

THE LAKEWOOD OBSERVER

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

Volume 2, Issue 18, September 6, 2006

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Lakewood Car Kulture Shows Draws 10,000 And National Attention

Community Festival - Up Next September 9



A photo from one of the earlier Lakewood Community Festivals. Fun for all.

While most cities have slowed down, put the kids back in school, and start to get ready for winter, Lakewood is still celebrating summer.

August 26th saw the streets of Madison Avenue fill with hot rods, motorcycles, and good times. This weekend will see Madison Park fill with our favorites - Lakewood Residents in the 19th annual Lakewood Community Festival.

This great event takes place September 9, 2006 at Madison Park, 13029 Madison Avenue. The festival celebrates community, cultural heritage and families. It is a day of fun and activities for everyone.

It begins at a fast pace with the 5K "Kielbasa Run" at 9:00 a.m. and the 1/2 mile Children's Fun Run at 10:00 a.m. At 11:00 a.m., there will be a Flag Raising Ceremony by various military

organizations.

Entertainment will include Bald Paul's Irish Blues Band, The Happy Timers, the Italian Choral Group, the Lakewood Tappers, Silhouette School of Dance, Bob and Shelly Orlandi and more.

Craft and game booths, pony rides, children's games, the NASA Bus, the Euclid Beach Rocket Car, Alpacas from the Starburst Suri Alpaca Ranch, as well as a variety of delectable foods including stuffed cabbage, cabbage and noodles, kielbasa and sauerkraut, pizza, French fries and funnel cakes,

The festival, sponsored by the Lakewood Community Festival, Inc. and the City of Lakewood, is traditionally the last event of the summer. Proceeds from the festival will be donated to various local organizations. In the event of rain, the festival will be



Another fun time for all. Here some rodders kick it while waiting for some friends.



Races, games, food, music make The Lakewood Community Festival so nice.

held on Saturday, September 16, 2006.

The next cool event will be the Lakewood Motoring Society's Rally of Lakewood, September 24.

Ivor Karabatkovic Honored By City Of Lakewood



Ivor receives his Resolution from Mayor Tom George while his parents, Radoslav and Ljiljana Karabatkovic and Council Person Mary Louise Madigan look on.

Tuesday night Lakewood City Hall took some time to honor, one of our favorite Lakewood residents, and member of the Lakewood Observer, Ivor Karabatkovic.

Ivor recently won 1st place in the State Division and 3rd place in the National Division for photography in the very prestigious National PTA Reflections Arts Competition.

This was the second year he won, but the first time he was honored by City Hall.

Mayor George also made sure that Ivor knew it was also in appreciation for having to put up with the staff at the Lakewood Observer.

Ivor is a senior at Lakewood High where he worked at The Times. Look for a full feature on Ivor, next issue.

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Lakewood Events

LAKEWOOD FARMERS MARKET LOCATION CHANGE

The Lakewood Farmer's Market will be moved to the Arthur Avenue Extension (on Arthur Avenue north of Detroit) for the September 6th and October 4th Markets. The Market will remain in the Masonic Temple Parking Lot, 15300 Detroit Avenue, for the weeks of September 13, September 20 and September 27.

The Farmer's Market offers locally grown produce along with freshly baked breads and pastries, artisans and craftspeople who help to create a festive market atmosphere for the Lakewood community. The Market operates every Wednesday through October 4th between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 pm.

The Market is operated by the North Union Farmer's Market in collaboration with the City of Lakewood and features vendors who grow their own produce on small, family-owned farms. Organizers expect up to 15 vendors at each Wednesday's market.

The North Union Farmer's Market is a not-for-profit organization incorporated in 1995 dedicated to supporting family farms in northeast Ohio, providing urban people access to fresh, locally grown produce and creating a wholesome family activity that builds community.

Lakewood Kiwanis CLAM BAKE

Sunday, October 1st, 2006, 4-6 PM Lakewood Park Women's Pavilion

DINNER INCLUDES: Clams, Oven Roasted Chicken, Sweet Potato, Salad, Desert & Beverage. Free Hot Dogs For Kids.

DONATION - \$20.00 Benefits Lakewood Community

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM: Any Lakewood Kiwanis Member, or: Geiger's - 14710 Detroit Ave., Chamber Of Commerce - 14701 Detroit Ave. Lakewood Animal Hospital - 14572 Madison Ave, Lakewood Senior Center West - 16024 Madison Ave.



2006 Garden Fair Winners



Garden Fair 1st Place Winners (left to right): Jonathan Poilpre, Claire Corridoni, Madison Burns, Andrew Nolan & Robby Fehrenbach.

A Sad Farewell To Pluto



R.I.P. Pluto...Lakewood residents Bill and Jan Davis show their dismay at one of their favorite planets being disowned and removed from the list of planets.

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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 Events

Prudential Lucien Realty Grand Opening

By Stan Austin

Realtor Ron Lucien has been part of the Lakewood real estate market for over thirty years. For many of those years Century 21 Lucien & Associates, Inc. had its headquarters in downtown Lakewood. Real estate values started on a rapid increase during the 1970s and Lucien Realty kept pace by adding to its roster of knowledgeable agents. They knew Lakewood and Ron Lucien became active in the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, serving as president of the Chamber in 1992.

The agency maintained Lakewood offices but expanded by opening an office in Rocky River, across from Westgate Shopping Center. It also switched its affiliation to Prudential Realty.

Ron's son, John Lucien joined the company in 1983 with special responsibilities of establishing internet and communications technologies which set

the company apart from its competition.

Last year Ron and a partner purchased the property at 18630 Detroit and set about renovating it to handle modern offices. Attention to detail is seen on the interior woodwork, which replicates the trim in a traditional Lakewood home. Lucien says, "We expect to add from 15 to 25 agents and staff in our Lakewood office."

A grand opening was celebrated last week with Mayor Thomas George along with ward one Councilmember Kevin Butler presenting a proclamation.

Longtimebusinessneighbor Mickey Krivosh, owner of the Around the Corner Saloon, said, "Lucien Realty will be a welcome addition to this block."

Mayor George said, "This is exactly the kind of business development that will carry Lakewood forward. It sure says something positive about a city when a real estate company locates here."



The Honorable Mayor George cutting the ribbon in front of Prudential.

Lakewood Historical Society House Tour Patron Party!

Enjoy tranquil lake views and support a wonderful cause at the Lakewood Historical Society's Patron Party on Saturday, September 9 from 6 - 9 p.m. The Patron Party is the kick-off for the biennial "Come Home to Lakewood" House Tour. The House Tour features nine historically or architecturally significant residences and buildings and will be on Sunday, September 10 from 1 - 6 p.m. Tickets for the house tour are \$15. This stunning private residence is not on Sunday's tour.

The Patron Party house, an elegant brick Tudor, was recognized by the Cleveland Clay League. During the 1920s and 1930s, the Cleveland Clay League promoted the use of locally-made brick and tile for home construction. According to the league's architectural competition booklet, homes that received the Cleveland Clay League's plaque "have walls of fire-safe materials, a high factor of safety, are built in accordance with the provisions of the building code, and are of permanent, Cleveland-made prod-

ucts." Owners of certified homes were "assured of a dwelling of fine character and enduring quality, at no higher cost."

Patrons will have the chance to bid on a array of silent auction items, including a beautiful silk scarf, a hand-painted chair, a sumptuous catered dinner for eight at Clifton Beach, a lovely portrait of your house, landscaping consultation for your yard, preservation consultation for your house, jewelry, a basket of Lakewood memorabilia and Ranger merchandise.

Patron Party tickets are \$100 for a Golden Sponsor or \$75 for a regular patron, both include a Sunday house tour ticket and are available by mail order only with check, Mastercard, or Visa to the Lakewood Historical Society at 14710 Lake Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107.

For more information or ticket order forms, contact 216 221-7343 or [HYPERLINK "http://www.lakewood-history.org" www.lakewood-history.org](http://www.lakewood-history.org)

Lakewood City Queen



By Staff Writer

Congratulations to Sarah Eash, daughter of Guy and Deborah Eash, who recently earned the award of third runner-up in the pre-teen division at the National American Miss Ohio pageant held at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus. She is considered the City

Queen Of Lakewood and will represent Lakewood, Ohio at the National Pageant in Anaheim, California this November.

In addition to third runner-up to Queen's Court, Sarah was voted first runner-up Miss Personality. At the National Pageant, she is entitled to compete for National All-American Miss Queen. Sarah will also compete in the talent and casual wear modeling optional contests.

The National American Miss Pageants are for today's girl and tomorrow's leaders. Winner of the pageant will receive \$2000.00 in cash, the official crown, bouquet of roses, and banner, as well as hotel and airfare to next year's pageant to crown her successor.

Sarah's activities include ballet and pointe at the Beck Center and Ohio Dance Theatre. She is on the competition team, takes lyrical and tap classes at Dance FX.. She is a sixth grader at Harding Middle School.

Lakewood Historical Society's House And Garden Tour

Time is running out. Purchase your tickets today for the Come Home to Lakewood House Tour. The tour is on Sunday, September 10 from 1 - 6 p.m. Advance tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the Beck Center for the Arts, Borders at Promenade of Westlake, First Federal of Lakewood, Geiger's Clothing & Sports, Geiger's Store for Women, Local girl Gallery, Oldest Stone House Museum, Rozi's Wine House and V Regalo/The Desk Set. Day-of tickets can be purchased for \$20 starting at 12noon at the Nicholson House, 13335 Detroit Avenue. Don't miss this great opportunity to celebrate the heritage and architectural diversity of our community!

Peace Walk On September 16, 2006
Lakewood Park to Edgewater Park. Meet at Lakewood Park at 8 am.
 Requested registration fee : \$5.00 (if unable to donate, just support us by walking with us). For more information, go to www.peacealliance.org or contact Jackie (JcSaly@aol.com) or Ruth (rkoeningsmark@yahoo.com).

AROUND THE CORNER
CATCH THE BROWNS & INDIANS
 ON OUR BIG SCREEN
 ON THE PATIO

PastaFiesta
Tuesday
September 21, 2006
At The Women's Pavilion in Lakewood Park.
 Proceeds will contribute greatly to numerous programs offered to the Lakewood Community. Call (216)521-1515 or email Ruth Koeningsmark at PastaFiesta06@yahoo.com

32nd ANNIVERSARY PARTY
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Lakewood Safety

Lakewood CERT – Getting Ready

Stan Austin
Lakewood Observer Reporter

A railroad tanker car filled with ammonia derails. It happened in South Carolina a year ago. A tornado hits Lakewood Park during a concert. It happened 35 years ago. You smell gas. Do you know how to shut it off? Your neighbor falls off a ladder. Do you put a pillow under his head or just wait for the paramedics?

All these scenarios could happen in Lakewood. The first two might temporarily overwhelm Lakewood's first responders. You could face the second two at any time.

Safety was first on the list of Mayor Thomas George's priorities after taking office. The Community Emergency Response Team was a volunteer program that was up and running in California. The Homeland Security Department had grants to help cities set up their own CERT programs. So George put safety and the grant together and established the Lakewood CERT program in 2005. Retired Lakewood Police Sergeant Kevin Galvin was hired to get CERT up and running.

The first class of CERT volunteers started in January of 2005. The class of 30 reflected a cross section of Lakewood. Initial training is in the classroom at the Main Fire Station. Four sessions of several hours over two months provide the basics. Classes are taught by Lakewood Firefighters, Lakewood EMS paramedics, Lakewood Police, and Lakewood Health Department Registered Nurses.

Volunteers learn about disaster preparedness. Natural or terrorist in origin, our firefighters and police use recent examples such as hurricane Katrina and the Columbine shootings



to show how the city and CERT volunteers coordinate and respond.

Have you ever actually used a fire extinguisher? You will in class two. Do you move your fallen neighbor's head (answer is no)? You'll learn that in class three. Can you and three others carry a victim down stairs? Find out in the last class.

Since that first group, several others have gone through training. Former CERT coordinator Kevin Galvin said, "Part of the CERT program is to train individual citizens in how to handle an emergency when the professionals are not immediately available," he said. "If an incident occurred in our area and a CERT trained civilian was in the area he or she would know how to search for injured people, how to medically

triage them and how to care for the wounded."

"For those of us old enough to remember, the police, fire, and paramedics were simply overwhelmed by the terrible storm that hit Lakewood Park July 4, 1969," he said. "There simply was not enough help available."

"Being prepared helps people's confidence when faced with an emergency." As an example, Galvin said, "It is probably over simplistic, but no one would panic if they saw that there was a shoelace untied. That's because they know how to solve the problem. If the same person was faced with an emergency where their family was trapped in a home damaged by a storm, without power, and downed trees were preventing help from getting to them, they

may panic because they don't know what to do. If they were trained how to safely get their family members out of the home, care for their injuries, and shut off the utilities to prevent more damage, energy would not be wasted on panic. It would be used on decisive, useful action."

Lakewood CERT has become organized and Fire Chief Lawrence Mraz appointed Richard Healy as the volunteer commander. Mraz said, "Healy's background in the Army and his volunteer work for veterans makes him a natural for this task."

Besides classroom training, CERT volunteers can participate as "victims" in preparedness drills. A mock explosion at the old Madison elementary school tested West Shore responders and Lakewood Hospital. Volunteers mimicked various degrees of injury. Search and rescue in the Metroparks is on the schedule.

If you are interested in helping Lakewood, your neighbors, and your family call 216.529.6657 to volunteer. The classes, which meet once per week for five weeks, are open to people that live, work or visit in Lakewood. People who are 14-18 years old need parental or guardian permission. There are no other age limits or any physical requirements. There is no charge and the cost of the training and equipment is covered through a federal grant.

You can also stop by the Lakewood Firefighters booth at the Lakewood Community Festival on Saturday, September 9 at Madison Park.

"CERT volunteers will become increasingly important for Lakewood's safety," said Chief Mraz.

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Lakewood Public Library

Lakewood Public Library Seeks Memories

By John Guscott

The Lakewood Public Library has played a critical role in the life of the community since its founding in May 1916. Now that the time has come for expansion and renovation, they're asking their loyal patrons to share favorite stories about the library for a special "time capsule" project called "Celebrating Ninety Years."

"We're encouraging anyone who has fond memories of the library to jot them down and send them to the library as it celebrates its 90th anniversary," said Lucy Sinagra, member

of the Lakewood Public Library Foundation.

Residents and non-residents who would like to contribute stories, pictures and songs, can either submit them online at www.lkwdpl.org/90years or mail them to:

Celebrating 90 Years
Lakewood Public Library
15425 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Kenneth Warren, Director of Lakewood Public Library says, "While the library's expansion will provide the means for us to move into the future, it also gives us opportunity

to reflect upon the past. The memory project gives us a chance to recognize the significant impact the library has made on the hundreds of thousands of individuals who have benefited from its existence and who have contributed to its continued success."

Recently, the beginnings of a steel skeleton have been sighted striking out from the dusty construction grounds, but this street level view represents only a small portion of the progress made so far. Curious Lakewoodites who would like to keep a closer eye on things should visit the Web site www.lkwdpl.org/about/newbuilding/ for

exclusive up-close pictures, detailed blueprints and the latest construction news.

The newly expanded library, designed by world renowned architect Robert A.M. Stern, will not only provide much needed additional space for the library's collections and programs, it will provide the library with additional opportunities to serve the community. The \$16 million renovation will expand the near century old facility from its current size of 55,000 square feet to 93,000 square feet and is expected to be completed in spring 2008.

Events Calendar

Lakewood Public Library
15425 Detroit Avenue Lakewood, OH 44107

Saturday, September 9

LEARN CALLIGRAPHY: The Art of Beautiful Lettering

Charlotte McQuilkin Robertson will teach the two basic alphabets used in the practical and creative art of calligraphy. A beginner's pen will be provided. Space is limited. Please call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register. 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

INTERNET BASICS

Get familiar with online basics and find out what the Internet is all about. Space is limited. Please call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

MUSIC IN A THUNDERSTORM

Bring your own drum and join into the musical conversation between singer-songwriters Jennifer Allen and Christopher Reynolds. Fritz Schaufele presents this dangerous duo as part of his Second Saturday Folk Music series. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Sunday, September 10

BRENT KIRBY SOLO ACOUSTIC

The Friends of Lakewood Public Library present American music with nothing to lose performed on guitar, piano and voice by a singularly talented young man. 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Monday, September 11

PROTECTING YOUR COMPUTER

Learn how to keep your computer virus and spyware free. Space is limited. Please call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

Thursday, September 14

FOOD COOPERATIVES: Why & How

Food co-ops are alternatives to large chain grocery stores that enable citizens to control their own food decisions locally. Often associated with organic foods, these stores offer their members more choices and wholesale prices. Author and activist William Coughlin will answer your questions about the need for such a program and how to get started. Sponsored by the Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium.

Friday, September 15

FILMS ON FRIDAY: Stormy Weather (1943)

Directed by Andrew L. Stone (Not Rated) Preceded by a classic cartoon.

Lena Horne sings her signature tune in this musical biography of Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, featuring Cab Calloway, Fats Waller, and the Nicholas Brothers. Bring your own candy, popcorn and pop. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Saturday, September 16

QUIET YOUR MIND AND IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH

Eliminate the constant chatter of daily experience and gain flexibility, endurance and strength through a twenty-minute exercise from relaxation instructor Athmo. 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

WEB SEARCHING BASICS

Find what you're looking for on the Internet with strategies for speed and precision. Space is limited. Please call (216) 226-8275, ext. 127 to register. 3:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

Sunday, September 17

RED, WHITE & BLUES

J. Blues brings his acoustic songs straight from the Mississippi Delta courtesy of the Friends of Lakewood Public Library.

2:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Monday, September 18

EXPLORING YOUR OPTIONS: A First Time Homebuyer Seminar

If you're thinking about buying your first home, this seminar will cover everything you need to know to make your dream a reality. Realtor Patrick B. Murphy will discuss housing trends in Lakewood. Howard Lorie of Real Living Mortgage will lay out your financial options. And a representative from Lakewood's Division of Community Development will explain the benefits of the Down payment Assistance Program. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

INTRODUCTION TO SPREADSHEETS

Learn spreadsheet basics, including sorting data, automating calculations and creating neat charts. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Technology Center

Tuesday, September 19

MASSAGE: What Can It Do For You?

Bring your questions to this informative lecture on the health benefits of massage, conducted by Laura Flanagan of EveryBody Massage. 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Auditorium

Only \$5.00 per Raffle Ticket

All Proceeds Benefit the Lakewood Middle School Football Program

(2) Cleveland Browns vs. New York Jets Football Tickets (10/29/06) & Autographed Items (Braylon Edwards photograph, Kellen Winslow Jr. photograph, Romeo Crennel photograph, D'Qwell Jackson photograph, and a Kameron Wimbley mini-helmet)

(2) Ohio State University vs. Indiana Football Tickets (10/21/06) & Autographed Items

(Jim Tressel photograph, Archie Griffin photograph, and LeCharles Bentley photograph) Lakewood Football Prize Basket (an Assortment of wonderful Lakewood items)

Drawing: October 10, 2006 (During Halftime of the Lakewood Middle School vs. Lorain Whittier Middle School Football Game) **Winner Need Not Be Present to win!! Call Harry Manos at Horace Mann Middle School (529-4287 ext. 8733) or purchase a ticket from a Lakewood Middle School Football Player during the next Lakewood Football Varsity Football Game for your chance to win!!

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Lakewood's Future

Time for a Change

By Dr. Larry Keller

Lakewood Citizen and Professor

As Lakewood begins its second century as a municipality, it faces severe challenges. Population continues to decline as those leaving are not replaced in the same numbers. Basic infrastructure, streets, sewers and water mains, need replacement yet the financial resources continue to contract. The housing stock has many unappealing units to the current generation. Many people entering the city need extensive social services. Though the challenges are daunting they can be successfully overcome.

The city must change if it is to meet these challenges. The first need is to modernize and professionalize its government. Lakewood has been blessed with many able members of Council and Mayors. However, this is no guarantee that such shall continue. And even if such happenstance continued, we need to increase the capability and capacity of government. This requires changing the form of government and hiring a professional municipal executive. A professional government provides a greatly increased capability by both empowering local leadership and acquiring national talent. The change infuses a collective local leadership that can tap appropriate skills and competencies by hiring an experienced and professional executive.

Under the current system of government, citizens elect both a council of seven members and a mayor. Both serve four (4) year terms. The Office of Mayor has no qualifications and requires only that any person seeking the office be a qualified elector and a resident. (In the quaint language of the Ohio Revised Code a voter is called an elector.) It is doubtful that election can secure the necessary skills and experience needed for an effective municipal executive. This simple fact is why all other public services such as education and the library hire an executive. In light of the growing challenges facing the city, we have simply outgrown the dated system of electing a mayor. The city needs to change how it conducts business and create a process of obtaining the necessary talent for executive leadership through a locally driven hiring process.

The Council-Manager form of government has the local council hire a city manager who serves as the municipal executive. The city manager serves at the pleasure of the local council, giving them the opportunity to assess his or her work and even remove him or her if the job is not being done well. The hiring process is an opportunity for the city to determine where it wants to go in the future and to find an executive who can help achieve that goal. Each of these will be explained in more detail. The system combines local leadership with national talent. This is increasingly necessary as we face mounting challenges.

The current structure of Lakewood City Council is sufficient for a city manager system. Citizens vote for a majority of the Council, electing one member from each of four (4) wards and three (3) at large. Thus, each citizen votes for a majority of Council, four (4) out of the seven (7) members. This arrangement works well and does not need to be changed.

The Council members are the representatives of the citizens. As the representatives they need to determine what the city should be doing and oversee the completion of the necessary tasks. This should be ongoing process and involve as many citizens, groups and organizations as possible. As the Council is a part-time body, which enables it to represent more faithfully

a conflict can result from a politically ambitious mayor who sometimes can thwart a part-time council. Voters lack the necessary information to hold the mayor accountable for the daily conduct of city business. Yet how the daily business is conducted determines to a great extent the quality of life in the community. By the council hiring a city manager it can hold the manager accountable for the conduct of government.

Career dynamics also hold city managers accountable. A mayor may want publicity so he or she can run for further office. In the election for the higher office, and even in a re-election, how government was conducted is seldom a major issue. Thus, a mayor may not be held accountable for how gov-

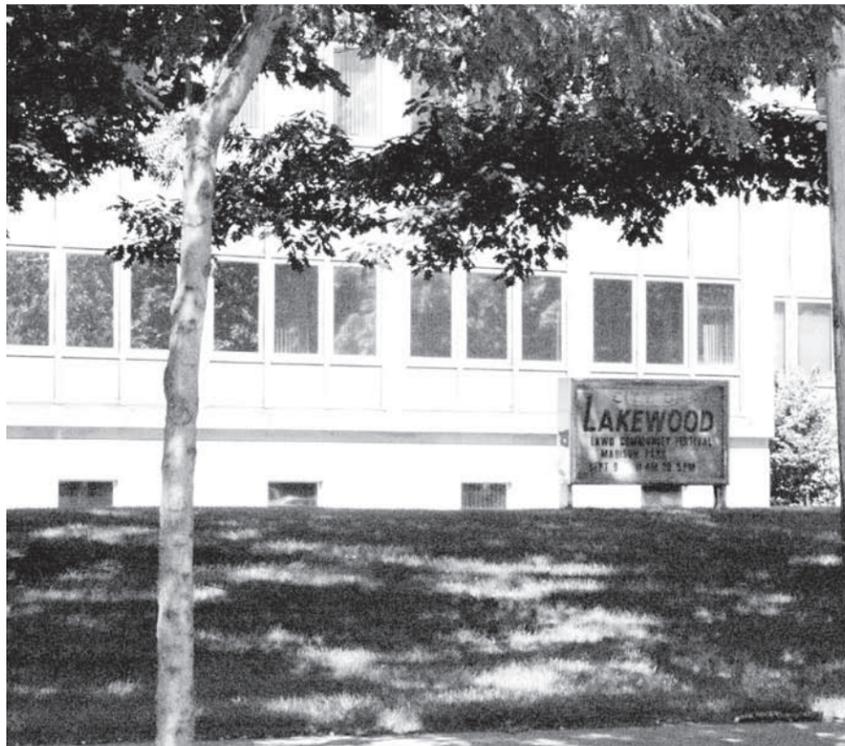
addition, the council can use a citizen advisory committee to help in the process. This empowers citizens far beyond a mere vote for a mayor. The interviewing of the final choices for city manager will not only be open to the public but ideally broadcast over television and available on the city website. Of course, any part of the interviewing process that deals with specifics about the actual appointment will be held in executive session. The public portion deals with the community, the nature of its problems and proposed solutions. This process educates the community as they can hear from professional executives who have faced the problems Lakewood now faces. This is a community dialogue which informs citizens more fully and effectively than does a political campaign. The dialogue is driven by local leaders but informed by professionals dedicated to honest and effective government.

An important effect of hiring a professional municipal executive from outside the local system is the elevation of the political process. The professional by being selected in a rigorous and open hiring process, ideally involving many in the community, brings a level of respect to the table. This helps to elevate the behavior of all in government and even in the community. Professionalizing government is not only bringing more appropriate knowledge to the process but, perhaps just as important, a commitment to basic constitutional values around citizenship in the fullest sense.

City managers in light of their professional experience and knowledge do command higher salaries than a mayor. As with hiring any professional assistance, from a school superintendent to a personal attorney, quality has a price. And as with the assistance of any type of professional, the resulting outcome is better than what would have occurred without the professional help. City managers have historically saved cities considerable money by providing more efficient services and sustaining a more professional attitude in all employees.

For these and other reasons, the last Lakewood Charter Review Commission recommended that the community open a dialogue on changing the form of government. The Commission even developed a Charter with the Council-Manager form of government. The Charter is available on the Lakewood Library website.

Time is now working against Lakewood. For much of its first one hundred years Lakewood prospered as Cleveland and the region prospered. During such times the state of government was not critical. Now, in the face of increasing challenges, Lakewood must improve government. The time to change is now and to begin building a better future for our community.



the citizens by not being a full-time political job, the Council requires professional assistance. The city manager system provides that help by empowering the Council to hire a professional executive with the appropriate skills and talents to achieve the city's goals. As the city manager serves at their pleasure, he or she is held accountable to the Council yet empowered to direct the running of the day to day government.

The city manager is a professional executive as all belong to a professional organization, the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). ICMA has a strict Code of Ethics, calling city managers to honesty, integrity and fairness in their actions. ICMA also promotes and sometimes directly provides professional training. Thus, a city manager brings to the city both an ethical commitment and professional knowledge. Additionally, for a city the size of Lakewood, a city manager would have executive experience in one or more other cities. As the city manager is hired by the Council, the manager must work with him or her. Often mayors and councils become antagonistic as each has its own source of authority. For example,

ernment is conducted. In contrast, a city manager has no political ambition. City managers spend their careers helping to govern cities professionally. If a city manager attempts to move to another city, the council in that city will contact the current council to ascertain how the manager performed. This holds city managers directly accountable for how they operate.

The hiring process is an opportunity for a community to do soul searching about its current situation and its future aspirations. Council can create a process and gather input about the major problems and future possibilities from citizens, organizations and even research. This information can then be used to determine what type of municipal executive would best serve the city. The council can then write a job description and advertise nationally for the right type of municipal executive.

Be dealing with the resulting applications, council can be educated more fully about the problems of the city and how other cities have dealt with such problems. They will be hearing from municipal executives who have had experiences relevant to Lakewood's current situation. In

Lakewood Sports

New Head Coach Hopes To Lead LHS Soccer Team To Third Title

By Todd Shapiro

Being a high school soccer coach often requires the coaching skills of Bruce Arena and the diplomatic skills of Kofi Annan. Lakewood High School's new boys' soccer coach, Bill Rabel will need to use all of those skills if the Rangers are to win their third consecutive Lake Erie League title.

Rabel, who was an all-state player at Warren JFK high school, will command a team that returns just one starter from last year's district championship club and has student-athletes from six nations on four continents. Merging such a diverse unit into a cohesive team is easy, according to coach Rabel. "That's the beauty of soccer, it's universal. Everybody plays it, so the game transcends any cultural or language barriers."

What may be harder for the Rangers to overcome is the lack of experience on this year's club. Senior co-captain Shayne Moravcic is the lone returning starter. Despite losing 10 starters to graduation, Coach Rabel is quick to point out that he does not view this season as a rebuilding year and he marveled at how quickly the team grew together during a 10-day team mini-camp earlier this summer. "We're the two time defending LEL champions; it is still our conference to lose."

The strong point of this year's Lakewood team will be the defense. Junior defenseman Ardjan Bako will be the leader of that defensive unit. Alongside Bako will be seniors John Marshall and Andi Sulovari. Sulovari played soccer as a sophomore before taking off his junior season to concentrate on basketball. Marshall will make up for his lack of experience by being an intimidating physical force in front of the Rangers' goal. "John is rock solid,

he could start on most football teams," Rabel said. Junior Matthew Walker will handle the goalkeeping duties for the Rangers. Although he is untested on the varsity level Walker is a tremendous athlete who Rabel feels could be one the areas better keepers by seasons end.

When Lakewood goes on the attack, look for Co-captain Veton Esati to guide the offense from the midfield position. Senior forward Kristi Pularbori should be one of the Ranger top goal scores this season.

If the Rangers are successful in defending the league crown, much of the credit should go to the Lakewood Soccer Association. According to Rabel, the association has been invaluable in promoting the growth of soccer in Lakewood. In addition to organizing youth teams, the association also promotes parental and community involvement in the sport.

In his first season at the helm of the Rangers, Rabel, formerly Lakewood High School's assistant coach, has easily adjusted to the pressures of being the head man. "The transition has been easy; the toughest thing is dealing with the background stuff and the paperwork."

The Rangers non-league schedule is among the toughest in the area. Next Saturday, Lakewood travels to Westlake to face a Demons club led by goalkeeper Alex Field. Field recorded 12 shutouts in 19 starts last season. After the LEL portion of the schedule ends, the Rangers will travel to take on perennial power Solon and two-time defending state champion and unofficial national champion St. Ignatius.

The biggest game of the regular season remains neighborhood rival St. Edward. The Eagles travel to Lakewood Stadium on Saturday Sep-



Photo & Text by Ivor Karabatkovic

Shayne Mravcic prepares to take a shot at the goal and barely misses the far upper 90 corner. A dirty and unsportsmanlike way of playing from the North Royalton HS team and bad officiating beat the Rangers in their home opener 2-0. The Rangers out-hustled and out-played NRHS on every play, but it wasn't enough to walk away the winners.

tember 30 for a 3 p.m. kickoff. "The St. Ed's game is always a lot of fun. The kids know each other and it is a great rivalry," Rabel said.

Lakewood is currently in the midst of a three-game home stand, the longest of the year. The Rangers take on Shaker Heights Wednesday September 6 at 7 p.m. and Mentor Monday September 11 at 7 p.m. Home games are played at Lakewood Stadium.

Regardless of whether this year's team can match the successes of the 2005 team, Coach Rabel is hoping to build a program at Lakewood that will be the envy of neighboring communities. "Lakewood is a unique community and that helps the soccer team. I have been impressed with how hard these boys work," Rabel said. "I would not want any other job in the world."

Swimmers Prepare to Make a Splash

By Kevin Harrod

Summer is the time of the year when hot weather drives people to the pool. The summer is also the time when the swimmers of the Lakewood Recreation Swim Team burn up the pool. They train at Foster Pool from 5:45 AM to 7:45 AM every morning. Training and competitions take place in 50 meter pools, which is also the length of most international competitions including the Olympics. In addition to training for meets which occur on weekends, LRST's many high school swimmers use the summer as a way to stay in shape or to improve their conditioning. Another exciting aspect of summer training is that former LRST swimmers who now compete in college come back to train with LRST. Their presence and work ethic are a great influence on all the younger swimmers.

LRST sent seven swimmers to compete at the 2006 Speedo Champions Series in Bloomington, Indiana on the campus of Indiana University.



LRST 14 & Under Championship Team.

Leading the way for LRST was Ohio State sophomore Mike Kordel. He finished in two races, placing 15th in the 50 meter freestyle and 17th in the 100 meter freestyle. Also swimming and getting best times were Maura Anderson, Neil Anderson, Made-

leine Kete, Courtney Moran, Kelsey Moran, and Chris Rouchard. LRST also qualified two women's relays for the meet.

Once again, LRST's age group swimmers distinguished themselves with standout performances at every

level of competition. Elizabeth Auckley, Colleen and Ellen Hutchinson were at the top of the group. All three qualified for the 2006 Central Zone Championships, which took place in Indianapolis, Indiana. The zone meet is the highest level of competition for swimmers aged 12 and under. Auckley qualified in the 50 meter butterfly, Colleen Hutchinson made her second zone team, qualifying in the 100 meter breaststroke, while her sister Ellen made it in both the 50 and 100 meter backstrokes. The three girls also helped LRST place 8th overall at Lake Erie Swimming's 14 and Under Championships.

Outstanding swims from Mason Beck (1st in boys 8 and under 50 and 100 meter freestyles), Kayla Eland, Oliver Geiger, Jack Hutchinson, Uday Manchanda, Daniel Parris, Zoe Parris, and Taylor Wohlfel helped LRST to its great finish. Other age group swimmers who excelled during the summer include Andy and Lisa Peng, Shawn Sovie, Grace Lazos, Sarah Neff, and Gabby Hughes.

Lakewood Sports

Ranger Gridders Win Season Opener

By Mike Deneen

During August practice, Lakewood Head Coach Jim Slagle stressed the importance of his team getting off to a good start in 2006. So far, so good. On Friday, August 25 Lakewood won its opening game 14-9 at Finnie Stadium in Berea.

The Rangers win was due to a great defensive performance. Among the outstanding performers on the Ranger defense were Joe Lucko and J.P. Varzelle. Fullback Nicco Maddaluna carried the ball 30 times for 161 yards and one touchdown. Mike Harrington had 44 yards on 8 carries. Quarterback Jim Guzay made the plays he needed to, finishing with one touchdown pass.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Rangers caught a break when Berea snapped the ball over the punters head, giving the ball to Lakewood on Berea's 15 yard line. On the first offensive play, Jim Guzay tossed a 15 yard touchdown to James Colman to put Lakewood up 7-0 with 11:34 left in the first half.



The defense continued to hold the lead, thanks to some hard hits put on the Braves by Ranger linebacker Joe Lucko. However, things nearly went awry when Lakewood snapped the ball over its punter's head, giving the ball to Berea on the Ranger 4 yard line. Remarkably, the Ranger defense failed to fold, and forced the Braves to kick a field goal with 58 seconds left in the first half. Lucko and fellow linebacker Gehad Suleiman each had

big tackles for losses on the goal line stand.

Early in the 3rd quarter, it looked like Lakewood might revert to its losing 2005 form. After holding the Braves in check for the first half, the defense surrendered a touchdown on a one-play, 75 yard drive that put Berea up 9-7 with 7:52 left in the third.

However, the Ranger offense asserted itself late behind the running of Nicco Maddaluna. The punishing

runner wore down the Braves defense, and scored on a 17 yard touchdown run with less than a minute left in the third quarter.

The Rangers controlled the tempo in the fourth quarter, never giving up a first down the rest of the way. However, the offense failed to score insurance points due to two turnovers deep in Berea territory. The Rangers prevail with a 14-9 win, making it 1-0 in the new season.

Lakewood Girls X-C Preview A Look At The Runnin' Lady Rangers

By Michael Andreani

As the school year begins many of Lakewood's fine Lady Ranger athletes take to the courts, fields and courses in preparation for the fall sports season. All the teams are working hard and hoping for injury-free seasons, winning records and Lake Erie League Championships in the last year of the league.

The Girls Cross Country squad is one of those teams. The girls, who placed 3rd in the LEL championship last year, look to improve this year. Last year they finished behind strong teams from Mentor and Euclid both of whom had older teams last year. The Lady Rangers, however, lost only 2 of their top 10 runners from last year and have a talented class of 18 seniors. Led by Senior Co-Captains Jordan Hoile, Amy Kermode and Barbara Summers,

the runners are preparing to have a successful season. "I hope the girls can all improve every week and have a fun season," stated Captain Jordan Hoile. "And we'd really like to beat Mentor this year," Hoile added.

In addition to the large senior class, the team will look for big seasons by some younger runners. Junior Daniella Beltran and Sophomore Hannah Evans hope to improve on good seasons in 2005 and Freshman Rebecca Hartsel could help the team right away.

Another team goal is to advance to the regional meet in Tiffin, Ohio. The Lady Rangers placed 8th last year in the difficult Northeast District meet held at Lorain County Community College, where the top four teams advance to the Regional meet. Getting one of those coveted four spots is extremely difficult, but the girls are ready and hungry.

The girls are coming off of their first meet, the Lakewood Quad meet which was held at Edgewater Park on August 22. The girls ran hard all the way through the tape to finish 3rd behind perennial Regional powerhouses Magnificat and St. Joseph's Academy. The finish was a good way to get the ball rolling as the team heads into its invitational meet schedule.

Come out and support Lakewood's Lady Rangers Saturday September 9th at Brecksville-Broadview Heights high school for the Bee's Invitational meet and continue to support all Lakewood sports teams this season. GO RANGERS!!

Lakewood Congregational United Church of Christ

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Invites you to beginnings:

The beginning of our new church year
and the beginning of our new
Christian Education program

Free Picnic follows worship
Sunday, September 10th, 10:00am

We are a community of faith
which seeks to welcome and nurture
ALL people who seek to deepen their
relationship with God.

LHS Events Calendar

Wednesday September 13

LHS PARENTS OPEN HOUSE at 7 pm

Parents are encouraged to attend to learn more about their student's classes and opportunities at LHS. Student Activities, Clubs and Organizations will have tables for parents to browse during breaks and after they follow their student's schedule.

Saturday September 16

LHS RANGER INVITATIONAL

MARCHING

BAND FESTIVAL

7 pm LHS Stadium

Featuring Marching Bands from Brookside, Brecksville- Broadview Hts., Rocky River, Vermilion, Twinsburg, Painesville Riverside, West

Geauga, Westlake and Lakewood High Schools. Special Guests: University of Akron Marching Band will also perform. Cost: Adults \$6, Senior Citizens and Students: \$4, Students 5-12: \$2 and Preschoolers: Free. Questions: Brian Maskow 216.227.5980

Monday September 18

POWDER PUFF FOOTBALL GAME LHS Stadium 6 pm

Grade 9 vs. 10 and Grade 11 vs. 12 Girls play football and the boys cheer them on!

Wednesday September 20

SPIRIT PARADE from Lakewood Park to the HS Stadium

Leaving Lakewood Park at 7 pm to march to the HS. The community is invited to come out to support the students as they march with their athletic teams, clubs and school organizations. Following that parade there will be a pep rally at the HS Stadium.

Friday September 22

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME

vs. Lorain Southview 7 pm

The game will begin after the announcement of the Homecoming King & Queen. The community is invited to come out to see the Ranger Football team take on the Southview Saints and the Marching Band halftime show.

Cox Communications To Feature LHS Football "Game Of The Week" On Demand

9-22
10-6

Southview @ Lakewood
Lakewood @ Euclid

7:30
7:30



Lakewood Sports

Ranger Volleyball Season Preview

By Todd Shapiro

Basketball players dream about the month of March, Indy Car drivers dream about the month of May, Lakewood High School volleyball players dream about the month of November.

The Rangers girl's volleyball team knows that November volleyball equals Regional tournament play. For the past two seasons the Rangers have been stopped one step short of the Regional Tournament. This year they feel their time has come.

Senior co-captain Kayla Kovach, a four-year starter for the Rangers, said the team has two goals going into the 2006 season: "Bring home another Lake Erie League title and finally get past district finals."

With eight returning players from last years 21-4 team the Rangers have both the experience and the senior leadership necessary to advance to the next level. Head Coach Brigid Arbezink agrees that this year's unit possesses the ingredients needed for another successful season.

"I told the girls I was only keeping players who wanted to be here and wanted to win," Arbezink said. "I think the girls we have now have the will to win."

The Rangers' non-league schedule features some of the toughest competition in the area: Division II runner-up Walsh Jesuit, Beaumont, 20-game winner Independence and the Rocky River Invitational featuring Rocky River and Magnificat. It is a tough line-up, but by tournament time, the Rangers will be battle-tested.

"We might take our lumps early



Senior Kali Koz spikes the ball hard into a waiting Clearview defense in their second match on Sat. 8/26



this season, but we will be prepared for districts," Arbezink said.

Two keys to success for the Rangers this fall will be the play of sisters Katie and Clare Kmieck. The sisters, identical twins, are leaders for Lakewood both on and off the court.

Katie, the taller of the two at 5'8", is a four-year starter who already holds

the school record for assists with 697. Arbezink said Katie is also a leader off the court and that her maturity and dedication to improving her game serve as examples to the younger girls in the program.

Clare, the Rangers defensive captain, runs the Lakewood defense from the libero position. Clare said that as a

senior she is more comfortable with a leadership position on the team.

"Coach tells me to correct the new players in practice. I try to give them as much input as possible," she said.

According to Clare, as long as the defensive unit learns to trust each other and brings a lot of energy to the floor, the Rangers have the ability to defeat anyone on their schedule.

The Rangers are also counting on big seasons from outside hitters Kali Koz and Chelsea Mason. Middle hitter Katharine Sroka, a 5-9 senior, should also make an important contribution to the team.

With the LEL realigning the volleyball divisions in its final season, Lakewood will face a stiff challenge in defending its league crown. In addition to perennial rival Mentor, Lorain Southview and Garfield Heights have been added to the Rangers division, while Cleveland Heights and Lorain Admiral King moved down to the LEL's lower division.

The Rangers open their season Saturday with a tri-meet against Beaumont and Lorain Clearview at 10 am. The league portion of the schedule won't begin until after Labor Day when the Panthers of Euclid come to Lakewood on Thursday, September 7. Other highlights of the home schedule include a September 21 showdown against Mentor and an October 7 tri-meet with North Olmsted and Brookside.

Even before the Rangers find out what November has in store, this year's team has left a positive impression on coach Arbezink. "This is a good group to be around. They make it fun to come to practice," she said.

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Lakewood Car Ku

Lakewood's Newest Street Festival Comes Of Age Car Show Draws 10,000

Thanks to: The Lakewood Observer, Cox Communications, A. Graph Society, The Beverage Square, all Madison Ave. Businesses, Jak Prints, Photos by Rhonda Loje, David Lay, Kit Hoffert, Debra



By 1:00pm it was getting pretty tight, as Jerry Koenigsmark tries to fit a couple more in.



Hot rodders ready to rock out.



Dave Zima from Parma loved hanging out with his car in Lakewood for the day.



Chris Trapp moved outside of bella dubby for a change with his future father-in-law.



Over 350 photos online from this landmark event that has found it's grove.



Flames were everywhere.



Padded dash, we don't need no stinkin...

August 26th saw Madison Avenue once again get transported back in time as Jerry and Ruthie Koenigsmark (and family), members of The Lakewood Observer and Lakewood Motoring Society worked hand in hand with Melissa Garrett, Tony Beno and members of Lakewood Public Works to put on the 4th Annual Lakewood Car Kulture Show.

While most of the local media rewrote old stories about the aged punk rocker Chris Andrews who put on the first show with Jerry Koenigsmark, then bailed. Lakewoodites know it was the tireless efforts of the Koenigsmark family that has taken Lakewood's Annual

Hot-Rod, Rockabilly-Tattoo-Custom Car Party in the Streets to national levels.

As the cars lined up to get in at 11:00am, the organizers looked at each other, the sky, then high-fived each other. It would appear the perfect day was at hand. By 2:00pm the streets were packed and Jerry and others were begging the police to move back barriers even another foot or two so that the cars could get in. Almost 260 of the midwest's finest hotrods, classic cars and motorcycles, trucks and vendors had filled the streets.

Madison Square Beverage was overwhelmed, but in the spirit gave up half of their parking lot on their busiest day.



People's Choice Winner, Richard and Mary Ellis of Lakewood, Ohio get their trophy from Jerry and Ruthie Koenigsmark.



James Coco of Medina, had a blast showing off his mint 1977 Austin Mini.



Ladies & Gentlemen, The Madison Crawl!

photo by Rhonda Loje

Future Show 2006!

And National Attention

ic Solutions, Inc., 252 Tattoo, The Choppers, The Lakewood Motoring
George Kubas and everyone at City Hall and Division of Public works.
O'Bryan, David Lay and staff. 350 more photos online!

Everyone in attendance agreed that while it was one of the great street parties in the region, it needs many more blocks of space. John Carollo who came in to photograph the event for two national publications said, "This is so cool. I know of no other city that allows the residents to shut down a major street and allows the car people to party all day and into the night."

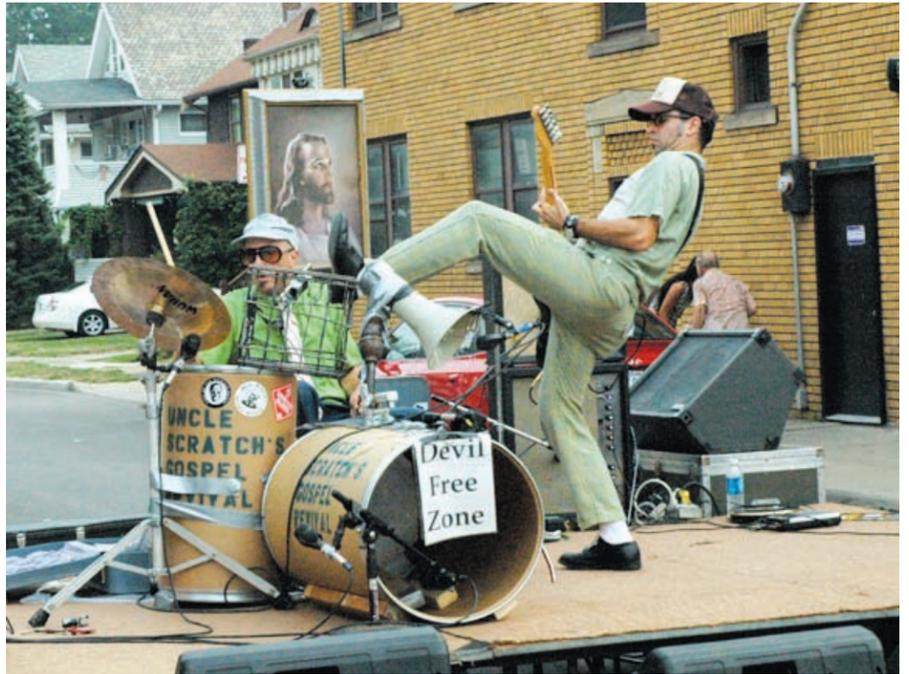
James Coco of Medina who goes to many car shows said, "The show was very enjoyable. Life has many difficult and trying aspects and a nice car show can be a nice way to spend the day."

Party they did to the sounds of Mad-

ison Crawl, The Marauders, Ace Brown and the Helldivers, and St Andrew. Headlining was Lakewood's own Uncle Scratch's Gospel Revival.

By the end of the day there were other winners too. Winning the Mayor's Choice was Grady Thomas, and winning the People's Choice were Lakewoodites Richard and Mary Ellis.

After it was over I sat with the Koenigsmark Family at Bela Dubby enjoying a nice cold Brooklyn Beer planning next year. Next to us was Uncle Scratch who finished his game of Junga, stood up, and declared, "This is now a devil free zone." Now it doesn't get much better than that.



Uncle Scratch's Gospel Revival kicking the Devil in the junk.



Lakewood Kiwanis selling hotdogs and stuff from Pete's Table.



Lakewood Democrats handing out balloon hats for the kids.



Bikers abound!



Burning River Roller Girls.



Mayor's Choice Winner., Grady Thomas, get the trophy treatment from Jerry and Ruthie.



The crowds got there early and stayed late until Uncle Scratch ended the show.



Making a statement, the Pontiac group came in in one long line featuring GTOs, LeMans.



St. Andrew played the Lakewood Observer booth between music at the main stage.



Young and old cars and cars fans were in abundance all day.

Lakewood Observer

Re-introducing Lakewood's Own...Barton Senior Center!

By Kris Griesmar

Barton Senior Center enters a new and exciting future with a new director on board. Jean Anne Finlin has been named to the position, replacing Charlotte Crews, who served for 11 years and retired in May amid much fanfare.

Finlin brings a history of skilled management and innovations from her 20-plus years of experience with the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family services as well as her work with the Lakewood Christian Service Center. She has successfully organized and planned numerous special events and fundraising activities for a variety of organizations. Finlin is active as a volunteer with the Lakewood Christian Service Center and is a member of the Forum for Volunteer Administrators and the Lakewood Advisory Counsel of Hospice of the Western Reserve. She is also a representative on the Community Relations Committee of Lakewood Hospital and has volunteered with the American Red Cross Disaster Services Team, assisting those who have been displaced due to disasters or fires. Living in Lakewood for over 25 years with her children Meghan and Tim, Finlin is familiar with the city, the community and the numerous amenities Lakewood has to offer its residents.

"The Barton Center's outstanding services and enriching programs for



Jean Anne Finlin, Director with Curt Brosky, Managing Director.

'mature persons,' who want to remain active and learn new skills, bring even more incentives to remain in the community and join the 700 members and 300 volunteers," Finlin stated.

Barton Center is an activity center for people 55 and over and is located at 14300 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood on the ground floor of the Westerly Apartments. As a 501(C)(3) non-profit entity, Barton Center is a self-supporting organization that continues to thrive thanks to donations and fundraising events coordinated by those in the community who realize it's enhanced programming and commitment to

seniors is surpassed by no other local organization. The Barton Center opened in 1964 as the first in Ohio, and became a model for many other centers. Today, it is still one of the biggest and best!

According to Finlin, Barton Center is an outstanding organization to join due to the variety of daily activities and events presented. People come to Barton Center from all over Greater Cleveland to meet old friends and make new ones, and to enjoy socials, luncheons, parties, special events and holiday affairs. Others participate in activities, classes, and

programs, or visit the shops. The shops include Hodge Podge, a resale shop, and BookNook, both open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There is also the Corner Store, Greenhouse and Beauty Shop. The Computer Center presents numerous educational and health related programs such as computer classes, book reviews, exercise classes, and ceramics classes. The Wellness Center offers blood pressure testing by Lakewood Hospital nurses, as well as podiatrist visits on a weekly basis. Barton Center truly meets many of the needs of mature adults in the community and is one of the best kept secrets in town!

New members are always welcome at Barton Senior Center. Just contact the Barton Center at 216-221-3400 to set up a time to view and/or participate in an activity before joining. Membership is only \$15.00 per year and includes a copy of Barton Center's monthly newsletter the "Breeze". Individual volunteers and organizational supporters are also welcome to assist with various activities such as helping in the office, assisting with table top bowling, ice cream socials, pancake breakfasts, and special dinners. The Barton Center is here for you, the mature individual who wants more to do.

"Take advantage of us!," says Finlin.

Better Biking in Lakewood: A Progress Report

By Tim Liston

BikeLakewood was founded just this past June to promote Better Biking in Lakewood. I'd like to take some time to update you on our progress to date.

Of course "progress" relates to goals. Right now BikeLakewood has two goals. The first is to get Lakewood city officials and other civic types interested in making Lakewood a better place to bike. This has proven (so far) to be remarkably easy. City Council recently recognized (unanimously) the need to consider the needs of cyclists in its efforts to make Lakewood a better place to live. Check out www.bikelakewood.org for details.

It would appear that Mayor George is also on board with "Better Biking in Lakewood." Mayor George spoke up during the last Council meeting (before summer recess) saying, "the Administration is very anxious to be working with the biking community." After a short discussion, the matter of

biking in Lakewood was referred to the Public Works committee for favorable consideration.

In fact, our initial Public Works committee meeting took place on Monday, August 14th. In attendance were several members of City Council and the administration (Public Works and Engineering), and representatives of BikeLakewood. We spent an hour exchanging ideas relating to the need for short-term bike storage (racks) in Lakewood, discussing the possibility of using "shared lane markings" on certain Lakewood streets, and considering the possibility of moving toward becoming an Ohio Bicycle Federation "Cycling Friendly Community." All told, it was a pretty lively discussion. Our next meeting will be held at the end of this month.

Lakewood Community Progress Inc. (LCPI) is also sympathetic to the goals of BikeLakewood. LCPI was formed (and funded) to make "downtown" Lakewood a better desti-



nation. LCPI President David Shaw and Director Jennifer Hooper have both expressed their support of our goals. BikeLakewood and LCPI are in agreement that our first initiative should be the provision of short-term bicycle parking ("bike racks") in Lakewood's commercial districts. BikeLakewood is already researching cost-effective solutions to Lakewood's short-term bike parking needs.

BikeLakewood has a second near-term goal; that is to gather up the names and e-mail addresses of Lakewood residents who support our goal of Better Biking in Lakewood. It is for that reason that we urge you to review our web site (www.bikelakewood.org) and contact us so that we can keep you apprised of our progress and invite you to participate in our efforts. We will also be participating in upcoming Lakewood events so that residents can learn more about us. The next (first) event will be the Lakewood Community Festival at Madison Park on September 9th. Please stop by, say "hi" and leave us your contact information.

Well that's about all for now. It's only been a couple months since we got started. If you are hoping for really quick results, please be patient. It's more important that we get it right than get it quick.

Ride On!



NA Nickels & Andrade
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The Buck Stops Here

Democracy Is Not Their Concern

Stranger rides in from out of town. We know something will happen. Nothing never not happens when the stranger arrives. Either he will save the town or ruin it. (Salvation or corruption are the pole stars.) He will seduce, love or marry the most beautiful woman in town. This is the story of movies, books, sports, politics. Black-and-white crystal-clear. It is also the story of our lives, which is seldom crystal-clear, rarely black and white. The stranger disrupts, but we do not always know who he is nor what he will do. In our world of technology, his horse may be the Internet he rides into town.

The stranger always remains a stranger. "New Hampshire Woman Dies" read an obituary headline in The Burlington [VT] Free Press. She had been born in New Hampshire, her family moved to Vermont when she

By Robert Buckeye

was one, and she had lived 92 years in Vermont before she died. "Don't like the quiet life here, do you?" the father of Dan Berman's high school girl friend in Herbert Gold's novel of Lakewood, Therefore Be Bold, tells him. "Some families five generations, some more. Six ourselves. Originally from Boston, old Amos Masters. Maybe you ought to go to New York, eh? Feel at home there? A one-generation city?"

The stranger has left home and will never find home elsewhere. "Home, John Berger writes, "was the place from which the world could be founded. A home was established, as he says, 'at the heart of the real'...to emigrate is always to dismantle the center of the world, and so to move into a lost, disoriented one of fragments."

The stranger may be valued and

appreciated for what he does (or who he is), but his loyalty always remains doubtful, his status uncertain, his commitment not to be trusted. He was not born here. He came into town. He can always leave. His arrival causes the native to draw lines in the sand. All of a sudden there are rules that were not there before. ("You're in the wrong place, my friend. You better leave.") The home he knows in his heart of hearts that only he can understand the town, and he asserts himself.

The stranger is who we are not. Although we are told we must be individual, the moment we are, truly are, we are seen to be eccentric, strange, if not criminal. "None of his certainties was worth one strand of a woman's hair," Meursault tells a priest in Albert Camus's novel, The Stranger, and his

honest reaction is as much a crime as the one he is accused of.

The stranger is us. The world-wide economy has undone so many this past century, shut or opened doors, moved us along, stopped us. We are forced to move. We need to move. We want to move. Life is always better on the other side. Or it is no longer possible to live where we were born. There are 25 of us from Cleveland in my small, New England town of 7000 people.

The stranger is us. We cannot be defeated by Communists, Senator Joseph McCarthy said in the Fifties. We can only be defeated by ourselves, he continued, by those who undermine our resolve from within. It is always the argument of those who want everyone to be like them. (Be like Mike the marketing slogan used to say.) Dissent is a crime. That it is the basis of democracy is not their concern.

Do You Have A Monument On Your Street?



By John Ewing

No, these are not burial monuments but physical markers used in locating physical positions in the city. They must be precisely located so that surveyors can locate city infrastructures. They are also the basis for maps and grids. The data must be archived. These monuments can sometimes be located in the middle of a newly paved street by a black outlined diamond enclosing a round iron plate with the letter M in the middle. Older monuments are made of stone.

Maps usually denote physical locations on the surface of the earth. They come in various forms but no map, except that on the surface of a globe, can truly map the surface of our earth. Therefore, maps representing physical locations and laid out in a flat plane must be compromised.

Accurate location of a point on the surface of the earth can be attained by several different means. The geodesic coordinates of a point are designated as Latitude, Longitude, and Radius. The history of our ability to measure these coordinates is a long one. Instruments had to be developed with sufficient accuracy to enable us to measure using the sun and the stars. Celestial Survey-

ing was one answer. In W.W. II Loran was developed. More recently, instruments that are more accurate came along in the form of GPS (the Geodesic Position System). GPS depends on accurately positioned satellites and atomic clocks to establish its accuracy.

In 1930, the state of Ohio initiated a flat plane set of coordinates, Northing and Eastings, for Northern Ohio with sufficient accuracy to satisfy surveyors. It was designated "Ohio North plane 3401."

In 1997, the city map of Lakewood was augmented by Aerial photography (Orthophoto Photography). This data provided details of streets, houses, rail lines, etc. The accuracy was not sufficient for surveying work.

In 1999, the firm of KS and Associates was hired to establish 43 control points in the City of Lakewood using GPS equipment with an accuracy of several inches. These points were to be correlated with the State Plain Grid #3401 to establish the geographical grid for the City of Lakewood. The data is contained in two reports by KS Associates: "City of Lakewood 1999-2000 Geodesic Control Survey Record" and "City of Lakewood 1999-2000 Geodesic Network Survey Procedure Manual."

This data along with previous data has been integrated and placed on the computer using an "AutoCAD" drafting program. The data can be easily accessed and updated. The geographical orientation, distance, and angular accuracy is outstanding. In addition to plane coordinates (x,y), the data can easily be converted to Geodesic coordinates (Latitude, Longitude). As a result, Lakewood is well mapped and gridded.

This data provides accurate interface with adjoining municipali-

ties and accurate data for locating infrastructures like roads, gas lines, sewers, and water lines. A big use is in writing contracts for contractors doing business with the City. In the future, it will be used for establishing

property boundaries. All the data is available at City Hall.

Lakewood is up-to-date. I want to thank City engineer Joe O'Donnell and John Schofield for all the help they have given me.

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Julie's Place - Gift of Love

By Emmie Hutchinson

The attention to artistic detail is apparent upon entering Lakewood Phoenix Cafe. The walls host rotating displays of local artists, the glass light covers were made at Cleveland's Glass Bubble Project, the floor and doorway mosaics, tables and counters were made by owners Julie and Bobby Breitenstein. If you spend any time at the cafe, you could see that it's a place where books are lent, newspapers are shared and laptops are almost always taking advantage of Phoenix's WiFi connection. If you visit during the evening, Phoenix also supports a rich, often collaborative musical scene.

It is in this spirit of musical fellowship that the CD Julie's Place was created. It is the brain-child of Gary Hoopengardener, long-time customer and performer. Gary first had the idea for a song titled "Julie's Place" over a year ago while playing in the store; it would tell the story of the soul of a place dear to him. He then extended the idea to recording an entire disc of songs created and performed by some of the regular musicians at Phoenix. The result is a lovely 16 track disc full of songs that feature playing and singing in the folk, blues and songwriter traditions.

All recording was done at the Lava Room on West 80th, engineered and produced by John Walsh. All graphic design for the cover, disc and liner notes was done by Jim O'Bryan. Gary wrote many of the songs on the disc, including the title track which is performed by Tuesday night open mic host (and AMAZING musician), the ubiquitous XELA. Also featured are Mark Ronan and Jack Mizenko; Mark and Jack play acoustic covers and originals every Monday night. They invite anyone to join them and have been accompanied by banjo, flute hand drums and the vocals of absolutely everyone present. Rebecca Wohlever and Lindsay Sandine each wrote two



songs which showcase their writing talent and strong, distinctive voices. Other performers include Gary's collaborator, Gregg Westlake, as well as Mike Hoffman, Sam Phillips, Monica Velonic Ruthann Williams and Jeremy Hutchison. The Lava Room Recording Studio was full of Phoenix folks doing what they do best, hanging around and playing great music.

The story of Julie's Place doesn't end with the production of the disc. When Gary heard a rumor that the store might expand, he knew that sales of the disc would make a great fundraiser. The CD is available at Lakewood Phoenix for \$15, soon to be available at all Phoenix cafes. Gary and crew, plus many others, have been working on a video that uses all the songs plus dialogue and the story of putting the disc together. It is produced by All Media Creation and will also be available for sale.

If you have enjoyed this community and feel thankful for its existence, or if you are curious about a place where coffee is served, meetings are held, dialogue is ongoing, creativity and energy are charged and, of course, music is precious, then consider stopping by Phoenix and picking up a copy of Julie's Place. By all means, stop by Monday or Tuesday or select other evenings and check out the collective music experiences that inspired a disc.

The Pulse Of The City

No Child Left Behind . . . Or Else!

By Gary Rice

Since the founding of our country, America has taken an interest in the education of her children. Even back in Ohio's pioneer days, a part of every community had a tract of land available for public education. These were generally one-room schoolhouses, having eight grades sitting in rows, with a recitation bench at the front of the room. A pot-bellied stove usually kept things habitable during the long winter months, although children near the stove generally roasted, and those farther away nearly froze to death. In the summer, of course, children stayed at home to help their families with the farming and housework.

Still, there was no question that a good education transpired back then. William McGuffey was a professor at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and he developed a series of sequential readers for children. McGuffey's readers came out in 1836 (the year that the Alamo fell!) and soon dominated American reading education. Beginning with the primer, the series proceeded through many reading and spelling lessons and stories that built effective reading skills, often intertwined with moral and patriotic themes.

Teachers often taught with minimal equipment or visual aids. At times, slates and chalk were used by the children for their answers, as were hornbooks, quill pens, and inkwells. Punishments were severe on occasion, but were generally fair, and virtually always supported by the parents.

From the beginning, however, there were those who were uncomfortable with America's system of free public education. Catholics started their own schools, feeling that the public schools imparted too much of a Protestant value system. Others resisted education because they wanted their children home to work or to take care of younger children. Relatively few children planned to go to school beyond the eighth grade. Often, there was a daunting eighth grade test to pass before a diploma could be awarded.

Also, there was serious disagreement at times as to what exactly should be taught to our children. Those of you who think that the creation vs. evolution argument is a new one would be surprised to learn that Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan argued these positions during the Tennessee Scopes trial way back in 1925.

Essentially, education advocates have either taken progressive or conservative viewpoints, leaving little room for compromise. Conservatives argue

that values need to be addressed and social and even religious norms should be supported by educators. They also frequently take a dim view of controversial topics, like sex education and do-your-own-thing coursework. They often are the supporters of the core subjects, as well as rigid regimentation, even to the point of enforced school uniforms and rigid standards.

Progressives, on the other hand, often feel that conservatives impede progress. They generally support sex education, evolution, and a more diverse and open curriculum responding to a diverse population. They would probably favor keeping religion separate from the classroom as well, due to the many faiths present in the public schools.

Unfortunately, in the last few years, parents, educators, and politicians have brought the culture wars into the classroom. Science curriculums continually resound with the creation/evolution debate. English classrooms deal with colloquial vernacular issues, and everybody deals with the proficiency tests.

A few years ago, in a bi-partisan action, the Federal "No Child Left Behind" law was passed. On its face, the law appeared to address many of the concerns in the American classroom. Additional, but arguably inadequate, monies were allotted amid hopes that educational quality would improve for all children.

With the new federal and state mandates came more rules. The State of Ohio initiated "Standards Based" academic education, as well as an annual testing program. This testing, along with improvement rates, became the crucial part of the overall evaluation process for the schools, the other two measurements being attendance and graduation rates. By now, you've probably heard that Lakewood Public Schools dropped this year from "effective" to "continuous improvement." What, exactly, does this mean? Well, all it really means is that our schools were measured only by tests administered, adequate yearly progress, graduation rate, and attendance rate. Period. Allowances for a myriad of other variables were simply not considered.

Now, proponents of "No Child Left Behind" would argue that the bar for excellence has been raised to the point where more students than ever are experiencing success. Unfortunately, however, many children have been unable to compete at this higher

expectancy, and have dropped out and turned to the streets. Asking all students to go through the same "cattle chute" in education at the same time in their lives has often brought an undue burden on the learning-disabled and on children with limited English abilities or severe economic disadvantages.

It can be hard to do homework if you have to look after your brothers and sisters, or lie awake at night, making sure the rats don't nibble on your toes. If you recently came from some bombed-out country and know little English, let alone the fact that you might never have been to school due to being in a refugee camp for years, how can you be expected to keep up with your studies as well? The government does make some allowances for these types of things, but in my opinion, these are superficial and inadequate efforts.

In fact, in my opinion, much of school continues to be superficial and inadequate. Take, for example, this notion that all children should be forced through the same cattle-chute of expectations. Do most people really need to know Plane Geometry? Scatter plots? Algebra? Trigonometry? Calculus? All the state capitals? And who, in their right mind, would ever need to have Chemistry's Periodic Table of the Elements memorized? Do you remember some of those books they made you read? Have you seen some of the books that some schools are having children read today? Gag. Give me a break.

I have an honors cum laude university degree, and I've had to attend post-graduate classes for years to update my certificates. If you ask me how much of this academic regimen I have been able to apply, either in my life or in my teaching profession, I would have to say: Darned little.

By the second grade, I could read just about anything. Heck, I read Shirer's Rise and Fall of the Third Reich in the third grade. By the fifth grade, I could write about as well as I do now. The only improvements would come with vocabulary and life's experiences. I learned all the math I would ever need by the sixth grade, except for the rudimentary algebra and geometry learned in high school that I could help my students with later.

About the only other things I remember learning in the middle and high school grades were how to fight and survive the other students and how to endure the repetitious bore-

dom of the American classroom.

There were a few good teachers, and a few good classes, of course. Dad taught my band and orchestra classes at Harding. Mr. Silverman did a good job with opening up the world beyond the classroom to me in his Social Studies classes at Harding, and at the high school.

Many of the rest of my experiences, and particularly some in my college years, could only be described as a useless Hell, or at least a form of pugnacious purgatory. Virtually nothing that I was presented with in higher education (with a few notable exceptions) prepared me for my first fifteen minutes as a classroom teacher.

As you can tell, after thirty-one years in education, teaching children with special needs, I've come to a few opinionated conclusions regarding our schools. We need to be more flexible, compassionate and responsive to our children. A Math teacher recently complained to me that there was no time to teach for mastery. He could only cover content superficially, moving from topic to topic, whether kids got the concepts or not. Music, Home Skills, Art, and Industrial Education teachers often feel marginalized, as their subjects no longer "count" in the evaluation of a school.

Academic tests, attendance, and graduation rates are the only measurements presently being used to rate our schools, and there are huge questions, in my mind at least, about how accurate they are and how much they address the needs of the exceptional populations.

In the eighth grade, a child may not be able to analyze the iambic pentameter of Lord Byron's "Sonnet on Chillon," but he or she might do well on the trumpet, or with some project down in the shop class. Measure that... and you might get closer to effective educational outcomes.

To try to force all children into a collegiate academic regimen is simply a failure to recognize and respond to the many needs and diverse talents that all children have. All children can indeed learn, but there are a great many things to learn. Vocational programs need to be updated and academic diversity encouraged, so that no child will truly ever be left behind.

Oh yeah...maybe it would be well for us all to read "Sonnet on Chillon" one more time. Particularly the part where it says:

Eternal Spirit of the chainless Mind! Brightest in dungeons, Liberty, thou art:--For there thy habitation is the heart,--



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Minding The Issues

Bush (Again), Iraq, Terrorism – and Lieberman

By Gordon Brumm

“He’s a good family man, a pillar of his church, and a solid supporter of good causes in the community. So why is everyone so upset just because he’s a serial killer?”

This analogy comes to my mind when I hear supporters of Senator Joseph Lieberman argue against his critics. Lieberman, the supporters point out, has strong liberal credentials but is a moderate who can work with Republicans, in particular the Bush administration. This is all true, but it counts as nothing against the fact that Lieberman backed Bush in the invasion of Iraq and has never recanted or apologized.

For the Iraq War is an evil that towers above all other issues of the past five years. It has caused immeasurable harm and has drained almost every other government effort. Like a cancer, it has metastasized to every area of national policy. Furthermore, it represents the arrogant and narrow-minded outlook that has so often characterized the Bush administration, with disastrous results. So there is ample reason to hold Lieberman accountable for his part in this debacle, and that means rejecting him at the ballot box.

Lieberman’s culpability – and that of others -- is obscured by the very real issue of what we should do now that we are embroiled in Iraq. For Bush partisans, bygones are bygones; they would have us forget that Bush got us into this war. The only question, for them, is whether we “stay the course” or “cut and run.”

In this they are aided by the ambiguity of the term “support the war,” which can mean either being in favor of the decision to invade Iraq or being in favor of continuing our present efforts (not to be confused with “supporting our troops,” which everyone is in favor of). Bush partisans lump these two meanings together and press the question “Do you support the war?” If the fallacious nature of the question is not recognized, the opposition Democrats face a dilemma: They can “support the war” and thus by implication agree with Bush’s decision to invade; or they can refuse to “support the war” and thus appear to be proposing that we

leave and allow Iraq to sink into terrorist-breeding anarchy or civil war.

Bush is like a rebellious teen-ager who has gotten into trouble. His parents deplore his behavior, yet they must support him. This is the fix that Bush has gotten our nation into.

Meanwhile, none of the parties to the controversy address what is perhaps the most important issue of all – what, in view of the Iraq debacle, should our future policy be? So overall there are three issues, and they must be distinguished, notwithstanding Bush’s desire to confuse them:

Was the Iraq War justified?

What should we do now about Iraq?

What should our foreign policy be in the future?

Of these three issues, the second is of the most immediate importance, but seems insoluble. The third is most important overall, and the first is important because it bears on the third: In order to know what we should do in the future, we need to know what we did wrong in the past. But in addition we need a new perspective on the present. We need to realize that 9/11, notwithstanding its horror, did not “make everything different.” Or better, the difference resulting from 9/11 is mainly psychological, not substantial.

Even as I write this, I can hear howls of protest: “How can you possibly deny that everything is different, when we are under the continuous threat of an attack that could duplicate 9/11?”

Well, how does that continuous threat bear on the reality of our situation?

One of the saddest things about the 9/11 attack is that it could have been so easily avoided. A little more alertness at any level of government, a little more cooperation, and the plot would have been foiled, just as the recent plot in England was foiled. The success of the attack was a lucky break for the terrorists, and if success required a lucky break, we know it was not grounded in any basic change in our country’s condition.

So exercise your imagination and consider what our situation would have been if the plot had been foiled. Would the nation’s condition have been any different, merely as a result of our merely learning about the evil plot? I don’t think so.

Please remember that in 1993 there was an attack on the World Trade Center that was not foiled. Terrorists exploded a bomb in the WTC garage, though of course they did not bring the Towers down. That attack was a wakeup call to the terrorist threat we were facing in our own country.

So we were under the same threat before 9/11 as we were afterward, and we were fully aware of that threat. If we had no reason to find the threat all-consuming then (under both the Clinton and Bush administration) why do we have reason now? And if we have no more reason to find the threat all-consuming now than before, how can we say that everything has changed?

We are not in a “war.” (Bush himself implicitly acknowledges this by his refusal to put the nation on a wartime footing.) Rather, we are in a struggle against a massive worldwide criminal conspiracy – or many conspiracies – and this means we must be vigilant, not aggressive. We should take all proper protective measures, including the tapping of phones under proper Congressional and judicial oversight. (It would be even better if we took other obvious steps, such as checking container ships.) But we don’t need to be obsessed by the terrorist threat; we don’t need to let it dominate our judgment.

“Still, the 9/11 attack did happen, and it caused terrible harm. Think of the 3,000 lives lost, and the total destruction of the Towers!”

Destruction of the Twin Towers caused only minimal economic damage to the country as a whole. To be sure, 3,000 lives is a tragic loss. But that number is roughly 7% of the number of people killed in U.S. traffic accidents annually (40,000-plus), and no one has ever suggested an all-consuming “war on traffic accidents.”

In short, the reality of our situation – the actual threat, our actual relation to the world -- is not so different now from what it was before 9/11. The difference is in our perception.

The 9/11 attack occurred with a graphic and dramatic impact that is probably unsurpassed in human history. The nation was traumatized – it was literally struck dumb -- and is still suffering from a sort of post traumatic stress disorder.

In addition to the cultural flashbacks now appearing on the nation’s screens, the symptoms of this post traumatic stress disorder have taken the form of simplistic and superficial thinking as well as a reflexive impulse to answer the extreme blow with the extreme response.

Thus the nation succumbed to

the arrogant, aggressive stupidity of the Bush administration. Bravado and swagger displaced intelligence, in both senses of that term. We forgot the lesson of Vietnam and again blundered into a small country on the assumption that victory was guaranteed by our military might and supposedly superior civilization, in the form of the democracy we intended to install.

The tragic irony is that Bush really might have achieved his goal of installing a model democracy amongst Muslims if he had chosen Afghanistan instead of Iraq. To be sure, Afghanistan is a tough sell, and has been so for more than two centuries, but still in 2002 we had a fighting chance (no pun intended) to modernize and democratize the country. We had the world on our side, and we had just overthrown the unpopular Taliban. With sufficient resources dedicated to the task we probably could have guaranteed security and built many schools and hospitals in a country that desperately needed them. But the Bush administration, by withdrawing most of its troops and much of its aid, in effect cut and ran, leaving Afghanistan to erode into a virulent basket case.

Let’s turn now to the third question: What does the Iraq War tell us about the foreign policy changes we need to make?

First, we must acknowledge that the war was wrong not merely because of tactical errors or errors of mismanagement. More important were the basic errors – and these are the errors we must abjure in the future:

a) Acting unilaterally. We need to partner with other nations for two reasons: to have them as a moral corrective, a reality check on our pretensions – especially in view of the ages-long belief in American exceptionalism. to provide help. The American army and the American budget can’t go it alone.

b) Making simplistic, fatuous, arrogant and ethnocentric estimates about other peoples, in particular the assumption that they crave our democracy or that installing democracy in one country will make it spread throughout the region.

c) Being taken in by over-optimistic and self-serving reports about the country we are about to occupy.

Regardless of our present predicament, to recognize these wrongdoings – and insure they do not happen again – is our strongest imperative.

Finally, we are left with the question as to what to do in Iraq now. As I’ve said previously, this is a problem with no good solution, and if I were the Democrats I would stop trying to find one. Instead, I would throw the problem back into the president’s lap (an irresponsible move if it would mean forgoing a feasible alternative, but there are no feasible alternatives; Bush has seen to that.) I would say “This is your quagmire; you get us out of it.” Or to paraphrase Colin Powell, “You broke it; now you pay for it.”

And that goes for Senator Lieberman as well.



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Chef Geoff

Real Sharp Talk About Knives

By Jeff Endress

A recent vacation found my family in a lovely rental home on the outer banks of North Carolina. The rental brochures had promised a newly redecorated home, a short walk to the beach, with a "gourmet" kitchen. The home was indeed quite lovely, with plenty of room for our family and the Schwinn family from Wooster, but my concern centered on the "gourmet" kitchen. All the major appliances were in place, plenty of ice for frozen drinks in the blender, a new range, microwave and dishwasher. Even the pots and pans were quite serviceable. But, after close inspection, there was a complete absence of a cutting board! How can you have a "gourmet" kitchen without a cutting board? Well, the answer, as it turns out, is quite simple. When no knife in the matched set of Kitchen Aid knives (in block) is sharp enough to cut warm butter, there is no need of a cutting board.

Knives are probably the most overlooked absolute necessities in the kitchen. For years my in-laws subsisted using a conglomerate of old steak knives. Many invest in those beautiful full sets, stored in their matching butcher block, only to delay the maintenance and sharpening of the blades which keeps them useful. And make no mistake about it: the most dangerous tool in a kitchen is a DULL knife. A sharp knife is easily directed and goes where expected with minimal force. This is not to say that a sharp knife doesn't present a danger, especially if used improperly. As an example, a razor sharp 13 inch chef's knife should not be the tool of choice to separate frozen hamburger patties, as demonstrated by the circumference scar on my ring finger. But a dull knife, even when being used for the job for which it was intended, just won't cut cleanly. Additional pressure must be brought to bear and as that dull knife slips from its intended course, we learn that somehow, even if it won't cut a tomato, it can result in stitches.

There are a great many variables in the metal used in knife blades. Car-



6 inch Chef's knife with molded epoxy handle



Full Tang on 10 inch wood handle utility



Japanese santoku



Partial tang on paring

bon steel, while softer than some of the other hardened steel alloys used in knives, can be sharpened and honed razor sharp, but tends to lose its edge more quickly than the hardened alloys such as high carbon stainless. The blade also tends to stain, and if not properly dried, rust. On the other hand, the harder high carbon stainless alloys, while easy to keep bright and shiny, can be a bit more expensive. Regular stainless steel is not a good choice as it is brittle and difficult to sharpen. But, especially with hardened steels, if the blade is inferior to begin with, without some hard work, your cutting edge will remain uselessly dull.

Whatever the makeup of the blade,

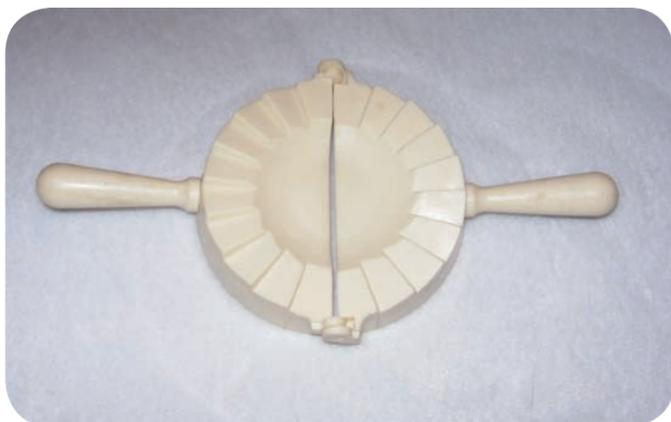
it is the manner in which the blade is joined to the handle that will dictate the durability of the knife. The best knives are "full tang", meaning that the metal of the blade extends throughout the handle, as opposed to cheaper knives that merely inset the blade steel into a slot which extends several inches down the handle. The handle of a full tang knife can be as classic as wood affixed to either side of the tang, usually with rivets, or as modern as various plastics or epoxies. Wooden handles may be a bit less utilitarian in appearance, but also require hand washing and can lack some of the special grip features found in some of the molded handles.

Certainly the job of any knife is simply to cut, but what is being cut dictates the type of blade that can handle the job most efficiently. The basic

kitchen should be equipped with at least 6 knives. A paring knife, usually with a blade of 3 inches, is useful for small cutting jobs, peeling fruit and vegetables. Because of the variety of chores the paring knife does, it's quite useful to have a pair. A chef's knife has a wide blade, with a bit of a rocker to the edge. This allows you to use the shape of the blade to mince onions, garlic and herbs. The wide flat blade is also useful in crushing garlic. It is an absolute necessity for chopping and slicing. Generally, you want both a 6 and 9 inch chef's knife. Slicing or carving knives come in a variety of lengths, from 8 inch up to massive 16 inch carvers. They have a thinner and narrower blade. Most useful for slicing roasted meats, vegetables your kitchen should contain at least a 10 inch. Utility knives are essentially large paring knives and come in sizes from 6 to 8 inches. A 6 inch is requisite for your knife block. Depending on your baking preferences, I would also suggest a bread knife, whose saw like blade is not only essential in slicing crusty baguettes, but is also useful in slicing delicate tomatoes. You may also consider some of the new Japanese style Santoku knives which combine slicing and chef knife shapes. While not a knife, you should also have sharpening steel, which is used to keep the blade finely honed.

Knives should never be stored loose in a drawer, although there are drawer knife blocks that adequately protect both the blade and your hands. Typically knives are stored in a counter knife block, or on wall mounted magnetic strips. When purchasing a knife block, buy one with additional slots for expansion of your collection. Good knives are not inexpensive, but represent an investment that will literally last a life time. Some of the more popular brands include J.A. Henkels, le Sabatier, Wustoff and Shun. Basic collections, usually including a block can generally be found for under \$200.00. Certainly lower quality sets can be found (witness the gourmet set in my rented condo) but typically either their inadequate performance or lack of durability make them a poor choice in the long run.

Kitchen Gadget Competition



What Is This?

Be the first to mail in your answer and win a free Car Culture Show or Lakewood Observer T-shirt:
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Lakewood Arts

Gallery Watch

By Ruth A. Koenigsmark and Christine A. Kazimer

We motored into bela dubby to check out the latest exhibit, "Car Kulture Show", which is meant to be an introduction to the "Lakewood Car Kulture Show", which was held in Madison Village on Saturday, August 26th.

This exhibit is a gathering of works by artists heavily influenced by the Kustom Kulture. Kustom Kulture is a term used to describe artwork, vehicles, hairstyles, and the fashions of those who drove and built custom cars and motorcycles in the U.S. from the 1950s to the present. Artists such as Von Dutch, or cartoonist "Big Daddy" Ed Roth, who developed the well-known hot rod icon character, Rat Fink, along with numerous tattoo artists, and automobile painters, all helped to form what is known as Kustom Kulture.

We were amazed at the different perspective each artist took in portraying their perception of the Kustom Kulture. Photographer Hadley Conner, in her work, King of Hearts, captures the essence of 1950's Americana with this shot of a woman seated at a diner. The viewer can almost imagine her burly grease-monkey boyfriend with a pompadour hairdo, who's out in the parking lot conversing with other hotrod aficionados...while she waits inside for her king of hearts. Jeremy "Jaybird" Lockhard's monochrome paintings, Study of Speed, and Revel in

Roth, are monuments to the beginnings of the movement, while in comparison, the works of Scott Menke reflected the complicated pin striping detail found on today's hot rods.

While at the show, we had the opportunity to speak to one of the artists, Lori Diemer, a fine art photographer, whose work can regularly be seen in Heart of Lake County magazine. Her prints on canvas portray various close-up details found on old model cars. She indicated her preference for the detail compositions versus photographing the complete car and feels it provides a better graphic. Lori used a Polaroid SX70 manipulation technique which involves first applying pressure to the emulsion of the print as it develops with various tools, scanning the print with a flatbed scanner and downloading the digital file into Photoshop where she then enlarges and crops the image, which is later printed onto canvas via an inkjet printer. This technique, paired with her composition choices, produced vibrant and exciting images in a contemporary style that we felt really worked.

Whether you're into Kustom Kulture or not, the trip was well worth it to view the works of the talented artists exhibiting at bela dubby this month.

"In America the biggest is the best."

— Roy Liechtenstein

Concert Calendar

The Phantasy Nite Club

Friday, September 8, and Saturday, September 9th it's Electrophest, two days of industrial and electronic music featuring both national and local acts. On Friday you can catch ZOICA, Interface, Sensuous Enemy, d:konstruct, Missile Command, and Omen Machine. Saturday's lineup is Terrorfakt, Voice Industrie, Andraculoid, Caustic, Tonikom, the Gothsicles, Filament 38, DEF-CON, and Rein[Forced]. There will also be DJ's spinning throughout both evenings. 18 and over. \$15 for Friday, \$20 for Saturday, or just get a two day pass for \$30. Doors open for Friday's show at 6pm, and things get underway at 3pm on Saturday.

The Winchester Tavern

Friday, September 8th it's The Godz with guests Badd Intent. Columbus, Ohio's The Godz are probably best known for the song "Gotta Keep a Runnin'" from their 1978 self-titled debut album. The band seemed poised for success, opening up for KISS on their 'Love Gun' tour as well as handling warm up duties for such seventies rock superstars as Angel, Blue Oyster Cult, and Iggy Pop. Unfortunately, label and health problems resulted in the band's second album not really going anywhere, and the band broke up. Throughout the ensuing years, bassist/vocalist Eric Moore has kept the band going through numerous incarnations. They even released a pair of studio albums in the mid-eighties, and there was a live album featuring most of the original lineup released in the late nineties. And whatever the rest of the world may think of The Godz, Ohio audiences have always embraced the band. All ages. Show starts at 9:30pm. Admission is \$15.

Monday, September 11th it's The Fixx with guests Morticia's Chair. While often lumped in with eighties synth pop bands like Flock of Seagulls, The Fixx always had more of a rock edge than most of their contemporaries. They received major airplay on MTV with their songs "Red Skies at Night" and "Stand or Fall", and eventually scored hit singles with "One Thing Leads to Another", "Saved By Zero", "Sign of Fire", and "Are We Ourselves". Unlike many eighties bands reuniting to cash in on nostalgia, The Fixx never broke up and have continued releasing albums, most recently 2003's 'Want That Life'. The band's lineup has also remained surprisingly consistent through the years. With the exception of new bass player Gary Tibbs, the band is the same as they've ever been. All ages. Show starts at 8pm. Admission is \$20.

Upcoming Arts and Entertainment Must Sees for September 5 through September 19

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"Paintings and Prints," Marge Arthur, September 1 – October 27, 2006
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Local Girl Gallery

16106 Detroit Avenue
216.228.1802
September 16th 7-10 Pm

Local Girl proudly presents the opening reception of:

"The Elemental Vision: Portraits in the Mische Technique". By Krisztina Lazar. Award winning artist Krisztina Lazar will have on exhibit her paintings created using the mische technique. Krisztina has recently returned from intensive study with Visionary artist, Brigid Marlin in London, England and will be offering a class at the gallery September 7th thru Sept. 10th for those interested in learning this technique. Students will have a space to display their works in progress in the gallery, and their finished pieces will be on display the night of the opening! Class fee is \$135.00. Please contact the gallery for further information.

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 12-5pm, Friday and Saturday, 12-6pm.

Pop Shop Gallery & Studio

17020 Madison Avenue
216.227.8440

Opening Reception will be on Saturday, September 9th 2006 from 6-9pm. Wine, refreshments and tasty treats will be served during the opening reception. An after party, at Mullens, will follow the opening from 9-close with drink specials (located next to the gallery). The show will run from September 9th through October 7th. The gallery's hours of operation are Monday-Friday 4-8pm or by appointment

Wobblefoot Gallery & Frame Studio

1662 Mars Avenue
216.226.2971

Call to Artists! Wobblefoot will be hosting another Juried Art Show. All artist should contact the gallery for entry forms. First place will be \$500.00 Second place \$250.00 Third place 150.00 and honorable mention.

Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm.

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Dance

Swing Dance, Friday, September Lakewood Masonic Temple, COST: \$10/ person, \$7/students. TIME: 8pm - 12am, LIVE Band (Hepcat Revival) & DJ music. Get Hep Swing Jitterbug lesson from 8-9pm.

Gallery, dance and Music news and event information should be forwarded to gallerywatchgals@yahoo.com. Every effort will be made to include it in our next column

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—A Phoenix Haiku

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Lakewood Pets

Nature's Bin Dog Wash A Success



photo by Mike Deneen

Business is picking up!



photo by Mike Deneen

CCLAS volunteers working hard

By Mike Deneen

The annual Nature's Bin Dog Wash to raise money was held August 26th at Nature's Bin. Nearly 70 dogs were washed by CCLAS volunteers, raising over \$1,000 for the Lakewood Animal Shelter. To see fun photos of the event, visit the Lakewood Observer website at www.lakewoodobserver.com

CCLAS would like to thank Nature's Bin for providing space, shampoo and towels for the event. Nail Clipping services were provided by Liz Doptis at Pawsitive Influence.

CCLAS would also like to thank the following volunteers: Jen Roche-Desilet, Nancy Patterson, Rod Desilet, Kevin & Catherine Butler, Delores Dolesh, Sara Pellissier, Sean Andrews, Amanda Hall Andy Shuga, Shari Baldzicki Abby Shuga, Debbie Eash Carol Bennett, Sarah Eash, The Goldie Family, Hannah Gregory.



Lakewood Loves Wet Dogs

Second Annual Doggie Dip Set for September 11 at Lakewood Park

One of Lakewood's fun new events returns in 2006 with the second annual "Doggie Dip" dog swim. This is your dog's chance to swim at the wonderful public pool at Lakewood Park. The Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park will host the event at Foster Pool in Lakewood Park on Monday, September 11 from 5-8 pm. The Doggie Dip raises funds for upkeep and maintenance of the dog park.

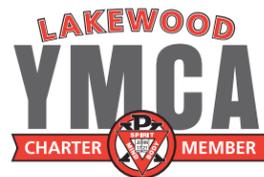
Cost for admission is \$5 for one dog, \$8 for two dogs. All dogs must be current on their vaccinations, and owners are responsible for their pets. Although people are allowed to swim with the dogs, it is not recommended. There will be a lifeguard on duty. Owners are asked to bring their own towels.

For more information on the event or the dog park, visit the FLDP website at www.lakewooddogpark.com

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