Literature
Isabel Ostrowski	Literature
Josh Owen	Literature
Caleigh Sheehan	Literature
Michael Swanson	Literature
Nathaniel Zettler	Literature
Erin Black	Visual Arts (2)
Garrett Bodnar	Visual Arts
Eyad Elder	Visual Arts
Nicholas Johnson	Visual Arts
Catherine Kelley	Visual Arts
Raychelle King	Visual Arts
Samantha Stone	Visual Arts
Maya Sutliff	Visual Arts
Lalia Williams-Riseng	Visual Arts (2)
Julia Wozniakowski	Visual Arts

LINCOLN PTA

Callan Foran	Literature
Renee Klann	Literature
Fiona O'Donnell	Literature
Kathleen O'Donnell	Literature
Halle Rose	Literature
Bély Stockman	Literature
Melinda Warren	Literature
Eva Wynn	Literature
Evan Budzar	Visual Arts
Zoë Budzar	Visual Arts
Caitlin Cimino	Visual Arts
Carter Gamez	Visual Arts
Cole Karel	Visual Arts
Fox Milenski	Visual Arts
Julia Neff	Visual Arts
Owen O'Donnell	Visual Arts
Maureen Palmer	Visual Arts (2)
Aki Raffai	Visual Arts
Nava Ramazanali	Visual Arts
Ivy Rook	Visual Arts
Saige Rook	Visual Arts
Addison Soukup	Visual Arts
Gunnar Stockman	Visual Arts



Members of City Council, the PTA and School Board check out the slide show. This slides reminded everyone that all art would be on display at bela dubby, 13321 Madison throughout out the entire month.



T.A. Reflections 2008

ons Program and Judy Szentkiralyi

a total of 286 entries at the unit (school) level with the largest number of entries from Harding Middle School (101) and Lincoln Elementary School (58). All pieces were judged blindly by using a 5-point ranking system in the areas of artistic merit, creativity, and attention to theme, with the top 24 pieces from each unit advancing to the council (district) level. This year 146 pieces advanced to the Lakewood PTA council, where they were again judged blindly using the same ranking system, and narrowed down to 24 to advance to the state level competition. The state entries arrived in Columbus by January 31st, for judging at the state level, in hopes of finally advancing to the National PTA.

In order to celebrate the creativity of its participants, the Lakewood Council PTA hosts an annual Awards Ceremony, Art Opening, and Ice Cream Social. This year the 147 unit-level winners will be recognized at the Lakewood Civic Auditorium on Thursday, February 7th from 7-9 pm. At that time participants will discover which entries have been chosen to represent Lakewood at the State PTA Level of competition.

GARFIELD PTA		HARDING PTA	
Matthew Allen	Literature	Rachel Corder	Literature
Steven Almeida	Literature	Samantha Dreistadt	Literature
Michael Caraballo	Literature	Lindsay Furtado	Literature
Ron Clay	Literature	Sameena Khan	Literature
Darnelle Crenshaw-El	Literature	Jessica Maxwell	Literature
Levio Cunningham	Literature	Maxwell Mulready	Literature
Morgan Dayhoff	Literature	Ensilda Nuredini	Literature
Matthew Johnson	Literature	Raychele Paul	Literature
Jasmine Keith	Literature	Naseem Shean	Literature
Charlotte Link	Literature	Steve Saed	Literature
Katherine Maloney	Literature	Eli Zettler	Literature
Jiayin Peng	Literature	James Dilzell	Visual Arts
Maggie Rowell	Literature	Brian Hrdlicka	Visual Arts
Zachary Sanderson	Literature	Sameena Khan	Visual Arts
Yasmeen Shafik	Literature	Aaron Kovach	Visual Arts
Dheja Smith	Literature	Luke Lemmeier	Visual Arts
Jesse Williams	Literature	Clayton Overcasher	Visual Arts
Marissa Zalucky	Literature	Noah Richard	Visual Arts
Neelab Abdullah	Visual Arts	Hannah Smith	Visual Arts
Aaron Helbig	Visual Arts	Caroline Speice	Visual Arts
Hannah Tyburski	Visual Arts	Stephen Sorger	Visual Arts
Harrison Werner	Visual Arts	Trent Wimbiscus	Photography
Jacob Zbin	Visual Arts	Peter Quigley	Music Composition
Rebecca Johnson	Photography	Aaron Roos	Film/Video Production

LHS PTA

Libby Hampton	Literature
Sarah Jawhari	Literature
Bethany Zettler	Literature
Andrew Eleban	Photography
Jacob Ott	Photography

The names in bold represent the 24 students whose pieces advanced to the Ohio PTA competition. We wish them luck!

In the 2007 Program themed “My Favorite Place is . . .” the Lakewood PTA had four outstanding pieces receive state recognition:

A Visual Arts piece entitled “Bright Lights of Cleveland“ by Hal-lah Amawi, Horace Mann Middle School, Honorable Mention, Middle School/Junior High Division.

“My Favorite Place is the Waterfalls”, a photograph by Lakewood High School’s Ivor Karabatkovic, Honorable Mention, Senior High Division;

“My Favorite Place is Under my Grandma’s stairs”, a literature entry by Sophia DeBaltzo, Lincoln Elementary, primary division;

And “My Favorite Place is the Dark Forest“, a musical composition by Lakewood High School’s Max Mueller. Max’s piece received the highest award at the state level, an Award of Excellence,

and his piece advanced to the National Competition in the Senior High Division, where it also received an Award of Excellence. In addition to outstanding recognition Max’s top award earned him \$200.00.

In its 30+ year history, the PTA Reflections Program has encouraged tens of thousands of students to explore and celebrate their artistic talents, and receive positive recognition for their efforts.

Watch for participation opportunities for next year, in the fall.

In addition, Jill and John Crino, owners of bela dubby, an art gallery and beer cafe at 13321 Madison Avenue in Lakewood, have invited the Lakewood Council PTA to display their top (146) Reflections entries throughout the month of February. Come check them out M-Th from 10-10, and Fri-Sat from 10-mid-night.

View the 2007 gallery of winners:
HYPERLINK “<http://pta.browser-media.com/>” <http://pta.browsermedia.com/>

Please follow the link below for more detailed information about the PTA Reflections Program
HYPERLINK

“http://www.pta.org/local_leadership_subprogram_1116958614281.html”
http://www.pta.org/local_leadership_subprogram_1116958614281.html



Chris Karel, who is heading up The Lakewood Youth Commission checks out the artwork with sons, Isaac and Cole.



Around Town



Cheryl Nekl Benefit A Success

by Justine Cooper

The Fundraiser held this past month for Cheryl Nekl and her family was, to say the least, an overwhelming testament to the love that this family has given to the community. All five hundred tickets were sold and many were sadly turned away. There were staff from Cheryl's "old" school Franklin, where Cheryl not only worked the playground, but volunteered countless hours as an active PTA member, even while fighting cancer. I was surprised to see so many people with connections to this family, from neighbors, men who played ball with her husband, school personnel, to friends galore! The energy in the room was electric, as was the DJ spinning records for the kids to show us all how to dance. His services were donated, as was the hall, and an array of wonderful items from local businesses for Chinese auction and raffles. Women worked the raffle tickets like pros while the men worked the cash bar and items from Great Wolf waterpark to local restaurants, to jewelry sold themselves to hopeful winners! The money was raised to help with medical bills. The amount raised was heartwarming. The effort of Cheryl's friends to put this together and make it a fun family night is beyond words. Although this was an effort of three different communities coming together, it was truly a testament to a tight-knit love of Lakewood, a community that really made me proud to be a part of, that night!



Cheryl and Jeff

Fifth Anniversary

"National Wear Red Day."



Front Row: Jill Vanuch, Anita Braves Fuller, Bobbie Hendrick, Shellie Sedlak, Cheryl Lazroff, Elizabeth Dauber, Cindy Helbig. Back Row: Cindy Flores, Nancy Lukens, Nancy Eilberg, Wendy Summers, Lauren Glover, Vesna Breckelmacher, Nancy Molnar, Eleanor Detke, Tracie Vanuch, Olivia Vanuch

by Elizabeth Dauber

The National Institute of Health and the American Heart Association are part of a national campaign aimed at warning women about heart disease – the #1 killer of women. The campaign has adopted the Red Dress as its symbol, serving as a red alert to convey the message that "Heart Disease Doesn't Care What You Wear," and to change the perception that it is only a man's issue.

As part of the campaign, each year on the first Friday in February, a Red Dress Fashion Show has been hosted in conjunction with the Federal Government and the Fashion Industry. Top designers and models show their support by participating in this event at the kickoff of New York's Fashion Week under the Bryant Park Tents.

In celebration of National Wear Red Day, a Red Dress Breakfast Event was held at the home of Lakewood resident Elizabeth Dauber. All guests attending wore red vintage dresses or recycled ones purchased from local resale or consignment shops.

Each dress had an interesting story behind it. One worn by Shellie Sedlak came all the way from China. There was also a family trio, Jill Vanuch, her daughter-in-law Tracie Vanuch and granddaughter Olivia Vanuch. Tracie's dress was one that she had worn to a

high school formal when she was 15 years old.

Cindy Helbig found a sweet red velvet cocktail dress from Designer Consigner, while Eleanor Detke and Elizabeth Dauber found designer dresses from Unique Thrift, each costing \$3.50. Bobbie Hendrick wore a dress that her sister had given her when she was in college and Nancy Lukens called her red outfit "one that is never in style, but always in style!" Anita Braves Fuller chose to coordinate her outfit with a matching red hat.

Susan Dauber, daughter of the hostess, was unable to attend from New York City where she works as a designer, but a red dress that she designed in high school was on display.

A "heart smart" breakfast was served consisting of ruby red mimosas, fresh fruit, blueberry oat bran muffins, breakfast egg casserole and chocolate dipped strawberries.

Cheryl Lazroff handed out information about heart disease and how to prevent it, along with red dress pins courtesy of the National Institute of Health and the American Heart Association. Everyone left well informed about the #1 killer and what they need to do to control their risk factors.

The group hopes to make the Red Dress Breakfast an annual event.



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Lakewood Sports

Rangers Hockey in Division III Baron Cup!

by Todd Shapiro

The Lakewood Rangers hockey team earned their way into their first Division III Baron Cup tournament and were determined to make the most of the opportunity. Lakewood opened Baron Cup play as a number 5 seed and defeated the No. 4 Garfield Heights 5-3 setting up a meeting with the top-seeded Solon Comets.

Going into the closing minutes of the game against the Comets the Rangers led 2-0 with senior Wayne Burke scoring both of the Ranger's goals. Solon came back to force overtime when Matt Hudzinski scored two goals in the final 1:01 of the game to tie it at 2-2. The Rangers managed just 18 shots in the contest but pulled off the upset when Wayne Burke scored his third goal of the game in overtime to place the Rangers in the Baron Cup Championship game, where they would face Chagrin Falls. Burke played a pivotal role in Lakewood's tournament run with a hand in all 11 of Lakewood post-season goals (6 goals 5 assists).

Lakewood's Baron Cup dream ended when the Tigers scored two second period goals and took a lead they would never relinquish, defeating Lakewood 5-2 to take the Baron Cup title.

Although Lakewood fell short in their quest to win their first Baron Cup in School history Coach Josh Dress said his teams performance could help to put Lakewood Hockey back on the map, "Tournaments like this get kids interested in playing hockey. People in Lakewood knew we were in the Baron Cup and were exciting about Lakewood Hockey again."

Less than a week after their Baron Cup run ended, the Rangers opened OHSA tournament play against the Division II Baron Cup Champions, the Brecksville-Broadview Heights Bees. Brecksville's Mark Pinter started the scoring by redirecting a puck that bounced off the pads of Rangers Goalkeeper Billy Snyder into the back of the net with 9:14 remaining in the first period. Pinter added a second goal four minutes later to give the Bees' a 2-0 lead. The momentum appeared

to shift in Lakewood favor when Burke gained control of a loose puck just outside the blue zone and skated into for a breakaway goal with 1.9 seconds remaining in the first period to cut the Bees' lead in half. However, Pinter answered back 11 seconds into the second period scoring his third goal of the game. Later in the period Matt Iwaszkiw closed out the scoring with a power play goal to make the final score 4-1. "The second period has been tough for us all season," Dress said. "But Brecksville did a real good job of adjusting to our defensive system and they were able to put pressure on our goal."

In his final game as a Ranger goalkeeper Billy Snyder saved 46 Brecksville shots to keep the Rangers within striking distance. Snyder was one of the top goalkeepers in the area all season with a 1.73 GAA but stepped up even bigger in the postseason where the Rangers were out shot by a 2-to-1 margin in all four games. "Billy has played well all year. He has put us in a situation to win a lot of hockey games," Dress said

Rangers Girls' Basketball Finishes Season in Division I Sectional

by Todd Shapiro

The Rangers girls' basketball team ended their season with a 57-51 loss to Strongsville last Wednesday in the Division I sectional at Valley Forge High School. Lakewood spent the first period trading baskets with the Mustangs and took an 11-8 lead with 1:26 remaining on a 3-point field goal by junior Chelsea Kovach. The Rangers led 15-14 after the first eight minutes but that would be their final lead of the night.

Strongsville, who ranked 21 in the final Plain Dealer girls top 25, went on a 10-0 run to open the second period and took a 24-15 lead. The Rangers cut the deficit to 26-23 at the half and came as close as 50-48 in the fourth with 1:41 to go in the game when forward Jamie Wright drained the second three-pointer of the period. Wright, who has led the Rangers in scoring, averaging 10 points a game, finished the night with 12 points and 8 rebounds.

Lakewood Wrestling on a Tear

by Todd Shapiro

Four Lakewood high school wrestlers advanced from last weekend's Sectional tournament at Lorain Southview high school onto the District Tournament, beginning next Friday at Marion Harding High School.

All three of the Ranger's senior captains; Pat Duffy (135), Vinny Fox (160), and Gahad Suleiman (215) survived to wrestle another week. They will be joined by junior Tony Scimienti (140). With his semifinal victory over Elyria's Brandon Perrott, Duffy became Lakewood's all-time leader in wins with 157. Duffy finished second in the tournament losing the finals to St. Edward standout Collin Palmer 15-4. St. Edward went on to win the team title for the 34th consecutive season and advanced

all 14 wrestlers to districts.

Gahad Suleiman also needed overtime in his semifinal bout against Southview's Nick Santana. Suleiman prevailed in the extra period by a 6-1 margin and advanced to the final where he lost to St. Edward's Mike Green. Vinnie Fox pulled off an upset of St. Edward's Craig Greene 3-1 in overtime and improved his record to 31-13 with a fourth place finish.

Tony Scimienti had to take the tough road to districts working his way back through the consolation bracket after losing his semifinal match to the eventual district champion of St. Edward High School. Scimienti defeated Midview's Adam Davis in the consolation semifinals to advance to the third place match and guarantee himself a trip to

districts. Scimienti won his third place match with a 2-1 decision over Southview's Tony Martinez.

Two Lakewood wrestlers finished five in their brackets earning a spot as an alternate for next week's districts tournament; Freshman Nick Ramsey (130) and Junior Peti Tapolyia (145). Ramsey improved his record to 27-16 in the year with a 9-3 decision over Midview's Jared Wise in the fifth-place match. Tapolyia won his fifth-place match against North Olmsted freshman Thae Zayed 8-4 to improve his record to 25-14.

Lakewood finished ninth in the team standing with 84.5 points. St. Edward finished with 310 followed by Elyria with 199.5 and Southview with 179.

Lakewood Rangers 6th Grade Basketball Team Capture L.E.B.L. Title

by Jay Foran

The Lakewood Rangers 6th Grade Boys Basketball Team recently captured outright the Lake Erie Basketball League (L.E.B.L.) South Division title. The team - comprised of boys from both Garfield and Harding Middle Schools - won all four games in the L.E.B.L. Tournament held February 9-10, 2008, at Cloverleaf and Westlake High Schools.

The team's stellar 17-2 season included a 10-0 regular season record, a 2nd Place finish in the Olmsted Falls Christmas Classic, and culminated with the L.E.B.L. tourney championship. In securing the tournament title amongst the 16 team field, Lakewood beat teams from Buckeye, Cuyahoga Falls, and Westlake before defeating Highland Heights in the title game 36-34.

Organized by the Lakewood Recreation Department and coached by parents Rob Matthews and Ron Schmidt, the strong showing by the team in this inaugural travel season was met with immense Lakewood pride and satisfaction. Team members include Mohammed Amawi, Jameson Foran, David Kemp, Tyler Krebs, Dan Matthews, Shawn McDonald, Aaron Morit, Andrew Pursel, Jacob Schmidt, and Matthew Shestina



Pulse Of The City

Sometimes, All It Takes Is A Phone Call...
Heroes and Heroines

Did you ever stop and think about all the people who’ve inspired you over the years? These people plant little seeds of encouragement in your soul, and before you know it, those little seeds start to develop into fresh ideas of their own.

A good while ago, I received a call from Dan Chabek. For those of you who may not know, Dan was a columnist for the Lakewood Sun Post whose timeless columns about Lakewood history were later compiled into the book Lakewood Lore, available from the Lakewood Historical Society. Dan’s encouragement to me about writing my own Lakewood columns came at a time in my life when I really needed a boost. I was stunned to read about his passing on January 29th in Julie Kreuz’s article about Dan on page A2 of the Lakewood Sun Post (2-7-08).

Sometimes, all it takes is a phone call like the one Dan made to me to change a life. I will never forget the kindness of Dan’s call. Our family’s hearts, and I am sure those of all Lakewoodites, go out to the Chabeks in this time of sorrow for them, and for all of us.

So this is a column of thanks: to remember Dan, and all those mentioned and unmentioned, who have taken the time to help me with my own life.

As I sat down at this computer, my mind began to wander. I started to reflect on all the wonderful people who have helped me to achieve success. Of course, I would have to start with my parents, grandparents, and loved ones, but with my dear late mom in particular--who wanted this great computer to come into our home in the first place so that our family would have something to pass the time with when she, herself, passed on. Dad, too, has been a great inspiration and guide. His smile and eagerness to help others have helped me by being a wonderful example for who I try to be today.

I also have a warm memory of my first guitar teacher, Ken Turocy, who gave me a fantastic foundation with that instrument. I also thank all the

other teachers in my life who helped me with so many things. To Murray Saul, and WMMS, my thanks as well for putting me on the air in the 1970’s to talk about being a person with hearing and speech difficulties who, although I was a qualified teacher, was unable to find a full-time teaching job. (In the early 1970’s, I, and a great many others, helped to raise awareness for people having exceptionalities, resulting in the federal law P.L. 94-142 that established education rights for those with special needs.)

I wish I could thank my first employer, Bill Hoca, God rest his soul, for giving me a chance at a first real job in a music store. Bill and his wonderful wife, Kathie, were instrumental in helping me develop my skills with people and instruments at the former West Park Music at Kamm’s Corners. A special thanks to all the great folks in all the music stores who let me buy their castoffs and unused parts bins so I could learn about guitar repair. To Hideo Kamimoto for his super book Complete Guitar Repair: Hideo, you’re the best in the world, as far as I’m concerned. Regarding the late Ernest Tubb,

Gary Rice

Dude Sizemore, Lee Phillips, Frank Tichy, Gene Krupa, Buddy Rich, and Barney Kessel, I miss them all so much. I would like to thank them again for their time, talent, advice, and examples in the world of music. To Mark Ward, Joe LaRose, and Dave Trowbridge, thanks for helping me find out more about a famous fiddlin’ grandfather I never knew. Time is indeed the most valuable gift of all, and you all gave of yourselves freely and beautifully.

To those at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame: Thanks for giving me the chance to work with the Hall’s guitars, and in so doing, become a small part of rock and roll history myself. Thanks as well to Norm Isaac and Cy Sulak, the other two “guitar guys” who worked with me. You helped make it all happen! I thank Dennis Chandler for his great knowledge. As for the late Robert Lockwood Jr., I wish I could thank him again for our jam sessions. My dad and I still talk about sitting in with that great man. To Todd Andersen, my Lakewood guitar pickin’ buddy, attorney, and king of the Brawley Guitar: I don’t know what you do better, legal briefs or luscious guitar licks!

To Hartley Peavey, Charlie Kaman Sr., Amalia Ramirez, and so many others in the guitar manufacturing business who at one point or another took time with me: I thank you more than you’ll probably ever know.

Thanks to all the people who helped me become a Special Education teacher in spite of my speech impediment, and who helped me as I worked in that field for so many years. To all my former students, and to those now at Garfield School, for whom Dad and I volunteer with music each week: You are what it’s all about! Always remember...no limits, ever!

I give great thanks to Bobbie Stone of Folknet’s Continuum, Marc Wayner of Guitar Digest, and of course, Jim O’Bryan and Anne Palomaki, and the Lakewood Observer crew, for encouraging me to write. I also thank, of course, Dan and Marge Chabek for their great encouragement. As mentioned, I’ve discovered that I enjoy writing and now make it a significant part of my life.

A special thanks to all of you for putting up with my columns over these last few years. I appreciate your compliments as well as your suggestions. You are why we writers write, after all!


There are countless more people in my life, and I suspect, in your own, who probably could use a whole bunch of thank you’s. I’ve started that job now and I’m glad that I did before some of them passed on. For others, it was too late for me to do so.

As you’ve seen, many people helped me to sit here and play my music and write these words. The places I’ve been, and the people I’ve met along the way, provide me with a storehouse of wonderful memories. You can have many memories, as well, when you find an activity that you love to do, and especially when you find someone to help along the way. The gifts that we all share with each other can go a long way towards keeping the pulse of this city strong!

Why not start by encouraging someone else today? All it takes is a phone call...

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Have an antique you'd like to identify? Visit the panel of Ken Yenke (the Yenke Peddler), Nancy Kretzschmar (Vintage Faire Antiques) and Joanne Rodgers (Western Reserve Depression Glass Club) on Saturday morning!

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Saturday, March 8, 2008




10:00 - 12:00	Antique Identification (entryway)
11:00 - 12:00	Designing With Annuals and Q & A - Kevin O'Neil
12:00 - 12:30	Your Environmentally 'Green' Home - Jim Engler
12:30 - 1:00	Your Revitalized 'Old' Home - Jim Engler
1:00 - 2:00	Lead in the Home and Q & A - Jim Engler
1:30 - 2:00	Decorating for Kids - Sherwin Williams (entryway)
2:00 - 2:30	Harding Middle School Strolling Strings
2:30 - 3:30	Home Buying Seminar and Q & A - Ray Antonelli
3:30 - 4:00	Garfield Middle School Strolling Strings




Sunday, March 9, 2008




1:30 - 2:00	Feng Shui - Kristine Pagsuyoin
1:30 - 2:00	Decorating for Kids - Sherwin Williams (entryway)
2:00 - 2:30	Your Environmentally 'Green' Home - Jim Engler
2:30 - 3:00	Your Revitalized 'Old' Home - Jim Engler
3:00 - 3:30	Lead in the Home - Jim Engler



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Conservation Corner

The Dish on Fish

by Heather Ramsey

For many, the Lenten season is now in full swing, prompting a whole host of Friday Fish Fries as faithful Christians forego eating meat on Fridays. With this in mind, it seemed appropriate to consider the state of the world’s fisheries and provide a little insight into how to choose the fish that have been harvested with the least negative impact to the planet. Fish is, generally, a welcome addition to any diet, as it is low in fat, high in protein, contains a number of valuable vitamins and minerals, and is a primary source for omega-3 fatty acids, which may help prevent heart disease. Unfortunately, the impact of commercial fishing on oceanic populations may put a damper on eating this wide variety of healthy foods.

According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, more than 70% of the world’s fish species have been either fully exploited or seriously depleted. In the north Atlantic, commercial fish populations of cod, hake, haddock, and flounder have fallen

by as much as 95%. These statistics have led to the prediction that the populations of all species of wild seafood could be collapsed by 2048. Meanwhile, pollution in our lakes, rivers, and oceans has caused many fish populations to be host to dangerous levels of mercury, PCBs, and other chemicals.

Not only have our oceans been overfished, but ecosystems have also been damaged by fishing methods such as trawling. Millions of sea birds, turtles, and other aquatic life have been caught in nets as bycatch, while the bottoms of the oceans have been scraped by trawlers. Fish ponds where species are bred for consumption may help take the pressure off the oceans (indeed, one quarter of fish and one third of shrimp consumption is now from aquaculture farms), but are risky in their potential to pollute and in the danger that escaped farm fish might have on fragile nearby ecosystems. Not only that, but feeding large pond-raised fish with smaller wild fish sometimes defeats the purpose.

It is, of course, no easy task to find out how responsibly the particular fish on your plate was harvested, but it is possible to choose fish that have traveled shorter distances to arrive there (fish from the Great Lakes or North Atlantic before those from the Pacific, for example). Additionally, there are lists available showing which fish are likely to have high levels of mercury, which have been overfished, which are raised in destructive fishing environments, and which have high rates of bycatch. Some of the best and worst are listed below, and the whole list is available at <http://www.thegreenguide.com/doc/93/bestfish>.

Also, since it is often best to eat foods found close to home, keep in mind possible advisories for Great Lakes fish. A good summary of safe and unsafe fish in Ohio is available at http://web.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/fishadvisory/Eat%20Your%20Catch_1page.pdf. And if all of this has deterred you from going to that fish fry, consider trying walnuts, soybeans, or flaxseed

oil for those omega-3 fatty acids.

Best Choices
(not overfished, not farmed destructively, low levels of bycatch, no mercury):

- Catfish (farmed)
- Clams (farmed)
- Crab
- Crawfish
- Herring
- Rainbow trout (farmed)
- Salmon
- Sturgeon (farmed)
- Tilapia (farmed)
- Trout (farmed)

Worst Choices
(some combination of mercury, destructive farming, bycatch, and overfishing):

- Flounder (Atlantic)
- Haddock
- Monkfish
- Orange Roughy
- Scallops
- Shark
- Shrimp

Lakewood Is Art - Arts Watch

by Ruth A. Koenigsmark

The Lakewood Arts scene is buzzing, featuring hundreds of fine artists, performing arts venues, emerging arts neighborhoods, numerous art galleries, and a myriad of art events. Another month brings some of City’s most exciting Arts and Culture Events to the forefront. Here is just a sampling of what’s in store in the upcoming weeks:

The end February brings an art show opening for David Horneck. Mark your calendars for Friday, February 22 for Horneck’s “Reflections” show from 6pm-9pm at Local Girl Gallery. Horneck says of this body work and his show, “I get easily distracted by bright shiny objects and these window reflections are no exception! Look carefully at each one of these little puzzles, because there are many things hidden in them. See if you can decipher which images are real and which are reflections. No image layering

has been done to any of these images—they are exactly as I saw them.”

Some big news is that the Pop Shop Gallery is holding its first community outreach show called “P.S (Pop Shop) I Love You” on Saturday, February 23rd from 6-9pm. This show involves 19 of some of the best Cleveland area artists, all of which collaborated to create one image. “The sale of reproductions and the original collaboration will benefit arts in the community, such as murals and sculptures, for all to enjoy,” states Rich Cihlar, owner of the Pop Shop.

Phoenix Café will be featuring two artist’s work in March, Peter Glynias II and Howard Crow. Glynias will be showing black and white Cleveland scenes. Crowe’s installation has 27 individually framed photographs, ‘crisis of faith,’ and when all the photos are hung together, the image emerges. Some terrific shows—and see you out there!

Beck Center for the Arts
17801 Detroit Avenue 216.521.2540

bela dubby - 13221 Madison Avenue
216.221.4479 Rock Shot Show - Rock n Roll art by Michael Heasley Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 am – 10 pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-midnight.

Lakewood Phoenix Café - 15108 Detroit Avenue
216.226.4401 - Featured artists for March are Peter Glynias II and Howard Crow. Hours: Monday-Saturday, 7am-10pm, Sunday, 8am-8pm

Local Girl Gallery - 16106 Detroit Avenue
216.228.1802 Friday, March 14, 6-9pm, Opening for Abstract artist Wade Nicols Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12-5pm, Friday and Saturday, 12-6pm.

Pop Shop Gallery & Studio - 17020 Madison Ave.
216.227.8440 PS (POP SHOP) I love you Show Saturday, February 23rd from 6-9pm Hours: Monday-Friday 4pm-8pm, Saturday 2pm-6pm.

Wobblefoot Gallery & Frames - 1662 Mars Ave.
216.226.2971FEATURED ARTIST this month is Robert Tubbesing Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm.

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

Lakewood Recreation

Lakewood Recreation Announces Youth Athletics Advisory Panels

Over the last several years the Recreation Department has gathered community input through end-of-the-season meetings and the distribution of thousands of surveys. This information has been helpful; however, to truly be successful we need the opportunity to have an on-going discussion with parents, participants and coaches. We need you to get involved!

The Lakewood Recreation Department is creating Advisory Panels for its Youth Athletic

programs. There will be three separate panels focusing on baseball/softball, basketball and football. The purpose of the Advisory Panels is to get parents, participants and coaches involved in the future of our community’s youth athletic programs. As a member of an Advisory Panel you will be asked to review current programs, give your opinion and advise the Recreation Department on ways to improve programming. All parents, participants and coaches are encouraged to

take part. We anticipate each Advisory Panel meeting three to four times per year; once or twice before the start of the season, once during the season and once following the season. Each Advisory Panel will be led by volunteer Co-Chairpersons. To get involved, or to be a volunteer Chairperson, call the Recreation Department today at 216-529-4081 or contact us at www.lakewoodrecreation.com. See meeting dates and times below:

Basketball Meetings
Hayes Elementary School Cafeteria
Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at 6:30 pm
Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at 6:30 pm,

Baseball Meetings
Hayes Elementary School Cafeteria
Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 6:30 pm,
Saturday, June 28, 2008 at 9:00 am,
Wednesday, August 6, 2008 at 6:30 pm,

Lakewood Theater

Tony Award-winning Play At Beck Center, The History Boys, March 7-30

Remember the things we loved and hated about school, the young ideals we all shared, and the memorable teachers who inspired us? Go back to school and experience those moments again with The History Boys at the Beck Center for the Arts, March 7 through 30 on the Mackey Main Stage. This six-time Tony Award-winning play blends both comedy and

tragedy in the story of eight grammar school boys preparing for college entrance exams and the year that influenced the rest of their lives. Show times are 8:00 pm Fridays and Saturdays and 3:00 pm Sundays. There is no performance on Sunday, March 23. To reserve tickets, contact the Beck Center box office at (216) 521-2540 or online at www.beckcenter.org.

Sarah May directs this funny but touching play, written by Alan Bennett – one of Britain's most beloved humorists. The winner of six 2006 Tony Awards including Best Play, The History Boys is a moving comedy about two teachers competing for the hearts and minds of eight bright young men who are trying to get into Oxford and Cambridge. The older,

somewhat eccentric, Hector wants his students to experience the joy of learning for its own intrinsic value but classroom loyalties are tested when Irwin, a brash young teacher is brought in to show them how to 'skew' their knowledge and give their essays more 'edge.'

The History Boys features Dana Hart* as Hector, Dan Folino* as Irwin, Michael Regnier as the Headmaster, Dede Klein as Mrs. Lintott, as well as a talented young cast of performers including Eric Fancher, Matthew Thomas, Stuart Hoffman, Adam Day Howard, Max Chernin, Mack Shirilla, Tom Kondilas, and Javar Parker.

Director May says, "When I saw this dazzling play in London, I never dreamed it would be produced in Cleveland, much less, that I would be allowed to direct it. Kudos to Scott Spence and Beck for taking on this amazing piece! It is smart, funny and very theatrical. The script crackles with verbal fireworks! I think audiences are going to love the chemistry between the eight wonderful young actors we have assembled to be Cleveland's own 'history boys.' And we are so fortunate to have some of the busiest and best mature actors in town to play the educators. This show is sure to be an event, filled with music, wit, ideas, and classroom comedy!"

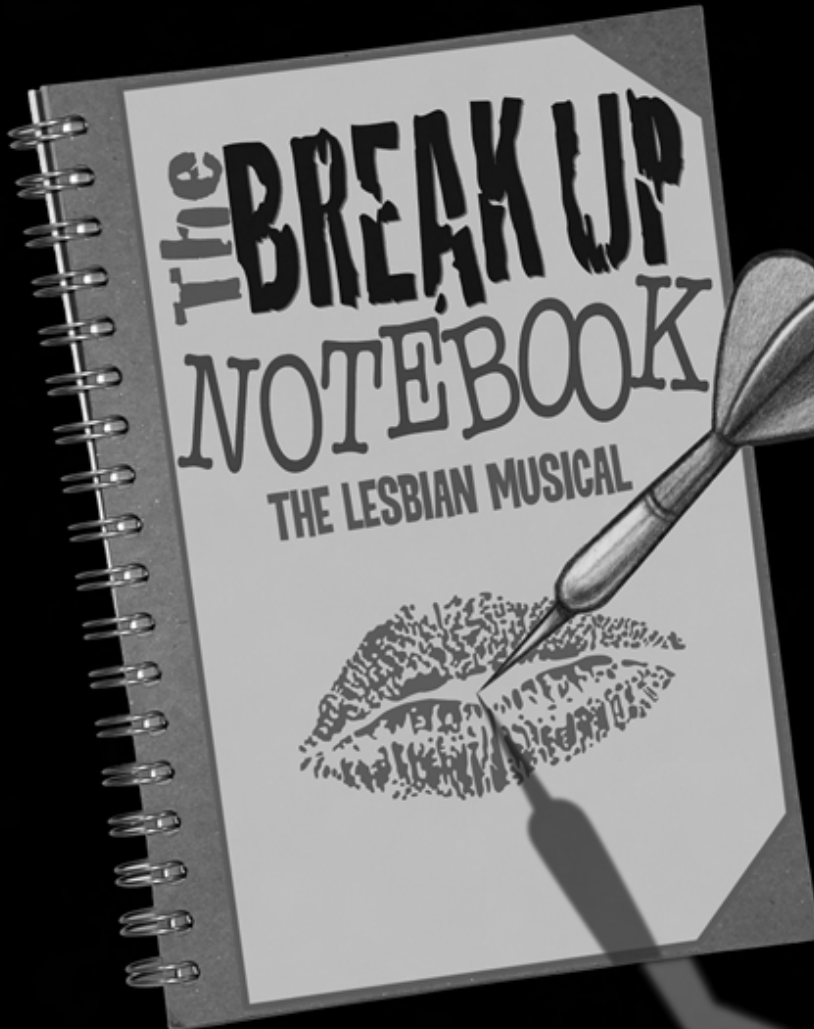
For tickets call the Beck Center box office at (216) 521-2540 or log onto www.beckcenter.org. Ticket prices are \$28 for adults, \$25 for seniors and \$17 for students (22 and under with I.D.). Group discounts are available for parties of 13 or more. Rush tickets for students (22 and under with I.D.) are offered for \$10 each on Sunday only, 30 minutes prior to curtain, based on availability. Beck Center for the Arts is located just 10 minutes west of downtown Cleveland at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Free, convenient on-site parking is available.

The Beck Center's production of The History Boys is sponsored by Cox Communications, WN WV 107.3 The Wave, FreeTimes, WCPN 90.3 ideastream, the Ohio Arts Council. Programming at the Beck Center is made possible through the generous support of The Cleveland Foundation, The George Gund Foundation, The John P. Murphy Foundation, The Kulas Foundation, The Eva L. & Joseph M. Bruening Foundation, The Abington Foundation, and the Thomas H. White Foundation. Beck Center gratefully acknowledges the citizens of Cuyahoga County for their support through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.

*Actor appears courtesy of the Actors' Equity Association (AEA), the union of actors and stage managers.

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Lakewood Observer

Reclaiming Hope For Lakewood

by Rosemary Palmer

No doubt about it: If my son Augie hadn't been killed in Iraq in 2005, I wouldn't be running for Congress.

His death forced us to take a closer look at how the political decisions made in Washington, DC affect each of us. The Iraq war/occupation obviously is a "Made in DC" product. Ending it will also have to be decided there – with help from many Americans demanding action.

But the DC influence doesn't stop there. It affects the economy, social services/policies, housing, crime, and other areas too numerous to mention.

We have people at home saying, "Look, don't bother me with that. Politicians can't change what's happening in Cleveland." Then we have the people in DC, whom we have trusted to represent us, so busy trying to make political points that they can't make progress on much of anything.

Congressman Dennis Kucinich promised my husband and I that the Iraq War was going to be his first priority in this congressional session. But then, three weeks after the last election, the Democratic caucus chose a different plan than he wanted, so he stomped his feet (figuratively speaking) and said, OK then, I'm running for President to promote my plan.

Kucinich then began introducing legislation and voting with his eyes on the White House rather than on voters in Lakewood and the rest of his dis-

trict. After 10 years in the House, he knew that Congress was not a solo act, but he began his arias anyway.

To be successful, a Congressman must work with others to change minds, to change policies. That doesn't mean s/he has to give up her/his ideals, but keep the ball rolling forward. A progressive has to PROGRESS.

Moving toward goals and influencing the action have always been part of my style, but that became most obvious after our son's loss.

The day afterwards, in August 2005, a television reporter was interviewing me. I said I had always opposed the war, so she stopped the camera and cautioned me that I might not want to say that because "the hawks will start calling your house to criticize you, and you don't need that right now."

"What's worse than has already happened?" I asked. "I want to keep other families from going through this."

After that, my husband and I appeared on a number of national TV news shows, saying that soldiers and Marines on the ground were reporting that the war was nothing but a perilous game of Whack-A-Mole, with no progress but many losses. We were working toward a national change of perspective on the Iraq situation.

To make our work more effective and far reaching, we formed Families of the Fallen for Change in November 2005. That nonprofit organization,



now representing about 1600 members nationwide, includes some who have lost family members or friends in Iraq, many veterans, military families, some active military, and others who want to support our cause. We work on individual, group, and national levels.

Through Families of the Fallen, we have given presentations around Ohio and in several other states. Using our son's story, we put a face on the war so people learn that it isn't Rambo fighting over there, but the kid next door. People get caught up in his life story; so even though they know how it ends, we invariably hear gasps and see tears when the video shows his coffin.

We came up with our own plan to exit Iraq and began lobbying Congress. We had extensive dialogue with many members of the House and Senate including Sen. Joe Biden (D-DE),

chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We don't claim our plan is perfect, but it starts discussion. Since entering this Congressional race, I have modified it, based on consultation with national foreign relations and military experts, to keep up with political developments in Iraq.

Seeing that our own Congressman is not progressing with the war and appears to be completely disinterested in working to cure the ailing local economy, I decided in June to challenge him in the March primary. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. Even active supporters of Congressman Kucinich are offering words of encouragement.

In recent weeks, seeing blood in the water, three others jumped into the race. It will no doubt be an interesting sprint to the finish.

Others don't agree. The power brokers and king makers are looking to take the vote out of the people's hands. They feel they should be the ones to decide who gets to replace Kucinich – and many of them feel the only solution is to clear the field and replace one ambitious politician with another.

I disagree. I believe the people of Lakewood and the entire Tenth District want someone who has walked in their shoes. They want someone who knows what it's like to work a sixty-hour workweek to provide for her family. They want someone who understands small business because she's been there and made the sacrifices that come with it. They want someone who thinks creatively, never closes her door or her mind. And most of all, they want someone who makes decisions based on how it affects Ohio families, not how it affects their own political future.

I always assumed the powers that be would reject my candidacy. I'm not the first woman to be dismissed for not playing by the rules. I got in anyway because we needed a fresh start, and the same old political bosses wanted to give us the same old packages. Cleveland voters are tired of empty promises and unfulfilled dreams. I'm offering the courage to change. I'm offering voters in Lakewood a chance to reclaim hope.

Ryan Patrick Demro Leaves For Boot Camp

by Wayne W. Burke

After serving four years as Lakewood's Ward 2 Councilman, Ryan Patrick Demro has decided to take on a new challenge in life; he has joined the United States Army Reserve. Attached to a unit in Monclova, Ohio near Toledo, Demro will attend Basic Combat Training and Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. "I hope at the end of my training that I will emerge as a well-prepared Second Lieutenant," stated Demro, who will enter the military at the rank of Specialist.

I asked Demro what motivated him to join the Army and he said that he sees his commitment to the military as a natural continuation of his public service. "I knew that regardless of the outcome of the election that I wanted to be in a position of leadership in the coming

year," Demro explained. Demro said that he had been exploring joining the military as early as October 2006 and that he put his processing on hold when he decided to take a shot at running for mayor. Demro said that he appreciates the fact that he will be working in an environment that promotes based on the reality of merit, "rather than the political environment that promotes based on perception of merit."

Given the current state of world affairs I asked Demro if he was worried about being deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan. "When I interviewed to be an officer the captains and the major made it very clear that the likelihood of deployment was high. They wanted to make sure that I understood that," Demro stated. He explained to me that he was confident the Army would prepare him well for a call of duty and that anyone who joins the military should expect to stand up for the nation when necessary. "As a history teacher I sometimes wax nostalgic about the minutemen. I guess I'll get to experience what it is like, just slightly more sophisticated."

The question that is on the mind of most around Lakewood's political circles is whether or not Demro will



Ryan at his going away party.

return to local politics. Like most politicians he was vague in stating, "I have only recently come to understand the time commitment that was necessary to undertake that type of service as my term has ended. It's not glamorous or easy, but I think I would consider it in the future."

For more information on joining the United States Army contact our local recruiting station, located in the new Rosewood Place Building at 216.521.4177.



Ryan Patrick Demro ready for haircut.

Chef Geoff

Searching Through The Frozen Wasteland

The other day, as I was searching through my deep freeze for a package of ground beef, which I was certain still resided there, it occurred to me that it was past time for the annual winter cleaning. Many readers who have larger families take advantage of a secondary deep freeze. Over time, of course, things become lost. What was once a neatly organized appliance becomes a disheveled space which defies definition and creates a challenge for anyone attempting to locate, as I was, that package of frozen meat.

Freezer space does not exhibit the same spoilage timeline as the refrigerator, where the contents of a Tupperware container can be indistinguishable as either very young cheese or very old meat that mandates disposal. A similar process of spoilage occurs to frozen food, but at an elongated pace, with the same results. Eventually, a thorough cleanout is necessary, if not for defrosting, then at least for reorganization, cataloguing, and disposal of items that are past their prime. Make no mistake about it: while a deep freeze can extend the shelf life of the items that it contains, there nevertheless is a certain point in time when disposal is preferable to digestion.

by Jeff Endress

And so, when the January thermometer dips towards zero, I find myself emptying out that downstairs appliance into laundry baskets which can safely hold the contents out of doors long enough to defrost the freezer chest and provide me with the opportunity to sort through what is there, what will be returned, and what will be rejected. The process is always an interesting one, and generally it is one that mirrors the changes that my family's culinary preferences undergo over time.

Just when you thought that you had honed in on a favorite snack food and stocked up accordingly, inevitably the kids will decide that it is no longer appealing and, thus, you find yourself with orphaned Hot Pockets with 2006 expiration dates, bags of mini egg rolls full of ice crystals (the result of being "freeze dried" over many months), and freezer bags containing the remnants of a pot roast or roasted chicken. Because memory fades over time, it is advisable not only to date the packages that are going in, but if the package itself is not indicative of the contents, to provide some description.

I am not at all sure what that Tupperware dated January, 2007 contained. It appeared to be some form of stock, perhaps from a Christmas turkey of 2006, but I elected not to thaw it to make the determination. While this, and other unidentifiable items may have been edible without significant bodily harm, I generally resolve that if I have questions or doubts, disposal is probably the better alternative. Much of the frozen food that I removed was replaced and organized once the freezer defrosted.

Over the years, I have become methodical and almost anal over packaging and wrapping so as to avoid the effects of freezer burn, thus the slabs of baby backs that I smoked late in the fall were in perfect shape for enjoyment over the winter. The same, however, could not be said of the package of frozen French toast sticks which had been left open and unprotected, causing extensive freezer burn. Although probably still edible, they nevertheless looked less than appetizing.

Packaging for the freezer is really the key. Proper packaging avoids the

dreaded freezer "burn". In much the same way that the cold, dry weather wreaks havoc with your hands in the winter, the same occurs to items in the permanent winter of the deep freeze, as the freezing dryness sucks moisture out of unprotected foods, leaving a dried-out crust (and generally a distinctive frozen after-taste). Double wrapping, heavy zip-locks with the air all squeezed out, and dating of packages all help to minimize the risk. But despite my efforts, there's always some package that gets pushed to the back, its contents becoming, quite literally freeze-dried.

If we're looking for a silver lining in the almost constant cloud cover from which we suffer during the winter, I suppose it is the opportunity to use the snow drift by the back door as a temporary deep freeze, cleaning out the real thing, defrosting and organizing. It didn't take long, and allowed me to relive some culinary memories in the same way that a scrapbook or photo album might trigger one to reminisce. A job well-done, a bag of items to be discarded, and a newly revised inventory of the contents of a clean deep freeze: It was almost enough to warm my heart.

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Lakewood Home Show March 8 And 9 Get Your Antiques Appraised

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the Lakewood City Schools Community Education and Recreation Department announce the addition of antique identification to this year's Home Show!

The Home Show is hosting local experts Ken Yenke (the Yenke Peddler), Nancy Kretzschmar (Vintage Faire Unique Antique & Vintage Design Shop) and Joanne Rodgers (President of the Western Reserve Depression Glass Club) from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. on Saturday March 8th to assist you in identifying your treasures.

Attend the Home Show for networking, education, and entertainment. Landscape design, home safety, home restoration and assistance in making your home green are just a few of the learning experiences available at the Show. For a complete list of events, and to see which local businesses are exhibiting.

Major sponsors of the Lakewood Home Show include Slife Heating and Cooling, Sun News, Valpak, West Life News, West Shore Magazine, Cox Communications, Dominion East Ohio, Lakewood Hospital, The Lakewood Observer, and Madison Avenue Car Wash. You will find discounts on your tickets from the Show's Ticket Sponsors Nature's Bin and Walgreens. The Home Show is a family friendly show with something for everyone. Mark your calendar for March 8 and 9. The Home Show will be held at Harding Middle School in Lakewood, 16601 Madison, and runs Saturday March 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday March 9 from 1 p.m. through 5 p.m. Offers on the back of tickets for the LAKEWOOD HOME SHOW add up to more than the admission price of \$5 (parking is free and kids under 18 are free) Tickets are available online now and will be available soon at the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, 14701 Detroit Road.

Own A Piece Of History

by Paula Reed

Mark March 1 from 10:00-2:00 on your calendar so you won't miss the joint St. Luke/Lakewood Historical Society Architectural Salvage Sale! The groups are setting up shop in the St. Luke school building. Entry will be on the east side of the building through the gym doors, and the sale will be held in rooms 108 and 109.

St. Luke's items were salvaged from its Parish Center, which was originally a convent. It was demolished last summer to make way for additional church parking. Among other things, you will find natural wood doors, hardware and lighting at the sale.

The Historical Society accumulated its salvage items from Harding, Emerson and Horace Mann schools; and from houses on Robinwood in the footprint of the Lakewood High School renovation (thanks to the Lakewood Board of Education).

Items for sale include light fixtures, a natural wood colonnade, a double and a single oak pocket door, complete with trolleys and hardware, as well as their oak moldings. There are oak baseboards, window and door casings, thick oak paneling from around a window seat, and a set of exterior French doors, in addition to other windows and doors, register grates and much more. Of special interest is a large variety of antique glass globes donated by a collector, and a vintage crystal chandelier.

If you want to relive your middle school days, you could take home a length of solid oak banister from Harding, or perhaps a souvenir from the Home Economics room. A multitude of '50s chrome hardware was harvested from the metal cabinets in the Home Ec and Science rooms of all three middle schools, and even a few coat hooks.

Don't miss this sale! Perhaps you'll find just the thing you've been looking for, or even something you didn't know you needed—a little piece of Lakewood's history that will become a part of your home.



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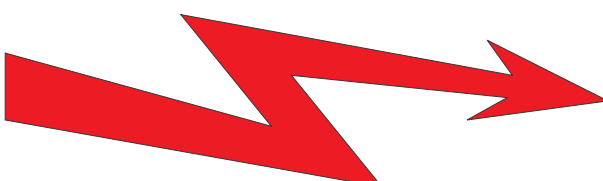
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