

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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

Volume 2, Issue 16, August 8, 2006

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Residents And City Apply Nuisance Laws To Get Rich Scheme

Lakewood Says “No” to Bad Neighbors

Ken Warren

Talk to Ward Four Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan and she will tell you that good neighbors are crucial to Lakewood's quality of life and that bad neighbors wreck havoc not only on one's emotional state but also on property values. Over the past two years, Madigan has been speaking to Ward Four neighbors about the merits and mechanics of community block watch organizations. When speaking to residents about the benefits of getting to know one another and learning about law enforcement tools that unite neighbors, landlords, tenants, police and courts against bad neighbors, Madigan shifts the focus away from emotional terrain toward investment. Street by street, she is attempting to raise the level of understanding about investment and community building in Lakewood.

“People's houses are their nest

eggs. Everyone understands investment,” says Madigan. Madigan's linking investment thinking to community block watch organizing forms the first line of defense for the conservation of values, both material and social, in a city with so many rental properties. With quality of life hanging in the balance, Lakewood neighborhoods cannot afford any disconnects between the interests and perspectives of local homeowners, absentee landlords, renters and property managers on a community wide strategy for maintaining values. Without a comprehensive defense strategy, which begins with the community block watch, Lakewood neighborhoods are sitting ducks for unscrupulous hot money investors, clueless real estate newbies and careless absentee land-

lords sold on dreams of rich cash flow and robust property flipping opportunities. Such hot money dreams hinge on busting up Lakewood blocks and creating anxious sellers. Dreaming a nightmare for Lakewood residents, these forces of hostile capital and predatory lending will exploit any chink in the city's neighborhood armor in order to capture value that has accrued to long-term homeowners.

It is through conversation and solidarity built around the neighborhood block watch that Lakewood residents can learn how values are destroyed and created along the global real estate opportunity grid according to capital and demographic flows, investment models and public policies. Block watch members use common sense and stand firm in the face of chang-

ing conditions easily exploited by unscrupulous real estate interests that will sometimes destroy a property in order to rehab it. Because money can be made on all sides of the process in the real estate game, let the Lakewood seller beware.

At a series of Beach Avenue community block watch meetings held over the past year, Madigan introduced neighbors to the general investment concept and to Lakewood police officers. She encouraged citizens to provide the eyes and ears needed to assist with enforcement of the “Good Neighbor Law,” which was proposed by Councilman Ryan Demro and unanimously passed by Lakewood City Council on May 16th 2005. “What the people of Beach Avenue understood from the beginning is protecting your investment,” says Madigan, who worked closely with Councilman Demro and Councilman Dunn on the intricacies of the “Good Neighbor Law.”

“The police chief was very involved with this ordinance and felt that it would give our police department an additional tool in fighting chronic offenders,” Demro explained in an online post to the Lakewood Observation Deck made during last year's deliberations. The timing for passing the “Good Neighbor Law,” for getting the block watch organized, and for bringing Sergeant Edward

continued on page 7

Sinagra Park Is Unveiled

A Day Of Good Memories, Laughter, And Respect To One Of Lakewood's Finest Mayors And Families



Mayor Tom George stands with the Sinagra Family at the unveiling of Sinagra Park. Located on Cook and Detroit Ave., the park will give residents a nice place to sit and enjoy downtown Lakewood. At the ceremony one could hear fire engines and Tony stopped, smiled and said, “I love the sounds of a city, this city, Lakewood.” There was a large turn out for the dedication and it was fitting as Tony and Lucy Sinagra were not just a big part of Lakewood's History, but were well loved by all Lakewoodites in his 12 years as mayor to Lakewood. Nice that it happened on the kick off to the Arts Festival, as it was Lucy and Tony that started it.

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Lakewood Events

Magic in the Wood: Costume and Family Trivia Contests



Wednesday, August 16, 2006 at Lakewood Park, before and during the Harry and the Potters Concert

Costume Contest

(4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.)
Add to the magic in Lakewood by dressing in costume while you enjoy the music of Harry and the Potters. Prizes will be raffled off to kids who register their costumes at Lakewood Public Library's costume contest table.

Prizes will be awarded in the following age groups:

- Birth to 4 (prizes donated by Lakewood Early Childhood PTA)
- 5 to 9
- 10 to 13
- 14 to 18

Rules:
1. Contestants must register their costumes at Lakewood Public Library's costume contest table. Entries will be accepted from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

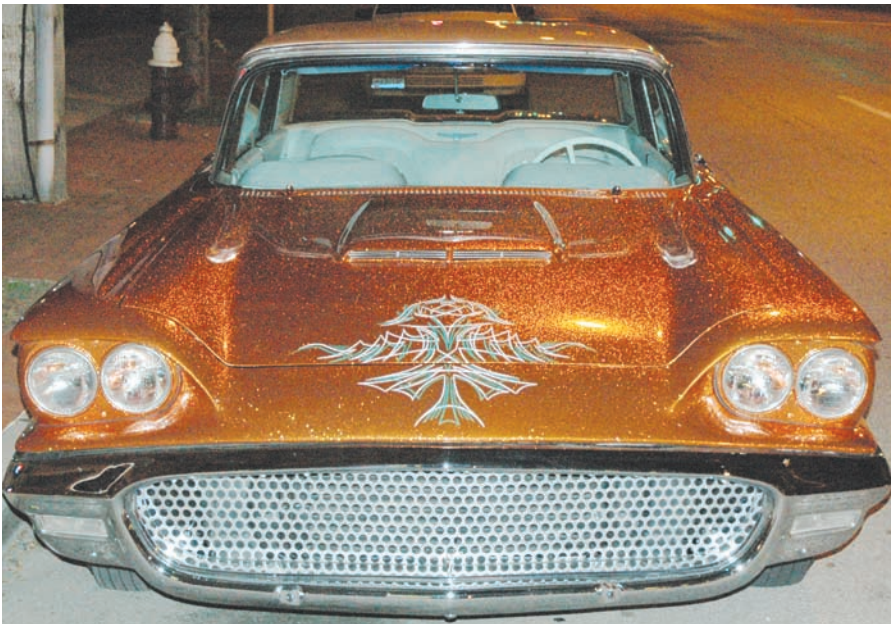
tumes and fit into the world of Harry Potter as determined by Lakewood Public Library staff.

3. Any costume that is considered offensive or in poor taste, as determined by Lakewood Public Library staff, will be ineligible.

4. Prizes will be raffled off at random in the age groups mentioned above at the end of the Harry and the Potters concert. Winners must be present to claim their prize.

Family Trivia Contest

(4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)
Families attending the Harry and the Potters concert may take part in a family trivia contest by picking up a quiz sheet from the Lakewood Public Library family trivia contest table. Completed Quizzes must be turned in to the same table by 6:00 p.m. Prizes will be raffled off to the highest scoring families and announced between the opening and headlining bands.



Car Show August 26!

4th Annual Lakewood Car Kulture Show & Music Revue, brought to you by: The Lakewood Observer, Cox Communications, The Cleveland Choppers, 252 Tattoo, Jak Prints, A. Graphic Solution. Between Clarence and Lewis on Madison. We shut it down and tear it up! High Noon - 8pm, Four Bands, Vendors, Prizes, 50/50 Raffle, Registration Starts at 11:30 Street will reopen at 8:30pm - Let's Rock!

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Nature's Bin To Host Dog Wash Fundraiser For Animal Shelter On August 19

The annual Nature's Bin Annual Dog Days of Summer Dog Wash to raise funds for the Lakewood Animal Shelter returns in 2006. This year's event will be held on Saturday, August 19th from 10AM to 2PM.

Nature's Bin is located at 18120 Sloane Avenue in Lakewood.

Cost for the dog wash is:

Small Dog \$7, Medium Dog \$10, Large Dog \$15, Nail Trim \$5

All proceeds benefit the Lakewood Animal Shelter. CCLAS volunteers will wash and patrons dry and groom. Patrons are asked to bring their own towels.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle at noon, and trophies will be also be awarded for Biggest Dog, Smallest Dog, Dog with Longest Tail, Dog that looks most like Owner and Best Trick.

For more information or if interested in volunteering, contact the event coordinator, Lisa Ellis, at 216-536-9530.

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

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

The Lakewood Observer is proud to announce a new addition to its website.

We recently added the "Pet Talk and More" section to our Observation Deck online forum.

Stop by online anytime to share information regarding local pets. You can browse adoptable animals available from the Lakewood Animal Shelter, report a lost or found pet, ask advice on pet matters or find information about local pet groups like CCLAS, Loving Paws and Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park.

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!

Lakewood City Hall

Lakewood Joins The National League Of Cities Working Toward Inclusive Communities

On Monday, July 3, 2006, at the regularly scheduled Council Meeting, Mayor George proposed a resolution, which City Council passed, requesting Lakewood’s participation in the National League of Cities Partnership for Working Toward Inclusive Communities.

This partnership unites city leaders who are working to support such issues as racial justice and inclusionary zoning as well as those who celebrate the diversity of race, religions and cultures in order to build communities that are accepting and representative of the difference among its citizens. Increased involvement by a wider representation of citizens in governmental activities will also be a hallmark of these inclusive communities.

“The City of Lakewood is proud to participate in the Partnership for Working Toward Inclusive Communities,” state Mayor Thomas J. George. “An inclusive community promotes equal opportunity, fairness and citizen participation. We look forward to succeeding in our commitment to a more inclusive community.”

Lakewood Housing Appreciation Values On The Rise

The Cuyahoga County Auditor’s office recently released housing appreciation values for the last three years. Since 2003, the City of Lakewood enjoyed a substantial 13.1% increase in average home value showing that demand to live within the City’s borders remains extremely high. This news is even more impressive because Lakewood’s appreciation is higher than the majority of other greater Cleveland suburbs including Bay Village, Brecksville, Broadview Heights, Fairview Park, Gates Mills, Independence, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, North Olmsted, North Royalton, Olmsted Falls, Parma, Parma Heights, Seven Hills, Shaker Heights, Solon, South Euclid, Strongsville, Westlake, and a dozen or so others.

“I am not surprised by the high demand for Lakewood homes,” stated Mayor Thomas J. George. “Our city is blessed with committed citizens, vibrant and creative institutions, effective schools and solid city services creating the backbone of Lakewood’s continual growth in home values.”

Have You Been Scammed By These Two?

The Lakewood Police Department is investigating a scam that has been occurring over the past several months. A black male in his 30’s was walking neighborhoods with a younger black female, approximately 10yrs old. They were representing themselves as selling items to benefit chairities or the young female. One claim was trying to raise money to send his daughter to camp. They had fliers from reputable firms, such as Malleys Candies, MarketDay, or Zepa snacks. They were taking orders for products and recieving payment from victim in either cash or checks. The victims never recieved the products they thought they were ordereing and the money never made it to any chairity. It is believed the suspects victimized homeowners in several communities. Most of the thefts were between ten and fifty dollars.

Investigation by the Lakewood Police Department resulted in the arrest of the two adults. Aaron Walcott, 48yrs old and Angela McDowell 47yrs old were arrested and charged with Felony Theft. The 10yr old daughter was turned over to relatives by Cuyahoga County Childrens Services. The couple had been staying in a Pearl Road Motel.

If any person feels they might be victims contact Detective Elmer Walling at 216-529-6766.



Police Nab Career Criminal/Burglar

On August 1st we made an arrest of Randy Hamilton, 45yrs old from Cleveland for Aggravated Burglary. He was arrested after breaking into a Clifton Blvd apartment. We feel he is responsible for several buglaries over the past two months. His usual M.O. was to cut screens or force doors in apartments along Clifton, Lake, and Madison as well as some homes. He will be charged with additional felony burglaries when forensic testing is completed on evidence. He is currently bound over to the grand jury and being held in county jail.

Hamilton is a career burglar, having been arrested in 1979 and 1987 in Lakewood for other burglaries. He has spent most of his adult life in prison and we expect he is going to spend most of the rest of his adult life back in prison.

While we think this arrest should reduce the number of burglaries reported we would like to remind residents to make their apartments and homes as resistant as possible to thefts.

We think this will reduce the amount of burgleries in the area.

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Around Lakewood

New Hanging Baskets in Downtown Lakewood

By Jennnifer Hooper

Downtown Lakewood looks a little prettier these days thanks to lush flower baskets that are hanging on the traffic light poles. The poles are located at the major intersections along Detroit Avenue between Arthur Avenue and Bunts Road. The flower baskets are a project of the promotion committee of Main Street Lakewood in cooperation with the City of Lakewood.

The baskets were funded by a generous donation from the Lakewood Garden Club and Community Development Block Grant money from the City of Lakewood. The Main Street promotion committee anticipates that the business community will sponsor the baskets in future years. Barbara Cooley, President of the Lakewood Garden Club, commented that the Club "...is very, very pleased with the hanging baskets. Flowers are always a step in the happiness direction."

The 56 "Bloom Master" baskets are a unique design in that there are a number of side openings that are also planted in addition to the top of the basket. This allows for the entire basket to be covered in flowers and results in a dramatic cascading effect. The

committee researched many types of hanging baskets used in other communities. They chose the Bloom Master baskets because they allow for more soil volume which means they do not dry out as quickly as typical moss baskets used in many communities.

Main Street Lakewood is a program of Lakewood Community Progress Inc (LCPI). LCPI is a non profit development corporation that partners with the business community, The City of Lakewood and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce. The organization focuses on revitalizing the downtown business district by using the Main Street Program. The Main Street Program is a nationwide program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation that capitalizes on the unique assets of older commercial districts such as unique buildings and businesses and a mixed- use environment. It is an economic development tool that encompasses work in four areas or promotion, design, economic restructuring and organization.

The baskets will be in place until early fall and will be replanted and hung next spring. For more information on the flower baskets or Main Street Lakewood, call 521-0655.



Representative of The Lakewood Garden Club: President, Barbara Cooley in front with the hat. Left to Right: Helene Accordino, Jennifer Hooper (Director of LCPI), Susan Godfrey and Gail Higgins. Flower baskets behind them on Belle.

The Sandy & Dan Donnelly Scholarship Fund A Foundation Of Determination, Dedication, Discipline & Attitude

The Donnellys have created this scholarship to share their commitment to higher education with students of Lakewood High School and St. Edwards High School.

Sandy and Dan are both born and raised Lakewoodites who have committed their lives to giving back to the community. Dan, a graduate of St. Edwards, is the owner and founder of Dan Donnelly Heating and Cooling Co., and has always been involved in civic activities. Dan's wife Sandy graduated from Lakewood High and pursued a long career of teaching English to children and young adults in our city. She is currently the House II principal at Lakewood High. Together they fully understand the impact of education on the community and feel fortunate to be able to help worthy students fulfill their dreams.

For more information visit: www.donnellyfund.com.



The 2006 recipients from Lakewood High School. Back row L to R: Dr. William Wagner, Rachael Tax, Margaret Hagan, D. Mitchell Iacullo, Adrienne Strong and Dan Donnelly. Front row L to R: Sara M. Zolinski, Sandy Donnelly, and Lucia Stavros.

Lakewood Resident Elected President of the American Nurses Association

Staff Writer

Rebecca Patton, a longtime Lakewood resident and Director of Nursing in the Surgery Department at Elyria Memorial Hospital was elected President of the American Nurses Association national meeting in Washington, D.C. on June 24, 2006. Patton is a graduate of Chaney High School in

Youngstown and Kent State University. She received her Master's Degree in Psychological and Mental Health Nursing in 1998 at Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University.

Patton's priorities for the two year term include improving patient care and bettering the working environment for

nurses. Presently there are 2.9 million nurses in the United States. By 2020, an additional 1.1 million nurses will be needed. "We're recognized in the country and with elected officials as the voice of nursing," Patton said. The ANA is an organization that promotes education and lobbies Congress on health care issues. Patton

went on to say "the ANA is an organization that gets things done."

Ms. Patton is an active member of Lakewood United Methodist Church. She went on the church's mission trip to Africa University in Zimbabwe in 2000. While there she worked in the clinic and orphanage.

Lakewood Sports & Activities

Bob Thayer Is New LHS Atheltic Director

This summer marks a new beginning for the Lakewood High Athletic Department as Bob Thayer takes over as Athletic Director. Thayer has spent the summer meeting coaches and staff and beginning plans for the upcoming school year. Thayer has a tough act to follow, replacing the popular and successful Dan Gerome. However, Thayer plans to make his own mark on the program.

Thayer, a Lakewood resident, comes to LHS from Westlake High School, where he served as Head Football Coach last year. Before his year at Westlake, he worked at his alma mater, East Liverpool High School. During his years he served in the roles football coach and teacher. He had a very successful coaching career at East Liverpool, becoming the school's winningest head coach of all time. He won numerous "Coach of the Year" awards, and had the honor of head coaching in the "Penn-Ohio" All-Star Game in 1995. He was eventually named Athletic Director at the school. Thayer also has coaching experience outside of football. He coached wrestling for five years, and has served eight years as a youth baseball coach.

Thayer inherits a department that

Mike Deneen
Sports Editor

has many strong programs, including cross country, girls' basketball, boys' soccer, volleyball, wrestling and swimming. However, the department is going through a period of transition, as it is moving from the Lake Erie League to the new Northeast Ohio Conference in 2007. The department has some new head coaches, too, including new boys' and girls' soccer coaches that take over this fall.

Thayer's goals include improving the program's website and improving youth sports programs in the city. As part of the goal of improving youth sports, the Lakewood Athletic Department and Lakewood Rec hosted the first Annual Lakewood Ranger Youth Football Camp on July 29th. Dozens of local grade school kids turned out to Lakewood Stadium to have some fun and learn some football tips from Ranger football coaches and players. There was also a skills competition, which was won by Chris Kenney (punting), John Lieber (passing) and Burke Bruening (kicking). To see some photos of the camp, visit our gallery at www.lakewoodobserver.com



Coach Slagle listens to input from the new Athelectic Director for Lakewood High School Bob Thayer.

Why A Bicycle Is Just As Fast As A Car

By Tim Liston

Here's why. Cars are really expensive. A decent one is maybe \$20,000. Drive it for five years and with \$2,000 residual value you're paying \$3,600 per year for the car. Add maintenance of \$850 per year, insurance at \$800 per year, \$2,250 for 900 gallons of gasoline, \$1,000 per year in finance charges (or opportunity cost of being unable to invest \$20,000), plus parking/washing/etc. at \$500 per year. That's \$9,000 per year to own an automobile.

By contrast, a bike costs very little. \$100 per year for the bike. Maintenance \$200. No insurance, no gas, no finance charges, no parking fees. Maybe \$200 for incidentals, special clothing, etc. That totals \$500 per year to own a bike.

Let's say you make \$16 an hour. After taxes, that's maybe \$12 an hour. Now let's assume you drive 15,000

miles a year. At an average speed of 40 miles per hour, you're spending 375 hours a year driving. But don't forget, it takes you many hours of work simply to afford the \$9,000 annual expense for a car. \$9,000 at \$12 per hour requires 750 hours of work. So, the total time required to afford and drive your car 15,000 miles a year is about 1,125 hours a year. Guess what? Your car gets you from place to place at an average speed of just over 13 miles per hour. No faster than the average cyclist.

Okay, perhaps it's not realistic to become car-free. But consider this: most Lakewood families have two cars. Think about how you might be able to get by with just one car, and put \$9,000 a year to better use. That's a LOT of after-tax money you can spend or save any way you want.

The "one-car family" option is much easier to accomplish in Lakewood

that it is in neighboring suburbs. We have neighborhood schools, dozens of stores, outstanding recreational and cultural amenities, wonderful parks, easy access to public transportation and downtown Cleveland, and much more -- all packed within a mere 5.6 square miles. Lakewood took shape as a "mixed use" community back when motoring was really expensive, and as a result Lakewood now offers more "things to do" than any other community in Northeast Ohio. Given all that Lakewood has to offer, it just might be possible for many of us to become a "one-car family." Give it some thought....

Tim Liston is chair of "Bike Lakewood", a community organization dedicated to promoting safe and enjoyable bike transportation in Lakewood. For more information on the group, visit www.bikelakewood.org

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Lakewood Library

Friday, August 11 Films On Friday

King Solomon’s Mines (1937) Directed by Robert Stevenson NOT RATED
Paul Robeson steals the show in this film based on the H. Rider Haggard novel.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, August 12 Internet Basics

Get familiar with online basics and find out what the Internet is all about. For more information, please visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>.

Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center
On Your Mark—Get Set—Go: Beginning Genealogy Research
Professional genealogist Diana Crisman-Smith will help get you started tracing your family tree in a logical, organized manner.

4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium
Second Saturday Folk – Guy Perenetti
This singer/songwriter is well-known for his clean guitar work and unique vocal style.
7:30 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Sunday, August 13
Manga Circle**
Have dreams of publishing your own manga comic? Want to learn more about visual storytelling? Our goals are to provide art instruction and support to fellow otaku! Sponsored by DELETER of Japan. (<http://www.deleter.jp>)
4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Monday, August 14
Protecting Your Computer**
Learn how to keep your computer virus and spyware free. For more information, please visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>.
Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

**Tuesday, August 15
Bicycling Through The Loire Valley**
Winifred Dean invites you to feast your eyes on France’s Loire Valley from the perch of her handlebars as she pedals from castles to chateaux, past formal gardens and fields of sunflowers.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Thursday, August 17
Digital Cameras And Graphics**
Learn about features and options you should be aware of when buying digital cameras. We’ll also review some of the things you can do with your pictures after you’ve taken them! For more information, please visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>.
Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center
The Cats On Holiday Unplugged
Purveyors of original Roots Americana and Blues in the vein of Johnny Cash and NRBQ.
7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Saturday, August 19
Web Searching Basics**
Find what you’re looking for on the Internet with strategies for speed and precision. For more information, please visit <http://www.lkwdpl.org/classes/>.
Reservations for computer instruction classes begin the first of each month. To register, please stop in or call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127.

3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center
Writer’s Workshop
Renew your creative energy and get positive feedback from fellow writers. Whether you’re a seasoned pro or just have a hankering to write, everyone is welcome to join this workshop.
4:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

**Sunday, August 20
Anime Club**
We’re back for a new season of Anime theatre and fun with classic and new-release Japanese animation like Irresponsible Captain Tylor, Black Heaven, El-Hazard, Magic Users Club, Bubblegum Crisis, Generator Gawl and more. We’ll have trivia and music competitions, too!
6:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

E-books Are Here!

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Lakewood Neighborhoods

continued from page 1

Favre into the Mayor’s Office, seems impeccable. Indeed the alignment of Madigan’s block watch organization, Demro’s “Good Neighbor Law,” and Mayor George’s stepped-up housing law enforcement work with Sergeant Favre has recently proved fit enough to face down and drive from town, street toughs who began terrorizing residents of Beach Avenue. While an absentee landlord is easily stigmatized in the local imagination as an uncaring exploiter of the community, Lakewood’s “Good Neighbor Law” now provides an effective means to overcome the stigma and to protect the value of a real estate investment. The Beach Avenue experience can serve as the casebook for how investment in a community block watch organization can help an absentee landlord solve a bad neighbor problem from devaluing an asset and a neighborhood.

In November 2005 Ann Jovicin of Camarillo, California, purchased a duplex property at 1316 Beach Avenue for \$120,000. She did so upon the recommendation of her son, Neville Hanchett, an Area Manager for High Performance Investing, founded by Joe Carr, who teaches a cash flow real estate investment philosophy that highlights purchase of rental opportunities in remote locations. High Performance Investing makes this pitch on its website: “In today’s very hot real estate market, it is very difficult and time consuming to find these distressed foreclosed properties because of all the competition from other investors. A better solution is to purchase properties at market, get them rented out for a monthly cash flow and then be able to sell them or refinance them in the next 3-5 years. Our company can show you how to find, finance, and manage these properties from the comfort of your own home.”

Sold on Carr’s wealth-building program, Hanchett relocated from Los Angeles to the Cleveland area in search of investment properties. “Cleveland seemed to have numbers that looked pretty good. There was good cash flow and price to rent,” says Hanchett, who now owns seven properties on both sides of Cleveland.

Needing a property manager to service his mother’s Beach Avenue rental property, Hanchett engaged, on the basis of a recommendation from a title company, the services of Sheldon Little’s Worry Free Property Management. Felicia Williams of Worry Free Property Management rented the property to Priscilla Williams, a woman to whom she is unrelated.

Filling up the side-by side units of the flattop duplex with a swarm of out of control residents, members of the Williams clan quickly began running roughshod over the Beach Avenue neighborhood. They set up a basketball hoop in the middle of the street, blocking access. When an automobile attempted to pass, the aggressive pack of teens refused to stop playing. They

talked trash, cussed drivers and tossed balls at vehicles. When the pack walked down the street, they cursed neighbors sitting on porches, too. As the pack further transgressed the norms of civility, they began climbing on neighborhood garages, going into yards and destroying property. A near constant barrage of noise and fighting spilled from the 1316 address. Needless to say, residents at south end of Beach Avenue were continually calling police for relief from these neighborhood punks.

In March the pack’s chaos-making funneled like a spring tornado of disruptive behavior and abusive language from 1316 Beach Avenue over to Madison Branch Library, resulting in ninety day suspensions of privileges for four members of the clan.

On April 24th, a Beach Avenue resident called the police to report that twenty kids were fighting on the street. Seven policemen were dispatched to the site. An arrest for assault and disorderly conduct was made. The arrestee lived at 1316 Beach Avenue. A detailed police report written by Sergeant Edward Favre indicates the assailant threatened to cut tires of the Beach Avenue resident who made the complaint.

On April 25th, Lakewood Police discovered a stolen bicycle in possession of another resident at 1316 Beach Avenue and charged petty theft. Favre was quick to realize the opportunity for a community victory against terrorizing punks. Under the nuisance law, arrests must take place on the actual property.

“When a property was identified, Ed was all over it,” says Madigan. Favre meticulously documented nuisance activities at 1316 Beach Avenue in police reports and effectively communicated an abatement strategy to the property owner. “He was very courteous and helpful. He would call me. I was happy to comply,” says Jovicin.

“Ann Jovicin realized law enforcement was being called to her investment,” explains Madigan, pointing out how the “Good Neighbor Law” works to protect real estate values from quality of life erosion. In an effort to abate the nuisance, Jovicin changed property managers and directed Best & Associates to commence with eviction of Williams. Mary Lou Best promises more effective management of the property. “Our strategy is to screen thoroughly, make a home visit and interface with the present landlord,” says Best. In an eviction proceeding, Lakewood Municipal Court found for the plaintive, Best & Associates, forcing Williams to vacate the premise on or before July 16, 2006. The good news is that Williams and her disorderly juveniles have moved from Lakewood.

The image of chaos-making teens, ghetto pathologies and nuisance behavior spilling into the community is often associated incorrectly with the Section 8/ Housing Choice Voucher program. However, Jovicin’s 1316 Beach Avenue property was not actually rented to Williams under the Section 8/ Housing Choice Voucher program. While Hanchett markets properties at

CMHA, he does not expect to rehab and market his mother’s property to Section 8/ Housing Choice Voucher holders. “Lakewood seems too nice a community to make this a Section 8 property right now,” Hanchett remarked. “There’s nothing worse than paying a mortgage on a property that a tenant is destroying. Whatever’s good for the community is good for me,” says Hanchett, who expects his mother to spend about \$6,000 to correct minor code violations on the Beach Avenue property. Should the violations at the duplex persist, Hanchett’s mother will receive a summons to appear in court. “I spoke with Ed Favre. We’ll do whatever we need to do. It’s important to work together and to keep the properties up,” says Hanchett.

> Councilman Demro is not surprised the “Good Neighbor Law” is working to rid Beach Avenue of bad neighbors. “That was precisely what I had researched. It is what the law was designed to do. That result is consistent with what other chiefs of police have experienced in their own communities. Their applications seem to be more frequent and I look forward to the point where the administration will use this legal tool more often. If we have learned how to solve the problem, we need to make the solution more widespread. We have the weapon and we need to use it on those intent on terrorizing neighborhoods.”

Energized Beach Avenue residents clearly appreciate the team approach

to problem-solving. They see and feel the city working together to preserve their investment in Lakewood. “I am appreciative of the efforts of our Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan for her assistance with our Block Club, and Ed Favre for his work as a policeman and liaison for the Mayor,” says Ted Vaughn. Judy Gryzbowski, the Manager of Madison Branch Library who lives on Beach Avenue, proudly proclaims: “I’ve lived here for 30 years. The street looks good. Everybody is fixing up houses. If you want Lakewood to survive, you have to take responsibility. If the kids are doing something wrong, we have to stop them. We have too much invested in our houses and in our schools.”

With the eviction of Williams and her rowdy entourage of street toughs from 1316 Beach Avenue, Madigan, Demro, Mayor George, Council members, Judge Carroll and the Lakewood Police can all together point with satisfaction to a successful execution of the “Good Neighbor Law.” At an immensely critical moment in Lakewood’s history, the effective teamwork of neighbors and city officials shows all residents how investments of attention, money and time in community, governance, law enforcement and real property can generate a substantial return in the quality of life. With the playbook for Good Neighbor success now written on Beach Avenue, there can be no doubt more Lakewood neighborhoods will be just saying “no” to bad neighbors.

Lakeland Ave. Block Party!



Jack Simon “Mayor of Lakeland”
By Stan Austin

Summer in Lakewood means block parties. The kids remember the good times at last summer’s party. Maybe they compare notes with their pals at school. And the parents probably have as much fun thinking up new contests as the kids do.

Lakeland Avenue between Clifton and Detroit has been having summer block parties for years. Pizza is donated, prizes are provided by local merchants, and dessert is baked by the best in Lakewood.

There is always an “official start” to a block party. On Lakeland it’s the proud duty of Mayor Thomas George to lead the parade down the street. And, the “Mayor of Lakeland,” Jack Simon keeps an eye all day long. The folks at the Lakewood Observer love Lakewood Block Parties!

Lakewood Weekend - Starry



Lakewood Hospital's CAO Jack Gustin gets the evening started. Starry Night was Jack's idea for a way to add to the Lakewood Arts Festival, and to raise awareness and funding for Diabetes. It was a perfect night.



Lakewood Hospital's Starry Night



Kate Dorsey, along with new Lakewood business owner John O'Neill and his wife Debbie, enjoy a beautiful night out in downtown Lakewood.



Jean Pardee, Carolyn Seelbach and Mary Anne Crampton, president of Lakewood Hospital, at the end of the night, "Tonight's party will be remembered for a long time. Not a person there would disagree. The food was fantastic, the music perfect."



Lakewood's Law Director Brian Corrigan walks to the food area with Lakewood's Judge Patrick Carrol



Anthony and Lucy Sinagra end a perfect day.



The Up Ensemble between sets. Hey Matt how is the food? "Like a good man, real good."



It was great to see Debbie Gaebelein laughing after months of work putting this Starry Night together. Job Well Done!

Photo by: Rhonda Loje



Jennifer Hooper of Mainstreet, and her husband Ryan enjoy a glass of wine. While Mike Loje enjoys two!



Lakewood's Fire Chief Larry Miroz and wife Debbie compare notes with Jack Gerson who is retired from Rocky River's Fire Department with Barbara and friend. Peeking is Terry Novak.

Night & Lakewood Arts Fest



t To Raise Awareness Of Diabetes



LakewoodAlive relax and have a good laugh. Mary Anne confided in me. We all will look back and remember how nice this first one was.” Perfect, the conversation good, and a great time was had by all. Kudos.



Kim Schoel of Lakewood’s Dead Horse Gallery(now studio) purchases a tremendous woodcut from Chris Plummer who always looks forward to the Lakewood Arts Fest.



Photo by: Rhonda Loje

A cool cat on a hot summer day.



Photo by: Rhonda Loje

Paula Reed, offers a seat to Laurie Rhodes at Rozi’s Bistro. Wish Gary would open a restaurant!



Photo by: Rhonda Loje

Lakewood Kiwanis members John Wilson and Pete McGrew yuck it up when they should be selling!



Photo by: Rhonda Loje

Chuck Wimmer’s booth; First Place Award in 2005



Photo by: Rhonda Loje

Metal Garden Sculptures by Tom Bland of Hammer Song Farm



Photo by: Rhonda Loje



Photo by: Rhonda Loje

Lakewood Animal Shelter Booth: Catherine Butler, Elise goldie and Rebecca Goldie

Lakewood Pets

Local Therapy Dog Group Seeks Four-legged Angels

By Mike Deneen

As thousands of Lakewood pet owners know, there is something special about man’s relationship with dogs. Although originally bred to help with chores like hunting and herding, dogs have also offered love, compassion and acceptance to their owners for centuries. In recent years people have even discovered the positive impact that dogs have on human health and well-being. Interaction with a friendly dog can lift the spirits of people with physical, emotional or learning restrictions.

In 1999, Lakewood residents Sue Griffith and Dolly Doyle decided to form a locally-based therapy dog volunteer group. They were inspired by their personal experience with their parents. Sue’s father had Parkinson’s disease, three heart attacks, and a stroke; her mother had diabetes and congestive heart failure. Dolly’s mother lived with Dolly for 3 years before her passing. They saw the effects that their dogs had on their parents during the final years of their lives. The dogs’ devotion helping their parents get through each day. The dogs would be by their sides no matter the extent of their suffering.

Sue and Dolly approached the

Church of the Ascension, their local Episcopal parish, about starting an outreach group. They envisioned a volunteer group of citizens that would bring their dogs to visit local hospitals, nursing homes and educational facilities. The practice has become common around the country, where the opportunity to interact with a visiting dog has provided spiritual uplift for sick and injured patients. Dogs have also been used to visit schools and libraries to help children with learning problems. A friendly “listening dog” can help a child learn to read.

The Episcopal Services Committee approved the idea and provided the seed money. The result of their efforts is the volunteer group “Loving Paws”. Loving Paws started with three dogs – Merlin and Gunny – both Bernese Mountain Dogs, and Clifford – a Great Pyrenees. The three dogs officially started visiting local hospitals and nursing homes in 2000, the birth of Loving Paws. Now Loving Paws has approximately 33 dogs actively visiting. Since its inception, the group has visited 19 long-term care/assisted living facilities, including two hospices, nine hospitals, six libraries and three school systems. The group has brought thousands of

smiles countless people throughout the Cleveland area.

Although based at Church of the Ascension, the group is open to volunteers of any faith. The group is actively seeking new volunteers to join the group, since many current dogs are approaching their retirement. Participation in the program is extremely rewarding for both the dog and its owner.

To become a “Loving Paws” volunteer, dogs and their owners are required to be certified by Therapy Dogs International (TDI). Loving Paws offers two 4-week preparation classes annually, plus an additional day for the testing. The classes prepare the dog socially, reviewing each requirement of the test. Dolly Doyle, became is a certified TDI evaluator in 2003. This allows her to perform the CGC (Canine Good Citizen) and TDI test, evaluating the dog for certification.

Requirements include:

- *Dog must have basic obedience background – sit, stay, walk properly on a lead, be able to sit and stay while the handler walks 20 feet away from the dog then returning to the dog without moving, allow the evaluator to touch the dog all over – the paws, open its mouth, brush the dog. The dog must be able to walk by a dish of food, often sausage/tuna fish in oil,

- without going for the food. The handler can say, “leave it” but cannot pull the dog away. The dog must be able to be separated from its handler for 3 minutes.
- * The dog must be able to be around a crowd, yelling, and loud noises, with wheelchairs, IV poles, and walkers. A hospital setting cannot make the dog anxious, nervous, or excited. Pans are dropped to identify any problems with sudden noises.
- *The dog must be of a social, acceptable, gentle temperament around people – adults and children, plus other dogs.
- *The dog must be at least 1 year of age.

Once the dog has certification from TDI it is ready for therapy work. Loving Paws assists the handlers with getting comfortable visiting if they wish. Loving Paws illustrates how a dog should visit at the bedside, to someone in a wheelchair, with children, around crutches and walkers, plus the challenges that are encountered with Alzheimer’s patients.

If you are interested in learning more about Loving Paws visit their website at www.lovingpaws216.org. To learn about becoming a volunteer, call Dolly Doyle at 216-521-5663 or Sue Griffith at 216-521-2017 for further information on TDI and the training classes.

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The Pulse Of The City

God And Gunfire (In Our Schools?)

By Gary Rice

The warm, brown gunstocks of the rifles contrasted starkly with their cold, blued steel barrels in a surreal visage of juxtaposition. In the school gymnasium, the students opened the actions of these rifles, loaded, locked their bolts into place, and prepared to fire.

The story you are about to read is true. It happened here in Lakewood, and it happened again, and again, and again. Only, during those times, the shooting was under supervision...and the skills learned by the students would serve them well later, in places like the Korean battles of Pork Chop Hill and Heartbreak Ridge...and later still, in places like Hue and the Ashau Valley in Vietnam.

And in places like the old ice house, where Winterhurst sits today, adults of various local gun clubs regularly met to hone their marksmanship skills. The first World War caught Americans unprepared for defense. Soldiers trained with sticks instead of guns, and old jalopies with the word "TANK" scrawled on flapping bedsheets rumbled across the parade grounds of our diminished peacetime army.

It was decided by the higher-ups, and by many regular Americans, that something had to be done to prepare the youth of our nation for its defense. Accordingly, Physical Education was mandated across the country, and in many of our schools, including Lakewood's, firearms awareness and training became routine. Gun clubs began to flourish.

In fact, the National Rifle Association was chartered by an Act of Congress. The same was true of the Boy Scouts of America, although the founders of the Scouting movement bitterly argued about the extent to which their youth organization should be militarized.

By no means was this march to militarize our nation universally accepted. As was true in the Civil War, thousands of Americans resisted the draft and participated in other forms of anti-war resistance throughout our country. Some religious groups also bitterly opposed what they felt was an effort to turn their children into cannon fodder.

Still, when American participation in hostilities began, most of the country went along with the march to victory. Their well-trained children became American fighting men and women: the best equipped and trained military force in the world.

We can say that because we won. Again and again. Of course, we left a great many of those young men and women over there too, under grassy fields of honor.

After World War I, once again, Americans turned to peacetime pursuits. Military and civilian preparedness for future conflicts subsided until Pearl Harbor, when a new generation of Americans was again asked to take up arms.

At the end of the Second World War, confronted by realities of atomic bombs and Communist expansion, Americans continued with their attempts to prepare youths for the future. At that time, children's education was looked at as a unified whole: mind, body, and spiritual development were all at the forefront of America's priorities. And particularly in the Lakewood Schools.

The key focus for the Lakewood Schools in October, 1950 was in building citizenship. Citizenship was the

building block upon which all other successes depended. I have an October, 1950 report from the Lakewood Schools stressing citizenship, and the cooperation of all, for the good of the community. The report begins as follows: "We believe that the foundation of our democratic government is based on the training and the inspiration received by the child in his home, his church, and his school."

Yes, back then schools were unafraid to mention and even support religious activities in the schools. In a section titled "My Religious Interests Are Encouraged," the 1950 school report boasts of nine "Y" related Christian groups at Lakewood High School alone, with eight groups in the elementary buildings, and eight in the junior highs. Even back then, the report also

encouraged students to learn more about the various denominations, religions and cultures. Of course, these were the days before religious lawsuits and Supreme Court rulings put up walls between the public schools and faith-based values.

Along with many of the report's photos of academic, artistic, and religious activities transpiring in the schools, there is a photo on page 16 of students on the firing line with their rifles, along with the caption: "A good citizen learns to use firearms safely and effectively."

You see, back then, I doubt whether anyone thought about shooting up a school or gunning down fellow classmates. Yes, there were bad guys. We knew that; but Lakewood and so many other communities taught the greater importance of being a part of the community itself. Academic achievement, deemed so important now, was, of course, men-

tioned in the report (on page 5) but the many other pages talked about social responsibility, health, safety, the adventure of learning, and the importance of cooperating with others. And yes, even the importance of religion. Were things better back then, in those (mostly) pre-TV days of the mid-20th century? I don't know. All times have their problems. I was a teacher for thirty-one years. By the time I started, the guns and the prayers were gone from the schools, at least the supervised guns and prayers. Citizenship as well seemed to give way to comparative humanities studies, and absolute community values seemed to dissolve into relativism. Meaningful dress codes also seemed to fade into history at about the same time that guns and prayers went away.

To be fair, times were not all that good back then for religious and ethnic minorities either. The same might be said for persons having physical or other challenges. Many things are, indeed, better today.

These days, many administrators, parents, and politicians seem to think that a retreat into pure academics will rescue the schools. The problem is that no one can agree about what exactly should be academic: What is "good English" exactly? Should we teach evolution or creation? Was it the Civil War or The War for Southern Independence? What were the real roots of World Wars I and II, as well as Vietnam? What really happened to Ohio's Native Americans? What are good values?

Good luck with the answers. I don't think you'll find them on those fancy new tests being given these days.

As far as the guns went? Well, I'm an old Pennsylvania boy and I liked guns. I discovered, however, that I took no joy in hunting. I was pretty good at target shooting. I looked at it no differently than pitching horseshoes or bowling.

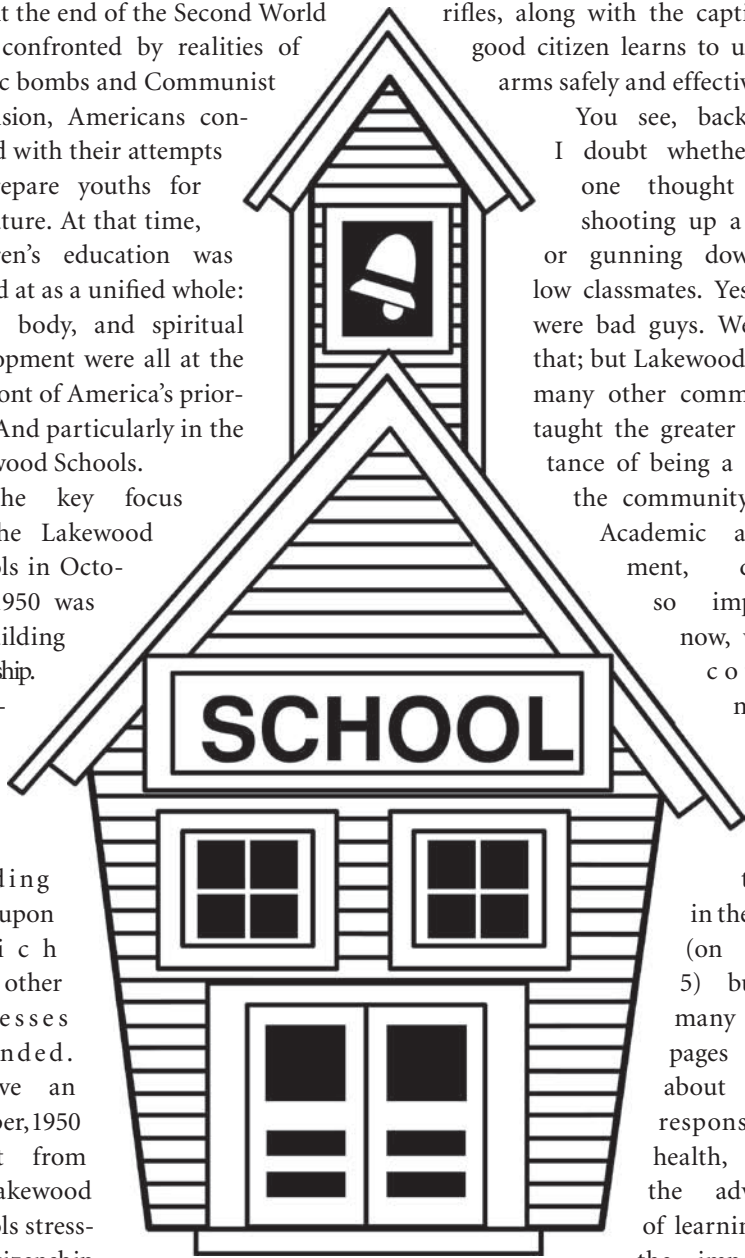
Unfortunately, I had a young cousin who ended his life with a firearm. That pretty much ended my interest in guns, except for helping Scouts and others to learn about gun safety. It was a tragedy.

So now, I can hardly bear to look at a gun. I know they say it's not the gun, it's the deed. Still, kids today have no idea about gun safety. Time and time again, gun accidents take the lives of our young. And so, many of our nation's gun-free, prayer-free schools have turned into bloodbaths.

Would a course on firearms awareness and gun safety work in our schools today? For that matter, would a return to religion in school help? State legislators are paving the way for the return of Ohio's State Motto—"With God, All Things Are Possible"—to every public school in the state. Will this help to return the best parts of great things lost in our culture? Would these efforts help to restore a greater sense of safety or morality?

I don't know. Perhaps they would, if they were accompanied by many of the well thought out, long forgotten lessons about responsible citizenship.

Some might say that things are better, now that legalized gunfire and prayers no longer ring out through our schools. I might respond, "Maybe... but are we really sure about that?"






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Lakewood People

Where Are They Now?

By Chuck Greanoff

Imagine being independently wealthy and having nothing but time to kill. What would you do? That was my imaginary life for the 2005-2006 school year--one actually spent dependently poor with virtually no free time. So, in my fantasy life, I traveled all over the United States, eating at fine restaurants, taking in the local seen, and checking in on former Lakewood High School athletes. Here's my travel log.

My first stop was at Wake Forest University in Winston Salem, North Carolina. Michelle Sikes, greatest female distance runner in LHS history, was on her way to finishing 5th in the 5000 meter run at the NCAA National Championships to earn All American Honors. She was also named as an Academic All-American.

Former teammate Rachel Zubricky continued to build her legacy at the University of Akron. Also an Academic All American, Rachel qualified for the NCAA Regional tournament in the 1500 meter run.

In Annapolis, Maryland, the Captain of the Naval Academy Basketball team--Matt Fannin--fought his way through a knee injury (nothing less than a torn ACL), managed to be the team's third leading scorer and second leading rebounder. His ten-foot jump-shot with 34 seconds remaining gave Navy its season highlight--a win over arch-rival Army. His brother, Mark, who also plays for Navy has been hampered by knee injuries.

Jill Stupiansky, former LHS golfer, was Southern Birmingham University's top finisher at the NCAA Division

I Regional meet, finishing 35th out of 105 golfers. She is a two-time all Big South Conference golfer and was named National Golf Coaches Association All-American Scholar for the 2004-2005 season.

Scott Patterson hit .381 at Urbana University and set numerous school season records including games played, assists, at bats, etc. and was named second-team all America Midwest Conference Baseball team

Closer to home, Greg Brauer was instrumental in Mount Union's Division III football championship. The fourth leading tackler for the season, Brauer had two sacks and numerous tackles and quarterback hurries in the nationally televised championship game.

Justin Hein concluded a solid career as an offensive lineman for Akron University football team, seeing action as a part-time starter and playing in the Rubber City Bowl.

Closest to home, Aaron Johnson-Peck has had a stellar track and cross-country career at Case Western Reserve University. He's been a cross-country all-American and most recently finished first in the 5000 meters at the 2006 Case Invitational.

Many other former LHS athletes made splashes in 2005-2006, including: football player, J.J. Bennett, Colgate's third leading rusher; Samantha Margulies continued to play well for the Ithaca College Women's soccer team; Nadhal Eadeh made the transition from basketball to football and lettered for John Carroll University; Mary Kuhlen, made key contributions to the Xavier University swim team; Ben Weible helped the cause for the Wittenberg University Men's swim team;

Mike Bezak was the starting catcher for the Urbana baseball team; Eric Pelot, was a reserve outfielder at Eastern Michigan; Joe Trela, started as a freshman on the Hiram College Baseball team: Julia Schlenkerman contributed to the Ohio Wesleyan Women's basketball team, while Jillian Snyder was a key contributor to the OWU track and cross country teams; Melissa Mastrodonato lettered as a freshman for the Mount Vernon Nazarene women's basketball team; Katie Wirtz has been a solid contributor to the Walsh University cross-country and track teams; Ricky Weisheimer runs track and cross country for Akron University; Brenden McKay saw the field for the Baldwin Wallace football team; John Dillingham was the third leading scorer on the Fairmont State basketball team; his former LHS

teammates Dan Gifford and Dave Fox saw considerable action for DePauw University and St. Bonaventure, respectively; Elle Fracker saw a lot of playing time for the Indiana State University softball team, while former teammate Anna Majewski played for Ursuline College; Chris Balmert and Derek Lewis played baseball at Notre Dame College; LHS graduate Peter Watson pitches for Carleton College in Minnesota, even through he did not play for the LHS team.

I might have missed a few athletes on my imaginary journey--I'll let you know. All in all, it was inspiring to track the progress of some of our fine former students, who may be quite different in their goals and achievements, but who clearly share an ethic of hard work and commitment. Here's hoping that I become wealthy and that some LHS athlete will find his/her way to the University of Hawaii.

Ryan Patrick Demro Party



Councilman Ryan Patrick Demro with Jennifer Scott. This was taken during the Ryan Patrick Demro fund-raiser and Birthday part at Mrs. Scott's beautiful house and garden. Unfortunately it rained that night, but togetherness was the call of the night as 50+ supporters crowded under the large tent Jennifer was wise to order up.

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Chef Geoff

This Column is Just Offal: Eating the Underparts

By Jeff Endress

Let me start this column with a warning: some of the content in this article is not for the faint of heart or the squeamish. While it is not my intent to sink to a literary equivalent of “Fear Factor” (of whatever edition), we tend to be ill at ease when a discussion of our foods goes past the butcher counter and into the slaughter house. And when that discussion focuses on the discards of a process we ignore, there is a significant probability that some may not be educated or entertained, but instead, offended.

But that’s where this piece is going, so if there are any complaints or concerns, remember that you were adequately warned.

We are indeed fortunate in these United States when it comes to our consumer driven choices of the animal products we decide to place on our tables. When we shop for beef, we look at loins, rounds and chuck. Beyond that, there is hamburger. Pork translates into chops, ribs and shoulder. The rest we think of as sausage makings. But, the processing of animal flesh for our consumption involves a great deal more, much of which we simply waste or use for Alpo.

The term customarily used for such cast offs from the processing of meat is “Offal,” not coincidentally pronounced the same as “awful.” These are the unmentionables from the processing of animal flesh, those things we would rather see discarded. Clearly, the term includes the internal organs of the animal, but also includes heads and brains, hooves and tongues, snoots and tails. Some of this offal stuff we use with rarely a thought. Natural casing hotdogs are sausages stuffed in pork intestine. Beef (or calves) liver, usually served with onions, is a staple on many diner menus. Some of this offal is considered a delicacy, such as veal sweetbreads, but much is simply reserved for Fido. We’re quite picky (and a bit squeamish) in these United States, and in this land of plenty we feel we can afford to be wasteful of food products that would otherwise be used as human food.

In earlier human civilization, that luxury was not available. Inventive early chefs found a way to use essentially every part of the processed animals. These dishes and techniques are still quite firmly rooted in the countries in which they developed, but only in rare circumstances have they made the jump to mainstream food offerings on the American menu. Indeed, in a number of instances, the largest impact of dishes featuring offal

So Whaddya Think I Am, Chopped Chicken Livers?

- 1 lb. fresh chicken livers, cleaned, rinsed and patted dry
- 1/4 cup finely diced onion
- 2 tbsp. butter
- 2 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 tsp. basil
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. freshly ground pepper
- juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1/4 cup dry white wine
- 1/3 cup heavy cream

In a skillet, melt the butter and add the olive oil. While the butter is coming to medium heat, combine the flour, basil, salt and pepper in a ziplock bag. Add the dried chicken liver to the flour, and shake lightly to coat. Remove from bag, shake off excess and add livers to the oil/butter. Sauté 6-8 minutes, turning once, halfway through. Add the white wine, and lemon juice and onion and allow to thicken. Remove from heat and allow to cool.

Place the chicken livers, with the thickened pan deglazing in a food processor and pulse until coarsely chopped. With the processor running, add the cream and process until blended. Scrape out processor bowl into a small soufflé dish, cover, and refrigerate 2-4 hours until the pate “sets”. Serve with capers, chopped hard boiled egg, minced onions, toasted French bread rounds and a nice port.

has been limited to certain queasy skits Saturday Night Live or Letterman. The Scots still enjoy a national dish of ground sheep’s liver, heart and lungs, spiced and mixed with oatmeal, and steamed in the sheep’s stomach. Most Americans, having never tried haggis are repulsed by even the idea of such a dish as they snigger over Dan Akroyd in a kilt. We are more likely to laugh over “head cheese” (meat from the pig’s skull set in gelatin) or “blood sausage” (congealed blood with suet and grain) than we are to actually eat the stuff.

There are, however, instances where offal, or at least offal based recipes, have made the jump into the mainstream. Terrines are a haute cuisine staple. A sort of French meatloaf, we find prepared terrines, and their cousins, pates, in the gourmet food sections, featuring costly ingredients such as truffles. But make no mistake about it, the terrine developed as a means of using pieces and parts that we would nowadays discard. It has been said, more than once, that those who enjoy sausage and politics shows refrain from watching either being produced. There is good basis for the advice, given the fact that grinding offal and adding spices is the genesis of those tasty Bob Evans links we enjoy with our pancakes.

In some circumstances, immigrants have brought dishes of their homeland with them that have become, at least regionally, part of the culinary lexicon. I’ll never forget

the first time I saw my good German father enjoying pickled pig’s feet. Involuntary black immigrants, the slaves who labored on southern plantations, were often left with offal for their sustenance. Thus we find chitterlings (pig intestines) and hog maws (stomachs) are popular in the South, and are found in many of the niche “soul food” restaurants.

Scrapple, a kind of breakfast meatloaf, is made from pork offal and bread crumbs or oatmeal and is popular in the Northeast. There are restaurants in St. Louis that feature “fried brain sandwiches.” But, I would bet that the vast majority of my readers would refrain from ordering that sandwich or seeking out some chitterlings and greens. We are simply not comfortable with the idea of eating offal, even when the name has been changed to protect the true identity. I mean, we all really know what’s in that package of turkey “giblets” in the cavity of our Thanksgiving turkey.

We are squeamish, we are picky and we are wasteful, and it’s really too bad. On one hand, in a world desperate to feed its population, it is a shame that food products are wasted, or at the very least, relegated to the dog dish. I’m reminded of my mother’s “clean your plate” lectures and my thought that if there really were starving people in China, then maybe we should send them those much hated stuffed peppers. Not that I think that UNESCO packages of offal would be a reasonable solution, but perhaps curbing our willingness to be wasteful might help. On a much more personal level, our squeamishness means that we don’t allow ourselves to enjoy some foods that are, despite their origins as offal, really delicious. We limit our choices to the loin or the breast, overlooking the pancreas (sweetbreads) or livers, which many of us, if we could get past the fact that it’s offal, would find surprisingly enjoyable. I mean just because it’s offal, doesn’t mean that it’s awful.

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Minding The Issues

Communitarianism – What It Does and Doesn’t Tell Us

By Gordon Brumm

“Communitarianism” means many things to many people. To me, and to most others acquainted with the term, it means a political viewpoint most prominently represented by sociologist Amitai Etzioni in his book *The Spirit of Community*.

The pervasive theme of Communitarianism is finding middle ground between political-social extremes; thus it is defined as the “radical middle” between liberalism and conservatism, or between libertarianism (favoring absolute liberty for the individual) and authoritarianism (favoring suppression of individual liberty when convenient for the state). Communitarianism has something in common with liberalism as well as with conservatism, while adding some distinctive considerations of its own, these deriving, as the name implies, from the fact that we are all members of a community.

Although Communitarianism is equally averse to either extreme, Etzioni claims that at the present time our nation over-emphasizes individual rights at the expense of responsibilities. (For example, everyone supports the right to trial by jury, but no one wants to do jury duty.) He seeks to correct this tendency and strike the proper balance between rights and responsibilities. He emphasizes the welfare of “the commons” (i.e. the common good) and to this end he favors, for example, job-specific drug testing and requiring AIDS patients to reveal their contacts. But he also favors positive rights, i.e. the right of individuals to acquire certain goods such as health care or housing. In this respect he resembles liberals. But like conservatives, he supports character or value education.

The other major tenet of Communitarianism is an emphasis on non-governmental approaches to social issues. Etzioni espouses a community, or civil society, that actively maintains and enforces its moral principles apart from the functions of government – a community with a strong “moral voice.” The suggestion here is that government is ineffective without the support and cooperation of the community.

Etzioni’s leading illustration of the moral voice concerns a four-way traffic stop near Stanford University (p. 32-33 of SOC). In admiring tones he tells how each driver would await his or her proper turn to proceed through the intersection. The reason, he says, is that the drivers knew each other, and they would all apply social pressure against transgressors, presumably in the form of informal reproaches.

This example brings out the three issues or dimensions of social life according to the communitarian analysis:

- 1) The laws (represented by the stop signs).
- 2) The non-governmental moral principles of the community (represented by the rules prescribing who is to proceed through the intersection at

a given time, as well as by the agreement to obey the stop signs).

3) Individual reactions in support of the laws and moral principles (represented by the reproaches against those who broke the rules).

These dimensions are distinct and largely independent of one another. Strictness in one does not imply strictness in another. For example, I could have an extremely liberal, laissez-faire view on individual rights – I could advocate that individuals remain unfettered – while at the same time exerting a strong moral voice in criticizing those who violate those extreme rights.

But these three dimensions also are related to one another. For one thing, the laws reflect public opinion, i.e. the community’s moral principles. More importantly, our moral voices are quiet – we do not act to enforce our moral principles – because we lack a consensus on what these principles are. Furthermore, I would suggest that discord about moral principles is one reason why we have gone overboard, as Etzioni charges, in the direction of the extreme and simplistic view of near-absolute rights.

So in order for the community to function in the way Communitarians wish, there must be a moral consensus in place, or at least some basic agreed-on standard against which moral principles can be tested. And this is why I wonder whether Communitarians are setting forth a counsel of perfection, merely telling us that we should all be against sin.

Immediately following the example of the four-way traffic intersection, Etzioni gives another example wherein he relates with approval his neighbors admonishing him for neglecting his lawn. This inspired an example of my own:

I cut the grass in my yard with a hand mower; I do not own a power mower. Now, suppose I were visited one day by a delegation from the neighborhood and they said: “Gordon, we’ve noticed that you always mow your lawn with a hand mower – in public. Now, your lawn looks good – we have no complaint about the work you do. But when people see you using a hand mower, it reflects unfavorably on the image of the neighborhood. It makes people think we’re not prosperous enough to afford power mowers. That gives us a bad feeling and it could even lower property values. So we’d all really appreciate it if you would get yourself a power mower and start using it. We know you’ll understand.”

I’m told this would never happen in Lakewood (in Westlake, maybe, but never in Lakewood). However, that’s not the point. If it did happen, I like to think I’d tell this delegation to take a hike, but who’s to say – from the Communitarian viewpoint – that I would be right and they would be wrong?

Yes, who’s to say? That is the point. I might think I’m a good Communitarian, notwithstanding my use of a hand mower – perhaps even because of my use of a hand mower. My neighbors, in this hypothetical example, have the opposite opinion. Communitarian principles provide no way to settle the question.

Or let’s consider two real-life problems currently facing the city:

1) In Kaufman Park there is a basketball court, lit at night, located up against the back yards of houses on the next street. Young people play on this court until late at night, and they make a lot of noise. Their language in particular is not only loud but offensive, and the neighbors have complained.

2) When the renowned bars in the West End close down, their drunken patrons spill out onto the streets and onto the property of the neighbors. The patrons are in no mood to be quiet or restrained. Their language, and sometimes their conduct as well, is loud, boisterous, offensive, abusive, and extremely disturbing, especially (but not solely) in the early hours of the morning.

What is to be done about these two similar problems? Obviously, the neighbors’ welfare must be taken into account. We don’t need Communitarianism to tell us that; it’s only common sense. But beyond that truism, what should be done? Should the basketball court at Kaufman Park be torn up? Or moved? Should the lights be shut off?

The case of the West End is a little more complicated because there is a third party involved, the owners of the bars. Should these bars be forced to close earlier? Should their drunken patrons be rounded up and taken to jail? Should the neighbors get out their shotguns? Or what? There is no specifically Communitarian answer to these questions, and one thing is certain: The moral voice is no help, at least in the case of the West End. Those individuals who confront the drunken bar

patrons gain nothing for their efforts except more abuse.

Of course, a person might come to a conclusion for their own reasons and then announce that their conclusion is a Communitarian one, but their claim would clearly be bogus.

In other words, adopting the Communitarian philosophy still leaves us with the hard work of reasoning out specific policy decisions and principles.

So to do this work and fill out the Communitarian philosophy, we need to be educated in the kind of reasoning – reflective, analytic, critical – that leads to well-justified policy decisions and principles. (There is little evidence that this kind of education now takes place in the Lakewood schools.) For the same reason, public forums for discussion of such issues are of great value. LakewoodBuzz and the Observer web site point the way.

Overall, then, Communitarianism doesn’t offer solutions, but it does offer a viewpoint that we can use as a guide as we attempt to arrive at justified solutions. I would summarize this viewpoint as follows:

- 1) Recognize that you are a member of the community and that your actions affect others.
- 2) Recognize your responsibilities toward fellow citizens –
 - by not infringing on their rights and welfare.
 - by helping to insure that all are treated fairly and equitably.

3) Regard the city itself as an object of interest and help it achieve excellence. (“Lakewood is a great place to raise a family,” considered by itself, is an empty and vapid form of praise. Hopefully, the benefit of raising children in Lakewood is that it offers an atmosphere that is, for example, creative, stimulating, fair-minded, and intellectually sophisticated.)

Help increase your own and your fellow citizens’ capacity to reason about the principles that guide the city and American society as a whole.

This is a viewpoint worth attending to.

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Lakewood Music

An Alternative Club For Mainstream People:

An Interview With Jim Mileti, Owner Of The Winchester Tavern

By Bob Ignizio

Since opening in December of 2002, The Winchester Tavern has routinely been bringing world-class entertainment to Lakewood. The list of acts who have graced the stage is a veritable who's who of music, including such classic artists as Leon Russell, Richie Havens, Nils Lofgren, Country Joe McDonald, The Strawbs, Bill Haley's Comets, and Fairport Convention. But the Winchester isn't just a haven for nostalgia fans. They've also hosted rising talents like O'2L, Gnappy, and Jimbo Mathus.

In addition to these nationally known acts, the club also books some of the best local musicians like Anne E. DeChant, Robert Lockwood Jr., and Tie Dye Harvest. When there isn't a special event going on, The Winchester features Karaoke on Tuesdays and an open mic night on Thursdays. Shows are all-ages, and unlike many small venues, there's plenty of seating so you won't have to stand around all night.

And yet, according to owner Jim Mileti, "We've had zero fanfare and zero attention from anybody except the people who come here. There's no publicity, no press. We have people flying in from Florida and Texas to see shows here. Sometimes 50% of the crowd is from out of state. And yet people right down the street don't even know we're here. It's really an alternative club for mainstream people." I recently sat down with Jim to talk about his club and music in general, and here's what else he had to say.

Lakewood Observer: So why did you want to do a music club like The Winchester?



Jim Mileti: Because there's nobody bringing this kind of music to Ohio. There's nobody else who will book Koko Montoya or Pete Best from the Beatles. There's nowhere putting on Al Dimeola, Alan Holdsworth, Percy Jones, Lisa Loeb... all these kinds of people who are older, good musician people. Nils Lofgren, Karla Bonoff, The Godz... there's nobody doing that, I don't know why. So it fits a niche, and it's been working out very well so obviously the niche needed to be filled.

LO: What was your first show at the club, and what's been your biggest show so far?

JM: Leon Russell was our first show, and it was awesome. I had never even plugged in the plugs in the back.

Didn't even know if the stuff was going to work. It ended up being a fantastic night and it all snowballed from there.

Nils Lofgren was our biggest. We had to have two shows. He's kind of the perfect example of what we book here, because if you know him and his history, you're floored that he's playing here. But if you don't, you have no idea who he is and you kind of mock him.

Young kids used to be interested in other music than just what was written within two years of their age. Now they mock it. Originally that was aggravating, but now I see it as a good thing. It leaves us with just the people who really appreciate the music.

LO: What's your criteria for booking an act?

JM: If you look at the schedule right now, it's pretty eclectic. Female folk music followed by eighties hair metal followed by someone who used to be in the Squirrel Nut Zippers followed by G.E. Smith from the Saturday Night Live Band. The force that holds it together is that they're all good musicians. There's a good mix of stuff.

LO: What about local music at the club?

JM: I like to get local acts that are real good musicians. But it seems like we're in a position today where the good musicians aren't as respected as the acts that have some kind of novelty to them.

LO: How has being in Lakewood affected the club?

JM: We started out working at a deficit, because nobody liked the places that used to be in this location. It took a long time to create the healthy, respectable image we have now. Duffers and Tyr both had a lot of problems, and it took a long time to get out from under those problems. I think now the city is ready to embrace us, where before they wanted to fight it.

What's funny to me is, I can be sitting at a restaurant down the street and give a business card to the waitress and say, "Hey, why don't you come check out the Winchester?" And she'll be like, "The Winchester? Where's that?" We're just down the street!

Some upcoming shows of note at the Winchester:

8/19 O'2L (members of Trans Siberian Orchestra)

9/1 Peter Tork (of The Monkees) & Shoe Suede Blues

9/8 The Godz (seventies hard rockers)

9/9 Tie Die Harvest annual reunion show

The Buck Stops Here

The Road Warrior

"In Khoyniki, there was a 'plaque of achievement' in the center of town. The best people in the region had their names on it. But it was the alcoholic cab driver who went into the radioactive zone to pick up the kids from the kindergarten, not any of the people on the plaque. Everyone became what he really was."—**Voices from Chernobyl.**

The Road Warrior, released in 1981 during the first year of the Reagan presidency, is not only a film of its time, but also one for our time and a future we may face. The time of the film is a post-apocalyptic future after the two powers on earth fought over the "black fuel" which powered the world. "Without fuel they were nothing," the narrator comments, and after the war, "it is a white line nightmare" on roads, as everyone fights for gas and what they might scavenge. More than ever, oil is the lingua franca of survival.

By Robert Buckeye

One group, led by Papagallo, attempts to preserve the values of civilization. ("This is my family," a woman tells a newcomer to camp.) They have found a way to pump enough oil to travel more than 2000 miles to freedom in the north, where they might once again establish a just society. Whether they can do so or not against the outlaw gangs which patrol the roads is unlikely, and, in particular the band led by Lord Hummungus, aka Ayotallah Rock'n'Rolla, who want the Papagallo oil.

The Road Warrior – "the man we called Max" – is a law unto himself, and in that much like the bikers of Lord Hummungus. He survives on his own through courage and daring. Unlike the bikers, however, Max is, Papagallo says, "an honorable man." He has a code of what is right chooses

to be responsible. He is, in short, a peculiarly American type, the lone man who we need in time of danger. Gary Cooper in High Noon, Clint Eastwood.

Papagallo asks Max to help them, and, at first, he declines. "I got everything I need here," he says. "I can offer you a future," Papagallo answers. If you continue the way you are, he adds, you are nothing more than "a corpse of the old world."

After Max gets gas for his car from Papagallo (for having fulfilled a contract he has made with Papagallo), he is attacked by Hummungus's men, his car destroyed, his dog shot. He returns to the camp and tells Papagallo he will help. "Believe me, I haven't got a choice," he says. The rugged individualist can no longer stand alone. He chooses to be on the side of civiliza-

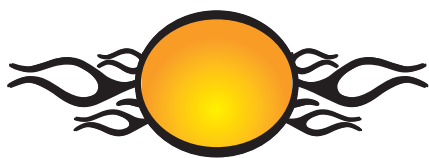
tion and helps the group to make their journey north to freedom.

Max is, in Walter Benjamin's characterization, "the destructive character...whose deepest emotion is an insuperable mistrust of the course of things and a readiness at all times to recognize that everything can go wrong. Therefore the destructive character is reliability itself." It is why we need him.

History may be a history of kings and queens, generals and battles, but it is often turned at decisive moments by those who have stepped onto the stage of history from the most unlikely of places and who disappear after they act before they can be recognized. ("The vision dims," the narrator remarks of the time Max saved them.) Their names do not go on plaques. In Lakewood, who would have thought it would have been Jim O'Bryan who stepped forward to begin the Observer?

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Lakewood Music Events Calendar

The Hi Fi Concert Club (11729 Detroit Avenue)

Friday August 11th it's an evening of electronic music with 20 go to 10, Amy Kasio, Trillit, Travelogue, Allegory, and Second Take. For start time and price call the club at (216) 521-8878.

The Phantasy (11802 Detroit Avenue)

Friday August 11th and Saturday August 12th it's Cruefest. The event is a benefit for the Skylar Neil Memorial Fund. The Crue won't be there, but Vince Neil's son Neil Wharton will be on hand to host the two day event. Bands playing include The Erotics, Rock Revolution, Eve to Adam, Rock N Roll Junkies, Sick As Monday, Asphalt Valentine, and Toxin. Admission is \$10 each night. Shows start at 8pm.

Waterbury Coach House (13333 Madison Avenue)

This Wednesday and every Wednesday, it's vocalist Gerry Keating and keyboard player Neil Kamiller. On Fridays, Neil Kamiller is joined by Doris Long with guest musicians on drums and bass for "Jazz You Like It". Performances start at 7pm and go until 10:30pm.

The Winchester (12112 Madison Avenue)

Thursday August 10th it's Pete Best. Best was the drummer for The Beatles before Ringo Starr joined and played with them during the now leg- endary Hamburg period. He recorded one album with the band backing up singer Tony Sheridan, and also played on a few audition tapes and a BBC session. Some of this material was included in the Beatles 'Anthology 1' CD. In recent years, Best has also released a few albums of his own, mixing new compositions with covers of The Beatles and other early rock n rollers. The show starts at 8:30pm and admission is \$25.

Adopt A Pet



Captain is a neutered and declawed male cat approximately 3-5 years old. Very affectionate and doesn't seem to mind other cats.

If you'd like to adopt, visit the LAKEWOOD ANIMAL SHELTER
in the Metroparks off Detroit Road 216-529-5020

More Pets Online at <http://lakewoodobserver.com/forum>