

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

Lakewood's Only Newspaper And Finest Website – An Official Google News Source

Volume 2, Issue 2, January 24, 2006

Free – Take One!
Please Patronize Our Advertisers!

Judge Patrick Carroll Seeks Higher Seat

Citing his extensive background as a judge, prosecutor and trial lawyer, Lakewood Municipal Judge Patrick Carroll announced today he is a candidate for judge on the 8th District Ohio Court of Appeals.

Carroll, 54, has served as judge of the Lakewood Municipal Court for 16 years. Previously, he worked as a Cuyahoga County Assistant County Prosecutor and as a trial lawyer in private practice.

"I believe I have the temperament and experience necessary to serve with distinction on the appeals court," said Carroll. "As a municipal judge, I've developed a keen understanding of the application of law and the need to balance fairness and firmness on the bench. I will bring to the appeals court the qualities that the public expects in a judge." Carroll is seeking the seat now held by Judge Diane Karpinski who will be retiring at the end of her term.

Carroll was first appointed judge in 1990 and was subsequently elected three times after having received the highest ratings and preferred status from both the Cleveland and Cuyahoga County Bar Associations.

Carroll served as law clerk to 8th District Court of Appeals Judge John V. Corrigan from 1977 to 1979.

The judge worked as an assistant county prosecutor in the civil division



Municipal Court Judge Patrick Carroll.

of the County Prosecutor's office from 1979 to 1984, representing the county's elected officials in civil litigation. He was in private practice from 1984 to 1990.

Carroll received his Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in economics, from Cleveland State University in 1974 and his law degree from CSU's Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1977. He was an adjunct faculty member at Cleveland-Marshall from 1979 to 1990, and currently teaches with the Ohio Judicial College.

Carroll and his wife, Bonny Moran Carroll, live in Lakewood with their two children, Michael and Kevin.

For more information visit www.carrollforjudge.net

Carroll's Program and Innovations

- Community Work Service Program. This program is primarily for first time, nonviolent offenders, provides additional hours of services to the Lakewood Community, reduces the cost of jail operation.
- Alcohol Awareness Program. This program is conducted by the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.)
- Expedited Civil Cases Procedure. Civil cases have been expedited by conducting pretrial conferences by telephone and accepting all pleadings.
- Housing Court Task Force.
- Night Court Sessions. Primarily used for landlord/tenant cases. It was also expanded to include civil cases.
- Mediation Task Force.

School/Court Program.

- Mental Health Court. The purpose of this program is to ensure that severely mentally ill persons charged with misdemeanor offenses will be identified, screened and linked to mental health services.

Labor Union Endorsements

Cleveland Building and Construction Trades Council, Laborers, Local 310, Electrical Workers, Local 38, Plumbers Union, Local 55, Pipefitters, Local 120, Cement Mason's Union, Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators, Local 27, Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union, Local 19, Boilermakers Union, Local 744.

Sam Phillips Finds His Fortune

By Kenneth Warren

Sam Phillips, King of the Handsnappers, has found his fortune, so to speak, on a Lakewood curbside. A stash of Depression era *Fortune* magazines laid out on a tree lawn caught his eye. As a Lakewood E-bay auction master, he promptly sold them online to French and Canadian collectors.

"I've been bottom feeding from

Hollywood to the Wood, trying to save the city money, and to make some for my family," says Phillips.

By orchestrating a bidding war between these two international collectors, Phillips managed to sell 13 issues of *Fortune* for \$30 each.

"I made some serious money off those boys," says Phillips with a smile. "I'm saving history and the environment at the same time."

Kiwanis Club Hands Out Over \$1,000,000 in Scholarships



Photo by Richard Moles

The Lakewood Kiwanis Club has awarded over \$1,000,000 in college scholarships since they began their Scholarship Program. Money is raised for this program in a number of fun ways. One way is having to pay a fine of \$5 if they appear in a newspaper. Pictured above are some of the students currently enjoying this program who came back to say thank you. Seated left to right: Lucia Pizzo, Kenyon College; Diana Blank, Dartmouth University; Tom Blank, Lehigh University; Kimberly Samberg, Toledo University; Molly Paras, Ohio State University. Standing left to right: Patrick Hyland, Boston College; Margaret Brinich, Cleveland State University; Anne Duna, Norte Dame University; Philip Marquis, Bucknell University; Nick Aylward, Marietta College; Kelly Fink, Seton Hall.

In This Issue

City Hall/Government	.... 3-4
Lakewood Public Library	.... 5
The Buck Stops Here	..... 6
Lakewood Pets	..... 6
Lakewood Business	..... 7
Lakewood Music	..... 8
Lakewood Sports	..... 9
Lakewood Lore	..... 10-11
Chef Geoff	..... 12
On-the-Threshold	..... 13
Letters to the Editor	..... 14
Minding the Issues	..... 16
Lakewood People	..... 17
Gallery Watch	..... 18
Classifieds	..... 18-19
Lakewood Healthcare	..... 20

Lakewood News



Come Home to Lakewood

The Lakewood Historical Society has already begun planning for its biennial "Come Home To Lakewood" House Tour, held this year on September 10th. In a city filled with interesting architecture, the tour offers a rare peek inside some of the buildings you've always wondered about. The House Selection Committee wants your input, and is looking for suggestions of interesting houses (we'd love to showcase a cool two-family) throughout Lakewood. Let us know which house particularly intrigues you and maybe, come September, you'll get to tour that mystery house!



House Tour 2006 Nominations Form

"Come Home to Lakewood" House Tour will be held on September 10, 2006. In order to offer an outstanding selection of interesting homes, the Society would like to involve the community in nominations of homes throughout Lakewood to be included on the tour.

If you know of a unique residence (even your own home!), or one that you've always wanted to visit, that could be included in our tour of homes, please submit the following information via email to lakewoodhistory@bge.net or mail the completed form by February 15th to:

Lakewood Historical Society House Tour Nomination

14710 Lake Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107

Your Name _____

Your Phone Number _____

Address Of The Home Nominated _____

Owner(s) Name & Phone Number (if known) _____

Why did you nominate this home & what are its unique features? _____

Woman's Club Hosts Luncheon Card Party

On Wednesday, February 8, 2006, South Lakewood's Woman's Club will host a Luncheon/Card Party.

South Lakewood's Woman's Club, which has been in existence since 1924, has donated each year to various Lakewood Charities.

What better way to chase winter doldrums away than by joining with them at the Beck Center, 17801 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio beginning at noon. There will be a \$12 donation. For further information please call 216-521-6288.

International Referral Network Weekly Meeting

The Lakewood PM Chapter of International Referral Network meets every Wednesday at Maria's Restaurant, 11822 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH. Meetings begin promptly at 11:45 a.m. IRN organizes business, sales and service professionals for the primary purpose of helping each other succeed by networking through the exchange of qualified business referrals.

For additional information about the Lakewood PM Chapter, contact Bob Skerda at 216/521-1929. For general information on International Referral Network call 1-800-936-5323 or visit the IRN website at www.irnlink.com.

Hot Off The Deck

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

Topics	Replies	Author	Views	Last Post
LAKWOOD DISCUSSION				
Vision of Lakewood - Growing Lakewood	7	Jim O'Bryan	248	Mon Jan 23, 2006 11:00 am
Is the Cleveland Clinic Killing Lakewood Hospital?	25	Bill Call	640	Mon Jan 23, 2006 10:57 am
Lakewood Marina in Valley Headed for Development	4	Grace O'Malley	282	Mon Jan 23, 2006 12:16 am
Book Club	17	Erin White	477	Sun Jan 22, 2006 9:49 pm
Slashed tires	3	Danielle Masters	92	Sun Jan 22, 2006 4:22 pm
Updated Wish List for the Lakewood Brand	22	Mark Crnolatas	901	Sun Jan 22, 2006 8:19 am
Citizens Forum on the Proposed Tax Increase	1	Ryan Patrick Demro	40	Sat Jan 21, 2006 1:40 pm
Free Times - Highlights Civic Journalism - Michael Gill	4	Jim O'Bryan	125	Wed Jan 18, 2006 4:07 pm
GLOBAL DISCUSSION				
First homes, now Churches	11	Joseph Milan	101	Mon Jan 23, 2006 11:48 am
Iraq believes in ballot boxes. America believe in bullets	1	Donald Farris	47	Sun Jan 22, 2006 8:25 am
Iran	3	Mark Crnolatas	85	Fri Jan 20, 2006 9:58 am

Become an Observer!

The Lakewood Observer is looking for people, ages 15-100, 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!



Your Independent Source for
Lakewood News & Opinion

The LAKEWOOD OBSERVER is published biweekly by Lakewood Observer, Inc., 14900 Detroit Avenue, Suite 309, Lakewood, OH 44107.

216.228.7223

Copyright 2006
Lakewood Observer, Inc.

All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

PUBLISHER
Jim O'Bryan

EDITOR
Heidi Hilty

ADVERTISING
Call 216.228.7223

ADVISORY BOARD	ILLUSTRATION
Kenneth Warren	Gary Dumm
Stephen Calhoun	CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Steve Davis	Stan Austin
D.L. Meckes	Mary Bodnar
EDITORIAL BOARD	Gordon Brumm
Heidi Hilty	Wendy Brickman
Shelly Gould Burgess	Whitney Callahan
Vincent O'Keefe	Mike Deneen
Kim Paras	Jim Dustin
Emilia Rhodes	Jeff Endress
Kenneth Warren	Lynn Farris
WEBMASTERS	John Guscott
D.L. Meckes	Jennifer Hooper
Rami Daud	Bob Ignizio
Dan Ott	Christine A. Kaziner
PRODUCTION	Ruthie Koenigsmark
Brian Simko	Anne Palomaki
PHOTOGRAPHY	Tom Powell-Bullock
Bill Davis	Paula Reed
Rhonda Loje	Emilia Rhodes
Richard Moles	Rita Ryland
Ivor Karabatkovic	Dan Slife
	Kathleen South

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

Lakewood City Hall

Council Kicks Off With Happy Birthday

Council President Robert Seelie called the meeting to order at 7:34. Presumably to remind Seelie and the public of his advancing years, the always supportive council staff had hung a Happy 50th Birthday sign in front of the council president's seat. Seelie celebrated that event last Saturday.

Council member Michael Dever (at large) joined with Mayor Thomas George to recognize the Arrow of Light program of a Lakewood Cub Scout Pack. Scout Leader Don Carlson led a group of over a dozen cub scouts as they learned about local government. Carlson described how the scouts visited all the city departments to learn about their functions and the troop "felt we were in partnership with the City of Lakewood."

An employee retirement presents the opportunity to highlight excellent service to the Lakewood public. Such was the case as council and the mayor took time to recognize Lori Gedeon as she retired after twenty years with the Department of Community Development. Department Director Gerry Murphy praised Gedeon's abilities

while Mayor George said that Gedeon was the role model for the city's effort to be customer friendly as she "guided residents through the sometimes remote and cumbersome process of city programs." Gedeon's husband and son stood by her side along with city officials for the honorary photograph.

In old business, Seelie, chair of the committee of the whole, gave a report on water rate adjustments. An administration proposal to raise rates for water main replacement would raise the cost to the average homeowner over three years and eliminate the service charge. An average user would pay \$607 in 2006, \$624 in 2007 and \$659 in 2008. The committee's report emphasized the need to provide the additional money so that water main replacement could coincide with street rebuilding. Over \$4 million is required for a water main replacement along Clifton Blvd. next year extending from Cove to West Clifton. This line is especially criti-

Stan Austin

Lakewood Observer City Council Reporter

cal because there are few fire hydrants on the north side of Clifton and all hydrants are currently at low pressure.

Council voted on the third and final reading of the water rate increase. It passed by a vote of 6 to 1 with council member Ryan Demro (ward 2) voting against.

Council then turned its attention to zoning. Pursuant to a report from the Planning Commission which reviewed the zoning ordinances, three major changes were up for consideration.

The first was to expand bed and breakfast establishments from only commercially zoned districts to include multi family zoned areas. Proposed businesses would have to comply with 18 requirements in order to receive a permit. The original idea of allowing bed and breakfasts in Lakewood was first proposed over ten years ago by former council member Pamela Smith.

A second change would allow office services businesses to operate in industrial districts. Previously, office services had to be in conjunction with an industrial activity. This would allow the land along Berea Road to be open to a wider range of development.

A third change addressed proce-

dures to obtain demolition and removal of structure permits. This change was a direct result from community concern over the possible demolitions at an architecturally significant house this past summer.

These three changes were approved unanimously.

Council member Dever, chair of the newly formed citizens Infrastructure Committee, introduced Lakewood attorney Lou McMann for the presentation of a report.

McMann described the members' qualifications as diverse and offering the particular skills needed to evaluate the city's infrastructure. He pointed out that he is an attorney who specializes in environmental law, which is particularly important in regards to sewers. McMann introduced City Engineer Dennis Albrecht who had just given a briefing on the proposed street repair and rebuilding program.

Albrecht gave a summary of the new pavement evaluation program, which has resulted in an objective and comprehensive evaluation of street conditions. A ranking of streets for repair or rebuilding according to engineering criteria can then be made. He presented council with a list of streets projects for this construction season based on the new rating system.

See **Council**, page 16

 **Lakewood Hospital**
a Cleveland Clinic hospital

It's not too late...

Flu Shots

are still available at the

Lakewood Urgent Care Center

850 Columbia Road
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Weekends: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: \$20

Covered by most major insurers.

No appointment necessary.

For information, call 440-899-0900.

City Wide Ward Roll Call

The Lakewood Observer is setting aside space for any and all members of council to let the rest of the city know more about their Ward and what is going on there. They can use the space for anything from commending a resident, student, teacher or business, to talking about legislation or news.

Ward 1 - Kevin Butler

Thanks to the Observer for the opportunity to provide updates on our City.

Council and Ward 1 happenings.

I see exciting things going on in our westernmost quarter of Lakewood. As the YMCA and Harding School continue toward completion, many large- and small-scale development projects are being discussed - from more parking to a new banking center to new residential construction at the western edge of town.

Father-and-son team **Ron and John Lucien** are scheduled to open the new Lakewood office of **Prudential Lucien Realty** at the corner of Mathews and Detroit very soon. I understand they've completely remodeled the interior and installed woodwork to historic specifications. I look forward to their arrival from Rocky River.

St. Peter's Child Care Center at 18001 Detroit Ave. became the first early childhood development center in Lakewood to receive a two-star rating by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The high marks account for a low faculty-to-student

ratio and exceptional education and training among the staff. A "graduate" of St. Peter's myself, I'm proud of its accomplishments.

City Council is currently working with the administration to pass the 2006 annual budget, a challenging process as revenues remain stagnant while services are expected to remain strong. In January council authorized the administration to spend many millions of dollars for smarter street reconstruction in 2006, permitting the replacement of aging sewer and water lines prior to road resurfacing. In Ward 1, many streets are candidates for repair and I'll continue to advocate on your behalf to see the projects through.

Currently, our most pressing debate is whether to place an income tax increase on the ballot for May 2006. Ultimately that decision will be made at our regular meeting on Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and I certainly seek your opinions on the matter. Regarding this or any other issue, you may always reach me at kmb@jeromelaw.com or at (216) 221-7953.

Lakewood Observer

Ohio Supreme Court to Clarify Eminent Domain Use

By Lynn Farris

During the early hours of Wednesday morning January 11, 2006, over 30 citizens boarded a bus in Lakewood to travel to Columbus for a historic hearing. At approximately the same time, citizens were also boarding buses in Cincinnati to travel to the state capital. The reason they all traveled was to hear the Ohio Supreme Court's first case on eminent domain.

This is the first case since the US Supreme Court's ruling in the Kelo case, which opened the door widely on eminent domain for private use. The US Supreme Court, in their ruling, invited states to make their own interpretations of their State Constitutions in regards to eminent domain.

Ohio's case is of *Norwood vs. Horney et al.* and is similar in many respects to the issue that Lakewood faced several years ago with the West End development. In this case, Jeffrey Anderson, one of the same developers as the West End, wanted to enlarge his Rookwood shopping center in Norwood with office space, condominiums and apartments. When some of the residents in the area refused to sell, he approached the city and paid for a blight study, which found the area deteriorated. The city felt that this new development would bring added revenues to the city of Norwood, so they declared eminent domain on the homes that would not sell. The residents in Norwood appealed that decision and the lower courts found that the study

was flawed. The court stated that the area was deteriorating because of such factors as noise and light pollution, traffic, dead end streets, forty year old homes and individual ownership of homes. Based on these conditions, the court allowed the city to proceed with eminent domain.

The legal firm for the Norwood homeowners is the Institute for Justice, which is the same group that represented the Lakewood homeowners and the New London homeowners from the US Supreme Court Kelo case. Attorney Dana Berliner argued the case in front of the Ohio Supreme Court for the Norwood residents. She argued the term 'deteriorating' was vague and so broad that it could apply to virtually any neighborhood in Ohio. She also argued that the difference between the US Constitution and the Ohio State Constitution is that the Ohio Constitution states: "Private property shall ever be held inviolate, but subservient to the public welfare." She argued that the framers meant to balance the rights of property owners against the rights of the public. To allow eminent domain for private development completely tips the scale. Attorney Tim Burke argued the case for the City of Norwood and was joined by Mr. Elleman, the attorney for Jeffrey Anderson. They argued that 'deteriorating' is a viable standard for eminent domain. Mr. Elleman also disputed the principal of *stare decisis*, which states that judges should abide by decided cases.



Lakewoodites lend support to the Anti Eminent Domain Rally outside the State Capitol.

In the Norwood case, Elleman argues that Jeffrey Anderson went ahead and bought the other homes based on the lower courts decisions and Anderson would be out \$18 million if the courts decided that eminent domain was not appropriate in this case.

The court will return a ruling in approximately two to three months. The complete hearing can be seen through streaming video archives which can be accessed via Real Player

on your computer. The web site is: <http://www.sconet.state.oh.us/video-stream/archives/2006/>.

The results of this decision will be enormous in Ohio. As Attorney Berliner concluded, there are few neighborhoods in Ohio where there are not older homes, driveways that you must back out of or cul-de-sacs. Basically, the court will be deciding whether economic development is more important than property rights.

Review of the Proposed City Income Tax Increase Meeting

By Lynn Farris

Councilman Ryan Demro hosted a review of the proposed city income tax increase on Saturday, January 14, 2006 to share information with the public and to solicit citizen input.

The proposed ordinance 4-05 is an emergency ordinance to amend Chapter 128 of the Codified ordinances of the City of Lakewood to increase the rate of municipal income tax from 1.5% to 2.0% per annum, effective January 1, 2006, for the purpose of providing funds for general municipal services and capital improvements, and to increase the resident municipal income tax credit for taxes paid on the same taxable income to other municipalities.

Councilman Demro explained that the macroeconomic effect of an income tax discourages market activity and buyers and sellers share the burden of taxes. The microeconomic side we all know well as it affects the personal budget, and reduces purchasing power.

Councilman Demro laid out talking points in favor of the increase in taxes that the George Administration has proposed: 1) tax equity, 2) capital improvements 3) avoid layoffs and 4) only 30% of the population will pay.

However, Demro indicated that he is against the proposed tax because of the total tax burden the citizens of Lakewood already carry coupled with the fact that we have no strategic plan. Demro also offered that the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce is against the plan for the following reasons: 1) No plan to replace/repair streets 2) Need to

establish economic development fund; 3) Parking issues remain untouched, 4) Implementation of Citistat and 5) City public relations campaign.

Discussion was very lively and touched upon much more than the impending tax issue. Councilman Demro suggested that the three million dollar shortfall could be made up by having garbage picked up at the street. He also indicated that it could be made up by eliminating the water department as Rocky River and Fairview have done. Another option mentioned was to market our superior services to other communities. Others suggested privatizing trash collection to save money.

Many citizens expressed concern that the entire increase would be consumed by raises for the current staff, despite the well intentioned wording of the proposal. Councilman Demro concurred that concern was justified. He indicated that the average Lakewood income tax receipts rose only 1%, but a 3% - 5% increase for the employees was being proposed.

In addition, benefits for city employees were discussed. Many in the room indicated that the cost of health care had skyrocketed and they were incurring greater burdens both with the percentage they had to pay and the co-pays that were imposed. It was suggested that this area be reviewed carefully to determine if we could do better. Councilman Demro suggested that as a first step, he would propose part time council people might vote to give up their health care benefits.

See **Income Tax Review**, page 16

Skindell Offers Sponsor Testimony to Eliminate New Tax on Food

Representative Michael J. Skindell today offered sponsor testimony in the House Ways and Means Committee on his bill to eliminate Ohio's new tax on food.

Rep. Skindell's legislation, House Bill 399, would exempt the sale of food from Ohio's new commercial activity tax. His proposal is cosponsored by 49 other House members, meaning it has the support of a majority of the 99-member House.

"The amount of support this bill has received is very encouraging," said Rep. Skindell, D-Lakewood. "It makes sense that a majority of House members would sponsor this bill - since a majority of Ohioans, time and again, have said it's just plain wrong to tax food."

Skindell's bipartisan proposal is a response to the new commercial activity tax, signed into law last summer by Governor Bob Taft as part of the two-year state budget. Since 1936, the Ohio Constitution has prohibited the taxation of food for consumption off premises - a ban reaffirmed by a vote of Ohio citizens in 1976 and again in 1994.

But the new CAT tax violates the spirit of the Ohio constitution - if not the letter - by imposing what amounts to an excise tax during each phase of the food production chain on its way to consumer. Moreover, retailers are prohibited by law from disclosing the amount of CAT tax they are passing on to consumers.

H.B. 399 would exempt food intended for sale off premises from the CAT tax, saving consumers an estimated \$61 million during the 2006-07 fiscal year and \$172 million annually starting in mid-2009.

"My view is simple: By taxing food, state government is shifting more of the burden onto working families and senior citizens trying to get by on fixed incomes," Skindell said. "It isn't right."

Skindell said he is cautiously optimistic about his bill.

"I'm pleased to take this important step in advancing House Bill 399 and am hopeful for further hearings in the near future," Skindell said. "I'd hate to think a plan supported by a majority of House members would end up bottled up in committee just because the lead sponsor is a Democrat."

Lakewood Library

The Lakewood Initiative for Financial Education (LIFE), a coalition of local volunteers and organizations, is preparing to launch their third season of free tax preparation to help low and middle-income families receive the largest tax return possible. At this Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site certified volunteers will prepare 2005 tax returns for families and individuals from the Lakewood community, at no charge.

The clinics are especially intended to help families eligible for the earned income tax credit (EITC). EITC is a

refundable tax credit that reduces or, in some cases, eliminates the tax bill for qualifying low-income families or individuals. The amount of EITC money returned to the average taxpayer in 2005 was \$1,700, but the figure can be as high as \$4,000, depending on individual circumstances! The free tax preparation is designed to help taxpayers get their money back fast. Returns are filed electronically and refunds can be sent in as few as 10 business days. That way, families can quickly get much-needed dollars for mortgage, rent, food, clothing, reducing debt or

other essential items.

To qualify for EITC money, a filer must meet one of the following requirements:

- You have more than one qualifying child and you earn less than \$35,263 or \$37,263 (married filing jointly)
- You have one qualifying child and you earned less than \$31,030 or \$33,030 (married filing jointly)
- You do not have a qualifying child and you earned \$11,750 or \$13,750 (married filing jointly)

The LIFE tax clinics not only help individuals and families, they help the

entire Lakewood community! Last year, the LIFE Coalition filed 56 total returns, sending a total of \$48,647 of EITC dollars back into Lakewood. The true economic impact of the program, however, might even be higher. Numerous studies show that for every EITC dollar received by low and moderate income families, there is a total return back into their local economy of one-and-a-half to two times the original dollar amount.

(LIFE is a multi-agency, Lakewood-based coalition that includes the City of Lakewood, Lakewood Public Library, Internal Revenue Service, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, Lakewood Christian Service Center, Lakewood Hospital, Lakewood City Schools, and Cleveland Saves.)

To schedule an appointment all you need to do is select one of the following dates and a start time of either 6:30 p.m. or 7:30 p.m., and call Lakewood Public Library at 216-226-8275, extension 127 to register for one of the following Monday nights:



January 23 / January 30 / February 6 / February 13 / February 20 / February 27 / March 6 / March 13 / March 20 / March 27 / April 3 / April 10



Note: Availability is limited and on a first-come, first-serve basis, so call to book your appointment soon!

All tax clinic appointments are held at the Lakewood Public Library Madison Branch Meeting Room at 13229 Madison Avenue. The Lakewood Department of Human Services will provide childcare services at the library, so that parents won't need to arrange for a babysitter and can meet with a certified volunteer without distraction. Childcare must be pre-arranged when the appointment is made with the Library staff.

Calling all volunteers! We need your help! If you are interested in helping LIFE and your community by acting as a greeter or helping with childcare, please contact John Guscott at 216-226-8275 ext 113 or Dottie Buckon at 216-529-6685.

More information about the program can be found online at <http://www.lkwdpl.org/life>.

Lakewood Public Library - Schedule Jan. 24-30 call 226-8275 x127 for details | | web: http://www.lkwdpl.org/calendar/							
	Tuesday 1/24	Wednesday 1/25	Thursday 1/26	Friday 1/27	Saturday 1/28	Sunday 1/29	Monday 1/30
Featured program	7:00pm THE HEALING EFFECTS OF YOGA		1:30pm AUTHOR'S STORY W. RUTH SYLVESTER		2:00pm STAMPING A VALENTINE		
Childrens programs *both Main & Madison				10:30am/2pm /7pm FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS	10:30am/2pm /4pm FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS	2:00pm FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS	
Computer Programs 226-8275 x 127 to register		2:00pm BASIC COMPUTERS FOR SENIORS Session 4*	7:00pm DIGITAL CAMERAS FOR THE PC*		7:00pm EMAIL BASICS*		
*please sign up in advance 226-8276 x127							

Lakewood Public Library - Schedule Jan. 31-Feb 6 call 226-8275 x127 for details | | web: http://www.lkwdpl.org/calendar/							
	Tuesday 1/31	Wednesday 2/1	Thursday 2/2	Friday 2/3	Saturday 2/4	Sunday 2/5	Monday 2/6
Featured program	7:00pm EXPLORING THE LABYRINTH			6:30pm BARAKA (movie about natural wonders of the world)	7:00pm HARMONICA BLUES w. COLIN DUSSAULT & FRIENDS	2:00pm CUSTER'S LAST STAND - MYTH, LEGEND, TRUTH	
Childrens programs *both Main & Madison				10:30am/2pm /7pm FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS	10:30am/2pm /4pm FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS	2:00pm FAMILY WEEKEND WONDERS	
Computer Programs 226-8275 x 127 to register		2:00pm BASIC COMPUTERS FOR SENIORS Session 5*			3:00pm MS WORD BASICS* (word processing)		
*please sign up in advance 226-8276 x127							



216-221-6585
s.odonnell@realtyone.com

Living & Working In Lakewood
Because you have to know and love Lakewood to sell Lakewood

Proud Member of
Lakewood Alive
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce





*Voted Best Wine Shop In Cleveland
Plain Dealer | Free Times | Scene*

We are proud to live and work in Lakewood for over 60 years.

Rozis Wine & Liquor House, Inc.
14900 Detroit Avenue • 216-221-1119
We Deliver • www.rozis.com



Websites You Control
eCommerce Solutions
Marketing / Advertising

216.521.3400

4dsgn.com

a proud lakewood brand

Bob's Appliance Service

Repairs On Most Major Brands



- Serving Lakewood and the Westside Suburbs for 25 Years
- New and Quality Rebuilt Washers and Dryers
- Delivery Available
- All Sales and Service Guaranteed

216/521-9353
Leave Message on Machine

2003 Angie's List Super Service Award!

The Buck Stop Here

2005 Films in Review

By Robert Buckeye

Akin. *Head-On*. Set in working-class Hamburg, two Turks fight against a world which stops them. He drives his car head-on into a brick wall. She slits her wrists. They meet in a mental institution, and she asks him to marry her. What at first is a convenient domestic arrangement that permits each of them to live their own lives soon becomes a l'amour fou (the only love we want the one we cannot have). Of course, it crashes and burns. (Is such love the only love possible in a world which normalizes love?) The punk band Rammstein is mood music for their lives. We take the measure of love, Baudelaire notes, only when we see her for the last time.

Antonioni. *The Passenger*. Released on its 30th anniversary, Antonioni's account of the white male's passage to identity and responsibility seems, like Clooney's film about Edward R. Murrow, both dated and current. Jack Nicholson assumes another man's identity because he is tired of his own. Maria Schneider tells him he must meet the responsibility of the dead man's life because that is who he is now. The film begins in Africa, and the man whose identity Nicholson assumes provides weapons to revolutionary groups in Africa. The relationship of the white, Western male to the Third World has always been problematic if not guilty since Conrad (although Roger Casement thought Conrad did not speak for the colonized). The slow zoom at the end of the film is the koan of the master. Master, what is the meaning of life? There, he answers. You see it.

Clooney. *Good Night, and Good Luck*. Clooney's account of Edward R. Murrow's battle against Senator Joe McCarthy is both elegy and plea. A

plea that we reverse what has happened in the media since McCarthy. An elegy that it is no longer possible. Murrow's speech at the end acknowledges that we have lost, and money buys everything. The premise of Murrow's journalism that if people know the facts of the matter, they will understand the truth seems prelapsarian in a time in which reality is what you believe it to be.

Cronenberg. *A History of Violence*. Cronenberg is, as always, cerebral, distanced, and there is an almost connect the dots aura to this narrative of an idyllic, middle American town. It is at unexpected, shocking moments that those who think they are normal find they are something more. When Tom Stall, the comic superhero of the film, abruptly becomes a killer to kill the killers in his diner or when he takes his wife sexually on the stairs after she says she wants nothing to do with the killer he is, we no longer know who we are, and how we can live with the knowledge.

Dante. *Homecoming*. (Dante's *Inferno*.) The dead soldiers from the Iraq war come back to tell America we were wrong. (Malcolm X described the Kennedy assassination as chickens coming home to roost.) At the end, brother meets brother, and the question is – as it always is – which side are you on? “How fitting,” Dennis Lim writes, “that the most pungent artistic response to a regime famed for its crass fear-mongering would be a cheap horror movie.” At the Turin film festival, it received a five-minute standing ovation. Available only on Showtime.

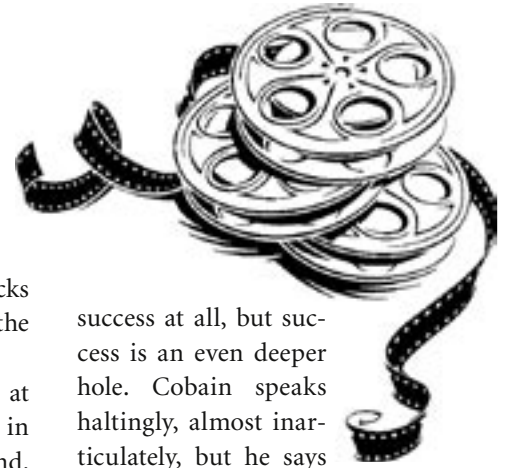
Haneke. *Cache*. Surveillance tapes of a middle class couple's apartment and life are put in their mail. Haneke draws

out the insecurity of the middle class, based, in part, on the fear that they will lose what they have and on the guilt that what they have they don't deserve. Someone is always watching, aware that their comfortable lives have been built on the backs of others. *1984* is always the book the middle class knows to be its future.

Karmi. *One Night*. Teheran at night seems little different from life in Westchester County or Long Island. A young woman who lives with her mother comes home from work and is told by her mother she has to spend the night away from home. Her mother's lover will be spending the night, and she does not want her daughter around to spoil the evening. Those she meets throughout the odyssey of her night say that love makes the world go around, even if the treadmill it puts you on is not the one you sought.

Skjoldbjaerg. *An Enemy of the People*. Updates the Ibsen play to contemporary Norway. The defiant cry of Stockmann at the end of the Ibsen play that “the strongest man in the world is the one who stands most alone” has now come down to his telling his wife that he cannot live alone. In a century, we have discovered our impotence, if not irrelevance, as individuals.

Van Sant. *Last Days*. To put into music what is in one's head, and then see what the market does to it. The double-bind of American life. The Kurt Cobain prototype can only be what others want him to be – he can no longer withdraw from the life that has been made for him, except withdraw from life. There's no success like failure, Dylan reminds us, and failure is no



success at all, but success is an even deeper hole. Cobain speaks haltingly, almost inarticulately, but he says all we need to know. Van Sant's camera holds on a scene long enough that we can move around in it until it becomes part of us. The music is haunting. Not only an elegy for its subject, but for all of us whose dreams have turned cold once they've been realized in a capitalist world that appropriates everything for its purposes.

Wong Kar Wei. *2046*. *Haunting*. Set, for the most part, in the rented rooms of a run-down hotel, a womanizer, who writes soft-core stories for newspapers, discovers love only after it is gone. Less a story that progresses from A to B than memories that fade in and out (“memory isn't just a favorite snapshot,” Manohla Dargis writes, “a blast from the past. It is where everyone lives.” Time is marked by the women in his life, not the calendar, even though Wong is careful to give us the time sequence for events. 2046 (the number of the room in the Oriental Hotel where he meets his women) is, in a science fiction subtext of the film, the place we choose to stay. No one ever returns from 2046. Not since Godard has music been used so effectively or narrative disrupted to more productive ends.

Lakewood Pets

A Day in the Life of My Dog

By Whitney Callahan

My dog, Dublin, is one very spoiled pooch. He gets the finer things in life: premium food, beds in every room of the house (including the not-big-enough queen-size in our bedroom) and trips to the Lakewood dog park, which I worked to have built for him. As if all that were not enough, he also gets to come to work with his Mommy every day to see his friends. I am one of the owners of Inn the Doghouse (ITD), a dog and cat daycare, boarding and grooming facility on the near Westside. Dublin, the Bullmastiff with whom I share my home, is the self-appointed sheriff.

According to Dublin and his friends, nothing could be better than coming to daycare. Where else can pets romp and play all day with toys alongside their best friends? Certainly we have rules and boundaries such as

“potty outside” and “no humping,” but for the most part ITD is the animals' place to hangout and have fun. We have our three German girls: Katie Eloise the German Shepherd, Bella the Doberman Pincher and Emmy the German Shorthaired Pointer. They are best friends and run around all day together. Otis the Puggle and Milo, a Miniature Pincher mix, wrestle and nap together. Clancy and Bob play tug-of-war with the Kong, while Stanley prefers to play with a rope toy. Angel does laps in between naps, and Sam, a Miniature Poodle with Napoleonic complex, wants Dublin's job as sheriff. Cooper plays fetch all day long (or at least until my arm is too tired to function), and Brando and Tess play with Dudley, a small mixed-breed who thinks he is four times his size. Lucky loves to play, too, but becomes grumpy around five o'clock and needs to be put down for his nap.

Clients all agree that a tired dog is a good dog, and when Mommy and Daddy work all day, they don't have to feel guilty about not taking their dogs for a walk. Puppies also come for socialization and potty training, and dogs such as Lucy Mae, Magnus and Christina have become more confident and playful. Roxie used to have separation anxiety, but now, after coming to ITD once a week, she has learned that Mommy really will pick her up at the end of the day. In the meantime she has a blast. Dublin and I love to hear our clients tell us that their dogs are excited to come to see us and that many don't want to go home at the end of the day. The dogs' parents want to know with whom their dogs play and if they needed any “time-outs.” (Of course, we occasionally do have to deliver the news that their dogs were sweet but a little “humpalicious.”)



Dublin

At the end of the day, Dublin is tired from his long day at work but always has energy to see his friends down the street, visit Pet-tique or go for an adventure in the car. He has a job and an active social calendar, and he has his mommy and daddy wrapped around his big paws!

Growing Lakewood

Lakewood's New Businesses

These two new businesses have a lot in common. Both are on the western side of Lakewood, both are owned by Lakewood residents launching new careers, and both have enhanced Detroit Avenue with the remodel of their storefronts.



Lacy Paraphernalia

By Wendy Brickman

Long time Lakewood resident and lover of Victorian style Dare Novak opened an appealing new shop on December 2 in a former bank building at 16008 Detroit Ave. Dare and her husband live in Lakewood and raised their children here. Lacy Paraphernalia features nostalgic décor and gifts. Dare has turned her interest in Victorian, garden and cottage style into a lovely place to pick up one of a kind pieces.

The shop is filled with quilts, reproduction chandeliers and other Victorian décor, purses, and jewelry. Unique gift ideas include items such as a bright blue dresser set or a bustier wall hanging made from wire and beads. Especially interesting and appealing is the "antique to chic" line, furniture items created locally and by hand from architectural findings. A gramophone is always playing, and candles are burning (and for sale), making this a cozy place to browse. Lacy Paraphernalia strives to "bless your home with happiness," it says so on their business cards.

Lacy Paraphernalia's grand opening is Saturday, February 11. Stop by, they'll have refreshments and a raffle for a \$50 merchandise certificate. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



Candy Boutique

By Wendy Brickman

Even if you aren't in need of a unique gift at the moment, take a minute to stop in Candy Boutique at 17100 Detroit Ave to see what they do. This new concept ("a delicious alternative to flowers") may be just the thing for a gift giving event in your future. Not for nothing is Candy Bouquet the number one gift franchise in the world.

Mother/daughter team Pat and Jessica Fronck are the proud and talented owners of the new Lakewood Candy Boutique. They offer a wide array of unique gift items, gourmet gift baskets, fudge (careful with Almond Joy, it's addictive) and of course the beautiful and unique Candy Bouquets. Delivery in Lakewood is free and they can ship items anywhere in the world. They specialize in custom orders, where your imagination is the limit. If your imagination is limited, trust Jessica's. On a moment's notice she created a fantastic dog treat bouquet with a dog-themed container and ribbons, bones and toys for this customer's favorite four legged neighbor. Corporate bouquets are also created using company logo items mixed with gourmet candies.

Candy Bouquet will celebrate its grand opening on Saturday, February 4, offering free candy samples, balloons, specials on fudge, bulk candy and a drawing for a free Valentine's Day bouquet. Call 216-CANDY10 to order or for more information. Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday thru Saturday, Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Celebrating Five Years of Memories

By Emilia Rhodes

Lakewood's very own scrapbooking store turns five years old this January, marking a great retail accomplishment for independently owned businesses. Lakewood is full of independent retailers that line Detroit and Madison Avenue, but Preserving Tomorrow's Memories was the first scrapbooking store in Cuyahoga County when it opened in 2001. The scrapbooking industry was the fastest growing craft in the country, which is shown by Preserving Tomorrow's Memories' expansive power.

When the store first opened, it occupied only one store front on Madison Avenue. However, after two years of business, the store expanded to three times its original size. Now, there is an entire storefront dedicated to the vast variety of paper used in scrapbooking and card making. The original storefront was converted to the Studio, which is open during all store hours for customers to work on their pages. The store's expansive offerings contributed to their national ranking in the top 250 independent scrapbook stores for the past four years.

Along with their stock of stickers, paper and tools needed for creative preservation of photos, Preserving Tomorrow's Memories offers a variety of classes in their Studio. Classes consist of beginner's instruction, specialty pages, card making and gift albums. There are also all day and late night "crops" offered where customers can work on their own material while visiting with friends and shopping in the store.

Preserving Tomorrow's Memories, known affectionately as PTM to their regulars, regards their personal engagement with their customers as the most important aspect of their business and success. The staff tries to learn everyone's name in order to greet them personally as they walk in the door. They also help their customer's plan out pages and albums if the patrons bring in their photos, as well as give tutorials for the many tools used in scrapbooking. PTM's personality and materials carried them through the past five years and will help preserve all of tomorrow's memories in the future.

Rocking Lakewood

An Interview with Max Monter of The Jacknife Powerbombs

By Bob Ignizio

By day, Lakewood resident Max Monter is a mild mannered carpenter. By night, he becomes Lex Luxor and plays bass in punk rock band The Jacknife Powerbombs. The band (which also includes Giovanni Flamingo and Mephisto Mirage on guitar, Caesar Bolero on vocals, and Rio Sands on drums) has been slogging it out in the rough and tumble Cleveland rock scene since the Spring of 2002, and Max has been there since the beginning. Max says, "When we started, we were all pretty much beginners at our instruments and we earned ourselves a pretty bad rep with some of the more serious acts in town. About two years ago we had 2/5 of the band decide to leave and took the opportunity to shed some bad habits and really concentrate on better songs and more promotions. I'd say that we've been serious about music for two years, and before that we were friends having some good times at the expense of other peoples' ears."

The change in attitude eventually paid off, with the band winning "Best Punk Rock Band" in the Cleveland Scene this past year. Max says, "It was nice to get that recognition. I don't know if people that aren't in bands real-

ize how much work can be involved. It's not always an easy affair to keep a machine like this running smoothly. We throw as much at this monster as we can and we were really proud to get something back that tells us that it's somewhat appreciated by others."

All that hard work almost went down the drain for Max about a year ago, though. That's when he lost the tips of two fingers on his fretting hand while working at his job as a carpenter. "I accidentally introduced two of my fingers to the business end of a table saw," Max explains. "I cut off the distal ends of my left hand middle and ring finger. The ring finger was lost (about a 1/2 inch) and the middle finger was sewn back on."

Max continues, "You know, it's hard to confess to this but the first thought that I had when it happened was 'I'm not going to be able to play anymore; I'm just going to kill myself.' I know that seems sort of overboard but it's a hugely important part of my life and I don't know what I'd be doing without it." Max' band mates cheered him up by promising to wait for his recovery rather than look for a new bass player. The band only had to cancel one gig, and although the injury still bothers Max on occasion, he says



Max Montor lays down the bass line.

it's getting better.

As if winning awards and seriously injuring himself weren't enough for one year, 2005 also saw the release of the debut CD from Max' band, the self-released 'Set to Go'. Max says, "We've gotten a very good response from it. It's still selling steadily and we've recently started getting some overseas purchases through our website. We decided to spend the money and hire a studio that we knew would do a good job, and I'm pretty proud of how it turned out." The disc has garnered almost unanimous good reviews both from the press and the band's fans.

When not playing music or working at his job, Max is an avid comic book collector (since the age of 14). He's also a sculptor and does some illustration on occasion, including designing tattoos. Max says, "I do a lot of side work to get the bills paid so I rarely have time for hobbies. But I do like to read when I can, and I'm in the middle of writing some stories to turn into comics. I've had some poems pub-

lished and I play some pretty intense games of chess. I also like to drink way too much and see how close I can come to getting arrested without actually getting arrested. I'm just a pretty normal kind of guy."

So what's next for this normal guy and his band? Max says, "We're hoping to get some interest in distribution and marketing so that we can get into stores in other cities. We've been writing songs like mad and we've got enough material together for another CD. We've always got a few shows lined up but we've been staying away from playing

Cleveland because we over played our hometown last year. We do have a show on January 13th at the Pirate's Cove with the American Werewolves. I like playing on Friday the 13th, it's always good fun."

For more info on the Jacknife Powerbombs, visit www.jacknifepowerbombs.com or www.myspace.com/jacknifepowerbombs.

A Neighborhood Great!
Geppetto's
pizza & ribs

Geppettos.com

17103 Detroit Ave. • 216-529-1400

GEPPELTO'S

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Carry - Out / Delivery • All Day & Nite
Delivery Charge Applies
Cannot be combined with any other offer

MUST PRESENT
COUPON

2 for 1

Lunch
Buffet
\$ 4.95
plus tax
expires 1-31-06

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THUR.
1 Large 1 Topping Pizza Just \$5.00	15 Wings For \$3.00	30 Mussels for \$3.00	1 Medium 1 Topping Pizza Just \$5.00
FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	
2 Full Slabs of Ribs Ala Carte just \$20.00	ANY Medium Specialty Pizza \$8.00	ANY Appetizer \$5.00 <small>(excludes combo platter)</small>	

NEW LUNCH BUFFET

MON - FRI 11:30 - 1:30



a. graphic
solution

- T-shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Golf Shirts
- Team Uniforms
- Jackets
- Bags
- and more!

Custom and Corporate
Silk Screened & Embroidered
Apparel and Gifts

AGS can help you create a design or print your existing design for: **Schools, Clubs, Churches, Businesses, Bands, Events, Sports Teams, & Fund-raisers.**

We offer a large variety of styles and colors to choose from.

216.410.3232

a. graphic solution inc.
Printwear Group

14900 Detroit Ave. Suite 310, Lakewood OH

Located in
Downtown Lakewood
(in the Cook Building)

Lakewood Sports

Give Me an 'L' Give Me an 'A' Give Them a Cheer

Cheerleading seems to be everywhere. Originally started as an all-male activity on the sidelines of Princeton football games in the 1880s, the sport has grown into an American obsession. Nowadays cheerleaders are found coast-to-coast on the sidelines of football and basketball games from grade school to the professional level. In addition, cheerleading competitions are televised nationally on major sports networks. Popular culture is awash in cheerleading images, with virtually every teen movie or TV show having an obligatory cheerleader character. From the "Brady Bunch" to "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," it seems every teen character in Hollywood has been obsessed at one time or another with either making the squad or dating the head cheerleader.

Despite all the attention paid to cheerleading, most people have very little idea how much work goes into it. On TV, it's just a matter of looking pretty and jumping up and down. However, in real life, cheerleading is very hard work. The squads practice twice a week throughout most of year to prepare their routines. The activity requires a lot of physical coordination and stamina, as well as the ability to work well in a group. After all, if one member is out of step in a dance routine, the entire unit looks bad. The squad practices year-round, including during summer vacation.

At Lakewood High School, three squads of girls cheer: one squad each for the Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity levels. In addition to Rangers' football and boys' basketball games, they also appear at the annual Fourth of July parade, and the school's annual Homecoming Spirit Parade. The job

By Mike Deneen
Sports Editor

of coaching and preparing the squad belongs to LHS alum Jodi Whitlock. A former Ranger cheerleader, she took over the role of head coach this year after coaching in the middle school program. She is assisted by Sarah

Browning, a Lakewood resident and former cheerleader. Both coaches enjoy the job because of the kids in the program. "The girls are all really hard workers," says Whitlock.

Their hard work has paid off.



Photo by Ivor Karabatkovic

Lakewood High's Varsity Cheerleaders.

The group won a "superior" rating at the Ohio State University Cheerleading Camp, and the opportunity to be in Chicago's State Street Thanksgiving Day Parade. Coach Whitlock is looking to build on this success in the coming years by working with the grade school programs. In addition to increasing the number of girls in the program, she is hoping to encourage boys to participate. When Coach Whitlock cheered in the late 1990s, there were as many as nine boys in the program. There are currently no boys on any of the squads. "You have to get one guy to do it in order get others" says Whitlock.

A major hindrance to attracting boys into the program is the lack of "stunting" done at LHS. In cheerleading, a "stunt" is any maneuver that involves tossing or holding another cheerleader into the air, and is generally done by boys. Commonly done at the college level, the practice is not allowed by the Lake Erie League, the conference to which LHS currently belongs. It is still uncertain if stunting will be allowed by the new conference that LHS will be joining in the 2007-2008 school year.

For cheerleaders, the future can be very bright. Many Division I colleges offer scholarships for cheerleaders, and historically most LHS cheerleaders have gone on to higher education. Many cheerleaders across the country have achieved incredible things in their professional careers. The list of successful former cheerleaders includes President George W. Bush and American Idol judge Paula Abdul. You never know, there may be a future leader or celebrity in Lakewood's current squad. "They're very smart girls," says Browning.

Lakewood High Basketball Has Much to Cheer About in 2006

By Mike Deneen

Hoops Update

There are those who believe that Catholic schools have an inherent advantage in high school sports. According to the theory, private schools can attract kids from a wider geographic area, and therefore are inherently superior to their public school counterparts. Well, apparently the Lakewood High School basketball teams didn't get the memo, as both the boys' and girls' squads have posted big victories over neighboring private-school rivals.

Girls' Basketball Team Having Strong Season

The Rangers are in the midst of a very solid season. At the time of this writing, the team is 10-4 with a 4-1 conference record in the very tough Lake Erie League. The season has also included non-conference wins over nearby private-school rivals Magnificat and St. Joseph's Academy. Head Coach Nicole Anderson has the kids playing hard. They are led in scoring and rebounding by Junior Kayla Kovach, who is scoring 16 points and grabbing 7.6 rebounds per game. Seniors Britney Jurchenko and Chelsey Eskra are also scoring over 10 points per game, and Kayleigh Boyle has scored an impressive 21 three-pointers in only 14 games. Senior Madelyne Horvath is setting the table for her teammates, averaging 3.5 assists per game.

The team will be spending the latter half of January and early February on a key stretch that will determine the conference championship. The nearly NBA-sized odyssey will include trips to Mentor, Lorain County, Parma, Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights. The girls will finally play their next home game on February 11.

Boys' Team Provides a Shocker

The first half of the boys' basketball season has been disappointing in many respects. The team has struggled with only two wins as of this writing. However, on December 23, they provided one of the most memorable moments in recent LHS sports history. The team played perennial state power and cross-town rival St. Edward. Despite trailing by eight points to the heavily favored Eagles at halftime, the team rallied to achieve a 63-61 victory on its home court. The victory sparked a boisterous post-game celebration on the court, a photo of which was featured in the last edition of the *Observer*. The photo, shot by *Observer* photographer and LHS junior Ivor Karabatkovic, has become a popular item among Ranger fans. A large copy of it now hangs in the Athletic Department's L-Room, and both Mayor Tom George and Superintendent Dr. Estrop have requested copies.



Photo by Ivor Karabatkovic

Lakewood High's #34, Chelsey Eskra, just one of the reasons the girls' basketball team is doing so well.

Lakewood Lore



Photo by Bill Davis

'You Really Should Have Been Here Yesterday...'

By Jim O'Bryan

Last week a *Lakewood Observer* reporter asked why Lakewood didn't have a good sledding hill.

"Sledding Hill!" I turned and said, "Sledding Hill! We had one of the best."

"That little hill at Kauffman?" the reporter queried.

I looked and stared deep into her eyes and said, "No, Sharkey's Hill."

The room fell silent. A couple of the long time residents turned pale with a look similar to that of a child who just saw a ghost.

"That name sounds a little scary," she said.

"That's nothing compared to the *Real Thing*," I remarked.

Sharkey's Hill, for those who do not know, ran down the side of the cliff on Riverside Drive. That's right, straight down the cliff on a slight angle with only a small curve at the end. But again it was down the cliff from Riverside Drive right down to the river, and hopefully not in it!

As a person that grew up near "The Hill," I soon became a little jaded about riding it down, after breaking my cherry at a very young age.

Growing up on Riverside meant that you could climb the cliff like the monkeys of Malta.

We often joked, "You know what they call a kid stuck on the cliff?"

"Tourist" we would all chime in.

Each year the city would pull off kids from Rocky River, Bay, Cleveland, but almost never one from Lakewood.

A Lakewood kid would rather fall

down and break a leg or collar bone, than get dragged off the cliff by the police.

After sliding down the cliffs in summer, I found Sharkey's was easier on the pants, bones and hands. But to the wash-a-shores and "tourists," Sharkey's was unbelievable.

Imagine the look tourists give the surfers at Waimea Bay in Hawaii during Big Surf. Sure we all want to ride one, but at what cost?

Every day another group of kids would show up, walk to the edge and just turn white. You would see them mumble. Catch that nervous laugh. Then half the time the group would leave. I mean, who wants to die sledding?

And death was everywhere on "The Hill."

There was always the talk ... "You really should have been here yesterday." "I heard a kid died yesterday." "They took a guy out of here on a stretcher, wasn't moving much."

This talk always uncorked around the fire located at the top of the "short" hill. I say short because it only really chopped 30 feet off the top, but what a 30 feet that was.

What added to the total mystique of the place was the fact that the hill was a real sled-breaker. As riders broke their sleds they would throw them up into the trees where they would hang looking like skeletons of the dead. At dusk these sled skeletons would come to life in a macabre dance of death moving back and forth through the trees as the fire flickered.

Before any ride you would first climb down to a lower level. From

there you could see the condition of the hill—icy, powdery, rutted or just plain nasty.

As you slid down the side and approached the fire, someone would yell "off." Then another coated person was off down the hill.

Along the left would be those who had made it, trudging up the hill. What always made this interesting was the possibility that at any minute a sled and rider could separate. Worse yet, the rider could lose control, smashing into anyone or anything.

Hazards included other sleds, rocks and trees. Or the rider might simply go over the cliff!

At one point the city put a barricade up to stop sledders. Seeing this as a kind of ski jump, inventive kids would make the barricade into a small hill.

But the pros, real pros, mind you, would start at the top, push off and even take a running start. Then they would throw their sleds down with a thud and jump on.

In a matter of seconds you had to make a life-and-death choice. Jump the barricade and with luck miss the large posts. Or turn hard right and go up the cliff around the post and down the cliff again.

To jump the barricade and head up the hill added speed to the ride. To move up the cliff and back down was tougher, however, always leading to incredible speeds.

There was always talk of speeds in excess of 50 mph. Nobody, at least to my knowledge, ever put a radar detector to the sleds on Sharkey's Hill.

Just as you would get control of

your body and sled back, there was a dip that threw you to the right and back to the center. You would hold your breath as you entered another depression before sending you up and over a small jump that would turn into a full JUMP as the snow and sledding continued.

The landing was actually smoother than the ski-style jump over the barricade, and it is easy to understand why. By this point you are traveling three times faster, and the sled would stay airborne for 10-30 feet! And then the sled might possibly settle down. For the forces were so incredible on the sled and rider that this point was where they usually separated, or simply fell apart, wishing they had never started.

Once you made it into the bottom depression and the ride was over, you had to apply full brakes, drag your body, and stop the sled before it ran into the icy river. Each time a rider made it to the bottom without carrying into the river, even the most experienced ones would let loose a huge sigh of relief. You would catch your breath, look around, smell the air, wildly thankful you were still alive. Getting up, you would brush off the snow, grab your sled (or what was left of it) and head up the hill ready to dive out of the way if someone lost control. Just to tame "The Hill" one more time.

Sharkey's was legendary, our Waimea Bay. Sharkey's was where men went to feel alive.

I looked over to the reporter and smiled, saying, "Yeah we had a hill. You really should have been here yesterday."

Lakewood Lore

Where Boys Became Men Sharkey's Hill

By Jim Dustin

Nobody knew where a name like that came from. It could have been any name, but that one both described and created the mystique. In the early '60s we were between 10 and 13 years old during the most formative years with the mysteries of the hill. Hiking over there with metal disks, standard metal rail sleds and the occasional toboggan.

The theory was that the hill was left over from some major sewage construction that emptied into the river. One of those mammoth concrete cave type sewers like the one Harrison Ford jumped out of in *The Fugitive* (only this one is at ground level). We were scared to go more than about 5 or 10 feet into the thing, but that's another story. Heavy equipment had to get down into the valley on the side of the river that only had shale cliffs. So they carved this hill on a 40° angle (something like the little hand at 5 o'clock on an old watch) all the way down to a narrow meadow near the edge of Rocky River. After construction it was left behind to become a daring taunt for kids to break their limbs or even die wrapped around a tree. It became known as Sharkey's Hill.

I started my experiences on the hill with my older brother and his friends. They had a toboggan; an eight-foot long unit of wood slats, glued together like a gymnasium floor, with a little curled up front edge. It had some rope running down the edges to hang onto and supposedly "steer" with, but nobody could figure out if that actually worked, or how it possibly could. It didn't matter a lot, because Sharkey's was a virtual bobsled-run by the time humidity and snow had frozen the hill into a one-way ticket to the river (which was also thankfully frozen most of the time). The problem with toboggans on Sharkey's was they were made of wood. Flexible yes; however, each season, great slalom ruts would evolve naturally, creating a roller coaster effect of miniature hills. The torture this would wield on a sled made for primarily flat surfaces was not pretty. It did indeed eventually snap, although on that particular run, everyone made it out alive.

So given that metal disks were only for the severely insane (Chevy Chase in *Christmas Vacation* comes to mind), regular metal rail sleds were the

weapons of choice. These came in various lengths from tiny 36-inch kid sleds to six-footers (probably still do). Made mostly of wood for the carriage, these had two main steel rails about 3/8-inch wide as skis and some even had a third rail running down the belly—but for some reason were more rare. These rails were connected to a steering device, which was really just a flat piece of wood that cantilevered the rails from one side or the other, forcing both rails to move either right or left.

Whatever configuration this technology took, it was essential to steer on a hill like Sharkey's because of the obstacles. These would be in no particular order: other sledders, trees, dry patches of dirt, rocks, ice patches, bro-



Photo by Bill Davis

Brian Simko and Dan Ott stand about 50' past the barricade/jump. The second jump is near the bottom of the path. The photographer is standing next to the barricade, and the top of the hill is 50' behind him.

ken discarded sleds, mini hills, burning fires (usually at the bottom of the hill, replete with discarded wine bottles and chili cans nearby) and of course, the ultimate gamble, the river itself. No one ever told the truth whether the river was frozen or recently thawed, you had to make that determination in real time, at say 30+ miles per hour. As Clint Eastwood once said, "do you feel lucky today punk?" We mostly did.

I found a pretty good sled, banged up down near the bottom of the hill. It had some broken slats, but the metal was still good if it received some TLC. When telling my friends, I undoubtedly embellished its demise with finding old skull bones and bloody clothing nearby, evidence of a particularly gruesome end to a former sledder becoming one with a maple tree (poor bastard). I took this home and started making alterations in my dad's workshop. I rigged the steering device to push the limits of the rails' flexibility.

No manufacturer in their right minds could have gotten away with it. I reinforced the carriage with slats of metal and heavy duty bolts. I painted teeth on the steering bar and something about Flash or rats or death. This was a mean piece of speed.

The final run for the killer sled happened late in that season, probably pushing toward March. The hill had transformed into a real scary caricature of itself. Everything was exaggerated—so where there was ice, it was thick and treacherous; where there were mini hills, they were like three-foot rolling waves on Lake Erie; and where there were dirt patches, it was like hitting dry asphalt roof tiles in the middle of Winterhurst ice rink.

The gloom of snow was in the air, not a bright cheery cascade, but a dark late afternoon mean dump. Visibility plays tricks when what was mostly a white landscape of trees, hill and snow

dent; everything seemed way too quiet as time was starting to slow down, the wind was picking up and the storm was now in full blanketing gray rage.

I took a running start, flopping down hard into the fresh snow and steering severely to the right to clear the barricades by banking up on the side of the cliff to go around them. You have about 7 seconds to get it right. Coming back off the steep bank of the cliff, I'm accelerating and pointed toward the forest at an angle. There are still a few kids climbing back up and taunting me to screw up and not correct my angle while flying over the edge into sure death. I straighten out and catch most of the center ruts down the middle of the hill. At first I thought the new snow was a good thing. I was hitting the mini bumps at full throttle when I started going air born about halfway down. I was exceeding the speed by which most of these bumps had been formed, flying right over about every other one, I had to get onto something flat before my speeding enterprise of meat, wood and steel collapsed from intense strain.

This was the Sharkey's gambit at play. Steer to the left for the thin strip of flat hill that everyone uses to climb back to the top. Not a good option when populated with kids. Not a good option if the steering mechanism was not in perfect condition, which I was about to become intimately familiar with. It was a finesse move. Too hard and you went flying off the edge of the hill into trees. Too soft and you never got out of the bumpy trough in the middle. The width on the side was now only three feet of flat hill, packed down with little footprints of the day's sledders and looking abnormally dangerous.

I made it over there barreling down at full speed, as trees were flying by me in a blur of certain death only feet away. But something was wrong. A bolt on the steering arm was missing; one of my customized alterations had snapped or unscrewed, leaving me at terminal velocity without control. I started the emergency foot dragging procedure to slow down this impending train wreck.

The rock wouldn't have normally been a problem, tucked up tight next to the base of a large oak tree, and covered with fresh snow. Hitting it with my left runner at this speed caused the inevitable physics of the moment to flip the sled and me first on to my back and then into independent tumbles, as the battered sled went over the side and I slid to a stop with a face full of dirt and snow.

It was still really quiet. I heard some faint yelling from up the hill and I could hear my own frozen breath. I checked for body part damage and looked for my left boot, which was 20 feet up the hill. Sharkey's had won another round and retaken a former sled trophy back into its sinister realm.

I was alive, starting to get hungry and pretty sure I could get home in time to catch "The Outer Limits," where they control the vertical, they control the horizontal and I dared not try to adjust the set.



Photo by Google Earth

Chef Geoff's Souper Bowl

From the beginning, I'll plead "guilty" in employing an overused pun in the title of this column. I'm hopeful that the *Observer* readers will forgive my indulgence, but when one considers such things as my rabid fanaticism for the Cleveland Browns, Red Right 88, the Drive, the Fumble and the distinct probability that the only Super Bowl I'll ever be involved with will be spelled "souper," perhaps they'll understand. So, with the caveat as to the title out of the way, on to the main course.

Winter on the North Coast can be a daunting experience. The Holiday are over, and the bright lights, garland and warm feelings we enjoyed in December give way to the cold dark days of January. Certainly there are a great many enjoyable winter activities to experience: skiing and snowboarding, skating and sledding, and maybe even some deep snow winter camping (more on that subject later). But, even with wintertime's recreational distractions, the reality of cold, dark and wet is enough to bring even the most optimistic of us to the very brink of cabin fever. As the weather forces us to remain indoors, boredom and malaise set in that even a 24-hour marathon of "Project Runway" can't lift. It is at times like this that the smells from our kitchens bring us comfort and release. And even more so if the winds are howling out-

side, which only tend to magnify the comfort of our own cozy hearths.

I'll confess to a weekly mood swing that is probably fairly common. I generally slowly slip into a slight depression on Sunday nights, fueled principally by the fact that the weekend is over, and in short order I will be plunged into Monday morning, my least favorite time. A dreary winter Sunday can only serve to heighten the slip towards feeling a little down. I have found that, sometimes, cooking a pot of hot, steaming soup, accompanied with a loaf of freshly baked bread does wonders for your mood. No matter how dark and dreary it looks outside, somehow the warmth from my kitchen and a large tureen of soup spreads into the psyche.

So, after all the football is over (at least for us in Cleveland), and the Holiday decorations are down, I turn my culinary attentions to creating a cauldron of delicious warmth on Sunday nights, and baking a crusty loaf of some substantial bread. Coupled with a salad, it's really all you need for dinner. Of course, soups can be simple, straight-forward affairs like Chicken Noodle, or they can be somewhat more complex, like Chinese Hot and Sour. But whether simple or complicated, virtually every soup is merely a stock,

By Chef Geoff Endress

with added ingredients.

We can, of course, make our own stocks. It is actually a simple process, adding browned beef bones, a chicken or turkey carcass, meat scraps, and vegetables to a large heavy pot, covering with water, and simmering for a few days. Indeed, those large heavy cast iron stock pots were designed so that items could be added on a daily basis, and the pot could continue to bubble away all week, with the stock ready for use on the weekend. It's a very efficient and economical way to make use of item that would otherwise go into the disposal or garbage. There are also a good number of commercially produced stocks (or broth) which would allow you to avoid the work of creating your own. But, once you have your stock,

whether homemade or store bought, it's a simple matter to add some chopped vegetables and create vegetable soup, or mushrooms and heavy cream for cream of mushroom.

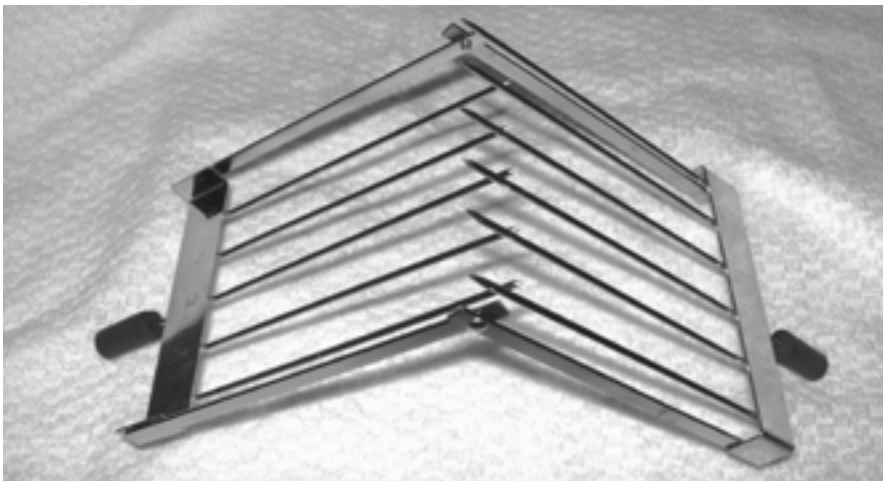
In the cold of a Cleveland winter, I tend to favor a creamy, thick chowder. Thick, not because you added flour to create a wallpaper paste, but thick with spoonfuls of meat, vegetables and creamy broth. The recipe is quite simple, and provides a basic Chowder recipe that can be used as foundation for anything from Clam Chowder to Corn Chowder. You may choose to add some finely diced red sweet red peppers, or perhaps some sliced leeks, or leftover julienned ham. As with so many of my recipes, think of these a guidelines, and please feel free to add, delete and substitute.

North Coast Clam Chowder (serves 6)

4 strips roughly chopped bacon (not maple flavored!)	1/4 cup green pepper, diced (if desired)
1/2 cup finely diced onion	1 bay leaf
1/2 cup finely diced celery	1/4 teaspoon Old Bay seafood seasoning
1/2 cup finely diced carrot	1/2 teaspoon thyme
2 6-oz. cans of chopped clams, undrained	1 cup heavy cream
4 cups chicken broth	1/2 cup milk
2 cups potatoes, unpeeled, in 1-inch cubes	Salt and pepper to taste

In your soup pot, brown the bacon. Using the bacon fat, sauté the onion until translucent. Add the carrot and celery, and sauté until celery is translucent. Add the chicken broth, clams and juice, potato, and green pepper, if desired. Bring to a simmer, add the Bay leaf, Old Bay, and thyme, and cook covered, until the potato is soft, 45 minutes or so. Add heavy cream and milk, stirring to heat through. Do not boil. Salt and pepper to taste, serve with a loaf of crusty Honey Wheat or Dill Rye bread and fresh sweet butter.

Kitchen Gadget Contest



The first person to guess where and what this is wins their choice of a free haircut at The Regal Beagle or a salon treatment at Revelations Salon, a \$30 value. The next five receive a *Lakewood Observer* T-shirt.

Mail your answers to:

Culinary Contest

Lakewood Observer

14900 Detroit Avenue Suite 205

Lakewood, OH 44107

INDEPENDENCE
MORTGAGE SERVICES INC.

Serving Lakewood
Since 1997



We agree, low rates are good.

And so is quality service.

Independence Mortgage

Services, Inc. can offer both.

Get the straight forward answers

and information you need

to make an informed decision

about your next home purchase.

First-time homebuyers receive
LOW TO NO DOWN PAYMENT!
Call 216-521-2612

For more information,
please contact our office today or
apply online at www.imsrates.com

Licensed by the Division of Financial Institutions, 14900 Detroit Avenue Suite 207 Lakewood OH 44107 MB 1679

Steve Barry
BUICK

"Over 50 Years Serving Lakewood!"

16000 Detroit Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 (216) 221-7000



New LaCrosse
Rendezvous
Terraza
Rainier



Here Now!
The "Lucerne"

Welcome Former
Bill Lake Buick Customers

• **Full Service Bodyshop/Collision Center**

• **Service Department**

ASE Certified Technicians

Repairs/Maintenance of all Makes & Models

GM Certified Used Vehicles

www.stevebarrybuick.com

Lakewood On-The-Threshold

A Lakewood "Where Everybody Knows Your Name?"

By Tom Powell-Bullock

These days, community planners are fond of throwing around catch phrases from "new urbanism," the supposed cutting-edge school of thought which says city growth is best sparked by developing a community's human elements. Urban planners are advised today to invest in parks, walkable shopping districts, and the arts, not just in the factories, bridges, and concrete that dominated their attention in the 1950s.

According to Richard Florida, a leading proponent of new urbanism, cities can prosper by attracting a new "creative class" of knowledge workers who work in good-paying growth industries which the Chinese cannot yet replicate. The best way to do so, says Florida, is to fill your town with the amenities and quality-of-life-enhancing features which knowledge workers prize.

If Florida is correct that increasing quality of life increases prosperity, is it simply because knowledge workers are in demand enough to be choosy and are affluent enough to indulge their desires, or is something deeper at play?

It is interesting to examine these 21st Century trends through the lenses of two 19th Century concepts. During that time, the first throes of European industrialization disrupted long-static villagelife, sent rural laborers streaming into factories, distorted neighborhoods into slums, and introduced the squalor and alienation so familiar today. People who had once lived in close-knit villages, who followed tradition and marked their hours by the church bell, now were transformed into anonymous cogs in a machine, governed by company rules and summoned in shifts by the factory whistle.

A German sociologist, Ferdinand Tönnies, proposed in 1887 two terms to describe these changes: *gemeinschaft* and *gesellschaft*, loosely translated "community" and "society." Tönnies described by these terms the two orders of social organization at either end of the Industrial Revolution:

villages and factories, tradition and bureaucracy, intimacy and anonymity.

Gemeinschaft refers to traditional social relationships common to villages governed by custom: a sense of kinship, sentiment, and self-identification with the community. Members of a *gemeinschaft* community see themselves as a means to serve the goals of the community, and membership is self-fulfilling. Examples include families, villages, and perhaps religious communities.

Gesellschaft refers to rationally structured associations impersonally contracted to achieve an end, usually lacking common mores. Self-interest, rather than self-identification, binds individuals to *gesellschaft* associations, and function, rather than tradition, directs their behavior. Examples include corporations and bureaucracies. (Sources: *Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Unabridged, Merriam-Webster, 2002; http://encyclopedia.laborlawtalk.com/Ferdinand_Toennies.*)

With industrialization, *gesellschaft* advanced and *gemeinschaft* retreated. But could it be that the trend today towards more "livable" communities, pushed by "new urban" planners, is a swing of the pendulum back to *gemeinschaft*? Could renewed attention to quality of life be a reaction to too much *gesellschaft*?

Consider: the trends which ripped 19th Century Europeans out of intimate communities and cast them into anonymous factory ghettos have only accelerated in the 21st Century. Today, markets aren't national, they're global. Companies aren't multi-state, but multi-national. Commerce grows every-bigger, churns ever-faster, and extends the work day ever-longer. (Indeed, outsourcing to India has created a business day on which the sun never sets.)

With the pace of change accelerating ever-faster, the individual shrinks ever-smaller and something in the human psyche yells, "Enough!" It seeks to throw on the brakes and bring life back to a human scale.

"In direct proportion to the expansion of economy rises our need for community."

In direct proportion to the expansion of economy rises our need for community. As the engines of the market turn over faster, as the pistons of corporations fire more powerfully, so too does our need for human contact, for real community, surge forward in importance. However much market researchers may flatten us out into consumers, reduce us to customers, or quantify us as purchasers, we are organic creatures who need to know we matter—and who need to feel it expressed from another human being.

Tellingly, it is only after urban anonymity bolted through society like a runaway cart that science fiction horror stories appeared in our literature. Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* came at the beginning of England's industrialization and anticipated many others: Jules Verne's troubled Captain Nemo; Aldous Huxley's repressive *Brave New*

World; the apocalyptic *Dr. Strangelove*; and more recently *Terminator* and *The Matrix*. In all of these, the machines turn on their human creators, trapping, killing, or controlling us.

Our science fiction nightmares reflect our real-life sense that we are not in control: humanity is no longer the measure of all things, but a gear in a machine.

"In the vastness of world-sized commerce, the most precious commodity cities may offer is community life."

In the vastness of world-sized commerce, the most precious commodity cities may offer is community life. Perhaps the prophets of new urbanism sense that people seek intimacy as an antidote to marketplace anonymity.

If so, Lakewood would do well to continue building on its already-strong community life and already-engaged citizenry. Could we become a town "where everybody knows your name"?



Where in Lakewood is This?

The first person to guess where and what this is wins their choice of a free haircut at The Regal Beagle or a solon treatment at Revelations Solon, a \$30.00 value. The next 5 receive a Lakewood Observer T-shirt.

Mail your answers to

Contest

Lakewood Observer

14900 Detroit Avenue Suite 205

Lakewood, Ohio 44107



\$400 FREE
drycleaning or laundry
no strings attached

Society Dry Cleaners is proud to offer a drycleaning service second to none. Casual clothes stay bright, keep their shape and fit better, longer, when cleaned in our gentle system. Maintaining the look and feel of your clothing investment is our primary concern. We combine clean natural solvents and professional training, to provide the premium care your clothes deserve.

216-521-6226

13415 Detroit Rd. Lakewood, OH 44107

Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30 am - 6:30 pm • Sat 7:30 am - 5 pm

* Please present this ad with incoming order. Not valid with any other offer. Expires Feb. 28, 2006

- Same Day Service
- Drycleaning & Laundry
- Leather & Suede
- Alterations & Repairs
- Gown Preservation
- Linens & Tablecloths
- Fur Cleaning & Storage
- Drapery Pleating
- Comforters & Bedspreads

Letters To The Editor

Hey Gordon - About That Issue

Mr. Gordon Brumm, in a *Lakewood Observer* article titled, "Intelligent Design: Skeptical Thoughts about the Skepticism (1)" mentions that he, "...welcome(s) good answers, if any are forthcoming." We shall see.

Brumm states that he is disappointed in the scientific responses to Intelligent Design Creationism that he has seen. He doesn't mention what sources he consulted, but I hope he never read "Why Intelligent Design Fails: The Scientific Critique of the New Creationism" published by the Rutgers University Press (2004), because I wrote parts of the book, and I think we avoided the failings Brumm listed. I particularly want to avoid being accused of "argument by authority." However, when very basic "beginner" errors are made, we scientists are either accused of "talking down" if we explain in simple language, or we are charged with "arrogantly arguing from authority" if we don't. Unfortunately, since Mr. Brumm makes very basic errors of fact and reasoning I will have to take that risk.

The first problem is that Brumm fails to offer a competent definition of "evolution." Evolution is not the "parade of the species through time" claimed by Brumm. True, the fossils on display and piled in museum warehouses plus those still buried in rock are facts that demand explanation. These discoveries beginning in the 1700s were even commented on by Thomas Jefferson. More importantly, species diversity that today seems boundless, coupled with our discovery that shared genetic material is bounded by geography and time are facts that demand explanation. These facts are not "evolution," they are the facts which evolution explains. The late Steven Jay Gould once published an essay titled, "Evolution is a fact and a theory" which reading beyond the title clarifies this issue. Evolution is an explanation of what is manifest and observable.

Charles Darwin proposed one hundred and fifty years ago that natural selection was the major force that shaped the development of new species. As observed by Gert Korthof, "Natural selection as an explanation is too powerful for its own good." This idea is the most argued about and rigorously tested hypotheses in the history of man. Darwin made some very simple observations such as children don't look exactly like their parents while family "traits" are quite common. He noted that individuals within large populations could vary greatly from one another and yet still be in the same species. Finally, he pointed out that some physical variations are better suited to some environments than others, and that healthier parents had healthier (and more) offspring.

This is all there is to Darwin's "natural selection." As presented by Darwin in 1849, and as attested by thousands of experimental research results, natural selection is as soundly supported as gravity.

Proposed Income Tax Raise

Having spent a work-life in the private sector and an enlightening couple of months one time in the government sector, I would like to make these observations regarding the Lakewood city budget and talk of a proposed income tax raise.

Since 2003, my income has not gone up. Also, for the past ten years, but definitely since the stock market took a nosedive in 1996, business has had to work smarter. Bluntly put, working more with less people. In addition, technically giving people the tools to do a job smarter.

I would challenge Mayor George and Lakewood City Council that personnel in the city budget be looked at long and hard and whole departments be realigned to work more with less. Example of technical improvements: Give the building department the technology to advance beyond a clipboard

and paper.

Secondly, I looked in the government pages of the phone book and compared the listings for the city of Lakewood and Cuyahoga County. I could see eight categories that seem like duplication: Board of Health; Waste and Water; Animal Shelter; Community Development; Senior Services; Division of Parking Services; Recycling Program and

Early Childhood, Early Start. Gee, why does the city of Lakewood have the same department or why are Lakewood taxpayers not receiving a rebate from the county for duplication???

Lastly: if not already, add to job descriptions the last bullet point on a standard, private industry classification: "And all other tasks as assigned."

—Dee Rogozinski

Darwin also proposed the notion of "common descent" which is that over the course of many generations new species had, and would emerge. A modern definition of evolution is "The change in allele frequencies within breeding populations across generations leading to reproductive isolation." The Darwinian mechanism of evolution is genetic change (mutation) coupled with differential reproductive success (natural selection).

So we have encountered a big problem. Brumm doesn't know what evolution is in the first place. Nor does Brumm seem to know that Darwin's 150 year old theory of natural selection has undergone 150 years of improvement.

Just one example is the discovery of how DNA works to structure cells some fifty years ago. Since then, we have learned a lot about how evolutionary theory needed to be improved. For example, we learned that some genes could have an increased frequency just because they were physically next to an important gene that had a positive mutation. Remember kids wanting to stand in line next to the most popular kid in school? The same principle applies in genetics. These genes are not selected because they are useful or "better," they are just in the right place at the right time. Some genetic mutations are lethal, and surprisingly this causes no problem to evolutionary theory at all because hardly any organism with a lethal mutation ever is able to reproduce. But, a "good gene" that is next to a deadly gene will be eliminated just because it was in the wrong place at the wrong time. We learned in the 1980s that a giant asteroid struck the Earth 65 million years ago triggering the end of the big dinosaurs. This was not the sort of "natural selection" ever anticipated by Darwin. Each of these new discoveries were promoted by the anti-science crowd as the "end of Darwinism." Darwin died over one hundred years ago, but biology is still doing just fine.

There are many further errors to cover, unfortunately, correcting errors take far more effort than making errors.

—Gary S. Hurd, Ph.D.

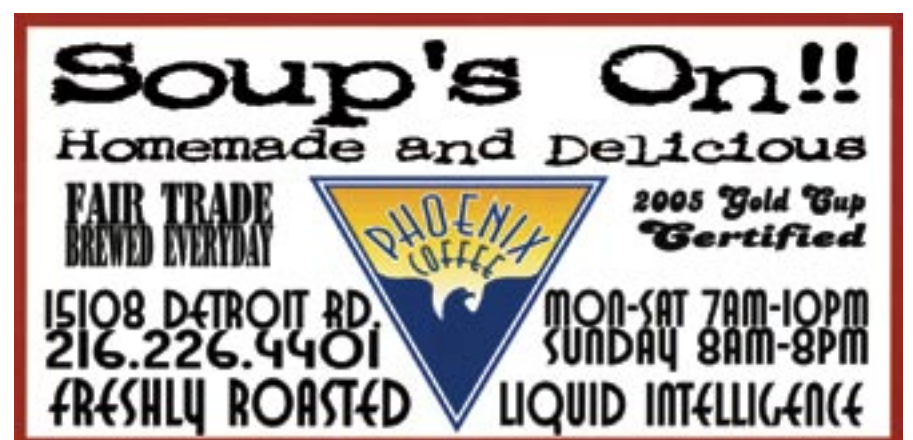


Sweetheart Special
2 Hour Massage for 2 People
\$70⁰⁰
Gift Certificates Available
Limited Time Offer

Call Laura at:
216-894-2281
EveryBody Massage
Ethical Relaxation Massage
1 Hour Gift Certificates Available

1 Hour Massage for Two
\$70⁰⁰
(Coupon Good for 1 Hour Massage Each)
EveryBody Massage
Laura Flanagan • 216-894-2281

One coupon per couple. Not to be combined with other offers. Expires 2/28/06.



Soup's On!!
Homemade and Delicious
FAIR TRADE BREWED EVERYDAY
2005 Gold Cup Certified
PHOENIX COFFEE
15108 DETROIT RD. 216.226.4401
FRESHLY ROASTED
MON-SAT 7AM-10PM
SUNDAY 8AM-8PM
LIQUID INTELLIGENCE



Home Economics.

Call Right Now! 216-529-LOAN

9:00 am to 9:00 pm – 7 days a week

Ask Us How You Can Save Up
 To \$500 Off Closing Costs.

Improve Your Corner Of The World With
 One Of Our Great Mortgage Packages.

FIRST FEDERAL LAKEWOOD
 We've Been Here. We'll Be Here.
 www.FFL.net

NOBODY DOESN'T LIKE ICE CREAM by GARY DUMM

WE LIVE IN PERILOUS TIMES, WHERE EVERYONE'S IN A SEMI-PERMANENT STATE OF UNFRIENDLINESS, AND WORLD LEADERS SEEMINGLY ARE UNABLE TO AGREE ON ANYTHING!

INFIDEL!

...TO PROTECT THE PURITY OF MY CULTURE, I CALL FOR 'A HOLY WAR!'... AND I WILL CUT OFF YOUR...

WE ALL CAN AGREE ON VERY LITTLE: THE SKY IS BLUE, BASEBALL IS NOT A GAME, JUST BUSINESS, AND THO' UNDECIDED AS TO WHICH IS WORSE, MEETING TH' GRIM REAPER OR PAYING YEARLY INCOME TAXES, ALL CAN FIND SOME FAULT WITH BOTH.

WHAT'LL IT BE, MORTAL, DEATH OR TAXES?

DON'T GET YER PANTIES IN A WAD!

...I'M TRYNA DECIDE!

LISSEN, DUDE, YER GONNA TAKE THE OSBOURNES, BRITTANY SPEARS AN' AUSTIN POWERS... AND YER GONNA LIKE IT!

OR DO I HAVE TO GET MEDIEVAL ON YOU BOYS!

PIPE-LINE...
...OF OIL!

GARY DUMM 2K5

UNIVERSAL ACCLAIM, IT IS AGREED, IS RESERVED FOR JUST ONE THING...AND NO, AMAZINGLY IT'S NOT LOVE OR SEX...

...IT'S NOT?!

...NO, SILLY!

ASK ANY GAL!

...IT'S ICE CREAM!

YES, ICE CREAM IS THE SECRET WEAPON TO HELP ACHIEVE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE-EAST (OR ANYWHERE ELSE!)

YUM... IS BETTER EVEN THAN SEVENTY VIRGINS!

AMEN, BROTHER!

BACK ON THE HOMEFRONT THERE IS EVIDENCE OF A DOWN-SIDE ...OVERUSE FOR A PROLONGED PERIOD CONTRIBUTES TO WEIGHT PROBLEMS, DIABETES AND...

...OTHER DANGERS...

BRAIN FREEZE

...THAT MAY BE DOWN-PLAYED.

SEVERE TOOTH LOSS

TEEF? ...WHO NEEDS 'EM?

...SLURP! ...OVER-RATED!

...ICE CREAM FOR THE OVERHEATED DESERT DENIZENS MIGHT BE JUST THE THING TO TURN SOME OF THEM INTO DESSERTERS!

SATURATION BOMBING OF CONCENTRATED INFANTRY TARGETS USING NUTTY BUDDYS KLONDIKES & ESKIMO PIES COULD GARNER RESULTS FAR SUPERIOR TO CONVENTIONAL TNT WRAPPED IN STEEL...

WE COULD HAVE THIS STUFF EVERYDAY!

PERHAPS ICE CREAM MIGHT BE THE DELECTABLE TEMPORARY ANSWER ...MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO AGREE TO DISAGREE OVER MORE MUNDANE, SIMPLER THINGS... ...AND THUSLY LEARN FROM EACH OTHER...

I STILL SAY THE CHOCOLATE WITH GOAT CHEESE TOPPING IS THE BEST!

...KOKIE COWBOY!

THEN AGAIN, MAYBE NOT.

WHAT'VE YOU BIN SMOKIN'?! ...YA FREAKIN' FANATIC!

WOW...THE TUTTI-FRUTTI IS T'DIE FOR!

...SOME FOLKS NEVER LEARN.

© COPYRIGHT 2005 BY GARY DUMM

Minding the Issues - Gordon Brumm

Learning from Iraq: the Logic of Condemnation and Regret

You don't need to be an inveterate Bush-basher to recognize that the Iraq War is far from a complete success. To be sure, it may yet come to a successful conclusion – successful from the American point of view – some years down the road. But more likely the outcome will be successful instead for some group at odds with our interests, for example Shi'ites and their Iranian allies, or Al Qaida. From its misconceived beginning to the present, the war has been riddled with mistakes and erroneous assumptions.

One would expect, therefore, that critics of the War would have swept the Bushies from the field. This hasn't yet happened. The critics so far have been like a pack of small dogs nipping at Bush's heels.

This, it seems to me, is because the critics have yet to find a fruitful point of attack. The main criticisms have been along two lines: 1) The decision to go to war was unjustified; 2) The Bush administration is currently doing a bad job, in particular doing a bad job of extricating us from the war. Critics have either looked back to the beginning of the war, or they look forward to the present and future.

Either way, they are at a basic disadvantage. They find no firm ground.

On the one hand if they attack Bush for starting the war, they are accused of playing a "blame game" that is devoted to useless recrimination about events of the past that cannot be changed, even if we can come to a clear conclusion from sorting through the jumble of issues and charges having to do with misleading intelligence etc. This line of attack, it is charged, is totally unproductive.

But on the other hand, if critics attack the current management of the war, they have no firm ground to stand on either, because the mess in Iraq is so

bad that no one has a viable proposal. Stay in indefinitely? Leave on a graduated schedule? Leave immediately? All these alternatives have grave drawbacks. Whatever Bush does, no one can offer a better alternative.

So critics of the war find themselves in a dilemma –if they look to the past they are irrelevant; if they look to the future they are baffled. And thereby Bush worms out of full responsibility for his failures.

How, then, can we hold Bush accountable for his mal- and misfeasance and do so in a profitable way? I suggest a commonsensical third line of attack that combines past and future – looking to the past in order to improve decision making in the future.

Let's look to the past and ask how we got where we are: What were the governing policies, principles and assumptions? Let's go deeper than the tangle of specific questions about intelligence and the like. What was it about the Bush outlook that – we can now see – got us into the mess?

Having determined where the country went wrong, we must say "Never again!" and make the necessary basic changes. (Supposedly we learned this lesson after Vietnam. Apparently we need to be re-educated every 30 years or so, until we finally settle on the right approach.)

What are some of the lessons to be learned? Just as a start, I suggest these three:

1) Multilateralism: We need it. Let's remember that most of the world – I'm thinking of Europe in particular – hasn't always been hostile to the U.S. After 9/11, most of the world was enthusiastically on our side. French newspapers, for example, headlined "We are all Americans." The world turned against us only after the invasion of Iraq, after we scorned common

morality and common sense and defied the United Nations (as well as ignoring UN inspectors then in Iraq). Now we are paying in blood and treasure for Bush's arrogant unilateral approach, and that approach must be tossed out. Instead of trying to be king of the jungle, we must aim to make the world less of a jungle. We must try to strengthen international law and international cooperation, not only in matters of war and peace but in other areas as well.

2) Understand other peoples' ways of thinking. The conduct of the war was based on two related assumptions: The people of Iraq would welcome us with open arms; and the people of Iraq, like all people, aspire to democracy. The error of the first is apparent. Many Iraqis find a foreign occupation humiliating or threatening, just as many (or all) Americans would.

The second assumption may be true in an abstract sense, but we should have realized that abstract or formal democracy – i.e. simply voting for a representative or law – means different things to different people. Sunnis and Shi'ites, for example, may have opposing motives when they go into the voting booth, and if they don't get what they want through voting they may resort to stronger measures. Bush should have realized this, but obviously didn't, before he blithely ordered an invasion and assumed that everyone would live happily ever after.

3) Look to the foundations of your beliefs. This is a logical point with dramatic real-life significance. Each of our beliefs has some other belief that serves as a reason for it, and that belief has a reason, and so on. It's like a chain in which each link is a belief, one leading to the other, so that each belief – each link in the chain – is founded on the beliefs that came before. In the case of Iraq, the chain seemed to have roughly

this form:

a) Informants (Chalabi, "Curveball" et al.) reported that Saddam had WMDs and that the Iraqis would all welcome the U.S.

b) Therefore Saddam did have WMDs and the Iraqis would indeed welcome U.S. forces.

c) Therefore we should knock over Saddam's army and government, and once we do that we can transform Iraq into a model nation and gain the applause of the world.

The trouble is that the first step (a) was a weak foundation for the second. Therefore statement (b) was uncertain, with a low degree of probability. Therefore the final conclusion could not be known with certainty. But those who oversaw this process of inference apparently did not wish to deal in uncertainty or probability; they needed to stamp each statement with a simple "yes" or "no." So what started out as a "maybe" (the reports from informants) came through as a definite "yes," and what should have been a hesitant, tentative conclusion was presented as a "slam-dunk" certainty. If Bush had known the weak foundation his convictions rested on, he might not have been so confident that his belligerence would pay off. Or perhaps he didn't want to know. Perhaps he wanted the slam-dunk certainty and didn't care whether it was legitimate or not.

In any case, those who want the truth will always do well to ask "How do you know?" And we need a government that seeks the truth rather than holding tight to ideologically-driven conclusions.

These are the kinds of general views we need to work out to make sure – in 2006 and finally in 2008 – that Bushism doesn't continue to taint our politics.

Spilled Ink

Council *(continued from page 3)*

An ambitious program for this year is proposed and funded. To continue the rebuilding at the needed rate in future years will require additional funding sources, according to Finance Director Vic Nogalo.

Dever emphasized that council was approving the design work three months earlier than usual to take advantage of seasonal discounts in the contracting industry. An early start will allow projects to be completed before the onset of snow, which occurred in the Wascana and Chesterland projects in 2005. Albrecht emphasized that the final product of those street projects was acceptable but running into freezing weather can jeopardize the quality of work.

Resident Shelly Sedlack took the

opportunity to question Albrecht. Sedlack walks regularly and one of her routes is the newly rebuilt section of Edgewater Drive. A walking friend pointed out to her the apparent porosity of the new pavement. Albrecht responded that their observation was correct and that this was a new kind of pavement meant to improve drainage.

Finally, Bruce Baker of the Lakewood Soccer Association updated council on its assessment of the soccer fields. Mayor George indicated that Public Works Director Beno will work closely with the group to keep the fields in good playing condition.

Reported by Stan Austin, Lakewood Observer City Council reporter

Income Tax Review *(continued from page 4)*

While it would take time to do a strategic plan like the schools did to determine what was important to the citizens, it was suggested that knowing what to keep and what to cut could only be done effectively with citizen involvement. It was recommended, and Councilman Demro agreed to propose, moving public comments at Council Meetings to the beginning where they were two years ago instead of at the end for more citizen input.

Questions arose over the impact financially and qualitatively of regionalism and city manager form of government. It was agreed that the city should look more into these areas and good information was needed that was lacking to make informed decisions.

Another question was why we were penalizing people that work and live

in Lakewood. That seemed like something we wanted to encourage and not discourage and Councilman Demro agreed that taxes do affect behavior and we should be careful regarding what behaviors we encourage.

Finally, some attendees expressed dismay that only Councilman Demro attended the forum. They felt that other council people would want to get citizens input into an increase in the percentage of income tax in many years.

Overall, the meeting was a huge success with citizens feeling that they truly had input. There was a general consensus that it would be beneficial for some of these options to be considered, before further burdening the people that live and work in Lakewood.

Lakewood People - Anne's Pals

By Anne Palomaki

LUMC Hosts Leadership Academy

The North Coast District of the United Methodist Church will hold a leadership academy at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 15700 Detroit Avenue, on Saturday, February 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. The keynote address will be given by Bishop John Hopkins. There will be 32 workshops offered to the 400 persons expected that day. One of the workshops, "Creative Worship, Use your Senses" will be presented by Lakewood resident, Marj Ruhl. After leading a discussion on using creative ideas to enhance the worship experience, the group will make a piece of liturgical art to be used in the closing worship service. All are welcome to attend this conference! Lunch will be served. Call the Lakewood United Methodist Church office at 226-8644 for further information or go online at www.ncdistrictumc.org to download a brochure.



Marj Ruhl with the banner she created for the Yoder Chapel at Lakewood United Methodist Church.

Lakewood Garden Club Rocs Softly

The Lakewood Garden Club met at the Women's Pavilion in Lakewood Park on January 10th. One of the members, Heather Baldesare demonstrated a new concept in floral arranging with Soft Roc.

The purpose of the Lakewood Garden Club is to promote knowledge in gardening, preserve nature, and promote community beautification. The members maintain the garden at the Pocket Park on Warren Road. The club has supported the greenhouse at Lakewood High School with donations of over \$9,000 and continues to collaborate with Mark Rathge on other projects. The organization supports educational programs at the Cleveland Botanical Garden. A committee of Lakewood Garden Club members made up of Sylvia Spotts, Mary Jo Potts, and Judy Riley are working with other community members and Dr. David Estrop, Superintendent of Lakewood City Schools, on the landscaping design at the Lakewood Board of Education.





Hungry Howie's Pizza

16210 DETROIT AVE
(216) 521-7200

 <p style="text-align: center;">MAD MONDAY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 LARGE PIZZA With Cheese & Any 2 Toppings</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">\$6⁹⁹</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Plus Tax • Delivery • Limited Area • Expires 02/28/06</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">FAMILY COMBO</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">One pizza with up to 5 toppings of your choice for the adults One pizza with up to 2 toppings of your choice for the kids</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 MEDIUMS | 2 LARGES</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$15⁹⁹ | \$18⁹⁹</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Plus Tax • Delivery • Limited Area • Expires 02/28/06</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">HOWIE COMBO</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">1 LARGE 1 TOPPING PIZZA Howie Bread & Sauce & Free 2 Liter</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">\$11⁹⁹</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Free Flavored Crust! Plus Tax • Delivery • Limited Area • Expires 02/28/06</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">MON. - TUES. SPECIAL</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">2 MEDIUM PIZZAS With Cheese & Any 1 Topping</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em;">\$10⁹⁹</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Delivery Price \$13 plus tax Pick-up Price 2 larges...14⁹⁹ Plus Tax • Delivery • Limited Area • Expires 02/28/06</p>

Monday & Tuesday 5 pm - 7 pm

BEAT the Clock

1LARGE 1 TOPPING PIZZA

Pay for the time you call - IE, call at 5:03 pm-
Pay only \$5.03 for 1 LARGE 1 TOPPING PIZZA
Pick up ONLY - Delivery Extra - Limit 4 Pizzas

*NO TIMED ORDERS OR ADVANCED CALLING ACCEPTED FOR THIS OFFER

AROUND THE CORNER
SALOON & CAFE

OPEN FOR LUNCH
11:00 - 3:00

BRUNCH

SAT 11 - 2 • SUN 9:30 - 2

...SPECIALS...

MONDAY
2-4-1 BURGERS
TUES-THURS-SUN
30c WINGS
THURS
\$2.00 THIRSTY THURSDAYS
ALL DRAFTS
ALL BOTTLED BEER
ALL MIXED DRINKS

18616-20 Detroit, Lakewood
216-521-4413



lion and blue

CLOTHING GIFTS JEWELRY

A NEIGHBORHOOD SHOP,
A WORLD OF TREASURES.

STOP IN FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL,
LIKE YOURSELF!

AUTHORIZED
BIRKENSTOCK
SALES & REPAIR

15106 DETROIT AVE. LAKEWOOD
216-529-2328
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

PLAYOFF FOOTBALL GAMES



PANINI'S

AT THE RIVIERA

PANINI'S AT THE RIVIERA

\$1 DOMESTIC BEERS

WIFI & KARAOKE

16719 DETROIT RD. LAKEWOOD, OH 216-521-8204

Lakewood Gallery Watch

Gallery Watch

By Ruth A. Koenigsmark & Christine A. Kazimer

Greetings fellow art enthusiasts of Lakewood. We would like to open our first Gallery Watch column by extending our heartfelt thanks to our predecessor, Chelsea L. Waschek, for all her hard work and commitment in keeping our readers informed about the Lakewood art scene up to this point. We wish Chelsea the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

We offered to take over responsibility for this column because we are both committed to promoting the arts in our community. Our hope is to entice you to join us in experiencing the pleasure of art for art's sake and to introduce you to another level of social interaction in our lovely town. We've always found art to be a wonderful catalyst to great conversation, wonderful new friendships and inner discovery... whether you like a piece of art or not, you always have something to say about it. So join us and be a part of this exciting cultural scene!

Some Fine Art Goodies To Sample

Beck Center for the Arts

17801 Detroit Avenue
Father/Daughter Art Show

Award-winning photographer Jim Howson and his two talented artist daughters, Judy Calkin and Patt McClain, have their photography and watercolor paintings on exhibit in the Jean Bulicek Galleria at the Beck Center for the Arts. This exhibit is free and open to the public. For gallery hours and more information regarding this art exhibit call 216-521-2540, or just stop by.

bela dubby

13321 Madison Avenue
Group Show

Currently works by Artists Kate Schneider, Josh Foster, Bethany Browning, Scott Hosner, Brian Jacobs, Kristie Kremer, Ryan Lambrix, Lisa Olbrysh, Dott Schneider and Joseph Close through January 31. Stop by for a cup of coffee, a beer and some eye candy.

New Openings on the first Saturday of every month. Next Opening is Saturday, February 4, from 6 p.m.-1 a.m. The title of the show is "trash and treasure" and is a collection of new works by the artists of Artifactual Creations, Christopher Sweiger and Diogenes Basileos.

bela dubby is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-midnight, and closed on Sunday and Monday. Just to check call 216-221-4479.

Local Girl Gallery

16106 Detroit Avenue
Photography exhibit to benefit Adoption Network Cleveland

In honor of the Chinese New Year, Local Girl Gallery will host an exhibit of photographic imagery by local artist Laura Watilo Blake from 7-10 p.m. on

Saturday, February 4, 2006. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Adoption Network Cleveland.

In what has become known as the "Corruption in China" series, the imagery in the collection represents two distinct moments in history that produce a visual clash between traditional and modernity in China. Not meant as a political statement, the title of the series developed as a result of equipment malfunction in a Chinese motel room that produced a visual feast of vertical and horizontal lines, split images, and over saturated colors in the original digital photographs.

The event will also feature an auction of lion masks designed and decorated by foster and adopted children and their families. In Chinese culture, the lion dance is performed during Chinese New Year celebrations to bring good luck and good fortune in the coming year. It would be fortunate if all of Cuyahoga County's 444 kids waiting for adoption could find families in 2006.

Complimentary appetizers and tempting beverages will be served.

Phone (216)-228-1802 or check out the website at www.localgirlgallery.com

Pop Shop Gallery and Studio

17020 Madison Avenue
Free4All, Group Show

The Pop Shop Gallery and Studio will be hosting its Group Show entitled the "Free4All". This show will house 17+ area artists displaying new contemporary works. The title Free4All is relevant to the artists showing viewers what they do and how they do it in a mass of other artists. A Free4All (free for all) is just an allowance for a great group show to recognize artists' style with multiple pieces (5-10 each) vs. a show in which they may only be allowed a few pieces (1-3). This show will run until February 18.

Gallery times are Monday and Tuesday nights 9:30-11 p.m., Thursdays 4-11 p.m., and every other Saturday and Sunday 1-6 p.m. The gallery is open other days depending on artists schedules, and by appointments. For info call 216-227-8440.

Wobblefoot Gallery and Frame Studio

1662 Mars Avenue
Contest and Call for Wildlife Artists

Contest: Go to the Wobblefoot website at www.wobblefoot.com to enter to win an 11" X 14" print of Stone Horsemen by S. Lane. The contest entry deadline is February 24, 2006. Every six weeks Wobblefoot has another giveaway posted on their site. Prizes could be jewelry, watches or prints. Check out the site for details.

Call for Artists: Wobblefoot is seeking outstanding wildlife artists to show on their webpage. Artists should call for an appointment and bring their portfolio at the time of interview. For

bela dubby
art gallery
presents:

Group Show I 2006
Featuring

Bethany Browning
Joseph Close
Josh Foster
Scott Hosner
Brian Jacobs
Kristie Kremer
Ryan Lambrix
Lisa Olbrysh
Dott Schneider
Kate Schneider

13321 Madison Ave. Lakewood
216-221-4479

more info call 216-226-2971.

Art gallery news and event information should be forwarded to gallerywatchgals@yahoo.com. Every effort will be made to include it in the next issue.

If you have a question about art that you would like researched, please forward it to gallerywatchgals@yahoo.com and we'll do our best to answer it and include it in our next column.

Ruth Koenigsmark is a 10-year resident of Lakewood and presently works for a non-profit organization that supports adults and children with disabilities. One of her many roles is managing an art gallery associated

with the non-profit company, located in Ohio City. Ruth and her husband, Jerry, have two young sons, one a budding artist/skateboarder of nine and the other, a soon to be great filmmaker. Ruth and Jerry are responsible for the Madison Village Car Culture show, an event that has run in Lakewood for the last three years.

Christine Kazimer is a five-year resident of Lakewood and presently works as an account executive for a communications company focused on Life Science publications. Christine received her B.A. in Art History from Baldwin-Wallace College. Much to her chagrin, none of her three dogs show any artistic ability.

Classifieds

Cleaning / Janitorial

Lakewood Public Library is seeking an energetic, organized individual to perform maintenance routines including dusting, floor care (buffing); collecting litter/trash; cleaning restrooms; shoveling snow; basic electrical and plumbing; must be able to lift 75 lbs. Valid Ohio driver's license required. Day, evening and weekend work. 40 hours per week. Salary is \$8.00 per hour. Please call Kim Paras at (216) 226-8275 x 102 to arrange for an application. Lakewood Public Library is an EEOE.

Library Customer Services Assistant Supervisor

Lakewood Public Library has an opening in our Customer Services Department for an individual committed to providing courteous, prompt, reliable public library service while completing such routing circulation duties as charging and receiving materials, collecting fines, fees, issuing library cards, preparing materials for circulation, retrieving materials, assisting with equipment, responding to directional and procedural questions, answering telephone calls and making appropriate transfers and referrals. Provides assistance to patrons at workstations such as the circulation desk, the drive-up window, A-V area, magazine and information areas. Explains library policy and uses sound judgment in solving customer service problems. Bachelor's degree required. Hours: Days, Evenings, Weekends. Salary: \$11.00 per hour. Please call Kim Paras at (216) 226-8275 x 102 to arrange for an application. Lakewood Public Library is an EEOE.

Library Children's Paraprofessional Part-Time

Lakewood Public Library has an opening in our Children's & Youth Services Department at the Main Library for an enthusiastic, organized, creative and motivated individual committed to the delivery of innovative traditional public library services to children, youth and adults. Bachelor's degree required. Storytelling, crafts and computer skills a plus. Qualified and interested applicants may call. Hours: Days, evenings & weekends, 20-25 hours/week. Salary: \$10.70 per hour. Call Andrew Harant at (216) 226-8275 ext. 142 to arrange for an application. Lakewood Public Library is an EEOE.

Classifieds

Lakewood Observer's Classifieds allows your home, garage sale, meeting, business or message to be seen in 17,000 papers, and on our website is now an official news source for Google.®



For Sale By Owner - \$225,000 - 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath, high ceilings, finished attic, with full bath, newer kitchen, family room, roof, water tank, hardwood floors, fireplace, all appliances, 2-car Garage.
216-228-5266 or 440-984-2508

For Rent - Single Home
\$1,600 includes utilities

4 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath, large bungalow, 1 large bedroom on the 1st floor, central air, walk in cedar closets, finished basement, fireplace, all appliances, Overlooks Emerald Canyon. 2-car Garage, pets welcome.
216-221-4311

For Sale - For Rent
West Lakewood - Roycroft - Double

Nice double with two 2-Bedroom units
 Call for more information
 Terms Negotiable
216-407-2424

Edgewater Cove Apartments

Handsome Tudor Eclectic Revivalist classic hardwood floored suites. Quick walk to trendy Lakewood/Cleveland amenities. Free heat/water. Formal Dining rooms. Lake Erie views/parking available. RTA at door. Pet Friendly. By Appt.



216-521-0522 or visit us at
www.edgewatercoveapts.com

Secondary Market/Mortgage Banking Specialist

Excellent career opportunity for person with 3-5 years experience in the mortgage industry to play a key role in the growth of our secondary market program! This position manages the administrative functions including post-closing / delivery funding/auditing and communication with correspondents/lenders.

Qualifications include: Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience, and 3-5 years mortgage industry experience. Excellent communication and basic computer skills. Financial analysis skills; mortgage loan origination experience; real estate escrow experience preferred.

First Federal of Lakewood (Ohio) is a \$1 billion financial institution that prides itself on being a community bank. We have 10 full service branches serving communities in western Cuyahoga, Lorain and Medina counties. First Federal employees strive to be the very best; we are friendly, helpful and courteous. We smile. We are knowledgeable, and we try not to say "no".

We offer a competitive compensation program including 401k with employer match and a Pension Plan. This position is eligible for an annual bonus.

Interested applicants should send resumes including salary requirements to:

ffljobs@ffl.net
FAX (216) 529-2789
Mail:
First Federal Lakewood
Operations Center / HR Department
14826 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V



Live Close! Live Smart!
Live in Lakewood!



LAKWOOD
 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath meticulous colonial with several architectural delights.
\$279,500 C. Carpadis 216-521-9300



LAKWOOD
 3-bedroom offers remodeled kitchen, newer roof and walking distance to Lake.
\$109,900 C. Cohen 216-521-9300

"DID YOU KNOW..." **LAKWOOD**

We are the only full service real estate company that can put your home on television?

We are the only full service real estate company that can feature 60 photos of your home on our award-winning website?

We are the only full service real estate company that enables our sellers to offer their buyers a 100% Money Back Guarantee?

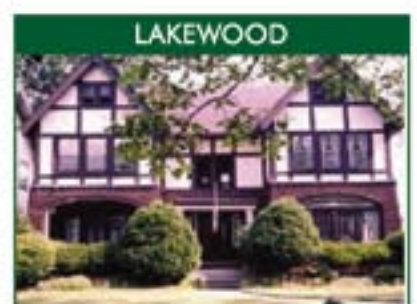
We are the only full service real estate company that offers One-Stop-Shopping, including Mortgage, Escrow, Title, and Insurance services?

Call or Stop by the Lakewood Office of Howard Hanna Smythe Cramer Co.

We've Thought of Everything!"



LAKWOOD
 Dutch colonial Clifton Park charmer with beach privileges. Updated kitchen.
\$336,000 216-521-9300



LAKWOOD
 Fabulous 2 1/2 story brick tudor located minutes from Lakewood Park's boardwalk.
\$300,000 216-521-9300

Lakewood-Cleveland West Howard Hanna Smythe Cramer
(216) 521-9300 • 15312 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107
Real Estate | Mortgage | Insurance | Title | Escrow

Strolling with Rita

Lakewood Hospital News: The Volunteer Team

Photos by Rhonda Loje



"There's something..." the Lakewood Hospital emergency room physician said, "That smile..." She stared across the ER at the man in a blue jacket answering a call bell. "You can tell about a person, someone who cares about others." The physician stirred her coffee, the coffee made by volunteer Walter Turner. It was around six in the evening. It was the third pot of coffee Walt had made since five.

Every Friday evening, Walt Turner stocks the triage area with ice packs, maintains a supply of warm blankets, places fresh linens on beds, transports patients in wheelchairs, informs families sitting in the waiting area, and serves food and drinks to patients and families. He also supplies the staff with gummy worms. Walt joined the Lakewood Hospital volunteers in June, 2004.

Who is Walt Turner? He is an engineer, a project manager working full time in Sandusky, a former NASA staff member. He's a runner. He lives and owns a home in Lakewood. And he does have a smile. "This is a good way to help people, right here, right now," Walt said, with dancing eyes and a big grin.

Since April, 2000, Geraldine DeLyle has volunteered two days a week in the hospital's Health Information Systems. Gerry completes assignments as requested by the staff. She is responsible for the Emergency Room charts. She alphabetizes and dates them, places the charts in folders, and files lab work.

The volunteers work at a desk where Gerry usually finds candy in the top drawer. It's the staff's way of saying "welcome" and "thanks." Gerry declares that sometimes she is overwhelmed by how much the staff appreciates what she does.

During the interview, Linda Orient, chart analyst, said to Gerry, "We don't know what we'd do without you." Gerry smiled.

Who is Geraldine DeLyle? She is a retired Lakewood School District

Special Education secretary. Six years ago, it was time for her to "start a new chapter in her life." Gerry has lived in Lakewood for the past thirty-five years. Gerry's son, Christopher, has special needs.

In addition to, "getting out of the house" Gerry has made some new friends. She and another volunteer meet regularly outside the hospital for lunch.

Friendships form at Lakewood Hospital. And, in the case of Jerry and Rosemary Slattery, the friendship turned to love and marriage. Jerry and Rosemary Slattery met as volunteers. Several years ago, Jerry found himself with an extra ticket for the Cleveland Orchestra. Knowing that Rosemary liked the symphony, he asked her to accompany him. Their love grew from there.

The Slatterys volunteer in Patient Transportation. Jerry works the phones, taking orders for transport, logging them in, and asking either volunteers or staff to answer the call. If the patient is in a wheelchair, a volunteer transports; if they have an intravenous line, oxygen, or are on a bed, a staff person takes the assignment.

"I like transporting because I like to meet people, meet the patients, sometimes cheer people up," Jerry said. He started volunteering in 1989, Rosemary in 1995. Both wear gold pins with the number 2,000 on it. That's the number of hours they have served Lakewood Hospital.

In addition to patient transport, Rosemary is a Eucharistic Minister. Every other Friday, Rosemary prays with patients and their families, administers a wafer (Communion), listens to whatever they have to say, and "I hope give a little help with their illness... give them strength."

Before retiring, Jerry Slattery worked as a Vice-President of Sales. Rosemary worked as a cashier at TOPS.

By Rita Ryland

Jerry was born and raised in Lakewood. Rosemary was a resident of Lakewood for twenty years. They live in Westlake.

Within minutes of completing their interview, Rosemary wheeled a chair to the elevator. Jerry answered the phone. The Slatterys are not people who come to wile away an afternoon. They come to work. And, they come with a smile.

That's the most obvious trait among the volunteers—a smile. It's not that fake pasted on, teeth clenched smile. It's an honest-to-goodness, glad to see you, what can I do for you smile.

Walt has it, Gerry has it, and Jerry and Rosemary have it. So does Mary Steinebrey, a woman who has volunteered since Thanksgiving Day, 1947. Fifty-eight years ago, Mary volunteered at the behest of a friend's mother who told her daughter and Mary to "do something useful." Mary has a gold badge with the number 16,000 on it. That's the number of hours she has volunteered at Lakewood Hospital. Mary Steinebrey continues to show up on Thanksgiving Day. She has volunteered both Thanksgiving and Christmas for the past four years.

Two days a week, along with other volunteers, Mary staffs the Welcoming/Information desk. Mary answers the phones, transfers outside calls to patient rooms, directs visitors, and assists in calling cabs. Volunteers staff the Welcoming desk twelve hours a day, from eight in the morning to eight in the evening.

Who is Mary Steinebrey? Prior to her retirement, Mary was an accountant/auditor with Continental Can. Mary lives in Westlake. She lived in Lakewood for 16 years.

On the same evening Mary works at the Welcoming Desk, Ajsela and Darina Xhemalaj, sisters, ages 18 and 17, staff the Blossom Shop. They started volunteering in June, 2004.

The impetus was a class titled Diversified Medical Occupations that Ajsela attended at Lakewood High School. Lakewood Hospital was included in the curriculum.

In the Blossom Shop, Ajsela and Darina take phone orders for flowers, assist visitors to select flowers for patients and deliver flowers to patient rooms. They also deliver balloons to patients on their birthday. Balloons are a gift to patients from the Volunteer Office.

"...we're actually doing something, helping," said Darina. Ajsela agreed and added, "It's a great way to meet new people. You feel better after you do it."

Who is Ajsela Xhemalaj? A 2005 graduate of Lakewood High School, Ajsela won the President's Award for volunteering more than one hundred hours. She is a freshman at Cleveland State University.

Who is Darina Xhemalaj? She is a junior at Lakewood High School.

Ajsela and Darina are Lakewood residents.

There are currently three hundred and sixty active volunteers. Some volunteers start as early as five-thirty in the morning. Most are gone by nine in the evening. As Maureen Duffy, Manager of Auxiliary Services said, the volunteers are "people with generous spirits moving in and out of the hospital day in and day out."

Volunteers range in age from the teens to the 90s. They must be 14 years of age. Applicants receive assistance with finding the best place for their talents.

The people who coordinate the volunteer efforts are Maureen Duffy, Manager, Auxiliary Services and Lou Eging, Volunteer Coordinator, Auxiliary Services. Interested readers are encouraged to phone the Auxiliary Service office at (216) 529-7171. As someone said to Mary Steinebrey some fifty-eight years ago, "do something useful." And, join a team with a winning smile.