

# THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Lakewood's Only Newspaper And Finest Website

Volume 1, Issue 8, October 4, 2005

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## Lakewood Photographer

# Recognized by Cleveland Museum of Art

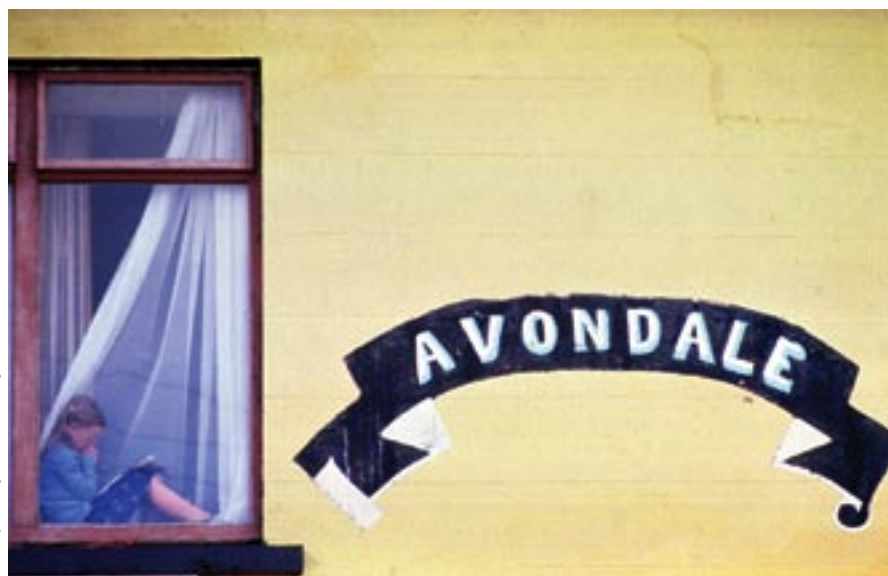
By dl meckes

For the last 28 years, photographer Scott MacGregor has been traveling to Ireland to bring back images of the country of his great grandparents' birth. "It's an honest mission-we all know something about Ireland," says McGregor, "my pictures help round out perceptions of Ireland's culture and landscape, especially for those whose heritage comes from Ireland."

It has been difficult, and sometimes lonely work, spending countless hours on the rainy back roads of the Emerald Isle waiting for light and weather conditions to be just right. On September 6, 2005, some of that hard work finally paid off when MacGregor was notified by the Cleveland Museum of Art that one of his Ireland photographs, "Irish Lace," had been entered into the museum's permanent collection.

"It's an honor and was completely unexpected," says MacGregor, "that photo was the first picture taken during my initial trip to Ireland. I'm very flattered. This is my first museum acquisition."

Friends and patrons who are familiar with MacGregor's Ireland photography, either from his website at [irishphotos.com](http://irishphotos.com) or his annual displays at the Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival, remember the image of a little girl reading a book, draped in curtain lace and naturally framed in an old boarding house window. This same picture



appeared in the 1979 Cleveland May Show.

"It was July 1978 and I had just arrived in Ireland. I was exhausted and a little scared," MacGregor explains, "I came along a small seaside village in County Clare. While walking through the center of the village, I looked up and there she was. I had only been in Ireland for two hours and already had gotten a great shot."

More images of Ireland's people, places and sights were to follow over the years and MacGregor now displays and sells his Ireland collection of photographs through his Lakewood based company, Eyes On Ireland, Inc.

"My photographs are promoted to the Irish American market. I sell both over the Internet, at Irish festivals and at Irish stores around the country. I have not done the Lakewood festival. There are 43 million Americans who claim some sort of Irish lineage," MacGregor comments.

Asked where his photographs have been published, MacGregor responds, "My photos have twice appeared on the cover of *Irish American Magazine*. In 2000, a collection of 20 of my photos appeared in a book written by Maire Brennan of Clannad, which is a famous band from Ireland.

Two of my photos were recently

published in a volume called "Ireland's Excellence" a commemorative that was printed in honor of Ireland's hosting of the Special Olympics, with a forward written by the Taoiseach of Ireland (he's the equivalent to the Prime Minister) and was given to all of the heads of Europe."

MacGregor's [www.irishphotos.com](http://www.irishphotos.com) website attracts viewers from every continent on earth. This week, MacGregor reports, "I had hits from Australia, India, Japan, Russia, Thailand, China, and every country in Europe. Recently, I sold a collection of 12 photographs to an Ireland travel company in Beijing." A large display of his photos will soon be on view at a new restaurant going up at I-77 and Rockside called Mavis Winkle's Irish Pub.

MacGregor chuckles and says, "Speaking of Winkle, my high school photo teacher, Harold Winkle, was a strong influence on me. Lakewood High School had a strong photo program back then and Winkle was a positive influence and teacher. A grouping of photos done in my senior year were entered into the National Scholastics Art Competition and I came away with 3 "key" awards and was one of 3 regional nominees for the Kodak Medallion of Excellence. (I didn't get it). If it hadn't been for Harold Winkle, **continued on page 16**  
**See Art Museum**

## THE GRAND RE-OPENING OF SLOANE AVE.



Pictured above is (L TO R) Brad Abend, Medic Manager, Mayor Thomas George, Ray Krebs, District Manager for Medic, Tony Beno, Director of Public Works, and Scott Duennes, Executive Director of Cornucopia, Inc./Nature's Bin

After what seems like decades, Mayor Tom George and local merchants cut the "last of the road construction tape" to officially reopen the newly reconstructed Sloane Ave. After a long three years of road construction and with a total reinvestment of \$2.7 million by the state and city. Finally the merchants of Sloane Ave. and the Mayor celebrate the grand reopening of the street with a something-for everyone Customer Appreciation Day at Nature's Bin and a Street Fair Celebration by all the merchants of the Sloane Ave. Plaza. Organized by Brad Abend, store manager at the Medic Drug, included members of the Lakewood H.S. Marching Band, Mr. Tricky, a balloon artist, a clown magician, free samples and special sales. This was a way for the businesses of Sloane Ave. to let Lakewood residents know, that the street many had chosen to avoid for so long due to construction is now

OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

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# Lakewood Events

## CitiStats Next Up For LakewoodAlive

When the New York City Police Department dramatically reduced crime through an innovative program designed to increase accountability and improve efficiency, the rest of the country took notice. The tool used by the NYPD served as the model for CitiStat, a comprehensive process and software initiative pioneered by the City of Baltimore that has resulted in dramatic improvements in efficiency, communication and problem-solving.

Could CitiStat benefit Lakewood? Lakewood City Councilman Denis Dunn believes so. After studying CitiStat at Harvard University, where he received his master's in public administration, Dunn realized that CitiStat had potential for Lakewood. "I developed relationships with scholars at Harvard who were analyzing CitiStat, as well as officials from Baltimore who were its day-to-day practitioners," Dunn explained. According to Dunn, these relationships are paying dividends for Lakewood. In April, Mayor Tom George and Finance Director Vic Nogalo were invited to attend a seminar on CitiStat at Harvard. Further, Dunn explained, Baltimore is a model for the success of CitiStat. Lakewood has a good rapport with Baltimore city officials who are a resource for cities committed to implementing the program.



Ed Favre at the last LakewoodAlive meeting explaining the benefits of Lakewood not trying to be all things to all people.

City Council approved funding for CitiStat during this year's budget process and subsequently retained Andrew W. Boyd and Peter O'Malley of GovStat, the principals of the Baltimore firm who helped design that city's successful CitiStat program. Boyd began working at Lakewood City Hall in August and is currently assisting department directors, supervisors and employees to institute new accountability standards to ensure CitiStat's success in Lakewood.

Citizens will have the opportunity to learn about CitiStat and Baltimore's success story when LakewoodAlive presents the second program in its

2005 Fall Forum Series on Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Grant Elementary School. The program, "Accountability and Efficiency: One City's Turnaround Story," will feature Leif Dormsjo, the chief of staff for the Baltimore Department of Transportation and formerly a member of Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley's CitiStat team and Andrew W. Boyd, the CitiStat consultant retained by the City of Lakewood.

The City of Baltimore began its CitiStat program in 2000. CitiStat regularly reviews every aspect of Baltimore's city government—ranging from employees' use of overtime and sick leave, to

trash collection and snow removal—ensuring that the city is meeting the needs of its citizens. Bimonthly meetings between agencies, the mayor and his cabinet are key components of CitiStat's success. Before the meetings, agencies are required to submit performance reports, which are compared to data from the city's 311 Call Center, an independent body that manages service requests from citizens.

By creating a structure within which city leaders can regularly assess performance and quickly make changes, CitiStat has significantly improved Baltimore's responsiveness. The program has reduced overtime, saving almost \$24 million—an important feat as state and local governments across the nation work to close the largest cumulative budget gaps since World War II. The program has also reduced absenteeism and has improved the city's ability to respond to citizens' concerns about a variety of issues.

There are four tenets that constitute the foundation of CitiStat:

- 1) Accurate & Timely Intelligence;
- 2) Effective Tactics and Strategies;
- 3) Rapid Deployment of Resources
- 4) Relentless Follow-Up & Assessment.

continued on page 19  
See Lakewood Alive

### Hot Off The Deck

Join the discussion online – visit the **OBSERVATION DECK**

Topics	Replies	Author	Views	Last Post
Computer Tips for Lakewoodites	6	Mark Crnolatas	59	Sun Oct 02, 2005 2:21 pm
Issue 14	15	Thomas J. George	549	Sun Oct 02, 2005 12:13 pm
How should the Observer handle "Hard News"?	3	Mark Crnolatas	49	Sun Oct 02, 2005 11:04 am
Save The Chat Room	5	Jim O'Bryan	143	Sun Oct 02, 2005 9:01 am
preemptive "for shame Lakewood city officials..."	19	David A. Kurczi	298	Sun Oct 02, 2005 6:28 am
PETTY-FILE UPDATE	16	john crino	308	Sun Oct 02, 2005 6:18 am
civic intelligence questioned	26	Stephen Calhoun	654	Sat Oct 01, 2005 4:22 pm
RTA What the #@\$!	2	Jim O'Bryan	174	Sat Oct 01, 2005 1:19 pm
Little Havana?	22	Jim O'Bryan	642	Sat Oct 01, 2005 7:29 am
Grace O'Malley View latest post				
Will You Stay Warm This Winter?	5	Grace O'Malley	81	Sat Oct 01, 2005 12:41 am
Walking Signs Attack Lakewood	20	Jim O'Bryan	506	Fri Sep 30, 2005 2:25 pm
Lakewood - Why do some not get it?	42	Jim O'Bryan	838	Thu Sep 29, 2005 8:21 pm
Lakewood's Unfair Tax on Small Business Owners???	5	Tim Liston	149	Thu Sep 29, 2005 2:46 pm
Permanent Resident Voting	4	Richard Cole	108	Thu Sep 29, 2005 12:55 pm

### Become an Observer!

The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 18–100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help.

If you are interested, e-mail to: publisher@lakewoodobserver.com

**News releases**—If you have information on an event, organization, program or news on *anything* that has to do with Lakewood, send it to: city.editor@lakewoodobserver.com

**Calendar of Events**—To appear on our calendar of events, e-mail: events@lakewoodobserver.com

**Newsies/Delivery People**—The Lakewood Observer is looking for people that would like to help deliver the newspaper. If interested, e-mail: delivery@lakewoodobserver.com

**We need you to get involved! If you have or know of a story, we want it!**



**THE LAKWOOD OBSERVER**  
Your Independent Source for  
Lakewood News & Opinion

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

# Lakewood City Hall

## One Year Later Firemen Agree to New Contract

I am listening to the September 19, council meeting right now on an audio CD. You can, too. Just take a blank CD to the Clerk of Council office on the first floor of City Hall and Mary Hagan or Mary Ross Coleman will burn a copy for you.

You can also stay current with council business in other, easy ways. If you're reading this article online then go to the City of Lakewood website, city government tab, and under Council in the left hand column select Docket. You can read the short version of the docket for the next meeting or click on "pdf" at the top right and bring up all the supporting documents that are used.

Now, let's get back to the meeting. Council President Robert Seelie called the meeting to order at 7:38. After the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence, council member Mary Louise Madigan (ward 4) was recognized. Madigan introduced a resolution honoring Lakewood Baptist Church for its 100th anniversary of service. Council then unanimously passed a resolution recognizing the church's celebration and it was signed by Mayor Thomas George.

Seelie then moved to item eleven, which was a report from State Representative Michael Skindell. The representative, having served as a Lakewood council member, began his remarks with fond references to his time on council. He then gave an overview of the State budget. Skindell, a Democrat was highly critical of the "Taft, Republican" budget pointing out that it offers none of the needed funding increases to Lakewood and Cleveland schools. This state representative district includes all of Lakewood and bordering Cleveland

neighborhoods.

Skindell then explained five State issues that will appear on the November ballot. Issue 1, which he strongly supports will provide for 1.35 billion dollars for infrastructure improvements. He then described, but did not specifically take a stand on issues 2,3,4, and 5 which deal with election reform.

Council member Denis Dunn (at large) then brought to first reading the establishment of a Community Relations Council. After extensive work by the Rules and Ordinances Committee over the past year a structure and purpose for this body has been outlined.

Council member Seelie (ward 3) put out the basic question of what role this body was to play if the final policy making body already is city council. From the audience, resident Frank Murtaugh took issue with the council's proposed role in educating the community on various issues. These fundamental issues portend much deeper examination for the next two readings of this proposal.

The issue of excessive noise from air handling equipment at the Lakewood Center North Building has finally met the proverbial fork in the road. Council member Ryan Demro (ward 2) read an oral report of council's Housing Committee which listed many points of dissatisfaction with the administration's handling of complaints by nearby residents. Assistant Law Director Thomas Corrigan then responded to each point in the report and informed council that the City had filed three violations of excessive noise. This action was the fork in the road that was unavoidable after all other

avenues of resolution had been traveled without success. These approaches also included the plan offered by council member Edward Fitzgerald (at large) at the last council meeting. As expressed by council president Seelie, "the law department is now embarked on a plan of action."

In a joint communication from Mayor George and council member Michael Dever (at large), State issue one was addressed. Earlier, Rep. Skindell indicated his strong support of that issue from his perspective in Columbus. Dever went on to explain which projects in Lakewood benefited from a similar program, while George

explained that this also affected regional projects. All council members then voted in favor of the resolution supporting State Issue One, which will appear on the November ballot.

Finally, after over a year and a half of negotiations, the City and Local 382 Lakewood Firefighters reached agreement on pay and benefits. Mayor George pointed out that the firefighters have traditionally been the most aggressive of all the city unions in the bargaining process. They along with the City, have faced the reality of the financial situation to reach an "historic" contract, according to George.

Reported by Stan Austin, Lakewood Observer City Council Reporter

## Veterans Day 2005 Celebrating America's Freedom

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926. Then in 1954 through a Congressional resolution, Veterans Day was signed into law by President Eisenhower.

Lakewood's Veterans Day celebration on November 11th that will begin at 11 o'clock at Lakewood Park. As we again celebrate America's Freedom on this Veterans Day, our keynote speaker will be Lt. Colonel Michael P. Skomrock of the United States Air Force. Please come and celebrate this day with us remembering those who have served in all wars.



Richard Healey, Chariman, Lakewood's Veterans' Advisory Committee

Mayor Thomas George has once again made arrangements to have hot coffee and donuts served in remembrance of Veterans Day.



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### KIWANIS CORNER



John Huetter recieves the President's Pin from his wife, Elanor.

#### The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood October Events.

- October 4,** Lakewood Clergy Recognition Day. All Lakewood clergy have been invited to attend this luncheon. Our speaker for the day will by Rev. Mike Bartolone of The Lakewood Chapel.
- October 11,** Our speaker will be Mr. Bill Nickles. He will speak on the Cleveland Indians Baseball history right up to the present.
- October 18,** Kiwanis Club of Lakewood - Business Meeting
- October 2,** Saturday, both KIWANIS clubs of Lakewood are collecting monetary and canned or dry packaged food at Lakewood City Center Park, Warren and Detroit Roads. Proceeds will be donated to the Lakewood Christian Service Center.
- October 25,** The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood will present The Kiwanis Builders Clubs of Lakewood.
- October 27,** The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood will be making and selling donuts for a fund raising activity. Orders are being accepted.
- The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood meets each Tuesday at 12 Noon at the Lakewood Masonic Temple at the corner of Detroit and Andrews Avenues. Information: call John Huetter, 216-226-9225.



Lakewood Business

# The Cottage Industry

By Carol Leigh Mason

Downsized, outsized, paralyzed? You may be wondering what I am talking about. Is it clearer if I say: Corporate America? If you have been privileged to have worked in a large company, you may have had the opportunity of going through a downsizing event or found that your company was gobbled up in a takeover of a bigger corporate company, or you may still be in the muddle of the corporation but paralyzed by a corporate culture that does not choose to listen to your great idea or invention. Why wait? Take your corporate ladder, hang it out the 30th floor, and climb out.

The Cottage Industry is birthing. High energy prices, global market competition, innovative information technology and employees' need to be connected to community were the predicted driving forces behind the 1970's vision of the growth in Cottage Industries. Energy prices are shocking our pocketbooks and affordable technology is giving us a reason to stay put in our homes to work. The exit of jobs from the U.S. to developing nations is the pulse that beats to build small businesses and to find an idea, an invention or a service that can be incubated from home. A growing need to overcome unemployment and to be re-employed comes from self-employment as the number of employee jobs shrink in Corporate America. Healthy growth in successful small businesses is necessary to fuel a rebuild of the U.S. economy.

Where do small businesses get

started? Many times, from the home spurred by "necessity: the mother of invention." Finding venture capital is very competitive and new ideas are often not valued as feasible. Successful entrepreneurs found their ideas scoffed at and were denied seed money when they started. A great idea or product began where the visionary was planted at home. Persistence, perseverance and the push to fulfill their dreams have launched enterprising entrepreneurs from home-based to office space. On the journey to growing a small company, companies find that they can keep a modest office space with employees who work from home but share an office space for training, meetings, or client visits. Companies find that cutting commute time to an office for their sales employees is a must to get more productivity from employees who have daily appointments outside the office. Employees have found that cutting their own commute time gives them more quality time to use as they wish. Home office space generally begins with a telephone, a computer and perhaps a fax or copier although there are resources within the community to purchase these services as needed.

So, what can Lakewood offer you and your dreams? Connectivity, resources and a desirable community that can nourish and sustain your growth as you incubate your idea. Living in a community that will entertain that new idea is essential to your startup. A community with an entre-

## Calling All Home Based Businesses

The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is offering a special membership opportunity for all home based entrepreneurs. Join now and become part of a home based business affiliates. Take advantage of the many benefits offered by your local chamber. Increase your business connections and your visibility throughout the community. Be part of the growing energy in Lakewood. Now is your time to join the chamber because "It's Lakewood's Time!" Contact Kathy Berkshire for more details on this special marketing opportunity for home based businesses (216-226-2900) or email: [kberkshire@lakewoodchamber.org](mailto:kberkshire@lakewoodchamber.org) today.

preneurial spirit and one that celebrates its' pioneer history will afford you resources from which to pull mentors. Having idea people who are willing to share their expertise and know how with you and give of their time to mentor you, will add to your success and insure a successful path for growth for you. Two great resources Lakewood has for home-based businesses are the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and our nationally recognized Lakewood Public Library. Both have resources you can utilize for your startup venture. The Technology Center at the Library can help you get acquainted with the force of the internet. There is a wealth of information and ideas at the library to spark your imagination and creativity. The Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is a supportive organization. They have the energy to get you connected to other businesses, to the community and to city government.

It is often said that location, location, location is the key to your success. Lakewood is only 5.6 square miles, located on a Lake Erie, just minutes from downtown Cleveland's financial, sports and entertainment districts and within minutes of Cleveland Hopkins airport. Everything cosmopolitan is in our bordering backyard but our unique small town atmosphere adds flavor to our mix. For alternative transportation, you can walk conveniently to a RTA bus route, a rapid station, hop the Circulator, take a taxi, or bike. Our location gives us ready access to the world.

Living in Lakewood, you can park the car in your garage and walk to any location within the city. On one excursion,

I grabbed my bag, walked out my door and walked to downtown Lakewood where I conducted my banking, bought new dancing shoes at Cerny's, stopped in Phoenix Coffee Shop for my coffee, stopped at the Chamber of Commerce office to pick up some resource materials, shopped at the Party Center to get decorations for a table top marketing display and get ideas for my mom's 80th birthday, stopped in at the Record Exchange to find specific music for a fashion walk presentation, checked on a clothing order at Geiger's, and dropped off library books on my way home. The walk to downtown took me 8 minutes. I could not have driven to the closest mall in that time by car. I saved money on gasoline, wear and tear on my automobile, increased my endorphins, and lowered my blood pressure by walking and enjoying the urban scenery in Lakewood!

I am a former corporate employee. I moved to Lakewood from Oswego, NY, in a corporate transfer and chose Lakewood because of its proximity to downtown Cleveland. As a single mom, I wanted a quick commute to be able to enjoy my son's school events. My life has changed; I choose to work from home and I find more time now for the finer things in life. The resources that I find for my home-based business are all just outside my door.

Has your security been shaken with a recent and unexpected job loss? Do you have a burning desire to explore an idea, write a book, or work where you live? Lakewood is the place to be.

Stayed tuned for my next article on: "The Invisible Storefront."

### PHOENIX COFFEE WINS PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARD FOR GREAT COFFEE

The coffee geeks at Phoenix Coffee are now nationally recognized for their coffee fanaticism. Three Phoenix Coffee locations including, 15108 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood scientifically tested their coffee's brew strength, grind size, brew temperature, brew time and other parameters, in order to qualify for the prestigious Golden Cup Certification, awarded by the Specialty Coffee Association for coffee brewing excellence. The award is a testament to the coffee extremism that Phoenix Coffee provides for Lakewood.



assuring lakewood's future together

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## 2005 Fall Forum Series

# Accountability & Efficiency

## One City's Turnaround Story


Thursday October 13 7:00p.m.

### Grant Elementary School

Parking can be accessed off of Elmwood.  
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Lakewood Hospital



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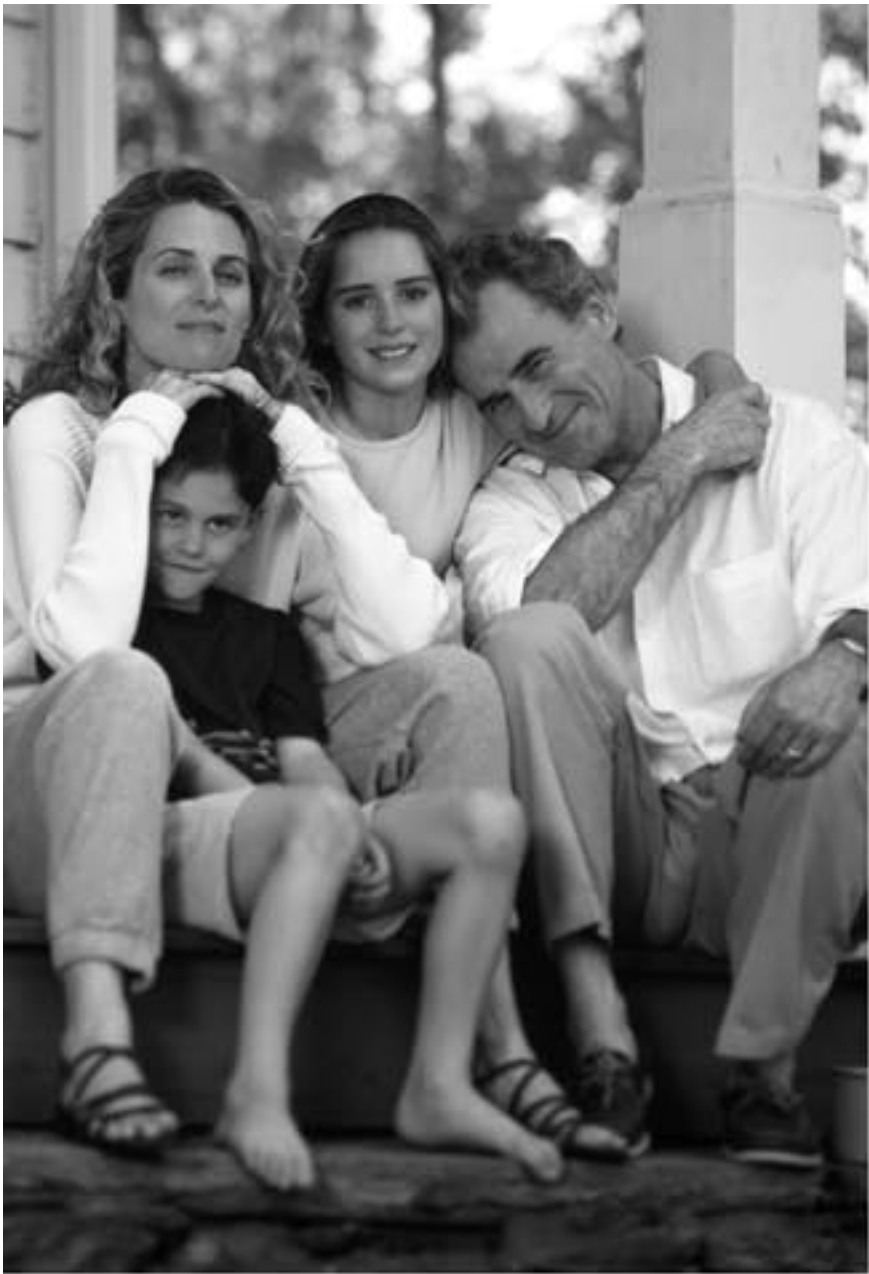
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# Lakewood Observer



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Lakewood  
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The area’s newest, most advanced cardiac technology arrives at Lakewood Hospital.

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# Open Source

*A Conversation with Ed Morrison, - The Institute for Open Source Economic Networks*

## OPENING EYES TO THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY WITH I-OPEN LAKEWOOD:

By Kenneth Warren

On July 26th Ed Morrison visited Lakewood Public Library and returned on August 15th for an interview with the Lakewood Observer to explore the common ground of open source analogy, theory and practice.

### Serendipity

The Great Lakes region, with huge legacy investments in public libraries, research universities and cultural institutions, is the new frontier of innovation, according to Ed Morrison, the former director of the Center for Regional Economic Issues at Case Western Reserve University.

"To move toward our vision I-Open will develop tools to assist civic leaders in implementing Open Source Economic Development practices within neighborhoods, communities, and regions."

"We will use Northeast Ohio as our test bed, our laboratory. To accomplish our vision, we want I-Open, I-Open Partners and Northeast Ohio to establish a global reputation for regional innovation."

In terms of economic development, Morrison has established an impressive track record of building networks that span the region.

"We have a remarkable success in converting ideas into action. Here are some of the successful outcomes: A new biodiesel distribution company in East Cleveland; the Universities Collaborative; the Center for Health and Disease Management (funded by Civic Innovation Lab); the new Car Sharing project (funded by Civic Innovation Lab); a new community networking initiative, REAL NEO; a new business, Smart Meeting Design; a new initiative to establish a collaborative among component manufacturers; a proposal to establish a truck driving school (supported by at least one major company, Falcon Transport); a pilot project to test electric commuter vehicles. All this was done with no money."

Morrison may not be the head of REI anymore, however, the vibrant networks he formed there are now connecting through I-Open to the civic spaces of public libraries.

"The unique feature of the community is the brainpower assembled within it," says Morrison.

The public library is, without question, the assembly hall for growing brainpower in any given community. Likewise, serendipity in the public library has long been the connecting principle between the browser and the content streams within books.

Morrison sees public libraries and I-Open building partnerships in serendipity. Together they can advance the process of serendipity among conversational partners in civic space, thereby creating thicker networks for the com-

munity. "The library is a critical node in the knowledge economy network," says Morrison.

The public library is an important space where civic leaders can encourage complex learning, free inquiry, intellectual freedom and open source civic journalism. In effect, the public library provides a civic space where people are free to show up and converse about open source economic development.

The values of the library, suggests Morrison, line up point to point with Open Source economic development.



Building Brainpower Networks to Withstand Global Pressure

"The story line is simple," says Morrison. "We need to start by building brainpower. We need to convert brainpower into wealth through entrepreneurship and innovation. We need to keep wealth in our region by building quality-connected places. We need to tell our story to others and ourselves through effective branding. Most important, we need to develop new habits of translating dialogue into action, because with economic development, nobody can tell anybody what

universities 4) Chambers of Commerce.

"Brainpower and innovation are human assets that globalization cannot take away," says Morrison. "To compete globally, people need to talk. People need to connect. People need to do something. The communities that really figure this out are the ones who communicate."

Morrison's life path spans from working near "the top of Washington's staff power elite" to managing conversations about economic development in the poorest parts of the country. Early

Because the pressure is not reversible, the only real opportunity in Morrison's view is to compete on the basis of brainpower and networks. He is attempting, therefore, with The Institute for Open Source Economic Networks to model a collaborative, competitive and informative community based solution.

### Understanding Open Source

"For the past seven years, I have been developing a new model of economic development: Open Source Economic Development. This approach takes the most innovative concept (open source) from one of our most innovative industries (information technology) and applies it to the task of transforming regional economies," Morrison explains.

Morrison's first exposure to the open source concept emerged from a book recommended to him by the Technology Officer of his brother's Internet company. Morrison soon found that The Cathedral and the Bazaar by Eric S. Raymond, an Internet developer and writer living in Malvern, PA, provided powerful insight into the multiple eyeballs that must cooperate in order to create healthy open source computer code.

Morrison offers his work under a Creative Commons license, which means he is open to creative collaboration and not in the business of making money along the lines of proprietary intellectual property. In the spirit of open source, Morrison tells collaborators: "Make whatever changes you want."

Thus, when Morrison asks the question - "What does it mean to provide your brainpower and your effort to a community without worrying how it is going to be returned you" - he is underscoring open source inspiration from the experimental ethos of old line hacker culture. Only now, the context for open source has shifted to civic space for the purpose of economic development and community development.

In The Cathedral and the Bazaar, Raymond articulates the links between Linux computer development and community building. Raymond calls himself "a wandering anthropologist and troublemaking philosopher who happened to be in the right place at the right time, and has been wondering whether he should regret it ever since." Thus a rich interdisciplinary perspective emerges from Raymond's work that provides insight into the deep well of theory that informs both Morrison's Open Source Economic Development practice and the Lakewood Observer's open source post-professional model in civic journalism and community building.

"When you start community-building, what you need to be able to present is a plausible promise," advises Raymond. "Your program doesn't have

in his career he worked for Senator Robert Byrd and democratic economic policy wonks such as Robert Reich and Ira Magaziner, who later became prominent in the Clinton administration.

Twenty years ago, Morrison began working as corporate strategy consultant for General Electric, Ford and Volvo. Doing the work of globalization, Morrison figured out alternative manufacturing locations for US companies. In coming up with solutions to the crisis in corporate profitability, Morrison realized that Americans were quite clueless about the economic

***"The Great Lakes region, with huge legacy investments in public libraries, research universities and cultural institutions, is the new frontier of innovation"***

**Ed Morrison,**

Former director of the Center for Regional Economic Issues, Case Western Reserve University.

to do. Command and control does not work."

Morrison brings a practical message of liberation to people who want to think and do projects together in civic space.

"You don't need permission from anyone anymore," Morrison declares. "The wisdom is in the crowd."

Thinking and the doing should be leveraged, Morrison advises, around Northeast Ohio's major assets: 1) a range of very successful civic entrepreneurs. 2) the Library system 3) Colleges and Uni-

implications for the continuance of the American Dream.

"I spent a lot of time closing down factories in the U.S. I realized pretty quickly that the communities were not well advised and lacked education," says Morrison. "They did not understand what was going on."

Since World War Two America's old industrial wealth creation process has been under relentless cost pressure, Morrison explains. The cost position of large industrial enterprise was being undercut by a freer trade system.



# Open Source - Continued

to work particularly well. It can be crude, buggy, incomplete, and poorly documented. What it must not fail to do is (a) run, and (b) convince potential co-developers that it can be evolved into something really neat in the foreseeable future."

The Lakewood Observer's DIY model of citizen journalism, which encompasses low to the ground civic leadership, loose and layered networks of participant observers of city living, and a straight arrow of truth pointing from message to source, is attempting to present a "plausible promise" of feeling good about knowing one another's stories in a particular city on Lake Erie.

Raymond's formulation of community building on the basis of open source Linux computer code development provides insight into the values that inform both Morrison's I-Open and the Lakewood Observer.

Indeed, Morrison's I-Open team meeting with the Lakewood Observer was auspicious. For Lakewood is the center of gravity for experimentation in open source citizen journalism. Research indicates that Lakewood is, in fact, the only city in the United States where civic volunteers are currently producing an open source community newspaper.

Morrison's I-Open team learned that the Lakewood Observer is attempting to open eyes to the skillful seeing that can recognize economic and post-economic powers within the water world of Lakewood's robust interpersonal source code.

The Lakewood Observer project advances into the open source metaphor the radical edge of a civic space wherein traditional dollars flowing away from lives built around the mixed industrial economy are considered to be a secondary effect.

Lakewood Observer's attempt at civic innovation, effective branding and place-making through open source citizen journalism could possibly benefit and transform Morrison's vision and practical connections. From open source economic development to open source citizen journalism to open source money, the concrete and interpersonal ramifications of leveraging several open source experiments in Lakewood are largely unknown. With Councilman Dunn's suggestion for an investigation into community currency, however, there may emerge an entrepreneurial network powered by open source money. Of course, people have to be aroused to think and do what is necessary for such experimentation to occur.

At their first meeting, Lakewood Observers explained to the I-Open team that Lakewood aims, through open source citizen journalism, to be the city that knows itself better than any other city. By crafting a newspaper in community, Lakewood Observers intend to weave the entire city into a visionary network that increases the flow rates of exchange, inquiry, narrative, knowledge and overall good vibes.

Broad preliminary questions about Lakewood as an experimental site for open source collaboration in volunteer

civic journalism and economic development were registered and recorded.

## Focus on Reading

When I-Open's Ed Morrison looks at brainpower, he assesses the flow of people coming out of high schools and pronounces that society is missing the mark. "We are under-educating by a huge percentage," he says.

Morrison makes the profound point that reading by the fourth grade



is a critical value to economic development. A community must invest in the early years of a child's developing brainpower. He said we have "not framed in our minds the consequences of not reading by the fourth grade."

These are decisions that are made in neighborhoods, where we can know the names of these children, he counsels.

The cost of \$5000 to get a child the remedial reading help needed in grades one, two and three should be "a slam dunk, a no-brainer." That is because the child who cannot read by the fourth grade is likely to drop out of high school. The drop out decision is a \$200,000 decision to inhabit the low end of the job spectrum.

Morrison explains that a living wage is \$10 per hour and that 70%-



80% of jobs are above that figure, while 20% 30% are below it. However, in today's educational crisis 40% -60% of the young population is placing below the living wage line. "How do we sustain our level of living, our current income level with the current mismatch," he asks.

From an economic development standpoint, reading is the main challenge. Quite simply, every child needs

to be able to read well and comprehend well by the fourth grade

"What would Lakewood look like as a global leader in reading or early childhood education?" Morrison asks.

Morrison believes the issue of education and economic development has not been framed aggressively enough.

"Pretend that you are the Mayor of Lakewood," he challenges. "Your city engineer comes in and says we have a

water problem. We don't know what it is. Our city engineer thinks it's some kind of pollutant in the water that produces a disease that carries with it a lifetime disability. How long do you think it would take to fix the water system?"

Teaching kids to read is an economic development priority for every neighborhood and every city.

"Sure we have a bad and under-performing education system," says Morrison. "But we can form networks of the willing to address these challenges that we all share."

## Conversation and Hierarchy

Morrison believes history and cognitive mindset bear on a community's ability to come together in civic space and to get things done. However, the industrial legacy of Northeast

"This is part of the hierarchical tradition. By the 1970s the hierarchies were breaking down, but the behavior patterns have not changed. Civic responsibility lies with all of us. The challenge is to develop intermediary behaviors (thinking and doing)."

According to Morrison legacy behavior from the industrial era impedes the migration to open source economic development models. He speaks about how such legacy behavior is still producing the magical report from the noted consulting firm expert telling where we are going. "It's a black box. No transparency, no trust, no network, no execution, nothing happens. That's why have we drifted."

Morrison's I-Open is intended to assist communities in migrating from "the curve one industrial mindset of hierarchies" to "curve two networks" of brainpower uniquely assembled in the community.

It is simple to conceptualize the beginning of a curve two network. "Put hierarchy on its side and spread it out," Morrison suggests. "Now we are operating in a networked environment. It's egalitarian, ambiguous, exciting and fluid."

"The hierarchical model does not work in economic development, and never did work all that well," says Morrison. "It happens in a civic space, outside the four walls of any one business."

"People move in the direction of their conversation," counsels Morrison, who learned at the Case Weatherhead School of Management how to facilitate positive change through the Appreciative Inquiry methodology.

In Morrison's open source economic development model, conversations in civic space lead to strategic sets of learning that tap into people's passions and align their energies and resources for action.

In Morrison's open source play-book, tax incentives and free land can no longer cut it as economic development tools.

"Economic development isn't about the steel plant; it's about who we are. It's a guide to the conversations. In this civic space nobody can tell anyone what to do. Now we are confronted with an environment that we have to have conversation about; what is the world and what are we going to do," Morrison advises.

## Trust

At the core of both Morrison's open source economic development model and the Lakewood Observer's open source model of civic journalism is ability to trust.

"Trust helps define the boundaries of the relationship and the values within the community. Trust builds incrementally through transactions. If trust level is low, things move very slowly. Trust is the basis of value creation, which is the basis of wealth," says Morrison.

There is no shortage of economic opportunity, according to Morrison. "We have a shortage of civic trust."

**continued on page 16  
See I-Open**



# Lakewood Schools



## Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic School No Child Left Behind winner in Washington, D.C.

Natalie Schrimpf

It's official. The United States Department of Education has recently named Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic School in Lakewood to receive its prestigious No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence award for 2005. The award will be presented on Nov. 10 in Washington, D.C.

This national honor recognizes both public and private K-12 schools for demonstrating high standards of academic excellence and dramatic gains in student achievement. Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic School is one of only 16 Ohio schools and less than 300 schools nationally to receive the award this year.

"The progress that Saints Cyril & Methodius school has made, particularly in the last five years has illustrated the fact that all schools can be successful regardless of the economic circumstances of their students and families," said school Principal Carol Shakarian. She cited that 51 percent of the school's students are either Title I eligible or are enrolled in the free or reduced-lunch programs.

"Our teachers, parents and students have worked as a team to make key improvements in recent years and give students what they need for helping all students to learn," she explained. "They truly deserve this national recognition for their hard work."

Located at 1639 Alameda Avenue, Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic

School is a critical anchor to the city's eastern Lakewood community, said Rev. Father Jerome Duke, pastor of Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church. It was this conviction that fueled his decision not to join the merger of the three other Catholic grade schools in Lakewood two years ago.

"High quality, affordable Catholic education is something that should be accessible to students of all income levels," he said. "We continue to make this goal a reality. And if our school had ceased to be autonomous, there would be no Catholic presence in this section of Lakewood."

"The city of Lakewood has much to be proud of," said Mayor Tom George. He said he regards Saints Cyril & Methodius' recent award as yet another jewel in our city's crown.

"I am delighted for Saints Cyril & Methodius school because it is such an integral part of our community fabric," he said. "And I couldn't be happier for Father Duke, who has given so much to Lakewood. The school has been his special project and it's nice to see his hard work rewarded with a recognition that's so wonderful."

Saints Cyril & Methodius School is now one of three educational institutions in Lakewood honored with the No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon status. Grant Elementary School was a 2004 recipient, and St. Edward's Catholic High School received the award in 1994.

Saints Cyril & Methodius Cath-

olic School's recent honor comes at a time when the school's approaching its 100th anniversary of educating children. Founded in 1906 by Slovak immigrants, it's Lakewood's first Catholic school.

For more information on Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic School, call (216) 221-9409, or on the Web: [www.lkwdpl.org/sscmes](http://www.lkwdpl.org/sscmes).

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Lakewood Sports

MENTOR DAMPENS  
RANGER HOMECOMING

by Mike Deneen  
Sports Editor

On Friday, September 30, Lakewood High School had almost all of the right ingredients for a homecoming football game. The Homecoming King was there. The Homecoming Queen was smiling with her court. Alumni returned from far and wide to be part of the festivities, including playing in the marching band. An enthusiastic crowd turned out on a beautiful autumn evening, which had just a hint of chill in the air.

However, one ingredient was missing: the creampuff opponent for the football game. Traditionally, high schools and colleges across the country invite a weaker, outmanned opponent to play in their homecoming game. By running up a wide margin, the schools hope to impress fans and alumni before the big dance. Unfortunately for the Rangers, Homecoming weekend comes during the highly competitive Lake Erie League portion of the schedule. Their opponent was the Mentor Cardinals. Not only is Mentor the largest high school in the area, but the Cardinals are the consensus favorite to win the LEL this year, and were ranked in the top five at the beginning of the season. Mentor has become a perennial

playoff team by utilizing the “spread”-type offense that is common among major college programs.

The game got off to a bad start for the Rangers, as Mentor returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown. However, the Lakewood defense was undaunted, and went on to hold the powerful Mentor offense throughout the first half. This continued their solid play from the week before, when they shut out Southview in the Rangers 14-0 victory. Mentor scored its first offensive touchdown in the final minute of the second quarter, and took a 14-0 lead to the locker room.

The Lakewood offense had problems all night. This is not surprising given injuries to key players. Quarterback Jim Guzay and running backs Nicco Maddaluna and Josh Wade all missed the game. Unable to mount sustained drives, Lakewood frequently had to punt in the second half, and the defense was worn down by the Cardinals. Mentor went on to win 41-0.

Next up for the Rangers is a trip to Euclid to play the Panthers. That is followed by consecutive home games against Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights. The season will conclude with a Saturday afternoon game in Lorain against Admiral King on October 29th.



Lakewood Rangers discuss options.



Lakewood Ranger's fans, always there, always having fun.



Lakewood Senior, Scott Kunze take to the air.



Lakewood Ranger's Senior Danielle Rusnak stands alone.

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Lakewood Events

The Lakewood Project  
Upcoming Shows Announced

by Heidi Hilty

The members of The Lakewood Project are happy to announce two amazing events for this season.

Thursday, January 26th @ 7:30pm  
The Lakewood Project will be performing their annual benefit concert. This year we will perform our own style of classical/classic rock for the 1st half of the concert. After intermission the band “Hard Day’s Night” will join us for a Beatles tribute. Ticket information will be emailed in the near future, tickets go on sale November 1st

Then on Friday, January 27th @ 8:30pm, we will be taking the stage at THE HOUSE OF BLUES in Cleveland for an evening of music. This concert is in conjunction with the Ohio Music Educators Association Conference. (Come show all of those Ohio music teachers how special the Lakewood Music program is for our students) Tickets go on sale through Ticketmaster or at the House of Blues box office on October 1st.

Thank you for all of your continuing support



The Lakewood Project at the Ingenuity Festival.



photo by Rhonda Lajoe

Business Award Winners: Winton Place; Lowell Good, Daniel and Mary Brennan of Brennan’s Floral Gift Shop at 13396 MADison Ave., Anna Ford, Manager of The Gingham Goose Gift Shop, and DeDe MacNamee-Gold from the Department of the Office on Aging.

Keep Lakewood Beautiful Awards

This year’s winners for the Beautiful Business Awards are  
Front Door/Back Door - Gingham Goose Gift Shop,  
Small Building - Brennan’s Floral Gift Shop,  
Large Building - Winton Place.

Thank you to Susan Powers, Easter Seals of NE Ohio, for coordinating the business awards and to the judges—John Waddell, Waddell & Assoc., Kurt Kaptor, Kaptor Design, and Barbara Daniel, Cleveland Women’s Journal.



photo by Rhonda Lajoe

Keep Lakewood Beautiful Committee: Left to Right Pat Blesi, Carolyn Hufford, Jeff Snyder, Barbara McGinty, Bonnie Sikes, Melissa Meehan, Carl Lepkowski, Rose Slavik, Gail Higgins, Betsey Stupansky (not pictured: Sue Kust and Maria Parke).



photo by Rhonda Lajoe

Keep Lakewood Beautiful Annual Humus Sale and Seed Exchange. If you have a green thumb, or love plants, do not miss this next year!

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s and Happenings

Pasta in the Park

A fundraiser to benefit Lakewood’s senior citizens

By Victoria A. Policard

A roaming musician played an accordion and sang Old Italian tunes. A map of Italy doubled as a placemat that held heaping plates of pasta and meatballs in a room covered with vines and white lights with a view of the water. It wasn’t a seaside piazza in Italy. It was the Woman’s Club Pavilion in Lakewood Park.

On Thursday, Sept. 15, The Lakewood Foundation and The Lakewood Commission on Aging held its ninth annual Pasta Fiesta fundraiser in Lakewood Park. The food was donated and prepared by Italian Creations catering services. Three dinners were held (4 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.) Free transportation was available to Lakewood senior citizens who attended the first two dinners. Proceeds from the event, and the advertising booklet, (given out at the fundraiser), benefit Lakewood’s senior citizen services.

“The money goes to senior services; home health care like house-keeping, bathing and home health care aids among other services,” Department of Human Services, Division on Aging’s Senior Center Manager DeDe MacNamee-Gold said.

The event raised, “In excess of \$6,000, the majority of it coming

from the advertising booklet,” said MacNamee-Gold. “It’s our biggest fundraiser”.

Advertising space in the Pasta Fiesta 2005 booklet ranged from \$20-\$250, depending on the positioning and length of the advertisement. A full-page advertisement cost: \$125. Some companies and organizations trade their services for advertising space. For example, Brennan’s Party Center, donated table clothes for the event and in exchange received an advertisement in the booklet. The majority of the advertisers pay for advertising space in the booklet. Advertisers are solicited by the senior advisors on Lakewood Commission on Aging Advisory Committee.

“We feel like we get a good response from the community. It’s intergenerational,” said MacNamee-Gold.

Lakewood resident Bob Andrews agrees, “The best part is to see so many come out and support the Office on Aging”. Andrews was a volunteer for the Office on Aging’s Meals on Wheels program that provides home-delivered meals to Lakewood’s senior citizens.

Tom Mowry, a Lakewood resident and a past Meals on Wheels volunteer, sat at the same table and gave his opinion of the best part of the evening. “I

thoroughly enjoyed the Italian Creations food!”

Other activities and fundraisers for Lakewood seniors

The Fall Colors and Orchard Trip—a visit to Mapleside Farm’s butcher block, farm market, gift shop and bakery. A farm representative will give a short tour and talk about the farm and its history. Thurs. Oct. 20. Cost: \$1. Free transportation can be provided.

Intergenerational Tea Party - includes food, sweets, live entertain-

ment, and an individual photo to take home. There’s also a raffle to win an American Girl doll. Event is planned for March 2, 2006.

Spring Fling is a prom for senior citizens sponsored by Lakewood High’s H2O program. Live entertainment is provided by the LHS jazz band. This event is planned for April 5, 2006.

For more information on the City of Lakewood Department of Human Services, Division of Aging senior programs or to become a volunteer, call: 216-521-1515. Or visit the City of Lakewood’s Web site: [www.ci.lakewood.oh.us](http://www.ci.lakewood.oh.us)



That’s amore! Musician Bob Orlandi entertains the crowd at the Pasta Fiesta fundraiser by playing his accordion and singing Italian songs.



Lakewood High’s Marching Band, including a couple sleepers.

Band Fest 2005



It was a great turn out for Band Fest 2005.

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# Lakewood Library

## USING YOUR LIBRARY

by John Guscott

### Know It Know 24x7

Lakewood Public Library now offers a 24/7 virtual reference service. This online service, [www.KnowItNow.org](http://www.KnowItNow.org), is part of a statewide initiative that assists residents of the State of Ohio with access to information on an as-needed basis, regardless of the time of day. You now have your own librarian on call day and night, plus specialized services of tutors, nurses, a genealogy specialist, and social service agencies to satisfy your information needs.

HomeworkNow is supplemented with live, online tutoring services from 2 - 10 p.m. seven days a week. This service also includes ReadThisNow, for readers seeking reading recommendations.

**Here's how it works:** Once logged on with your Ohio zip code, you and a librarian engage in a "chat" session. The librarian "pushes" high quality,

authoritative online resources to your screen. You can watch and participate as librarians skillfully navigate the Internet to find precise answers to your questions. At the conclusion of each KnowItNow session, you will receive a complete transcript of your session via email including links to all the online resources shared during that session. <http://www.knowitnow.org/>

Contact us with any suggestions to this page through email: [lpl@lkwdpl.org](mailto:lpl@lkwdpl.org)

### E-mail Holds Notice

You can receive your library holds availability notices faster by Internet e-mail. It's convenient for you and a cost-savings for the Library. If you are interested in this service, visit <http://lkwdpl.org/ibistro/notifyme/> and fill out the form located there. You may also stop by the Circulation Desk at Main Library or Madison Branch. Once you have signed up, you may use this form to stop receiving Holds Notices by e-mail or to change your e-mail address.



### Homebound Service

Lakewood residents who are unable to leave their homes, on a temporary or permanent basis, may have library items delivered to their residences. Materials available include books (regular or large print), books on tape, magazines, CDs, cassettes, videos and DVDs. Requests for Tuesday and Friday afternoon delivery and pick-up may be made by calling (216) 226-8275, ext. 120. This service is made possible through the generous work of the Friends of Lakewood Public Library who provide and maintain our van.

### 24-Hour Renewal

Library materials may be renewed any time, day or night, by calling (216) 226-8275, ext. 150 and stating the patron's name and phone number. Items requested by another patron may not be renewed.

### 24-Hour Book Drop

For your convenience, Library materials may be deposited any time in the outside book return areas. Main Library book drop is located in the front wall of the Library next to the Detroit Avenue entrance. The Madison Branch book drop box can be found in the rear parking lot.

### PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

#### Second Saturday Folk Music

An eclectic sampling of some of Northern Ohio's best folk musicians presented by Fritz Schaufele, curator of Folk Music Arts for the Lakewood Public Library. On October 8, we feature classic acoustic contradance with local band Rhubarb Pie, who specializes in Celtic, Old Timey, New England and French-Canadian tunes. Main Library Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.; seating is limited. Doors open fifteen minutes prior to the performance. Visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/saturday> for the latest updates.

### Sunday with the Friends

October 16, 2:00 p.m. Main Library Auditorium  
Infinite Number of Sounds  
Expect anything from Breakbeat to Barbershop when this electro-rock performance group transforms our auditorium into a walk-in piece of art.

### Booked For Murder

For lovers of murder, mystery and mayhem  
A Death in Vienna by Daniel Silva  
Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Friday Night Flicks

Turn off your cell phone, because Friday night is movie night at the Lakewood Public Library! These cinematic gems will be digitally projected onto our medium-sized big screen and we'll even turn off the lights. After the show, share your thoughts with fellow cinephiles at the Phoenix Coffee House and enjoy a 10% discount for your participation.

### Brazil directed by Terry Gilliam

In a rotten bureaucratic world, Sam Lowry would rather daydream than take a promotion. Until he meets her...  
Friday, October 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### UFOS - Past and Present

George Pindroh from the Mutual UFO Network will discuss major sightings worldwide and provide personal accounts of sightings he's investigated all over northeast Ohio.  
Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### Career Paths: Introducing Your Child to the Ohio Career Information System

Learn about the Ohio Career Information System, an extensive database filled with information on rewarding careers for your student and advice on how to help them succeed.  
Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

### An Evening with Loung Ung

Support the Lakewood Public Library Foundation and enjoy an evening of literature and refreshment with Loung Ung, author of the critically acclaimed First They Killed My Father and the new smash hit Lucky Child. Tickets are \$35.00 per person and may be purchased at the Main Library and Madison Branch Circulation Desks. Copies of the books will be on sale at the event for signing.  
Monday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. Beck Center for the Arts  
17801 Detroit Avenue

## Savings Bonds Collecting Dust?

Over \$13 billion of U.S. Savings Bonds are currently earning zero interest! To find out how your U.S. Savings Bonds are working for you — or if they're working for you — attend a free savings bond seminar that can help you to:

- Keep more interest
- Title savings bonds to avoid probate
- Avoid potential tax penalties

Through attendance at the seminar you'll have the opportunity to request a free, personalized U.S. Savings Bond performance report that looks at critical areas such as cash value, total interest, current interest rate and the date when interest stops.

Where & When: Lakewood Public Library  
10 a.m. or 7 p.m., on Thursday, October 27th

Limited Seating, RSVP Now:  
**1-866-339-1238**



Chef Geoff

# Comforting Foods

**by Jeff Endress**

As the cool nights of fall foretell the coming of winter, we begin to spend more time indoors, and renew the seasonal menu changes from grilled meats, to hearty stews and soups. There are a few more weeks before the grill is semi-retired, but it won't be long before the fragrant smells of the cold weather kitchen evoke hospitality and warmth. It is the time of year when we turn from picnics and barbeques to chili, pot roast, meatloaf and pasta. It is time for comfort foods.

We have all heard the term "comfort foods", although I have doubts that we could reach any agreement as to what constitutes a "comfort food". For each of us, there are certain dishes, which draw us back to times when we felt secure, loved and happy. These are our comfort foods. The recipes are different but the emotional anchor they provide us is substantially similar. Comfort food is more than tasting good; comfort food makes us feel good.

Comfort foods are more than consuming what's placed on the plate. Many times, it is the actual process of preparation that makes a food comforting. The memories of making cabbage rolls with Aunt Sadie, being assigned the "important" job of spaghetti sauce stirrer by Mom, or learning to bake dropped sugar cookies with Grandma causes a reaction to the food that amplifies the mere culinary enjoyment of what's been prepared.

Your comfort food may be as simple as a grilled cheese sandwich with tomato soup which evokes memories of a hot lunch after a cold and wet morn-

ing of sledding or perhaps meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy that draws us back to the warmth of our childhood kitchen. Of course, there's always ice cream, a culinary balm for the soul. The emotional connection we have with our particular comfort food isn't to be confused with the general dependency some develop on ANY (and all) food as a source of security. No, comfort foods are singular, personal and specific, going deeply into our psyche.

It seems to me that as cold weather drives us indoors, the days are shortened, and things are just sometimes cold and bleak, we rekindle our need for our comfort foods. There is something that draws us in the dreary fall and bleak winter to our own snug hearths, to the warmth of family and friends gathered in the kitchen. We experience this throughout the Holiday season, but it is present (and perhaps more important) on a damp and dark October evening when the forecast calls for more damp and dark or a cold, blustery February Sunday when all we have to look forward to is an equally cold, blustery Monday.

For me, the holy grail of comfort foods is my mother's pot roast. As the beef slowly cooked all Sunday afternoon, the wonderful smells would seek you out. The gravy was so good, with a loaf of bread, you could make a meal. Sure, I like meatloaf or lasagna as much as the next guy, but on a cold weekend, it's just got to be that pot roast. So, while chicken soup may be good for a cold, just when you think winter will never end, I can guarantee that you'll find solace in my favorite comfort food.



Catalonian Pot Roast: For 6-8

- 2-3 lb. square cut round roast
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 large sweet onion, chopped
- 1 bottle red table wine (if you wouldn't drink it, why would you cook with it?)
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 3 bay leaves
- coarse ground pepper
- salt to taste
- 3 tbsp. flour blended in 1/2 cup reserved wine
- 1 tsp. sugar

Place beef, peppers, and onions in a large zip-lock bag (or glass bowl). Cover with wine, reserving 1/2 cup. Refrigerate overnight, turning 3 or 4 times until ready to cook. Remove meat from marinade, reserving all peppers, onions and liquid. Dry meat well and dust with flour. Add oil to preheated Dutch oven and brown meat on all sides. Add reserved peppers, onions and liquid, bay leaves, coarse ground pepper and cover, reducing heat to a low simmer. Cook 3 hours, turning once. Remove meat to a plate, and puree the cooking liquid with vegetables (food mill, food processor, stick blender) until smooth. Return liquid with pureed vegetables to Dutch oven, and bring to a low boil. Add flour/wine mixture, whisking to thicken gravy. Check seasoning, add sugar, salt and pepper to taste. Return meat to pot, partially cover, and allow to barely simmering as balance of meal is prepared. Place meat on a heated platter; carve against the meat grain in 1/4 inch slices. Ladle gravy into serving bowl.

I usually serve this with homemade spaetzles, and for those with a spaetzle maker (see culinary gadget competition #2), I'll post the recipe on the Observation Deck. Otherwise, there are some good dried spaetzles (Magi) and Heinen's usually has fresh ones. Of course, you can always go with mashed potatoes

## Weaving the Fabric of Community: Lakewood's Third Places

By Mark Schroeder

I'm a Lakewood native: spent my first 18 years in Lakewood, playing sandlot, roaming the streets, attending Grant, Harding, and Lakewood High. Upon my graduation, I couldn't wait to go out and see the world. I went to college in Miami, Florida and Chicago, Illinois. I met my wife in Chicago, and we started our family. In 1996 with three young kids, we moved back to

Cleveland, and Lakewood.

We chose to move to Cleveland, and specifically Lakewood for a number of reasons. First was that Cleveland was a more livable city. By that we meant that we wouldn't have to buckle our kids into their car seats for a 45 minute to an hour ride to Anywhere.

We also loved the proximity to Lake Erie. There is something magical that we Great Lakes people take for granted in the majesty of these lakes.

Lakewood offered older homes with more character. Both my wife and I really appreciate the beauty and craftsmanship that older homes offer. We also sought an excellent school system, and have been impressed with the Lakewood School system's ability to overcome incredible funding challenges to deliver a quality education for our kids. Finally, and most importantly, we sought a place where there was a sense of community.

Community is defined by Merriam-Webster as: "a unified body of individuals; an interacting population of various kinds of individuals in a common location." Lakewood is a community in the finest sense of the word. The very challenges that many decry as hampering Lakewood, dense population, varied economic strata, older business districts, etc., allow for people to interact in ways that newer, post WWII, suburban communities do not. Lakewood's diversity adds to the strength of the fabric of community.

One of the defining aspects of a healthy, vibrant community is the number of "Third Places" available to the residents. Sociologist Ray Oldenburg in

his seminal book, *The Great Good Place*, coined the term, Third Place. Oldenburg says, "The third place is a generic designation for a great variety of public places that host the regular, voluntary, informal, and happily anticipated gatherings of individuals beyond the realms of home and work."

Lakewood has quite a number of Third Places available to her residents. My personal favorites are: the Phoenix on Detroit, bela dubby on Madison, The Place to Be on Warren, Lakewood Park, and Lakewood Public Library. In season, I also appreciate the Saturday morning Third Place that forms at Memorial Fields in the Metroparks where the Lakewood Soccer Association plays their recreational games. Many people also find Third Places in the Taverns along Detroit and Madison. These informal gathering places are where the fabric of community is woven.

My list of Third Places is by no means exclusive or exhaustive. I'm sure that many people have their own Lakewood Third Place stories they would like to share. Please send them in to: [letters@lakewoodobserver.com](mailto:letters@lakewoodobserver.com) and we will feature select Lakewood Third Places in coming issues.



bela dubby at 13321 Madison Ave.



# Gallery Watch & Walks

## GALLERY WATCH by Chelsea L. Waschek

October holds thirty days full of anticipation for candy, costumes and spooks! Also, a more adult holiday happens in October - Sweetest Day. Ladies and (especially) gentlemen do not forget that Saturday, October 15th is Sweetest Day. A great way to celebrate is to bring your sweetest to "The Sugar Coated Show" opening reception, at the Pop Shop, (17020 Madison at Cordova) Saturday, October 15th from 6-9PM.

The show contains works that are sweets for you sweeties out there, and it is also full of spooks for youngsters and the young at heart. The opening reception welcomes the entire family with a haunted house and a scene in which to have pictures taken. The kids won't turn their back on the refreshments witch's fingers, worms and brains.

A new addition to the Pop Shop is candles. Uniquely designed, multi-purpose candles will be for sale under \$10.00. The candles are held in an array of drinking glasses that can serve their initial purpose once the wax has melted and some of them are scented.

One will find Jack-O-Lantern candles a great keepsake of a fun night out. Costumes are encouraged! As always, the after party will be held next door at Mul-len's Bar where gallery visitors will enjoy discounted prices on their beverages.

October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month. At Local Girl Gallery (16106 Detroit), there will be an uplifting Experience as 30 artists, 30 bras, and 30 works of art become: Art: "Across the Heart." The bras have been transformed into works of art by generous and talented artists to be auctioned off on October 15th, from 6-10PM. The auction will benefit the Northern Ohio Breast Cancer Coalition.

Local Girl Gallery's (16106 Detroit Ave) Show is "Sur La Table," a showcase of over twenty of the finest potters, ceramicists and clay artisans from the Cleveland Arts Guild.

A book signing will be taking place at The Local Girl Gallery on Friday October 21st, from 6-9PM. "Meet the Author" with a reading at 7:30pm from the book Harvey and Eck by Erin Nowjack. Linda Goik, owner of Local Girl knew of Erin Nowjack, as they are distant relatives. Local Girl Gallery has hosted one other book signing in April for a children's book. Goik enjoys signings in her gallery because, "It is out of a book store element, and it is more intimate with no intimidation." There will be wine and cheese, mingling and signing to make a fun filled night.

This month bela dubby (13321 Madison at Clarence) presents, "drunken bottles, franken hearts and other friends," a scary show for a scary month, featuring small sculpture works by San Francisco artist, Ross Kennedy.

## German Volksmarchers Land in Lakewood

by Ken Warren

On September 26th, Josef and Marianne Siever proved that Lakewood is an international destination for people who enjoy volksmarching (walking).

The Sievers are residents of Frechen, Germany. With Kathy Erni of Brooklyn, Ohio, they visited Lakewood Public Library to obtain the map and information about the "Lakewood Historical Walk," a volksmarch offered to hikers all year long.

Volksmarching is extremely popular in European countries and this popular form of leisure sport has spread to 25 countries

Lakewood's six-mile hike features an opportunity for exercise and learning about the origins of certain street names, backgrounds of buildings, and

even crime sites.

Josef Siever has been volksmarching for twenty years. Allied with the International Volkssport Federation, the IVV, he proudly boasts a Volksmarch passport with sites from Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Denmark, England, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Norway and Taiwan, to name a few. Now with ten years of volksmarching, his wife, Marianne, is beginning to catch up with him. Together they have hiked several Ohio volksmarch sites in Cleveland, Dayton and Mansfield.

Kim Senft-Paras, who organized Lakewood Public Library's support for volksmarching in Lakewood, awarded the Sievers a special pin that celebrates their accomplishment of the "Lakewood Historical Walk."



## Author Erin O'Brien to Appear at Local Girl Gallery

By Vincent O'Keefe

Erin O'Brien, an alumna of Lakewood High School (1983), recently published her first novel titled Harvey & Eck. Local Girl Gallery (at 16106 Detroit Avenue) will host O'Brien at a "Meet the Author" event from 6 to 9 p.m. on October 21, with a reading at 7:30 p.m. The evening will include a

book signing along with wine, cheese, art, and socializing.

According to the book's back cover, Harvey & Eck "takes a funny, irreverent look at pregnancy through the eyes of motorcycle-riding Harvey, the thirty-something mom-to-be who forges an unlikely friendship with Eck, a librarian whose life is as predictable as a tick-tocking metronome. As Harvey's belly blossoms, Eck grows in his own vicarious way. A cover-to-cover read that is sexy, sophisticated and tender."

O'Brien (also known as Erin Nowjack) is the editor of *The Broadview Journal* and a contributor to several local publications. She also teaches classes on fiction writing for the Poets' and Writers' League of Greater Cleveland. Her late brother John O'Brien, a 1978 graduate of Lakewood High School, wrote the novel Leaving Las Vegas, which was made into an award-winning film after his death in 1994. Erin contributed a chapter and an afterword to her brother John's posthumously published novel, *The Assault on Tony's*. For more information on O'Brien's life and work, including how to obtain a copy of her novel, consult her web site at [www.erinobrien.us](http://www.erinobrien.us).

Local Girl Gallery can be reached at (216) 228-1802 or on the web at [www.localgirlgallery.com](http://www.localgirlgallery.com).

## Let's Stroll

By Rita Ryland

Walking is good for you. Too busy during the day? Too hot during the day? Try the evening, when the sun has set, the family is fed, and the kids are, hopefully, doing their homework. In Lakewood, you can walk at night and feel safe. Now I don't mean to say that you can throw caution to the wind. Use your head, as my father would say.

Here's a phone exchange that took place today between me and a sales person to whom I had just given my address. "Lakewood," she said. "I live in Lakewood. Don't you feel safe there?"

Why, yes, I do. But this is a feeling I've had since I arrived in Lakewood from California a month ago. I had chalked it up to naivety, the rose-colored glasses of the honeymoon stage, and a tremendous relief that I no longer had to make sure my life insurance policy was current before getting on the freeway.

Turns out, the sales person and I walk along Lake Avenue from 117th Street to Clifton Way after dusk, often in the dark where we meet couples, families, men alone, women alone, and the occasional bicyclist. Most everyone nods and says, "good evening."

In the City of Lakewood Assessment Report dated March 2, 2005, prepared by Director of Downtown Revitalization, Heritage Ohio/Downtown, Ohio, Inc., an attachment states that participants in the study identified Lakewood's

top two strengths as one, walkability, and two, safety. In a city of some fifty-six thousand, safety as a second strength is a great accomplishment.

Why do we feel safe? First and foremost, the sense of safety comes from within, from the character of the residents. It's a gift we give to each other. A simple greeting serves to reassure a passerby that we see them. Acknowledging the presence of others makes her feel as if she belongs. I know, because that's how you've made me feel in the past month. We also obey the laws. Most everyone drives within the posted speed limit. Most everyone stops at a red light. Big deal, you say. It is a big deal. Think of a world where you had to dodge cars racing along Detroit Avenue or ignoring signals on Warren.

There's another aspect to safety. And that's the police department. The Lakewood Police patrol our streets twenty-four/seven. You'll see them cruising along in their cars or riding a motorcycle or a bicycle. They're on the street, if we need them. Some officers live in Lakewood. They are its residents, our neighbors.

We're all in this safety business together. Next time you think of taking a stroll, you might want to say hi to those you meet along the way and wave at your neighbor in blue.

"Don't you love it here" the sales person asked. "Yes, I do."



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# Minding The Issues

## Values? Values? Of Course We’ve Got Values

If you can bear to think of the 2004 presidential election, you may recall that media observers were all a-twitter because exit pollsters found that a sizeable block of voters gave “values” as one of the chief reasons behind their vote.

It may seem strange that “values” would suddenly crop up as a prominent reason behind voter preference, for values are and always have been a constant part of our everyday lives. Consider “This is a good value,” or “More value for your money.” Or Value City. To speak of values or valuing is simply to speak of what we want or what we choose. Why would we ever think it remarkable that values enter into our voting decisions, or any other decisions?

But of course “values” in this case didn’t just mean values. Though no one can read the voters’ minds, “values” was presumed to be shorthand for a certain type of value that serves as the banner of a certain group, namely social conservatives and in particular the Religious Right. The social conservatives/Religious Right (henceforth SC/RR) have appropriated the term “values” to mean the values they are especially committed to (the implication being that those who don’t share these values are value-deficient.) Through this fallacious maneuver they appear to take the moral high ground and put liberals and moderates on the defensive.

So it’s important to see what these values are. Let’s make some distinctions.

First, there are moral vs. non-moral values. A moral value, for example, would be honesty; a non-moral value would be a taste for jazz, or for rock music. Moral values are weightier than non-moral values, and in some way they involve an accountability to others. To go beyond that simple description would involve us in

deep and probably unresolved philosophical controversies, but we don’t need to go there -- we recognize moral values commonsensically without having to explain them.

It is moral values, of course, that the SC/RR are concerned with.

The more significant division is between types of moral values, namely:

Those concerning our relationships with others responsibility toward others, service, altruism, and so on.

vs.

Those concerning personal behavior, such as sexual behavior (or lack of it) or drug use (or lack of it).

It is the latter that the SC/RR are primarily concerned with, their emphasis falling mostly on sexual

moral values (as well as being chief concern of the law), while values concerning personal behavior – concerning only the individual him/herself – should be largely confined to the domain of non-moral values, in a class with preferences in music and the like.

The SC/RR don’t see it that way, however. They endorse a narrow and cramped morality of personal behavior. So I have to ask why such a morality is so attractive to them. I see three characteristics that make it so:

1) It produces a feeling of self-satisfaction and certainty without requiring any great amount of thinking. Consider, by contrast, obligations toward other people; there is always a question as to how far those obligations extend, and so you have to think about that. Then you

or uncertainty. It’s easy, but reflexive responses make for a shallow and unthinking life.

2) It requires little or no sacrifice. Again, look at the morality of service and altruism. By its very nature it requires that you give up something for others. But the morality of personal behavior requires only toeing the line, no sacrifice required.

3) It allows blaming the poor for their poverty, on the grounds that they are “irresponsible” by way of failure to adhere to the proper code of personal behavior.

Here we can see a link between two of the three legs of Bushism – 1) catering to the social conservatives, and 2) serving the wealthy and powerful at the expense of the poor and powerless. (The third leg is an arrogant and aggressive foreign policy.)

But the Religious Right would reply that they are simply carrying out Christian principles. This hardly fits the evidence. Think of the places in the New Testament wherein Jesus commands us to serve and share with others. Think of the Beatitudes; think of the Good Samaritan. Think of Matthew 25, culminating in the glorious verse, “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” Then think of all the places – if you can find any – in which homosexuality, or for that matter drug use or abortion, is forbidden. Perhaps the morality of personal behavior has less to do with Christianity than with power and self-satisfaction.

Abortion is an apparent counterexample, given the anti-abortion-rights claim that it is murder. I would argue that abortion is not murder, for even those who oppose the right to abortion don’t believe it is murder. I will explain further in the next issue, when I talk about the so-called Culture of Life.

*It may seem strange that “values” would suddenly crop up as a prominent reason behind voter preference, for values are and always have been a constant part of our everyday lives.*

behavior, and in particular homosexuality (e.g. the anti-Gay Marriage Amendment) and abortion. (Abortion may not seem to fit into the category of personal behavior, since its opponents claim it is murder. I’ll get to that point later.) It is these moral principles that most respondents presumably referred to in telling pollsters that “values” were their motivation.

I mentioned that moral values are distinguished by their involving accountability to others. It would seem, therefore, that our relationships with others should be the chief domain of

have to think about the best methods to carry out those obligations, and so you can never be sure you’ve decided on the best means to achieve those ends. You have to spend a lot of effort in deciding on the right thing to do, and you can never be certain you’re doing the absolutely right thing. To be generous, to be loving, to be open is often frustrating, often perplexing, but it offers a pathway to the fully human life.

By contrast, conforming to a pattern of personal behavior requires little thinking, but only a reflexive response, and it leaves little room for doubt

## The Buck Stops Here

by Robert Buckeye

**“The local is not a place but a place in a given man.”**

Robert Creeley

For the most part, they come to Lakewood from somewhere else, many in the first part of the twentieth century from the near West Side. English was often not their first language. They don’t stay. When they become better off, they move to a nearby, more affluent suburb. Their children, who reap the benefits of their parents’ sacrifices to gain educations their parents did not have, move farther away. Lakewood cannot keep them. Not even Cleveland. The unspoken message of their parents’s sacrifice that their children not struggle as they did is paid off in spades. Parents and children live in different worlds.

In his book on migrant workers in Europe, *A Seventh Man*, John

Berger notes that each migrant carries objects of one kind or another in his suitcase which he does not need to live in the foreign country where he works, but which he needs to keep home alive for him. Talismans, Berger calls these objects migrants carry with them. The photographs on his wall serve the same purpose. If they define an absence, Berger writes, a loss which may never be overcome, they may also prefigure a return. Unlike the migrant worker, those who come to Lakewood do not expect to return. At the same time, they do not, for the most part, stay. Is home for them, finally, anything more than photograph albums, home movies, objects and memorabilia stored away in the back of closets? Or, as Berger adds, “the untold story of a life being lived.”

Home, Mircea Eliade writes, was not, necessarily, the geographic place one lived, but the center of the world, “at the heart of the real, the place from

which the world could be founded.” My friend, Ken Snyder, notes what Ishmael in Herman Melville’s novel, *Moby Dick*, says of Queequeg’s birthplace – “it’s not down on any map. True places never are.” (Jean-Luc Godard advised actors in one film to walk to the studio, rather than drive or take public transportation. He wanted them to see that we become part of a world on foot that we do not see from the window of a passing vehicle.)

We live in a world in which the pre-eminence of the individual is at odds with community (Henry David Thoreau’s majority of one). Pure individualism is at base the ultimate consumerism – we consume ourselves. In a society of individuals, there can be little relationship to place or those who live there. In 1842, Charles Dickens reports on his trip to America that the morning after his steamer docked in Cleveland, he saw six Clevelanders at

the portholes watch him wash. When do we become anything more than the stranger who has come in from out of town? To be part of a community, not an object of curiosity?

In one county in Vermont’s poorest region, the Northeast Kingdom, population dropped every decade from the Civil War until the 1960s. Those who settled in the county were presumed to be part of the counterculture that moved to Vermont to escape the rest of America. It was curious, however, that many who had come to this county were descendants of those who left. Charles Olson, who summered in Gloucester, Massachusetts, returns there after working in Roosevelt’s administration in Washington, presiding over America’s most noteworthy experimental college, Black Mountain, in North Carolina, and teaching in Buffalo. Home may be what we cannot escape. It becomes local once we return.



# Spilled Ink

## continued from page 10 I-Open

“We’ve allowed vandals to take over civic space. People need to feel a sense of dependability and trust.”

Trustworthy behaviors will drive economic development. In communities where trust is high, learning is aligned with innovation networks through which thinking and doing accelerate a competitive advantage.

“It’s a question of tapping into the power of the network - having a tight core and porous boundaries. The tight core allows you to get stuff done,” says Morrison

Morrison appreciates how the Lakewood Observer’s open source model is building a trust network for Lakewood. He sees the Lakewood Observer building a curve two mindset through civic rules.

“The first rule on the forum is your own name. Essentially you are creating that civic rule that says it’s OK to have your opinion. But don’t hide behind a pseudonym. Don’t be throwing dirt-balls,” Morrison notes.

“What you see with The Lakewood Observer is if you provide a space, outline the golden rules, people start to emerge. That’s a very different model of civic development and economic development from that of the all-knowing leader. That’s not a comfortable model for people on the first curve.”

“It may seem like a small step with huge impact. Now you have created a space where it is appropriate for me, as a total stranger, to feel comfortable providing my thoughts to the forum, because basically, we’re all on the same playing level and the chance of me being attacked anonymously and being mugged online are zero. Somebody might disagree with me but I can deal with that.”

## Feeling the Psychic Payoff from Inclusion

Morrison recognizes that people will spend civic time in a space where they feel a psychic payoff. The Lakewood Observer is attempting to give people such a space for the psychic payoff that may or may not underwrite economic innovation and value creation.

Although the future is unknowable, the best solution for the anxiety of the times is for people to build networks, collaborations and interpretive management skills. With trust in one another, solutions can emerge from a process of inquiry among equals in civic space.

The Lakewood Observer is the voluntary means through which such inquiry opens to the lives of every human being in the city.

### Scarcity and Abundance

Morrison is asking deep philosophical questions about economic development and his own personal calling to such work. On uncertain levels, his inquiry transcends the cash nexus. In talking about his experience in open source economic development, Morrison fires off a series of questions about meaning: “What does community mean? How is it that we define ourselves in term of community? What is the Christian view? What is the Judeo view? Do they have any guidance for us now?”

Morrison’s network perspective espouses a vision of abundance and knowledge, which almost seems to defy typical materialist thinking about scarcity. In effect, his open source economic development model challenges the scarcity mindset with ramifications in abundance.

While encouraging a radical shift in the community’s mindset, Morrison eschews the language of confrontation, displacement and struggle over values.

He prefers to describe his open source instigation as migration to “curve two networking thinking.” In thinking about economic development and education, Morrison brings into focus ethical questions that lead to the heart of community: “What is our shared responsibility? What is it that connects us? What are the interdependencies that we know beyond words?”

Nevertheless, in the battle of words to inform human economic behavior, Morrison’s challenge to the scarcity mindset implicitly goes against the hierarchical mindsets trying to run NEO and Case Western Reserve University. In the broad sweep of cultural history, moreover, his challenge to the scarcity mindset can be read in the context of an economic structure that follows from religious myth.

From the perspective of cultural history and the political unconscious, the implications of abundance are highly suggestive of a radical and transformative shift sometimes associated with massive technological and mythological change. Such a radical shift in both economic and mythological perspective could prove too hot to handle for the “curve one legacy” powers that be.

“Monotheism’s vehement legacy is the implied consequence of the law of scarcity, which is built upon a logic that rules the scarcity paradigm that proclaims that there will never be enough of the blessings and good things necessary for prosperity, such as land, resources, even food and water, let alone oil, to go around for all to enjoy

freely,” according to Henry C K Liu, chairman of the New York-based Liu Investment Group.

”But the law of scarcity, like monotheism, is a baseless myth because it does not reflect the visible truth about the real world. The scarcity myth has come to be regarded as a law in large measure through the enormous influence that the Bible has exerted on the making of the Western mind, and thus the Western fixation on material accumulation. There is ample evidence that scarcity is the result of man-made maldistribution rather than a natural state.”

”Scarcity is encoded in the Bible as a principle of oneness (one land, one people, one nation) and in monotheistic thinking (one deity). It becomes a demand of exclusive allegiance that threatens with violence of exclusion. Imperialism and globalization are direct geopolitical outcomes of the Christian quest for the holy grail of oneness,” Liu advises.

The question that Morrison’s powerfully evocative “curve two brainpower network” now raises, particularly in the context of the Lakewood Observer, is whether open source economic development and civic journalism, can together inspire the community to enact a practice of ethical exchange and inclusive resourcefulness that will ultimately trump the Biblically encoded myth of scarcity and the defective fundamentalism of the Neo-Liberal market system through which the mindless destruction of the planet is justified by the hierarchy from on high

## Art Museum

### continued from page 1

it wouldn’t have happened. He gave me a lot of confidence.”

Asked about his start and early influences, MacGregor answers, “I began taking pictures seriously at the age of 15. I was influenced early on by Paul Strand, Robert Capa, Man Ray, Ansel Adams and cinematographer Gregg Toland. When I made the decision to switch to color photography exclusively, my strongest mentoring influence was a color photographer

named Ernst Haas.”

“My personal style of photography is color and almost exclusively utilizes deep focus, which is difficult in the fickle light of Ireland. By always keeping the foreground and background in focus, a more three dimensional photo is produced and the entire story contained in the photo can be told. I will continue to shoot conventionally with Kodachrome until film is no longer available.”



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Lakewood Theater

Musical at the Beck Center

Paying to Pee: “Urinetown”

By Mary Bodnar  
Defacto Theater Critic

The aversion to what appeared to be a horrible title of the hit musical, *Urinetown*, quickly dissolved for me within the first two minutes of the opening scene. I sat waiting skeptically in my seat during opening night, Friday, September 16th at the Beck Center of the Arts. I was taken in completely when from stage right, two armed and uniformed cops appeared out of the gloom unexpectedly escorting the pianist (and I mean pianist, not keyboards; the guy was playing an old-fashioned upright) like a convicted criminal. They threw him without further ado into the orchestra pit, which interestingly, was located stage left. The music started with a heart pumping crescendo. From there, I was hooked.

This impudent, ridiculous and unique musical is based on the premise that due to a severe 20 year water shortage, people have to pay to pee. There are no toilets in people’s homes anymore. Toilets have been privatized by one powerful monopoly, Urine Good Company (got to love that pun) The evil villain, Mr. Caldwell B. Cladwell, played convincingly by Greg Violand, has placed a power lock over the entire city. The omnipresent corporation has paid off politicians and police alike to clear the way for their ill-intentioned schemes.

Greg Kotis, the Tony award winner writer of *Urinetown*, got the idea for the story while trying to find a place to go to the bathroom in Paris while traveling in 1995 on a \$3/day budget. To his dismay, all he could find were pay-per-use toilets. Our very own Michael Rego and Matthew Rego with Hank Unger went on to produce the musi-

cal on Broadway. Michael, who is a 1986 St. Ignatius graduate and Matt are from Rocky River and Hank is a 1986 Bay Village High School graduate. All three of them went on to gain national acclaim in little over 8 years of independent productions in NYC as the Araca Group. It’s an amazing career track for three guys who are barely in their mid-thirties.

Officer Lockstock, the dirty cop played by the hysterically funny Matthew Wright doubles as the narrator, speaking directly to the audience. Among some of the stellar performances are the conversations between Lockstock and the precocious Little Sally, played by talented Betsy Kahl, a child who sees the outrage of oppression by the big corporate conglomerate over the people. *Urinetown* is a very “Seussical” like parody in every respect. *Urinetown* runs through October 9th at the Beck Center.

Scott Spence, the Director of *Urinetown*, once again, shows he has a real knack for putting on a great musical. The dancing was phenomenal, especially in the spirited high-energy “Snuff That Girl.” The music makes you want to own the CD. Suspiciously, the song “Don’t Be the Bunny” reminded me of the “Bunny Song” by Big Idea’s Veggie Tales that my kids love.

I was aghast at the idea of having to use the restroom during intermission so I remained in my seat gallantly all through that second act. I had my husband to thank for not letting me have that beer I wanted before I left the house. His lame rationalization was that I would not be clear headed enough to remember the facts later when I wrote the review.

I was rocking in my seat (not to the



music) when the finale finally came to a close. I carried myself with as much restraint and poise as I could muster to the restroom as swiftly as I could without knocking anyone over. The Beck Center had not missed a beat. The restrooms, in keeping with the central theme of the musical, were complete with signs posted on the back of each stall informing the patrons “it is a privilege to pee.” I sighed with relief when I saw they had failed to install a pay-to pee enforcer. As usual, I was a little short on cash.

”Better hope your pennies add up to the fee  
We can’t have you peeing for free.  
If you do, we’ll catch you.  
We never fail! And we never bother with jail.  
You’ll get *Urinetown*!  
Off you’ll go to *Urinetown*!  
Away with you to *Urinetown*! You won’t need bail. “

From: “*Urinetown*”



From left to right, Jimmie D. Woody as Booth and Ed Blunt\* (playing guitar) as Lincoln in *Top Dog/Underdog*.

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September 30-October 23, 2005. Directed by Dale Shields. At the Beck Center for the Arts Studio Theater, 17801 Detroit Avenue. Show times for *Top Dog/Underdog* are Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 3:00 p.m., Tickets are \$26 for adults, \$23 for seniors (65 and older) and \$15 for students (22 and under with ID). All individual ticket sales are subject to a \$2 administrative fee per ticket applied at the time of ticket reservation. Group discounts are available for parties of 12 or more. For more information, contact Yvette Hanzel, Director of Marketing at 216-521-2540, ext. 225 or email at [yvette@beckcenter.org](mailto:yvette@beckcenter.org).



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# Lakewood Eats

## Swinging at Swingos with Matt Swingo

by Bob Bond

**BB:** Matt, your family has a rich history in this city in the hospitality business. Very famous people have been clients of your family over the years. Swingos literally is a part of the history of this town. How does this impact you today?

**MS:** Well, it proves we are and have been a standard in this town - from the sixties and seventies, with stars like Elvis and Frank Sinatra, through the seventies with Rock bands like David Bowie and Led Zeppelin. Even today folks who are famous in music and film make it a point to stop by. Tommy Lee and Avril Levine are just a few who we see when they are in town.

**BB:** I want to tell you my story. You may remember some of the characters. I was moved to Lakewood in 1987 with a previous job. My boss sent my bride and self to Swingos Silver Quill on several occasions. We always had the same waitress Alice. She wore the black jacket and bow tie and you used to have a strip steak with fresh ground horseradish on top. Those were some really great times in my life. How does it feel to have such an impact on so many lives?

**MS:** It is a double-edged sword and here's why: Swingos has one of the longest running histories in this town, one of the most colorful histories. But, when you have that kind of staying power there tends to be a period where you become forgotten. This is a fickle business.

**BB:** When did you and your brother take over operations?

**MS:** Eleven years ago. My older brother and myself purchased the place from my dad. Seven years ago my older brother moved on. My younger brother who was on the 70th floor in tower 2 of The World Trade Centers on 911 came

home the very next week a survivor. He joined me and my father has come back to do daily bookkeeping and to lend advice.

**BB:** Who was the chef initially and who is the chef today? What are the differences in the two?

**MS:** Silvan Santiago for 40 years was our head chef. Now, I am executive chef and have many young and upcoming interns and employees who work within our style.

**BB:** Tell me about your wine inventory. What do you have in dollars? What Awards has your wine program achieved?

**MS:** 1.4 million in the inventory and temperature controlled wine cel-

lar. 7 years running Wine Spectator Grand Award of excellence. And a host of other world wide wine awards.

**BB:** What are the strengths of the menu and are there items people would enjoy who may be value-priced? What is the range in Entrée prices?

**MS:** Our Prime Strip Steak (my personal favorite) is always a hit with meat lovers. We also feature many items at very reasonable prices like perennial favorites Chicken Greco Remoulade style with oregano, feta cheese, parsley, red onion, pine nuts and a bere blanc sauce. Another favorite is the Rocky Mountain Trout served whole table-side. It is truly magnificent.

**BB:** What are your best selling appetizers and desserts? Any signature items?

**MS:** Our hottest appetizer is our Scallop Martini. Two huge scallops rubbed with paprika, and flour then sautéed, coated with black sesame seeds over a citrus Pernod drizzle and

fried pasta. Our Caesar Salad is still prepared tableside in classic fashion fresh and delicious. Our dessert feature traditional Bananas Foster which is prepared tableside, is simply exquisite.

**BB:** What about daily specials for lunch and dinner?

**MS:** Every day we feature several specials for lunch and dinner. The lunch specials are price driven for customers and made in homemade and hearty style. The dinner specials are more focused on style and flair rather than price. We experiment more at dinner with our special menu.

**BB:** Do you run "Wine Features By The Glass?" What wines are you currently featuring?

**MS:** We are currently featuring the Santa Barbara wines from Lucas and Lewellen Vineyards. The Chardonnay and Pinot Noir are what we are currently offering by the glass and bottle.

**BB:** Beer and or Cocktail specials?

**MS:** We offer lots of premium beers for our clientele. But we don't really feature them; we prefer to feature specialty cocktails. This month we are featuring the Cafe Diablo a flaming coffee drink with Cointreau, Courvosier and other secret ingredients. A nice way to cap off the evening of great food and wine.

Matt, It has been a pleasure to speak with you. As I said we have enjoyed your restaurant on many occasions and will continue to frequent Swingos in the future. Your food is top notch, wine and beer selection impressive, and above all the service is impeccable.

**BB:** What are the hours of operation and telephone number?

**MS:** Lunch: Tuesday - Saturday 11:30 a.m. ~ 2:30 p.m.; Brunch: Sunday 10:00 a.m. ~ 2:30 p.m.; Dinner: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 5:00 p.m. ~ 10:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday 5:00 p.m. ~ 12:00 a.m.

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Matt Swingos in his wine room sampling Lucas and Lewellen Pinot Noir

## Lakewood Alive and CitiStats

continued from page 2

The CitiStat process is centered around biweekly meetings between agency or bureau heads, the mayor and key cabinet members. Days before each meeting, the bureau or agency is required to submit data to the CitiStat team. The data covers a wide variety of information for a two-week period. For example, the Refuse Department submits data on everything from dirty alleys and missed trash pick-up complaints to the number of sick days taken and the overtime rate. After the data is received, the CitiStat team analyzes the numbers and prepares the presentation for the meeting.

Accurate and timely information is critical to the success of the CitiStat process. CitiStat's operations team is responsible for ensuring the data is true by taking a critical look at the

information, conducting field investigations and pulling cases at random. The operations team also analyzes all data received, compares it to the report for the previous period and formulates questions designed to explain the data and highlight problem areas.

"CitiStat strengthens confidence in city government," Dunn said. "Officials are able to make wise decisions based on real-time performance data; resources are used more efficiently and government becomes more effective. This benefits everyone—elected officials, managers, city employees—with the largest benefits recognized by the customers and owners of government...the people of Lakewood."

"The implementation of CitiStat in Lakewood could have a tremendous positive impact on economic development efforts," said Mary Anne Crampton, president of LakewoodAlive. "Improving

accountability and efficiency increases the city's attractiveness to potential investors in our community."

The LakewoodAlive program on CitiStat is free and open to the public. Grant Elementary School is located at

1470 Victoria Ave. (north of Hilliard Rd. between Warren Rd. and Elmwood Ave.). Registration is encouraged but not required. Registration can be completed by sending an e-mail message to [info@lakewoodalive.com](mailto:info@lakewoodalive.com).



The Grow Lakewood panel taking questions.



# Lakewood Pets

## Meow

I'm thrilled that the Lakewood Observer asked me to write about life as a cat in Lakewood. I'm a 17 year old, long-haired charcoal tabby born in Kent, Ohio, although I have spent my last ten years in Lakewood. I've had my share of scraps and naps—and would love to share my impressions, suggestions, and digressions.

Lakewood has much to offer the young, mid-life or even elderly feline. I'm especially fond of front porches, soft gardens, and leafy shrubbery. I love to lounge, sleep, hunt, sleep and stalk—and the physical landscape of town is ideal.

Of course, no town is perfect. So, here are my top eight suggestions for making Lakewood the cat's meow.

1. Neuter your male cats. Even though my name is Betty, I'm a 17 year old "fixed" male. (I'd like to "fix" the person who fixed me). Anyway, since I'm out and about most mornings, I'd appreciate never running into an intact male again! Those Toms are aggressive, and have an UTA (unfair testosterone advantage). I've been attacked on Arden, Bayes, Cedarwood and Baxterly; only my superior wits saved me from annihilation.

2. While we're on the subject—spay the females. My housemate, Sasha, ended up pregnant (I think it happened in a clump of bushes on Olivewood) and brought an obnoxious little kitten (Mookie) into our house. (Now, Sasha's bigger than a house) Thank God Shelly, John and Sarah took him off our hands. As it is, I had to watch the whole neighborhood fawn over that little rat for weeks on end. An ounce of prevention is worth 7 weeks of cure.

3. There should be a law that all houses have front porches, and yards bordered by soft mulch and shrubbery. I enjoy lounging on the neighbors'

porches, both for a change of pace and as an expression of my entitlement. I also like it under porches—the perfect hiding places to stalk or lounge. Since I'm not big on litter boxes, which I have to share with another cat and which are never kept clean enough, those shrub covered soft areas between the front porch and the lawn couldn't be better—in terms of camouflage and receptivity

4. The maximum speed limit should be 5 miles per hours across Lakewood. I wish the car was never invented but, reality being what it is, please slow down. Granted, more squirrels get run over that cats (big surprise, huh?), but it's still a concern. I'm too old to go tearing across Hilliard or Detroit, or a side street for that mater. Even the loss of one cat is an unspeakable tragedy (Perhaps with the exception of that orange and white bully that used to live on Bayes).

5. Import some chipmunks. The hunting is ok, but I wish there were more chipmunks to chase, and fewer big, lumbering brown squirrels. I hear that there are some smaller grey and black squirrels moving into the north part of town, though—I might just have to journey to Edgewater Drive or Lakewood Park. The bird population is reasonable, although I've noticed fewer of those fat, slow pigeons in town recently.

6. Speaking of birds—forget about The Stupid Eagle. Cats should be the official animals of Lakewood. Let's face it, like us or not, cats are quirky and cool—just like Lakewood. Although they are fine communities, would anyone describe Westlake or Avon Lake as "cool?" Sorry, but Westlake should have a fully domesticated, servile, poodle as its' official animal. Avon Lake, a town as quirky as dry, white toast, should pick some other bland animal.

7. Institute a \$100.00 per year dog



photo by Chuck Greenoff

tax to pay for free health insurance for all cats. While we're on the subject, I don't like loose dogs, although frankly I have rarely come across them in Lakewood. When I lived on Arden, my favorite game was to taunt the poor little mutt that lived two doors east of me, who was stuck inside while I marched across his lawn, tail at full staff. (I must say, though, that his owner was a very kind lady). If they have to be outside, dogs belong on leashes or tied up in yards. Remember, they'll just race across the street without looking, and always neglect to bury their business. Besides, nothing is more gratifying than the sights and sounds of a canine choking itself trying, futility, to get at me.

8. Bring back the fish wagon. My great-great-great-grandfather (Fluffy) told me that his great-great-great-grandfather (Felix) told him that horse drawn fish-wagons used to grace Lakewood at

the turn of the century. I can't imagine anything more fun than running down Franklin or Madison chasing a horse and fighting over dead fish heads.

One last thought. Ok, I'm an obnoxious feline—a status I celebrate and exaggerate. But, I must acknowledge that, generally, the people of Lakewood are very cat-friendly. They see through our aloofness and recognize that we're really sweet on the inside. Many appreciate our rodent control function, and enjoy sharing a lap on a cold day. What would a walk around town be without the sights of cats sitting in the window, or on the front porch? Make sure we're fed, give us a warm bed, and we'll give you our affections and our energies. We'll sit on your laps, purr on demand, and look graceful in the process. We're a lot like Lakewood—cool, quirky, and nobody's fool. Just don't expect us to fetch the paper.

## In Your Lakewood Backyard

## Chipmunks - A Wonderful Addition

by Kelsey Paras



Inhabiting most Lakewood backyards, the Eastern Chipmunk is an interesting, appealing and underappreciated creature. Belonging to the genus *Tamias*, chipmunks are related to squirrels. Baby chipmunks are born every spring and fall following a one month gestation period. Four or five babies are cared for until ready to leave the nest at about six weeks of age. After leaving the nest, they will discover their own home and food.

As seen in Lakewood, chipmunks willingly inhabit any burrow available. Many choose holes in porches or other spots close to people. This action is strategically taken because the human houses are sturdy, protective and provide an abundance of food. Chipmunks enjoy repasts of nuts, seeds, and berries. Lakewoodites who set up bird feeders inadvertently also grant these

tiny striped mammals a constant supply of food year round.

Chipmunks can be seen stuffing their huge cheeks with food to be stored in their burrows for later. The extra nuts and seeds are eaten during the inactivity of the winter months. This action of saving seeds also aids in vegetation growth. Any seeds which are dropped or uneaten can take root and create a new generation of plants.

There are several chipmunks that enjoy the hospitable nature of my home. One can frequently be found blissfully lounging for long periods of time fully stretched out in the sun near the front porch plant urn. A couple other chipmunks have been spotted gleefully bouncing around outside a back window safe from the claws of our ever watchful cat. Chipmunks are a wonderful addition to the wildlife of Lakewood.